Come out and participate in sports at MIT

(Continued from page 16) in New England and indoor track ended its season with a 6-2 record. The Club Hockey team also came out strong. Their winning record included their first shutout since 1982, (40 against Bates). Their strong players were freshmen Duane Horan on offense and and the team's "quarterback" Allan Sung '80 on defense.

Suffering from the loss of All American Frank Richardson '77, the cross country team dropped to 3-4, halting only Wesleyan and Tufts. The Lacrosse squad also had a losing record, but since they lose only one letterman to graduation, George Murot '78, they should improve next year.

Varsity Sailing won the Oberg Trophy of the Greater Boston Championship. They also came in second in the running of the McMillen Cup at Annapolis, behind Navy. Varsity soccer posted its first winning season in 14 years. Superb defense in the form of goalie Jackie Bernard '79 and fullback Luis Boza '81 held their opponents to 14 goals in 13 games, but they were also shut out five times. The team has been steadily improving over the last five years. When Coach Walter Alessi took over the team in 1974, it had a 1-19-2 record.

Finally, Varsity Golf team qualified for the ECAC tournament by placing in the middle of a four-team field at Hamilton, New York, on the virtue of scores of 220 by Mike Swenson '78 and Mike Varell '79.

It should be noted, however, that there is a great deal more to sport at MIT than its varsity teams, heavy as student participation in them may be and impressive as are many of their records. For most MIT students, the important part of the sports program is the intramurals. Their winning season in 14 years. When Coach Walter Alessi took over the team in 1974, it had a 1-19-2 record.

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Upwards of 75 percent of the student body participates in this program in at least one sport. Softball alone boasts over 300 persons for the first time in 19 years, though another 600 participate in other intramural sports. Football, basketball, and swimming are also favorites, with 400 participating in each. Varsity sports are far less popular, with only 75 players registered for varsity football and basketball and 100 for varsity swimming.

These examples are indicative of the general difference in attitude toward sports here. There is no Harvard-Yale game here and probably never will be. The individual sports have their rivalries but there is no one big game and thus no one big crowd. The big intramural contests are not nearly as popular as the varsity sports. The number of people who would stand outside to watch a varsity hockey game in conditions which will freeze camera shutters and break the tips off felt tip pens is miniscule compared to those who will watch an intramural game under the same conditions.

In closing, let me point out the obvious. MIT's sports program is unique in that it has something for just about everyone. It has intramurals that anyone can play, and intramurals that are highly competitive. It has varsity sports in almost every sport and some fine varsity and club teams for people to come out and watch, something for just about everyone.

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