

TO DEERFIELD HOCKEY PLAYERS AND THOSE INTERESTED IN DEERFIELD HOCKEY.

At the beginning of this season I had no idea that the team would be as strong as it turned out to be, but the drive and the determination of the boys to succeed was a wonderful thing to see, and it paid off for them by giving them the first undefeated varsity hockey team since the first one, twenty-seven years ago.

The team defeated ten opponents and scored 73 goals to their opponents 20.

But more important than these statistics is that the team carried itself well throughout the season. Between Thanksgiving and Christmas they skated before breakfast when ice was available. Upon returning from vacation each player took his turn in flooding the rinks so that the ice could be better. When the ice was poor, they worked at conditioning and shooting. They liked the game, and they represented Deerfield in the finest possible way.

As you may remember an anonymous donor contributed last year the Deerfield Hockey Cup to be awarded "to that player who in the opinion of players, coach, and managers of the Deerfield Varsity Hockey Team is the player who because of his love for the game has contributed the most spirited, sportsmanlike play during the season."

This year the cup has been awarded to Todd Baldwin who as captain of the team was a leader in the real sense of the word. His outstanding performances in the games were a fine example to his team, and on and off the ice his spirit, his sportsmanship, and his devotion to his responsibilities were of the highest sort.

Once again let me thank all of you parents, friends, and alumni who have come to the games. Your interest means more to your sons and to the players than you will ever know.

The best review of the season I feel can be told by the notes taken after each game. These notes follow on the next pages.

Very sincerely,

<u>Team Roster.</u>		Robert L. Merriam.
Whitney Allington	LW	Lake Forest, Illinois.
Andrew Anderson	RW	Wellesley Hills, Mass.
Todd Baldwin (Captain)	LW	Chestnut Hill, Mass.
F. Ronald Dixon	C	New York, New York.
Paul S. Doherty	C	Longwood, Mass.
Michael P. Erdman (Co-captain)	RD	Princeton, New Jersey.
Allen Fuehl	elect) LW	Williamstown, Mass.
William H. Freeman	RW	Greenfield, Mass.
Thomas P. Kellogg	LD	Middlebury, Conn.
Robert C. Keltie	RW	Wellesley Hills, Mass.
Richard B. Lambert	LW	Weston, Mass.
Albert J. Mitchell	G	Albert, New Mexico.
Ivan E. Phillips	G	Quebec, Canada.
Oliver Wm. Putnam	RD	Washington Depot, Conn.
Richard C. Schroeder	C	Hamden, Conn.
Robert S. Townsend (Co-captain)	C	Massillon, Ohio.
David Wm. Whiteford	elect) LD	Darien, Conn.

Managers: Michael J. Burns
Joseph Pearson

Deerfield 4 Lawrence Academy 1

We were very ragged in this first game. The poor ice did not help our attempted passes, but we looked as though we had never skated together. The second line of Addington, Schroeder, and Keltie were the best linemen, and Doherty on the third line was a pleasant surprise when he scored the first time he was on the ice.

Deerfield 10 Choate 1

There was a decided improvement in our play in this game. As the weather was poor at Choate we arranged to play in the Springfield Arena.

The play of the first line, Baldwin, Townsend, and Freeman, was better, but they still failed to jump for the puck as I wanted to have them. Although Whiteford and Erdman on the defense had very little to do defensively, they did look good on the offensive five man attack. Dick Lombard, who came up from the J.V.'s for the game did a nice job.

Practically all of our goals came as a result of the five man attack in which Choate screened their goalie.

Deerfield 11 Vermont 2

Vermont was weaker than I have ever seen them, but they scored two goals on us in the first period. After the first period the team began to roll, and in the end our condition made a tremendous difference for the boys were skating hard at the end. Whitney Addington played very fine hockey as he scored three goals.

Deerfield 3 Mt. Harmon 2

After scoring so many goals in our three previous games, the team was over-confident before this game. It was a beautifully cold day, and the ice was marvelous, but we never did seem to really get going. For some reason or other there was a great deal of bunching, passes wouldn't work, few shots were taken, and the forechecking was poor.

It was a very fortunate thing that we had a good defense, for they had to play the entire game and carry the load both offensively and defensively.

Mike Erdman scored the first goal on a long shot from the blue line. Mike set up the second goal on a beautiful pass-off to the trailer, Kim Townsend, who slapped the puck into the goal. Our third goal was scored by Dick Schroeder when he shot after Dave Whiteford's rebound.

This game may have been a good thing for the team, for the boys now knew they would have to go to work.

Deerfield 7 Kimball Union 2

This was the best game that they boys had so far played, and now as I look back over the season I am sure that it was our best hockey of the season. Scoring four goals in the first period, the team looked particularly good. Mike Erdman's checking slowed the Kimball Union attack, and Kim Townsend, who played the best game I have ever seen him play, was excellent in

his forechecking play in the corners. The second period we let down a little, crowding and trying to be a trifle individual, but the third period the team came back to play excellent hockey. Although Al Mitchell did not have too many saves, he did make some very fine ones, and certainly played his best game so far.

Deerfield 8 Williams Freshmen 2

We opened the game slowly, but before too many moments had passed the boys began to go. Unfortunately Mike Erlman received a cut over his eye and was unable to play the rest of the game, but Andy Anderson, who had been moved up to the first line, shifted back to the defense and played well. The first and second periods were well played, but by the third period the covering became very loose.

Bob Keltic played a fine game - one of his goals was the result of a beautiful exhibition of stickhandling. Kir Townsend also played well - he suddenly speeded up and started breaking around the defense. Iven Phillips had to play in the goal, because Al Mitchell was hurt in practice, and though Iven did not have many saves, those he did make were well saved.

Deerfield 6 Williston 3

This game was played on rather poor ice where the sun had made soft spots. Fortunately, Mike Erlman and Al Mitchell were able to play by wearing lacrosse helmets that gave them good protection.

The first line played the best hockey they have this year, and particularly Captain Todd Baldwin who scored four goals. Todd's opportunism on the poor ice gave him these goals. It was a fine exhibition of his drive and deserves a great deal of credit. Kir Townsend and Andy Anderson scoring the other goals played well, but they were hampered by the ice.

Deerfield 10 Williston 1

This game was played in the Springfield Arena, and the boys on good ice proved themselves superior.

The first period the team played excellent hockey and scored seven goals. At one point they scored three goals in twenty-five seconds. Mike Erlman and Dave Whiteford looked better again after a bad week. Mike's lacrosse helmet had troubled him some, for he could not see well. The same applied to Al Mitchell in the goal, but he did very well in spite of the helmet. Noel Putnam who has played very little this season was able to play more in this game - his hard work throughout the year has deserved him the opportunity to play with the team. Billy Freeman also played more in this game than usual, and he did a nice job.

The second and third period we did not look good. I felt as though the boys were tired, so the next afternoon they all kept away from hockey.

Deerfield 10 Vermont 3

The game was played in the morning, and the ice was good. The first period was our best, for the boys passed well and shot five goals. The best goal of the day came when Allen

Fochl carrying the puck ran into the defense and tied them both up. Just before he hit the defense, he dropped the puck, and Ronny Dimond carried it around to the right, pulling the goalie to the right. Right on top of the cage Ronny slipped a pass to Dick Lombard who had come down on the left, and Dick slapped the puck into the goal. Tom Kellogg, brought up from the J.V.'s for the game also played well.

Deerfield 4 Kimball Union 3

Because the ice was soft at Kimball Union we played at the Dartmouth rink. It was a great game in all respects. Of course, with nine wins and no defeats, and going into the last game, the pressure was terrific.

In the morning Todd Baldwin was taken to be operated on for appendicitis. This was a serious loss.

The game opened very fast and continued to be fast throughout. In fact, it was one of the most sustained fast skating games that I have ever seen.

Kimball Union's Jim Riley scored first in the first period. Getting together, the boys made up their minds to really begin to play, and the second period saw them score four goals - Kim Townsend had two, Paul Doherty one, and Whitney Addington one. The third period we began to get tired, and Jim Riley of Kimball Union scored two. With about a minute and a half to play, Kimball Union took out their goalie and put six forwards on the ice. There was a face-off in our defensive zone. The defense cleared, but the puck was called back for icing. Covering closely, the boys held them, and then Mike Erdman picked up the puck and forced himself into the center. When the game ended Kimball Union was moving into our defensive zone again.

It is difficult to mention any player in this game, for they played as a team with a real determination to win. Each player had beautiful plays - Al Mitchell stopped Jim Riley coming in alone twice. Dave Whiteford, the acting captain in Todd Baldwin's place held the boys together beautifully and once overtook Riley and snared the puck just in time. Mike Erdman's holding the puck at the end was a beautiful thing, and Kim Townsend's shooting, stickhandling, and covering were excellent. The whole team played well and deserves a great deal of credit for this game and the season.

Scoring Records.

	<u>Goals</u>	<u>Assists</u>	<u>Total</u>
Townsend	13	15	28
Baldwin	14	6	20
Addington	12	6	18
Erdman	10	8	18
Anderson	4	11	15
Keltic	6	5	11
Whiteford	3	8	11
Schroeder	6	4	10
Doherty	3	3	6
Dimond	1	1	2
Fochl		2	2
Lombard	1		1
Putnam		1	1
Total	73	70	143