Flyers extend streak to 35

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

Philadelphia Flyers don't want a lot out of the current National Hockey League season, but they wouldn't mind going a little longer without a loss.

NHL
Wales Conference

Norris Division	W	L	T	F	A	P
Los Ang	18	12	8	163	144	44
Pitts	16	12	11	135	130	43
Montreal	18	16	6	148	136	42
Detroit	13	18	7	125	132	33
Hartford	9	18	10	118	137	28
Adams Division						
Buffalo	26	11	3	152	107	55
Boston	21	11	5	138	106	47
Minn	19	9	8	149	110	46
Quebec	16	17	6	124	131	38
Toronto	16	18	4	132	144	36
Campbell Conference						
Patrick Division						
Phila	26	1	10	162	109	62
Rangers	17	16	7	153	148	41
Islanders	15	16	6	128	127	36
Atlanta	14	18	5	125	136	33
Washing	10	23	6	118	147	26
Smythe Division						
Chicago	15	13	12	115	115	42
Vancouver	15	18	7	129	131	37
St. Louis	14	19	6	114	132	34
Winnipeg	12	23	5	107	156	29
Edmonton	9	19	9	126	161	27
Colorado	12	23	3	125	147	27

"We're going to lose one eventually," said veteran Rick MacLeish, who scored the insurance goal Sunday night as the Flyers defeated Buffalo Sabres 4-2. "Somebody will beat us, but they're going to have to work to do it."

Philadelphia stretched its amazing unbeaten string to 35 games with the triumph. The Flyers lost last Oct. 13 to Atlanta Flames in their second game of the season, but since have won 25 games and tied 10.

On Dec. 22, the Flyers broke the old NHL record for games without a loss, which was 28.

Given the Flyers' uncanny defence, the victory against the Sabres was sealed early in the third period when Bill Barber faked out Buffalo defencemen Jerry Korab and Larry Playfair, skated between them and got off an unmolested shot for a goal which broke a 2-2 tie.

"I was fortunate," said Barber. "It wasn't the perfect place to put it. I just wanted to hit the net and get the shot off."

Elsewhere in the NHL, Los Angeles Kings moved into first place in the Norris Division with a 4-4 tie at Winnipeg against the Jets, Chicago Black Hawks outmuscled Vancouver Canucks 3-1, Atlanta and New York Rangers tied 5-5, Detroit Red Wings nipped Hartford Whalers 2-1 and, in an exhibition game, Soviet Red Army beat Quebec Nordiques 6-4.

On Saturday, Quebec trounced Toronto Maple Leafs 7-3, Chicago edged Montreal Canadiens 4-3, New York Islanders tripped St. Louis Blues 3-1, Washington Capitals tied Minnesota North Stars 2-2, Buffalo downed Pittsburgh Penguins 5-4 and Los Angeles tied Edmonton Oilers 3-3.

Rick Martin and Danny Gare scored for the Sabres, while Al Hill and Dennis Ververgaert got the first two goals for Philadelphia to create 1-1 and 2-2 deadlocks at the end of the first two periods.

Gare's goal was his 27th of the season.

Despite the string and his team's 26-1-10 record, Flyers coach Pat Quinn said he still isn't satisfied with the game.

"The barometer is telling me it's going great and I'm not a perfectionist by any means, but I have a lot of confidence in our team and I think it will get better," he said. "We can't allow ourselves to be satisfied. I don't think any player in hockey will tell you that first place is good enough now (under the current playoff setup)."

Sabres coach Scotty Bowman said he thought the club may have been flat after whipping Moscow's touring Central Red Army team and Pittsburgh Penguins and then facing the Flyers in its third game in four days.

Black Hawks 3 Canucks 1

Grant Mulvey had a goal and an assist to pace the Black Hawks to their seventh victory in the last 11 games, with two ties thrown in. Chicago moved five points ahead of Vancouver in the Smythe Division.

A 15-minute melee broke out in the middle period in which Chicago's Terry Ruskowski and Rich Preston both were ejected along with Vancouver's Jere Gillis and Stan Smyl.

TRACY AUSTIN
. . . easy win

Tennis finalists decided

LANDOVER, Md. (AP) – Tracy Austin and Martina Navratilova set up a battle for the top position in women's tennis Sunday by cruising into the final of the $250,000 Colgate Series Championship.

Navratilova crushed Australian Wendy Turnbull, 6-2, 6-0. Austin embarrassed Chris Evert Lloyd for the second time in four days, 6-3, 6-0.

They meet tonight for the $75,000 first prize in the round-robin tournament, which brings together the eight top players from the 1979 women's tour.

This week, Austin and Navratilova, with contrasting styles, have clearly demonstrated that they are a notch above everyone else in the women's game at this time.

Austin solidly established herself as the best baseline player with her sixth triumph over Lloyd in their last eight meetings. She did it the same way Lloyd has done it for so long.

Austin's ground strokes had a bit more pace, more depth and more consistency that Lloyd's. The match was even until midway through the first set when Lloyd slammed two shots that hit the net cord, bounced up and then fell back on her side, giving the points to Austin. After that, Lloyd's game came apart under Austin's relentless pressure.

Powerful Pittsburgh defeats gutsy Oilers

PITTSBURGH (AP) – The controversial call stands, the gutsy Houston Oilers have fallen, and maybe Pittsburgh Steelers should just list the Super Bowl on their schedule.

"This WAS the Super Bowl as far as I'm concerned," Oilers quarterback Dan Pastorini said Sunday after he had a potential touchdown pass erased by the officials and Pittsburgh won the National Football League's American Conference title game 27-13. "Pittsburgh is going and they're going to win."

The actual Super Bowl comes Jan. 20 in Pasadena, Calif., when first-time finalist Los Angeles Rams meets a Pittsburgh team aiming for its fourth title in six years.

Can the Rams beat Pittsburgh?

"Who knows? We haven't beaten them yet," said Terry Bradshaw, aware the Steelers are 0-3 against Los Angeles in the past decade.

Meanwhile, the question of whether Houston is the secondbest team in the game is a matter for debate – just like one of Pastorini's passes was until the referee settled things by way of the back judge, side judge and field judge.

"One thing for sure, the score stands," Steelers cornerback Ron Johnson said after the ruling that receiver Mike Renfro did not have control of the ball while inbounds on an apparent scoring pass.

The play came with Pittsburgh leading 17-10 in the third quarter of the title rematch between the two Central Division rivals.

"A TD would have changed the whole complexion of the game," said Renfro.

Earlier, Bradshaw had a first-quarter pass stolen and returned 75 yards for a touchdown by safety Vernon Perry, who worked defensive magic in the Oilers' semi-final upset of San Diego Chargers with four interceptions.

Bradshaw countered with touchdown tosses to John Stallworth and Bennie Cunningham to give Pittsburgh a 17-10 halftime lead.

In the third quarter, Houston had first down at the Steelers' six and a chance to tie.

Pastorini lofted the ball to Renfro in the corner of the end zone.

"We had you on that one," Pastorini later told Johnson.

Renfro leaped and had the ball as he tumbled beyond the endline.

"I thought right away that he was out of bounds," said Johnson.

"I knew I was very close," said Renfro.

Line judge Donald Orr did not signal touchdown. Renfro jumped up to appeal. Orr signalled an incompletion.

After a conference among the officials, referee Jim Tunney upheld the ruling. He cited Orr's claim that Renfro was juggling the ball as he went out. Replays showed both of Renfro's feet touched inbounds, but they did not reveal whether he juggled the ball.

The Oilers settled for a field goal, and Pittsburgh put the game away with a 10-point fourth quarter.

On their first drive of the fourth quarter, the Steelers moved 55 yards before Matt Bahr kicked a 39-yard field goal. After Guido Merkens fumbled on the next Oilers series, Pittsburgh went 45 yards for a touchdown that came on a four-yard run by Rocky Bleier with 54 seconds left.

The Oilers never threatened after the Renfro call.

NHL STANDINGS

	G	A	P
Dionne, LA	32	47	79
Lafleur, Mtl	28	42	70
Simmer, LA	36	32	68
Taylor, LA	24	39	63
Gretzky, Edm	21	35	56
Trottier, NYI	21	32	53

Rams in Super Bowl after blanking Tampa

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) – The battered Los Angeles Rams praised the Lord, passed the gauze and didn't stop until they had ended six years of frustration – leaving Tampa Bay Buccaneers tending to their wounds at the end of a Cinderella season.

The upstart Buccaneers, who made it to their first National Football League conference title game with the same starting lineup that opened the season, lost all-pro defensive end Lee Roy Selmon and linebacker Cecil Johnson to ankle injuries, quarterback Doug Williams with a torn bicep and defensive end Wally Chambers with a knee injury during a 9-0 loss Sunday to the Rams in the National Conference showdown.

Severe injuries weren't enough to stop the inspired Rams.

"It's hard to conceive what we've accomplished here today," said end Jack Youngblood, who played despite a hairline fracture in his left leg.

Place-kicker Frank Corral booted second-quarter field goals of 19 and 21 yards and a fourth-quarter clincher of 23 yards – despite a hamstring pull suffered in his kicking leg last week. Halfback Wendell Tyler, who gained 86 yards rushing on 28 carries, played despite twisting a knee that underwent surgery last year.

"All year, everybody's been playing injured on this team," said Rams linebacker Rich Saul, who climbed out of a hospital bed with a fever the previous week to play in the Rams' 21-19 upset of Dallas Cowboys.

"Nobody thought this team had a chance, but we kept the faith in the Lord, and we feel He showed us what we should have realized before – that we couldn't do it on our own," Saul said.

Wide receiver Preston Dennard added: "The Lord wanted us to win. In all those past years, He was just testing us."

With 72,033 fans at Tampa Stadium chanting and roaring against them, the Rams put together drive after drive – only to fall short.

Third-year quarterback Vince Ferragamo, displaying veteran poise, hit Dennard for a 35-yard gain to the Buccaneer's four-yard line to set up a first-and-goal late in the first quarter. But the Rams had to settle for Corral's 19-yard field goal.

Late in the second quarter, Ferragamo hit four straight passes to move to first down at the Buccaneers' 13, but again settled for a Corral field goal.

DEFENCE WAS STRONG

But while their offence struggled, the Rams' defence bottled up the running of hard-charging fullback Ricky Bell and kept up the pressure on Williams, who completed only two of 13 passes before leaving the game in the third quarter with his arm injury.

Early in the third quarter, an apparent 20-yard touchdown pass from Ferragamo to Dennard was wiped out by an official's ruling that Dennard was out of bounds, and Corral missed a 37-yard field goal attempt on the next play.

On the Buccaneers' series, Williams was injured when tackle Mike Fanning hit him as he threw, and he joined Selmon, Chamber and Johnson on the sideline.

Reserve quarterback Mike Rae, a former backup to Ken Stabler with Oakland Raiders and Joe Theismann with Toronto Argonauts of the Canadian Football League, completed just one of his first five passes. He was sacked by Fanning on the next two series.

Gains of 13 yards by Tyler and 12 by Cullen Bryant around a 15-yard Ferragamo completion to tight end Terry Nelson set up Corral's clinching 23-yard field goal with 8:09 left in the game.

WISDOM FOR MODERN MAN

The weaver of faulty cloth produces a monster for a garment.

Ancient Proverb

* * * * * * * * * Courtesy of * * * * * * * * *

BROWNIES FRIED CHICKEN
"Best Chicken in Town"
4517 - 27th St. Vernon, B.C.
545-3239

HARRY'S HUSKY
European Auto
REPAIRS & SERVICE
QUALIFIED MECHANICS ON DUTY
3401-32nd St., Vernon
542-4061
Harry's Husky

QUEBEC CAME CLOSE

Soviets nip Nordiques in final game of series

QUEBEC (CP) – Although Quebec Nordiques were unable to deliver the knockout blow to Central Red Army of the Soviet Union's major hockey league Sunday night, the National Hockey League expansion club emerged with its head high.

The Nordiqes had rallied to create a 4-4 deadlock with only 13 minutes remaining, but a goal by Boris Mikhailov and another by Valeri Kharlamov spoiled the night for 10,563 fans at the Colisee and a nationwide television audience as the Russian squad claimed a 6-4 triumph.

The victory enabled Red Army to return home with three victories and two defeats in their five-game exhibition series against NHL clubs.

"They were simply a little better than us tonight," said Quebec coach Jacques Demers. "It was a lot of pressure for an expansion team, especially since the NHL reputation was on the line. It was an emotional game and I am proud of my players."

Bob Fitchner led the Nordiques with two goals while Reggie Thomas and Jamie Hislop added one each. Helmut Balderis scored twice for Red Army, while Vladimir Petrov and Aleksandr Skvortsov scored the other Russian goals.

PRAISE FOR NORDIQUES

"It was one of the most exciting games of the series," said Kharlamov. "This game was very interesting. Quebec played well, especially considering they played two nights in a row."

The Nordiques had defeated the Maple Leafs 7-3 in Toronto on Saturday night.

Kharlamov also said that some of the NHL teams were not as strong as a few years ago, citing Montreal Canadiens, who defeated Red Army 4-2 on Dec. 31, as an example.

"Even if we lost to them, they did not seem as strong. Guy Lafleur is still the most impressive player I have seen on the NHL teams," he said.

It was evident that the Nordiques were a little tired in the second period, but they rebounded in the third.

"Sometimes you play better on the second night," said Fitchner. "It was a very emotional game, and when you are that excited you don't feel the fatigue."

Canadian skiers down after race

PRA LOUP, France (CP) – Ken Read was sprawled out in his hotel room after Sunday's World Cup downhill race pondering why he finished only 14th. He was not coming up with any firm answers.

"I was slower in the race than in the practice runs," said the young Canadian. "I don't understand it. It wasn't my ski – I was quick high up the course – it was me.

"Perhaps it was because it was a straight speed course, tuck in and go, without problems of the tougher tracks, of icy turns, sharp descents, reverse corners."

He was repeating the talking point of the weekend – the undemanding track which top skiers said was unworthy of a World Cup event.

It made no difference, however, to Peter Muller of Switzerland. He confirmed his place as the world's top downhill skier with a clear victory here, his second in the three World Cup downhills of the seven this season leading to the Lake Placid, N.Y., Winter Olympics.

Muller finished the 3,218-metre course over an 800-metre drop in one minute 53.56 seconds, and had the fastest intermediate time, to finish 0.81 seconds ahead of Italian Herbert Plank's 1:54.37. Erik Haaker of Norway was third in 1:54.44.

AN UNHAPPY DAY

It was an unhappy day for the Canadians, with David Murray of Abbotsford, B.C., – who had the unenviable No. 1 start – 15th in 1:55.64 just behind Read's 1:55.50. Robin McLeish of Kanata, Ont., was 19th in 1:56.16, Tim Gilhooly of Kelowna, B.C., finished 24th in 1:56.35 and Dave Irwin of Thunder Bay, Ont, was 30th in 1:56.67."

Steve Podborski of Toronto had one of the best five first intermediate times before missing a gate and being disqualified.

Read felt the middle of the course proved to be his downfall.

"The top is a long, long flat with no turns whatsoever," he said. "Then, after the first interval there is a fairly technical section and then a long line to the finish. In training I lost between eight-tenths of a second and a second. Today I lost more than two seconds."

Chris Kent of Calgary was 40th in 1:57.37. Bob Styan of Vancouver was 42nd in 1:57.44. Mike Irwin of Calgary was 56th in 1:58.60 and Craig Podborski of Toronto was 61st in 1:59.20

Newlin's Nets dump Cavaliers

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

First the good news – Cleveland Cavaliers didn't lose another one-point heartbreaker. Now the bad news – this time, they lost by eight.

Mike Newlin scored 34 points to lead New Jersey Nets to a 108-100 National Basketball Association victory over the Cavaliers.

"I think emotionally we were just spent from our Philadelphia and Milwaukee games," said Cleveland coach Stan Albeck, referring to the Cavaliers' back-to-back one-point losses at home.

Elsewhere Sunday, Kansas City Kings dumped Denver Nuggets 120-101, Milwaukee Bucks beat Los Angeles Lakers 113-103, Portland Trail Blazers downed Detroit Pistons 119-102 and San Diego Clippers edged Seattle Super-Sonics 105-103.

On Saturday, it was: New York Knicks 124 Chicago Bulls 117; Kansas City 112 Atlanta Hawks 107; Milwaukee 99 Cleveland 98; Houston 111 Phoenix Suns 110; San Antonio Spurs 119 Boston 111; Denver 111 Indiana Pacers 105; Washington Bullets 108 Utah Jazz 107 and Seattle 121 Golden State Warriors 112.

Newlin connected on 14 of his 21 shots Sunday – including a three-pointer – and was as close to being unstoppable as a guard could be. He saved eight of his points for the fourth quarter when the Cavaliers ran out of gas.

With the loss, the Cavaliers dropped to 19-23, including a disastrous 3-17 on the road. New Jersey now is 18-24.

Clippers clobber Caps 10-6

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

John Newberry and Dave Robinson scored three goals each Saturday night to power Nanaimo Clippers to a 10-6 win over the hapless North Vancouver Caps in a British Columbia Hockey League contest before 650 fans in Nanaimo.

In other BCJHL games, Interior division-leading Penticton Knights scored three unanswered goals in the third period to defeat Abbotsford Flyers 4-1 before 650 fans in Penticton. In Merritt, Rich Norberg scored three goals to provide the margin of victory as the Centennials doubled Kelowna Buckaroos 6-3.

Expert Body Work
Vernon Star Autobody Ltd.
2814 - 37th Ave.
545-2291

BINGO
EVERY TUESDAY
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CENTER
3105 28th St.
Two $100 Blackouts
Early Bird 7:30 p.m.
Regular Bingo 8:00 p.m.
One free card with this ad
For Tuesday, Jan. 8 (one per person)

On the move with RoyNat.

"Our Montreal accountants recommended them."

"We knew in 1975 the cross-country ski market was going to be big. We knew that Karhu of Finland had the best ski-technology. We had the rights, but had to raise the money for specialized manufacturing equipment.

"Our Montreal chartered accountants recommended RoyNat and told us they had a good name and we could rely on them. That proved to be correct.

"RoyNat saw the opportunity we had in the industry – and that wasn't easy because there were many casualties in those years. Their people really knew what they were doing excellent business analysts

"We're expanding again and we'll be working with RoyNat. No question."

RoyNat
Kamloops — 374-7308

Financing for land and buildings, vehicles, machinery and equipment, working capital, refinancing and acquisitions.

VIG & LINK
CHARTERED – PHYSIOTHERAPISTS
Wish to announce that as of January 5
Mr. Ray Vig will be moving to a
new location at 3111-32nd Avenue.
Mr. Link will remain at present location
3310 - 32nd Avenue.
Phone 542-8910

Photo Reprints
of any
Vernon Daily News
Staff Photo
5"x7" or 8"x10"
Only $4.50 each
Photo charge includes Fed and Prov. Photo tax
Place your order at our counter.
Prepayment required.

PROVINCIAL
18 GRAND PRIZES
More prizes than ever before
The Provincial