

Baby Habs down Oilers

DiPietro's 5 points leads team to 9-3 decision

by Luke Peterson

The Fredericton Canadiens got the monkey off their back last Tuesday evening at the Aitken Centre. They defeated the Cape Breton Oilers by a score of 9-3 to edge closer to top spot in the tightly contested Atlantic Division. The Baby Habs were coming off a particularly tough weekend that saw them drop back-to-back home games.

On Saturday, January 16, the Cape Breton Oilers downed the Canadiens 7-4 in a match-up for first place in the division. A near capacity crowd of 3,708 was on hand to watch the Oilers put on an offensive show. Cape Breton shelled Canadiens' goalie Les Kuntar, who played the first two periods, and later Fred Chabot, who was brought on in relief and ended up yielding four goals in the final frame, thus sealing the Canadiens fate on this night.

The Canadiens offense managed two goals by Oleg Petrov with Patrik Carnback and Pierre Sevigny notching singles. Steven Rice led the balanced Oilers attack with a pair.

3,618 fans turned out the next day for a match against the fledgling Hamilton Canucks. Hamilton has struggled this year, holding down last spot in the southern division, however they

prevailed over the reeling Canadiens on this particular afternoon. Again goaltending, or lack of it, proved to be the downfall of the Baby Habs. Les Kuntar was given the nod to start for the second day in a row, but was blasted for 6 goals by a Hamilton squad whose poor record is misleading. Oleg Petrov continued to shine for the Canadiens, the talented Russian rookie netted two goals giving him four goals in his last two games. Defencemen Gerry Fleming and Alain Cote provided the other two tallies in a losing cause.

The Canadiens ended their home slump in a big way on Tuesday. Once again they played host to the Oilers, however, it was Fredericton who put on the offensive show on this night. Heading into Tuesday's contest, the Canadiens were winless against Cape Breton in their last 3 meetings while being out scored 16-5 in total.

Canadiens struck early and often in this contest, the game was just 24 seconds old when Oilers' defenceman Mark Laforge went off for tripping and a mere 10 seconds later, Red-hot forward Oleg Petrov converted on the power-play for his 12th goal of the season. Subsequent goals by Steve Larouche and

Yves Sarault staked the Baby Habs to a 3-0 lead and it appeared the period would end that way, but with just 11 seconds left in the period, David Haas got one by starter Fred Chabot to put the Oilers on the scoreboard.

The late goal by Cape Breton didn't faze the Canadiens as they came out flying in the second frame, putting the game out of reach with goals by Steve Veilleux and Paul DiPietro. At the end of two, the score stood at 5-1.

Despite the Oilers scoring twice in the final period, the game was never in question as Fredericton got additional goals from Charles Poulin, Luc Gauthier, Petrov and DiPietro to give them the 9-3 win.

Turner Stevenson picked up 3 assists and DiPietro also added 3 assists to give him 5 points on the evening. With the win the Canadiens have 52 points on the season, good for third place in the Atlantic, a mere 1 point in arrears of second place St. John's and just 3 points back of the first place Oilers.

Next action for the Baby Habs is a game this Friday night in Cape Breton which will be broadcasted live by country 105.3 KHJ.

Fourth and long Sports commentary

by Jamie Colvin

Has someone cast an evil spell on Mario Lemieux? This man has seen set-back after set-back in his career, one that now may never reach its full potential. His most recent set-back is undoubtedly the most serious. Now the issue at hand is not when he can come back and play, rather if he will be able to beat the cancer that threatens the young man's life. If you have been in Siberian solitary confinement for the past week perhaps you missed the shattering news that Mario has Hodgkins disease, which is a cancer of the lymph nodes. From what I understand, this is a cancer that is considered treatable, however any mention of the word cancer is a serious matter no matter of which form contracted.

This is a devastating discovery for a man who had apparently put a career threatening back injury behind him and seemed destined to play the whole year healthy and finally reach the full of his potential and break some of Gretzky's records that had eluded him. Now the hockey, records, and a third straight Stanley Cup for his Pittsburgh Penguins are exposed as the trivial accomplishments they really are. Mario is in for a fight tougher than any game seven he might face - this is a fight for his life.

What I found disturbing about the whole incident was the seemingly optimistic recovery time period the Penguins put on their ailing superstar. There should be no time constraints put on Mario to return to the game, if he is ever fit to make that return. Mario is a class act both on and off the ice and did immeasurable good for the NHL, and he is also a proven fighter against adversity so there can be little doubt that if Mario is healthy and ready to return, he will. But this is a decision that should be solely up to Lemieux.

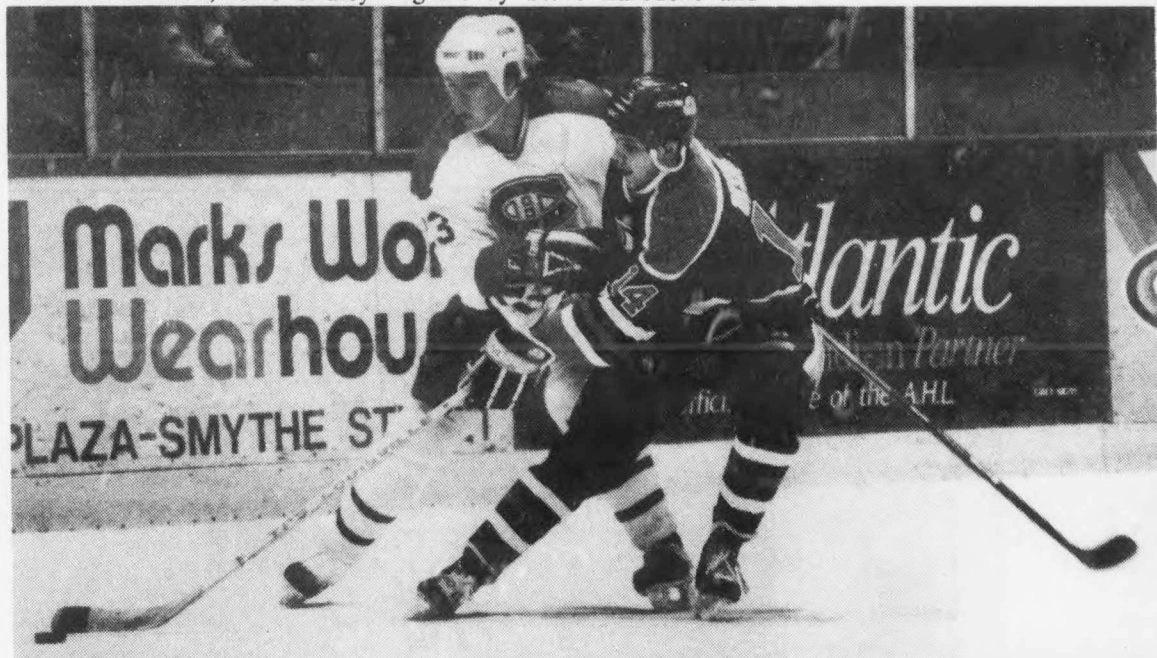
This is a good lesson as to how precious life really is. Here is a 27 year old man who has it all; talent, money, fame. However what importance does it play when his life is in jeopardy?

The Super Bowl is now set. Anyone with a photographic memory will surely remember seeing this in the November 20th edition of Fourth and Long: "Look for Buffalo to beat Dallas and win the Super Bowl they have blown in the past 2 years." Surprisingly enough these are the two teams that will square off for footballs coveted grail. Although I never doubted Buffalo's berth in the big game, Dallas certainly had a tough road to travel for their NFC Championship. The Cowboys are looking like a team of the future (meaning 1994 onwards) because they are in for a football lesson on January 31st from the hungriest, most experienced Buffalo team to challenge for the Lombardi Trophy. This is the Bills year. They have defied all odds in making it this far and will not let the Buffalo fans or themselves down again. Their defence is playing at the top of their game led by probowler Bruce Smith, and by kickoff time Jim Kelly will be close to 100%. This spells Super Bowl in my books. My November 20th prediction remains unchanged. BUFFALO!

*** Murray's Trivia Corner ***

Question: In 1892, Canada's Governor General Frederick Arthur Stanley, for a fee of \$47.67 to buy a trophy to be awarded to the top hockey team in Canada. This went on to become known as the Stanley Cup. Name the first team to win the Stanley Cup?

Last weeks answer: Dave 'The Hammer' Schultz's played on three other teams besides Philadelphia, namely Los Angeles, Pittsburgh and Buffalo.



Baby Hab forward Turner Stevenson fights off an Oiler defender photo by Kevin Porter

Pepsi/Pizza Hut Player Profile

Sean Penney

UNB Beavers

6'2", Age:22

5th year Chem. Eng.

Accomplishments: 1992 swimmer of the year

1988-92 AUAA All Star, National qualifier

200m backstroke, 4.3 GPA

Hometown: Ramstein, Germany

Hobbies: Downhill skiing and anything competitive

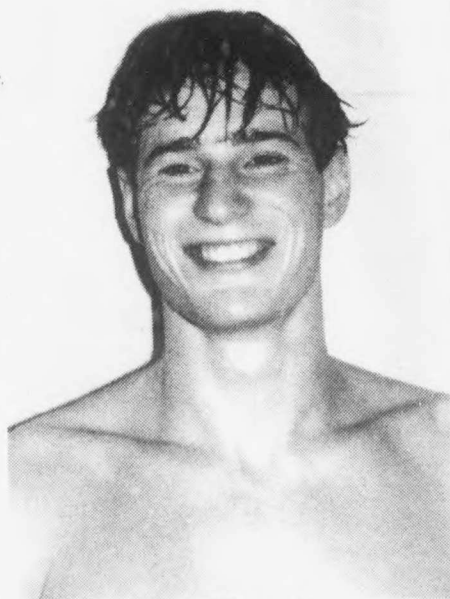
TV Show: Northern Exposure

Favorite Team: Chicago Bulls

Favorite Athlete: Todd Brooker

Future Aspirations: Fighter pilot

People don't know "I'm not skinny"



Sean Penney



CHSR BROADCAST SCHEDULE

SAT. JAN. 23rd Red Devils AT ACADIA

7:30pm (#5 vs. #1)

SUN. JAN. 24th Red Devils AT DALHOUSIE

3pm



CURL FOR CANCER

Any faculty, staff or students INTERESTED IN ENTERING THE CURL FOR CANCER BONSPIEL ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 20 AT THE CAPITAL WINTER CLUB ARE ASKED TO CONTACT DONNA HORNIBROOK AT 458-9405 OR THE SOCIETY'S YORK UNIT OFFICE AT 453-1551.