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### The University of Montana Air Force ROTC Luge Team

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stewart

1-13-66

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

It isn't often the ROTC's can get a jump on the Regulars in the Air Force, but they did this time with their Luge Team at the University of Montana.

According to Captain Bruce E. Medley, assistant professor of aerospace studies, the 20-member UM Air Force ROTC Luge Team is the second American team to be chartered for the sport.

The first charter for this newly developing sport in western Montana went to the University of Montana Luge Club. The Amateur Athletic Union is the chartering agency.

Capt. Medley said training for the ROTC team will begin this weekend at the nearly completed Luge Run near Lolo Hot Springs. The snow packing was completed by the voluntary efforts of the University club and the ROTC team.

He said Stanley Bennett, Olympic bobsled coach, is supervising the icing of the run.

Luging is one of the few sports in which the military does not yet train a team for competition. He hopes the ROTC team will spark interest within the regular Air Force.

The luge run, which is located 30 miles west of Lolo on highway 12, is more than 3,000 feet long with 16 thrilling curves and an average downhill incline of nine per cent. It is similar to bobsledding, but swifter and more exciting.

The ROTC team has been getting in physical condition for the project. Capt. Medley, who will handle the coaching duties besides taking a few runs himself, said his team would start with the lower curves and as its ability grows, move on up the run to the bigger challenges.

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