

Miami Screaming Eagles sue for playoff berth

by James R. Polaris
Scum Staff Writer

Miami Screaming Eagles owner Elmer DeFudd announced today that the team will sue the N.H.L. to be included in the Stanley Cup playoffs next year, regardless of where they finish in the standings.

"Making the playoffs seems to be totally unrelated to where you finish," said DeFudd. "Toronto was in third to last place this year! This situation is completely unfair to the fans and the players. Not only that, we need the playoff money."

The Eagles were eliminated from the playoffs this season when they finished in 6th place in the Adams Division. However, they ended the year with 78 points, more than 25 points ahead of the Winnipeg, Vancouver, and Toronto teams — all of which made the playoffs.

DeFudd added that he hopes to get the Buffalo Buffaloes, Pittsburgh Panthers, and New Jersey Darrhvaders to join in the lawsuit. "Hey, they finished ahead of those Canadian teams (Winnipeg, Vancouver, and Toronto) too," he said.

N.H.L. president John Ziegler did not

comment on the potential lawsuit. However, a high league official who asked to remain nameless said that the suit was not completely unexpected. "We knew that Hartford had been talking to a lawyer about suing. I guess he must have contacted Miami when the Swordfishers got in."

The Hartford Swordfishers had finished out of the playoffs, but ahead of at least one playoff team for several years running. They made the playoffs in the last week of the season this year.

Buffalo team officials indicated that

they were thinking about taking DeFudd's offer to join in the suit. Buffalo GM Montgomery "Scotty" Scott asked, "What's going on here? Is the league discriminating against American teams? Who's in charge of the playoff policy, Pat Riggins?"

Riggins, a goalie for the Boston Bruins, complained last year that American hockey players were taking jobs away from Canadians.

At the league office in Montreal, our source did not deny Scott's suggestion. "He (Riggins) probably does have an effect

on the playoff hopes of the Bruins and the teams they play against, particularly teams in their division like Buffalo and Miami."

Partly because of the Swordfisher situation, the NHL playoff system has been criticized heavily in the past. However, this marks the first time that a team has talked about suing. Several independent

observers believe that the N.H.L.'s fear of

lawsuits will soon result in an out-of-court settlement.

Between the sheets at the Masters.
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SPORTS

Oilers' battlers lay bloody bounty on Flames boorish Baxter.
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It is as natural a combination as sleeping and philosophy class, student loans and RATT, and empty seats at Bear games. In a move that exemplifies the Athletics Department's long running friendship with *The Scum*, the Butterdome has been renamed in honour of *Scum* Alumni Rasmussen and Delaney. The duo is best known for their comic strip Bub Slug, which runs in the Edmonton Urinal. The new name for the indoor track facility will be BUB, unifying the U of A's policy of three letter building names. Previously named buildings that fall into this category are HUB, CAB, and SUB. A leak from within the Athletics Department confirms the initials to stand for Big Ugly Building.

Oil's Well That Ends Well

In a continuing effort to invest the wealth squeezed from the hearts of the suppressed peasants, Ferdinand Marcos has purchased the Edmonton Oilers from Peter Pocklington for \$82.6 million.

The deposed Filipino leader spoke to the *Scum* from his capitalistic beachside resort in Hawaii. "I had to spend it all before that Cory bitch steals it from me," said Marcos.

The deal was ratified by a "free vote" of the Board of Directors.

Marcos said that his wife helped him in his decision. "Imelda thought that hockey players had nice shoes.

"She is very happy. She is already

working on new uniforms for the team. Imelda thinks Jari is cute."

Marcos plans a few changes. "I want to bring to the team some of the philosophies that made me such a success."

Planned changes include wage rollbacks to sub-poverty level, martial law "to correct the team's disciplinary problems", and use of subversion and guerilla tactics on opposing teams. "Baby Doc (Duvalier) is going to be my new PR director — this free press thing fascinates him."

Said Marcos, tyrant and entrepreneur, "This is great, it is almost like having my own country again."



Photo Hinglarry Pitt

* University Coverage *
* At the CIAU finals yesterday, the Golden Bears' basketball team upset everybody in claiming their first title. Mike Kornak had 30 points in leading Alberta to a 95-82 upset win over York. In other university news...



— Weary Bones — columnist Weary Bones was last seen at an all-you-can-eat \$5 buffet somewhere in this city's Italian section. Don't expect a column for several days.

Sports Dolts Honky Hoop

In a strange move to put fans in the stands, the perennial doormats of the Pacific Division of the NBA, the Golden State Warriors, have released all their black players and have replaced them with marginal white players.

"We figured that Oakland (home of the Warriors) being mostly black, it would create some curiosity in the team," said team spokesman Moe Green. The last all-white team in the NBA was the 1954 St. Louis Hawks.

Unfortunately for the Warriors, their plan seems to have backfired as the team is once again last in league attendance. The main reason for this is because the team is also last in every statistical category in the league. "Man, I ain't payin' to see a bunch of white boys lose!" said an unidentified fan.

The biggest statistical drop is rebounding. The team, hampered by "white man's disease" (read: they can't jump), has collected only 11 boards all year. Moe Green has since been relieved of his duties.

Nome Raid!

In an unprecedented move, Al Davis, Managing General Partner of the Los Angeles Raiders, has once again pulled up stakes and moved his team. The Raiders, late of Oakland and now Los Angeles, will now be known as the Nome Raiders.

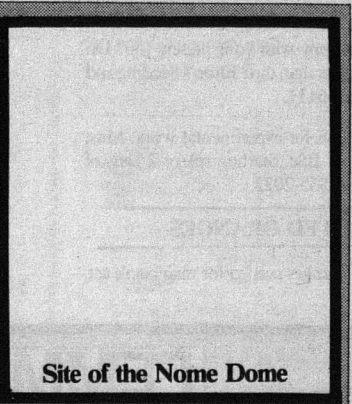
Davis has stated that his decision to move the team was based on the construction of the 150,000 seat Nome-Dome stadium. "Just think of all the money I'm gonna rake in from those stupid dog-mushers," chortled Davis as he boarded Alaska Airlines to visit his new headquarters.

Davis had earlier turned down a last ditch effort by a Los Angeles delegation led by Mayor Tom Bradley to keep the team in L.A. with a polite (for Davis), yet firm, "Screw You."

Whether or not the team will survive in an area where the nearest settlement of 150,000 people is in the Soviet Union is yet to be seen.

Tuele's Mum

In a press conference on Tuesday, Bill Tuele, public relations man for the Stanley Cup Champion Edmonton Oilers, announced that he "had nothing to say" and that "there is nothing new to report on the team."



Site of the Nome Dome

This has sparked off one of the biggest crises in sports reporting history. "I've got page one to fill," wailed one editor. "What am I going to write about?" One paper has even called in professional analysts to try and decipher what Tuele's statement really meant.

As a result of all this, the front page of most sports sections in the country will remain blank as a symbol of protest. "We're not gonna let them (the Oilers) push us around," said one unidentified sportswriter. "Either they start producing some meaningful facts and trivia or we're only gonna write two stories a day about them instead of our regular five."

In response, the Oilers have called a press conference for next Wednesday.

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