

# Pronovost confident Canada is a winner

PHAGUE (CP) — "I'm with a winner and it's not normal for me." Jean Pronovost said with a smile as Team Canada arrived in Czechoslovakia on Friday for its first warmup for the world hockey championship which starts next Wednesday.

Pronovost, the 32-year-old right winger who scored 40 goals of the National Hockey League this year but said he missed the Pittsburgh Penguins miss the Stanley Cup playoffs, was pleased with the fact that Canada had left Sweden with two wins.

And although he didn't say it, there was no doubt he was one of the main reasons Canada defeated Sweden 5-1 and 4-0, a contrast with last year when the best the Canadian team could do there was a 3-3 tie.

Pronovost has played on a regular line with Marcel

Dionne of Los Angeles Kings and Pat Hickey of New York Rangers. Pronovost and Hickey have been the Canadians' No. 1 penalty killing forward tandem, and Pronovost has been used on the power play although Dionne has had only four sessions with a man advantage.

Pronovost said he enjoys the heavy workload because he loves to skate and feels he's the best player on the team.

**LIKES HIS STYLE**

"The style they play in Europe is my style. They give you more room to operate and you can do a lot of things — zigzag, come back — that's my game."

Pronovost, who played on last year's team which finished fourth, said there are similarities between the two teams.

"But the big difference is

that everybody here is going to play. Last year we had too many guys and there was a little disenchantment when they had to cut 10 guys."

This year's team is younger and faster and Pronovost says he's convinced it will pull a upset.

"I think that if everybody takes care of himself and if we play together as a team we're going to win a medal. I don't know which one but I hope it's the gold."

Team Canada, which plays an exhibition game against the Czechs on Tuesday night and meets the B team Sunday afternoon, spent most of the last 48 hours traveling between Göteborg, Sweden and Prague, mainly the result of a long delay in departure from Copenhagen aboard a Czechoslovakian turbo-jet.

Players who hadn't been to this country before were a bit surprised to discover they were celebrities. Autograph hunters followed them right on the heels of a vehicle which for some unexplained reason had a Toronto Windshield sticker on its windshield.

A minor hitch in plans was averted when the team was told they were scheduled to practice at 3 p.m. Today just five hours before the game that will be the major test of their exhibition series.

During the trip, Howell an general manager Bill Waters promptly vetoed the idea and asked for a 10 a.m. time. And a few team officials wondered if the later practice was being assigned deliberately to ensure the Canadians would be tired for the game.

Not that it would really matter. This is a youthful squad — average age 28 — and they've played the Atlantic, practice once and then soundly defeated Sweden in a five-hour marathon.

Atlanta Flames center Tom Lysiak and singles were extended of his left Achilles tendon on Tuesday, was still limping a little. He missed Thursday night's game but will play today.

Atlanta also will get its sixth defenseman, Dennis Kearns of Vancouver Canucks, on Sunday when he arrives from Canada as a replacement for injured Dave Maloney of the Rangers.

# Baby's arrival lifts Whalers

The Canadian Press The turning point in the fourth game of their best of seven World Hockey Association playoff game Friday night with Edmonton Oilers came about an hour before it started.

That was when Mark Howe burst into the dressing room

yelling that his wife, Ginger, had given birth to their first son — a boy.

The baby had been several days overdue and his arrival clearly gave the Whalers a large dose of enthusiasm, which carried them to a 9-1 victory over the Oilers in one of three quarter-final contests.

The baby's arrival made Gordie Howe, the father of the club and Marty, the only grandfather active as a player in the history of professional hockey. He celebrated by producing a goal and an assist while Mark had two assists and Marty won a decision in a first-period fight with Brett Callaghan of the Oilers.

The victory left New England with a 3-1 lead in the best-of-seven series, allowing the club to keep pace with Winnipeg Jets and Quebec Nordiques.

Winnipeg whipped Birmingham Bulls 5-1 and Quebec beat Houston Aeros 4-1 as each winning team moved within one victory of a berth in the playoffs round.

**GORDIE SCORED EARLY**

Gordie Howe scored on an early power play part of New England's opening burst of three goals in two minutes and 48 seconds. Dave Keon led the Oilers in scoring with two goals in the second period. The two combined to make 25 saves.

The teams resume action tonight, with all games in the series scheduled for here.

# Kimberley captures first game

KIMBERLEY B.C. (CP) — Glen Walton scored two goals Friday night to lead Kimberley Dynamiters to a 2-1 win over Brandon Olympics in the opening game of the best-of-seven series for the Western Canada senior hockey championship.

Kimberley's Jeff Abbott and Brandon's John Dell traded first-period goals, but the Dynamiters fired four unanswered goals in the second period to take a 3-1 lead into the final frame.

Allan Fleck, Barry Cummins and Gene Strate scored the other Kimberley goals, while Roy McLachlan and John Borosak completed the Brandon scoring. The Oilers' goals were scored on the power play.

Blaine Peterson started in goal for Brandon, but was replaced by Wayne Wilhelm after Kimberley's first goal by Strate at 11:44 of the second period. The two combined to make 25 saves.

The teams resume action tonight, with all games in the series scheduled for here.

Mike Antonovich was the offensive leader with three goals and two assists while Keon had a goal and three assists. Larry Pleau, Steve Carlson and Larry Bouduc completed scoring for the Whalers.

Dennis Sobush rebounding from a severe shoulder injury, scored Edmonton's goal on a first-period power play.

# Veeps clinch Clippers

PENTICTON, B.C. (CP) — Penticton Veeps doubled Nanaimo Clippers 4-1 Friday night to take a 2-0 game lead in the best-of-seven British Columbia Junior Hockey League final.

The teams were tied 1-1 after the first period, but the Veeps had widened the gap to 3-1 after 40 minutes of play.

The Clippers led the ice for five minutes in the second period to dispute a Penticton goal by Ron Vincent. They were given the Veeps penalties, but the Veeps were unable to score with Nanaimo short-handed.

Terry Olson and Kevin Maxwell scored two each for Penticton in the second period. Darcy Lingham, who was extended of his left Achilles tendon on Tuesday, was still limping a little. He missed Thursday night's game but will play today.

Atlanta also will get its sixth defenseman, Dennis Kearns of Vancouver Canucks, on Sunday when he arrives from Canada as a replacement for injured Dave Maloney of the Rangers.

# Player in lead at Houston Open

HOUSTON (AP) — His father-in-law once got down on his knees and begged Gary Player to change his putting style to overhand his style.

He once overheard him uttering, "How in hell did he win tournaments with that kind of job?"

So, some three weeks ago, the little South African changed his putting style. The results have been spectacular.

He came from seven shots back at the Masters and won his ninth major title. The following week he came from seven shots back again, this time winning the Tournament of Champions.

# CENTS ALLOWED TO PLAY

KAMLOOPS, B.C. (CP) — Merritt Centennials of the British Columbia Junior Hockey League were granted an injunction in provincial court Friday allowing them to continue playing in the Centennial Cup semi-final series free of suspension.

The Centennials were recently suspended by the CJC Amateur Hockey Association when they played Calgary Canucks of the Alberta Junior Hockey League in a Centennial Cup quarter-final series.

During the series, Calgary was under suspension by the Alberta Amateur Hockey Association.

Merritt won the series and will play the Centennial Cup semi-final on Friday.

Judge Pat Dohm set the injunction for seven days.

"I'd like to find out what a penalty really is," Arbour said.

# GOALIE ALSO UPSET

Islanders' netminder Glenn Resch was just as upset.

"We aren't going to gripe, but for heavens sake let the refs better lay down the rules right now."

"You can't concentrate on the puck because guys run into you with their sticks up."

Toronto coach Roger Neilson was happy with the work furnished by his club in the physical aspect, and said it was the deciding factor in the contest.

"That's what we've being doing the whole series so when we win with the checking we like to think that's what won it for us."

"We have to keep on hitting," he continued. "I think it's been a tough series and the players have been throwing good hard checks. We think we've a better checking team as compared to the Islanders."

# NHL TOP TEN

	G	A	P
MacLellan, Phil	4	2	7
Gerre, Bob	3	4	7
O'Reilly, Bob	3	4	7
Torrealba, Mike	3	5	8
Nesomansky, Dell	2	5	7
Curry, Bill	3	3	6
McNab, Bob	3	3	6
McCarthy, Bill	2	3	5
R. Martin, Bill	2	3	5
Stiller, Tom	1	3	4
Ridibson, Earl	1	3	4
Woods, Del	0	5	5

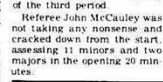
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ROGER NEILSON — physical out of action for the majority of the third period. Referee John McAuley was not taking any nonsense and cracked down from the start, assessing 11 minors and two majors in the opening 20 minutes of the third period.

The Black Hawks pulled goalie Tony Esposito with 40 seconds left in regulation play and 13 seconds later, Cliff Kocum joined in the tying goal to send the game into overtime. John Wenstrik scored twice for the Bruins in the first period with Terry O'Reilly getting the other in the third. Stan Mikita scored at 15:43 of the second period with Grant Muirvey getting the second Chicago goal at 13:04 of the third.

# MAJOR LEAGUE BIBLE ROUND-UP

AMERICAN LEAGUE				NATIONAL LEAGUE			
Team	W	L	Pct.	Team	W	L	Pct.
Detroit	7	3	.700	Philadelphia	7	4	.636
Boston	9	3	.750	Chicago	7	5	.583
Milwaukee	7	6	.538	New York	6	5	.545
New York	6	5	.545	Montreal	6	5	.545
Baltimore	5	7	.417	St. Louis	5	7	.417
Cleveland	4	9	.308	Pittsburgh	4	7	.364
Toronto	3	9	.250				
<b>West</b>				<b>West</b>			
Kansas City	8	2	.800	Cincinnati	9	5	.643
Oakland	7	4	.636	Los Angeles	8	5	.615
California	4	6	.400	San Francisco	7	5	.577
Chicago	5	5	.500	Houston	7	5	.577
Minnesota	6	10	.375	San Diego	3	9	.250
Seattle	5	12	.294				
Texas	2	12	.143				
<b>Friday Results</b>				<b>Friday Results</b>			
Chicago 11 Toronto 2	Baltimore 2 Kansas City 1	Boston 9 Cleveland 2	Milwaukee 9 New York 2	California 2 Minnesota 2	Oakland 5 Seattle 3	Texas at Detroit 0-2 p.m.	Texas at Boston 0-2 p.m.
<b>Today's Probable Pitchers</b>				<b>Today's Probable Pitchers</b>			
Chicago (Wood 0-1) at Toronto (Jeter 0-1)	Baltimore (Wright 0-1) at Boston (Lindstrom 0-1)	Cleveland (Wise 0-1) at Boston (Lindstrom 0-1)	Milwaukee (Caldwell 0-0) at New York (Lindstrom 0-1)	California (Tanner 0-1) at Minnesota (Ericsson 2-1)	Seattle (Rice 0-1) at Toronto (Lindstrom 0-1)	Texas (Elliott 1-1) at Detroit (Rizema 2-1)	Chicago (Wright 0-1) at Baltimore (Erickson 1-1)
<b>Sunday Games</b>				<b>Sunday Games</b>			
Chicago at Toronto	Milwaukee at New York	California at Minnesota	Oakland at Seattle	Cleveland at Boston	Texas at Detroit	Philadelphia (Carroll 1-1) at Houston (1-0)	Montreal (Furcal 0-1) at St. Louis (1-0)
<b>San Francisco (1-1) at New York (1-1)</b>							
<b>San Diego (1-1) at Los Angeles (1-1)</b>							
<b>San Francisco (1-1) at Los Angeles (1-1)</b>							

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