



by BOB BOURGEOIS

Ramblers

It's that time of the year again to make my pre-season picks for the Metro Valley Junior Hockey League. For 1987, that is.

You see, I have such a lousy track record at predictions (getting called for number one by me is the next best thing to the kiss of death — just ask the Blue Jays) that I decided to make this year's picks extra early so I'd have an excuse for being wrong!

So here goes.

Finishing in first place next year will be the Amherst Ramblers. That's right, the Ramblers will rumble right over the Colts, the Lions, the Hawks, and the rest of the animals. You can bet on it (but I wouldn't 'cuz I don't like losing money).

Well, awhile back I wrote a column about how boring NHL hockey is. I also did a column on boxing.

I still think NHL hockey is boring, but boxing won't be anymore now that Dave (Tiger) Williams of NHL fame has announced his intent to retire from hockey to take up boxing.

If local promoter Bunny McSlee is on his toes, he'll get Williams booked for the Metro Centre. What a draw.

Williams never could play hockey. Let's give him a chance to see if he can box.

Eagles humble Huskies

By DAVID QUICK

Last time I was in the St. Mary's Arena, it was to freeze to death with about 100 fans watching a totally uninspiring game.

Last night's insipid encounter between the Huskies and the Université de Moncton Blue Eagles was no different. Except this time there were 50 fans.

The Blue Eagles out-shot the Huskies 101-22, and were it not for the heroics of Huskies net-minder Terry Conklin, who swallowed five

pucks and stopped several others although a few got by him, the score would have been much higher than the 14-0 outcome.

The Eagles scored a touchdown in each of the first two periods, but fans betting their second intermission hotdog (had there been any) that they'd score another in the third period lost. The third period was not played.

The Huskies' coach had one comment after the game. "Thank God the season's over."

Down and out at the Downs

Lackville Downs

RACE ONE

Moonshine, driver yes, owner yes; Lackville Lucky, driver Short Legs, owner I. Bet; Glue Factory, driver Stick Fast, owner, Elmer Bond-all

RACE TWO

Forever First, driver sometimes, owner A. Capone. No other horses allowed to finish.

RACE THREE

Loves to Trot, driver sur-

prised, owner ecstatic. Four legs; driver two legs, owner one leg; Crawler, driver Mario Andretti, owner Esso.

RACE FOUR

Shergar, driver R. O'Sullivan, owner I.R.A.; Illiterate, driver X, Owner X; Capones Friend, driver murdered, owner A. Capone.

Total Take: from unlucky bettors \$4,326, 767.23; from lucky bettors, \$4,326, 767.22

THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF SYNCHRO SWIMMERS

by TESA LYMPH

Synchronized swimming may look easy and graceful, but it's no bed of roses, according to Motormouth McFey, former synchro standout with the Halifax Bubbles synchro team.

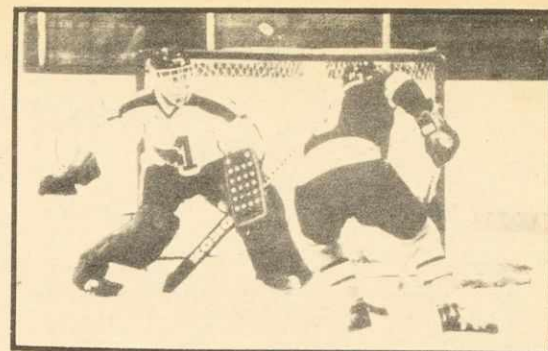
"When you see synchro swimmers smiling, remember it's mostly an

act for the judges," says McFey. "Really, they're just dying for a big breath of air."

The sport can become hazardous if the swimmer forgets to wear noseplugs, McFey notes. Just try doing a backward somersault in the water without them and you'll see why.

And while speed swimmers often shave off all possible body hair for streamlining prior to a competition, synchro swimmers just leave the hair there.

"It actually helps to orient you in the water," noted McFey. "Not to mention coming in handy on Polar Bear swims..."



AUAA ACTION in hockey as well as other sports could be severely curtailed if the Royal Commission on Education's recommendations are accepted. Just think about it — University of Nova Scotia vs. the rest of the country. Look out Ontario, here we come!!! (Barker)

Commission could can collegiate sport

HALIFAX (CP) — The Report of the Royal Commission on post-secondary education could have profound effects on intercollegiate sport in Nova Scotia.

The restrictions on out-of-province students, if accepted, will certainly affect the recruitment of high-calibre athletes from outside Nova Scotia, while the institution of a university of Nova Scotia would effectively wipe out the AUAA as it exists today.

But it's not all bad news — just think about it — the best of the X-

Men, Axemen, Tigers and Huskies against UNB or UPEI. Awesome.

Nova Scotia would be ranked number one in the CIAU in just about everything.

This, then, could promote other provinces to do the same thing. The CIAU would then consist of ten schools. Think about how much easier that would be to manage! Fewer people to fly to meetings, fewer decisions to make... fewer opportunities for university athletes to compete in high-level sports...

Javelin Catching to join Olympic roster?

TORRONNA (CP) — The Soviet Union is pushing for the addition of a new event in the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, Korea. The Soviets are lobbying for the addition of Javelin Catching to the Track and Field events.

The sport would be somewhat dangerous, admitted the Soviets, but just imagine the potential for getting rid of unwanted political dissidents.

Men's, women's pairs added

SAN FRAN (AP) — Men's and women's pairs skating has been announced as a late addition to the winter sports roster at the 1988 Calgary Olympics. No, that's not men's-and-women's pairs skating, that's men's pairs and women's pairs.

After numerous protests for equality by gay rights groups, the announcement of the new format was finally made by the IOC (International Organization of Conservatives) des-

pite a planned counter protest by right-wing groups.

"It will require an adjustment in terms of marking," noted Tom Blindman, a rated official with the International Skating Federation.

Patting his guide-dog absent-mindedly, Blindman continued, "But I think there's enormous potential there for a new creativity in skating. Maybe it will even lure Too-tall Krannstunn back from retirement."

WOMEN COUNTER CONVENTIONAL COVERAGE

TRONNUH (CP) — Women's rights groups agitating for equality have found a new target — male sports writers, announcers, and photographers.

"Just watch a TV commentator covering women's golf or tennis," said Spinster Hagg, head of the group interested in attacking

the issue. "They spend more time talking about what the female athlete looks like than how well she plays."

The group is launching a counter-strategy using the "do unto others" approach.

"What we plan to do is get female announcers covering men's sports," said Hagg. "We'll talk about the football play-

ers' nice bums, the tennis players' nice bods, and discuss the problems of dating basketball players during the broadcasts.

"As for sports photography — well, we'll just have to incorporate more crotch and bum shots.

"Sooner or later, I think we'll get our point across."

GRANDSPRI WRASTLING

FOUR BOUTS

Main Card

Murderous Mark

vs.

Cunning Carl

BRING YOUR GRANDMOTHER!

BRING YOUR CAT!

Stamps to move East

One Side Straight

by J.I. ALBRIGHT

A recent announcement by CFL Commissioner Doug Mixwell has revealed the solution to two problems — the financial troubles of the CFL's Calgary Stampeders, and the need for an Atlantic Canada football franchise.

In a surprise announcement yesterday, Mixwell stated that the Calgary franchise will be shipped to Halifax to play out of Huskie Stadium as the "Atlantic Schooners." The sail of the club to Halifax is good news for area football fans, who may finally be able to see a winning team play in the Stadium.

Increased seating requirements will demand the levelling of most of the St. Mary's campus surrounding the Stadium, while rooms facing the field in high rises one and two will be rented out as box seats for the games.

The new team will be managed by yours truly. Immediate plans include recruiting as many former Montreal Alouettes as possible into making a comeback and financing a massive airlift of players in for training camp. 350 seems a reasonable number for starters.

I'm looking forward to it. After recruiting or recommending just about every superstar in Canadian Football during the 1970's, I'm ready to get back into action. I wonder what John Carlos is doing these days?

Larry Utrek has been appointed as head coach, with assistant coach Bob O'Billovichovich, fired from the Argos after having his first losing season as mentor for the double blue, serving in an assistant coaching role.