## **Blues crush Concordia in final**

While at first it may not look like it, the U of Toronto Blues and the Concordia Stingers took two completely different routes to reach the CIAU final on Sunday afternoon. That doesn't mean that one took the Trans-Canada highway while the other a provincial highway.

As it turned out, the Blues got to play the host Trois-Rivieres Patriotes - a team that finished dead last in its own division, the QUAA, with an 8-15-1 record. The Stingers, meanwhile, played against the Golden Bears, who were ranked No. 2 in the nation. The Stingers were ranked No. 4.

With this 'luck of the draw', as one reporter put it, it was expected that whichever team came out of the Bears-Stingers series, they would be too tired to take on the already powerful Toronto club. As many people saw on national television, that was exactly what happened.

The Stingers took an embarassing 9-1 thumping and, along with the Bears, were at a disadvantage even before the three day tournament began. Before the disastrous final, the Stingers had those two tough and close games against the Bears while the Blues had two lightweight games - 8-3 and 6-1 victories over Trois Rivieres.

Nevertheless, Coconcordia coach Paul Arsenault wasn't complaining about the much criticized format, and took the loss in stride.

"It's the luck of the draw but ou have to overcome that," said Arseneault. "We didn't overcome it. We got beaten by a better hockey club. We went as far as we could in this series. The way they (Toronto) played, I don't think anybody could have beaten them.

Blue's coach Mike Keegan was also quick to downplay the suggestion that the Bears series took everything out of the Stingers, but he did admit that the Blues got the best of the situation.

'It was our good fortuen that we could take advantage of their tiredness coming off the U of A series," said Keegan.

He was also quick to point out that the Stingers didn't have to play regional series as the Blues did in Fredericton against the UNB Red Raiders. The Raiders were ranked No. 7 in the nation and they had capacity crowds of over 3500 in what Keegan termed an "interesting" series.

In all fairness to the Blues, though, there probably wasn't a college hockey team on this earth that could have beaten them on that day. They outshot the beleaguered Stingers 35-23 and

scored on four of five powerplay chances. They were led by Andre Hidi, Phil Drouillard, and Tom Callaghan, who all scored two goals apiece to give the Blues their tenth title in fifteen appearances.

While the Blues and Stingers obviously took two different roads to the final, you could safely say that, for the Blues, the road was a little easier to travel on.

## From the Den:

Even though it wasn't the greatest weekend for the Bears, they did come away with some individual awards. At Thursday's banquet, Bears' coach Bill Moores was named Coach of the Year in the CIAU while goalie Ken Hodge and defenseman Tim Krug were named to the 1983-84 all-Canadian team.

It was a much deserved honor for Moores as he has now taken the Bears to the nationals each time he has had the head coaching reings. Hodge posted the best goals against average in the country with a 1.98 GAA, partly due to the fine defensive play of fellow all-Canadian, Tim Krug who led all defensemen in the Canada West conference with 20 points...

The kudos kept coming after Sunday's final game as Hodge and defenseman Pavie Proft were voted to the series All-Star team. Proft scored the Bears only powerplay goal of the tourna-ment, and looked the most dominating of all the Bears players, picking up the MVP award in both games ....

Of the thirteen players named to the All-Canadian team, three were from the Canada West, the CUAA (Ontario) and the AUAA (Atlantic) conferences. GPAC (Great Plains) and the QUAA (Quebec) conferences supplied two each. Saskatchewan's Denis Fenske was the other Canada West player nominated ...

U. of Manitoba Bisons' forward Mike Ridley was named the CIAU player of the year. The

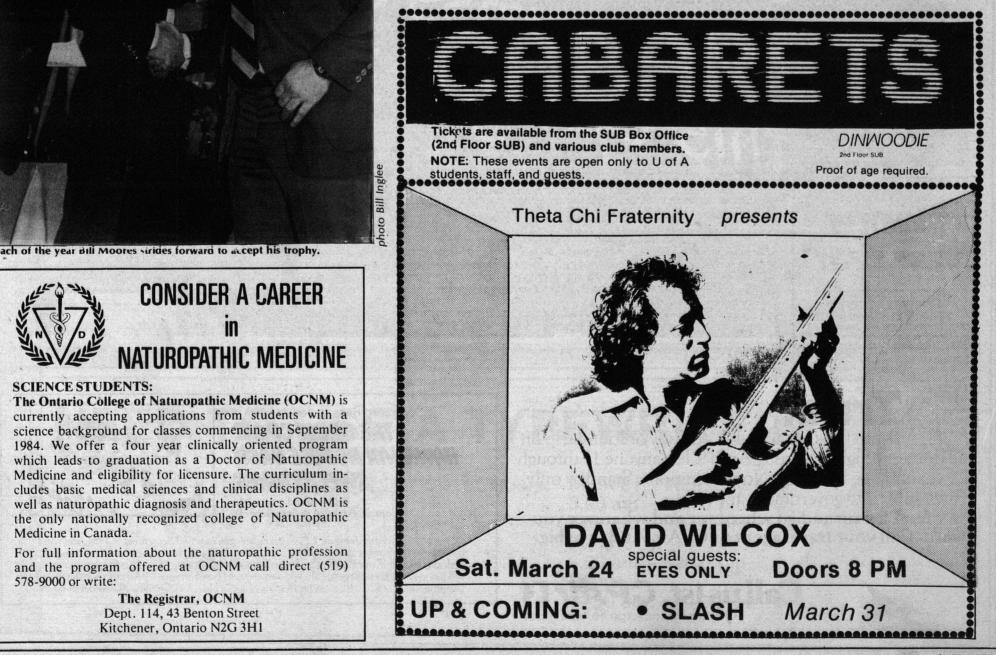
first year player had 50 points in 24 games but pulled a quaint disappearing act when Manitoba played the Bears in the playoffs. His name appeared only once on the statistics sheet - for a two minute penalty.

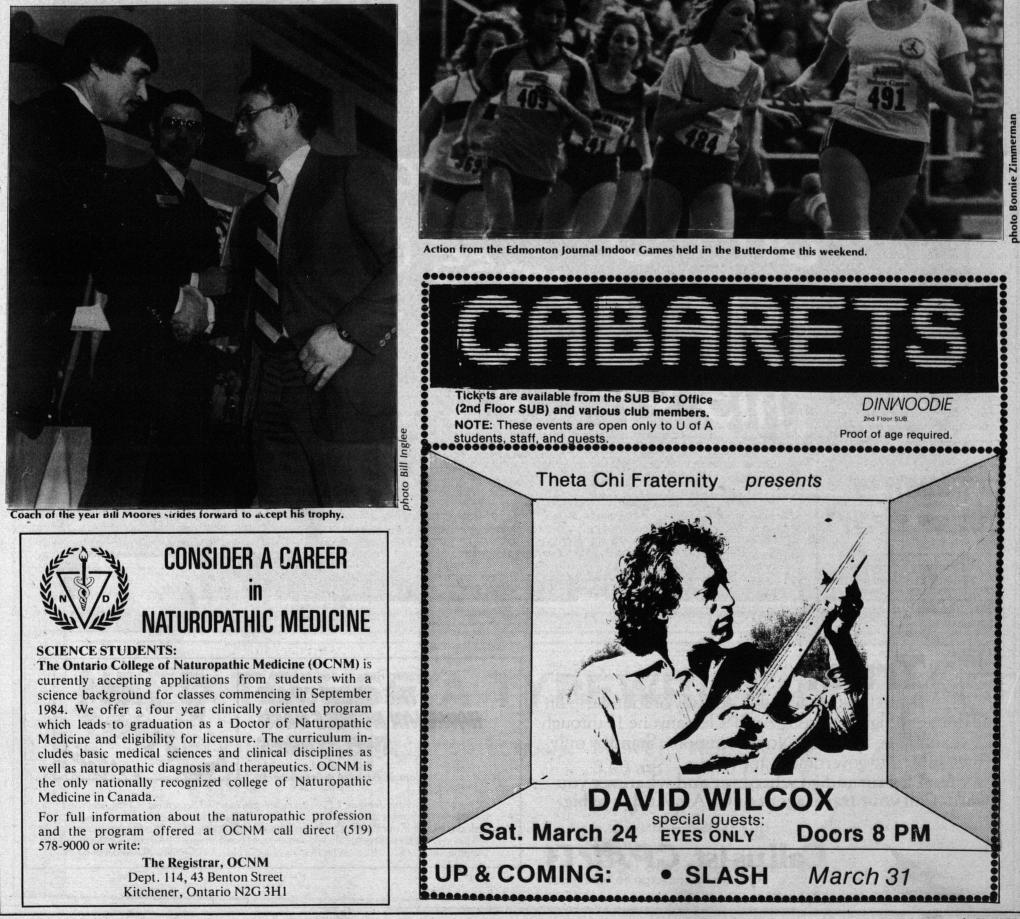
U of Toronto Blues forward Andre Hidi won the tournament MVP award and was no surprise, as he led all scorers wit 7 points... Oiler prospect Phil Dioillard, who also plays for the Blues, had 5 points on 5 goals and never really looked out of place.

In 54 games this season, Drouillard had 86 points...

Bears' centre Rick Swan was listed in the Montreal Gazette last week as having won the GPAC scoring championships (he actually won the Canada West title). Joked Swan after he found out about the mispring, "Yeah, two (GPAC and Canada West) titles and not even (nominated) a Canadian All-Star."







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