

Captain's Corner

Women's Ice Hockey

By Whitney Parks and Jen Hefner

So far, the women's ice hockey team has enjoyed a successful season, winning all of its league games by fair margins including two significant defeats over its main rivals Bowdoin (8-0) and RIT (6-1).

The team's only losses occurred over Christmas break at the Division I invitational tournament at Dartmouth. As the only Division III team in the tournament, Middlebury proved that it was capable of playing with the best. Although it was defeated by both Dartmouth (2-1) and Boston College (5-3), the team played with an intensity and determination that it hopes to build upon throughout the season.

The eight new freshmen have added depth and strength to the roster. On defense, the two freshmen Leanne "give me a C" McDonald and Catherine "do you get it?" Pullins have given us the ability to shoot and score from the points. Whereas the multi-talented Sarah "hat-stealer" Hall '00 has been a versatile and indispensable player who has the ability to score goals, play defense, and draw penalties.

Sylvia "it's not Ray it's" Ryan and Christa "show me the money" McDougall have added scoring power to the front line, averaging over a point per game. Another talented young forward is Kelly "NHL" Hase who dazzles defenders with her amazing stick handling skills and accurate shot.

In the net, the team has Crystal "work horse" Springer and Beth "you talk too much" Denoncourt who have been alternating starts and have shut out the majority of the teams in Middlebury's league.

Returning from abroad, Vanessa Hynes '98 and Stephanie Hill '98 have added both defensive and offensive depth, not to mention character and a smellier locker room.

Although she is not suiting up this year, Casey Dove '98 will continue to be a joy to have around whenever she feels crazy enough to join in on the fun.

Sara Vintiadis '97 and Laine Catlin '97, the defensive dynamic duo, give solid and consistent performances on defense every game, along with Becky Sama, a junior defenseman who was extremely missed when she injured her shoulder at the Dartmouth tournament. All of the hockey team looks forward to having her back in full force for Wednesday's important game against St. Lawrence University.

On the front line, the team also has returning players Kate Oates '97, Sarah Cotton '99, Caiti Higgins '99, Meg Maloney '98, Sue Chepren '99 (is that your name?), Whit Parks '97, Jen Hefner '97 and Janice O'Neil '99, who have all contributed to the team's scoring this year.

Kristin Hackmann '99 returns for her second year in goal; she had an impressive shutout performance against RPI last Saturday.

The team hopes that all of their fans will come down to Nelson Arena, where Stephi Hill '98 promises to light the ice on fire. The more fans the better... And you will certainly see some amazing wins.



Vanessa Hynes '98 and Casey Dove '98 are the captains picks for team mascots.