

By Liam McKenna
Sports Editor

Sports

Football, Baseball Debates Heat Up On Weblogs

While baseball playoffs are nearing the World Series, it looks as though the Yankees are at it again. Red Sox fans are red-faced after crowing what would be "their year" to finally beat the Yanks and lift the curse of the Bambino. Loaded with stars such as Pedro Martinez, Manny Ramirez, Curt Schilling, and David Ortiz, the Sox thought it might finally be the year for them to take the World Series for the first time since 1918. Many attribute this to the fact that the Sox were cursed after selling star slugger Babe Ruth to the Yankees in 1920. Since that day, the Yanks have taken 26 titles to the Red Sox none.

Weblogs@upeil posts showed an overwhelming majority of fans wanted the Red Sox to win – one cited the Yankees as the "Goliaths of baseball" – but, well, it's 3-0 Yanks in the series after a 19-8 blowout on Saturday night. Keep hoping, guys.

As for football, many are calling Sunday's Seahawks-Patriots game a possible Super Bowl preview. The Patriots, who have won a record 19 straight going back to last years playoffs, hope to continue their inspired play against Seattle, who suffered a veritable collective brain lapse last week when they surrendered a 17 point lead to the Rams in the final six minutes to lose in OT.

They look to bounce back in Sunday's big game.

Other football match-ups include Carolina taking on New England and the undefeated Jets facing San Francisco, and in perhaps what will be the most entertaining to watch, the winless Buffalo Bills take on the perpetually losing Miami Dolphins.

Weblogs are split on the outcome of the Seattle-New England game, but the common consensus is that no one likes the CFL. This has been proven to greatly upset our news editor.

Post Your Opinion on the Sports Weblogs!
<http://weblogs.upei.ca>

Men's Hockey Underway

By Liam McKenna
Sports Editor

After going an impressive 3-0 in exhibition play, the men's hockey Panthers opened their season Friday against St. Thomas in MacLauchlan arena. The puck dropped 7 pm.

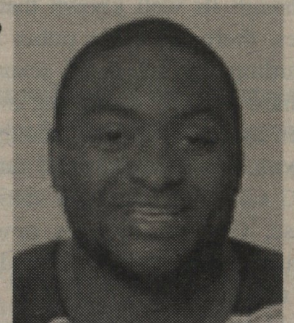
The men hoped to carry their impressive pre-season play into the home opener under the tutelage of new coach and director of hockey Mike Kelly, who was quoted in the Guardian as saying the UPEI team needed to work hard, be competitive, and play with discipline, staples for any good hockey team. Unfortunately, the men suffered a disappointing 2-1 loss.

4th year Joel Ward, who collected 33 points in 25 games last year, has been named team captain. He has attended training camp for the Detroit Red Wings twice in his career, and has OHL experience playing for Owen Sound. Also added to Ward's impressive resume is a rookie of the year award with the Panthers in 2001-2002 and an MVP award in 2002-2003.

Ward will be backed by alternates Adam Rivet and John Brioux.

Also on the new coaching staff are Doug Shepperd and former NHLer Al MacAdam, recently honored at the PEI Rocket game against Acadie-Bathurst in a heartwarming pre-game ceremony.

After kicking things off at home, the Panthers will hopefully improve when they travel to Moncton on Saturday to play the Blue Eagles.



Joel Ward



John Brioux



Adam Rivet

UPEI Men's Volleyball

By Matt O'Halloran
Ad Manager

The UPEI Panthers men's volleyball club team convincingly defeated the UNB Saint John Seawolves during doubleheader play Saturday. In their first match, UPEI downed UNB 3 sets to 2 (19-25, 25-17, 25-19, 25-19), while in the second match they beat them 3 straight (25-20, 25-19, 25-18). The wins put the Panthers season record at 3 wins, 1 loss. The team plays next in the ACAA tip-off tournament next weekend in Halifax.