

Hawks Top Floundering Scouts

By Steve Marantz
A Member of the Sports Staff

It doesn't take an English major to write that the Scouts were bad in losing, 6-3, to the Black Hawks last night at Kemper Arena.

But a dictionary might be useful in assessing the depth of the Scouts' futility, as described by Professor Robin Burns, sometime left wing.

"An entanglement of troubles," said Burns, for starters.

The Scouts have not won in 16 straight games. Last night they tied the club record for winless games they set earlier this season, by all measures a true entanglement of something.

"A spontaneous nurturing of the fruits of disappointment," continued Burns.

An apt appraisal. Chicago ripped for four goals in the second period. One of them was a 50-foot bouncer by Cliff Koroll that fooled goalie Denis Herron on the short hop. As Herron goes, so go the Scouts.

"A demented departure from the reality of hockey," said Burns, concluding his lecture.

Really, now, that's going a little too far. After all, the Scouts played a tough first period, although they fell behind, 1-0. And after the second period, they came back with a strong third. Wonder of wonder, they outshot Chicago, 35-27. Not bad against a team that played with play-off intensity.

Chicago assured itself of retaining first place in the Smythe Division regardless of the result of the Vancouver Canucks' West Coast game against Detroit.

Koroll, Hawks right wing, scored the first goal of the night and added two more in the second period to complete a hat trick.

His first score resulted from a shrewd set-up by center Stan Mikita, who took a rebound of Dale Tallon's blast and slid it across the crease to Koroll on the right. Herron had no chance to stop the power-play goal.

Early in the second period Koroll sent a meek, bouncing shot at Herron from 50 feet out on the right boards. Herron missed the bounce and allowed

the bad goal. Alain Daigle soon followed on a power play, whipping a wrist shot straight down the slot past a screened Herron and putting the Hawks up, 3-0.

The Scouts tallied 16 seconds after Daigle's goal. Dave Hudson, giving a strong performance in contrast to most of his teammates, sent a slapper at goalie Tony Esposito from the left circle. The shot hit the left post and trickled under Esposito's legs, giving Hudson his 10th goal of the season.

Koroll hit for No. 3 at 12:25 as he and defenseman Bob Murray caught the Scouts backcheckers asleep. Murray sent a centering pass to Koroll at the Kansas City blue line and Koroll popped in an easy 5-footer. Pit Martin made it 5-1 on a similar play, taking a pass from J. P. Bordeleau.

Guy Charron and Craig Patrick scored for the Scouts in the third period, while Ivan Boldirev countered for Chicago. Charron's goal was his 27th of the season, setting a club mark shared last season—the Scouts' first—

by Wilf Paiement and Simon Nolet.

Summary

FIRST PERIOD

Scoring: 1. C—Koroll 19 (Mikita, Tallon) 15:11.

Penalties: C—Tallon (holding) 4:28; C—Russell (elbowing) 7:44; KC—Armason (tripping) 14:25.

SECOND PERIOD

Scoring: 2. C—Koroll 20 (Mikita) 2:28. 3. C—Daigle 13 (Boldirev, Martin) 5:12. 1. KC—Hudson 10 (Boucha, Patterson) 5:28. 4. C—Koroll 21 (Murray, Mikita) 12:25. 5. C—Martin 24 (Bordeleau, Rota) 14:17.

Penalties: KC—Johnston (high-sticking) 3:39.

THIRD PERIOD

Scoring: 2. KC—Charron 27 (Burns, Bergman) :30. 6. C—Boldirev 27 (Hull) 4:01.

3. KC—Patrick 13 (Hudson, Boucha) 11:32. Penalties: C—Russell (tripping) 16:29; C—Russell (holding) 18:45.

CHICAGO	1	4	1—	6
KANSAS CITY	0	1	2—	3

Shots on goal: Chicago (against Herron) 9-12-6—267, Kansas City (against Esposito) 6-11-18-35.

Attendance: 6,676.