

# SPORTS

## OFFSIDER

The hockey Panthers have to watch the CIAUs in Toronto this weekend as most other CIAU teams are: television. The Acadia Axemen will be representing the AUAA at the national competition following a two-game sweep of the Panthers.

The first game was in Acadia on the 4th of March. The Axemen slaughtered the Panthers by the score of 12-1 (note -- this is unfortunately not a typo) Acadia's goaltenders Dennis Sproxton and Arnie Kaplan stopped 38 of 39 shots; K. J. White had the lone Panther goal. The second game was at the Civic Centre; Acadia fans were so loud that I felt I was away and cheering for the visitors instead of the home team.

On to the game. Acadia's two strengths are their speed and their goaltending. Both of those factors combined to give the Axemen a 4-3 double overtime win, the AUAA title, and the trip to the nationals.

Panther goaltender Jamie Blanchard played a strong game, but a defensive lapse allowed Duane Dennis to skate in on him alone and score short handed 16:45 into the second overtime.

The Panthers played a pretty good game. Brent Thompson's second goal of the game with 6.2 seconds left to play and Jamie Blanchard on the bench before Acadia's fourth goal, Panther defenseman Jeff Walker illustrated perfectly why international hockey has changed icing rules; he crashed dangerously into the boards behind Blanchard when he was racing to touch-up. Oh well.

The NHL had released its playoff dates; if the Stanley Cup final goes to seven games, the last game will be played on June 4th. The first games will be played on the 8th of April. The trading deadline is March the 10th; there are some rumours flying around, but nothing seems very serious.

The Hartford Whalers have not had the year they were supposed to have. John Cullen's light hands have turned to stone; Zarley Zalapski has not yet decided whether he should be an offensive or defensive defenseman. The whalers will probably be remembered this year as the team against which the Quebec Nordiques finally won their first road game. The Whalers are having problems at both ends of the rink they can play neither defensively nor score goals. But once in a while something good happens; the latest ray of sunshine for the team was the 4-0 win against the Bruins.

Did you know that: - Jeremy Roenick became the first American born NHLer to score 50 goals in a season last Saturday in the Blackhawks' 2-1 win over the Bruins? - The three least-penalized teams in the league are in the once tough Adams Division (Montreal, Boston, Hartford)? - St. Louis goaltender, Curtis Joseph, has nine assists so far this season, making him the twentieth-highest scorer on the Blue - In his first three games with Montreal, the notorious Chris Nilan had no penalties? - S. J. and Washington are the only two teams to have made no trades so far into the season?



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