

# Women's hockey seeded first in ECAC Tournament

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players scored in the 9-1 win. First-year sensation Michelle Labbe led all scorers with two goals as the Panthers jumped out in the first period with a six goal lead. Besides Labbe's two first-period goals, Katie Lynch '01, Stephanie Hill '98, Pullins, and McDougall also scored for the Panthers.

The Connecticut defense managed to contain Middlebury in the second period, but some new Middlebury scorers came to the forefront in the third period. First-years Elissa Burnell and Jen Bahnson, and sophomore Sarah Hall each netted their first goals of the season to finish the scoring for the Panthers.

With these two blowout wins, the Panthers finished the season with a perfect 16-0 record in the ECAC Alliance. Middlebury also has built up its ECAC Alliance domination to 50 wins and no losses, which is extremely impres-

sive in such a strong league. Throughout the season, Middlebury has been led by first-year Michelle Labbe and sophomore Sylvia Ryan. Labbe has had an outstanding first season, and she first on the team with assists (30) and second in goals (23).

Ryan has proved to be Labbe's complement, as she is the team's leading goal scorer (30) and second in assists (18). Catherine Pullins and Janice O'Neil also are top point scorers for Middlebury, as are the two Panther goalies, Beth Denoncourt and Kristin Hackmann.

These players will be looked upon to provide leadership and strength during Middlebury's post-season play. This weekend, Middlebury will host the ECAC Alliance Tournament for the third season in a row. Not surprisingly, the Panthers are the top seed in the tournament, and will face #4 seed Bowdoin on Saturday at 5:00pm.