Sports Bits

by Nick Zulovich
Assistant Sports Editor

Wake up call: Wake Forest took a big step to winning its first ACC regular season championship in 33 years by beating No. 2 North Carolina 79-70 last night. Wake's center Tim Duncan outplayed his well know counterpart Rasheed Wallace in the victory. Duncan scored 25 points and grabbed 12 rebounds. Wake's record stands at 20-5 overall and 11-4 in the ACC.

Continuing to be the best: The Pittsburgh Penguins still remain as the best team in the NHL. With their 7-5 victory over Quebec Monday night, the Penguins own the best record in hockey at 14-3-2. Penguin right wing Jaromir Jagr leads the league in scoring 15 goals and 17 assists for 32 total points. Jagr and the Penguins take on Buffalo tonight at Buffalo's Memorial Arena.

Still in limbo: Plans are still not finalized yet for the possible move of the the Los Angeles Rams to St. Louis. Commissioner Paul Tagliabue will give his recomandation on whether or not the team should move at the NFL's meetings March 12-17 in Phoenix.

Notes from around the NBA:

Boston Celtics' forward Dominique Wilkins needs to score 59 points to reach the 25,000 point plateau.

Phoenix Suns' forward Danny Manning had surgury on Tuesday to repair his torn knee ligament. Manning injured his knee during a Suns' practice Feb. 6.

Will the Browns' get a QB?: Rumor has it that the Cleveland Browns are to sign vetern quarterback Phil Simms. A proven quarterback like Simms could be the key for the Browns to garner a Super Bowl appearence.

Coming on strong

by Brian Gregory

Collegian Staff

He shoots. He scores!!!!

Those were the words of the fans in attendence Sunday evening as Panther right-winger Cam Brown put a rebounded puck into the net with 2:34 left in overtime to give the Panthers a hard-fought 4-3 win over the Charlotte Checkers.

"We worked extremely hard tonight," said Coach Ron Hansis. "Brown, (Kevin) McKinnon, (Jeff) Hoad, and (Carl) Fleury were playing great. Everybody chipped in and that was the key (to victory) tonight."

And when Coach Hansis says everybody chipped in, he means it.

Erie got the scoring underway at the 4:02 mark of the first period as Hoad took a pass from Todd Harris and put the puck in the back of the net. But Charlotte answered back :23 seconds later as Darryl Noren scored to tie the score at 1-1.

But, Eric was not done for the period. Carl Fleury, who has had a hot stick lately scored his 11th goal of the season to give the Panthers a 2-1 lead at the first intermission. Jeff Hoad and Sverre also picked up an assist on the power play goal.

The second period featured a lot of tough defense as Charlotte's goalie Jon Hillebrandt, Olympic product and New York Ranger, stopped all 13 Erie shots. The lone goal came at the 4:39 mark as Matt Robbins scored a power play goal.

At the 7:32 mark of the third period Noren had an unassisted goal to give the Checkers a one goal lead. The Panthers clawed their way back as Stephane Charbonneau scored his 43rd goal of the season to tie the game at 3-3.

The last ten minutes of the game were characterized by fantastic goaltending by Francis Ouellette. "Franky played great," said teammate Jeff Hoad. "He made four or five saves with the pressure on (him)."

Coach Hansis echoed his praise for Ouellette. "Franky was unbelievable on a key fleury of shots late in the third."

"All lines chipped in, not just the big three. I have confidence in all 3 lines," said Hansis.

And then it happened again. Sparked by a sloppy first period the Panthers came out lighting fast to score five goals in seven and a half minutes. Eric took 26 shots on Hampton-Rhode's goalic Shamus Gregga and knocked him silly.

Eric rolled to a 6-4 win over the Admirals as Todd Dvorak scored two goals, Bellerose, Brown, Hoad, and Mehalic found the net once, and Stephane Charbonneau had three assists and grabbed the first star of the game.

"We had a bad pregame skate and we just carried it over to the first period," said Charbonneau. "We knew that they would be tired in the second so we didn't panic, we just came out and played well. We'll take the win."

"We really struggled in the first people. The goals we gave up were just sloppy," remarked Hansis. "Once Dvorak started it off... this was one of our best periods of the year."

The Panthers go on the road for four of the next five games. On Sunday they play Wheeling down in West Virginia. You can see the Panthers at home Saturday the 11th as part of a home-away series against their old rivals, the Johnstown Chiefs.

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Cross country

by Nick Zulovich
Assistant Sports Editor

Athletics is expanding once again at Penn State-Behrend. Plans are being made for the introduction of men's and women's varsity cross country teams for the fall of 1996.

Athletic Director Herb Lauffer is very enthusiastic about bringing men's and women's cross country to Behrend.

"Many students who come here to Behrend have a competitive background in cross country. We are very happy that we'll be able to take advantage of these students' abilities," explained Lauffer.

Specific details are still being worked out. Various arrangements from class scheduling to finding a cross country coach will be finalized throughout this summer and next fall.

"A course and curriculum will have to be designed (similar to basketball or soccer)," stated Lauffer.

Lauffer explained, "The Behrend campus itself is very conductive for competitive cross country. A very competitive course can be designed."

With the addition of men's and women's cross country, it raises the number of varsity sports at Behrend to twelve.

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