

We're forcing you to read about our hockey pool

Howe Division

The Purina Boners - The Bernie and Stevie Show. As they go, so go the Boners. Right now they're the hottest players in the NHL. Throw in prison parolee Manson, and you've got the best team in the league.

The Fuddpuckers - Steady as she goes Mr. Sulu. They haven't made a trade yet. If you had this team (Tikkanen, Neely, Coffey) you wouldn't make any either.

The Fifth Line - Rob Brown looks to be the steal of the year. If Richer comes back from his suspension hot, look out. This team could win it all.

The Brontos - They've been lucky to have Joe (Stik-Sak)ic. Car's been Propped up on blocks for a while. Take it to Mr. Loob.

The Ostasausages - With Simpson and Nieuwendyk, and Ray Bourque, what else can you ask for? Blaine will be asking for first place, but he won't get it. Peter Sieveorkowicz will revert back to his old AHL self pretty soon.

Flugels from Hell - When you have Mario Lemieux, you can't afford anybody else that can play well. This team found out and Pittsburgh will too.

The Unfed - The Muni Meter is stuck on two. Don't expect it to go much higher. Traded Mike Bullard away one week before the Blues did, and made a good deal turn sour.

The Chainsaws - Despite being second last in the division in forward goals and assists, he still can't find room for team captain Keith Crowder. This chainsaw needs some oil and an overhaul fast.

The Flyers - Seemingly have a good lineup (Makela, Gartner, Federko, Eklund, McKegney, Driver). Who would have guessed they would all have bad years at the same time. Forward assists is the only category they finish better than eighth.

Orr Division

The Slip Kids - What do Messier, McClelland, McPhee, McBain, and Troy Murray have in common besides the letter M? They're all Minus. Call them the McMinus Kids. Not much else to complain about, they lead the division.

The Strawbarrys - Would-be GM's read: Would you trade four draft picks for Terry Carkner? Would you trade Dave Taylor for Jimmy Carson and two picks?

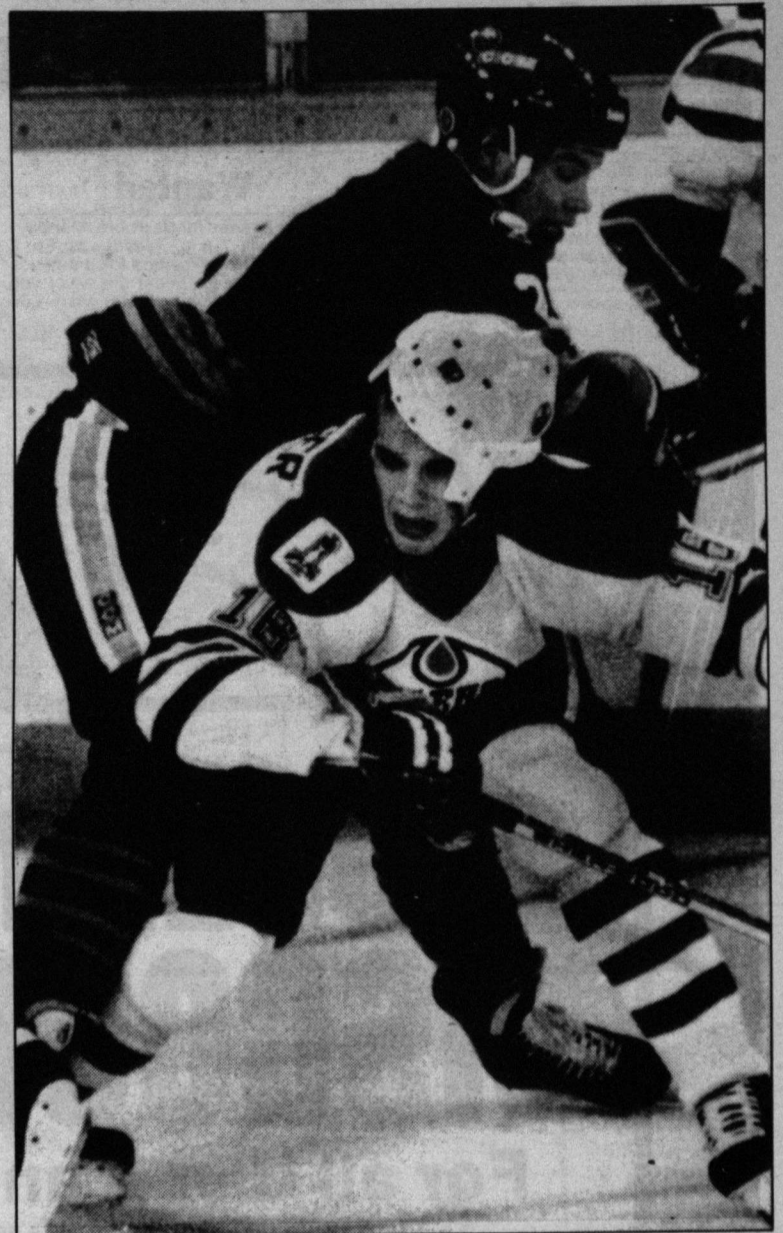
This team did both. Only seven players remain from the original 18 player squad.

The Generators - Luc Robitaille leads the charge here, having been acquired last season for Dave Poulin (believe it or not). This team needs better production from Petr Klima and Neal Broten to be able to move up to the Howe division for next year. Another team that can't be trusted to make the right trade all the time (he traded Hakan Loob on a 20 cent contract last season) he'll either win big or lose big.

The Small Leagues - They may regret sending Brian Bellows to the Chainsaws. Also dealt Ron Sutter to the 'Saws for aging veteran Rick Vaive, who last scored forty goals when he played for the Leafs on the Kid Line with Teeder Kennedy and Frank Boucher. Did manage to get Lyndon Byers from the 'Saws to toughen up an already fearsome forward set.

Says Byers, "nobody, but nobody makes fun of my name and gets away with it."

The French Connection - When your French Connection consists of Gilles Thibaudeau, Norm Lacombe, and Dan Vincette, you're



Even for 60¢, Kelly Buchberger is a bargain.

in big trouble. Even an overpaid Al MacInnis (or MaGinnis) will have trouble saving this team.

The Alcoholicks - If Dale Hawerchuk and Phil Housley go down, this team is history. Their next best player is Bob Errey, who's only claim to fame is that he plays with Mario and Rob Brown. John Tonelli may be the team MVP and he may also be out of hockey before 1990. Somebody send this team a care package.

The SS Minnows - They now have four number one draft picks, but have hurt themselves in the process. They traded Mark Howe for Tom Fergus and a number

one pick. Fergus has since gone -27. Young talented set of forwards (Dampousse, Granato and Pierre Turgeon) still have to learn to come back and play defense. Minnows are still waiting for Luke (come over to the dark side) Richardson to learn the lesson from John (Obi-Wan) Brophy.

The Rink Rats - Does anything go right for these guys? In his first week as a Rat, Alain Chevrier lets in six goals for a 9.39 GAA. Their defence has scored only five times all year. They get the unenviable job of deciding whether to trade the league's number one pick next year.

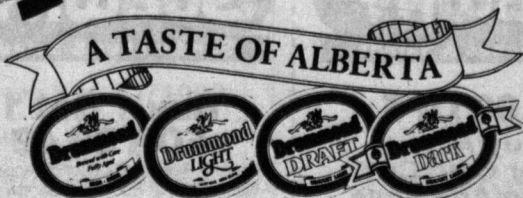


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