

DULUTH — UMD hockey coach Ralph Romano has made some late changes in two of his three forward lines after disturbing varsity performances in last week's 4-2 triumph against the freshmen.

"I was satisfied with the play of our first two forward combinations but highly dissatisfied with that of our third line," remarked Romano.

The Bulldog headman seeks better balance with defending NCAA champion Michigan Tech due Friday and Saturday (Nov. 23, 24) to open the 1962-63 season in the Duluth Curling Club.

Sophomore Bill McGiffert has been moved off wing to center the third line in place of senior Duane Rostie. Freshman Gary Harker joins McGiffert and sophomore wing Bill Savolainen on the strength of his play against the varsity.

One other change places sophomore wing Marvin Zilkie with senior center Mike Mithrush and senior wing Ron Johnson in place of McGiffert. The combination of senior captain Bill Lenardon, freshman center Mike Tok and senior Jay Beasley remains intact.

"The defense looks better than last year," said Romano referring to the intrasquad game. "Jerry Udesen and (freshman) Bob Hill both gave us solid performances. Neither one of them was with us last season."

Romano added that it was too early to tell about the goaltending. "Bill Halbrehder and Jerry Wherley both did creditable jobs against the freshmen but we won't know what help an extra year of experience will be to them until we play someone."

Tech will bring a 20-game winning streak to Duluth. Some of the nation's top collegiate performers are bent on protecting it, including forward John Ivanitz and goalie Gary Bauman, both all-tournament selections in last winter's successful march to the NCAA championship.