

# Suddenly super, Engineers win playoff

By Chris McCosky  
staff writer

Hey, how about those Engineers? Those demons of multiple overtime periods, those masters of the sudden kill did it again Wednesday night.

This time the Plymouth-based Junior A hockey team did it in the third overtime period. The Hennessey Engineers beat the Detroit Falcons 3-2 at Fraser and won the North American Junior Hockey League's state semifinal tournament 4-1. Three of the four victories went into overtime.

The Engineers advance to the best-of-five championship series against Detroit Compuware beginning at 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Oak Park Arena. Also, for the first time in the club's three-year history, the Engineers will compete in the national Junior A tournament in April.

Not bad for a team that finished last in the three-team NAJHL.

"I'VE GOTTEN three or four calls from league officials already," said first-year Engineer coach A.J. Baker. "And I'll guarantee you that very few people believed that this could happen."

The Engineers had won only one game on Fraser Ice prior to the playoffs. They were 4-9-1 against the Falcons during the regular season. In last year's semifinal series, the Falcons won 4-3 — all four wins came on their home ice. Clearly, the Engineers were not supposed to win this series.

"The guys just showed a major amount of character," was Baker's explanation.

He also said that he was feeling a bit like Detroit Red Wings coach Jacques Demers — and with good reason. The Engineers are, as Baker termed it, "an odd-lot bunch." The majority of his players came from high school or obscure Junior C and Midget programs. Only two players had previous Junior A experience.

"We have very few people here from the so-called big name programs," Baker said. "But I can't say enough about the way they hung together and came on at the end."

WEDNESDAY'S GAME produced a most unlikely hero, Gary Scott.

Don't feel bad if your first reaction is, "Who?" Scott did play in 37 games this season, mostly in a reserve capacity. He scored seven goals. He missed the final three weeks of the regular season because of an injured

ankle.

He came back to the team Thursday and Baker, needing all the fresh legs he could get, stuck Scott on a line with Left Gustafson and Larry Pilot.

Scott made Baker look like a genius Wednesday. The Gustafson-Pilot-Scott line scored all three goals. Gustafson scored two, Pilot added two assists and, with less than six minutes left in the third overtime, Scott slapped one past Falcon goalie Bill Pyre for the game-winner.

THE GAME, more than anything else, served as a showcase for two superb goaltenders. Pyre, who has been offered a scholarship from Northern Michigan University, faced 42 shots.

"Billy Pye," said Baker, "was just fantastic. Just like he was Tuesday night. He had to be one of the stars of this series."

Engineer goalie Dave Church wasn't too bad, either. He knocked away 34 of 36 shots. Baker gives Church a large share of the credit for the Engineers' late-season surge.

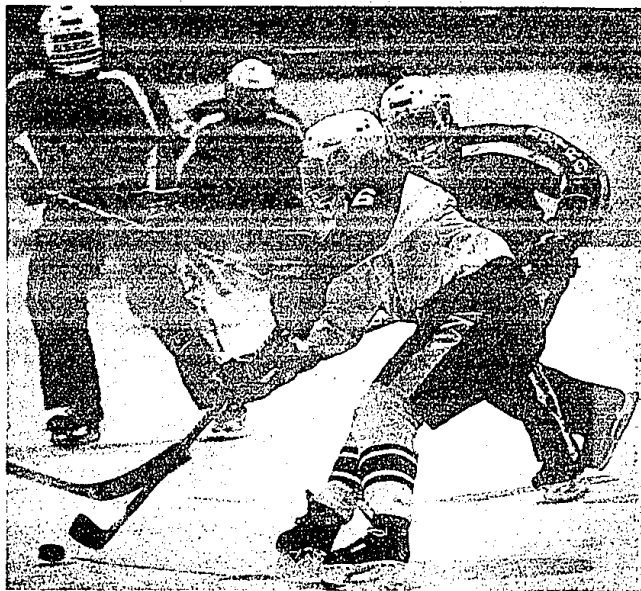
"He's just been outstanding. Not only has his play been great, but he is such a top-notch guy the players really believe in him. We haven't been producing a whole lot of offense, but we've been able to shut down the other teams."

Defencemen Tom Madden and Chris Kaske have also been solid. Madden has been effective both offensively and defensively. He was the league's top-scoring defenceman this season. Kaske is the team's enforcer. He also is confident and capable with the puck.

THE ENGINEERS will again be cast in the underdog's role against Compuware. The regular-season champion team held a 7-2-4 edge over the Engineers this season. And, as anyone remotely familiar with the NAJHL knows, there is no love lost between the two teams.

"Both teams realize that, although a state championship would be nice, the series is mostly a warm-up for the nationals. And for either of us to have a shot at the nationals, we have to go in healthy," he said.

The series will open at 8 p.m. Tuesday in Oak Park. The first game at the Plymouth Cultural Center will be at 7 p.m. Friday. Game three will be at 2 p.m. Saturday in Oak Park. Game four is scheduled for 5 p.m. Sunday in Plymouth. The final game will be at 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 31, in Oak Park.



Bryan Krygier (light jersey) and the rest of the Plymouth-based Hennessey Engineers Junior A hockey team have shot their way into U.S. Junior A National Tournament.

## Fishermen laud work of the DNR

Bits and pieces from the outdoor world.

THE MICHIGAN Department of Natural Resources was recently selected for recognition by the National Fishing Hall of Fame in Hayward, Wisconsin. The DNR was selected to receive the national trophy award by a national, 11-member voting committee for its outstanding fisheries program and leadership to effect the successful Salmon Fishery in the Great Lakes.

The secret of the halibut selected Michigan (DNR) over 18 other government trophy nominations," said awards committee chairman William Gautsche. "The electors cited the Michigan DNR as the catalyst, who under Dr. Howard Tanner demonstrated that the Great Lakes environment was compatible to development of a landlocked salmon fishery and led the way toward that goal."

A SECOND MOOSE brought last month from Canada to the Upper Peninsula as part of "Moose Lift Two" has been found dead, according to DNR reports.

The female moose was found in northern Marquette County, approximately four miles north of where it and 29 other moose were released by DNR biologists in late February.

Studies are being performed on tissue samples to determine the cause of death.

Several days after the transplant of 30 moose from Ontario to Marquette County, another moose was found dead. Preliminary findings showed the animal had hepatitis, peritonitis and muscle trauma. According to DNR biologists the hepatitis and peritonitis were apparently existing problems while the muscle trauma was probably caused during the transplant.

Since last year's lift of 29 moose, four other cows were lost to brain worm and three bulls died from unknown causes.

The total size of the herd currently stands at 76.

THE MILD winter we have been experiencing has not only been enjoyable for people but has also meant less starvation for Michigan's wildlife, especially deer, and is likely to mean more hunting permits will be issued this fall.

According to DNR officials this winter has been the mildest for deer since 1968.

Last year 124,000 deer died of starvation because of the severe winter conditions, according to Ed Langenau, big game supervisor for the DNR. Langenau stated that the only animals in danger of starvation this winter are the late-born (August) fawns.

Since the annual snow fall is about five inches less than normal (statewide) the deer have been able to find sufficient food supplies. A healthy herd will also begin breeding younger than usual.

Because the mild weather isn't likely to repeat itself next year, Langenau stated that more antlerless deer permits will probably be issued this fall so that fewer young deer will have to cope with the winter and a limited food supply next year.

THE 1987 MICHIGAN Wildlife



Bill Parker outdoors

Art Festival, the largest festival of its kind in the Midwest, will be held at the Southfield Civic Center on April 2-5.

Over 30,000 square feet will be devoted to the exhibit and sale of wildlife art, with tax-deductible contributions being used by the Michigan Wildlife Habitat Foundation for the restoration of wildlife habitat in Michigan.

Highlights of the festival include the exhibit and display of over 1,000 pieces of wildlife art, a silent wildlife art auction, a decoy painting contest and a series of wildlife art workshops.

For more information contact the Michigan Wildlife Habitat Foundation at (517) 692-3530.

A THREE JUDGE panel of the Michigan Court of Appeals recently upheld Ingham County Judge James Kallman's permanent injunction against the National Resources Commission and the Department of Natural Resources which prevents them from holding, administering and overseeing or promoting a hunt on mourning doves.

A lawsuit was filed by the Michigan Humane Society in August of 1985, after the NRC commission called for an open season on mourning doves for the first time in the state's history.

THE MICHIGAN Fly Fishing Club is hosting the Midwest Fly Fishing Exposition March 28-29, at the Southfield Civic Center.

The Exposition will feature a vast array of exhibitors displaying fly fishing related items.

Also included in the show will be fly fishing and conservation organization booths and fly fishing outfitters, along with guest speakers and seminars.

For more information contact Ron Aggrove at 349-3531.

### METROPARKS

#### KENSINGTON

Calling All Owls — an indoor talk and a walk through the park to locate owls, will be held Friday at 7 p.m.

Planting to Attract Wildlife — a slide presentation and group discussion regarding the beneficial woody plants, will be held Saturday at 1 p.m.

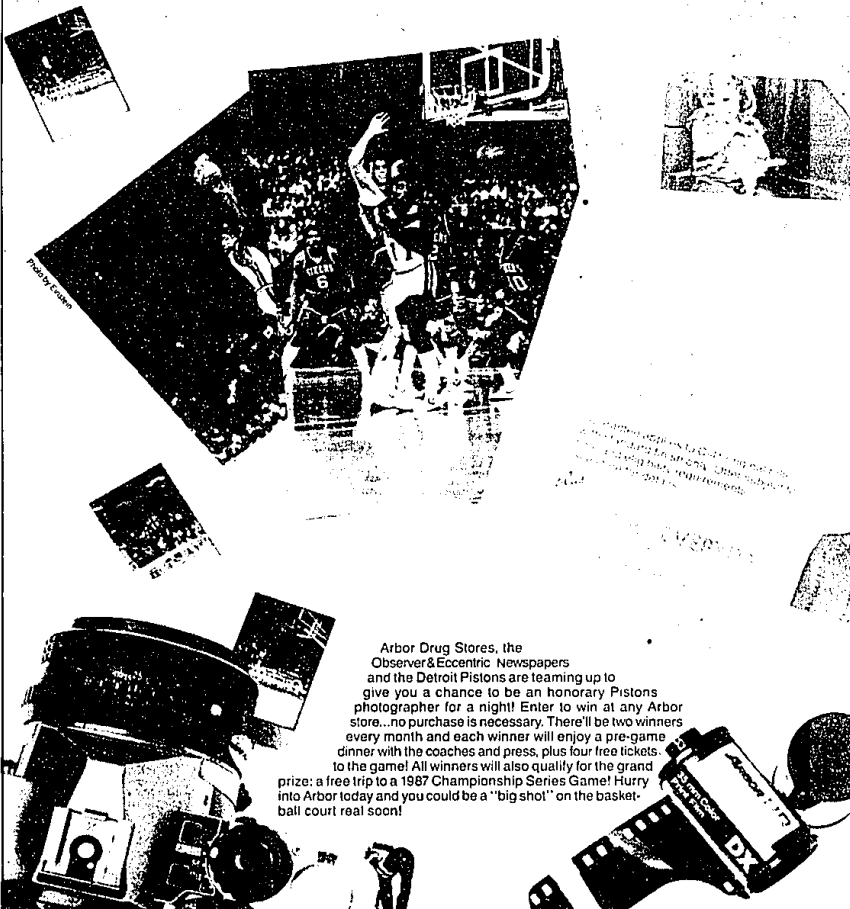
Early Spring Birds — a hike through the park in search of migrating birds, will be held Sunday at 10 a.m.

It's Spring — an afternoon walk in search of signs of spring, will be held Sunday at 2 p.m.

#### INDIAN SPRINGS

Owl Fowl — a slide presentation and a walk through the park in search of owls, will be offered Saturday at 7 p.m.

# TAKE A SHOT AT BEING A DETROIT PISTONS PHOTOGRAPHER!



Arbor Drug Stores, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and the Detroit Pistons are teaming up to give you a chance to be an honorary Pistons photographer for a night! Enter to win at any Arbor store...no purchase is necessary. There'll be two winners every month and each winner will enjoy a pre-game dinner with the coaches and press, plus four free tickets to the game! All winners will also qualify for the grand prize: a free trip to a 1987 Championship Series Game! Hurry into Arbor today and you could be a "big shot" on the basketball court real soon!

THE TWELVE TWICE WEEKLY  
Observer & Eccentric  
NEWSPAPERS



ARBOR  
DRUG CENTER  
A NEW KIND OF DRUGSTORE

TWA  
Thomas Cook Travel U.S.A.