

THE PROS by John Cairns

The Montreal Canadiens won their twentieth game in twenty starts against the Washington Capitals. They then, however, ran into a slump. Last season they were shut out once. They neither lost two games in a row, nor did they go four without winning. This year they haven't been as lucky. The Habs tied the Leafs, lost 5-3 to the Kings, fell 4-0 to the Sabres, and then battled Atlanta to a draw. It was the team's worst week in years. Are the mighty Canadiens vulnerable? Maybe so, but their fans aren't worrying.

The Leafs finally traded Inge Hammerstrom. It was inevitable really. Harold Ballard was continually chastising him for not being physical enough. Inge, he thought, could go into a corner with a dozen eggs in his pockets and not break them. Well, Hammerstrom's gone from Toronto now. He and Borje Salming have been split up. Will Inge be happy away from his countryman and long-time teammate? Probably not, but such are the demands

of pro hockey. His speed and scoring will help the Blues.

The Winnipeg Jets put Fran Huck on waivers in an attempt to cut costs. If a talented franchise like the Jets are having financial difficulties, it speaks poorly for the rest of the league's chances.

FOOTBALL

Western Football Conference teams won eleven of nineteen interlocking games this year. It wouldn't be surprising then, for a western team to win the Grey Cup.

The C.F.L. playoff positions have been decided. Hamilton, Saskatchewan and Calgary get the early vacations. I look for Winnipeg to win the west over British Columbia, and for Montreal to overpower Ottawa in the east.

Two weeks ago an injured Ron Lancaster missed his first game since October 8, 1966. Eleven years! How's that for endurance? The sign of a great player is how long he stays

around. Lancaster is one of the best. Without him the Riders immediately ended their playoff chances.

Five Hamilton Tiger Cats say they won't be with the team next season. Mike Harris, Terry Evanshen, Steve Gelley, Bill Harrison and Dave Shaw are all complaining. All except Evanshen are beefing about money. He says he isn't being used properly. I guess player unrest is simply a symptom of a losing season.

Jimmy Edwards, the team's impressive rusher, is a possibility for league most valuable player honors, but B.C. quarterback Jerry Tagge should win. He's led the Lions to a much better season than Hamilton had.

At the Streetwater Pub in Denver, management is selling raffle tickets. The winner throws a buck through a television screen at Howard Cosell. Business is booming, but apparently Cosell isn't pleased. Don't worry, Howard. You'll hardly feel it.

BASEBALL

Willie Randolph is the

only Yankee among the Associated Press all stars. As one of the few on his team to play consistently and stay out of trouble, he's a deserving choice. The likes of Munson and Jackson spent too much time squabbling, and not enough on baseball.

Mike Torrez's wife wants him to sign with the Expos. Torrez, however, says he's going where the money is. If there's one thing professional sports stars don't need, it's more money.

Steve Carleton has won baseball's National League Cy Young Award. Tommy John was second while Rick Reuschel and Tom Seaver tied for third. One hates to second guess, but Pittsburgh's John Candelaria would have been a better choice. He is the first since 1965 to lead the league in both earned run average and in won-lost percentage while winning twenty games. His 20-5 record with a 2.34 ERA outshines Carleton's 27-10 and 2.64. The voters for the award wronged him.



THE FAMILY RESTAURANT
ON UNIVERSITY STREET