

# SPORTS SLANTS

- By Ray Shank

Have a full notebook of sports quickies that I'd like to pass on to you, in case you haven't read it elsewhere:

There have been rumors that Toronto Toros of the World Hockey Association are paying former Montreal Canadiens goaltending ace Ken Dryden to sit out this hockey season so he will be eligible to play with the Toros next season. Well, I tend to believe that rumor. Dryden was guest analyst for a Toros-Jersey Knights game on the new Gloval TV network recently, which would indicate that he and the Toros are keeping in close contact in anticipation of the 1974-75 season ....

Miami Dolphins were referred to as Miami Robots after they clobbered Minnesota Vikings 24-7 in the recent Super Bowl. Actually, it was a good name for the Dolphins. They looked just like robots the way they bamboozled Bud Grant's Vikings. I must say it was a fine game to watch if you were a Miami fan, but a real dull affair if you had your money on Minnesota. If coach Don Shula can satisfy all his players come contract time, there's no doubt the Dolphins could have a dynasty going for them. Dolphins appear set to win the Super Bowl another four or five years if they stick with the same team. They average about 26 years and are tops, offensively as well as defensively. The only team that may match them in a couple of years or three are the Buffalo Bills, led by O.J. Simpson. The Bisons are also a good, young club and could very well be battling the Dolphins for the super championship ....

Speaking of O.J. Simpson, I'd like to point out a couple of things about his record-breaking rushing season with the Bills. Simpson, as you know, eclipsed ex-Cleveland Brown Jim Brown's rushing record by 40 yards -- 2,003 to Brown's 1,863. Brown was held to under 100 yards five times in 1963 when he set his record. Only three teams managed to hold Simpson to under 100 yards during his record-breaking season, and in one of those he managed 99. Simpson got 200 or more yards in three of those 14 games, while Brown 200-plus in two games. The least Simpson got in a game was 55 and that was against - who else - Miami. Brown's least productive game was 40 yards against New York Giants. By the way, Simpson's best game was the Bills' opener, in which he ran for 250 yards ....

If you're a Montreal Canadiens fan, like I

am, you probably already know this, but if you're not, you might not realize it. When the Canadiens drubbed Boston Bruins 7-3 in Boston Jan. 12, it marked the first time the Bruins had lost at home in 22 games this season. Prior to that, the Bruins had won 19 and tied two at home. I was fortunate enough to watch that game -- on NBC TV -- and it warmed my heart. It was probably the Canadiens' biggest victory of the season -- a true four-pointer. Had the Habs lost, they would have dropped seven points behind the Bruins, with Boston having a game in hand. Instead, they leaped to within three points of the league leaders and now the second half of the schedule should prove interesting ....

Turning to golf, Johnny Miller is certainly off to a fine start on the U.S. golf professionals' tour. Miller has won the first two tournaments of the year -- The Bing Crosby Open and the Phoenix Open -- and has already pocketed \$60,000 in cash. That's already half as much money as he won last year and there are plenty cont'd page 5 .....

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