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It takes 20 players to make one dynasty

Why are the Edmonton Oilers the best team in the NHL? Not because they have Wayne Gretzky. Not because they have the best goaltending duo in the league.

The reason that they are the best is because of their depth.

Sure the fans all pay their cash to see Gretzky, Kurri, Messier, and Anderson score goals by the dozen. But as this last road trip has proven, it's the last ten guys on your roster, not the first ten, that make the difference between a Stanley Cup team and an also-ran.

Point of fact: It was third period goals by Don Jackson and Lee Fogolin that allowed Mike Krushelnyski to be the equalizer in Long Island last Saturday night; the next night in Madison Square Gardens in New York Mark Napier jumped from the fourth line to the first to net the overtime winner (third line centre Craig McTavish played decoy on the two on one); Dave Semenko had four points in the third period as Edmonton came back from a 4-1 deficit to beat the Quebec Nordiques

And if you think that this is just an opportunitistic time for an article like this, you are dead wrong.

Remember that 1-0 game in the home of the champion New York Islanders two years ago? That was the most important victory in the history of the NHL Edmonton Oilers.

Remember who got the goal? It was Kevin McClelland who was on the 'Plumbers Line' with Dave Hunter and Pat Hughes.



Oilers The first playoff game of last year when the Oilers were coming off that horrendous slump was against the perennial thorn-in-the-side Los Angeles Kings. Fogolin netted the all important overtime winner to set the tone for the rest of the series and the rest of the playoffs. The list goes on.

So how does Edmonton manage to fill up their roster with guys that can do more than take up a page in the media guide?

It is the scouting (and the subsequent minor league) system that separates one year wonders like the Vancouver Canucks from dynasties like the Islanders.

The Islanders entered the league along with the Atlanta Flames in 1972. They proceeded to set all kinds of records for futility, a few of which still stand today. But Bill Torrey knew what he was doing. He patiently built his team through draft choices, not by foolish trades and high priced free agents.

Take a look at where the Flames are sitting right now. After futile years in Atlanta, they finally moved to Calgary where they have enjoyed minimal success compared to New York.

The Buffalo Sabres and the Can-ucks entered the NHL together in 1970. In five years the Sabres were a very competitive club, winning the Adams division in 1975. The Canucks too won their division in 19/2, but have failed to do so since. Buffalo has remained consistently good ever since.

Like the Sabres, Edmonton has relied on a trusted scout in Barry Fraser to build their team.

And when a move is made, it is of the shrewd variety (see McClel-

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On Monday, the women's intra-murals held the women's squash tournament. The tournament was divided into two draws. In the Indeterminate draw, Barb Wood of the Been There, Seen It, Done It unit took first place honours. The Beginner draw saw Jennie Mak of the C.S.A. unit take first place over Sandy Foster.

In the overall standings in the squash tourney, Shooters placed 1st, Been There, Seen it, Done It came 2nd, and C.S.A. captured 3rd.

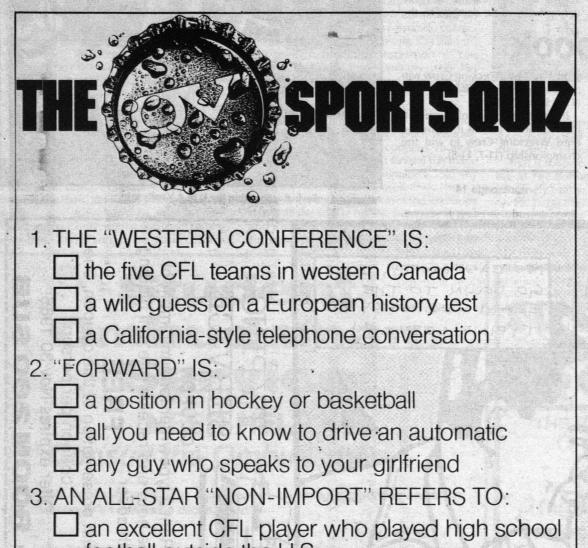
Campus Recreation will be hosting its November Family Fun Sunday on Sunday, November 24th from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. This fun afternoon allows moms, dads and kids to participate together in fun

land, Napier, McTavish, Melnyk). So next time you look at a scoring summary and see that Gretzky and Kurri only had one point each yet Edmonton won 5-2, just chalk it up to certain people in that big round building on 118th ave. doing their homework.

games for an hour (2:00 - 3:00 p.m.) in the beautiful Universiade Pavilion, and then a fun swim follows from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. in the West Pool.

All students, staff and faculty families are welcome. This particular Fun Sunday, as part of an extension of National Universities Week, is opening the afternoon to facilities from the McKernan, Garneau, Belgravia and Windsor Park communities. A broad range of activities for kids from 4 to 94 will be available. There will even be goodies for everyone at the end of the afternoon.

Anyone planning to attend must phone the Campus Recreation office at 432-2555 before 4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 22nd to register. This will allow Campus Recreation to set up activities in a well-organized fashion.





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