

NHL Hockey

by Chris McCarron

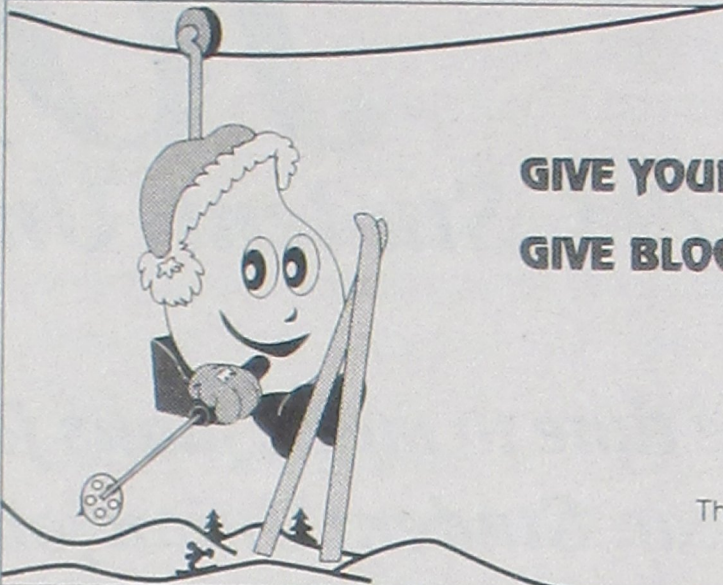
On Thursday, Feb 27, the Leafs lost 4-2 to Boston. I was a little concerned about Wendel Clark. I thought he looked a bit tired. Then Feb. 29th hit, the Leafs edged the Black Hawks 6-5. Wendel fired the first shot on goal and it soon became evident that Clark was a force to fear in the game. Flyers fans would cheer, Wendel threw down Chris Chelios like he was a piece of paper.

Bryan Marchment, the guy who kicks knee checks ala Alf Savelsson, was after Clark again. The two of them collided frequently yet as the broadcasters noted, Wendel got the better of Marchment. Doug Gilmour was amazing, again. For about 60 seconds the Black Hawks attempted to steal the puck from Gilmour. Finally Gilmour stopped toying with them and passed the puck to Anderson.


The Black Hawks were leading the Leafs 5-2 at the start of the third period. I knew it looked bad but I knew the Leafs could come back. The Leafs have come back quite often since they traded the out-of-shape Leeman. With a couple minutes to go in regulation time Wendel chipped the blade on his right skate. He kept his old left skate on and Smokey brought Wendel a brand new right skate. Overtime was about to start and the commentator said, "Now look at Clark with the new skate. He's got something up his sleeve. Look for him to score the game winner." About two minutes into overtime Clark did exactly as predicted. Wendel muscled in a picture perfect wrist shot which landed over Belfour's shoulder in the top corner. It was a beauty, the best goal I've seen scored this season. After the game Don Cherry was there hugging Wendel congratulating him on his hitting and scoring. If I know Cherry I bet he will have Wendel's overtime goal in the next Rock'em Sock'em tape.

Well Rick Tocchet is in Pittsburgh. At least he is with a talented team. Flyers fans will remember.

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