

DULUTH — UMD's hockey upstarts seek more glory and further national attention this weekend against defending NCAA champion North Dakota after embarrassing highly-ranked Michigan Tech.

Coach Ralph Romano's Bulldogs play an independent schedule although they have 20 games with Western Collegiate Hockey Association clubs. Right now their 3-1 WCHA "record" would be good enough to lead a league unquestionably the country's strongest.

The Bulldogs split the Tech series, losing the first game, 3-2, and winning the second, 3-1. In a pre-season poll, Tech had been tabbed runnerup to expected WCHA champion Denver.

"Both teams suffered from a lack of preparation the first night because of exams the week before," said Romano. "But the second night we had a hard, fast, clean hockey games."

In the important departments of scoring finish and defense, the Bulldogs proved superior. However, Tech goalie Gary Bauman was an obvious exception.

"Bauman made Saturday's game closer than it might have been," said Romano. "I've never seen a better college goalie."

Romano praised his blue line corps, particularly Captain Bill McGann and sophomore Bob Hill.

"McGann played his usual steady, smart game," said Romano. "and Hill continues to impress us. He's only a sophomore but he covers everything, checks cleanly and easily and I have not seen a better defenseman on the ice this season."

Mike Tok moved into first place in team scoring which finds four players head-and-head. Tok has eight points, Terry Shercliffe and Keith (Huffer) Christiansen seven each and Pat Francisco six.

Francisco sat out Saturday's game with a shoulder injury. However, it is not believed serious and Romano expects him to be ready for the Dakota series.

The scoring:

	Games	Goals	Assists	Points	Pen-Min
Mike Tok	5	3	5	8	0-0
Terry Shercliffe	5	3	4	7	0-0
Keith Christiansen	5	3	4	7	5-13
Pat Francisco	4	2	4	6	1-2
Owen Rogers	5	2	2	4	6-12
Dick Maertz	5	3	0	3	1-2
Dave Stepnes	5	2	0	2	2-4
Bob Hill	5	1	1	2	0-0
Bob Bell	5	0	2	2	5-10
Dick Fisher	5	1	1	2	4-11
Marvin Zilkie	2	0	2	2	0-0
Bill McGiffert	5	1	0	1	0-0
Bob Lund	5	0	1	1	0-0
Bill McGann	5	0	1	1	3-6
<u>Goaltenders</u>	<u>Games</u>	<u>GA</u>	<u>Ave.</u>	<u>Stops</u>	<u>Ave.</u>
Bill Halbrehder	5	18	3.6	161	32.2
Opponents	5	21	4.2	120	24.0