SPORTS

By Mark Hurst and Joe Harrington

Two members of the MIT varsity fencing team, two alumni, and an incoming freshman competed in the U.S. Fencing Association's National Championships this June in Fort Myers, Florida. Team captain Mark Hurst '94 and epee squad leader Keith Lichten '95 fenced in Division I and Division II events for their respective weapons. Team alumni Joe Huntington G and Lenore Kerber '87, and incoming freshman Dave Lewinsiek '97 competed in one division event space, with Lewinsiek also competing in an Under-19 event.

Lichten fought his way into team history by winning a medal in a national competition. He placed third in Division II Men's Epee and 57th in Division I Men's Epee. Hurst finished his way to a respectable 35th place in Division I Men's Sabre and 37th in Division II Men's Sabre. He also served as a director for the Under-19 Men's Sabre event. Huntington, competing in Division I Men's Epee, took 48th place. Lewinsiek, a strong fencer from the New England area, took 120th in Division II Men's Epee and 44th in Under-19 Men's Epee.

Kerber took 33rd place in Division II Women's Epee. Following the lead of the International Fencing Federation, the National Collegiate Athletics Association will have women's epee starting this fall, and MIT is currently seeking new people for this team. Women's epee will be an Olympic event in 1996.

MIT Men's head coach Jacob Koniusz, a bronze medalist in the 1999 World Championships, was also in Fort Myers for the annual event. Though he was in Florida as a director, he received an invitation to attend the World Championships as co-captain of the U.S. team. Koniusz traveled to Germany in late June to participate in that prestigious event.

MIT varsity fencing is looking forward to the 1993-1994 season. Award-winning coach Eric Sollee will head the women's team, and Koniusz will begin his second year with the men's team, assisted by coach Rob Hupp.

MIT Fencers Perform Well at Nationals

By Michael K. Chung

Last weekend, the Bay State Games, a "sports Olympics" of Massachusetts, took place in the greater Boston area, including the MIT campus. The events included women's basketball, field hockey, lacrosse, shooting, volleyball, and gymnastics.

Volleyball

Volleyball took place in Rockwell Cage on Saturday and Sunday. To compete, one had to try out for one of the teams in the six areas of Massachusetts. These teams then practiced together and prepared for the event.

Women's Volleyball

Kamilah Alexander '96, the lone undergraduate woman who represented MIT in this event, played for the "Metro" team. First was the "pool play" portion of the competition. In "pool play," each of the teams played each other in a round-robin format. Two 11-point games were played.

At the end of the round robin, the top four teams were seeded and were invited to play for the championship on Sunday. The Metro team emerged as the second-seeded team and faced the third-seeded team in the first semi-final, which was a best-of-three-match, each game played to 15 points. The Metro team made it to the finals, but then lost the title to a tougher team. "We didn't play as well on Sunday as we did on Saturday, but we had a good time," Alexander said. She noted that the crowd was fairly large and lively, which made the competition better.

Men's Volleyball

The men's division shared the same format as the women's division. MIT volleyball players Chris Chong '94, Satoshi Asari '95, and Tom Klemas G were on the Metro team. After about five weeks of practice, the Metro team was ready to compete.

In the preliminaries, the Metro team posted a record of 9-1, losing only its only game to the Southeast team. Throughout the round-robin, the team played reasonably well, considering the short amount of practice time.

Entering the semifinals as the first seed, Metro won its match against the Northeast team handily. The other semifinal, pitting South-east and Coastal against each other was more closely contested, going into a third game.

In the final, Metro lost the first game. It then surged back in the second game, winning 15-8.

The last game was neck and neck in the beginning, until South-east went ahead 11-6. Metro battled back to 11-13, when Chong, playing the middle position, made an impressive block to pull the team back up to 12-13, then to 13-13. Although Southeast pulled ahead to 14-13, Metro was able to clinch victory in an exciting finish, winning 15-14.

Chong credits Klemas, a strong outside hitter with powerful shots, and Asari as an effective setter and backcourt man throughout the game. "The final was especially exciting because the teams were evenly matched," he said. "Because of the good competition, an intense and dramatic championship was played in front of an exciting crowd.

Gymnastics

Men's and women's gymnastics took place at the MIT Gymnastics pavilion. In the men's event, there were two categories: scholastic, which fielded 30 to 40 gymnasts of high school age and under, and the open division, which fielded around 20 to 30 competitors of collegiate age and older.

The men's preliminaries were held on Saturday. The top six gymnasts in each event moved on to the finals, which were held on Sunday. At Sheetwork '95 was named the winner of the 1995 World Championships, the National Collegiate Athletics Association will have women's epee starting this fall, and MIT is currently seeking new people for this team. Women's epee will be an Olympic event in 1996.

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Students Participate in Massachusetts "Olympics"

The Bay State Games were held at various colleges in the area, including MIT. Many MIT students participated in the competition.