**Winter sports begin**

By Tom Curtis

The approach of winter signals the beginning of the year's biggest sports season here at MIT; 11 men's teams in 11 sports will be competing for MIT.

Basketball is the biggest winter sport. So far, the team is 1-2 and appears to be headed for a mediocre season. However, the team should be more surprising. Last year's team which upset Suffolk. Games will be played Wednesday and Saturday nights in the coliseum on Rockwell Cage.

Hockey is another popular sport here. The MIT Hockey Club has been improving steadily since graduate students were allowed to compete. This year's team will try to build on the 11-13 record of last season. The Beavers' first winning season in 20 years. Most home games are Saturday night at the ice rink.

Indoor track's prospects for another successful season are good. Although the team lost its star distance runner, Frank Richardson, MIT high jump record holder, Rud van Borsel '78 is back. The team will open meeting season in Connecticut and appears to be strong. Meets are Friday evening or Saturday afternoon on Rockwell Cage.

The men's and women's fencing teams should also be very competitive this year. All-Americans Preston Vorkisz '79 and Bob Hug '79 should lead the team to another winning season. The women's team, having most of last year's swimmers, should also produce a winning record. The team will compete in Alumni Pool on the east side of campus. Competing in January.

The pistol team is probably the most talented of all the winter sports. All of the top marksmen who placed first in their classes ranked tenth in the nation, are returning. Led by captain David Schaller '78 and Pan-African peace gold medalist David Miller '79, the team has a good shot at the National Championship this year. Matches are usually on Saturday morning in DoPunt.

The men's and women's fencing teams should also be very competitive. Last year's men's team finished sixth in the NCAA Championships, and won All-American games. The fencers will hold meets on Wednesdays and Saturdays and afternoons in the duPont fencing room.

The rifle team always performs well and this year's team will need no excuses. Home meets will be held on Feb. 18 and 25 in DoPunt. The women's gymnastics team should be exciting to watch although suspensions for winning seasons are not good. Most of the gymnasts' home meets are scheduled for Saturday afternoon in DuPunt.

Center Diane Oxshott '79, forward Sheila Lutter '78, and guards Sue Soo '79 and '80 will try to carry the women's basketball team to a winning season this year. The team will almost definitely improve on last year's 5-13 record. Unfortunately Thursday night in Rockwell Cage.

The squash team will try to improve on last year's 7-13 record. Matches are held on the DuPunt squash courts.

The MIT skiing team should continue to perform well and will, perhaps, win a carnival. All of the team's events are scheduled on weekends in New Hampshire and Vermont.

It should be the year that will competit for MIT and try to bring us a lot of athletic glory. If you have some free time on a Saturday, you should come and watch the MIT winter sports teams compete. Try it. You'll like it.

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**Impetigo hampered grapplers**

By Bob Host

An outbreak of what is presumed to be impetigo caused a member of the wrestling team to miss the home meet last weekend and forced the cancellation of another match the team was scheduled for Saturday night.

Over Thanksgiving vacation the practice room in the wrestling room were not cleaned properly, and shortly after word spread, wrestlers came down with symptoms of the disease, according to Bruce Welbel, '79, a member of the team. The Medical Department could not furnish any additional information on the disease.

In massachusetts, the University of New Hampshire UNH because of the disease.

The Tuesday match with Brandeis was scheduled to be played; however, and although some suspending, it was not interrupted of the team's potential, according to Coach WaltCurrie.

He noted that there were a few young people in the lineup, and with experience and more conditioning, the team will improve. "They need seasoning," Currie said, to become a better team. One bright spot for the team is the 118 lb. weight class. Richard T. '79, who did not make weight on Tuesday, weighed 142 lbs. and would be opponent in an unlimited match. Pistor and Kurk, however, the team points went to UNH because of the referee's decision. UNH, and Welbel attributed to "too much depth" as compared to MIT's loss of Davisson. He also explained that in the last few years UNH has built up its strong weight class.

The goal, originally scheduled for December 3rd, will have to be rescheduled at a time mutually convenient to MIT and the University of New Hampshire.