

Playoff hopes low for Detroit Red Wings

By THE CANADIAN PRESS
It's a bitter pill for Detroit Red Wings to swallow.
The Red Wings missed the Stanley Cup playoffs last year but with the National Hockey League adding four expansion teams, allowing the Red Wings to the playoffs, Detroit looked like a shoe-in when the season opened last October.



GUY LAFLUR ... scores 50th

But, for the ninth time in the last 10 years, the Red Wings simply will rely on their own television to give them a peek at playoff hockey.
Montreal Canadiens, in extending their undefeated streak to 18 games, all but sealed the Wings' fate on a Tuesday night when they posted a 7-2 victory in Detroit.

Detroit is in 18th place in over-all standings with 63 points. The Red Wings can make the playoffs only if they win at least three points in their remaining two games and the teams ahead of them each have 66 points - fall to gain in their remaining two games.

PICK UP POINT
Elsewhere Wednesday, Edmonton Oilers took a step toward a playoff berth with a 1-1 tie against Minnesota North Stars. Winnipeg, tied with Chicago Black Hawks 5-2. Boston Bruins defeated Toronto Maple Leafs 5-2. Pittsburgh Penguins downed Hartford Whalers 4-4 and Atlanta Flames dumped New

lead in the third period.
Pittsburgh's Bobby Smith scored for Minnesota midway through the first period while Wayne Gretzky netted his 50th of the season for the Oilers at 9:46 of the second period. The Oilers took all the scoring at Edmonton.
The tie moved the Oilers into sole possession of 15th spot in over-all standings, one ahead of the Canadiens and Vancouver. The Oilers complete their schedule at Colorado Rockies on Friday.

Jets 5 Hawks 2
The Ojibwa star Dave Christian scored his seventh goal since turning 13 games ago and assisted on three others as the undermanned Jets manhandled the Black Hawks in Chicago. Morris Lukowich had two goals for the Jets, including the game's final goal while Winnipeg kept a penalty.

Bruins 3 Leafs 2
George Crozier looked a sure bet for a shutout with the Bruins leading 6-0 and the game almost over at Maple Leaf Gardens. But Ian Turnbull and Rick Vaito scored in the final minute to make the game look closer than it was. The Bruins, who outshot the Leafs 44-15, had goals from Peter McNab, 35 and 37th of the season - Brad Park, 36 and Miller and Craig MacTavish.

Penguins 4 Whalers 4
At Pittsburgh, Mark Johnson and Gregg Sheppard each scored in the last 36 seconds of the second period to give the Penguins a 5-2 lift heading into the final period. Rick Ketcher had two goals for all the scoring at Edmonton.
The tie moved the Oilers into sole possession of 15th spot in over-all standings, one ahead of the Canadiens and Vancouver. The Oilers complete their schedule at Colorado Rockies on Friday.

Flames 7 Rangers 3
Kent Nilsson, Pekka Rautakallio, Will Plett and Eric Vail beat New York goaltender John Davidson in the first period and Atlanta went on to claim the win, which reduced the margin between the eighth-place Rangers and ninth-place Flames to two points in the NHL's over-all standings. The first eight teams get home-ice advantage in the playoffs.

Paul Reinhart, Bobby Miller and Jean Pronovost also scored for the Flames. The Rangers' Phil Esposito scored his 34th of the season on a power play. Dean Fregin and Steve Vickers added one each.

Olympic team mainstay was doubtful starter



RAY GREBEY ... keeps talking

Baseball strike continues

By THE CANADIAN PRESS
It's back to Square One for most of the striking members of the Major League Baseball Players' Association - taking batting and fielding practice and playing some intrasquad games just like the pre-exhibition days of spring training.
And it's on to Round Two for negotiators Marvin Miller, executive director of the players' association, and Ray Grebey, chief bargainer for the club owners, who were scheduled to hold their second session with federal mediator Kenneth E. Moffatt today in New York.

Having decided to cancel the last week of exhibition games but open the season as scheduled next Wednesday and give the two sides until the Memorial Day weekend to reach a settlement, the players branched out from coast to coast, with those not involved in official or informal working meetings to stay in shape on their own.

Only two teams - Montreal Expos and San Diego Padres - did not hold some sort of practice Wednesday. The Expos refused to participate under their coaches' supervision while the Padres voted to return to San Diego. Sixteen members of Toronto Blue Jays were on hand for workouts Wednesday at the team's Dunedin, Fla., training camp.

TAKE A BREAK
Some players were combining workouts with a chance for a rare April vacation. With millions of dollars at stake in the ongoing negotiations, some petty differences creep into the picture, with the owners refusing to pay room and board - a contract requires a player to participate in exhibition games - which brought gripes from some players, who will have to shell out several hundred dollars to stay in camp.

OTTAWA (CP) - Four years ago Martin Riley was hoping to make the men's Olympic basketball team and wondering if he would be good enough for the 1980 Games team.
Now the Winnipeg native is a mainstay of the team which hopes to qualify for the Moscow Olympics and one of two veterans left from the 1976 squad.

The five-foot, 11½ inch guard has become one of the most reliable players to appear in a Canadian uniform, erasing his own doubts that he would be passed over in favor of younger and more skilled players.
But he still has to look up to team-mates such as Jim Zoet, a seven-foot, one-inch centre from Port Perry, Ont., Romel Raffin, a six-foot, nine-inch forward from Kitchener, Ont., and the other veteran from the 1976 team, and Leo Rautins, a sixfoot, eight-inch forward from Toronto.

The men held a short training camp in Ottawa in March before heading west for

a series of exhibition games and then on to Puerto Rico for the qualifying round for the Americas April 18-25.
TRAIN IN TORONTO
The women's team, with coach Don McCrae of the University of Waterloo, meets in Toronto on April 11 for a training camp before heading to the Netherlands for exhibition games and then to Bulgaria for a 22-country qualifying round May 5-15.
The five top teams will be in the Olympics and Maureen Orchard, the basketball association's national team co-ordinator, says both men and women have a good chance of making the trip to Moscow.

Car Clean Services

ENGINE SHAMPOO
INTERIOR-EXTERIOR

Rear 4508A 27th St.
(Behind Hilltop Auto)

For appointment Phone Guy 543-5093

NOTICE

Effective March 18, 1980

DANTZER, WENGER, WAGNER, NIXON, EINFELD have assumed the practice of Law previously carried on by WELDON T. GORDON at 2901 - 32nd Street, Vernon, B.C.

Clients will be contacted directly and, in the meantime, we invite any inquiries to be directed to our offices at 3317-30th Avenue, Vernon, B.C., Telephone 545-3361.

DANTZER, WENGER, WAGNER, NIXON, EINFELD
Barristers and Solicitors

Jones effective in controlling basketball post season game

By THE CANADIAN PRESS
Washington Bullets left Philadelphia asking themselves, "Who was that masked man?"
The Bullets came to town keyed to stop Julius Erving in the first of their three-game National Basketball Association playoff series against the Philadelphia 76ers.
Instead, Erving had one of his few off nights due to an injured knee and ankle. But a guy wearing a mask almost blew the Bullets out of the building as Philadelphia went 111-96 to take a 1-0 lead in the preliminary series.

seventy-foot Caldwell Jones, who scored 18 points and grabbed 26 rebounds to almost personally control the tempo of the game.
Jones wore a plastic mask to protect a broken nose he suffered recently when elbowing during a game.
In three other playoff games, Hilton Rockets defeated San Antonio Spurs 95-85, Phoenix Suns edged Kansas City Kings 96-83 and Seattle SuperSonics dumped Portland Trail Blazers 120-110.
The Rockets also defeated the Hawks, Los Angeles Lakers and Milwaukee Bucks received byes through the

preliminary round for winning their divisions and await the winners of the four mini-series. The second game of each best-of-three set goes Friday night.
The Rockets really was in the game only in the first period, when they raced to an 8-0 lead and trailed by one a point after the quarters. They boosted that to 10 at halftime and led by the same margin in the final quarter. They turned the game into a rout in the final period.
The Hawks also got a lot of help from Lionel Hollins, who joined the team Feb. 8 from Portland. Hollins scored 21

points on 10 for 16 shooting from the field and one for one at the foul line.
Erving, a 22.5 average scorer in the regular season, managed only 13 against the Bullets.
Kevin Grevey led the Bullets with 34 points.
Rockets 80 Spurs 85
At Houston, Moses Malone, playing with an ankle injury, grabbed key rebounds while Calvin Murphy scored 28 points to lead the Rockets to the win. San Antonio led 61-42 at the half. The Spurs' George Gervin, three-time NBA scoring champion, was held to 18 points.
Paul Westphal led Phoenix's home-court win with 33 points and David Davis added 19. Otis Birdsong had 23 points for Kansas City.

Divisional title race in NHL hard to figure

MONTREAL (CP) - If you haven't looked at the National Hockey League divisional standings recently, you're not alone.
It appears the outcome of the 840-game season that ends Sunday night will be found in the over-all rankings, with the divisions next to meaningless. They are not much help, for example, in following the battle of Edmonton Oilers, Washington Capitals, Vancouver Canucks, Detroit Red Wings and Quebec Nordiques for the final two playoff berths. The five teams are spread throughout the four divisions.
Officially, the four division winners and the other 12 teams with the most points qualify for the Stanley Cup playoffs but in practice that means the top 16 teams overall in the 21-team league. It's difficult to imagine a division so weak that all its five teams would finish 17th through 21st.
So why has the NHL split itself into the Norris, Adams, Patrick and Smyth divisions, then played a balanced 80-game schedule, with each team meeting every other club four times, effectively rendering the groupings pointless?
The NHL position is that the divisions are a matter of tradition and award money to

division winners justifies them.
It's a short tradition, however. The four-team split, with a schedule tilted toward intradivisional play, was devised for the 1973-74 season, when the entry of Washington and Kansas City Sports brought the league to 18 clubs.
RANGERS COMPLAINED
For three seasons from 1974-75, the top three finishers in each division were the 12 playoff qualifiers. The wild-card concept was instituted in 1977-78 after New York Rangers complained they had missed the playoffs with a better record than some qualifiers, and wild cards have almost taken over this season.
From 1978-79, the year of sixteen expansion, through 1979-80, the NHL had a two-division set-up on geographic lines, at least to the extent that the sections were designated East and West.
But with 18 teams, the NHL followed the trail forged by the National Football League in the 1960s, grouping teams into small divisions.

SALES MAN OF THE MONTH
John Newcombe
Will Rogers, Sales Manager, is proud to announce that **John Newcombe** was top salesman for March. Come in and let John show you our excellent selection of new cars and trucks, or an "OK Certified" used vehicle.

Penticton wins title

PENTICTON, B.C. (CP) - Doug Festerling scored two goals as Penticton Knights defeated Nanaimo Clippers 8-5 in overtime Wednesday night to capture the British Columbia Junior Hockey League championship.
The Knights came behind late in the third period on Festerling's first goal to tie the game and send it into overtime.
Festerling then scored what proved to be the winning marker in the three-goal, 10-minute overtime period.
Craig Cooke also scored twice, 2:08 hometown fans, while singles went to Terry Houle, Gregg Wilson and Greg Egan.
Mike Johnson, Kris Klobner, John Newberry, Gerry Vogt and Dave Wheelock scored for Nanaimo which led 2-1 after one period.
The teams were tied 4-4 after 40 minutes and 6-5 after regulation time.
Goaltender Bruno Campese stopped 24 shots for Penticton while Terry Keisinger was busy in Nanaimo's net handling 37 shots.
The Knights won the best-of-seven final series 4-3 and now advance to play Red Deer Flyers of the Alberta Junior Hockey League in a best-of-seven Centennial Cup quarter-final series.
The winner of that series plays the Saskatchewan-Manitoba champion for a berth in the Centennial Cup final against the eastern Canadian champion.
The quarter-final series begins Friday in Red Deer.

SALES MAN OF THE MONTH

John Newcombe

Will Rogers, Sales Manager, is proud to announce that **John Newcombe** was top salesman for March. Come in and let John show you our excellent selection of new cars and trucks, or an "OK Certified" used vehicle.

SPRING SAFETY

BRAKE SERVICE

Install new lining on front or rear as you request.

\$24.95 Labour

Most passenger cars or light trucks to 500 lbs. Any additional parts or labour will be quoted before work is started.

HARVEY VESTY, Service Manager
We Want Your Business

NOW YOU CAN AFFORD A

MILANO

\$815.00

1980 242 DLM 2 Dr.

- 2.1 litre 4 cyl. overhead cam engine
- 4 spd. std. transmission
- radial tires
- power assisted 4 wheel disc brakes
- electric rear window defroster
- tinted glass all around
- cloth trim
- adjustable lumbar support
- reclining seats
- electrically heated driver's seat
- quartz crystal clock
- factory undercoated

GENE DYUK
Sales Manager

TONY SCHLEPP
Sales Representative

LIMITED OFFER ONLY AT

PARK VALLEY MOTORS LTD.

1790 Springfield Road, Kelowna, B.C. D.L. No. 5329 860-3882

OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY 9:30 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Vernon PRODUCTS LTD.

4703 - 27th Street, Vernon D.L. No. 5466

545-6081

Open 5 Days a Week
7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

TR 7-LAKE

LINCOLN
MERCURY

D.L. No. 5022