Maple Leafs hanging on ropes

Habitants explode for 3rd win in row

By BEN WARD
Canadian Press Staff Writer

TORONTO (CP)—Montreal Canadiens, playing what coach Toe Blake called their best game of the playoffs, outclassed Toronto Maple Leafs 5-2 Tuesday night for a 3-0 stranglehold on the best-of-seven Stanley Cup final.

It left Leafs hanging on the ropes for the fourth game here Thursday night.

A scoring explosion by Canadiens' almost-forgotten third line of Phil Goyette, Andre Pronovost and Marcel Provost and the solid work of goalie Jacques Plante behind a stone-wall defence stymied Leafs.

Goyette, with two goals, was a standout on offence. Don Marshall and the dynamic Richard brothers—Maurice and Henri—got the other Montreal goals.

Johnny Wilson and Bert Olmstead handled Toronto's scoring.

HAD ONE GOAL PERIOD

The crowd of 13,307 had little to cheer about after Leafs' opening burst of the first period died out under fierce Montreal forechecking and some of the finest defensive work of the series by Doug Harvey, Albert Langlois, Tom Johnson and Jean-Guy Talbot.

Even Punch Imlach, Toronto's optimistic coach, agreed with Blake. Leafs' "have no alibis about that one," he said.

Plante—who Imlach said was "marvellous"—got the Montreal players' vote as the man of the night but shared the glory with Maurice (Rocket) Richard, whose shooting gave Bower trouble throughout.

The 38-year-old Rocket, defying an attempt by the years to slow him down, skated like a rookie. His goal, the first he has scored in seven playoff games this year, drew an appreciative shout from the Toronto fans.

BEST GAME

"That was the Rocket's best game in the two series," Blake beamed. "I was tickled to see him get one."

Marshall got the only goal of the first period. The fourth-line centre took a pass from Billy Hicke at the Toronto blue line and roared in on goaltender Johnny Bower with only defenceman Bob Baun to beat. Bower went after the shot, screened by Baun, too late.

Provost's fine pass put Goyette right on top of Bower and a quick flip lifted the puck over the netminder's stick at 20 seconds of the second period.

Leafs lost an opportunity when Plante came through with a sensational stop on Ron Stewart when the Toronto forward appeared to have him caught cold.

WRECKS RALLY

Henri Richard took the wind out of Leafs' pressure drive late in the second period. He stole the puck from defenceman Tim Horton on the side boards, tore across the blueline fending off two other Leafs and fired a sizzler into the corner.

From then on Montreal's defence just about had the door locked. Leafs began tiring under the strain of trying to get a play clicking over the Montreal blue line and time and again Canadiens stole the puck in the corners.

Kingston wins Senior B cage crown

KINGSTON, Ont. (CP)—Kingston Bourdeau Heaters beat Ottawa Hilltops 77-62 Tuesday night to win the Canadian Senior B basketball title in two straight games.

Kingston won the first game of the best-of-three finals Monday night by an overwhelming 70-40 score.

The Hilltops made a desperate attempt to come back in Tuesday night's game, but the Heaters outclassed them in every department.

The Heaters used 10 players in the game and only one did not score.

Moe Ross, a former Senior A player with the Ottawa Fellers, had 25 points for the Hilltops.

Tigers acquire first baseman Norm Cash

LAKELAND, Fla. (AP)—Detroit Tigers Tuesday acquired first baseman-outfielder Norm Cash to strengthen their second-line troops.

In a straight player swap, the Tigers gave Cleveland Indians rookie third baseman Steve Demeter for Cash.

Cash went to the Indians last December in a trade that sent Minnie Minoso to Chicago White Sox.

U.S. vaulter clears bar at 15 feet, 9¾ inches

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — Pole vaulter J. D. Martin of the University of Oklahoma cleared the bar at a record 15 feet 9¾ inches Tuesday, but it may not go on the books.

Because of a wind of about 30 miles an hour, steel pegs on which the cross bar rests were bound with tape. One of the uprights was reversed so the bar wouldn't blow off.

Dan Ferris of New York, head of the Amateur Athletic Union, said if there was "any irregularity" the vault would not be accepted as a record.

The listed world indoor mark is 15-9½ held by Don Bragg of the U.S. Bob Gutowski of the U.S. holds the outdoor record of 15-9¼.

HOCKEY PLAYER DIES

TORONTO (CP)—Andy Bellemer of Bala, Ont., 52-year-old former hockey player, coach, manager and referee, died Tuesday in hospital following a lengthy illness.

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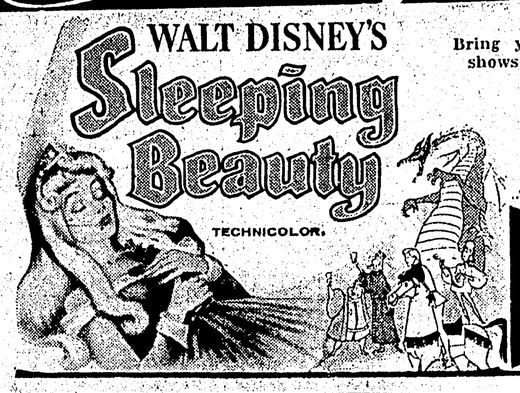

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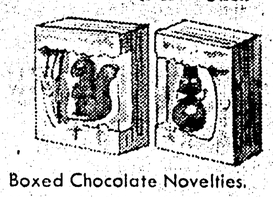

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