W. rugby begins with roar

An 8-8 tie in the third match of the season against Brown has brought the Women’s Rugby Club’s record to 3-0-1. The Engineers have already brought home a shut-out in the season opener and an upset victory against an experienced Boston club, showing their potential to be one of the strongest teams in New England.

Scrum-half Barbara Kasting quickly converted a penalty play from three yards out into Tech’s first score in the game against Brown. MIT maintained their lead throughout the first half, but an inspired Brown came back early in the second half to tie the score at 4-4.

Kasting put Tech once more in the lead when she grabbed the ball from a five-yard scrum and dashed across the goal line before Brown could set up an adequate defense. MIT held their 8-4 lead until the closing minutes of the second half when Brown’s outside center Nancy Breen ’80 crashed through three defenders to cross the goal line. MIT’s conversion attempt was good, and Tech’s defensive play kept Beantown at bay for the rest of the game.

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and Laurie Spillane’s conversion kick gave MIT a 9-6 lead. Not to be outdone, the MIT forwards drove upfield to set up Tech’s second score of the day. In a scrum down on the one-yard line, the Tech scrum pushed Sienna off the ball, and Cepko touched it down for four more points. The conversion kick was again successful and MIT maintained its 12-6 lead for the remainder of the game.

In a scrummage against veteran Beantown’s Women’s Rugby Club from Boston, MIT again came out on top, defeating a surprised Beantown 6-4. Beantown scored first on a long run by their fly-half, but Tech came back to tie the game at 4-all when inside-center Nancy Breen ’80 crashed through three defenders to cross the goal line. MIT’s conversion attempt was good, and Tech’s defensive play kept Beantown at bay for the rest of the game.

Women interested in playing rugby at MIT are invited to join the team at any practice, Mon., Wed., or Fri., from 5 until 7 pm at Briggs Field.