

Lessard's goaltending leads Kings past Stars

By The Canadian Press
When Mario Lessard, not usually a clock-watcher, heard the public address announcer at the Met Centre say "one minute to play," he knew he had been putting in overtime.

The Los Angeles goaltender, who leads all National Hockey League goalies with 24 victories, secured his blue-chip credentials Tuesday night with a scintillating performance in a 4-3 victory over the hometown Minnesota North Stars.

Lessard worked a double shift as the North Stars ousted the Kings 6-19, including a 29-2 margin in the final period.

Minnesota's 68 shots was a team record and also a Kings' record for shots against.

"I don't like to watch the time, but when I heard one minute to play, I knew I could do it," Lessard said.

The North Stars won in every offensive aspect of the game except for a nine-minute span in the second period when the Kings rallied from a 2-0 deficit to score all their goals.

Mario Hard's goal with one second left in the period was the eventual game winner.

"I expected to face 40 to 45 shots, but 68," said Lessard. "Mike Murphy (Kings captain) said I had to save."

"I said no way. I don't believe it."

"Once in a while when you stop the many, it can give you a lot of confidence. It makes you want to say 'Gee, I must be pretty good.'"

After a scoreless first period, goals by Bobby Smith and Jack Campbell gave Minnesota a 2-0 lead. The Kings rebounded in the final nine minutes of the middle period to take a 2-2 tie on goals by Larry Murphy, Jim Fox, Dave Lewis and Hardy Steve Christoff (missed the Minnesota scoring in the third 1-1, but the Stars couldn't get the equalizer).

Elsewhere Tuesday it was: Vancouver 4, Philadelphia 2-0; New York Islanders 5, St. Louis 3; Colorado 7, Detroit 4.

"They took a penalty during the game," said Kings coach Bob Berry, of Minnesota's fabled reputation. "It was for Mario. We would have been run out."

He was absolutely spectacular.

Capitals 5, Flyers 2

Capitals' Burke scored three goals to lead Washington's upset victory over the Capitals and Edmonton into 15th place in the NHL standings.

Rookie Tim Tootky and Den-

nis Maruk also scored for Washington while both Philadelphia goals were scored by Rick Field.

Islanders' Blues 3

Bryan Trottler also had a three-goal night by visiting New Yorkers scored to within one of league-leading St. Louis.

They took a penalty late in the second period brought the Islanders to a 3-2 deficit, their record score, by Bob Bourne, Dwayne Sutter and Blake net — the latter into an empty net.

Wayne Babych's third of the season accounted for the Blues' season record for the Blues' season.

Rockets 7 Red Wings 4

Steve Tambellini, acquired from the Islanders last week along with goaltender Chico Resch, assisted on four goals in the victory over Detroit. That brought his goalkeeping record to 10 wins and 10 losses in 17 games.

Tambellini's linemates, Lanny McDonald and Paul Gagne, each scored two goals. Bob Miller, Yvon Vaulour and Rob Ramajo also scored for the Rockets.

Dale McCourt, with two, and Wayne Babych's third of the season connected for the Red Wings.



MARIO LESSARD
88 shots

Lafleur to miss a week

MONTREAL (CP) — Guy Lafleur has been performing far-miracles on the ice for Montreal Canadiens for close to 10 years. In the early morning hours of Tuesday, another near-miracle saved his life.

The right winger is recovering after plastic surgery on his right ear. The surgery on his right ear, the job of which was partially severed by a signpost in a car accident as he was driving alone in his suburban home from downtown Montreal.

Lafleur's team-mates were subdued after practice Tuesday, reluctantly discussing the accident. They were much more worried about the injury than more serious than they were worried about the fact that the six-time 50-goal scorer will be out of action for a week.

"Anytime anything like that happens, people say 'Oh, gee, it's just a bad break,' but I'm a defenceman Larry Robinson. 'I couldn't care less about a free draw to the 10-2 foot circle."

"I'm relieved personally that he's all right and not seriously hurt."

Rookie centre Keith Acton said of Lafleur and his injury and illness-filled life.

"You've got to feel sorry for him. He's had a lot of hardship this year. This is just another one."

PELLAS' ZEP

A club spokesman said Lafleur could have been killed.

"He was very lucky. He fell asleep at the wheel of his car. He went off the road into the fence, and his car rolled over. He was in the windshield of his car and missed his head by a quarter of an inch. It just cut his earlobe."

He said that "the lower part of the ear was partially severed, and he had to put it back together."

Lafleur was to remain in Montreal General Hospital under observation for one or two days.

"He was all grateful it wasn't more serious," said Lafleur's father, Rejean, from Thurso, Que. "It's incredible how lucky he was."

"I saw on television how close he came to getting killed," said Lafleur's brother-in-law, who said Lafleur lost control of his vehicle at about 2 a.m. EST Tuesday, hitting a signpost.

The post shattered the windshield of Lafleur's new-model luxury car, running through the steering wheel and into the back of his head.

Defenceman Robert Picard, recently acquired from Toronto Maple Leafs, is trade for goaltender Michel Larocque, said he and Lafleur had been downtown together after dinner Monday night.

A waitress at a Crescent Street eatery where Lafleur was there with another player whose name she didn't know and left at about 11:30 p.m. It wasn't known where Lafleur was between that and the accident.

The brush with disaster came as Lafleur, 29, was preparing to return to the Canadiens after sitting out three games with a charity horse.

He has missed 25 games this season with eight separate injuries or illnesses, including a pulled groin, stretched ligaments, a facial cut and tonsillitis. In 49 games, he has 28 goals and 49 assists.

EXHIBITION SOCCER Late goal gives Caps victory over New York

VANCOUVER (CP) — Vancouver native David Norman drove home a bouncing ball through a maze of players with less than eight minutes to play Tuesday night, giving Vancouver Whitecaps a 1-0 win over New York Cosmos in a North American Soccer League exhibition match.

Norman, who entered the game in the first half as a substitute for injured David Thomas, scored at 87:05 from 15 yards out when he first-timed a shot through the legs of New York goalkeeper David Breic.

The goal came after a cross from Bob Cosmo, defencender and bounced directly to an on-charging Norman, 18.

The win was the eighth in 11 games for Vancouver against the Cosmos since 1973.

New York defeated Vancouver 3-0 last year at Empire Stadium in a league game.

A stadium record exhibition crowd of 21,843 attended the only scheduled match between the arch-rivals this year.

The Cosmos, defending Soccer Bowl champions, used the depth of their roster to compensate for the absence of several players.

Julio Cesar Romero and Wim Ritzbergren are injured, while Franz Beckenbauer and Johann Neeskens aren't returning. Defender Carlos Alberto is also missing after leaving the team recently in Brazil.

The Whitecaps had five new starters in their line-up and were missing midfielder Terry Yorath, who will captain the White team in a World Cup qualifying match today in Turkey.

Vancouver carried the play in the first 45 minutes, but lost Thomas after 21 minutes with sprained knee ligaments after a collision with New York fullback Rick Davis.

New York's best scoring chances came after miscues by Vancouver defencenders Paul Nelson and Pierce O'Leary. Giorgio Chinaglia missed the net on a shot from a sharp angle and Vancouver goalkeeper David Harvey stopped Senhio on another occasion.

The tackling was hard on occasions with Vancouver picking up two cautions and New York one in the opening half.

The second half was much slower-paced and a light rain began to fall with about 20 minutes remaining.

Harvey had to be alert twice more on dangerous shots by Chinaglia, including one off a corner kick.

Canadian rink unbeaten at world championships

LONDON, Ont. (CP) — The cheers were for undefeated Canada and the sympathy for the winless France at the world curling championship Tuesday.

A crowd of 5,735 in the Thompson Arena wended its way to the conclusion of the evening's action around when Kerry Burtyk, skip of the Canadian rink from Winnipeg, counted one shot of the 10th end with a last-rock takeout for a 5-4 decision over Bud Somerville of Superior, Wis.

In another match, skip Gerard Alazet of the French rink from Megève allowed Jack Edlin of Sweden to steal four points in each of the first and second ends. The Swedes eventually won 17-4.

It was the end of a disastrous day for the French rink, bombed 11-3 by Tommy Sjorner of Denmark in the third round — with the winning rink scoring a six-point margin in the ninth.

For France, represented in 1980 by Henri Muller, it was the

second year in a row it has allowed six points in an end on consecutive draws.

Gerard Ravelli, skip who throws last rocks for France while Alazet directs the rink from his hip.

CRITICIZES ALAZET

"It's hard to tell a man who is 60 and has played 10 years, 12, referring to the skip."

Canada and Kristian Soerum of Norway both won their second day of the Air Canada Silver Broom tournament.

Soerum, who won the Oslo rink in the fifth round this afternoon, who won the championship in 1979, whipped Keith Wendorf of Germany 11-3 in a third-round game Tuesday afternoon — thanks to a five-ender in the seventh — then beat Giuseppe Dal Molin of Italy 7-4.

Burtyk, backed by third Man O'War, second Jim Spencer and lead Ron Kam-

merock, started the day with an 8-2 win over the Italians.

The Canadians, trailing the U.S. 2-1 after three ends, scored two points in the fourth when the winning score in the 10th end.

The Americans, directed by Bob Nicks, threw last stones, got single points in each of the fifth and sixth ends and won 10-4, 4-1 in the sixth to set up 14-4 tie.

BLANKS DELIBERATELY

Burtyk blanked the eighth and ninth ends deliberately to retain the last-rock advantage which paid off when he took out the winning score in the 10th and final end.

Willsie Huber and Jim Spencer gave them some breaks, then they gave us some," said Olson.

Jurg Tanner of Switzerland was in third place after four rounds of the 10-country championship and 2-2 record.

"It was like Christmas — we gave them some breaks, then they gave us some," said Olson.

U.S. and Colin Hamilton of Scotland were tied for first in the U.S. and West Germany were winless after four games.

In other fourth-round games, Scott's rink defeated Denmark 7-6 in an extra end, Switzerland downed West Germany 7-4. The U.S. won 10-3 in a third-round game and Scotland surprised Switzerland 6-4.

The round robin portion of the tournament ends Friday morning, with the playoffs set for Saturday and Sunday. If Norway or Canada manage an undefeated record in the round robin schedule — like Polk did in 1980 — that rink will advance to a final.

Four rink will receive a playoff if the leading rink loses a game. If a rink goes undefeated, only the second and third place rink will compete in a semifinal game.

Canada meets Scotland in this evening's sixth draw, then Burtyk plays Switzerland, Denmark and Sweden.

Hart's career could be over

MONTREAL (CP) — While the career of Canadian lightweight boxing champion Gaetan Hart almost certainly came to an end Tuesday night, Nick Furlano's may have just started.

Hart, 27, of Buckingham, Que., was the runner-up in a brutal attack by Claude Noel of Trinidad from the opening bell of their scheduled 10-round non-title bout that lasted until the 41 mark of the third.

Hart had said before the bout that if beaten by a knockout, he would announce his retirement.

He refused to do so outright after being tied with by Noel, but said "I have a wife and a child to think about and I'd like to live a few years."

Noel, the No. 2 ranked contender for the World Boxing Association lightweight title behind Sean O'Grady of the U.S., said he could sense the outcome the moment the fight started.

VULNERABILITY SHOWS

"I knew right away that he was going to be vulnerable to a right jab," said Noel. "He kept charging at me head-first."

It was a right lead, flanked with a left hook, that sent Hart crashing to the floor. The veteran fighter lay motionless for almost two minutes before his manager, Andy Nadon, was able to revive him.

Noel raised his won-lost-drawn record to 25-30-3.

Hart, who began his career in 1973, was a "body mess" as he said dejectedly in his dressing room.

"I'm going to take a long rest and then talk to my manager and trainer," said Hart, 46-52.

"I can't say for sure that I'll retire, but it looks like it."

IMPRESSIVE DECISION

For Furlano, meanwhile, his career may just have begun with an impressive unanimous decision over Chicago's Johnny Lira in a 10-round lightweight bout.

Ranked seventh by the WBA, Lira may have taken the 23-year-old Toronto fighter too lightly in the early going, but he was scrambling in the final round.

"It was a great experience for me to fight a guy like Lira," said Furlano, 25. "I was uptight, nervous, and cautious in the early rounds because I didn't want to get knocked out."

After several brushes with the law and a see-saw ring career, Furlano is now a professional.

"People know that I wasted my talent," he said. "I'm glad I'm fighting as a jockey. Now I'm going to train hard, win the world title and then screw around."

Flyers defeat Knights

ABBOTSFORD, B.C. (CP) — Two goals by Don Yewchin helped Abbotsford Flyers down Penitenc Knights 6-3 in B.C. Junior Hockey League playoff action Tuesday night.

The result leaves the Langhals ahead 2-1 in the best-of-seven final series, with the next game tonight at Abbotsford.

Singles for the Flyers came from Eric Thurston, Steve LaPointe, Doug Haneson and Dan Threlfall. For the Knights, who led 1-0 and 3-2 by periods, Bob Brown, Leroy Temple and Morey Gare did the scoring.

Bruno Campese stopped 33 shots on the Penitenc goal. Flyers goalies Marty Wakelin and Dave Eltcher combined for 31 saves.

Allen meets Skalbana

VANCOUVER (CP) — George Allen met with New owner Bob Skalbana of the Vancouver Alouettes here last weekend, presumably to discuss his possible involvement with the Canadian Football League team.

Allen, former head coach in the National Football League with Los Angeles Rams and Washington Redskins, has been out of pro football since 1978 and now is a television commentator.

Skalbana, who recently completed purchase of 100 per cent ownership of the team, met with Allen two weeks ago in the Los Angeles area to discuss the CFL situation.

The owner refused to comment on his latest meeting with Allen of Skalbana's Vancouver home.

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Lions schedule '81 camp

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Players will report to Empire Stadium here for physical examinations from May 18 to 22 before leaving for Courtenay, where the last four camps have been held under head coach Vic Rapp.

Rapp and his coaching staff will conduct a free-agent camp this weekend at Golden West College in Huntington Beach, Calif.

About 200 players are expected to attend the annual free-agent camp which in past years has produced prospects like quarterback Joe Paopao, tight end Ricky Elkins and running back Les Sloan to be signed by the CFL team.

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Soviet ski racer victorious

BORJAVETZ, Bulgaria (AP) — Alexander Zhurov of the Soviet Union won the season's final World Cup slalom event Tuesday with the American Marjorie Davis finishing second and third Zhurov had a combined score of 1:32.34 to retain the first place position he held after the first of two runs.

Steve Mabre finished second at 1:32.75 while his brother, Phil, was third at 1:34.17.

Phil Mabre's third place finish gave him three World Cup points and he now is only three points behind World Cup leader Ingemar Stenmark of Sweden, trailing 260-237.

Mabre has a chance to win the title in the season's last World Cup event, the giant slalom Saturday in Switzerland.

Stenmark, after a disappointing first run, improved in the second and placed fifth, behind Andreas Linder of Liechtenstein.

Phil Mabre took chances in his second run, trying to reduce the one-second lead held by Zhurov to a better time than the Zhurov in the second leg, but managed to shave only 17/100ths of a second from the lead.

Stenmark made an uncharacteristic number of mistakes in the first heat and was in 11th place before the start of the second leg.

He went full flare in the second run but again faltered on the upper part of his course.

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Ferragamo at join Als?

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The father of Vince Ferragamo says the Los Angeles Rams' quarterback will sign with Montreal Alouettes of the Canadian Football League.

"The deal is set, as far as everybody knows," the older Ferragamo, 70, was quoted as saying in today's editions of the Times.

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