

Fourth and long

by Jamie Colvin

Where has the real Wayne Gretzky gone? Is this the swan-song for his storied career? It is a tough thing to predict but the 99 fans are watching is not the 'Great One' anymore. Gretzky is on an unheard-of 16 game goal scoring drought and as can be expected, the L.A. Kings woes continue.

The pressing question at hand in my view, that being "will Wayne retire?", is something that will be answered in the upcoming 2-3 months. To be fair to Wayne, one must remember that he had been off of the blades and isolated from hockey for about 8 months. On a regular schedule Gretzky would just be finishing up preseason and ready to turn it up a notch for the regular season. This is what remains to be seen. If Wayne can get his timing back and regain the touch that has made him the greatest to ever play the game, I would hazard to guess that he will play at least one more season. But is Wayne continues to struggle and the Kings again exit early from the playoffs, Gretzky will pack it in.

Sources close to Gretzky say his back is not bothering him at all, so it is clearly not a crutch that some make it out to be. Perhaps age has finally caught up to the once unstoppable phenom from Brantford. To me, he just looks tired and run-down, from too many 80 game campaigns.

Wayne is the consummate professional and has been the greatest ambassador that the game has ever enjoyed. There is little doubt that Gretzky will want to be remembered for his great days when he could perform magic on the pond. By playing on too much further the memories of Gretzky will be his poor play in L.A., and how he could never make that team win in the playoffs. This of course is a flawed perception, yet it is the nature of high profile sports.

Some light is shed on who should be proclaimed the most-valuable at the end of the N.H.L. season is provided by noted hockey critique Dominic Deluca.

As the N.H.L. season winds down, there seems to be a select group of players revealing their dominance and reinforcing the fact that they are the "cream of the crop" in the league. With the absence of Mario, the question now arises: Who will be the 1992-1993 MVP? In my eyes, there are several candidates who could walk away as the leagues finest player.

In the Adams division, the playmaking prowess of Adam Oates has many of his opponents truly awestruck. But in addition to his incredible vision of the ice, Oates has found his scoring touch and may even score 50 goals this season. This is an incredible stat, if you consider the fact that he has never scored more than 22 goals in a season. Next, two Buffalo Sabres, Alex Mogilny and Pat Lafontaine are both having banner seasons. After a couple of mediocre years, a battle with overcoming the fear of flying, and trying to adjust to the North American lifestyle, Mogilny has proven to be deadly around the net. Blessed with incredible speed and a bullet snap shot, this somewhat cocky Russian (who already has 56 goals) is on pace to score 75 to 80 goals. That, my folks, is MVP material! But do not forget Pat Lafontaine, who also for years has thrilled hockey fans. He continues to be an amazing point producer and a leader on and off the ice. His ability on both the power play and penalty killing units is unsurpassed, yet most importantly he is a true ambassador for the game of hockey.

In the Norris division, Doug Gilmour of the Toronto Maple Leafs has opened the eyes of all hockey fans and almost single-handedly taken the Maple Leafs to a commendable status. He has proven to be an extraordinary power play specialist and his innate skill to find the open man is a reflection of the assist totals he continues to put on the board. And lets not forget, this is a small man who has proven he is no stranger to the rough stuff, and is always getting his nose where it doesn't belong. "Way to go Dougie boy!"

Finally, another Norris Division superstar, and my favourite player, Steve Yzerman, has been on a tear during the past month or so and continues to dazzle and haunt opposing defencemen. His lightning speed, and deft scoring touch has allowed him to once again be amongst the leagues most exciting players. There is no doubt he will once again score 50 goals, but the major question is "can he lead the Red Wings to the Stanley Cup final?" As a Detroit fanatic, I will say Stevie Y will lead the troops out of the rough and tumble Norris Division, and make their long awaited arrival in the Cup final.

In closing, I must mention some other longshot candidates for MVP. We cannot forget the ever steady Chris Chelios who does it all for the Blackhawks, the underrated, yet fantastic Joe Sakic of Quebec Nordiques, and the kid who has all Vancouver fans dancing in the streets, the 'Russian Rocket', Pavel Bure.

Campus recreation

Co-ed Sports

Co-ed Ball Hockey

Jon Darling will be in touch with all captains and/or managers regarding playoffs, playoffs should be beginning within the next week.

Co-ed Basketball

Would all managers and/or captains please pick up a tournament schedule at the Recreation Office today by 4pm., the tournament will run Saturday, February 20 from 10 am. until 7:30 pm. in the Main and West Gyms. All participating teams please be on time for your games.

Referees

Would the following referees drop by the Recreation Office to pick up their ball cap:

John Fitzgerald, Stephen Hachey, Jon Kenyon, Jason Lewis, Aaron Mason, Dean Moriarity, Bruce Noble, James Ryan, Dan Webb, Scott Allen, Colin Brewster, Roland Genge

Attention ALL Phys. Ed and Rec. students returning next year: Interested in getting some work experience and some spending money next year? Then apply down at the Recreation Office to become either a Referee, Referee-in-Chief, or Intramural Coordinator for next year. Applications will be taken until the end of this term, apply soon! If you have any questions about any of these jobs please feel free to contact Jon Darling at 452-7981.

Standings

Ice Hockey

Adams division

	G	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
McLeod Leftovers	8	7	1	0	55	18	23
Chem Eng Kings	8	4	4	0	29	42	16
Golden Nuts	8	4	4	0	38	36	16
Neville	8	4	4	0	49	51	16
Legal Eagles	8	3	4	1	37	48	15
Individuals	7	3	4	0	29	27	12
Hawks	7	1	6	0	17	24	6

Patrick Division

	G	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Civil Maddogs	8	6	0	2	37	12	22
Charleston Chiefs	7	6	0	1	44	19	20
Beastie Boys	9	5	2	1	35	33	19
Surveying Eng.	8	4	4	0	30	29	16
Business Blues	7	3	3	1	38	24	13
Hockey Wannabees	8	0	7	1	14	56	9
Aitken Rangers	7	0	6	1	10	47	7

Women's basketball (Final)

	G	W	L	T	F	A	PTS
The Butt Kickers	4	4	0	0	124	52	12
Dunkin Duffers	4	2	1	1	136	113	9
Tibbits Titans	4	2	2	0	157	81	8
Bushwackers	4	1	2	1	86	147	7
Vanier Vikings	4	0	4	0	61	171	4

Co-ed Ball Hockey (Final)

	G	W	L	T	F	A	PTS
Law Shooters	3	2	1	0	26	5	7
The Ball Bearings	3	2	1	0	14	4	7
Chemical Eng.	3	2	1	0	2	7	7
MacKenzie	3	0	3	0	7	33	3

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Pepsi/Pizza Hut Player Profile

Krista Foreman

UNB Red Bloomers

Height: 6'

2nd year Science

Position: Post

Accomplishments:

UNB most improved player 1991-92

Member 1990-92 Junior Prov. Team

Hometown: Fredericton, NB

Hobbies: Horseback riding

TV Show:

Favorite Team: Detroit Pistons

Favorite Athlete: Ian Miller

Future Aspirations: Veterinarian

People don't know I... "love to eat"

Peter Allison's

