

Sebastien Bilodeau '97 unleashes a shot in Middlebury win over Bowdoin.

Jamie Damon loss.

The weekend is now in the past,

Women's hockey cruises to victory

By Stacey Gorski
Staff Writer

The women's ice hockey team is riding a five game winning streak going into the two match-ups (versus Colgate on February 24 and Hamilton on the 25th, both away) of the regular season. The women have been putting together stellar performances all year to the tune of their 112 goals on the season to opponents' mere 49.

Part of the success undoubtedly can be credited to the senior goal keeping of Christy Picard, whose .883 save percentage and five shutouts have led the Panthers to a 10-6 record with her minding the nets. She has been playing very well of late including twenty-plus saves against Yale and R.I.T. Not to be outdone, first-year goalkeeper Kristin Hackmann has a .915 save percentage in 9 appearances in goal including three shutouts.

The offense has been led all year by the outstanding vision and play of junior co-captain Jennifer Hefner. Most recently, Hefner replaced Laura Odden '94 as the Panthers all-time leading scorer. In the last four wins, Hefner has recorded seven assists and six goals. Her

150th point, which pushed her past Odden's 149 points, was recorded at 1:25 in the second period with the score 2-1. (Hefner accounted for the Panthers first two goals as well.)

Recapping the last five games, assistant coach Kelly Hefner commented, "We were all psyched for Jen when she finally reached the top of the scoring charts, but it [her scoring] has definitely been overshadowed by the skating of the entire team. With an undefeated record [13-0-0] in the [ECAC] alliance, we are certainly looking forward to post season play."

Indeed, the last five games, since a close loss suffered at the hands of Colby, have been truly amazing. The women put together back-to-back blowouts of Amherst and Wesleyan, 11-0 and 10-0, respectively. In the Amherst match, Janice O'Neil '99 and Whitney Parks '97 led the way with two goals each, followed by Hefner. Junior Katie Oates' tallied her first goal of the season, as other scores by Elizabeth Zug '97, Lara Goff '99, Sara Vintiadis '97, Stephanie Hill '98 and Sarah Hall '99 helped the Panther effort.

The stats looked similar for the

victory over Wesleyan during which Hefner and Goff each connected for three goals, Parks put away two, while Sarah Cotton '99 and O'Neil each recorded a goal.

The roll continued versus Yale, when the women recorded a 5-1 victory behind two goals by Goff, and one each by Parks, Cotton and O'Neil. For the women, the victory over Yale was a satisfying win as Yale competes the division one alliance.

The final two victories of the Panthers' recent streak came against R.P.I. and R.I.T., both alliance games skated on the home ice. Against R.P.I., Parks, Vintiadis, and Goff each had two goals while O'Neil, Cotton and Brittany Beebe '99 each recorded a goal.

Finally, in the recent 5-1 victory over R.I.T. where Hefner broke Middlebury's scoring record with three goals, Parks and Suzanne Chepren '99 also chipped in with a goal each.

All in all, the women seem to be putting every thing together just as the post season approaches, and with an undefeated record in the ECAC alliance, they are looking to bigger and better things.

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