Eyes on the prize

No. 1 Michigan

The powers that be ...

2002-03 record: 19-5-4 CCHA, 24-5-10 overall (1st place)
USCHO poll: 1
Key words: Alaskan (3), Bowling Green (1), Notre Dame (3)
No. 2 Michigan State

2002-03 record: 18-6-4 CCHA, 26-7-5 overall (3rd place)
USCHO poll: 9
Key words: Northern Michigan (2), Bowling Green (2) and Lake Superior State (2)

Why the Wildcats can win:

- The Cinderella slipper is in coach Dave Poulin's closet. But does it fit?
- Why the Nanooks can win:

- No. 7 Ohio State

2002-02 record: 13-11-8 overall (2-1-1-1 ECC, 10-12-7-4 CCHA, 16-16-5 overall (T-7th place)
USCHO poll: 10
Key words: Michigan State (2), Tech (2), RIT and Bowling Green (1)
Bad losses: Ohio State (2), Michigan (2), Alaska-Fairbanks (2), Minnesota-Duluth, North Dakota, Notre Dame, Bowling Green (2), St. Cloud and Nebraska-Omaha (2)

Why the Buckeyes can win:

- Each June, the Buckeyes return to the world of college hockey on the weekend of Oct. 4-5. Whether or not the Buckeyes return to the NCAA Tournament after their disappointing season last year, this season is another chance to win the hockey world. The Buckeyes have already made the championship game twice this season, including a win over No. 7 Ohio State, which is an important step in winning the championship.

Living with the prize

No. 3 Northern Michigan

2002-02 record: 15-9-4 CCHA, 13-14-4 overall (3rd place)
USCHO poll: 11
Key words: Michigan, Alaska-Fairbanks (2), Cornell and Western Michigan (1)
Bad losses: Ohio State (3), Michigan State (2), Bowling Green, Miami (2), Ferris State (1), Minnesota-Duluth, Bowling Green (1), Lake Superior State (1)

Why the Wildcats can win:

- They are a very good team with a lot of talent. The Wildcats have a lot of players who can score, and they have a lot of experience. They have played well this season, and they have a good chance of winning the title.

Why the Fighting Irish can win:

- Why the Nanooks can win:

- No. 4 Alaska-Fairbanks

2002-02 record: 17-14-1 overall (4th place)
USCHO poll: 12
Key words: Michigan, Lake Superior State (3), Union (2), Cornell and Maine (2)
Bad losses: Ohio State (2), Michigan, Bowling Green, Miami (2), Western Michigan (1), Northern Michigan (1), St. Cloud (1), Lake Superior State (1) and Nebraska-Omaha (2)

Why the Buckeyes can win:

- Each June, the Buckeyes return to the world of college hockey on the weekend of Oct. 4-5. Whether or not the Buckeyes return to the NCAA Tournament after their disappointing season last year, this season is another chance to win the hockey world. The Buckeyes have already made the championship game twice this season, including a win over No. 7 Ohio State, which is an important step in winning the championship.

Living with the prize

No. 8 Notre Dame

2002-02 record: 18-10-4 overall (2-1-1-1 ECC, 19-15-6 overall (7th place)
USCHO poll: 14
Key words: Michigan (2), Cornell and Western Michigan (1)
Bad losses: Ohio State (2), Bowling Green, Miami (2), Ferris State (2) and Yale

Why the Fighting Irish can win:

- They are a very good team with a lot of talent. The Fighting Irish have a lot of players who can score, and they have a lot of experience. They have played well this season, and they have a good chance of winning the title.