

Ironmen looking to rebound

The U.N.B. Ironmen R.F.C. had an indifferent week of play to say the least. Coming off their first two weeks of dominating play the boys might have let up a bit in their commitment to the game. On Wednesday September 18, the Ironmen first team met the Oromocto Pioneers in Oromocto. The Ironmen resting a few of their tired horses did not have an easy match on their hands. Victory for UNB was never in doubt but the Ironmen did not play as a cohesive unit. In fact an opportunistic try off of a defensive blunder by the Ironmen put the Pioneers up to an early lead of 6-0. The Pioneers were never to breach the Ironmens goal line again but this lapse in UNB's play was not a good one for Ironmen rugby on the day. A very loose and uninspiring game brought the Ironmen a well deserved 20-6 victory. Ironmen tries were scored by Frank Schiripl, Trevor Monland and Scott Cessford. Rounding out the scoring was Robert Wright through the use of his foot.

On Saturday Sept. 21 the Ironmen played three games; first, second and third division. The first team travelled to Saint John home of the trojans to see who was the most powerful team in the league. This battle of the Titans was not one to disappoint

Ironmen players and supporters alike. The Ironmen tried to come back but fell short of the mark. In fact a brain attack by the Ironmen Wells put the Ironmen up 3-0. A try by Jason O'Brien soon followed as a result of some very enterprising play by UNB and a lapse in the Trojans cover defence. The Trojans replied with a try of their own resulting from a well executed back play. Scrumhalt Greg Clayton put the Ironmen up further by diving in the corner after a slicing run by centre Dennis Clarice. A penalty kick by Trojans just before the half put the score at UNB 11 Trojans 7. As the second half started so did the wind and rain driving into UNB's faces. The Ironmen held strong in their own end during this hurricane. However this constant pressure wore heavily on the Ironmen. UNB pinned in their own end were awarded a relieving freekick that was met by a sigh of relief from the UNB players. This kick was charged down however by the opportunistic Trojans, quick ball. From the ensuing scrum sent the Trojans winger untouched into the corner and knotted the score at eleven. With the tension rising and both sides appearing to have scoring chances at different times Trojans centre Jon Gould put his team over the posts to the dismay of

spectators. For the Ironmen however it was a huge disappointment. The Ironmen had hoped to put to rest any speculation of their ability to play under pressure. Their ability to win the big one is under even more question after this weekend.

The game started out well enough for the Ironmen, after some sloppy play on both sides

Predictions cont'd

Toronto - I'm the Leaf fan here so I'm just hoping they sneak in the playoffs. Fuhr should keep them close in almost all the games they play. Don't expect the Leafs to score a lot of goals now. God knows who's going to be in the starting lineup besides Zezel and Leeman

Minnesota - Bcl. Corey will be lucky to see the playoffs with this team. They lost a whole lotta guys, not only from the big team but also from the minors. Broten looks like he may play in Europe so depth is going downhill. A couple of injuries and the Met Centre will be empty because the team is in the cellar.

Smythe Division

L.A. - The Kings should repeat as divisional champions. They have excellent goaltending, two solid lines and a great young defenceman in Rob Blake. Add to all that the fact

of the field to start out the game a penalty kick by Jon stand-off that resulted in a penalty kick for the Trojans directly in front of the posts put the Saint John team up a further 3 points. The game ended a mere minute later with the score Trojans 17 - UNB 11.

UNB must not have any physical or mental lapses the next time they encounter the

that Gretzky wants the cup again before he turns grey and this team may be ready for the cup. They should finish in the top five overall.

Calgary - the only thing that will keep the Flames from winning the division is Nieuwendyk's knee and Vernon wants out. Fleury should be the big scorer again this year while Gilmour should be ready for a better year. MacInnis will win the Norris trophy this year, no problemo.

Edmonton - Answer me this, "Who knows who's going to be in the starting lineup?" Nobody want's to play for Peter Puck anymore. If Messier leaves forget it. This team is toast!! Ranford can only stop so many pucks and if Messier is gone Tikkanen is the only who can lead this team and even he may not sign. Poolers, look for Damphouse to score 100 points.

Trojans in three weeks time.

The weekend was the first time the Ironmen were defeated this year. It was also the first time in a decade that three teams donned Ironmen colours. With this much depth and heart the Ironmen are sure to redeem themselves Wednesday night against the Loyalists and then Saturday at College Field against Saint John and St. Thomas.

Vancouver - This team is much improved and may even end up in second place. The trade with St. Louis has done wonders and if Nedved could turn some of his potential into production this team could put some scary numbers on the board. McLean and Gamble are a good goaltending duo and should help keep numbers off the board so if everything clicks look for the lowly Canucks to turn some heads.

Winnipeg - who could expect an NHL team without a good household Canadian name in the lineup to go anywhere. Their top five players are Yanks (Housley, Olczyk), Swedes (Steen, Olausson) and Finns (Numminen). Need I say more. You can expect all five to put up big numbers again this year for your hockey pool But when it comes to the heart check, these guys are on the same evolutionary level as protozoa. *Continued on page 30*

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