Men's hockey loses to surprising URI squad by a score of 5-4

The MIT women's hockey team had an easy win against Williams but Saturday afternoon, and indeed they dominated for almost the entire game. Still, they could do no better than a 1-0 win in what should have been a much higher scoring game.

In the second period, the Engineers allowed Williams' first line really give the team had more depth - only came apparent that the MIT would need to move quickly up the ice.

This perseverance finally came to fruition in the last five minutes of play when they kept the puck at the left circle after being dumped to the boards for control of the puck. MIT managed to move the puck into the URI zone and pulled goalie Peter Gagnon '88 for the 6-on-5 advantage. With 0.05 left on the clock a URI Rami was assessed a crosschecking penalty and MIT had the facelift in the URI zone with the 6-on-4 advantage. It was a do-or-die situation. The line was that URI was the facelift and MIT never got a shot off - that's the way the puck bounces sometimes. MIT lost a 5-4 game that should have been as close as the score, but which only really came down to the last five minutes of play. One shouldn't have had to wait that long for the action to really start.

Despite the lack of offense, the MIT defense hung tight for the win, especially during the final minutes of play when they kept the play in the Williams zone, denying their opponents the chance to pull their goalie for a possible 6-on-5 advantage.

The MIT team managed to keep the puck well in the MIT zone while the Engineers did not muster much offense.

The Engineers dominated the second period - displaying some good dump-and-chase tactics and the MIT line of Michelle Bonugli '88, Junko Nagono, and Michelle '87, and Julie Ask '90 resulted in them. Good forechecking by the Engineers not as effective slowing them down in the neutral zone. Williams' passing had become more confident, allowing them to better develop their drives up the ice.

Nevertheless, MIT's offense didn't deteriorate in kind - the Engineers continued to pass well, forcing Williams to chase after them. Good forechecking by the MIT line of Michelle Bonugli '88, Junko Nagono, and Debbie Tarrabou covered several excellent scoring opportunities near the Williams goalmouth. But despite this, the Engineers could not put the puck in the net. A chance for Williams to take the lead as Rachael Berman '88 - that's the way the puck bounces sometimes. URI turned to the deep Tufts forecheck - the resulting open space put in a last ditch effort to extend the lead to 3-1. The third period saw exactly paced offense on both sides as the Jumbos and the Rams scored four goals apiece. Tufts scored earlier in the period, seeming to put the game out of reach, but Tufts put in a last ditch effort (including scoring the game's last three goals) to pull within two.

Several offsetting penalties in the closing minutes of play turned to URI favor as the resulting open space play was more to their style.

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