

## Hockey Jersey 18

David Ram

Should I compare you to your father's day?  
You are more lively and more talented,  
and all who watch remark, "That girl can play."  
The moves you make can't be defended:  
the curl and drag or deke and dangle,  
a cross-ice saucer to thread the needle,  
or one-touch pass to feed a triangle.  
Whether down the boards or up the middle  
you handle pucks with poise. On the backcheck  
you give it all you've got. Feet moving, stick  
on stick you angle 'em off, strongly poke  
the puck away appearing very slick.  
You skate within yourself till a linesman  
whistles then curse out loud, "Too many men."

**David Ram** lives in western Massachusetts, where he practices poetry writing and dory rowing. His recent work appears in *Naugatuck River Review* and *Grand Little Things*; his rowboat appears regularly on Nashawannuck Pond.