

Porter at Large

Odyssey to the Forum

by Kevin G. Porter
Sports Staff

Last year on spring break a friend and I traveled to Boston to see the Canadiens beat the Bruins; this year we went to Montreal to see the Canadiens play the Flyers at the FORUM. It seems sad that a building which has hosted so many great moments in sports is doomed to demolition as construction of the 'New Forum' looms on the horizon. With this fact in mind, and a couple of tickets for excellent seats in hand the Odyssey began last Friday morning at 4:30 am.

With a bevy of music we set out on the 8+ hour trek to la belle Province and the home of the NHL's most successful team: we were Montreal bound. Memories of commuting in Boston the previous year, and the terrible weather we faced this year made me a little uneasy despite the anticipation of seeing the Habs at the Forum. Fortunately the weather soon broke and after what seemed like days we arrived in Montreal in the middle of the lunch rush but still found the hotel relatively easily. Unlike Boston the streets of Montreal feel reasonably safe and when walking is impractical the efficient and easy to use Metro is available in contrast to the virtual need for taxis in Boston. In the central area of Montreal, where it is most convenient to stay, you can find just about anything. There are literally hundreds of shops and boutiques along St. Catherine St. alone with nearly as many

restaurants, bars and of course strip clubs (if you are so inclined). Having spent Friday and Saturday partaking in the various activities available nearby as game time approached.

We set out for the Forum at about 6:25 in order to allow time to have a look around, find our seats and watch the warm-up but standing room ticket holder rush. The game began at 8:05 with Ron Tugnutt starting in goal for the Habs giving Roy the night off. The game started with a fast pace resulting in a Habs goal at the 17:27 mark by Carboneau from Petrov and Brunet after which the teams settled down to a more defensive game.

The second period began with a lot of end to end rushing resulting in the second Canadiens' goal at only the 17:03 mark by Schnieder from Bellows and Muller. The second goal seemed to spark the Flyers as they took the game to the Canadiens and scored at 12:32, but the Canadiens answered at 10:12 as Keane scored assisted by Dionne. The Flyers would not be beaten as they made the Habs take a penalty which resulted in their second goal at 1:55 to maintain a one goal deficit. The Canadiens' penalty proved to be truly costly as the momentum shifted to the Flyers' side as they scored at 0:10.8 to tie the game at 3 and set up an action packed third period.

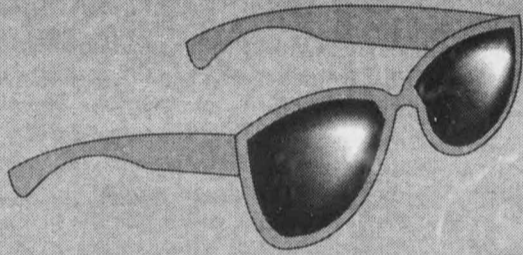
It was no disappointment, as bodies were flying, penalties were called and end to end rushes occurred frequently to start the third. Despite their efforts, the Canadiens could not regain

the lead as ex Canadien Frederic Chabot came in to relieve the less than stellar Roussel. Chabot, still wearing red, white and blue pads, stood on his head to keep the Habs at bay while Tugnutt at the other end suffered from a lack of defense and allowed the Flyers to score at the 11:05 mark. This goal seemed to be the clincher as the Habs and their 17 954 fans felt the clock tick down quickly. The Flyers received a penalty late in the period however which breathed new life into the Canadiens as they applied continuous pressure buy to no avail. In a last ditch effort at about 1:55 Demers signaled Tugnutt to come off in favour of another skater and was rewarded with the tying goal at 1:16 by Damphousse from LeClair and Bellows, despite the Flyers' appeals to the video goal judge. The crowd was electric as OT loomed, came and went unfortunately with no decision made, and a tie recorded for both teams.

There is truly no place like the Forum to watch a hockey game, especially if you are a Canadiens fan and even if you are not, the emotion of the crowd and the ghosts of the Forum can move anyone. The 'New Forum' promises to be even better yet something is bound to be lost from the atmosphere, at least until the Stanley Cup has found its place again as it has 24 times in the past. If you have never visited this hockey shrine, whether you like the Canadiens or not, it is certainly worth the trip before the 'New Forum' is finished in about 2 years time.

Essays &
Resumes
Typed
in Rm. 35 in
the SUB

Monday to Friday
& by appointment on Weekends.
Phone: 453-4983



LASER PRINTED

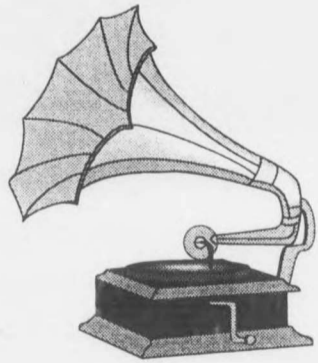
Chestnut

Benefit Concert at the Chestnut

All Day Saturday
12:00P.M. - 8:00P.M.

FEATURING

- Denis Legere
- Meso Blues
- Finger Bowl
- Scott Adams
- Go for a Soda
- Downtown Blues Band & many more...



THIRD GENERAL MEETING

ORIENTATION⁹⁴

Sunday, March 20th
7:00 PM room N105

EVERYONE WELCOME

snacks and cool prizes