SPORTS

Lady Blades Lose Final Match

By Sara Ontiveros

The MIT women's varsity fencing team finished up their dual meet season with losses in two close matches at Harvard University on Saturday, including one to Harvard on a technicality.

The Lady Blades were ready to fence the Crimson fencers. They held their own in the first round, emerging 2-2 after victories by Felice E. C. Swapp '90 and Sara D. Ontiveros '93.

Two wins from Swapp and one each from Ontiveros and Klaubert-A. Fricke '92 brought MIT through the first half of the third round ahead, 6-4.

At this point, Heather L. Klaubert '93 began her match against Mae Ling Birney, the Harvard team captain. Klaubert had faced in the first round, but Roske Olabisi '93 substituted for her in the second round.

After Klaubert scored the first touch against Birney, Harvard coach Ben Zvikovskiy demanded that the bout be forfeited because MIT had not notified either Zvikovskiy or the Harvard team captain personally that a substitution was being made. MIT had notified the meet's official scorer of the substitution, a common practice. The bout was ruled forfeited, however. At the end of the third round, the score was tied at 6-6.

Fridays defeated a Harvard substitute player at the start of the fourth round. Klaubert quickly came up to fence, and Zvikovskiy claimed the best should be forfeited because of the previous forfeit. He waived his claim to the forfeit, however. Harvard prevailed, 9-7.

The demands for forfeit angled Aria Romano '83, the MIT women's fencing team coach. "The unprofessionality of behavior of the Harvard coach was truly unbelievable... and it's too bad because the people who suffered were the students. They never got a chance to fence—to do what they train so hard to do."

The fencers went on to split their matches with Navy, finishing 6-8 after four rounds. One event won all of her matches against Navy, but the match was decided on the basis of touches scored by each team—MIT had only 56, while Navy scored 62.

Next weekend the women's fencing team will compete in the New England Regional Championships at Boston College.

Bergeron Wins Division At Last X-Country Meet

By Kate Bergeron and Andy Parsons

Kathleen A. Bergeron '93 became the first division champion in the history of MIT women's skiing last weekend. Bergeron won the women's five-kilometer freestyle race at the Eastern Intercollegiate Skiing Association Division III Championships, held in Jackson and Berlin, N.H. The meet was the last of the cross-country ski team's season.

In the men's 10-kilometer free skate, Andrew F. Parsons '93 led the team with a 17th place finish. Also scoring for the team were Dragone and Joel D. Sindelar '93 in 35th.

Also scoring for the team with a 15th place finish.

At Last X-Country Meet

By Kate Bergeron and Andy Parsons

The MIT women's gymnastics team has been busy recently, with four dual meet victories the past three weeks. Several team members, including co-captains Lisa Arel '92 and Courtney Leabourne '92 and Julie Lyren '93, have given the best performances of their careers.

MIT traveled to Division I competitors Brown University on Jan. 29 to compete in a tri-meet against Brown and frequent Division III rival teams Rhode Island College. Brown won the meet with a team total of 171.3, and MIT took second place with a 152.90, beating Rhode Island College's total of 129.95.

The meet at Brown was a perfect showcase for the individual talent on the MIT team. MIT began the competition on the uneven bars, where all five gymnasts had strong routines. Gretchen Martin '92 scored a 6.6 with a full routine that included a free-straddle mount directly connected into a cut-catch and free-straddle-back on the low bar, while junior Karen Olds's perfectly executed half-twisting floor routine was almost too low to score. Olds and Lyren had a few problems with a handstand/half-twist on the high bar, but landed a half-twisting somersault dismount for a 7.75. Leabourne and Arel found the event to be a bit too much for them, earning scores of 7.85 and 8.40, giving Arel's team the victory.

On Feb. 1, the team traveled to Boston to compete in 15 and 30-kilometer classical skiing events. Recently, cross country skiing competition has been split into classical events, where skiers glide along in the grooves familiar to any cross-country skier, and freestyle events, where skiers use the new sculpted-style skis. Bergeron once again led the women's team, taking first place 45 seconds ahead of her nearest rival.

Hitchcocks top high team score

On Feb. 1, the team traveled to Ithaca, N.Y. to compete against Ithaca College, one of Division III's strongest gymnastics teams. MIT had their highest team score since December, but still lost to Ithaca, 173.75 to 156.05.

MIT began its Ithaca meet with solid performances in the vault. Tan, Martin, and Olds all improved their vaults from the last meet and earned scores of 6.5, 7.05, and 7.05. Arel and Leabourne tied for third place on the vaulting event.

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