



cole's notes

Closed-circuit for too late ticket buyers

Good news for all you people who slept in until early afternoon on Tuesday, to find that all tickets for the Canadian College Championship games were already sold out.

Through the miracle of modern technology, the Friday and Saturday games are being piped by closed circuit television to the Main Gym, where about 1500 more people will be able to view the games live, for a nominal admission fee - 50¢ for students, \$1.00 for adults, to be exact.

The CFRN crew will be doing the sound, as the Friday night game will also be shown on Saturday afternoon on Channel 3. The Saturday contest will be taped for showing Sunday, if it proves to be the final game of the series.

If not, the deciding match will be shown live on the tube on Sunday. Tickets for closed circuit coverage will go on sale at the door at 7 p.m. Got all that?

Several members of the Bears are either attending practise - or are in bed - with the flu. The entire team has been examined by team doctor Bob Koshman, and precautions are being taken to ensure that the bug doesn't infiltrate the ranks to an even greater extent.

Separate water glasses are being assigned each player to prevent spreading the ailment by mouth, along with other instructions given and measures taken, but a pair of onlookers at Wednesday's practise expressed the opinion that the illness most of the players were suffering from was the "Pre-Big Series Stomach Cramps".

The All-Canadian hockey squad is going to be announced Friday morning. The two Golden Bears in the running for the team are right winger Steve McKnight and defenceman Ross Barros, both first team all-stars in the CWUAA.

The team will be chosen by an aggregation of college coaches, in town for the coaches' conference, which is being held in conjunction with the national final.

Life is tough for a big hockey star's little brother. Consider the heart-rending case of Bob Vickers, whose big brother is Steve Vickers, the rookie of the year in the NHL last year.

In a feature from *The Ryersonian* entitled "Even my mother calls me Steve Vickers' brother", the younger Vickers claims he has "had to carve out his pathetic existence with the shadow of a superstar from Broadway, gnawing at his soul."

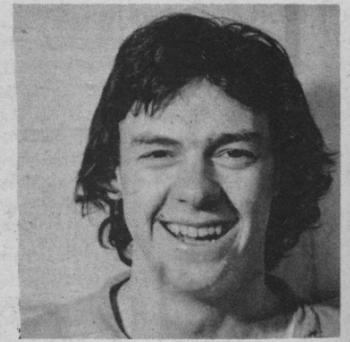
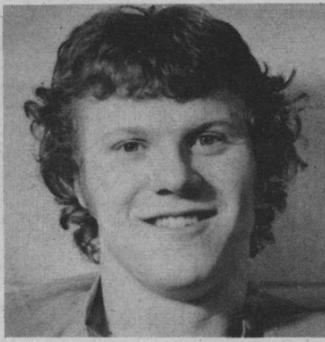
Not that Bob doesn't take some pride in his brother's success - "I feel I played a major part in his development... I'll never forget how I helped him develop that cannonading backhand by allowing him to bounce pucks off my forehead when we practised in our basement. Today I can look back on those days and not blame my parents for not stopping Steve from abusing me so much. They did get mad at him for wacking me with a slap shot once, but it was only because they felt he should be using his wrist shot more," laments the kid.

But Bob seems to bear up well under the strain. "It's hard. Lord knows it's hard. I'm not asking for help or pity, just a large dose of sympathy will do," chokes the brave lad.

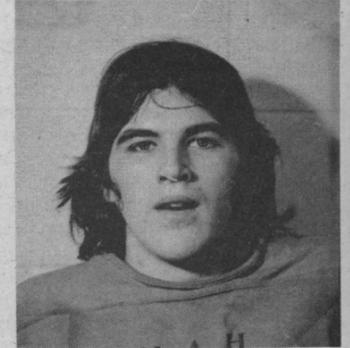
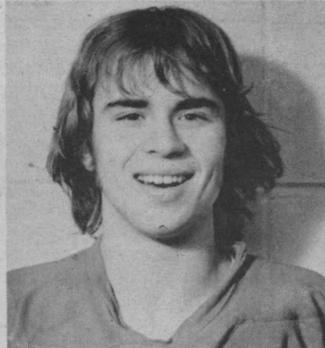
'All kidding aside' says the article, 'Bob doesn't hate his brother. He simply despises his brother's looks, talent, and the fact that he hasn't been able to make a buck out of his brother's fame.'

"I tried to sell his autographs to the kids in my neighbourhood once, but I found sidewalk lemonade stands were more profitable. Steve was giving his autographs away for free, and I couldn't top that price. Now and then, I hit a wino for the price of a beer, though..." said "No Shot Vix", who, not to be outdone by the exploits of Steve, plays ball hockey at Ryerson Polytech Institute in Toronto.

Cam Cole



Bears' first line - Bryan Sosnowski, John Horcoff, and Steve McKnight. Centre Horcoff was the league scoring champion, McKnight the right wing selection to the first all-star team, and Sosnowski was the most productive scorer on a per-game basis, having missed parts of the season with injuries.



The checking line - Rick Peterson, Bruce Crawford, and Kevin Primeau. Centre Crawford is one of the finest two-way players in the country when healthy, Peterson is a speedy left winger with lots of moves, while Primeau, a rookie, teams up with Crawford for Bears' excellent penalty-killing team.



The third line - Oliver Steward, Jim Ofrim, and Clark Jantzie. Ofrim, a rookie centre with a cool head, pivots fellow giant Jantzie, a high-scoring right winger, and the diminutive Steward, who is Bears' breakout threat.

Barros-key to Bears' success?

by Cam Cole

If the Golden Bears are to win the Canadian College finals this weekend, a large part of the responsibility is going to fall onto the shoulders of their bearded blueliner Ross Barros.

Described by UBC coach Bob Hindmarch as the "best player in the whole darn league - forward or defence", Barros has been living up to his star billing of late, coming up with nothing short of spectacular play in post season contests.

Barros has seemed to reach a second "peak" in the playoffs. He burned up the league in the first half of the schedule, leading the scoring race with 19 points in his first 13 games, but both he and defence partner Brian Middleton started sliding into a terrible slump, which finally hit bottom just about the time Barros, Middleton, Bruce Crawford, and Steve McKnight left for Europe with the Student National team at Christmas.

While he was away, Barros picked up the Reds' Revenge, a stomach virus that caused him to drop over 10 pounds.

As his weight returned after Christmas, so did the quality of play. By season's end, he was just one point short of the scoring championship, and was a unanimous selection to the CWUAA's first all-star team.

Barros attended Vancouver Canuck's training camp before the regular season began, but was cut early in the proceedings.

"I think I was just too small," says the 5'10", 175-pound defenceman. "They had Harold

Snepts (the gigantic Oil Kings graduate) - he and I were paired together at camp, and Harold really played well enough to deserve to stay."

"There are lots of players in college hockey that could play pro - quite a few from the Student Nationals. I was talking to some of them, though and it seems like they had about the same experience I did. The thing with University students is they don't want to kick around the minor leagues for a few years. They have other things to do with their lives."

Barros says that Bears will have to be at their best to beat Toronto Blues. "Their style is a lot like ours. They don't retaliate the way Loyola does, and neither do we. They have experience on us, though. Guys like (Gord) Davies, (Kent) Rhunke, (Warren) Anderson, and (Don) Pagnutti have really been around... they've been there before."

"Toronto's never out of it," he says, referring to their miraculous comeback victory over St. Mary's last weekend. "When the money's on the line, they're there."

Barros was particularly impressed by Davies, who also played on the Student Nat team. "Davies is the best checker I've ever seen. He can cover two of your men in your own end at the same time... he positions himself so well."

"I'd like to say how well Dale (Henwood) has been playing. If we can keep the soft goals out, I

think we'll win it, and Dale's been really steady," says Barros.

Barros seems to enjoy the rugged, sometime gross, but always boisterous image he has among players, coaches and press.

When Clare Drake was being interviewed for television by a towering sportscaster last weekend, it was Barros who shouted out, "Hey, Coach, stand up when he's talking to you", and "Somebody get that little guy a chair to stand on!", making the 5'8" Drake crack up on camera.

"What the hell," he explains, "I get just as much flak (what he really said was 'expletive') as anyone else on the team, maybe more. I'm just one of the boys. I like to get the guys together off the ice, too. I think that's part of my role as assistant captain."

He seems to be taking his role as a hockey player much more seriously this year, judging from his performance, although he insists, "I just like to have a good time - that's part of playing on a team like this."

Fellow teammates agree that if anyone from the CWUAA makes the All-Canadian team, it has to be Barros, but in a moment of either candor (possible) or modesty (unlikely), Barros doesn't think his chances are very good. "The only thing the Eastern coaches had to judge by was how I played with the Student Nats, and I think I was the worst defenceman there." Now, THAT's hard to believe.