

# Cougars, Sharks at Amphitheatre

By Don Edwalds

Still plagued by their inability to come up with three good periods of hockey, the Chicago Cougars prepared to meet the Los Angeles Sharks Saturday night in their second home game of the season at the Amphitheatre. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

Coach Marcel Pronovost put the team through a sharp workout Friday morning at the Arlington Ice Spectrum, taking some comfort in the fact that at least the Cougars are still unbeaten at home (one game, one victory).

"Lack of conditioning is our biggest problem," Pronovost has said throughout the early stages of the season. Friday he said again, "I'm trying to get in as much ice time as possible."

"This is going to be a very good team when we're in condition and get everything put together."

Bobby Whitlock, who has the team's hardest shot and leads in goals with five, had said after Tuesday's game in which he scored two goals, "We always seem to have one bad period or part of a period. The last two games it's been the first period. We've got to overcome that."

Wednesday night at Boston it was the third period as the Cougars simply ran out of steam to let the Whalers win 4-2 going away.

Saturday's Amphitheatre opponent, the Sharks, are Chicago's only road victim, bowing 4-2 Oct. 22. Los Angeles was riding a three-game win string at the time and figured the then winless Cougars would be no trouble.

But the Cougars, aided by Jimmy McLeod's great goaltending, skated into the winner's circle for the first time.

Coach Terry Slater's Sharks, like the Cougars are blessed with fine goaltending. They've been getting superlative work out of Russ Gillow, who through last Sunday's game was among the league's leading netminders with a 2.72 goals-against average.

McLeod almost matches that proficiency for the Cougars, yielding goals at a 3.27 per game pace.

Top pointman for Los Angeles is Bart Crashley, ex of the NHL's Red Wings, who has six goals and nine points. J. P. LeBlanc is next with eight and Gary Veneruzzo has seven.

Reggis Fleming is tops for the Cougars with eight points, followed by Jan Popiel seven, and Bob Sicinski and Whitlock, six apiece.

**CROSSCHECKS** — The news is bad on defenseman Dick Proceviat, injured Tuesday in a collision along the boards in the third period. Dick suffered a fracture of the tip of the left clavicle (collarbone) and will be out six to eight weeks.

The Cougars spin out on another quickie trip to Quebec, Sunday for their first look at the ultra-trench Nordiques. Then it's back to the Amphitheatre Tuesday to host the Houston Aeros. Next Saturday the Cleveland Crusaders will be in town.

## BIG TEN

	Conference			Season		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Michigan	4	0	0	7	0	0
Ohio State	4	0	0	6	0	0
Purdue	4	0	0	4	3	0
Michigan State	2	1	1	2	4	1
Indiana	2	2	0	4	3	0
Wisconsin	1	3	0	3	4	0
Minnesota	1	3	0	1	6	0
Iowa	1	3	1	2	4	1
Northwestern	1	4	0	2	5	0
Illinois	0	4	0	0	7	0

### SATURDAY'S GAMES

Illinois at Northwestern, Dyche Stadium, p.m.  
Michigan at Indiana.  
Iowa at Wisconsin.  
Purdue at Michigan State.  
Minnesota at Ohio State.

### Other Games

Notre Dame at Navy.  
Northern Illinois at Toledo.