Michealek's 4 goals, 6 assists help MIT

By Barry S. Surman

Beaver Captain Dale Malone fired a blistering wrist shot over the outstretched glove of Tufts goalie Chris Sullivan at 7:35 into the sudden death overtime to cap a four-goal comeback and defeat the Jumbos, 6-5. The comeback began with a short-handed breakaway goal by Tom Michelek with less than six minutes left on the clock. Michelek scored again 3½ minutes later, and Dick Meisner tallied with ½ minute left to knot the score at five after regulation time. The Beavers' performance in the third and overtime periods was nothing less than inspired. After a lackluster, flat first two periods, they exploded with 19 shots on goal in the third, and in overtime outdueled the Jumbos, 8-7.

Strong goaltending by Randy Grace, who turned back 36 Tufts shots, kept the Beavers in the contest and the improving defensive skills of Captains Malone and Steve Schwartz impaired the Jumbos' attack.

Michealek's two goals and two assists gave him a total of 39 points for the season, breaking the previous mark of 36 held by Malone. Michael's and teammate Paul Dinnage also turned in record performances Saturday against the Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) Engineers.

Dinnage scored five times on the Engineers, tying the record for goals in a single game. Michelek tallied four times, including two goals in the opening six minutes, and added six assists to set a mark of ten points in a single game.

The Beavers jumped to a quick three-goal lead on Michelek's pair and a tally by Matthew Neville, who scored another in the second stanza and added two assists on Dinnage's goals. The Beavers went into the locker room with a commanding 7-1 lead.

WPI (6-5-1) dominated play through most of the second period, testing MIT goaltender Rich Tucker with 25 shots on goal. Tucker gave up only two goals in the period as the Beavers scored two of their own, and made seven more saves in the first half of the last period to secure victory.

Malone and Schwartz added three and two assists respectively to aid the Beavers' offensive efforts.

Any hopes of recovery by WPI were dashed by their sloppy, penalty-prone play. Sixteen minor penalties and three misconducts kept WPI at a disadvantage throughout most of the contest. Earlier last week, the Beavers outkicked Suffolk University, defeating them by a 6-4 margin.

Coach Joe Quinn's efforts in the last few weeks have not gone unrewarded. He has begun to push his team harder recently, and it is evident that the players are now pushing themselves harder as well. The Beavers, now 5-3, face a tough challenge this Saturday afternoon as they take on Stonehill College in the Athletic Center. Last year, Stonehill defeated MIT in the Beavers' season finale.

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