A New Activity — MIT Hui-O-Judo

by Jeff Levinger '63

A new group has appeared on the MIT scene. The forty con-
vinced members of the MIT Hui-O-Judo (Hawaii for Judo
Club) have caused quite a stir around the DuPont Athletic
Center with their unusual activities and equally unique garb. The club
is being led jointly by Harry Yanagi and Ed Miyawaki, who each
hold the title of "third rank black belt". Rankings are won in com-
petition in which a man's skill is the only criterion —
there are no weight classes. In order of increasing ability the belt
classifications are white (two grades), brown (three), and black
(ten). Above eighth rank black belt is reserved for judo masters;
one tenth rank master once taught Theodore Roosevelt in the
White House.

The MIT club meets three
twice a week in DuPont and the numbers range in prof-
ciciency from inexperienced be-
"newcomers" to fairly advanced com-
noners. The club teaches a form
known as Kodokan Judo, de-
veloped about 1882 in Japan.

Learning To Fall Is First

Training in judo begins with
learning to fall, starting with
break-fall, then spring falls. Without this train-
ing it is impossible to con-
trive to use arms. Under con-
tions of competition, it is
often disruptive to build a school of body-
development and self-defense
oriented as an amateur sport
called judo. Progressing from
years of jujitsu study, he de-
veloped a highly skilled sport
from what had been a danger-
ous, offensive discipline.