

Risky NHL predictions mostly on track

Well, so far, so good. My predictions for the NHL playoffs haven't been off by much. The only ones to let me down so far have been the Chicago Blackhawks, who were felled by the mighty Minnesota North Stars.

St. Louis Blues went pretty much as expected, knocking off Detroit Red Wings, though the series was forced to go to an uncomfortable seventh game. Being a Maple Leaf fan (Detroit's arch rival), I was pretty much committed to calling for a Red Wing's defeat.

I said Pittsburgh was going to take the Patrick Division title, though a seventh game again was needed in order to keep the favored team in the playoffs.

Penguins were forced to the

wall by New Jersey, which finally fell apart in game seven, getting shut out 4-0.

Washington Capitals showed its superior playoff depth by sending New York Rangers to the golf course early. Rangers had finished the regular season terribly after initially leading the league, but again collapsed when the chips were down. I predicted Rangers and Capitals would grind themselves up, leaving the door open for Pittsburgh to win their division for the first time in franchise history, but recent injuries could make the Patrick final a long series for them.

The Adams Division games went pretty much as expected, except by the Buffalo media who always tout Sabres as the year's



Risky Business
by
Robert Risk

Stanley Cup dream team. Canadiens didn't show much interest in winning on the road until game six to take the series 4-2.

Boston Bruins, picked by many to advance to the Stanley Cup final, also cruised to a 4-2 series

win over their first round rivals, Hartford Whalers. The underdogs surprised Boston with an opening game win, but superior talent and experience soon won out.

As is usually the case, Bruins and Canadiens will give hockey fans a great Adams Division final series. Boston currently leads two games to one (at press time), but anyone who has tuned in to see them go at it knows that things are far from decided.

While on the subject of great series, there is almost no way to find a comparison with the one between Edmonton and Los Angeles, unless you look to the opening set Oilers had with Calgary Flames. Oilers have turned up the heat. As always in the playoffs, Edmonton has gone

into overtime, digging down deep to eliminate Calgary in seven games and give L.A. a run for the money.

I've watched a lot of hockey over the years and I can't remember when both teams (Oilers vs. Calgary and now vs. L.A.) have moved the puck around so fast. Moves and passes seem to be anticipated several seconds earlier than ever before. One wrong move by either side almost always results in a turnover.

L.A. still has the edge in scoring ability, but Grant Fuhr has again emerged as the NHL's hottest goalie. The winner of this series will eat the Norris Division challenger and the Wales Conference champions alive en route to the Cup.

DOWNTOWN FAX SERVICE

Evenings & Saturdays Too!

YOUNG'S PHARMACY LTD.
Downtown Georgetown 877-2761

Georgetown rugby squads split with Acton



Georgetown District High School Rebels midget rugby team scrimmaged at GDHS field on Thursday as they prepared for the start of their season.

Their opening game was scheduled for that day against Assumption, but that team forfeited the match by not showing up. (Herald photo)

By ROBERT RISK
Herald Sports Editor

Two of Georgetown District High School Rebels rugby teams got off to a positive start on Thursday, winning their first games of the 1991 season.

Seniors played at Acton High School, taking the match 17-0. Midgets were to host Assumption that same afternoon, but won by default because that school couldn't field a team. Junior team also visited Acton, but lost. A score of that game was unavailable at press time.

Jim Hall, head of the GDHS athletics department, said he was happy with the efforts all his wrestlers made this year. After a three-year absence, Rebel wrestling was resurrected and many Halton schools were taken by surprise.

The Rebels began by winning the Halton Junior Championships at Bishop Reding on March 28, placed third at the Halton Championships at GDHS on April 4 and qualified 10 athletes for Golden Horseshoe Athletic Conference Championships in Hamilton on April 11.

Most recently, the five students who advanced from GHAC to the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) in Waterloo April 18-20 also placed well, according to Hall.

Although they didn't win any medals, Hall said the boys were in or about the top 12 placings (OFSAA only posts the top six finishers). Trevor Brent (185 lbs. class) won three matches, followed by Aaron Gooding (169 lbs.) with two wins, Bruce Ryan (97 lbs.) also won two, while Stew Teetzel (149 lbs.) won one and Steve Scarlett lost his two matches.

Track and Field coach Jay Anderson said poor weather conditions at the Bluevale Relays on Saturday didn't do much to help improve the team's ability to win.

The top finisher at the meet for Rebels was midget triple jumper Rob Weston, who placed third. Also placing third was the midget boys distance medley. The midget boys 4 x 100 relay placed fourth, as did the 4 x 800 open girls team. Kim Wiltshire placed fourth in the midget girls triple jump.

Other top finishers included the junior boys 4 x 100 team, which placed sixth and the senior boys-4 x 100 team that earned an eighth place finish. Scott Hobbs, who shattered Rebel and GDHS triple jump records at GDHS on April 16 with a distance of 13.35 metres and qualified for the Canadian Junior Championships in Winnipeg this summer, did just one jump and placed seventh.

Herald Sport Shorts

Blades advance

Oakville Blades, winners of the Central Ontario Jr. B hockey league, lost the first game of the All-Ontario Jr. B best of seven series final 3-2 to Waterloo on Sunday in Oakville.

Blades had been trailing Welland 2-0 in their semi-final series, but Oakville turned things around with four straight wins (4-2, 4-1, 5-3, 5-4) to advance. Waterloo, the Mid-Western Ontario League champions, swept Chatham earlier this month in semi-final series play.

Waterloo hosts game two of the series today (Wednesday) at 7:30 p.m., followed by game three on Friday in Oakville at 8:00 p.m.

Jr. C. final

Orangeville Crushers began the defence of their All-Ontario championship title with a 9-4 loss at home to Hanover Barons

on Sunday.

Crushers had previously beaten Barons twice in regular season loop play against the Western Ontario Jr. C team, but came out flat after sweeping Uxbridge Bruins 4-0 earlier this month. Hanover advanced to the finals by downing Belle River Canadiens, last year's title challengers, four games to one with a 12-3 victory on Friday.

Game two of the final series was played yesterday in Hanover (results unavailable at press time), with game three also being hosted by Barons on Friday. Crushers are at home for game four on Sunday with the other games (if necessary) not having been scheduled yet.

Baton winners

Several Georgetown athletes who currently train or live in town earned several top placings at the Ontario Baton Twirling Championships at Humber College last weekend.

Deanna Guignard, a local resident, qualified for the Canadian National Competition, to be held in Calgary in July, by placing third in Senior Women's Freestyle, her first year in that age group.

Guignard also placed first in Junior Women's Medley and Solo and second in Senior Women's Compulsory, Junior Women's two-baton and fourth in Junior Women's Solo Dance.

Georgetown-based King's National Baton Club also earned a trip to Calgary by winning the World Team Ontario Semi-Trials. The five member team, comprised of Andrea Chisholm, Cynthia Denouden, Chrissy Power, Shalan Bishop and Lindsay Kushnirenko, also won the Canadian Baton Twirling Federation team championship.

Individually, Georgetown resident Susan Thibodeau placed first in Senior Women's Dance Twirl, followed by Chisholm with a silver in Junior Women's Freestyle.



Making The Stop

Jim Grant, 13, gets some soccer goaltending practice during Georgetown Soccer Club's free clinics at Georgetown District High School on Sunday. Any kids, boys and girls, wanting to improve their skills for the upcoming season can attend any Sunday to May 5 between 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (Herald photo)