

Out in Left Field

by Paul Arsenault
Murray Nystrom

Two weeks ago this column made a prediction that the Toronto Blue Jays would win the American League East Pennant, and they did. But does it surprise anyone that they lost the ALCS? You can have all the talent in the world and have the best team on paper but it doesn't mean a thing. The Oakland Athletics provide a perfect example of this high-salaried problem. With all the speed, power, defense and pitching they should clean up every year. What the Oakland team is lacking, as well as the Jays, is heart. After a long 162 game season, the desire to win is what pushes players beyond their limit. Toronto has lacked this desire the past three seasons. Pat Gillick (Jays General Manager) attempted to rectify this problem last winter but still the team fell short.

The Detroit Red Wings finally registered their first win of the season. They may lack a little in defence and goaltending, hey - Guelph Plater graduate Steve Chaisson an old grizzled veteran Brad McCrimmon can't do it all themselves - right? Don't count them out, there is an immense amount of talent on that team, it will just take time for the Wings to click. Besides, how can they lose with a Prince Edward Islander behind the bench, put'er there Dougie boy!

How do they do it? It is incredible, it's amazing how the Montreal Canadiens can be Stanley Cup contenders again and again! Their defence has matured quicker than most expected, except Serge Savard, and the goaltending has been stellar. Their offence is not great but not too bad, things look pretty good when your top goal scorer gets sidelined and the call up is Paul DiPietro. Described as a Theo Fleury type player, he has been able to step right into the lineup and play a solid game in the old Boston Garden. It shouldn't be long before DiPietro and Fredericton teammate Gilbert Dionne playing in the Montreal Forum. (Can you tell Paul wrote that? Do you think Paul can justify a player like Russ Courtnell making \$85,000 a year?!) Well, John Ziegler who is president of the National Hockey League has done another great deed for the development of the game in the US. Another year has been signed with Sports Channel America for television rights for regular season games. The one year extension will bring in a paltry \$5.5 million dollars to a 22 team league. This figure is lower than the previous per year sum the league was receiving from the same channel. Now, given revenue from sports advertising has gone down the last couple of years, Ziegler should have sought a better deal. For the small amount of income which the league will get, the television rights should have at least been awarded to a company which has a larger viewing audience. SCA right now is in approximately 15 million homes in the US. Certainly not a sufficient number to get widespread coverage of the game across the States. The all-star game rights have been picked up by NBC for the next two seasons. These TV contracts are going to be vital for the game of hockey since salaries are sky-rocketing the way they are. If teams do not get this supplementary income ticket prices will make watching hockey games an activity only society's elite will be able to take part in.

Things were understandably quiet on the campus of Mount Allison University last Thursday as word got out that student/athlete Chris Young passed away after a two year fight with cancer. Young and his brother Craig were instrumental parts of the Mountie hockey team. A memorial service is to be held on Thursday, October 17th at the Mt. Allison University Chapel.

Well it looks like the mystique of wearing the old uniforms has finally gave way to reality as the Toronto Maple Leafs lost Tuesday in St. Louis to slip below that 500 mark. It is easy to predict that they will most likely stay there for the rest of the year, especially since Detroit is slowly coming out of the fog. Rumour has it that New York Ranger goalie John Van Biesbrouck is headed to the Motor City in which could solidify the Wings goaltending problem.

The Atlanta "tomahawk chop" craze may have met it's end. A group of Native Americans are protesting the southern answer to the wave deeming the action as "dehumanizing, derogatory and unethical." Some even feel the chop is "racist". In fact, it is felt that the term "Brave" depicts natives as aggressive and warlike-which of course these people are not. Other team names such as "Redskins" or "Warriors" could, therefore, be in for some challenges. It is strange however to note that a fastball team from an Indian reserve back home, had decided to call it's team the Mission "Braves". Obviously this in not the last we'll hear of the "tomahawk chop" issue.

Trivia:

This week's question: The only UNB Varsity team to win a CIAU title?

Ironmen downs Bishop's

Bishop's University came to town this past Thanksgiving weekend to vie for rugby supremacy at the university level in Eastern Canada. Bill Robson coach of Bishops travelled with two teams in the hopes of beating his alma mater. The second teams took the field first at one o'clock under threatening skies. UNB's second team looked sure to grab victory with the aid of the powerful scrum but the wily "old" Bill Robson playing at fly-half led his university side to victory. UNB's winger Scott good opened the scoring with a powerful run down the sideline. This try unconverted and so the score remained until half-time UNB 4- Bishop's 0. In the second half Robson knotted two penalty kicks to put Bishops up to a 6-4 lead. UNB tried time and time again to pull out a victory but were ultimately thwarted in their attempts by a determined Bishop's side.

As the first teams stepped on the field the sun suddenly broke through the clouds preventing a much feared mud bowl. The first set play proved to foreshadow the day

for UNB's and Bishops hopes alike. Scrum half Gery Clayton took the ball from a scrum near centre and dummy scissored with inside centre Jonathan Welles setting up a huge gap for full-back Ian Johnston and winger Trevor Moulard to blaze down the sidelines, gaining considerable yardage. The backs as a whole improved their play especially in their ability to retain possession when tackled. While the backs played well the forwards played the best they have all season. The forward were quick to be in support and ran with determination when in possession of the ball. Their most impressive feature was their scrummaging, a noticed weakness on this year's team. On Saturday however, the Scrum was solid and able to win itself an amazing push over try.

In fact of the six tries scored on the day all were scored by forwards. Daley, Scott, Urquhart, Hallett, Schimpl and Guest all touched down with tries. Inside centre Jonathan Welles added a penalty goal and two converts to make the

final score UNB 31- Bishop 0. Bishop's never had a chance to score all day except for a penalty kick that was close to the mark. Bishop's were out played in all phases of the game except for line outs and rucks. The Ironmen came together as a team in this game and hopefully with some fine tuning will keep improving throughout the up and coming play offs.

This Saturday, the Ironmen are once again at home on College Field. The first team plays the Saint John Labatt Trojans in a battle to determine who will have a bye in the first round of the playoffs. The Ironmen must win by six points or more to gain this bye as a result of their previous defeat at the hands of the Trojans by a score of 17-11. The second team host to the Mount Allison Mounties vanquishing the hopes of keeping their Maritime University Championship record unblemished. Game times are 1:00PM for the b squad and 3:00 PM for the A side.

*Previous unnoted tries were scored by Jon Curry and Colin Reynolds.



James Rowan photo

A BRIEF LOOK AT THE REFEREE'S SIGNALS AT THE MEDIA BOWL

No! No! No! No!

You leave me out of this, you big bully!

Put me down you big...

Well, where's my cheque?

Alright, I give up - I'm going home - you guys can get another referee... etc.

Hmm, now do I really want to get involved in this?

No, not my fingers, please not my fingers...

Illegal holding!

STOPPP HHTTTT!

Now wait a minute, I was only suggesting that you put him down before pulling his ears off

Mmmmmhghghgh!

Foul!

MEDIA BOWL XXII

**2:00 PM
TOMORROW**

THE BRUNSWICKAN BARBARIANS VS. THE CHSR BUNNIES OF DEATH

YOU'D BETTER EAT YOUR WHEATIES...

YOURS TRULY, DA BRUNS

EAT TURF!