

## Women's hockey beats RPI and RIT

By Megan Maloney  
Staff Writer

Women's ice hockey opened up February Break with a home game and a road trip culminating in a match against the second place ranked team in their league.

The five game series began when the Panthers hosted Amherst College. The Lord Jeffs were demolished by the Panthers as Middlebury rolled to a 10-2 win.

Goals were scored by Katie Oates (2) '97, Sarah Hall (2) '00, Jennifer Hefner '97, Leanne MacDonald '00, Kelly Hase '00, Sylvia Ryan '00, and Janice O'Neil '99. Kristin Hackman '99 did an outstanding job minding the net, despite the two goals Amherst managed to score.

Laine Catlin '97 said, "Our 10-2 win against Amherst gave us an opportunity to improve our passing game and to work on our break outs and power plays for our more competitive games."

Only three days later, the Panthers travelled to Boston to face a Harvard team, markedly different than the team they played last year. With Harvard having lost one of their most prominent players to the National team this year, Middlebury saw an opportunity to upset the Division I team.

However, only 1:30 into the first period, Harvard netted their first goal. Middlebury managed to hold the Crimson off until the end of the first when another goal was scored.

Demonstrating outstanding defense, the Panthers only allowed one goal to be scored on them in the second period. The third period showed Harvard netting an additional two goals, with the Panthers still shut out, making the final score 5-0.

The Panthers traveled to Providence the next day to face Brown, the team ranked number one currently in Division I. The Panthers went in with nothing to lose and everything to gain. Brown emerged victorious, winning 5-0, but Middlebury proved to themselves and the world that they could keep up with a top-ranked Division I team.

"It was very exciting to play Harvard and Brown over February Break since we were able to play talented teams," commented Sara Vintiadis '97. "By playing together, making clean passes, and skating hard, we proved to ourselves that we are capable of playing against Division I schools. Although we lost both games, we were definitely strong competitors for Harvard and Brown."

After only a day to rest, Middlebury headed to New York and faced RPI and RIT. Middlebury was pleased with the final score but not with the roughness and bad refereeing.

Only 11 seconds into the game, RPI scored. Only a minute later, however, Ryan tied up the game.

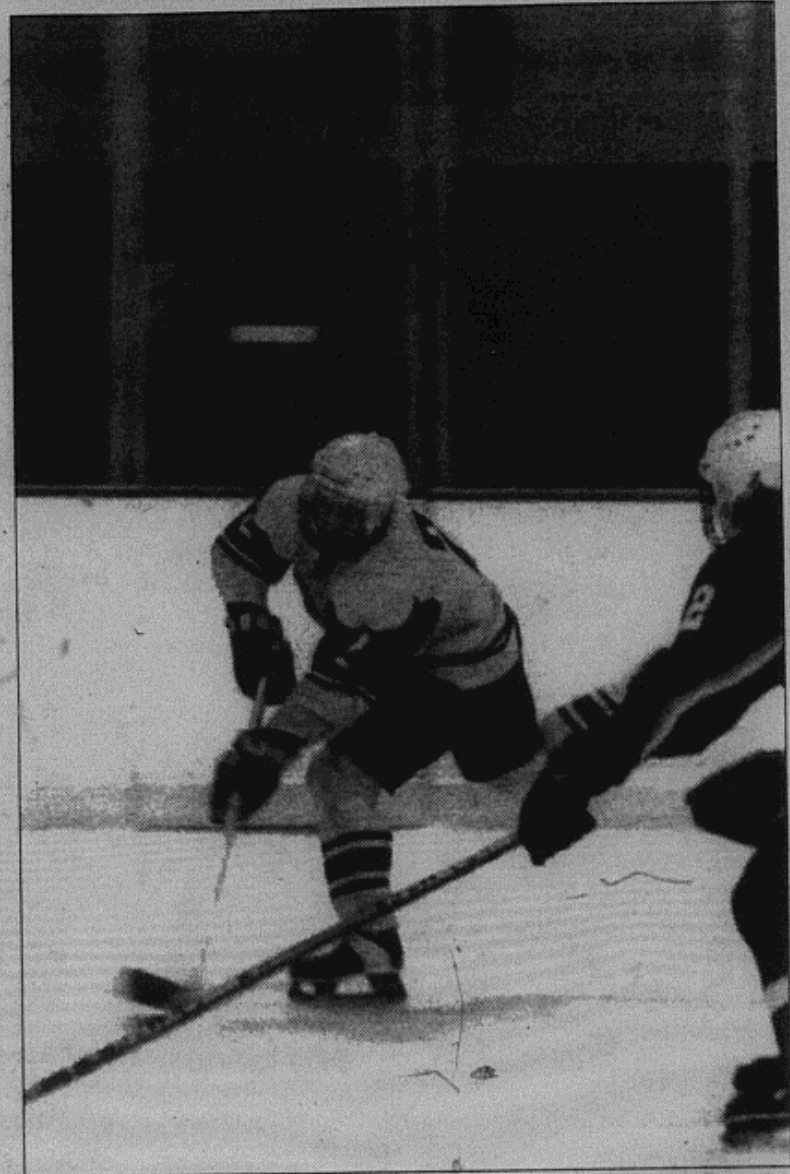
The second period proved to be the turning point when Whit Parks

'97 scored on a pass from Becky Sama '98 making the score 2-1. Catherine Pullins '00 followed Parks' lead and shot one in from the point. Only minutes later, RPI came back and netted one on a power play.

A third Panther goal, netted by Oates in the final minutes of the second period gave Middlebury a slight edge going into the third and final period which showed only one goal for each team, icing the score at 4-3.

Middlebury next faced off against RIT, the second place team in the league. The game proved to be a fight to the finish. Middlebury set the tone the first two periods with Hefner and Sara Vintiadis '97 each scoring one goal. RIT bounced back to tie the score by the end of the second period. The game was won when Hefner received a pass from Sara Vintiadis '97 while on a power play, giving Middlebury the 3-2 win.

Pullins stated "Playing four games in five days was difficult and a little overwhelming. However, we turned it on to end February Break with a huge win against rival RIT. We played well, wanted to win, and kept skating to the end. That is what it takes." Middlebury plays this Saturday night at home against Wesleyan.



Mark Moynier

Sylvia Ryan '00 takes a shot in the 4-2 Dartmouth victory on Wednesday.

## Panther track excels at Smith meet

### Tiven breaks school record and qualifies for NCAA's in 55m hurdles

By Matt Burwell

Hetzler '00 continued an impres- took sixth place.