

Wah-Hoo- Woodsmen

By Jay French

Dartmouth College needs a symbol. Everyone here believes this, but still we try to rally round the amorphous, meaningless, and just plain boring "Big Green." Suggestions have ranged from the amoeba to the dog to the elephant to those plastic cups you see so often on Frat Row, but still we are without a symbol. Well, the time has come to change that fact. I hereby propose, in full seriousness, the adoption of a Woodsman symbol.

The woodsman has all the qualities which Big Green lacks, and none of the disadvantages of the Indian symbol. Let's look at each of these.

Native Americans have for years been subjected to stereotyping, and so for good reason they found the Indian symbol an insult; woodsmen have had no such experience. The Indian symbol is based on race; the woodsman symbol is based on profession. Just think for a moment and consider: the Indian symbol is no longer appropriate because it is considered racist; the woodsman symbol will be seen only as a compliment.

The woodsman is the right symbol for Dartmouth. It will offend no one, which is certainly an important consideration. But more importantly, it has those qualities which Dartmouth seems to want in a symbol: strength; the spirit of adventure; hard work; the simple life of days gone by; the spirit of the great outdoors. The woodsman is a symbol with which we can all identify and which contains a little bit of the dreams and aspirations of all of us. It is a symbol which represents that which is unique to Dartmouth.

It is time for Dartmouth to adopt a new symbol, and the woodsman would be a good one. But it is necessary to act now if

the symbol is to be adopted in time for the '76 football season. The trustees will meet on April 23 and 24, and this will be a good chance to get started.

Think about it: Dartmouth has not had an adequate symbol for years. Everyone seems to want a new one (since the old one will not be restored), but there has not yet been a serious attempt to adopt a new symbol. This proposal is offered in the belief that the woodsman is the perfect symbol for Dartmouth, not only for athletic teams but for the whole spirit of this unique College.

Make your opinion known. Let's have Vox poll the student body on the symbol question and on the desire for the woodsman as



a symbol. If student reaction is strongly in favor, let's poll the alumni and see what they think.

If you don't like the idea of a woodsman symbol, speak up and offer your suggestion. Whatever your views, another fall with another football season is fast approaching. Let's act now and adopt a new symbol—the Woodsman—before another fall and another round of idle debate and another round of gripes about the "Big Green" pass by. As that immortal source of wisdom, "Salada Tag Lines," tells us, "The most effective way to cope with change is to help create it." Let's get going. We have been without a symbol long enough.