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## Whitlock Tops Beavers Scoring In 7-4 Victory Over Edmonton Mercurys

SAINT JOHN, N. B., Dec. 29.—(CP)—On the eve of sailing for Europe, Edmonton Mercurys played an exhibition tonight with Saint John Beavers of the Maritime Senior Hockey League and emerged on the short end of a 7-4 score.

Mercurys, who won the Western Canada intermediate hockey title last season, left Edmonton by plane last night and arrived here early this afternoon. They will tour Europe before representing Canada in the world amateur hockey championship tournament at London next March.

The teams took things easily tonight and laid off the heavy stuff. Only one penalty, against Pete Wright of Edmonton, was imposed.

Beavers, holding second place in the Maritime four-club loop, gained a 3-1 lead in the first session but the scoring was reversed during the middle frame, which ended 4-4. Then Beavers exerted themselves more and tallied three without a reply.

Mercury scorers were team captain Marsh Darling, Doug MacAuley, Bill Dawe and Bob Watt. Their assist column comprised Jack Davies, (two), Harry Allen, Ab Newsome, MacAuley and Darling.

Buck Whitlock led the Saint John scoring by shooting three and assisting one. Mose Dowling had two and one, Dick Wray and Vit Jackson also made the red net blink.

## St. Mary's And Moncton Battle To 4-All Tie

HALIFAX, Dec. 29.—(CP)—Halifax St. Mary's, with less than five minutes left, cut down a three-goal lead to tie Moncton Hawks 4-4 in a Maritime Senior Hockey League game tonight. Ron Gaudet shot the tying goal just three seconds from the end.

The draw moved Halifax seven points ahead of second-place Saint John Beavers and left Moncton 12 points behind Saint John.

The tying goal came with Halifax goalie Ernie Yeadon on the bench and six men playing up the ice. Hawks beefed for a minute what the time-keeper was holding up the clock but were vehemently overruled.

It was fast, rough and slam bang. A renewal of the feud that started in Moncton cropped up in the second period and the fans who came out expecting fireworks were not disappointed. Eric Fleet and Frank Grabowski were the principals in the fracas and when the referees finally restored order, both were tagged with majors and misconducts while Pat Powers and Dalt Barkwell each had a minor. Barkwell had an additional 10 minutes tacked on for talking back to the referee.

**SUMMARY**  
 First Period  
 1—Halifax, Sullivan (Steel) 6:40  
 Penalty: Auger  
 Second Period  
 2—Moncton, Milani 6:15  
 Penalties — Grabowski (major and misconduct), Fleet (major and misconduct), Barkwell (minor and misconduct), Knout, Powers (2)  
 Third Period  
 3—Moncton, Ryan, (Robinson) 8:53  
 4—Moncton, McIntyre (LeBane, Barkwell) 10:42  
 5—Moncton, Fitzpatrick (Milani) 12:26  
 6—Halifax Ford (Harmon, Steel) 18:10  
 7—Halifax, Sullivan (Erenan, Powers) 16:11  
 8—Halifax, Gaudet (Armstrong, Steel) 19:57

**ANNUAL MEETING**

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Charlotte-Town Driving Park and Provincial Exhibition will be held in the office of the Association, 151 Great George Street, on January 11, 1950, at 2:30 p.m.

It is the intention of the directors to postpone this meeting to a later date.

H. J. KENNEDY, President.  
 G. H. BUNTAIN, Secretary.

**HIGHLIGHTS THE FORUM**

SKATING WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHTS — 8 to 10 O'CLOCK  
 SKATING — AFTERNOON:  
 FRIDAY — CHILDREN ..... 4 to 5:30  
 SATURDAY ..... 3 to 5  
 HOCKEY THURSDAY — 8:30  
 CRYSTALS -VS- P. W. COLLEGE

# SPORTING NEWS

PAGE SIX THE GUARDIAN, CHARLOTTETOWN DECEMBER 30, 1949



## La Motta Is Ordered To Defend Title In March

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Jake La Motta today was given until Feb. 1 to sign for a March defence of his middleweight title.

If he doesn't he will be stripped of his championship in New York State. Chairman Eddie Eagan of the New York State Athletic Commission said he set the deadline after Jake told a Commission meeting he planned to defend in June and not before.

La Motta, recently beaten by Robert Villmain of France in a non-title bout, asked more time to condition himself.

Jake and his brother, Joey, appeared before the Commission but the Bronx fighter's position was stated formally in a letter written by his lawyer, J. Jordan Lee, to Abe Greene, commissioner of the National Boxing Association.

After hearing the Commission's ruling, La Motta did not alter his stand.

"I can't fight for the title until June," said Jake, "if they take the title away, I won't take it lying down. I'll fight it."

La Motta will have no alternative other than to accept the ruling if the Commission goes through with its present plans. However, he probably feels he will be able to see action in N. B. A. states which are not bound by any New York ruling.

As a result, it is possible that another dual championship in the middleweight division may come about, one recognized by New York and another by the N. B. A.

Eagan said the commission will conduct a tournament among the four leading contenders if La Motta is shorn of his title. He would not name the contenders. However, most lists ranking the top middleweights include Steve Bellosio, Ray Robinson and Rocky Graziano of New York, Dave Sands of Australia, Laurent Dauthuille of France and Villmain.

## Rangers Set N.H.L. Record

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—(CP)—New York Rangers last night set a National Hockey League record by scoring four goals in two minutes and 57 seconds.

The previous four-goal mark was held by Detroit Red Wings who scored four against the Rangers in three minutes and 32 seconds while defeating them 15-0 Jan. 23, 1944.

The Rangers' scoring parade was started by Dunc Fisher at 15:48 of the period. Then Don Raleigh tallied at 16:08 and Edgar Laprade at 18:00 and 18:45. The four-goal rally gave the Blueshirts a 5-2 victory over Chicago Black Hawks.

N.H.L. officials at the head office in Montreal confirmed that Rangers' feat was an authentic record.

## Stellarton In 11-4 Victory Over Truro

TRURO, N. S., Dec. 29.—(CP)—Stellarton Royals increased their lead in the Antigonish-Pictou-Colchester Senior Hockey League here tonight, trouncing Truro Bearcats 11-4. The win gives Royals a 12-point lead over second-position Antigonish Bulldogs.

The win brings Stellarton's victory record to 16 of 20 games played. Roy Weatherbee in the Truro nets was called on to handle 27 shots, while Hughie MacDonald, Bearcats goalie, blocked 25.

## New Coach For Vics Appointed

The appointment of Had McInnis as coach of the Vics hockey team was announced last night by the club manager Mr. Edward Garnum. The coaching duties had been carried out by Cecil "Bubby" Dowling who was also playing. McInnis was appointed so that Dowling could be given more of a chance to play hockey.

## Controversial Figures To Make Baseball Debut

By Gayle Talbot  
 NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Two most controversial figures due to make their debuts as full-fledged big league ball players next spring are Luke Easter of Cleveland Indians and Sam Jethroe of Boston Braves.

As it happens, both are Negroes. Easter, at approximately 230 pounds, will be one of the biggest men in the majors. Jethroe probably the fastest.

Easter was with the Indians as a part time man late last season, after having left San Diego club to undergo a knee operation. He will start the '50 campaign at first base, declares the Cleveland management, supplanting such a valuable player as Mickey Vernon.

Jethroe, who burned up the International League last season, was purchased by the Braves from Brooklyn for a sum estimated up to \$200,000. Presumably, he will help round out a fine new Boston outfield.

A controversy begins when a reporter, anxious to get a line on the two men who might prove key

figures in the next pennant race, asks a couple of International League managers how they think Jethroe will fare in the big time.

"Well-I-I," replies the first one, giving it thought, "I don't think he'll do so good. All he's got is speed—no power. He never hurt us."

"Didn't hurt you?" grunts his companion. "You're either lying or lucky. The guy ran us nuts. May-be he can't hit too hard, but he'll show those National League catchers something."

"Take your choice, and it's no secret that the Braves' management is having night sweats, wondering which of the foregoing controversialists has the expensive speedster tabbed correctly. The fact that Branch Rickey let Jethroe go even for money, isn't conducive to peace of mind.

About the huge man Easter, a somewhat similar poll of rival coast league pilots produces an equally mixed reaction and makes one wonder if the Cleveland bosses are sure enough leveling about starting Luke on first base and putting Vernon up for grabs.

## S'side Curling

The following is the personnel of the teams competing tonight at the Summerside Curling Club:

1. Arsenault, Jr., Morrison, N. MacWilliams, E. Offer, skip.  
 2. Cotton, S. MacFarlane, F/L. Fee, F. O. Thompson, skip.  
 3. Noonan, W. E. Smallman, L. Salter, E. P. Foley, skip.  
 4. Bell, S. Beaton, M. Mill, R. E. Ellis, skip.  
 5. Robinson, G. Meikle, Sgt. Mains, G. F. Cameron, skip.  
 6. Birch, W. C. Gross, E. MacKay, T. E. Hickey, skip.  
 7. Dawson, B. Elderkin, B. Mountain, W. E. Jenkins, skip.  
 8. Simmons, N. Thorp, K. Callbeck, L. H. MacFarlane, skip.  
 9. Gorrell, W. C. Willis, G. Gueris, F. O. Cameron, skip.

## N.H.L. Chief Comments On Anti-Knock Blast

MONTREAL, Dec. 29.—(CP)—President Clarence Campbell of the National Hockey League said today his statement that hockey men should quit knocking their own game was aimed "at no one in particular but if the cap fits anyone in the league—National or any other—they're welcome to wear it."

"I merely suggest that in the interest of selling hockey to the public as a thrilling, high-speed game, those interested should refrain from criticizing the rules under which the game is played and from declarations that players are not giving their best either through indifference or lack of confidence."

"I never heard of a good merchant advising his customers that his wares were below par, but that's what some of our club leaders seem intent on doing."

In his original statement, made to the Hockey News, a weekly publication, Campbell said he is "perturbed at the way some people actively engaged in and making their living out of the game have grown thoughtful and careless in their duties of selling and promoting hockey."

The statement touched off comment and speculation by sports writers in N. H. L. cities. Some hinted at gag rule.

"There is no hint of gag rule and no thought of regimentation," said Campbell flatly.

But the speculation was rife and Dink Carroll, Montreal Gazette sports editor, today had a partial who's who of the N. H. L. in figuring out who and what prompted Campbell's statement.

"Everybody wanted to know more specifically the identity of those being criticized," wrote Carroll. "Frank Boucher (New York) Rangers manager who resigned from the N. H. L. rules committee in protest at what he had to say publicly about rule changes he favored was the fellow they guessed first."

"But the list is longer than that. Jack Adams and Tommy Ivan (of Detroit Red Wings) inspired blasts at the referees in a series that ran in a Detroit newspaper, and Frank Selke (Montreal Canadiens) took a few potshots at them in the forum program.

"Conn Smythe (Toronto Leafs) benched Turk Broda for being overweight and threatened to do likewise with four more for the same reason. Lynn Patrick stated three of his Rangers were in danger of being shipped to New Haven for not hustling, which also makes Lynn culpable.

"It's a family row but everybody wants to get in on it."

## Western Capital Hockeyists, Despite The Fact That They Haven't Had Too Many Practices Under Their Belts With No Home Ice To Workout Over As Yet, Burned In A Performance That Is Typical Of Teams From The Quarter, To Battle Every Inch Of The Way And Take A Close 2-1 Decision Over A Hard Fighting Band Of Collegians.

The game gave with plenty in the way of hard, fast skating and open breaks as well as hard body checking that gave the crowd plenty of excitement. It was closely contested, with just one goal being netched up in each period, which was a pretty good cross section of the play. The visitors got the one in the first and third and the locals serving theirs in the seventh session, with both teams really having to work hard for the goals they got.

## It Was Really The Breaks Of The Game That Decided The Final Result, More Than Anything Else, Although Both Had Their Turn At Carrying The Offensive And Both Having Scoring Opportunities, Which In Some Cases Was Shut Off By Some Good Net Tending By The Two Goalies, While On Others, In A Case Of Fast, Accurate Shooting, The Part Of The Defenders And At Times Early Hurried Shots on the Part Of The Offense.

## But It Was A Good Game, And Best We Have Seen This Season, And Gives Good Indication That The League Is Going TO SPRUCE UP CONSIDERABLY AS THE SCHEDULE PROGRESSES.

Although the powerful Detroit Red Wings are well to the top of the National Hockey League standing, eleven points better than their nearest rivals in the league for the other positions, behind them is probably the closest it has been this season. With Montreal and New York deadlocked in a second place tie each with a total of 33 points, Boston and Toronto are likewise stalemated for third position just three points behind them while the cellar-dwelling Chicago Black Hawks are only four points away from third place and only seven from the second place teams.

With none of the other five teams in the league being in any way a threat to the Detroit lead or a cramp at the present time with a five and one-half game lead on their closest rivals, the Rangers are probably in the best position for taking over the sole possession of second place and to cut down the gap between the first and second place positions. A two game tie to make up on the Montreal club, which, if they are lucky, could put them four points up on the Montrealers in the same number of games played.

The same could be said, too, of the lowly Chicago Black Hawks, who, despite the fact that they are in the cellar, have two games to make up on Maple Leafs and Bruins which could give them the necessary four points to bring about a three-cornered tie for third place if they can win or tie their next two starts.

But of course, taking into consideration the difference in the individual clubs, such suppositions could go on to almost any length with varying results, as for instance, the league-leading Detroiters are two games down on Boston and Toronto, while Montreal and New York have one and three games respectively to make up on the same two third place teams. So suffice it to say that we think it is a closely contested race, if you can manage to overlook the team at the top, and will predict that it will be even closer before the season is out.

## DETROIT, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Outfielder Charlie (King Kong) Keller, who had become almost a fixture in the New York Yankees' baseball picture, was signed today by Detroit Tigers.

## DETROIT ENTIRE PRO BASEBALL CAREER UP TO NOW HAS BEEN SPENT EITHER IN A UNIFORM OF THE YANKEES OR THEIR NEWARK, N. J., FARM CLUB OF THE INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

## "King Kong's" slugging ability won him recognition as one of the top distance hitters in the American League, but he has been below par physically since he underwent a back operation in 1947.

## He played in only 61 games for the Yankees last season. This winter he was offered a job managing one of the Yankee farm clubs.

## The 33-year-old Keller turned that offer down, saying he still felt he had "quite a bit of good baseball left."

## The Yankees then reluctantly granted him his unconditional release and Keller negotiated with a couple of ball clubs before signing with the Tigers today.

## Big Attendance At Cape Breton Hockey Games

SYDNEY, N. S., Dec. 29.—(CP)—Cape Breton Senior Hockey League attendance records are getting kicked around.

In the first 20 games of the season—up to Dec. 22—Sydney Millionaires played at home to 52,285 cash customers, an average of 2,614 a game for a rink with a seating capacity of only slightly more than 2,250. Average for the first 20 games last season was 2,476, or a total of 49,538.

The Bay Forum cash register has stepped up its pace, too. This 20-game total was 49,176, an average of 2,459 a game. This is a healthy hike from the 2,262 mark of last season.

The North Sydney Forum is lagging a bit, but their report doesn't include its record gate of close to 2,900 Monday night at the height of a victory run. Total attendance for the first 20 games was 41,013, an average of 2,051. The average last season over the same stretch was 2,082.

In Sydney Forum only reserve and rush seats are available. All of the box seats—slightly more than 1,200—are sold on a yearly basis. That's why no box seats at \$1.25 are advertised. There are none. Reserved seats bring \$1 and rush 75 cents.

## REMEMBER WHEN

By The Canadian Press

Big Bill Tilden, who cleaned up every tennis event in the world during his great career, announced his retirement as an amateur 19 years ago today. His professional debut was at New York, February 18, 1931. He headed the United States ranking amateur list for 10 years.

## SHIPBUILDING RECORD

The Netherlands built 97 ships with a total dead weight of 142,485 tons, in 1948.

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KENT ST. CHARLOTTETOWN

## Crystals Edge P. W. C. 2-1 In Best Hockey Game Of Season Here

Coming up with by far the closest and most exciting game of the season, the Summerside Crystals got away to a good start by edging out the Prince of Wales College in a regular Island Intermediate Hockey League fixture at the Forum last night before a crowd of 439 cash customers.

It was the first start of the season for the Summerside Club, with the victory putting them up into a three-cornered tie for second place with P.W.C. and Saint Dunstan's University, two points behind the league leading Abegweits.

It was a whale of a game from start to finish with both squads skating hard and making plenty of fast-breaking passing attacks that kept both goal tenders, Bill Lunn of P.W.C., busy kicking out rubber and both coming up with some smart work between the pipes.

The game also came up with some good, close rugged body-checking that added plenty of excitement, and although sticks were being carried pretty high at times, the game was minus any unnecessary roughness. Only five penalties were handed out for minor infractions.

Joe Schurman and Emmett Trainor did the scoring for Crystals, and both assisted on one another's goals, the former snaring the opening tally of the game at 10:51 of the first period on a smart passing play with Trainor in front of the net, while the latter chucked up the winning tally of the game at 4:58 of the third period when he swooped in to bang in Schurman's rebound shot off Lunn's pads.

W. MacRae accounted for P.W.C.'s lone tally in the second frame at 6:07 on a pass from Gus Downe at the end of a power attack close in on goal.

It was about as evenly matched tussle as could be with both teams taking their turn at carrying the play that was full of fast breaks and wide-open hockey, that gave both plenty of close scoring chances.

But both goalies were right on the job although P.W.C. missed some golden opportunities to score by erratic shooting in the latter part of the opening frame after the Crystals had kept them pretty well bottled up behind the blue line and missed some good chances themselves in the early part of the first period, although they did click for one at the halfway mark. Although the P.W.C. boys were one man short of full playing strength, young Gus Downe did a nice job of doubling up on defence and forward.

The two following periods were pretty much a repetition of the first as far as the play was concerned, but the play roughened up a bit more with body checking frequent. The Collegians got their lone tally while pressing the play in the early part of the second while the Crystals banged home

## North Sydney Back In Second Place In League

SYDNEY, N. S., Dec. 29.—(CP)—North Sydney Victorias leaped back into second place in the Cape Breton Senior Hockey League tonight by nipping the leading Sydney Millionaires 4-3.

The win moved Vics ahead of Glouce Bay Miners and with three points of Millionaires, Miners now are one point behind North Sydney. Vics can whisk down Sydney's lead another two notches when they meet the front runners at home tomorrow night. Don Menzies shot the payoff goal tonight well on in the last period. The score was tied 3-3 at the end of the middle stanza.

The lead changed hands three times in the first two periods.

**Summary:**  
 First Period  
 1—Sydney, McRae, (Bowness, Rattray) ..... 3:53  
 2—North Sydney, Menzies, (Hall, Travis) ..... 5:55  
 3—North Sydney, Verrier, (Kelly, Medynski) ..... 12:21  
 4—Sydney, Hildebrand, (Brukow) ..... 15:17  
 Penalties: Kelly, McRae, Whalen.  
 Second Period  
 5—Sydney, Bowness, (Rattray, McRae) ..... 15:07  
 6—North Sydney, Gibson, (Kromm, Stark) ..... 17:35  
 Penalties: None  
 Third Period  
 7—North Sydney, Menzies, (Hall) ..... 12:43  
 Penalty: Jeanneau.

the winning marker while forcing the issue with repeated rushing attacks in the early part of the third stanza.

The following are the lineups and summary:

Crystals—Goal, Sprague; defence, Shields, Davies, Campbell, Waugh; forwards, Kelly, Gallant, G. Bernard, Gay, L. Schurman, B. Grady, Woodside, Trainor, J. Schurman.  
 P.W.C.—Goal, Lunn; defence, Allan, D. Jardine, I. MacKevin; forwards, P. Jardine, Howard, McCallum, Brown, Nicholson, R. MacDonald, Downe, W. MacRae, G. MacLean.  
 Referees—Jim Hogan (S/Side) and Leith Jay (Ch'town).

**First Period**  
 1—Crystals, Joe Schurman (Trainor) ..... 10:41  
 Penalties — None  
**Second Period**  
 2—P.W.C., MacRae (Downe) ..... 6:07  
 Penalties — Allan, D. Jardine, Woodside.  
**Third Period**  
 3—Crystals, Trainor (J. Schurman) ..... 4:58  
 Penalties — Kelly, McCallum, Shields.