Women's Crew Sweeps Regatta

By Rita Baranwal

Last Saturday, MIT's women's crews swept all possible races at the second annual New England Women's New 8 Regatta. The varsity, junior varsity, and novice eight crews overpowered their competitors in their races across the Charles River.

The MIT women's varsity eight won with a time of 8:28, leaving competitors in their wake. The junior varsity crew also had an excellent turnaround from the previous week. After losing to MHC by 22 seconds, they ended up beating them by 18 seconds on Saturday. The varsity four beat Wellesley with a time of 9:36.

The undefeated novice women's eight crossed the finish line first, with a time of 7:45, beating Wellesley. MHC, and Smith. Its number of points possible.

Coach Mavrene Earle said, "I'm very excited about having the varsity crew in the most challenging contests. We'll be rowing against many crews traveling at the same speed." The MIT women's junior varsity eight won with a time of 8:20, leaving competitors in their wake. The junior varsity crew also had an excellent turnaround from the previous week. After losing to MHC by 22 seconds, they ended up beating them by 18 seconds on Saturday.

The women's varsity four beat Wellesley with 23 seconds with a time of 9:36. The undefeated novice women's eight crossed the finish line first, with a time of 7:45, beating Wellesley with a time of 9:62.

This was the second year of the New 8 Regatta. MHC won the contest in its first year. The Regatta marks the first time that MIT has beaten Mount Holyoke since 1987. The Engineers set a record in the number of points scored in the Florence Smith Cup points trophy, a record that will never be broken because they scored the maximum number of points possible.

Crew alumnae visit MIT

Later in the day, rowing alumnae from across the country participated in a contest on the ergs. The alumnae were very excited to get back on the ergs, as some of them had not been on one in several years. Afterwards, they participated in a very competitive race out on the water.

The day ended with a banquet and several nostalgic speeches by past rowers and coaches. After listening to all of the troubles that women who rowed as many as 20 years ago had gaining recognition as a team sport, and their problems with lack of equipment, coaches, uniforms, and respect, the current women rowers said they realized how fortunate they are to have all that they do. Earle added a cautionary note, though. "It's getting easier, but not by much," she said.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, April 27

Women's Lacrosse vs. Wheaton College, 5 p.m.

Wednesday, April 28

Baseball vs. Harvard University, 3 p.m.
Men's Lacrosse vs. University of Massachusetts Boston, 3:30 p.m.
Men's Tennis vs. Ambler College 3 p.m.

Friday, April 30

Baseball vs. Clark University, 3:30 p.m.