Women's Hockey Plays Aggressively, But To No Avail

By Lynn Albers

The women's ice hockey team is off to a difficult start this season, dropping its first three games to the University of Maine, Boston College, and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. MIT played aggressively and skillfully in all three matches, however.

The first game tested MIT's strength, endurance, and teamwork. Center Susie Wee G was the leading scorer for the Engineers, with two goals. Jean McMurray '93 added a third goal in the second period, closing Maine's lead to just two goals.

MIT kept Maine within reach throughout most of the third period. Halfway into the period two penalties were called against MIT, giving Maine a two-person advantage.

Excellent defensive work by center Lisa Anderson and defender Carol Budreau '91 helped the Engineers successfully prevent Maine from scoring during the power play. This effort seemed to take a lot out of them, and the second half of the third period saw Maine putting ahead to win decisively, 8-3.

One of the highlights of the game came in the second period, when one of the Maine skaters got the puck stuck between the blade and the boot of her skates. Fans were yelling at her to skate to the goal, take off her skate, and throw it in. The referee had to stop the game and use a stick to remove the puck from her skate. MIT coach E. J. MacDonald said it was the funniest thing he had ever seen.

In the second game, MIT held its own against the more experienced Boston College team. Boston College had shot out the University of Maine 6-0 the day before, making the Engineers apprehensive about the game. Wee, Anderson, Jean Nam '93, Mairin Anderson '95, and Shari Schuchmann G had their share of shots on goal, but the BC goalie was invincible. MIT managed to ward off Boston College's aggressive offensive line with excellent defense by Jill Soley '92, Boudreau, Tina Hamamastanis '94, Katie Jonyt '93, and ex-forward Kat Sand '92.

Despite the excellent effort put in by all, MIT suffered a disappointing loss.

In Saturday's game against RPI, Annette Lee G, assisted by Sand and Nam, scored a goal for MIT with three minutes left in the first period. This tied the game at 1-1. RPI quickly responded with a second goal to end the first period ahead 2-1. RPI scored six straight goals in a disastrous second period, leaving the score at 8-1. The third period saw a new team on the ice. MIT played hard but couldn't make up the deficit, and the game ended 10-1. After the game Anderson stated, "It was a really ugly game. We could have beaten them." Despite the losses, the team looks good and hopes to have better luck against future opponents, Sand said. "We're gearing up for the rest of the season and I'm sure we'll bounce back.

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