

Hockey opens season with win at Williams

by Sid Barret Aspbury III

The Middlebury women's hockey team showed up at Williams last Saturday and opened their season with a 4-0 trouncing of the Cows. The Panthers, who look forward to a strong season, were aided by several returning starters and the welcome addition of talented freshman.

The Panthers' play was characterized by a dominating offense and an impenetrable defensive front. In the first period of the game, Middlebury opened up an early lead. With 13:13 remaining, Kirtley Horton '95 tallied the first goal with an assist from right wing Gracyn Robinson '93. Soon after, Kelly Hefner '95 put the puck past a bewildered Williams goalie off a feed from Laurie Odden '93. Laura Cowperthwait '94 rounded out the scoring in the first period with an unassisted goal.

The final nail in the coffin came in

the second period when the Robinson-Horton connection linked up again for a score. From there on the defense took over.

Backed by the returning starter Liza Baxter '94 in the net, the Panthers held Williams scoreless for three periods. The strength of the defense was evident by the fact that Williams was held to 12 shots on goal, with only a single shot in the first period. With the solid support of senior co-captains Margi Sheehan and Margaret Heald on defense, Baxter was able to collect her first shutout of the season.

The Lady Panthers are scheduled to play UVM at home Wednesday (7:00 gametime), and then travel to Clinton, New York to face off against Hamilton College Friday night. With continued support of defense and further contributions by a young but capable offense, the Middlebury women's hockey team looks forward to a promising season.