Despite 1–0 Loss to WPI, Field Hockey to Host NEW-8 Opener

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...play as she set up a penalty corner that Patti Hall '96 stopped, allowing Katherine Menzies '97 to blast the ball into the goal, increasing the MIT lead to 2–0.

A few minutes later, Nichols was actually able to bring the ball past midfield, into the MIT half. With a little less than 21 minutes to play, Nichols came the closest to netting the ball, when an inbound pass hit the outside of the goal.

Five minutes later, Nichols had another chance to score when Christine Carlo stood in front of the MIT goal, ready for a pass from an approaching teammate. However, Carlo miss the pass, and MIT regained control.

MIT scored its third goal in quite an unusual fashion. A crowd of players from both teams inside the penalty circle made the action hard for spectators to view. In what seemed quite confounding, the ball took a flight over the heads of the players, then bounced into the goal past an unsuspecting Nichols goalkeeper.

Apparently, Sohail Iqbal '98 took a shot at the goal and the ball collided with the stick of Meirin, causing it to gain air. Iqbal was credited with the goal, with Menzies providing the assist.

Despite having a minimal amount of time on offense, Nichols saw a golden opportunity to score when Kerry Shechy received a pass and charged down half the length of the field on offense, with MIT defenders were able to clear the ball from the penalty area with about six minutes remaining in the 15-minute overtime period.

Despite the loss to WPI, the Engineers continue one of their most successful seasons ever. Their record of 11–4–1 marks the first time in field hockey that MIT has won 11 games in a single season.

The loss to WPI has, however, affected the Engineers' ranking in the New England Women's Eight Conference, which decides seedings in the season-ending conference tournament.

Before the WPI game, the Engineers had a chance to tie for first place in the conference. With the loss, though, their final conference record stood at 3–3, in fourth place behind WPI, Wellesley College, and Babson College. For the first round of the tournament, the higher-seeded team will have the home-field advantage.

The Engineers will still host their first round game against Wheaton College, which had a similar record but lost to MIT in their meeting. The game will take place Thursday at 7 p.m. at the artificial turf of Jack Barry Field.

Mangion seemed to show some confidence in her team as it heads into post-season play saying, "This is the best team ever since I've been here."