

The BASH

THE BNEI AKIVA SCHOOLS HEADLINES

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THAT'S A WRAP!

REFLECTING ON A SCHOOL YEAR THAT... WAS



Making Predictions: NHL Playoffs

AHARON TORCZYNER

Making predictions in sports is always fun because you get to learn how wrong you are. Making predictions about *playoffs* teaches you that, multiplied by ten. Making predictions about playoffs that are going to start in a couple of weeks will make you so wrong, you will drown in wrongness. But I'm up to the task. Here are eight predictions of what will happen during the Stanley Cup Playoffs. Note: This article was written before the end of the regular season.

1. Stanley Cup favourite Colorado Avalanche squeaks by the Minnesota Wild

This upset would be huge if it happened. Both teams have clinched playoff spots, but Colorado has been a dominant team, only losing two games in a row twice, and through 46 games they haven't lost three games in a row. Minnesota wasn't expected to make the playoffs this year. Most teams predicted they would be middle of the pack, finishing above LA and Anaheim, but San Jose and Arizona would fight it out for a playoff spot, while Minnesota would grind through another year of a rebuild. But because of great performances from rookies Kirill Kaprizov (who is a candidate for Rookie of the Year) and Kaapo Kahkonen (winning 14 of his 21 games) the Wild look like a contender. Add to that the way they've gone 3-5 against Colorado this year, and they look like they could win a best of 7 series. The downside is that Colorado is stacked at every position. At forward they have the 3rd, 5th, and 25th leading scorers in the league. On defense, they are led by all-star defensemen Cale Makar and Bowen Byram. In the net, it's a bit unstable, but their starting goalie Philipp Grubauer is expected back for the playoffs, and they brought on an experienced backup in former Wild goalie Devan Dubnyk. They should beat Minnesota. However, weird things have happened in Minnesota, and anything can happen in the playoffs.

2. Connor McDavid lights up the Winnipeg Jets in Game 1 with ten points

McDavid has been doing ridiculous things this season – end-to-end goals, unbelievable stretch passes – but this

record will be better than any regular-season highlight reel. At this pace, McDavid is on track for 99 points in a 56-game shortened season. In a full 82 game season, he would score 141 points at his current pace. Right now, he and the leading scorer from 2019-20, Leon Draisaitl, have been playing on separate lines, but if head coach David Tippett decides to pair him with Draisaitl, he could break 120. The Oilers captain has only made it into the playoffs once, in his second year in the league. He desperately wants to get back, and now he is surrounded by better players, and he has more experience in the league. The current record for points in a playoff game is eight, set by Mario 'The Magnificent' Lemieux, back in 1989. Now, 32 years later, I predict that the record will be broken.

3. The Tampa Bay Lightning defeat the Florida Panthers, Alex Barré-Boulet scores triple-overtime winner

At this point in the NHL season, the Tampa Bay Lightning are scheduled to face the Florida Panthers; the first time the two Florida teams have met in the playoffs. Adding on to this, it's the first time the Panthers and Lightning have been at the same level, since 1994, after Tampa Bay's second season and Florida's first. The two teams have been even in the regular season as well, each winning three and losing three. The two teams play each other twice to end the season. The reason I would pick Barré-Boulet to win the game is that Tampa has had so much success, drafting players in



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the late rounds and getting great value for them. Alex Killorn was picked up in the 3rd round and has played 600 games for them, and Mark Barberio, a 6th rounder, has played 200+ games. There is also Ondřej Palát (5th round), Cedric Paquette (4th), and Brayden Point (3rd), who have all played at least 300 games for the Lightning and have played top-line minutes at times during their respective careers with the Bolts. So why not add Barré-Boulet, who was *undrafted*, to that list? He has two goals in nine games. He is still getting better. Tampa is just good at drafting and developing and it would be very fitting that the player who would win the series for the Lightning wouldn't be a first-round pick, but an undrafted player.

4. Colorado faces off against Vegas in the second round – and loses.

This is the series in the Western conference that everyone is waiting for. These are two teams that are top of the league (Colorado 7th, Vegas 2nd), and both had big summers preparing for post-season success. Vegas signed the big free agent from St. Louis, Alex Pietrangelo, and re-signed goaltender Robin Lehner. Colorado acquired some important depth players, such as Brandon Saad and defenseman Devon Toews, and re-signed depth forwards such as André Burakovsky and Valeri Nichushkin. These two teams are very even, but I have to pick a winner, so I am going with Las Vegas. This could go either way, but Vegas has stronger goaltending with two quality starters, Marc-André Fleury and Robin Leh-

ner. Colorado, as discussed above, doesn't have this same depth at goaltending, and I think that could be a factor. But the series is going to be a long one.

5. Leafs blow a 4-1 lead in game 7 against Montreal – but win 5-4 in Overtime

In 2013, the Leafs, who weren't originally supposed to make the playoffs when the season began, were playing the Boston Bruins, who had won the cup only two years before. The Bruins had a 3-1 series lead, but Toronto forced Boston to a game 7. Entering the last ten minutes of the game, the Leafs had a 4-1 lead, but they blew it in the last ten minutes and the Bruins won 5-4 in overtime on a goal by Patrice Bergeron. This time, the Leafs will still blow a three-goal lead, but they will hold on to win it in overtime. The player who I predict to score the winner? Nathan Horton, who was on the Bruins in 2013. Technically he is unavailable to play, but when he hears that the Leafs are playing the Canadiens in Game 7, he'll be ready.

6. Marc-André Fleury destroys Alex Ovechkin's cup hopes... again

These two teams met in the Stanley Cup Final three years ago, with Ovechkin winning his first Stanley Cup, after defeating Vegas 4-1 in the series. This year, though, things are different. The Caps still have the same core, but they are facing a team that has upgraded in net (Robin Lehner), on defense (all-around defender Alex Pietrangelo), and with forwards (50-point player Mark Stone, 30-goal player Max Pacioretty). The Golden Knights are just too good to lose. They've boosted their offense and can still grind down the other team. It is possible they will lose; Ovechkin is definitely the best goal scorer since Wayne Gretzky and possibly the best of all time, and he has a good team around him, but I would still pick the Golden Knights.

7. Tampa takes down Toronto in the Conference Final

This is an exciting matchup because both teams are extremely fast, and both teams can score a ton of goals (both are top ten in goals scored this year). This is the prediction a lot of people had during the past couple of years. They

Memories of 2020-21

All the ice cream :)

— *Anonymous*

One of my favourite memories from grade twelve was being on the Lunch Committee with Daliah, Mikayla and Beca. We started calling ourselves the “Lunch Ladies” and it quickly caught on! We became the best lunch ladies in all Ulpana history. We made every teacher laugh with the notes we wrote on each lunch box, our French fry parties when Howie T’s sent dozens of extras, and our delivery service, despite it being in the job description! All three of us loved being in charge of lunches with Prof and can’t wait to see where this notable experience takes us!

— *Izzy Adler*

School speedrunning lockdown.

— *Ari Rothman*

I know this is totally controversial, but I really loved online schedule weeks. I was able to use my free time as mental health time which has proven to benefit me in more ways than one!

— *Anonymous*

I don’t have a specific memory, but I just loved all the unplanned times. And the countless Starbucks runs where some crazy fun things have happened.

— *Anonymous*

When school opened for ONE SINGLE DAY and then closed. I was like 95% sure the apocalypse was really starting...

— *Jordan Jesin*

I became best friends with someone who I don’t normally spend as much time with, my bed ;)

— *Danielle Konert*

As a life-long Nerd, Gamer and Fungineer (engineer of fun, not mushrooms), bringing the competitive fun of E-Sports to our students and coaching them throughout two seasons has been a true highlight of my life. I can’t believe this is part of my job!

— *Tani Reiss*

I came out to everyone as gay.

— *Malka Moshkovits*

Having the Grade 12 boys visit every Shabbat! We will miss you!!

— *Morah Efrat*

Seeing all the smiling faces during the Yom Ha’atzmaut drive by!

— *Anonymous*

figured that after Toronto beat Boston, they would play Tampa. Well, now it’s happened. I’m going to pick Tampa, not because they can score better, but because they have the experience of being past the first round in recent years and they’ve shown they can play at a high level with two of their superstars out (Steven Stamkos has been out for a couple of weeks and Kucherov hasn’t played this season). Even if both starting goalies get knocked out, I would go with the Lightning. The Leafs do have Jack Campbell, who set an NHL record of 10 wins in a row before recording a loss to start his season, versus the Lightning’s Curtis, who isn’t really a starter, but Tampa’s depth can out-duel Toronto’s better goaltending.

8. Tampa Versus Vegas in the Final

When I started writing this article, I didn’t know who I would pick to win the Cup, but I’m picking Vegas to reach the final because they have the most complete lineup. Tampa Bay can get the best out of their prospects as we said before, but Vegas has players who are just as good. Also, by the time you get to the Stanley Cup Final, both teams are going to be hit by injuries. If I had to pick either Marc-André Fleury or Curtis McElhinney, I would pick the more experienced Fleury over the platoon goalie McElhinney. I believe he could win the Bolts a game or two, but a series? I would have to pick Fleury. That’s why my Stanley Cup pick is the Vegas Golden Knights.

And there you have my predictions. As I said at the outset, I am ready to be wrong. Gotta love the NHL Playoffs!

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Thank you for reading the BASH this year! Click the covers to read past issues!



September 2020

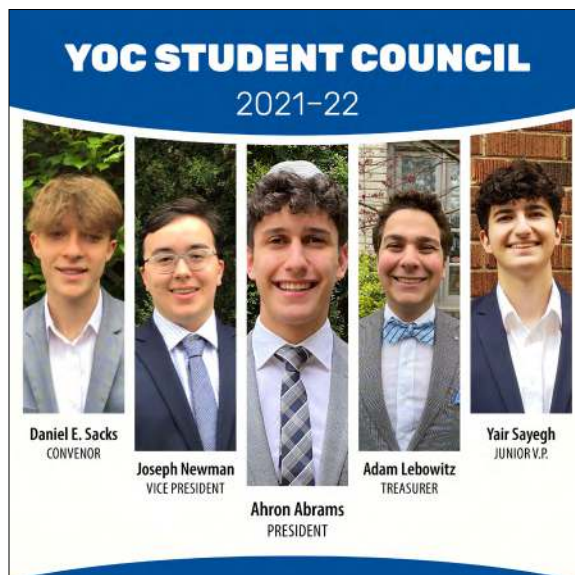


December 2020



March 2021

MAZAL TOV AND HATZLACHA RABBA TO THE INCOMING STUDENT COUNCILS!



yahoo!

answers bas edition

Hey! As some of you may know, Yahoo Answers is shutting down, and as a farewell to the entertaining site we've brought some of the best questions asked there for students to answer. Here are some of the submitted entries! Enjoy :)

In the TV show Friends what was the point of Ross? 13 answers

Anonymous

WE WERE ON A BREAK! JK he was the smart one of the group everyone ignored and were annoyed at.

Yael Abramovich

He was a friend.

Anonymous

No Ross = No iconic "We were on a break!" line. Plus, who else would get a monkey?

Anonymous

He was on a break

Anonymous

While Ross might not be the fan favourite character on Friends, the show would not be the same without him. I mean, can you really imagine the show without his nerdy love for dinosaurs, all his divorces, and of course his iconic "we were on a break" line? Ross might not be "all that", but the show would definitely not be the same without him. Just like the show wouldn't be Friends without any of the other characters, it would also not be the same without Ross.

Anonymous

He's literally just there, you can't change it unfortunately.

Rebecca

To balance out the R in the beginning of Rachel's name

Dr. Nadler

To remind us to pivot (obviously)!

Tani Reiss

He passively teaches us lessons, like the importance of wearing oven mitts, or the role of freshwater eel in self

defense. Haven't you ever wanted to put a moist-maker in your post-Thanksgiving sandwich?

Prof

Comedic relief. Watch the series and focus solely on Ross. He's probably the best comedic actor in terms of using his body/face for comic relief.

Anonymous

To have a character without a point.

Izzy Adler

He was a good Schwimmer!

What if one day the cows fight back? 14 answers

Anonymous

I'm more worried about the dolphins 🐬

Dovid Kark

We'll eat them

Anonymous

I really love cows, I think they're adorable, so if they fight back, I'll try and befriend them.

Anonymous

Um that'd be awkward

Dr. Nadler

Respect them!

Yael Abramovich

Free milk

Anonymous

Moo

Eli Yissar

Then at least all of humankind will have one common enemy and they can stop creating unnecessary problems.

Anonymous

Well. If they do, it'll be moo-st despicable

Tani Reiss

One day? It's already started! Methane

gas emissions contribute to ozone layer depletion, people...

Yoni Herman

We will die.

Anonymous

Either submit to their will or paint myself white and black and try to become their king

Did dragons live before, during, or after dinosaurs? 12 answers

Anonymous

After. They're still alive, how do you think there were dragons in Harry Potter?

Anonymous

After

Anonymous

AFTER during the '70s when we had kings and queens and sent their sons to fight dragons in another country so that they can marry the princess of that country

Anonymous

~in between~

Yael Abramovich

During

Anonymous

Same time. Dragons are also known as flying dinosaurs, duh.

Anonymous

Only in Barbie Movies

Rebecca

During and after, the dinosaurs were

killed by the dragons, then the dragons were killed by a comet (unlike the common misconception that the comet killed the dinosaurs)

Dr. Nadler

During

Tani Reiss

Depends on the type of dragon. American dragons tend to be feathered, like Quetzalcoatl, and likely died out with the dinosaurs. European dragons

are scaly and breath fire, which could never have existed. Asian dragons tend to be water based and there's no proof they are not still around, hiding in the deepest trenches of the ocean.

Prof

I don't believe in dragons. Except Puff the Magic Dragon

Dovid Kark

After dinosaurs, but before the aliens ate them all

How to make your parents think you found a lizard even though you bought it online? 7 answers

Anonymous

Do a magic show and make it appear

Anonymous

Depends how big it is...

Anonymous

Put it in your living room and hope you live in Florida

Anonymous

Throw it outside in a bush and pretend to find it next time you're outside. Don't

forget about it, though

Yael Abramovich

Put it in the tub and freak out and call over your family and say it came thru the pipes

Dr. Nadler

Too late, I told your parents.

Tani Reiss

Leave it in their bed, "save" it when they start screaming

I don't think I've ever seen a Toucan? 11 answers

Anonymous You can	Yael Abramovich On Froot Loops!	go to Brazil enough	Dr. Nadler Only on my box of Froot Loops; does that count?
Anonymous That's because you live in Canada	Anonymous Toucans are magical creatures; they fall on the scale with wizards and fairies	Anonymous I don't think so either?	Tani Reiss Obviously... cans are sold in 6 packs....
Anonymous True it's 'cause they live in Africa	Dovid Kark That is what happens when people don't	Anonymous Mazel Tov	Anonymous What about Toucan Sam?

Me and my friend both applied for the same job. He got the job, but I didn't. Can I sue Tov-Li? 10 answers

Anonymous I don't know, can you?	Anonymous Don't do it... but I don't doubt you could	Yael Abramovich No, just get free food	Anonymous Yes.
Tani Reiss You can try, but I don't think it's worth it... my friend got in line to sue them last month and he's still waiting for them to call him up...	Anonymous YES U CAN :)	Anonymous Yes, but only for poutine	Dovid Kark There are a whole bunch of other things you can sue Tov-Li for, don't worry.
	Anonymous Yes! That is discrimination, your friend really isn't your friend but your enemy.	Dr. Nadler Can't hurt to try...	

How do you eat a hot dog in a fancy way? 13 answers

Anonymous With a swoop of ketchup and a spritz of mustard	Anonymous With a fork and knife and a napkin on your lap	Rebecca Make the hot dogs into pigs in a blanket and eat it while in a blanket	hot dog. Us simple folk prefer more simplistic toppings
Anonymous You chop it up so you won't choke	Anonymous Make them into pigs in a blanket.	Anonymous Cut it with a knife and fork	Anonymous Call it a taco.
Tani Reiss Do you mean my bio-recycled sausage wrapped in an American-style mini baguette, topped with tomato aioli and mustard seed extract? ... probably with a fork and knife. That's fancy right?	Yael Abramovich You don't.	Dr. Nadler Alone	Izzy Adler Pinkie finger up!
	Anonymous With a pair of scissors	Prof All the toppings. I feel like fancy people put every possible condiment on their	Dovid Kark By putting it in a blender and having it as soup.

How deep inside an apple is the most nutrition? 12 answers

Anonymous The edges	Anonymous THE CORE, DUH!	Anonymous If you want to get technical, it's the seeds. But we don't eat that so... I guess birds get more nutrition than us. Is that why they can fly and we can't!?	Dr. Nadler It depends... how big is the apple?
Tani Reiss 3 clicks. Turn your Apple on, open up Safari, Google "nutrition"	Anonymous The seeds. If you eat them, a tree will grow in your stomach— what's more nutritious than that?		Prof I'll defer to Mr. Skarott
Anonymous Deep	Yael Abramovich The middle?	Anonymous The centre or the earth	Izzy Adler It's the skin!!! Don't go too deep
			Dovid Kark Wherever the worm is

Why can't we grow burgers in trees? 12 answers

Anonymous Because they grow underground, duh	burgers with leaves	Dr. Nadler Because then the Cows would certainly fight back	Anonymous Fast food places would go out of business.
Anonymous Because trees only make healthy food	Yael Abramovich The vegans did		Izzy Adler Cows like an open field.
Anonymous IDK, WE SHOULD THO!	Anonymous This sounds like a question the fighting cows would bring up.	Tani Reiss You can, but the cows can't really get a lot of exercise up there, so the meat tends to be lean. They enjoy the view though	Dovid Kark McDonald's makes sure we don't.
Anonymous We technically can. We can make vegan	Anonymous WAIT, WHAT?!		

The R + R Corner Mikayla Daniel

Book Name: *Caraval*
Author: Stephanie Garber
Rating: 10/10



Genre: Mystery/Fantasy
Favourite quote: “Some would probably call him a villain. Others would say his magic makes him closer to a god.”

If you like this, I recommend: *The Shadows Between Us* by Tricia Levenseller, *To Kill a Kingdom* by Alexandra Christo, and *Kingdom of the Wicked* by Kerri Maniscalco.

Summary: Scarlett Dragna is trapped on a little island with her abusive father, and in an arranged marriage. As her wedding day approaches, Scarlett loses hope that she’ll ever attend Caraval, an annual magical game filled with dark twists and turns, with all the participants competing for a one-in-a-million prize. To Scarlett’s surprise, after seven years of unanswered responses, she receives a letter from Legend, the mysterious mastermind behind the game. Scarlett and her sister Tella run away to the game with an unwanted person in tow. Scarlett falls headfirst into the world of Caraval, while heartbreak, cruel twists, love, and hidden motives are thrown at her in all directions. Scarlett forgets the first rule of Caraval: always remember, it’s only a game.

Book Name: *The Young Elites*
Author: Marie Lu
Rating: 9/10
Genre: Fantasy



Favourite quote: “Everyone has darkness inside them, however hidden.”

If you like this, I recommend: *Shadow and Bone* by Leigh Bardugo, *Renegades* by Marissa Meyer, and *An Ember in the Ashes* by Sabaa Tahir

Summary: Adelina, Enzo and Teren. Three different lives, struggles and upbringings – but two encountered a deadly plague and survived. They suffered and came out (mostly) unscathed, ending up with some powerful and fearsome gifts. These survivors are called the Young Elites, a band of anonymous teenage superheroes. Adelina, the daughter of a cruel man with a sort of darkness inside her, is stuck on who to believe. Teren, the King’s loyal servant, has dedicated his life to exterminating these Elites; he thinks them to be evil, dangerous and unnatural. Enzo is the leader of the popular and mysterious Dagger Society, a group of powerful Young Elites. Their stories collide, throwing them into a game of deceit, betrayal, and danger.

Book Name: *Circe*
Author: Madeline Miller
Rating: 10/10



Genre: Historical/Fantasy
Favourite quote: “I would say, some people are like constellations that only touch the earth for a season.”

If you like this, I recommend: *The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue* by V.E Schwab, *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Jenkins Reid, *The Song of Achilles* by Madeline Miller, and any mythology series by Rick Riordan.

Summary: The complaint department is wide open for Circe; the strange and plainer daughter of Helios the titan, Circe has been given the short end of the stick at every point of her life. Underestimated and belittled by everyone in her life, Circe begins to believe their nasty comments – until she discovers witchcraft. Feeling a threat, Zeus banishes Circe to her own island to live in exile – where some of the most widely known Greek stories spring from. Her powers range from turning men into pigs, women into literal monsters, to the power to influence nature. Torn between the worlds of gods and mortals, Circe must decide where she belongs.

Book Name: *American Royals*
Author: Katherine McGee
Rating: 10/10

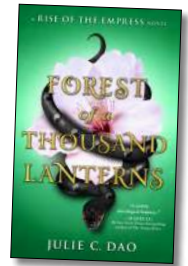


Genre: Fiction
Favourite quote: “It was so much easier to break an arm than to break your heart. Hearts didn’t heal themselves. Hearts didn’t remake themselves stronger than before.”

If you like this, I recommend: *The Royal We* by Jessica Morgan, and *Royals & Her Royal Highness* by Rachel Hawkins.

Summary: Imagine a world with no President of America; instead, a King, or a Queen Regent. Princess Beatrice Washington – the heir – is hesitant about her future looming above her. How will the people of America react? Will they accept her? While she is fighting with herself on what to do, along comes another problem – her feelings. Beatrice has fallen in love with someone who is ABSOLUTELY off-limits. *American Royals* thrusts the reader into the world of teenage friends and relationships, growing up, and loss.

Book Name: *Forest of a Thousand Lanterns*
Author: Julie C. Dao
Rating: 11/10



Genre: Fantasy
Favourite quote: “She was a monster, a bride of the darkness, and she rose to face her destiny as though it were the blood-red sunrise of a new day.”

If you like this, I recommend: *Crescent City* by Sarah J. Maas, *Soundless* by Richelle Mead, and *Girls of Paper and Fire* by Natasha Ngan.

Summary: Xifeng uses her beauty to further her agenda. Otherwise, how will she fulfill her destiny as future Empress of Feng Lu, hidden away in the slums of Nowheresville living with her witchy aunt? Hiding a dark secret, Xifeng runs away with Wei, the boy who loves her (although she does not love him as much as he does her). On the basis of believing in tarot cards, Xifeng treks across Feng Lu with Wei and some unexpected company in tow, encountering demons, assassins, and petty ladies, all while trying to keep her secrets, well, secret.

Book Name: *Throne of Glass*
Author: Sarah J. Maas
Rating: 11/10
Genre: Fantasy



Favourite quote: “You could rattle the stars,” she whispered. “You could do anything, if only you dared. And deep down, you know it, too. That’s what scares you most.”

If you like this, I recommend: *A Court of Thorns and Roses* by Sarah J. Maas, *From Blood and Ash* by Jennifer L. Armentrout, and *Serpent and Dove* by Shelby Mahurin

Summary: Celaena Sardothien isn’t afraid of anyone. Even if she was, she’d personally assassinate them before they could even think of her – Celaena’s THAT good. Unfortunately, she’s been in Endovier, a labour prison, for the past year. If you thought of hiring her, well, you’re out of luck; the Crown Prince, Dorian, basically kidnaps her before her sentence is up. The offer? Compete to become the King’s Assassin, and if Celaena wins, she’s free – on the condition that she serves the crown for four years. Celaena stumbles upon a murder, which turns her world upside down – and makes it a little more exciting.

Disclaimer: Books mentioned and recommended reflect the individual taste of the reviewer and are not officially endorsed by the school.

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Staff Advisor: Mr. Eric Saltsman
Editors-In-Chief: Chaim Sitnik, Chaim Straus, Rena Torczyner, Eli Yissar
Contributors: Ahron Abrams, Izzy Adler,

Mia Beldeb, Yonatan Benjamin, Liora Benmurgui, Adam Lebowitz, Arielle Mayer, Binyamin Mazin, Noah Berger, Reena Bernstein, Mikayla Daniel, Aliya Moyal, Emma Muscat, Joseph Newman, Aleeza Deutsch, Bailey Feintuch, Shalom Feuer, Elianna Perlmutter, Michael Roberts, Shimi Rothman, Aharon Torczyner, Lir Yissar, Orel Zvi