Abbotsford eliminates Rupert

Geoffrion ties Richard's record as Montreal swamps Toronto 5-2

By LAURENT CHIAISSON
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MONTREAL (CP) — Bernie Boom Boom Geoffrion, burly Montreal right winger, has equalled the famed 50-goal record that retired teammate Maurice (Rocket) Richard set in the 1944-45 National Hockey League season.

The Boomer's golden goal came against Toronto Maple Leafs Thursday night. It climaxed an awesome third-period drive that carried Canadiens to a 5-2 victory over a game but outplayed Toronto club.

The victory all but wrapped up a fourth consecutive NHL championship for the mighty Canadiens.

Montreal now leads the second-place Leafs 90 points to 87. Each team has only two games left in the regular season and Canadiens need only one tie to clinch the title.

OVATION LOOSED

A crowd of 15,011—biggest of the season here—let loose with a thunderous ovation when Geoffrion scored his big goal at 14:15 of the third period.

"The players kept telling me I could do it," Geoffrion said in the Canadiens dressing room after the game. "Then I missed several good chances and I said to myself 'That's it for tonight.'

"Then it came. I'm very glad. Now I'll be able to sleep tonight."

The Leafs and Canadiens struggled through two periods to a 1-1 tie. Then the Leafs began to wilt under Montreal pressure.

Montreal, seeking a sixth straight Stanley Cup victory this season, whizzed four goals past rookie goaler Cesare Maniago in the third period. The Leafs replied with one.

Jean Beliveau, Geoffrion's centre, picked up his 57th and 58th assists of the season and set a league record. The previous high was 56, set by Toronto's Bert Olmstead while playing with the Canadiens in 1955-56.

Guy Gendron of the Canadiens and Dave Keon of the Leafs scored in the second period. In the third, Billy Hicke, Henri Richard, Ralph Backstrom and Geoffrion tallied for the Habs and Eddie Shack for Toronto.

NOT IN YET

"It looks easier now but we're not in yet," coach Toe Blake of the Canadiens said after the game."

In the Maple Leafs dressing room, Toronto coach George (Punch) Imlach, speaking in a low tone, said Canadiens got the breaks.

"It just wasn't in the books for us," Imlach said. "But, you can never tell. We're still in there and don't talk to me about second place."

Beliveau started the play that led to Geoffrion's 50th goal.

The big centre got the draw from a faceoff and passed to Gilles Tremblay, who moved into a corner away from pursuing Toronto players and passed to the goalmouth.

Geoffrion reached out and tapped the puck into the net on Maniago's open side.

ICE SHOWERED

Players on the Montreal bench swarmed to the ice and mauled Geoffrion while the delirious crowd showered the ice with rubbers, papers and other debris.

Geoffrion, who missed six games in January because of an injured knee, has scored 23 times in the 20 games since pulling away from Toronto's Frank Mahovlich who was everybody's choice only several weeks ago to eclipse the Rocket's record.

Mahovlich has scored only seven goals in the same stretch and now has 47.

The 50th goal came in Geoffrion's 62nd game. The Rocket established his mark during a 50-game schedule.

Geoffrion, shadowed all night by Olmstead, had seven shots on goal. Mahovlich, tailed by Claude Provost, had only one direct shot on Canadiens' Jacques Plante.

NEW LIGHT SHED

The five goals allowed by Maniago shed some new light in the tussle for the Vezina Trophy—awarded to the goalie who plays the most games for the team that allows the fewest goals.

Veteran Johnny Bower, Maniago and Gerry McNamara have had a total of 172 goals scored against them. Glenn Hall of Chicago Black Hawks has allowed 175.

If the Hawks and Leafs should have the same number of goals scored against them when the season ends Sunday, Hall will be awarded the trophy over Bower because he has played in more games.

Maniago got the call for Thursday night's game because of a leg injury to Bower. He played brilliantly, coming under a more deadly array of shots in the third period.

The Canadiens' two remaining games are against the third-place Black Hawks Saturday and against fourth-place Detroit Red Wings Sunday.

The Leafs, meanwhile, meet Boston Bruins and New York Rangers in their last two games. The Bruins and Rangers are out of the Stanley Cup playoff race.

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. . . gets big one

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Rainmakers enter consolation round

VANCOUVER (CP) — Prince Rupert Rainmakers were eliminated from the championship round of the B.C. Inter High School Invitational Basketball Tournament here Thursday night when they were trimmed 47-33 by Abbotsford.

The Fraser Valley team held a 26-13 lead at the half.

The victory gave Abbotsford revenge for a defeat last year by the Prince Rupert team in the first round of the championship flight.

Prince Rupert had been picked by many to at least gain the semi-finals. John Olsen, their outstanding player, made the all-star team last year.

The coveted B.C. Inter High School Invitational Basketball Tournament championship could wind up in the Fraser Valley for the first time since 1954.

Three Valley schools entered the semi-final of the 16th annual tournament Thursday night with Vancouver's Magee winning the other berth.

White Rock's Semiahmoo and Clearbrook's Mennonite Educational Institute play in one semi-final with Abbotsford and Magee going in the other.

Abbotsford has been an underdog in all its games thus far and their position will be unchanged against Magee.

The Vancouver school is top seeded and has scored two easy victories.

It whipped Queen Elizabeth of Surrey 58-29 in the first round Wednesday and last night trounced Delbrook of North Vancouver 48-29.

Abbotsford, on the other hand, squeaked by Oak Bay 44-43 in the opening round and then whipped Prince Rupert.

The Mennonite school is a big surprise as is Semiahmoo. M.E.I. has won both its games by convincing scores, beating Creston 47-33 and Lester Pearson of New Westminster 47-33.

Semiahmoo had to defeat Prince George in an elimination game before entering the tournament proper. The White Rock boys defeated Summerland 32-21 in the first round and then astonished Lord Byng of Vancouver by winning 32-27.

All other games Thursday were in the consolation rounds with the lowers being eliminated from the tournament.

Three of four Vancouver Island schools — all of which lost their opening round games — advanced in the consolation bracket.

Alberni trimmed Summerland 49-40, Victoria whipped Creston 49-30 and Oak Bay whipped King Edward of Vancouver 57-34.

Today's action sees Victoria against Alberni, Oak Bay opposing Queen Elizabeth and Lord Byng playing Lester Pearson in afternoon consolation games.

Prince Rupert and Delbrook meet in the consolation round at 6:30 p.m. with the semi-finals starting at 7:45.

Lineups:

Abbotsford — Addocatt 14, Gainpross 0, Doka 0, Dyck 0, R. Falk 0, Ronald Falk 12, Flodin 6, Isaac 0, Kielo 0, Robertson 0, Stamur 4, Wellings 11. Total—47.

Prince Rupert — Olsen 19, Macleod 0, Mitchell 7, Martin 5, Scuby 2, Kerr 0, Adams 0, Specht 0. Total—33.

Unbeaten Saskatchewan rink takes Legion championship

TRAIL (CP) — An unbeaten Saskatchewan rink skipped by Burley Townsend of Regina Thursday night won the fifth annual Royal Canadian Legion national curling championship.

A British Columbia loss and Townsend's 19-5 victory over winless Newfoundland, gave Saskatchewan the title at the end of the eighth draw with an 8-0 record.

Tom Dickson of Cloverdale, B.C., only other skip with a hope of catching Townsend, lost to Alberta 12-7.

Manitoba, which beat Quebec 9-5 in the eighth round, tied for second place with B.C., each having 6-2 records.

In other eighth round games, New Brunswick won its fifth match, taking P.E.I. 11-9, and Nova Scotia won its fourth in downing Ontario 10-4.

The Townsend rink, other members of which are Gordon Brown, third; Bud Gamelin, second and Taylor Paterson, lead, had no trouble with Newfoundland, scoring two five-enders.

In winning the tournament, Saskatchewan retained the supremacy the West has held since the competition started in 1957. It marked the second time a Saskatchewan rink had won.

Standings after eight rounds.

	P	W	L
Saskatchewan	8	8	0
British Columbia	8	6	2
Alberta	8	6	2
New Brunswick	8	5	3
Nova Scotia	8	4	4
Ontario	8	2	6
Quebec	8	2	6
P. E. I.	8	1	7
Newfoundland	8	0	8

Marine Bonspiel results

Here are the results for the first round of the 10th Annual Marine Bonspiel which got underway last night.

There were 20 games in four draws yesterday and curling will resume with most of the out-of-town rinks at 6 p.m. tonight.

6 p.m. — Kristmanson 14, Whatman 8; Simpson 10, Kerr 9; Bell 11, J. Schuman 4; Cooper 13, Rogerson 11; Shepard 6, Pallister 3; and B. Schuman 9, Long 8.

8:15 p.m.—Scott 8, H. Lewis 7; Bateman 6, Paul 9; J. Eby 7, Langford 9; Laurie 7, Johnston 6; and Eyolfson 14, McDonald 1.

10:30 p.m. — Ford 8, Warren 10; McKeon 12, Fowlie 6; Manson 4, Simpson 10; Lambie 4, Woods 7; Lindsay 10, R. Eby 8; and Field 8, Anderson 11.

12:45 a.m.—Rudderham 10, J. Mitchell 8; Fleming 6, Stevens 15; and Dominato 6, T. Lewis 17.

St. Lawrence grabs opener

Denver, Colo. (AP) — St. Lawrence, led by Canadian Roland Anderson, won the opening game of the United States National Collegiate Athletic Association's hockey tournament here Thursday night, trouncing its New York State rival, Rensselaer Polytechnic, 6-3 in a semi-final match.

St. Lawrence, as a result, moved into Saturday's championship game against either Denver University's defending champions or Minnesota, who will play the other semi - final tonight.

Anderson, a wing from Flatlands, N.B., scored two first-period goals, one unassisted, to tie the score after Rensselaer had taken a 2-0 lead.

Grey Cup film to be shown

The film of the 1960 Grey Cup game between Ottawa Rough Riders and Edmonton Eskimos in Vancouver will be shown at the St. Andrew's Church, 100 block Fourth Avenue West, at 8:15 p.m. Monday.

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the film of the game. It is sponsored by the Brotherhood of Anglican Churchmen.

Refreshments will be served.

Finals set

NELSON (CP) — The dates for the best - of - seven B.C. Senior Hockey final between Nelson Maple Leafs and Vernon Canadians have been announced.

First two games of the series will be played here Saturday and Monday. If the games are split, or if Nelson should win both, a third game will be played here Tuesday.

Otherwise, the series will shift to Vernon for the remainder, March 24, 25, 27 and 28.

Kerwin wins bout

SASKATOON (CP) — Gale Kerwin of Ottawa, reigning Canadian welterweight boxing champion, easily outpointed Peter Schmidt of Toronto in a 12-round match here Thursday night.

Juvenile champs

NANAIMO (CP) — Trail Juvenile Smoke Eaters rallied for five goals in the final 40 minutes to defeat Nanaimo 5-1 and win the B.C. Juvenile Hockey Championship before 550 fans here Thursday.

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Sports Events

TONIGHT
Floor Hockey
Junior
7 p.m.—Van's vs Ormes (first game of semi-finals).
Senior
8:30 p.m.—Prince Rupert Hotel vs Sports Shop (first game of semi-finals).
Curling
6 p.m.—Marine Bonspiel continues.

SATURDAY
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League basketball cancelled because of Marine banquet.

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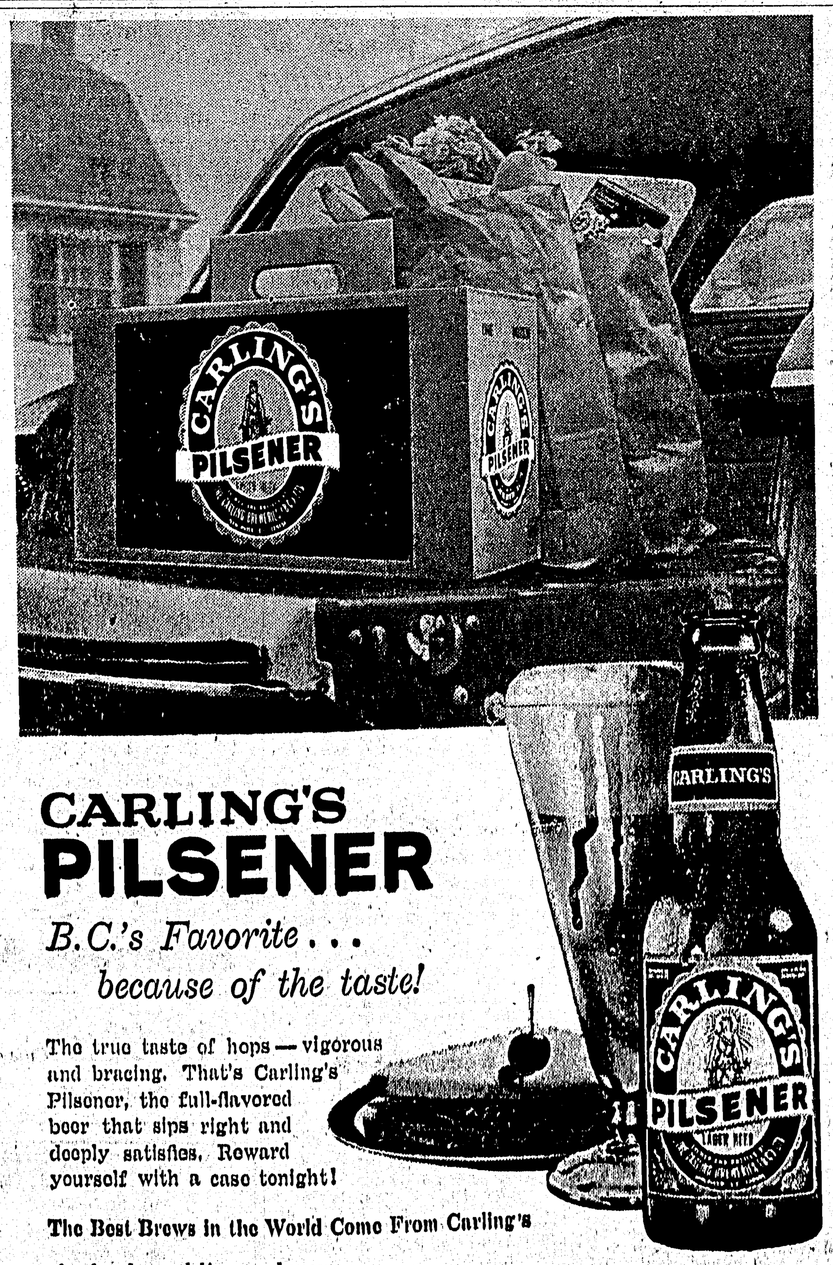

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