

Cross Country Skiing

By BOB PLATT

The Silver Star trails are attracting skiers and each weekend more and more people making their way around the circuit.

Last Saturday was a red letter day, for the sunshine and radiant landscape was a sight to behold. Those fortunate enough to aid that day came back with glowing reports of stimulating runs on the high places and delightful gliding through a truly beautiful countryside. It was cold and mits were essential but this was forgotten as soon as one got moving.

Sunday saw a different scene, the weather changed to become cloudy and it snowed at times; however, many turned up to enter the classes being held on the lake and indeed, by noon this was thronged with skiers all keen to improve their technique. The North Okanagan Cross-Country Ski Club executive is appreciative of the excellent work up by the instructors in assisting those just taking up the sport and also in rectifying the faults of more experienced skiers.

SNOW NEEDED

The great need now is for more snow throughout the district to enable the program of events to take place. But in the meantime, the Star is providing a good training area and with the club's marathon open weeks away, the skiers are being strung together by those who wish to become physically fit and tune up the skiing muscles. The trails are holding up to this traffic and it is snow to fill in the holes and hollows. In this regard, it is again mentioned that dogs are not allowed in the park unless on a leash. They can damage a track so easily, apart from the risk of meeting a fat moving skier on a hill.

For those who prefer to go a more leisurely pace, there is much to see in this wilderness area and this week, the wildlife was almost unobtainable. The plumage nearly in the colour of the snow, was busy engaged in searching for insects in a stump on loop two and was oblivious to the approach of three skiers. The bird showed no fear of the human beings and even came closer before patting away over the snow. Squirrels were also abundant through the trees near the park and on the road, a Franklin grouse disrupted the right-of-way with a car.

GRUB JOB

The parks branch ranger is doing a magnificent job in the district and the club is very grateful for his attention to detail on the cross-country trails. He is supervising the lay-out in no uncertain manner and this will do much to make people appreciate this recreational area.

This Sunday, the clinics will go on at the Star, starting at noon. All are welcome to join for his practice that membership in the club is needed. With more than 200 people now enrolled, it seems this will be a bumper season for the North Okanagan Cross-Country Ski Club. So, let all look beehiving up to the heavens for bountiful falls of feathering rain.

WITHOUT A DEFEAT

Flayers stretch streak to 29 games

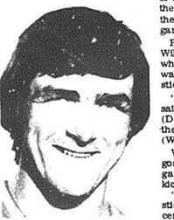
By NEIL STEVENS

The Bruins Free Press The Boston Garden is regarded by visiting teams as one of the most difficult National Hockey League rinks in which to escape with a point and that's where Philadelphia Flyers will find themselves Saturday afternoon as they attempt to set a league record by playing their 29th consecutive game without a loss.

The Flyers held the record of 28, set by the 1977-78 Montreal Canadiens, with their Tuesday night 1-1 draw against Pittsburgh Penguins.

And if the Flyers needed a reminder of how formidable their task will be Saturday, they need only look at the Garden crowd Thursday night with a 0-6 romp over Toronto Maple Leafs.

In one other game, Buffalo Sabres defeated Los Angeles Kings 6-1 in a game which saw Los Angeles left winger Charlie Simmer score a goal for the first time in nearly 50 years a player has scored in



PAT QUINN ... not important

that many games in succession.

Following the Flyers-Penguins game in the Spectrum, the Penguins instead Philadelphia's goal was illegal.

Behn Wilson, the victim of vicious booing for his lack

of scoring, was credited with the tying goal from in front of the net with 4:08 left in January 20, 1974.

Pittsburgh coach Johnny Wilson said the Flyers' goal, which came on a power play, was kicked in, not hit with a stick.

"He (Wilson) kicked it in," said Wilson. "The referee (Dave Newell) was standing there watching him (Wilson) kick it in."

Wilson, who had scored one goal this season entering the game, was booed by the Philadelphia fans.

Philadelphia coach Pat Quinn said tying the record was not important.

"I'm happy about it," he said. "But the only thing that is important is to win at the end of the season."

The Flyers streak appeared about to go down the drain until Dennis Verregette shot the puck across the crease to



GERRY CHEEVERS ... blanks Leafs

Wilson who caught goaltender Greg Miller hugging the short side.

Pittsburgh led 1-0 on a 55-foot goal by Ron Stackhouse at 11:30 of the first period.

The Flyers won their first start this season, lost Oct. 13 in Atlanta and have won 20 and tied eight of their last 28

games. The Penguins have not won in Philadelphia since Jan. 20, 1974.

Bruins 10 Leafs 0
Dick Redmond, Jean Ratelle and Peter McNab each scored two goals as Boston went on its biggest scoring binge of the season. Rick Smith, Al Secord, John Westall and Bob Miller were the other Boston scorers as the Bruins fired 41 shots at Mike Palmateer. The Leafs managed 18 at Gerry Cheevers.

Toronto coach Floyd Smith was in a sulen mood after the game.

"What can you say?" he asked. "I don't think we made two good passes all night. Everything we did was completely wrong. It wasn't Palmateer's fault."

Sabres 4 Kings 3
Danny Gare and Ric Seltzer scored two goals each and Derek Smith one for Buffalo. Besides Simmer's milestone goal, Los Angeles had goals from Randy Manery and Marcel Dionne, his 16th.

Simmer's goal leaves him

behind four players who have longer consecutive game scoring feats in the league record book. The record is shared by Harry (Punch) Broadbent of Ottawa Senators during the 1921-22 season. The first-period goal was Simmer's 20th of the year, a league high.

NHL		WALEES CONFERENCE	
Norris Division		W	T
W	T	P	P
Montreal	11	13	121
Los Ang	14	2	138
Edm	11	1	104
Calif	10	13	101
St. Louis	11	1	101
Winnipeg	11	1	101
Chicago	11	1	101
Quebec	13	5	107
Adams Division			
Buffalo	22	3	126
St. Paul	18	8	122
Albany	16	7	120
Toronto	15	11	111
Quebec	13	5	107
Patrick Division			
Winnipeg	20	9	132
Philadelphia	15	14	120
Atlanta	13	13	105
Washington	11	13	105
St. Louis	8	21	130
Smythe Division			
Vancouver	13	17	100
Chicago	10	11	84
Winnipeg	11	8	92
St. Louis	10	17	92
Colorado	9	19	92
Edmonton	7	19	102

Montreal Expos named as Canada's top team

By CHUCK SVORODA

CP Sports Editor

Montreal Expos, who wound up not winning anything except the adoration of Canadian baseball fans in 1978, are the runaway choice as Canada's team of the year.

The Expos' stirring battle with Pittsburgh Pirates in the National League East Division race earned the Montreal team almost half the first-place votes in the annual year-end poll of sports writers and sportswriters conducted by the Canadian Press.

A surprise second in the poll went to Vancouver's Whitecaps who knocked off former champion New York Cosmos in the North American Soccer League title.

Montreal Canadiens, who won their fourth consecutive National Hockey League title and were named team of the year the last two years, finished third in the balloting.

The Grey Cup champion

Edmonton Eskimos were fourth.

The Expos, who also were named team of the year in 1978, held the attention of Canadian baseball fans through most of the summer.

A loser through 10 previous seasons, the Montreal club took over first place in the NL East on June 12 and widened its lead to as much as 8 1/2 games as it stayed on top through July and early August.

After dropping behind, the Expos came back in early September to battle the Pirates until the final day of the season, with the lead changing hands six times in a two-week period.

One day during that stretch, Expos manager Dick Williams received a telegram from an Ottawa fan which read: "The Pirates have a city of supporters. You, sir, have an entire nation behind you."

In the end, the Expos lost their last game, the Pirates

won theirs and went on to claim the World Series. But it was a season the Expos and their fans will not soon forget.

The team finished with a winning average for the first time in its 11 seasons — 95 wins, 68 losses, a .584 average and just two games behind Pittsburgh in the final standings.

RECORD ATTENDANCE

The fans showed their appreciation by turning out in record numbers — a season total of 2,102,173 at Olympic Stadium.

The Montreal club claimed its 56th straight home win with 56 first-place votes, 44 seconds and 16 thirds from 128 ballots cast in the annual year-end poll.

The Whitecaps, who shocked the North American soccer community by knocking off the defending champion Cosmos in the semifinals before winning the league title 2-0 over Tampa Bay Rowdies, were second in the voting with 34 firsts, 31 seconds and 30 thirds.

Nanaimo sniper is right on target

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

John Newberry continued to make life miserable for the Columbus Juniors Thursday night as the Clippers' scoring machine counted three more goals to lead Nanaimo to a 10-5 doubling of Chilliwack Colts.

The scoring spurge ran

Oilers, Eagles favored Sunday

By HAL BOKR

The Associated Press

Chewing on caulk a substance that has been known to choke him now and then, the Pro Picker figures Sunday's National Football League playoff opener should go to the home teams.

And what's more, he'd like Houston over Denver in the American Conference and Philadelphia over Chicago in the National Conference, even if the Oilers and Eagles were on the road instead of at home.

The picks:

HOUSTON 24 DENVER 15. Even the Broncos' tough defence will be hard-pressed to control Earl Campbell, the NFL's rushing champion for the second straight year. Campbell is the first man in NFL history to gain more than 3,000 yards in his first two professional seasons.

The Broncos come into this game dragging after losses in their last two games to Seattle and San Diego. This will be their fourth straight game on the road and that won't help either.

PHILADELPHIA 38 CHICAGO 11. Give the nod to the Eagles by the length of a couple of Tony Franklin field

goals. Yes, we know Philadelphia gets cold in December, especially if you're not wearing one of your shoes, but Franklin's foot seems immune to dropping temperatures.

The game matches the NFL's two all-purpose yardage leaders, Wilbert Montgomery of the Eagles (2,012 yards, including 1,012 rushing) and Walter Payton (1,822 yards, including 1,010 rushing). Figuring that those two will balance each other, the difference has to come somewhere — like the kicking game, perhaps.

Selmon earns award

NEW YORK (AP) — Lee Roy Selmon, the pivotal figure in the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' emergence as the National Football League's No. 1 defensive team, was named Thursday as the NFL Defensive Player of the Year by The Associated Press.

Selmon, a 6-foot-3, 265-pound defensive end on the Buccaneers' 3-4 defence, was a runaway winner, receiving 98 of the 94 votes cast by sports writers and broadcasters, three from each NFL city.

Buffalo linebacker honored

NEW YORK (AP) — Jim Haslett, who stepped in as a starting linebacker with Buffalo Bills when Tom Donahoe was traded off to Canada, was named today National Football League defensive rookie of the year by The Associated Press.

Haslett, an inside linebacker in the Bills' 3-4 defence, was named on 25 of the 84 ballots cast by 148 writers and broadcasters, three from each NFL city.

Linebacker Jerry Robinson of Philadelphia Eagles received 17 votes.

Tigers nip Wheat Kings

BRANDON (CP) Brad Kempthorne scored a power play goal 11 seconds into the third period and Medicine Hat Tigers went to defeat Brandon Wheat Kings 5-3 in a Western Hockey League game played before 1,825 fans Thursday night.

TERRY BIGGAR

Mr. George Tourenville, Manager of Distribution Services for PACIFIC BREWERS DISTRIBUTORS LTD., is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. T. (Terry) Biggar to the position of Branch Manager for the Kelowna Distribution Centre.

Mr. Biggar is well known in the Okanagan trading area through his past association with OK Valley Distributors Ltd. whose distribution functions have recently been acquired by Pacific Brewers Distributors Ltd.

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Proverbs - Bible

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