sports

MIT's 21 sports is record

By Gordon R. Haff

MIT has the greatest number of varsity teams of any college in the country. However, even people who know this are often surprised to learn that many of these teams do well on the local level or even on the regional or national level.

In the fall Cross Country (6-2), paced by Barry Bayus '79, finished third in the Easterns and sixth in the NCAA Qualifying Meet, thereby just missing a trip to the Nationals.

Soccer's 300 season was highlighted by its first win over traditional rival Harvard in 15 years. In addition, the team defeated Brandeis 6-0 in an exciting win and placed Bob Currier '79 on the Greater Boston All-Star squad for the third consecutive year.

Water Polo finished third in New England for the second consecutive year. The team lost out to Yale during the New England Championships when Yale scored in the fifth overtime period in one of the longest games in New England history. The game went into overtime following a disputed goal by Yale which depending upon whom you believe the final score was 4-4 or 3-3.

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Intramurals provide participation for all

By Gordon R. Haff

An estimated 75 percent of the MIT student sports body participates in intramural sports. The most popular sport is usually softball followed closely by football. However, like club sports, it takes very little to start up a new sport — the only serious problem being facilities space. Last year saw an Ultimate Frisbee league initiated and Fencing recognized by the governing IM Council (it was run the previous year by the Fencing Team).

IM's did run into some snags this year, however; some because of the increasing number of participants and some because of the attitude of certain participants toward the program.

In the fall the organizers of class day, an all day intramural crew regatta, effectively cutout participation through a number of rules and regulations related to registration of oarsmen and the use of experienced coxswains. This was necessary because of the large number of participants and some related accidents the previous year. The organizers promised to organize something in the spring which would allow a greater number of participants but nothing ever happened.

The second head of more trouble finding managers. Despite the large number of students who play intramurals, apparently very few want to help do the things they run smoothly. The problem of running the program was further compounded this year when referees became harder and harder to come by in many sports despite pay raises. This was in part because of numerous incidents of referee abuse, particularly in basketball. However, when the new IM Council officers stepped in mid-season they cracked down on the problem and suspended for one year a basketball player who threatened an official. PE refereeing classes were also initiated to increase the numbers of officials. Attendance was disappointing this past year. Increased exposure may solve this problem.