

CHESTER'S CORNER

University sports by Alex Field

Men's Hockey Review

Energy, excitement, and a lot of goals would best describe the men's hockey team this year at home. With a record of 4-wins-0-losses-1-tie-1-OT loss, at home, with a total of 24 goals for and 13 goals against, the men's hockey team must be in love with the ice at the Civic Centre where they have been playing some extremely entertaining hockey. Undefeated in regulation through the first six games of the season made UPEI one of the toughest home teams in the AUS.

However, the team must be suffering from a little bit of homesickness as they take to the road, where they have had a record of 0-wins-3-losses-1-tie-1OT loss, with a total of 16 goals for and 28 goals against. The men's hockey team is definitely suffering from a Jekyll and Hyde complex in the first portion of the season (invincible at home, and mortal on the road). There must be something in the Civic Centre water or air that gives UPEI that killer instinct.

While it's great that UPEI fans get to watch the Panthers play their best hockey, I can't help but wonder when UPEI will start winning on the road. I know it's early in the season, but if UPEI can keep up their play at home and start winning on the road, then it's only a matter of time until the Panthers improve their overall record

of 4-3-2-2, and claw their way from the middle of the pack to top spot in the AUS.

I'm not trying to knock the men's hockey team. I get to watch them pound their opponents nearly every home game, so I can't really complain. But they need to take the show on the road and start beating up on teams no matter where they are playing.

With the success that the Panthers have had at home, there is no surprise that there has been more than a few outstanding performances by individual players. Joel Ward is among the top five in points in the AUS and CIS, while Brian Passmore and Cleon Smith are among the top ten in points in the AUS and CIS. Jason Flick has done his job so far this year, giving his team a chance to win nearly every game, and his stats are slowly improving as the season progresses.

The men's hockey team, over the past few years, have been known to play better in the second half of the season than the first. If they can repeat this pattern this year, then anything is possible for this team. And once they win one game on the road, I'm sure more will come. As someone once said to me "If you can't win a *single* game, than just win a *whole lot* of games."



Upcoming Games...

Women's Volleyball

Sat November 30 Memorial.....7:00
Sun December 1 Memorial.....7:00

Women's Basketball

Sat November 23 @ Acadia.....6:00
Sun 24 @ Acadia.....1:00
Fri 29 St. Mary's.....6:00

Men's Basketball

Sat November 23 @ Acadia.....8:00
Sun 24 @ Acadian.....3:00
Fri 28 St. Mary's.....8:00

Women's Hockey

Sun November 24 @ St. Thomas.....2:00
Sat 30 St. Thomas.....3:00

Men's Hockey

Sat November 23 @ UNB.....7:00
Sun 24 @ Moncton.....2:00
Fri 29 St. Thomas.....8:00
Sat 30 @ Moncton.....7:30