Fourth and long Sports commentary by Jamie Colvin

If there is one man who has earned my respect in the hockey world it would be Cliff Fletcher. He has rescued the perennial losing Toronto Maple Leafs and turned them into a respectable hockey club. There is no question that a complete overhaul was needed at the hockey mecca on Carleton Street in Toronto. The team's on ice performance had suffered immeasurably at the hands of the incompetent clowns that ran the team. It seemed that the late Harold Ballard, a colourful character to say the least, wanted to run the team out of the league-and he damn near succeeded! The Leafs for what seemed an eternity would draft bum after bum and allow talented players to get stolen in later picks by other teams. To complement that, they would trade away players who showed anything resembling character (Sitler and MacDonald are two that come to mind.)

Fletcher brought to the Gardens a winning attitude, something that had vacated the building for almost 20 years. His first stroke of genius was the blockbuster trade with Calgary. By parting with the indifferent Gary Leeman and a host of mediocre players he was able to obtain Doug Gilmour, who is regarded as the best two way centre in the league. The hiring of Pat Burns was another key step on the road to respectability. Burns is a proven winner in the NHL and does not put up with any shit from his players. His motto is: "play my way or have a seat on the pines." More recently, Fletcher has continued his criminal ways by stealing unhappy John Cullen from the hapless Hartford Whalers for a mere two draft choices. Look for Cullen to regain the form that saw him rack up 110 points in Pittsburgh three years ago. The Leafs will make the playoffs this year and possibly score an upset series win (hopefully over the Wings), but they are still a few players shy of really challenging seriously. Look for the Leafs to be legitimate contenders in the years coming up. Can you believe that?

Can anyone really say honestly that they have been disappointed with the play of teenage phenomenon Eric Lindros. After sitting out virtually all of last year in contract disputes with the Quebec Nordique, who had made him the 1st pick overall the previous year, Lindros has silenced all critics. He has already scored 15 goals and added 13 assists in the first 20 games. Just how important he is to the Philadelphia Flyers was exemplified Sunday night when he collided with Buffalo's Petr Svoboda. In the check Lindros landed awkwardly on his left knee spraining it. You could have heard a pin drop in the Spectrum - and more importantly on the Flyers bench. Ask any Flyer player and he will tell you that the team hinges on Lindros. What about Mark Recchi you may ask - I am sure he enjoys the space a player like big Eric opens up for a small speedster like Recchi. There can be no doubt that a few prayers of thanks were offered in Philadelphia when the prognosis on Eric's left knee was positive, sidelining him only for one to two weeks max.

This weekend in Toronto the Argo's will have excellent seats to the Grey Cup, and throughout the whole game the management will be kicking themselves in their collective butts. What should have been a legitimate chance to repeat, last years Grey Cup champs are this years league chumps missing the playoffs and having a generally dismal season. The Argos missed the boat completely by not signing clutch pivot Matt Dunigan, and they payed the price of this blunder by suffering from quarterback woes all season. There is absolutely no justification for not offering this man a contract after he led them to the championship. The Argo's will now watch Dunigan put on a show in the familiar confines of the Skydome, and don't think for a moment that he will not want to rub it in his old bosses face.

However the Blue Bombers are in a little over their heads against the Calgary Stampeders. Dunigan's magic will be overshadowed by only one man - the diminutive Doug Flutie. In the climate controlled Dome the magic man Flutie will be able to lead the Stamps to a fairly convincing win over the Bombers.

MURRAY'S TRIVIA CORNER

As promised we have tapped the mind of former UNB Red Devil captain Murray Nystrom for some trivia stumpers. This weeks question is for hockey purists only.

Question: Name the 3 members from the famous Punch Line for the

1944 Montreal Canadiens.

Hint #1: Two of the three were co-captains of the team.

Hint #2: One of the three went on to coach the Canadiens in the 1950's and 1960's.

Scuba club news

Open pool time is available until the end of this term. It will be on Sunday nights from 8:30 to 10:30pm for all club members and equipment is free. Congratulations to all those new scuba divers who passed their checkout dives last weekend in the St. Andrews area. For those who are interested in taking the

basic open water scuba course in January should contact the number below. There is limited space' available and it will be starting the second week of classes. For more information about the poen pool time and o0r the course in January, please call Kevin Johnston at 472-3103.

Campus recreation

Non credit instruction

Red Cross/Royal Lifesaving Water Safety Instructor II Course

This course trains individuals to teach the top 4 levels of the Red Cross Water Safety Program and beginning levels of the Royal Lifesaving Society Program. It runs for 40 hours plus provisional teaching.

Class dates: Nov. 17, 19, 24, 26, 28, Mar. 23, 25, 30, Apr.1,3 Prerequisite: WSII + Bronze Medallion and Senior Resuscitation Registration: Registration deadline Nov.6 at the UNB Business Office

Fees: \$75 + text - for UNB/STU students & recreation members \$85 + text - for non members add \$5 after November 8.

Intramural sports

\$\$\$Leadership Opportunities\$\$\$

Referees are still needed for Intramural Ice Hockey. Training will be provided if not experienced. If you are interested, contact Referee - in - Chief Matt Cripps at 454 - 8035.

Standings

Men's Ball hockey Red division					Men's basketball Red Division				
	W	L	T	PTS		W	L	T	PTS
Wolverines	5	0	0	15	P. Warriors	4	0	0	12
EE Devils	4	1	0	13	Law Lords	3	1	0	10
Skidders	3	1	0	10	Aitken Animals	2	2	0	8
Hooters	2	2	0	8	Young Guns	1	3	0	6
Warriors	2	2	0	8	Bridges	1	3	0	6
Hackers	1	4	0	7	The Blues	1	3	0	6
Lightning	1	3	0	6					
Bridges	0	5	0	5	Green division				
					Green division	w	L	T	PTS
Green division					Floorplay	2	1	0	7
arcon annoion	W	L	T	PTS	Bad Attitudes	2	0	0	6
Law lords	4	1	0	13	Jones	2	0	0	6
Aitken	4	0	0	12	Wild Stallions	1	3	0	6
Jones Generals	3	1	0	10	Neville	0	3	0	6
MacKenzie	2		0	8	Neville	U	3	U	3
Outcasts	1	3	0	6					
Flying Elbows	1	2 3 3	0	6	Blue division				
Jones	1	3	0	6		W	L	T	PTS
Neville	1	2	0	5	Jay Hawks	3	0	0	9
110 11110		_			Celtics	2	1	0	7
Black division					Knights	2	1	0	7
DIACK UIVISIOII	w	L	T	PTS	Reds	1	3	0	6
Vnichte	3	0	0	9	Leftovers	0	3	0	3
Knights	2	1	0	7					
P K Pole Kats	2	0	0	6					
Royal Lions		1000							
Beaverbrook	1	2	0	5					
Couch Potatoes	1	1	0	4					
Aitken Rangers	0	3	0	3					
ME Turbos	0	2	0	2					

Silken Laumann to talk at UNB

Olympic gold will be visible in Fredericton, New Brunswick, on December 4-6, when the Fredericton Rowing Club hosts the annual general meeting of Rowing Canada Aviron, the national governing body of the sport of rowing. A very special highlight of the occasion will be a public keynote address, Overcoming Obstacles: the road to Barcelona", delivered by none other than bronze medalist, Silken Laumann.

The event marks the completion of a spectacular year for Canadian rowers and their fans. Four gold medal finishes at the Barcelona Olympics - in Women's Pair, Women's Straight Four, Women's Eight with Coxswain, and Men's Eight with Coxswain - won unprecedented admiration and respect for Canada's team around the world. And all Canadians shared the pride of the moment when Silken Laumann claimed a bronze medal as the climax to her heroic comeback from a dream shattering injury.

The first national conference of

rowers ever held in Fredericton bring together will representatives of some seventy rowing clubs across the country for a series of meetings and social events dedicated to the celebration of rowing in Canada. It will also provide the rowers of Team Canada with their first opportunity for a reunion since leaving Barcelona. Among those in attendance, in addition to Ms. Laumann, are gold medalists Kay Worthington, Shannon Crawford, Kirsten Barnes, Brenda Taylor, Megan Delehanty, Marnie McBean, Jessica Monroe, Kathleen Heddle, Lesley Thompon, Jennifer Doey, Derek Porter, Bruce Robertson, Michael Forgeron, Darren Barber, Rob Marland, Michael Rascher, Andrew Crosby, John Wallace, and Terence Paul. They will be joined by Fredericton's own Don Dickison of the Olympic men's double crew an Jill Blois, bronze medalist at the 1992 World Lightweight Championship.

Betty Dermer-Norris of the Fredericton Rowing Club heads the organizing committee for the

annual meeting.

"Ours is a small club", says Ms.Dermer-Norris. Nevertheless, with the co-operation of sponsors such as Hawk Communications Inc., Atlantic Nova Print, Maritime Photoengravers, NB Tel, the Fredericton Mall, the University of New Brunswick, the City of Fredericton, the Government of New Brunswick, Molson's Export, P. Lawson Travel, the Sheraton Inn and T.K. Printing, we are confident that we will offer our guests the very best of New Brunswick hospitality. "I hope that many people, not only Frederictonians, but from all over, will join us on Friday, December 4th at 10:30 a.m. in the Beaverbrook Gymnasium on the UNB campus, to attend Silken Laumann's inspiring presentation."

Tickets to Rowing Canada's annual awards dinner and dance are also available through the organizing committee. "The Olympic medalists will be honoured at this function" says Dermer-Norris, "and we hope to have a sell out crowd."