

Panther defense tangles with Brown in front of the net.

Photo by Roberta Stewart

Women's hockey rebounds after loss

By Elleen Shaughnessy

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After a drubbing by Division I Brown 10-0 at home last Thursday, the Panthers women's hockey team came back on Saturday to blank Williams 4-0.

Brown's greater numbers drained the Panther reserves. Although Middlebury's good defense held the

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Beaulieu and St. Martin was the last thing the Panthers needed. The offense never was untracked in the first half and, with the noticeable exception of senior co-captain Seth Heaton (25 points, 8 boards), the home team floundered in its efforts to match Babson up and down the court.

The final score indicates just how focused Babson's high octane offense was but belies the defensive effort put in by the Panther five. "We did our Brown offense to a 5-0 lead after the second period, the Panthers were too exhausted to continue into the third period, according to coach Bill Mandigo.

Mandigo commended defense players Kimmy Griffith '93 and Laurie Odden '94 for superior play and was especially impressed with first-year goalie Christy Picard's 64 saves in the net for Middlebury.

"She was exhausted but I think she did a tremendous job playing as a freshman against a team of Brown's caliber," Mandigo said. "I think we played as well as we could."

The Panthers traveled to Williamstown on January 9 to face the Purple Cows. Middlebury's aggressive play dominated from the start as the Panthers took 46 shots on goal, compared to Williams' 11.

"The puck was in their end for most of the contest," Mandigo said. "We skated hard, passed the puck, backchecked well. I was really pleased with the way we played."

Sophomore Sarah Davis began her scoring career with two goals, netting the first with 11 minutes left in the first period, assisted by Michele May '96 and Kate Fischer '93.

Sophomore Caryn Sheftel, moved from defense to offense, scored the first goal of her career with 12 seconds left in the first period on an assist from Kirtley Horton '95.

Davis added her second goal with seven seconds remaining in the second period, assisted by Kimmy Griffith '93. Horton contributed the last tally for the Panthers on another assist from Griffith.

Goalie Alice Hanson '95 had 11 saves as she recorded the shutout.

Middlebury is now 0-1 in ECAC play, 4-1 overall. They will host MIT Saturday, January 16 and St. Lawrence on Wednesday, January 20.