sports

Hockey records first shutdown since 1962

By Tom Stagliano

(Tom Stagliano is a goalie on the hockey team)

The MIT hockey squad entered the second half of their season with a 3-0 shutdown over Bates, the first such victory in sixteen years. This win capped a five game stretch which propelled the Beaver record to 9-2 on the season. The Tech skaters met two tough Divi- sion III teams last week, besting Fitchburg State 6-2 and losing to powerhouse Plymouth State, 3-6. This past week saw the Beavers beat Tufts 6-3, blast Massa- chusetts College of Pharmacy 11-3 and post their shutdown over Bates.

MIT has become a second period club tallying 20 of their last 29 goals in this period. The reason for this seems to hinge on the Beaver tactic of play. MIT practices a dump and run brand of hockey and it is not until the second period that they have worn their opponents down. This style has its faults if the squad becomes depleted, but no serious injuries have plagued the club and the play of four lines and six defensemen leads to a relentless attack in the second period. One other fault is a tendency to sit on their lead in the last period and this is something that coach Pecknold will have to solve by team motivation. The best prac- titioners of motivated hockey are the lines centered by Rick Bryant '79, with Dave Damery '80 and Lou Oddette '72 at wings, who as a unit have mustched 13 goals and 20 assists.

The MIT offense is led by senior goaltender Dan Costa who shut the door on Tufts stopping twenty-five shots and lowering his goals against average to 2.17, the best in Division III. Two other hockey records fell this week: the eleven goals pushed past MCP is the first time MIT has hit double figures since a 1970 upset of Lehigh, 19-5 and the 6-2 season start is the best midseason record of any MIT hockey team and could lead MIT's best

MIT scores during the second period of a 6-3 victory over Quincy. The Beavers now 9-2, have scored 20 of their 29 goals in the second period this season. (Photo by Gordon Haff)

Pecknold claims that the team defense and unity have led to the six retaliatory penalties and skating most of the third period a man down. Pecknold was able to stabilize his squad and with several line shifts put three con- vinced victors together, and

The Beavers will play nine matches over the next three weeks, facing Curry at home on Wednesday and taking their eastern road trip to face Assump- tion and Nichols next week.

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