

Sports Rap

RANKING ATHLETES THIS WEEK

Ranham Dixon is 4th in scoring avg. 18.7 pts per game. Curtis Robinson is 7th in scoring avg. 17.1 pts per game. Robinson is also 7th in rebounding avg. 6.6 per game. Mark Cameron 7th in free throws percentage avg. 77.4%. Shane MacEachern ended up in second place in the pts. race in the varsity hockey league with 59 points composing 18 goals and 41 assists. This was a great performance while missing three games and only falling short of the leader by one point. Excellent season! Brent "Tippy" Thompson ended up in 7th place with 41 points composing 14 goals and 27 assists. now for the ladies... Lori Knickle 6th in scoring avg. 13.5 pts. per game. The Knicklemyster is also 3rd in rebounding avg. 8.3 pts. per game. Heather Campbell is 10th in field goal percentage avg. 42%

NHL Hockey

by Chris McCarron

Gilmour scored 5 points in the Leafs 7-5 victory over the Oilers on the 16th. It's too bad Grant Fuhr and Glen Anderson both missed the chance to play their former teammates. The trade for Gilmour has been the best trade in the NHL, this season. Clark scored his 16th goal against Ranford. I think Clark, now has more points than both Leaman and Tocchet, who have both played twice as many games as good ol' Wendel. I watched Hockey's Hardest Hitters Volume II and I was happy, it included lots of Wendel Clark hits. In fact Wendel's hit on the St. Louis Blues' goaltender, Curtis Joseph? was named the best hit of the 80's. Wendel is known as the best hitting forward in hockey.

Had Joe Sakic been playing on the 15th the Nords would have beaten the Habs instead the Nords had to settle for a 4-4 tie in the Forum. Yes the team many love to hate was almost embarrassed by the Nords. Mike Bossy scored 50 goals in 50 games. Bossy's teammate Denis Potvin was a more complete player and so it goes that first Potvin would be selected to the Hall of Fame and then next year '92 Bossy would be selected.

Offsider

The hockey Panthers ended the regular season on a sour note; they lost both games against the visiting St. Thomas Tommies this past weekend. Friday night the score was 7-2; the Panthers tried, but were not successful in putting the puck past Tommies' goaltender Shane Corston. Corston played a strong game and made some saves which were just dumbfounding. Saturday afternoon it looked as if the Panthers had solved the Corston problem as they scored two quick goals, but the Tommies forced the game into overtime by scoring their fifth of the game with less than a minute to play and Corston on the bench for the extra attacker. Panther goaltender Jamie Blanchard made some brilliant saves in overtime as quick turnovers often resulted in odd-men rushes for the Tommies. Eventually the Tommies scored on a three-on-one to win 6-5.

The playoffs start this week; the Panthers play St. Thomas in the first round. In order to come out on top of the Tommies, the Panthers have to play defensively. They cannot continue to allow the number of odd-man rushes that they have been allowing. They have to realize that scoring chances stem from good defensive plays. They have to stick to man-to-man defense. They have to clear rebounds away from their goaltender. Anyway, the Panthers play at St. Thomas Wednesday night; the second game of the series (and third if required) will be played here this weekend.

Shayne Corson has been suspended indefinitely from the Canadiens because of the bar-room brawl late last week. There is a rumour that he might not be with the Habs for much longer. Chris Nilan is back with the Habs; Montreal claimed him after the Bruins placed him on waivers. Nilan will add an experienced physical aspect to their game. I think that it is wonderful that he is back in Montreal.

The New York Islanders are starting to turn things on again; this is partially due to the return of a healthy Mark Fitzpatrick. Fitzpatrick, a goaltender, has been playing steadily since his recall from Capital District. Fitzpatrick has a disease which is potentially fatal and therefore career-threatening; the fact that he continues to play with such a shadow over his head makes him compelling to me. Fitzpatrick's struggle to play brings him to a different level than most other players; he demands respect.