

The SnapShot

South Shore Women's Hockey

USA Undefeated at Lake Placid

The National Team for the United States was undefeated last weekend in New York. However, the team lost a 3-0 lead against Quebec to tie 4-4 in the final game. The United States beat Russia 7-0.

The team consisted of player ranked 13-32 by USA Hockey. The players that went to Lake Placid were working to gain the final slots on the National Team which will play in San Jose in April. Players ranked 1-13 will automatically represent the National Team at San Jose's "Pacific Rim" games. The Pacific Rim games are being played in preparation for the Olympics in 1998.

Familiar names from the South Shore league will be listed on the National Team's prestigious roster. They will include Shelly Looney, Chris Bailey, Collene Coyne and Jeanne Sobek, of Hobomock, and Beth Beagan, formally of Hobomock. Gretchen Ulion, Vickey Movsession, Kelly O'Leary, Cindy Curley, are from Assabet A. Kelly Dyer, who plays in Florida's professional Sunshine League and is a former Assabet player will also go to San Jose. Sandra Whyte of Canton is on the roster as well as Stephanie O'Sullivan, formally from Quincy.

Carl Gray, the coach of Assabet A, is deeply involved with USA Hockey. He said a lot of players who made the team in the past made it again this year.

"They're smart. They keep themselves in shape," he said. He seemed saddened when he said some of the "younger players just don't have the savvy to break in." He said though the younger players are fast and skilled they just don't know the subtleties of the game that separate a skilled athlete from an Olympic player.

Gray said the tie score against Canada is no indication of what will happen in San Jose. Canada has consistently beat the United States in pre-Olympic games. The games will be played the week of April 3-8.

Needham to go to Nationals

Hobomock has decided not to go to the National Tournament after their victory at the State tournament. Second-place Needham will go instead.

Needham's manager, Julie Piacentini, said she thought her team might go when Needham beat Canton in the state's 5-3. The victory put Needham in the finals against Hobomock. Many teams that participated in the state tournament suspected Hobomock would back out if they won.

Needham will hold a fund-raiser on April 1 at noon. A dart tournament will be held at *The Corner Pocket* in Abington. "Co-ed" teams of two can play for ten dollars. Piacentini said there will be cash prizes.

The Snapshot will make a donation of 50 dollars to Needham. The newsletter hopes to make a donation every year to the team or teams that go to the National Tournament

Illnesses Hurt South Shore's Organization

The three most active members of the South Shore Hockey League have been struck with fairly serious illnesses. As a result information on scoring and other vital statistics have not been evaluated.

President Paula Dumart had emergency surgery recently. A few weeks later her father died, leaving her unable to participate in the league as she usually does. "I'd be exhausted after only a few hours," she said. She said she used to be able to work 16 hour days with no ill-effects. Dumart said she wishes to thank those who sent flowers and called with their concerns.

George Sullivan, who is the coach of Randolph and the league treasurer, has been hospitalized several times recently. Paula Dumart said teams and players might consider sending him "get-well" wishes at his home at 25 High Street in Randolph.

Canton manager, Val Hamton, who handles an incredible amount of organizational work behind the scenes, is also dealing with ill-health. Despite the seriousness of her own problems Hamton said she is very concerned with Randolph and some of the other teams that have been unhappy since the league expanded.

"I want to get some feedback from people and see what we can do to make the league better." Hamton said she is aware of the concerns many teams have with the travel to Marlboro. Teams will have an opportunity to express those concerns at the league meeting being held at the Canton rink on March 28.

On Back

- 1 Play-off Finals
- 2 Year-End Information

Play-offs

Statistics are behind because score-keeper, Jim Vederico, has not received the necessary information to evaluate the team's performances during the play-offs. That is due at least in part because of the serious illnesses of many of the league's vital participants.

Informally, however, the winners for the play-offs are:

Gold Division	Hobomock
Silver Division	Chelmsford
Bronze Division	South Shore Hornets

Chelmsford and the Hornets both won for the regular season.

Canton was the regular season champ for the Gold Division.

Boston made incredible strides this year. As of today they are tied with the Hornets. However the Hornets have a much better "goals for" average. The Hornets also play the novice Storm team today. The Storm has no known wins.

Tourney Conflicts Trouble Director

Lynn Olson, Girls'/Women's section director for USA Hockey recently expressed frustration over the conflicting dates between the National Tournament and the Pacific Rim Tournament. Both are being held the first weekend in April. Olson suggests writing Dave Orgean, Executive Director of USA Hockey, 4965 N 30th St., Colorado Springs, CO 80919. She said if USA Hockey hears from women about the conflict more effort will be made to keep it from happening again next year.

Summer Hockey

A Senior summer league will be held in Marlboro on Tuesday nights. For more information contact Paula Dumart at 508-481-5252.



Terry Shea of Mass Bay is famous. Her picture appears in a book entitled *"The Worth Book of Softball—A Celebration of America's True National Pastime"* by Paul Dickson.

The book, which has a 1994 copyright, shows Shea holding a bat with the caption: "MVP Terry Shea of Club 110 in a New Bedford, Massachusetts Co-ed team tournament. She was the most valuable player on the women's side." The photo is by Russell Mott.

Gray on South Shore League

Carl Gray brought his Assabet team to the South Shore after years of having his team play at the rink he owns in Assabet. He said he had to "suck some wind" and "swallow some pride" in order to do that. But he did concede that the league provided his team with some good competition.

Though his team bristles with serious weaponry, such as National players Victoria Movsessian and Gretchen Ulion, he characterized this season as "recreational play." He said his team might have done even better had they taken the season "seriously" and practiced. "But we didn't do bad for a team that doesn't practice."

Gray was more interested in talking about something which is important to him: the need for coaches. "In five years we will need a tremendous amount of coaches and we are not ready." He said it takes years to build an organization. Yet, in only five years, the enormous number of seven-year-old girls now registered with boy's teams will be looking to play with girls when they reach about 12 years old.

"Players (seniors) might think about the good they could do as a coach. We've all got to give back to get something in return," Gray said.

Senior National Try-outs

Players 18 and over will have their chance to try-out for the National Team May 5, 6 and 7 at the Assabet rink near Concord. USA Hockey, will do the evaluations in order to provide an objective perspective on the players.

According to South Shore President, Paul Dumart, the weekend will cost only ten dollars, which includes a shirt. Carl Gray, who is a vice-president for USA Hockey, said interested players can contact him at 508-369-5369.

Snapshot Ends Third Year Editorial

I would like to thank those who have helped to make the newsletter possible. Special thanks to Val Hamton without whom there never would have been year one, never mind year three and to Robin Duffy, who literally ran between two rinks when I couldn't. Also to scorekeeper, Jim Vederico, who had a frustrating year due to the expansion. Handling 20 teams separated between two distant rinks made this year especially challenging. Back in year one we had but 14 teams.

I am also thankful for partial funding received from the league. However, the newsletter does not consider itself a public relations product for the league. Rather, it's done to provide information to the players. That means that occasionally stuff gets printed that the establishment would rather not see printed—why newspapers were invented in the first place. It is truly all done to inform and occasionally to create a little excitement between teams to make the season that much more interesting. Until next season—

The SnapShot

Designed to give a "SnapShot" of South Shore Women's Hockey.

Editor: Tanya Willow
24 Spruce Tree Lane
Norton, MA 02766-1035
WSnapShot@AOL.COM
508-226-8966

Contributing Writer:
Val Hamton