

Women skaters clean up vs. Maine schools

By Rob Merrill

The Middlebury women's hockey team increased their overall record to 9-3 during the last two weeks. They lost to traditional league powerhouses Dartmouth, Harvard and St. Lawrence but beat MIT, Colby and Bowdoin.

The team finally met their match versus Dartmouth on Jan. 11. Coming into the game, the Panthers were undefeated and unstoppable. They had destroyed their opponents by a combined score of 37-2, and the contest against the Big Green would give them a chance to really test their talent.

Dartmouth, however, had other ideas. The game was close for the first two periods, but the women in green exploded for six third period goals to win easily 9-2. Rookie forward Whit Parks '97 tallied both Panther goals.

The women redeemed themselves against MIT a few days later, handily skating past the Engineers 8-0. Jen Hefner '97 was the star of the game, contributing a hat trick. Parks added four points of her own, with two goals and two assists.

Kirtley Horton '95, team captain Laurie Odden '94 and junior Sarah Archabal rounded out the Panther scoring with a goal apiece.

The team traveled south to take on Harvard on Jan. 16. The division I school whipped them 7-0 despite a 31 save effort from

Middlebury goaltender Christy Picard '96.

While Middlebury's offensive performance improved against St. Lawrence on Jan. 19, they could muster only three goals in the 6-3 losing effort.

After suffering back-to-back losses for the first time all season, the Panther skaters were eager to return to the friendly confines of Nelson Arena last weekend. On Friday, Middlebury disposed of the Colby College White Mules 5-3.

Parks opened the Panther scoring in the first period off a double assist from fellow first-years Hefner and Sara Vintiadis.

Middlebury added a trio of goals in the second period. Laine Catlin '97 netted one and center Horton deposited two in the Colby net. The game was iced by senior Laurie Odden with less than two minutes to play.

Saturday's victims were the Bowdoin Polar Bears. Middlebury ruffled their fur 8-0 behind the strength of a Sarah Davis '95 hat trick.

Lone goals were also tallied by Odden, sibling sensations Jen and Kelly Hefner '95, Vintiadis and Megan Tully '96.

The women are inactive until hosting Harvard on Saturday, Jan. 29. With solid play and a little luck, this team could definitely pull off the upset.