

WOODSMEN'S WEEKEND 1985

The Dartmouth Woodsmen's Teams (3 undergraduate teams and 1 alumni team, a total of 26 people) trekked to the campus of the University of Maine at Orono to compete in this spring's episode of Woodsmen's Weekend. The weather was fine and the meet proved to be challenging and satisfying for all concerned.

With the help of many alumni, the scant 3½ weeks of practice were effective in producing three solid undergraduate teams. Elaine Anderson '83 and David Hooke '84 provided much help at regular practices. The immeasurable gains from two weekend sessions run by our former coach Jim "Porkroll" Taylor '74 should be noted. Despite being unable to attend the meet at UMO (the first he's missed in 15 years!) Porkroll was able to pass on his knowledge and bits of woodsmen's skills, tactics, and trivia to the current undergrads. And of course, we are all extremely



Woodsmen's Team: (left to right, front to back): Kelly Gelhar '87, Kathy Roy '85, Cathy Burke '85, Mike Derzon '88, Martha Green '87, Jen Nichols '87, Dave Metsky '85, Alex Tait '86, Elaine Anderson '83, Dan Monahan '87, Karen Wood '88, Greg Kroit '87, Ed Merrens '88, Dave Kotz '86, Max Saenger '88, David Hooke '84, Tito Autrey '85, Put Blodgett '53, Jack Noon '68, Peter McIlroy '88, Jeff Garneau '85, Paul Blackburn '88, John Mott '81, Matt Daniels '85, Warren Whitney '82, Ed Lowney '85. (photo by Jen Nichols '87)

thankful for the fine coaching and general advice from Put Blodgett '53. His commitment to helping and teaching the teams is simply outstanding and very much appreciated. He also solidified a strong alumni team in the absence of Jim Taylor.

On to the meet! On a cold, windy, but clear Friday morning, the first day's events began at Mud Pond, about 15 miles from Orono. Put's coaching was evident in Dartmouth's general strength in the canoeing events. Highlighting the morning were the C-team's doubles canoe victory by Cathy Burke '85 and Karen Wood '88, and the A-team singles canoe win by Mike Derzon '88 and Alex Tait '86.

After lunch and a wild, wide open Dartmouth win in the ultimate frisbee/body slamming contest, it was time for the traditionally Dartmouth dominated event, the packboard relay. Holding true to form, it was a near sweep as the C-team took sec-

ond and for the men, the alums barely edged the first place (for undergrads) A-team, and the B-team was the second undergrad team.

A session at Pat's Pizza Friday night revitalized everyone (well, almost everyone!) for Saturday's events. The C-team performed well all day and earned first place finishes in team logroll, pole climb (Cathy Burke '85), and scootload (Kathy Roy '85 and Cathy Burke '85). The men's A-team also placed consistently in the top four spots earning their sole victory in the scootload (Jeff Garneau '85 and Matt Daniels '85). The B-team was rarely far off the pace and performed consistently both days with particularly strong finishes in pulp throw for distance and scootload.

At a rather tame banquet Saturday night, Dartmouth collected a fair share of the awards. The highlight of the evening was the overall victory of the women's team,



"A-team cross-cut sawing."

(photo by Jen Nichols)

despite the fact that due to a typing error, this was not realized until after the awards ceremony. The problem was straightened out and the trophy brought back to Hanover. The men's teams placed third and fifth (behind two very strong Community College of the Finger Lakes teams), a vast improvement over last year's seventh and ninth places. And lastly, but in first place, without "Pork-roll," was the Dartmouth Alumni team who far outdistanced the second place UMO alums.

The season, though very short, was highly successful. Much was learned and there is a great deal of enthusiasm and motivation around to do better next year. One important consideration will be to start and organize practices at an earlier date. This fall there will be an organized team that will compete at a meet in New York state. Everybody is looking forward to next spring when the 1986 Woodsmen's Weekend will be held here at Dartmouth on Green Key Weekend! Any and all participation is welcomed in either the teams or in the preparation for next year's meet, particularly ideas on how we can get the meet back on the Green!!!

F-T-D and all that

— Alex Tait '86