

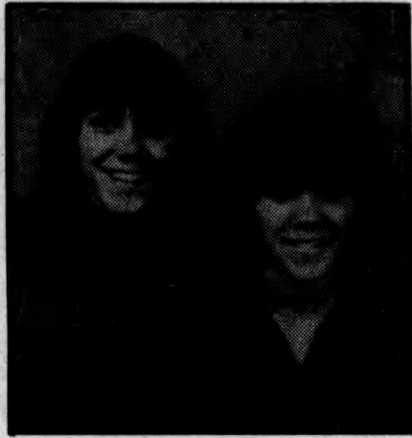
Sports View

Are you Athletic?

Photo-Interviews: Eleanor



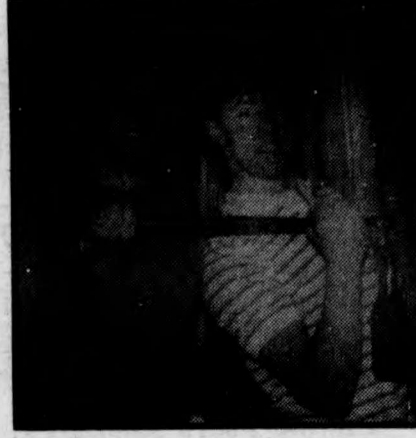
Derrick Fulton Law
"Yes, I go riding all the time and one of these days I'm going to use a horse."



Sue and Denise
We will be when we grow up.



Michelle Mockler BSc V
"Yes I play Volleyball, and I do 1202 arm curls."



Heath Lunney BBA II
Chris Kane SE I
Sure! Every weekend after class



Jamaica Joe Bruns 1000
"Is that some kind of sick joke?"

Universities are as good as Juniors

By JIM MCDONALD

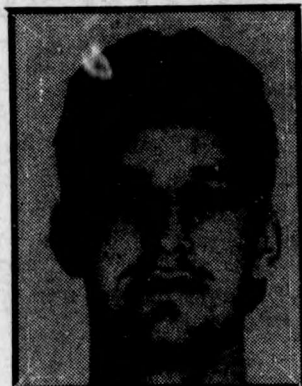
The fine play of such players as Mike Ridley of the Washington Capitals and Charlie Bourgeois of the St. Louis Blues has prompted many professional hockey league scouts to look in places other than the major Junior League in Quebec (QMJHL), Ontario (OHL), and in the West with the WHL for NHL prospects. The else-where is in the Canadian University League (CIAU) and the Collegiate League of the NCAA in the United States.

It could be safely said that at the present time, the NCAA is providing a greater number of players for the professional ranks than the CIAU. Such players include tough guy turned hockey player Chris Milar of the Montreal Canadiens who was drafted out of North Eastern University in the 1978 draft. Nilan went on and is still continuing to be an important aspect of the Hab's success.

Other stand-outs in the National Hockey League, drafted out of US Colleges include Boston College product Joe Mullen who was drafted by St. Louis in the 78-79 season and then was traded to Calgary last season. Also from the flames is rear guard Gary Suter who was selected the NHL top rookie last year. He was signed out of the University of Wisconsin.

This certainly proves that the major junior leagues across Canada are not the only ticket

to the NHL. Such players as Nilan, Mullen, Suter, and the list goes on for the organizations and for the rest of the league, has urged a large number of scouts to look at the various leagues that make up the CIAU and the NCAA.



John LeBlanc

Although the Canadian Universities have not produced a significant amount of players out of their league, that pattern may soon change. The high calibre of play which is displayed throughout the Canadian conferences has produced a certain degree of prospects for NHL teams such as Moncton native Charlie Bourgeois and Campbellton native John LeBlanc. Bourgeois is currently toiling with the St. Louis Blues after an outstanding season with the University Blue Eagles in Moncton who won two National titles. LeBlanc was selected CIAU player of the year for 85-86 as a member of the UNB Red Devils after scoring some 60 odd points in 24 games. He is currently in the Minor League system (AHL) with the Fredericton Express and is leading the team in

scoring with 55 points. He has proven to be one of the Vancouver Canucks' top prospects of the near future.

Mike Ridley, out of the University of Manitoba, who was also selected CIAU player of the year in the 83-84 season, was signed by the New York Rangers where he has racked up 65 points last year. He has been recently traded to the Washington Capitals where he is on the way to scoring over 30 goals.

Although these players have experienced outstanding season in the NCAA and received huge contracts, they have not yet really panned out for the Detroit Red-wings organization. So nothing much has changed in the selection of players in the annual NHL entry draft seeing the top players in the Major Junior leagues going in the first couple of rounds and the top players of the university systems going very low in the selection. Those not selected are usually signed as free agents and must have an outstanding training camp to crack any professional hockey team line-up. With players coming out of the local wood-works such as John LeBlanc and Charlie Bourgeois, the opportunity for university players to pursue a professional hockey career by way of school is beginning to look up!

Though a great number of the players that reach the NHL through the NCAA are Canadian born, they still maintain that an open-door approach to their league would prevent

local players (U.S. born) from being chosen. The attitude is not present in the CIAU whom selects a majority of their players out of the Major Junior Hockey Leagues not paying much attention to the local players attending their choice



Mike Ridley

of university. Coaches usually scout directly out of these leagues and look nowhere else.

To shed more light on university hockey, in the United States especially, I would like to mention some player drafted by the Detroit Red-wings. Such players include Ray Staszak which saw a number of teams enter into a lottery for his playing rights with Detroit coming out on top. They signed him to a multi-year contract worth over 1 million dollars. Joe Murphy, the number one picked in the draft overall in 1986 has not spent a whole lot of time in the NHL.

The two nations are beginning to produce professional hockey talent out of their respective college leagues, although they have two different systems in which they draft players to their divisions.

The CIAU, unlike the NCAA, accepts players from the Major Junior leagues across Canada while the U.S. accepts only tier two talent such as Junior B players to form the bulk of their teams. The reason being that players playing major Junior A usually receive money for such things as education and room and board. They feel this is an indirect form of salary payment which makes them Professionals.

Points to Ponder

- Peter Karmanos - son of the president of Detroit's Compuware Corp. was denied the right to play for the University of Michigan hockey team, after playing 40 games for the Quebec League's Verdun Jr. Canadiens, during the 1983-84 season.
- their decision is being appealed by his lawyer
- a ruling on his decision will come down between March-June
- Q. What blue line great tripped and fell during the player introductions before the 1973 NHL All-Star game at Madison Square Garden?
- Q. Who made as much money flogging donuts as playing hockey?
- Q. Who's coached the most Stanley Cup winning teams?
- Q. What kind of rink does Snoopy play hockey on when the urge strikes him?

Answers: Bobby Orr, Tim Horton, Joe Blake, A frozen birdbath