

Panthers Choke

by Rob Prindle

Unfortunately, the Erie Panthers' season ended in much the same way that it began five months ago. The team's season slammed to a close with a flurry of one goal loses, reminiscent of the disappointing early-season team that roomed, for a while, in the cellar of the East Coast Hockey League.

After soaring to an incredible mid season high, the Erie club suffered several let downs as the regular season closed. Assorted misadvised trades left the team flat and without the cohesion that they enjoyed in January. A series of disappointing loses late in the season delayed the teams eventual first place finish until the last week of the season. The Panthers were a team that

peaked too soon.

With their first place finish in the year-old hockey league, Erie gained the right to play the

The once over-powering Erie Panthers bowed out of the play-offs in four straight games with a 6-3 lose Tuesday night to the late-charging Carolina T-Birds. The first Three of the four loses were by a single goal.

hottest team in the league and perhaps the hottest team in all of Semi-pro hockey. The Winston-Salem based Carolina T-Birds won all of their final 14 games under new coach Brendan Watson who took over the day the streak began.

Watson, who left his job as head ECHL referee to take the job, took the last place T-Birds



and guided them smoothly to a four game sweep of the Erie club in the semi-final play-offs. Erie Coach Ron Hansis could not rally his troops to overcome the reborn Thunder Birds.

The first two losses came in the usually friendly enclosure of the Erie Civic Center. The three thousand plus crowds groaned and screamed obscenities as time after time the Erie icers wounded themselves with penalties and missed opportunities.

The first game was decided in overtime 5-4 after the Panthers allowed Carolina to take advantage of the 15 penalties that were leveled against the home team.

The second game was even more painful for the home town faithful. The Panthers had two

goals taken away from them by the refs and lost on a last minute power play in front of the 3,361 frantic fans.

The third game in Carolina -- less than 24 hours after the crushing loss in Erie -- was as haunting as the first two. Another 1 goal loss (2-1) left the Panthers with a 3-0 deficit in the best-of-seven series. Lethargy and bad luck were the main ingredients in the loss.

The final blow was struck Tuesday night when the irresistible force slammed into a less than immovable Erie team. The Panthers back was broken when they lost a 2 goal, second-period lead in a matter of minutes. The panthers then threw in the towel and headed home with the final score 6-3.



photos by Rob Prindle

Wellness Week cont. from page 1

stress by taking a few swings (legally) at a car. The demolition, which benefits the American Cancer Society, will be held at noon on Tuesday on the Reed second floor patio.

A blood drive will be held from 10 am until 4 pm on Wednesday and Tuesday in the Reed Building.

Thursday's visit of Arthur R. Shuman, co-author of the Pennsylvania underage drinking law and director of the pre-law program at LaSalle University, will be the highlight of the week. Shuman will present a workshop on "The Law Enforcement Officer and the New Underage Drinking Law" in Reed 117 from 2:30 to 4 pm. At 8 Thursday night, Shuman will present "Underage Drinking - The New Law, What Are Your Rights?" in Reed 117.

Shuman will attend an hors d'oeuvre reception and dinner in his honor in the Wintergreen Cafe Thursday night. The events are free and all students are encouraged to attend. Anyone planning on attending should RSVP by calling Patty McMahon at 6217. The hors d'oeuvres will begin at 5 pm and the dinner at 6 pm.

A self defense workshop and demonstration will be presented by Lisa DiPlacido of the Rape Crisis Center of Erie and Todd Allen of Police and Safety at noon Friday on the first floor of the Winter Garden. A happy hour with refreshments and entertainment will be held in the same place from 3 to 5 that afternoon.

The week winds down with a 2-mile Fun Run/Walk beginning at 10 am Saturday. No registration is necessary to participate.

All events are free and open to the public. Students are urged to bring family members and friends to take advantage of the chance to raise their awareness of their individual wellness needs.

Home Schedule

Men's Baseball

- 4/8 SUNY-Fredonia 1 pm
- 4/11 Gannon University 1 pm
- 4/13 Mercyhurst College 1 pm
- 4/25 California U. of Pa. 1 pm
- 4/29 LaRouche College 1 pm

Women's Softball

- 4/1 Mt. Union College 1 pm
- 4/2 Nazareth College 1 pm
- 4/9 Clarion University 2 pm
- 4/15 Niagara University 1 pm
- 4/20 Westminster Coll. 3 pm

Men's Tennis

- 4/2 John Carroll Univ. 1 pm
- 4/3 Hiram College 3 pm
- 4/6 Thiel College 3 pm
- 4/11 Geneva College 3 pm
- 4/15 Allegheny College 2 pm
- 4/16 Nazareth College 2 pm
- 4/22 St. John Fisher 1 pm
- 4/28 Gannon University 3 pm