

Polar bear conservation

Adoption of an agreement for the conservation of polar bears, at a conference of Arctic nations in Oslo, Norway in November was an important step in gaining recognition for the polar bear as a valuable Arctic resource requiring careful management, Environment Minister Jack Davis said recently.

Four of the five nations, including Canada, signed the agreement and signature by the fifth, the U.S.S.R. was expected later. Ratification was expected by Parliament after consultation with other administrations responsible for polar management in Canada.

"This agreement — the first concerning a common northern resource to be made by Arctic nations — should help reassure people worried about the survival of the species that the nations with polar bear populations are acting responsibly and vigorously with sound management programs," Mr. Davis said.

The need for this agreement arose from the fact that polar bears cross international boundaries in their wanderings and inhabit pack ice far out to sea. The agreement provides for closer collaboration among Arctic nations in the management and scientific study of polar bears. It also prohibits the hunting of this species in areas not under the management authority of any of the participating countries.

Canadians and hockey

Hockey, says the December issue of *Canada Today*, is as Canadian as the beaver and can be more dangerous than mountain climbing, "hot-rod" racing or swimming in shark-infested lagoons.

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Ähnliche Ausgaben dieses Informationsblatts erscheinen auch in deutscher Sprache unter dem Titel Profil Kanada.

Each Saturday night in season millions of Canadian men, children and women sit in spiritual communication before their television sets, watching the colourful players elevate the little black puck. Twelve million, a national majority, watched the final and deciding game in the Soviet-Canadian series in 1972.

It ties the East to the West, more than the St. Lawrence Seaway, more than the railroads; and it binds the young and the old, the French speaker and the English speaker, the Liberal and the Conservative, the farmers and fishermen and the Yonge Street merchants in Toronto.

When a TV station tested a thousand viewers with flash card pictures of 12 very important Canadians, 88 per cent recognized hockey's grand old man, Gordie Howe — he was topped only (and some people were surprised) by the Prime Minister.

Small boys have long dreamed of being hockey heroes and they have done their dreaming on dim afternoons, outdoors, on ice at 40 degrees below zero. Hockey mothers, wearing (from the inside out) flannelette pyjamas, ski pants, woollen skirts, sweaters and reversible ski jackets, are out on Saturday rinks at dawn shouting encouragement to their young. In recent decades, hockey has become a major export and to some gentle people who have seen one player slam another with his stick, it may seem Canada's grossest national product; but to many Americans, Scandinavians, Central Europeans and Russians, it has become the most exciting, demanding sport in the world.

Hockey results at January 3

National Hockey League

Results December 27

Buffalo 3, Detroit 1
Atlanta 6, Los Angeles 4

Results December 28

St. Louis 3, Pittsburgh 1
NY Islanders 4, California 4
Minnesota 5, Vancouver 3

Results December 29

Montreal 7, NY Rangers 1
Atlanta 3, Toronto 3
NY Islanders 4, Vancouver 3
Chicago 4, Pittsburgh 2

Philadelphia 4, St. Louis 1
Los Angeles 4, Boston 1

Results December 30

Toronto 4, Chicago 3
NY Rangers 4, Minnesota 3
Detroit 4, Atlanta 2
Philadelphia 5, Buffalo 4
Boston 8, California 1

Result December 31

Buffalo 6, Detroit 5

Result January 1

Boston 2, Vancouver 2

Results January 2

St. Louis 8, Montreal 4
Toronto 4, Detroit 3
Chicago 5, NY Islanders 1
Minnesota 8, Pittsburgh 4
California 5, Los Angeles 2

Results January 3

Philadelphia 4, NY Rangers 2
NY Islanders 3, Vancouver 2
Buffalo 6, Pittsburgh 1
Atlanta 3, Chicago 2

World Hockey Association

Results December 27

Minnesota 5, Edmonton 4
New England 5, Los Angeles 1
Quebec 4, Cleveland 2

Results December 28

New Jersey 5, Vancouver 3
Chicago 6, Quebec 4

Results December 29

Edmonton 6, New England 2
Toronto 9, Minnesota 3
Houston 3, Chicago 0
Winnipeg 4, Quebec 3
Cleveland 3, New Jersey 0

Results December 30

Vancouver 6, New England 5
New Jersey 6, Cleveland 2
Toronto 5, Winnipeg 2
Minnesota 5, Chicago 3
Houston 6, Los Angeles 4

Results January 1

Winnipeg 4, Edmonton 3
Toronto 3, Cleveland 0
Chicago 5, Vancouver 4