SPORTS FRONT

By PIUS CALLAGHAN

NHL On Weekend

DETROIT Red Wings and Toronto Maple Leafs are deadlocked for second place in the NHL standings and there's a better-than-average chance that they will be in the same knot once the weekend is over.

The Red Wings go visiting Toronto Saturday night and then head for Detroit's Olympia where they host the Leafs on Sunday. If the 'win-at-home' scheme continues, then Detroit and Toronto each will gather two points on this weekend. Leafs, however, have the satisfaction of knowing that they own the only victory away-from-home and that one came Wednesday last when Imlach's boys conquered 4-2 in Montreal.

Of course, if the Leafs could catch Detroit without Gordie Howe then they would have a chance of sweeping the series. Gordie is out with a cut ankle and you can be sure they'll not let him play if that ankle looks bothersome. Gordie is far too valuable a piece of hockey property to take lightly. It would be insane to throw this great competitor into action if he was not fully recovered. We have the idea that he will miss tonight's action in Toronto but get back in the swing of things Sunday night at Detroit.

Those Lowly Bruins

BOSTON Bruins had no success with anyone this season except the Montreal Canadiens. The Beantowners were able to garner a point when these two clubs opened the campaign at Boston. Since then the Bruins have been walloped by Detroit, Toronto and Chicago. Canadiens did manage to blast the Rangers in Montreal but in their next outing Toronto Maple Leafs escaped with the decision.

The Habs will be favorites to grab their second win of the season tonight but the Bruins must be a bit desperate and there's no predicting what they might do. Every now and then they come up with a standout game and it could be that way tonight when visiting in Montreal Forum. However, we just can't buy this and for that reason we like the Canucks to topple the Bruins. At Toronto we also are playing along with the home team and pick Toronto to outscore Sid Abel's crew from The Motor City.

Sunday night the Habs will have a much tougher time. They go to the Windy City of Chicago for a game with the league leading Black Hawks. Here Billy Reay's gang should be more than able to hold their own against Toe Blake and company.

Although we are well aware of the 'home' supremacy, we are calling Toronto to down Detroit Sunday night in the Olympia. That leaves us with only the Rangers and Boston to worry about and we stay with Jacques Plante for this one.

Last week we had three out of four correct, a better-than-average performance for us. Can we keep it up this coming weekend?

Saints Play Mounties

ST. Dunstan's Varsity football squad entertain Mount Allison Mounties this afternoon in an Atlantic Fooball Conference struggle.

The Mounties come here with a 2-1 record in this season's campaign. They own verdicts over University of New Brunswick Red Bombers and Shearwater but last Saturday were downed by the powerful Xaverians from Antigonish. The Sackville collegians will be heavy favorites to down the local Red and Whiters but coach Ed Hilton is hoping his boys can come through with their best showing of the season. Hilton feels if they can then the Garnet and Gold visitors are in for trouble.

Saints opened up the season with a 12-1 loss to Shearwater at Halifax and then were crushed by St. Mary's University the following weekend. The Hiltonmen finally righted themselves last Saturday with a thrilling 13-9 nod over the Red Bombers from Fredericton. Hilton will be minus his fine centre Dave Morton, out through injury, but the rest of the club is comparatively healthy. John Driscoll, a fine passer, is likely to see plenty of work at quarterback, and Fred Ripley, an outstanding runner, is a sure bet to get loads of backfield work if Driscoll can keep the team moving. Fred has played quarter most of the season but Hilton could get more mileage out of the squad if both Driscoll and Ripley were in there on the Saints' attack.

Regardless of the outcome, the game should produce fine football entertainment and a big crowd is expected to view these proceedings which commence at 1.30 sharp. That will give you loads of time to get home and watch the Alouettes and Rough Riders in action at the Dominion's capital.

FOOTBALL ACTION HERE

St. Dunstan's Varsity football squad hosts Mount Allison University this afternoon in an Atlantic Football Conference tussle. If Saints could conquer the New Brunswickers, it would give them a 2-2 record for the season. The Mounties own two victories in three starts. Here are three men that will be trying their mightiest to put Saints on an equal footing with Gus MacFarlane's gang. Left to right, they are: John Driscoll, quarterback, Larry Farrell, end, and Wes MacAleer, linebacker. The Red and Whiters are determined to conquer in their home tussles. Last Saturday in their first game here, they shaded UNB 13-9. Action today starts at 1:30.

Argos' Coach Has Problems Handling Sandy Stephens

By JACK SULLIVAN
Canadian Press Sports Editor

Nine years ago Nobby Wirkowski was booed right off the Toronto Argonaut football club.

He had been trying for four years to make Argo fans forget about dead-armed Al Dekdebrun, who had quarterbacked the club — then coached by Frank Clair—to a 1950 Grey Cup title.

Clair said that Dekdebrun "shot-put the ball instead of throwing it." Dekdebrun denied this and the people in the stands went along with him.

Wirkowski, who had played with Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, was brought in as the team's 1951 quarterback. He played a big role in Argonauts' 21-11 Grey Cup victory over Edmonton Eskimos in 1952, but the customers weren't satisfied.

"Go home, you bum," was a favorite taunt and, in December, 1954, Nobby got the gate.

At the time Nobby admitted the boos occasionally got him down. But he added: "The privilege of razzing goes with the price of a ticket."

YANKED SANDY

Now, as coach of Argonauts, Nobby probably recalls his own experiences and doesn't wish to subject his athletes to the same abuse. This was evident last Sunday when Argos played the Alouettes at Montreal and Wirkowski yanked quarterback Sandy Stephens early.

Why?

"I wouldn't subject him to that," he said, referring to the lusty boos that greeted Stephens when he went in to start the game. "I have to look beyond one game. . . . I didn't want the game messed up because he went in at quarterback and tried too hard because of the way the fans treated him.

"Then, if he hadn't played well it would have affected his confidence and I'd have the problem of getting it back. . . . He's going to be a fine football player and I was looking to next year."

That may be okay, particularly at this time when Argos are out of the Eastern Conference playoff picture and with three games to go to fill out the schedule. But, how about NEXT YEAR?

Toronto fans aren't enchanted with the club that hasn't been in the Grey Cup final since Wirkowski's quarterbacking did it in 1952. They've shown their displeasure with Stephens at games in Toronto and they'll be out for blood next year if the club doesn't produce.

And the quarterback is bound to be their prime target. Wirkowski might not be able to afford to be so charitable. And, after all, professional athletes can expect booing and razzing.

Jackie Robinson, the first Negro player to make it in organized baseball, took a pretty good razzing in the U.S. but he wasn't yanked. Roger Maris of New York Yankees is by no means a favorite with fans but he takes his regular turn at right field.

There have been cases in pro sport where fan behavior has caused club officials to get rid of players subjected to razzing. Defenceman Tom Johnson and goalkeeper Jacques Plante of Montreal Canadiens in the National Hockey League are examples. But they were in Montreal uniform for years.

Another is Allan Stanley, defenceman with New York Rangers for five full seasons, who was traded to Chicago Black Hawks and eventually to Toronto Maple Leafs. Madison Square Garden fans had been down on Stanley for years and the club management thought a change was due.

'Nabbit And Skute' Coming Under Heavier Pressure

By ALAN HARVEY

LONDON (CP) — The incorrigible old firm, Nabbit and Skute, is under increasing pressure as the British flat racing season draws to an inglorious close.

Nabbit and Skute is a fictitious collective name for Britain's bookmakers, long regarded as a distinctive and indispensable feature of the sporting scene. The question now being urgently canvassed is whether they really are indispensable.

Many people would rather see a totalizator monopoly, as in Canada and the United States. The fundamental difficulty is that the bookies, who handle about 10 times as much action as the tote, don't put much back into racing.

The result is that British racetracks now are subsidized by grants from an official levy board. Even then, purses are much lower than in North America or in France, owners stand less chance of making ends meet and spectators have to put up with high admission prices and primitive amenities.

CRITICISM MOUNTS

There is much to be said on both sides. This year, as the bookies had to be prodded into making even a nominal contribution to the levy board, opinion veered violently against the men who lay the odds.

The outbreak of doping scandals harmed the bookies. With more horses being doped to "stop" than doped to win, suspicion naturally fell on the group who would most easily profit by advance knowledge of any outside intervention.

Visiting Canadian sportsmen commented privately on the British system puts temptations in the path of stable boys and even trainers, many of whom must try to make a betting coup to supplement slender incomes.

Trainer John Sutcliffe called openly for abolition of the bookies, saying a tote monoply would put the turf back on its feet, and the phenomenally successful P. J. (Paddy) Prendergast, one of the few with no financial worries, told this reporter he would like to see the bookies go.

MANY SUPPORTERS

The layers, naturally enough, reacted vigorously. Their main argument is that on the tote, speculators are betting "blind." With the bookies, they get he price prevailing at the time the wager is struck. And the men in the hard hats, puffing the inevitable cigar, offer a variety of tempting parlay bets unobtainable through the tote.

The bookies could probably save their own skins by kicking back more of their profits. In a country of huge fields and plenty of surprise results, the odds are in their favor. So much so that some firms keep their losing clients content by sending along such Christmas gifts as table mats, a box of cigars or a case of vintage wines.

Behind that scowling facade, Nabbit and Skute do all right.

Women Golfers Receive Awards

SUMMERSIDE — The annual supper meeting of the ladies division of the Summerside Golf and Country Club was held in the club house in the evening of October 16. Due to the absence of the president, Miss Blanche Hogg, the vice-president, Mrs. Paul Schurman, chaired the meeting.

The annual report was given by the secretary, Miss Laurie Peters, and the financial report by Mrs. Ralph MacFarlane.

The chairmen of the various committees reported in turn and all reports were adopted by the meeting. Mrs. Lew Garbutt, chairman of the nominating committee, brought in the following slate of officers ,which was approved unanimously. President — Mrs. Paul Schurman; Vice-president — Miss Marion Howatt; Secretary — Miss Laurie Peters; Treasurer —Mrs. Cecil Carver; Chairman of house committee — Mrs. Gladys MacQuarrie; Games committee — Mrs. Al Farris; Handicap committee — Mrs. Norman MacLeod; Tea committee — Mrs. Leonce Arsenault; Membership — Mrs. Bert Hunter; Publicity — Mrs. George McMahon; RCAF representative — Mrs. Gerry Smith.

Mrs. Ralph MacFarlane took over the CLGU year book sale. Following the meeting, the awards of the past year were presented to the following:

Club championship — Miss Blanche Hogg; runner-up — Mrs. Daphne Dagg.

Consolation — Mrs. Ralph MacFarlane; runner-up — Mrs. Charles Linkletter.

Nine-hole club championship — Mrs. Bill Nugent; runner-up — Mrs. Gerry Smith.

Consolation — Mrs. Connie Topper; runner-up — Mrs. Hazel Miller;

Vice-president match — Mrs. Art Clark; runner-up — Mrs. George McMahon.

Godkin Trophy — Mrs. Ralph MacFarlane; runner-up — Mrs. Charles Linkletter.

Barbara Ann trophy — Mrs. Ralph MacFarlane; runner-up— Mrs. Lew Garbutt.

18 hole ringer competition — Miss Blanche Hogg.

9 hole ringer competition — Mrs. George McMahon.

Junior championship — Miss Marsha Schurman; runner-up —Miss Patti Rogers.

Stamps Have Tough Chore

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

Edmonton Eskimos have learned a lot about losing, British Columbia Lions have learned how to win, but Taylor Field still sticks in Calgary's craw.

It has been one of the constant things in the last two years of Western Conference football action.

By most other measures, Calgary is a good bet for victory tonight at Regina against Saskatchewan Roughriders in a game highly charged with playoff hopes.

But with the exception of one Calgary - Saskatchewan playoff game there last year, Stampeders haven't drawn an easy breath at Regina's Taylor Field since 1960.

HONOR FAN

The Eskimos' trip to Vancouver has historical precedent of a different sort. When they take the field tonight it will be with more than 30,000 fans watching, one of them chosen as the "two-millionth fan" to watch the Lions play in Empire Stadium.

He will receive an abundance of gifts from a new car down, as did his predecessor — the "millionth fan"—on Aug. 31, 1959, when 34,272 saw Lions edge Esks 8-7.

Both games have special significance in conference standings. A win for the Lions would move them to within one victory of a first-place finish and a bye into the WFC final playoff series.

Saskatchewan, by defeating Calgary, would force Winnipeg Blue Bombers to beat B.C twice in their remaining games of the season to overtake the Roughriders for the third and last playoff spot. A win for the Stampeders would make second place certain for them, keep first-place hopes alive and give the club a choice of venue in the semi-final playoff series.

Gordie Howe's 4 Stitches Causing Concern Galore

By PAUL RIMSTEAD
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Hockey, a sport in which the facial scar is so common it has lost all significance as a badge of courage, rarely makes much of a fuss over a four-stitch cut.

But that all changed this week. Big Gordie Howe, like a fellow named Achilles, discovered he has a vulnerable spot. With old Achilles it was his heel. Howe was stopped by a four-stitch cut on an ankle.

It was an untimely incident and left National Hockey League followers in a dither. Sports writers and sportscasters have their typewriters and tape recorders poised to record a historical moment.

But no one—not even the great rightwinger of Detroit Red Wings—knows when it will be. Wings opened a weekend home-and-home series with Toronto Maple Leafs tonight at Toronto and Howe still is a doubtful starter.

All the fuss has been created by the fact that Gordie needs only one goal to tie the NHL's lifetime scoring record set by former Montreal Canadien ace Maurice Richard. The Rocket scored 544 in his 18 seasons of play—excluding playoffs — and Howe has 543.

REPORTERS IN HORDES

A horde of Canadian reporters travelled to New York Wednesday night to be on hand in case Howe did the trick against New York Rangers. But they didn't get their notebooks out of their pockets. Howe, cut by goaltender Terry Sawchuk's skate on Tuesday during practice, wasn't dressed.

Sid Abel, manager-coach of Wings, hopes Howe will be back in the lineup this weekend but Friday called up a minor league farmhand just in case. Billy McNeill, from Pittsburgh Hornets in the American League, will fill in should Howe still be on the sidelines.

In other weekend games, the Boston Bruins travel to Montreal tonight and Sunday night play in New York. Chicago Black Hawks, in first place with six points, two more than Detroit and Toronto, will entertain Canadiens Sunday night.

Montreal has three points in fourth place, Rangers are fifth with two, and the Bruins have moved into their old last-place lodgings with only one point.

HENRY'S TARGET

While Howe's condition keeps the news hawks guessing, there is another player going for an important goal this weekend. Little Camille Henry of Rangers is shooting for his 200th.

Rangers will not have Doug Harvey back until next week. The veteran defenceman, working himself into condition in the Central Professional League, will stay with St. Paul Rangers for weekend games.

The 39-year-old rearguard, who missed the Ranger training camp because of business commitments, is expected to be ready to return to his team early next week.

To make room for Harvey, Rangers announced Friday that defenceman Don Johns will return to Baltimore Clippers in the AHL Monday. Johns has been with New York since the start of the season.

Brewer Applies At Toronto U. For Fulltime

TORONTO (CP) — Carl Brewer, all - star defenceman with Toronto Maple Leafs, has applied to become a full-time university student after a tiff with manager-coach Punch Imlach.

Still disabled by an arm injury received in the last game of last spring's Stanley Cup series, Brewer has not signed a contract this year. Negotiations broke off after Brewer took part in skating workouts last weekend.

Imlach said he had offered Brewer a substantial raise, retroactive to the first of the season and that the defenceman could apply to NHL president Clarence Campbell for arbitration.

"He's supposed to be skating and he hasn't been," said Imlach, "The only thing I can conclude is that he's trying to prolong his injury."

PLEASED AT DROP

OTTAWA (CP)—The drop in traffic deaths during the Thanksgiving holiday weekend from the previous year represented one of the biggest reductions for a holiday in the last five years, the Canadian Highway Safety Council reported Tuesday. The 1963 death toll for the holiday weekend was 57 as against 68 last year. "We're gratified at this improvement," said W. Arch Bryce, executive director of the council.

BIG HOLE

The famous Kimberley open pit diamond mine in South Africa reaches 3.601 feet down into stone.

Races Going At Pinette

Harness racing at Pinette goes again this afternoon at 2:30 and again next Saturday.

It was first decided to conclude the season's activities this afternoon but a later edict changed that to Saturday, October 26. With fine, almost summer, weather predicted for this afternoon, a large crowd is expected to be at Pinette to watch the pacers and trotters in action.

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City Ball Player Cracks Majors

KANSAS CITY (AP)—Kansas City Athletics are looking to a Canadian to bolster their pitching staff next season.

He is Vern Handrahan, a 25-year - old right hander from Charlottetown, P.E.I., who did not play much baseball until he got out of high school.

The Athletics drafted him from the Boyce, Idaho, club in 1962.

"He has been a pleasant surprise," was the reaction of Ray Swallow, assistant farm director for Kansas City.

Handrahan had a 2-0 record and a 4.40 earned-run average with Lewiston. The Athletics then moved him to Portland in the Pacific Coast League where he finished with a 4-1 record and a 3.56 ERA.

Handrahan is six-foot-two and weighs 185. He throws right but bats left. Swallow said scouting reports credited him with having a "major-league arm."

Right now Handrahan is with the rookies and other players in the club's Florida instructional league, on a six-weeks brushing-up course at Bradenton.

"We got our first reports from down there Friday," Swallow said, "and although Handrahan has been used in relief roles, we know he has been impressive to date."

S'side Hosts Saints' Team

Summerside High School football squad will be trying its mightiest to throw St. Dunstan's High School for a loss in provincial interscholastic senior "A" play at Queen Elizabeth Park in Summerside.

The Saints are undefeated in league play to date, owning victories over Summerside and Prince of Wales Welshmen. The host squad today possesses a 1-1 record.

These boys serve up a good brand of football and promoters of the high school league are hoping for big turnout at Summerside this afternoon.

Game time is fixed for two o'clock.

Knee Operation For Mantle

NEW YORK (AP)—Mickey Mantle, New York Yankees celebrated centre fielder, underwent a successful operation for removal of a cartilage in his left knee Friday.

Mantle, who played only 65 games during this past season, was operated on by Dr. Sidney Gaynor, Yankee club physician.

After the operation, which required an hour and 10 minutes, Gaynor said Mantle would be out of the hospital in about a week.

Mantle broke a bone in his left foot when he ran into the fence chasing a fly ball at Baltimore on June 5. When that healed, he began running to get into shape and discovered the injury to the outside cartilage in his knee.

On Aug. 4, against Baltimore at Yankee Stadium, Mantle returned to action and hit a home run as a pinchhitter. However, he didn't return to the regular line-up until Sept. 2.

The slugging star played in all four games of the World Series, which Los Angeles Dodgers swept from the Yankees, and got one homer and one single in 15 at bats.

LOW COUNTRY

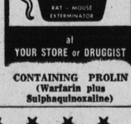
The average height of land in Holland is only 37 feet and there are thousands of acres below sea level, protected by 1,500 miles of dikes.

Athena Loses Soccer Tilt

SUMMERSIDE — Athena Regional High School lost a squeaker to Kensington High in a game of soccer at Queen Elizabeth Park yesterday afternoon. The final score was 1-0.

Miscouche High are in front in this soccer league, winning the only game they have played. Kensington has split a pair of games, and Athena has won one and lost two.

George Doughart coached the winners yesterday, with Mayne Yeo having charge of the losers.



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Alouettes Play In Ottawa Today

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

When it comes to incentives, Ottawa Rough Riders appear to have more going for them than Montreal Alouettes when they meet in Ottawa Saturday.

Both teams share one outsized incentive—the idea of finishing in first place in the Eastern Football Conference. But that's not the main preoccupation with Riders.

In their dressing rooms, prominently displayed, are newspaper clippings of the last meeting between the two clubs —the Labor Day weekend when Riders used the Montreal Stadium for relaxing on the holiday weekend. Alouettes mangled them 37-15 in what Ottawa coach Frank Clair described as the worst performance by a team of his since 1956.

He has been somewhat concerned with the figures 37-15 ever since, and just before his team went out to play Edmonton Eskimos last Saturday, he told them: "Okay, let's get this one out of the way so we can get at those other guys."

But Montreal coach Jim Trimble gives no indication of sulking in a corner. About Ottawa's effective arrow play—the Russ Jackson to Whit Tucker pass — Trimble says: "We'll just have to take the feathers out of it."

And defensive halfback Bobby Lee Thompson, back in the Montreal lineup following an injury, says: "We'll represent the East in the Grey Cup."

Ottawa and Hamilton Tiger-Cats are tied for the Big Four lead, two points ahead of Alouettes. Ticats will be looking after their own interests Sunday when they visit Toronto for an encounter with Argonauts, who sealed the cellar door behind them long ago.

On the face of it, Ticats will be favored to win.

With the exception of halfback Don Clark, Montreal goes into the game in good physical shape—as do Riders—and with possibly both quarterbacks dressed for the occasion. Trimble says Bubba Marriott and Warren Rabb both looked good in workouts this week.

Clair expects a tough running game from the visitors. "They have proven they can run the ball. They haven't proved anything in passing."

In Sunday's game, Toronto will introduce halfback George Hughley, a 215 pounder from Central State Teachers College in Oklahoma. End Jack Elwell will replace the injured Tom Cloutier who is sidelined along with guard - linebacker Jerry Patrick, linebacker Maury Schleicher and fullback Ron Hatcher.

Key Soccer Play Today

SUMMERSIDE — Saint Dunstan's High School football team will visit Summerside this afternoon at 2 o'clock, and take on the Summerside High School boys in a key game for the Island game for the Island interscholastic, senior "A" championship.

So far in the series the Saints have won two and lost none, Summerside has one victory and one defeat, and PWC have had two losses.

The Summerside High boys will have to win today to stay alive in the competition, and they are expected to put up a rugged battle against the league-leading Saints.

A collection will be taken during the game, and it is hoped the fans will contribute generously to help the boys.

Joe O'Brien Takes Triple

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP)—Joe O'Brien, with the most wins in Western Harness Racing Association history, climaxed a triple victory Friday by piloting favored Mighty Indian to a three-quarter length triumph in the featured $10,000 Long Beach Trot at Hollywood Park.

O'Brien is a native of Alberton, P.E.I.

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