

Sports Slants - cont'd

weight championship --- without wearing skates. Would have been a natural, since both hockey and boxing fans would have attended, but Bouchard turned it down. Bouchard, if you remember, took a round out of the Flyers' wild man in the fourth game of the series. It was the second time the two had squared off and the first time they met, Schultz took a unanimous decision

Poor Emil Francis. He must be downhearted. First of all, the so-called experts picked his New York Rangers to finish first in the NHL and they would third in the east division. Then they surprised everyone by eliminating the Boston Bruins in five games, which appeared to give them a crack at the Stanley Cup, especially after beating Chicago, right in Chicago, in the first game of the semi-finals. Then they go and drop four straight games to the Hawks. Oh well, they're sort of used to folding in the clutch. The last time they won the Cup was in 1939-40 -- 33 years ago. Francis predicted before the start of play-offs: "Our series with Boston will be a long one with the winner a good bet to wind up in the finals." That was two wrong predictions in one comment. The Boston-New York series

was short and the winner (Rangers) didn't make it to the finals.

Oh well, there's always 1973-74 Emile

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