

Canadiens And Maple Leafs In Cup Finals

Defeat Detroit Red Wings 3-2 Saturday In Drama-Packed Thriller

By W. R. Wheatley
MONTREAL, April 8 (CP)—Montreal Canadiens defeated Detroit Red Wings 3-2 Saturday night in a sensational, drama-packed thriller that carried the underdog Canadiens into the Stanley Cup final.

A roaring, frenzied crowd of 14,448 kept the big Montreal Forum in a bedlam throughout a dazzling third period in which all five goals were scored. The result left the best-of-seven semi-final series in Canadiens' hands by a 4-2 margin on games. Montreal next meets the winner of the Toronto-Boston series.

Game Without Penalties
There wasn't a penalty called by referee Bill Chadwick in this game played at breakneck speed by two powerful clubs, a game that will rank as one of the hockey classics in Stanley Cup history.

Little Billy Reay broke the scoreless deadlock in the third period. His goal was quickly matched by veteran Sid Abel of the Wings.

Then Canadiens' brilliant Maurice Richard poked the puck between goalie Terry Sawchuk's knees. Six minutes later Ken Mosdell put Canadiens ahead 3-1 on a breakaway. But the Wings were far from beaten. Ted Lindsay scored from a swarm of players at 19:15 and in the last half minute, with Sawchuk out of the net, six Red Wings stormed the Montreal zone in a last gallant bid.

Both teams played inspired hockey for this game, the first won by a club on its home ice during the series.

Canadiens finished the National Hockey League in third place, 18 games behind the leading Red Wings. On goals by Richard, they won two long overtime battles in Detroit. They dropped the next two in Montreal and won the fifth back in Detroit.

King Clancy, who formerly headed the N. H. L. refereeing staff, said flatly: "That was the greatest game I ever saw in my life." Nobody disagreed with him.

In front of brilliant goal-tending by Gerry McNeil of Canadiens and the Wings' Sawchuk, the teams fought at top speed through the first two periods without a goal. The advantage swung first one way and then the other.

Late in the second period Bob Goldham of Wings was struck in the forehead, over the right eye. He had 11 stitches taken in the wound but was back in the game in the third period.

The fans were preparing for another overtime struggle when Canadiens' third line broke through for a score at 6:49 of the last period. Paul Meger sent the puck to Geoffrion inside the Detroit blue line. The Montreal rookie let fly and the puck clicked into the net off Reay's stick.

Scarcely a minute later Abel bulled his way through to ram in the rebound off Gordie Howe's shot.

Six minutes later came the tie-breaking goal by Richard, whose flaming play throughout the game was a big part in the Montreal drive. Elmer Lach fed the puck to Richard behind the Detroit net and the Rocket swung it around the goal post and between Sawchuk's skates.

Desperate Power Plays
The Red Wings drove in with desperate power plays. One suddenly backfired. Floyd Curry showed a forward pass to Mosdell who broke away in the clear, raced in unimpeded on Sawchuk and scored.

The Wings attacked with renewed fury with little more than four minutes of the game left. Canadiens fought off the storm until 19:15 when from a maze of players came the screened shot that went into the net before McNeil saw it. The goal was credited to Lindsay, with assists to Abel and George Gee.

Line-ups:
Detroit: Goal, Sawchuk; defence, Reise, Kelly; centre, Abel, wings, Howe, Lindsay. Subs: Goldham, Martin, Gee, Peters, Stewart, Skov, Pavelich, McFadden, Couture, Pronovost, Wilson, Glover.
Montreal: Goal, McNeil; defence, Harvey, MacPherson; centre, Mosdell; wings, Curry, MacKay. Subs: Bouchard, Geoffrion, Richard, Johnson, McNabney, Reay, Olmstead, Lach, Lowe, Kaiser, Meger, Masnick.

Referee, Bill Chadwick; linesmen, George Hayes and Sam Babcock.

First Period
Scoring: None.
Penalties: None.

Second Period
Scoring: None.
Penalties: None.

Third Period
1—Montreal, Reay (Meger, Geoffrion) 6:49
2—Detroit, Abel (Howe) 7:31
3—Montreal, Richard (Lach) 9:35
4—Montreal, Mosdell (Curry) 15:45
5—Detroit, Lindsay (Abel, Gee) 19:15
Penalties: None.

LITTLE SPORT



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THE GUARDIAN, CHARLOTTETOWN

APRIL 9, 1951



A larruping bunch of Islanders pucksters lived up to their advance predictions to garner two out of their three home games over Sydney Millionaires, and send their best of seven series for the Maritime Major hockey crowd into a tight knot at five points each to put themselves on an even keel with the Moneybags going into the two final games of the series over Sydney ice.

The Islanders did it the hard way too. Losing the opening game here on Tuesday night by a 4-3 count, to trail by four points, they went into the following game with a vengeance on Wednesday night. Backed by a crippled Hal Gordon in the nets, who suffered an injury that fractured his shoulder in three places, they smothered the Cape Breton champions under an 8-1 defeat.

Coming up with a bruising performance, which is credited with being the roughest Maritime contest in recent years, they outplayed and battered the Sydney club with powerful, damaging body checks that saw the visiting team wilt for the worst trimming of their career. Completely whipped, the Sydney club came out on the ice again on Friday night prepared to withstand another such onslaught and determined to hand it back bump for bump. But instead, they got the surprise of their life.

Discarding the hammering tactics, coach Leo Lamoureux sent his men out to put into force a complete reversal of their previous performance and play it strictly hockey all the way. He made it pay off with success. Skating and forcing all the time, the Islanders went after that opening goal that permitted them to play semi-defensive hockey and keep the Sydney team off balance and disorganized. Sydney, however, although being outplayed by a considerable margin, were in there battling the whole way and came up with the goal that deadlocked the count in the first period.

But once again the local crew put on the pressure to come up with the goal that put them in front again in the second frame, and once again played it close to the vest by utilizing the breaks to keep Sydney off stride until the final minutes of the period when a strictly "pot luck" goal beat Dennis Brodeur to deadlock the count. Going into the third frame Johnny Horek was the man who hit pay dirt that put the Islanders in front again that held up despite late pressure in the canto by Sydney.

Johnny's goal was a fitting climax to a game that proved to be a smart contest every inch of the way that pleased visiting Sydney fans almost equally as much as it did the local followers, with the exception that they were on the losing end of things. It was really a fine game to watch, and it is safe to say that it was a 100 per cent crowd pleaser no matter what side of the fence the individual spectator was on. Both teams earned merit for their performance, with the more aggressive team winning the verdict, being the sum and substance of the contest.

Making his first appearance with the Islanders as a replacement to an injured Hal Gordon, Dennis Brodeur carried the local banner high for his excellent performance. Playing with makeshift equipment—Gordon's didn't fit and his own hadn't arrived from Saint John in time—the Saint John Beaver's regular custodian was superb in some of his stops during the contest and a strong cog in the efforts of a winning club.

But a report on that game wouldn't be complete or accurate, if top mention were not made of Nick Pidosny's performance in the Sydney cage. Performing brilliantly, as he has done all through the series, he was the major factor in stopping Islanders from piling in at least three or four more times than they did. In both the second and third periods, in particular, it was a source of amazement to both players and fans alike how he barred the door to some of the driving attempts made by Islanders around the mouth of his cage. It is true that he let in eight on Wednesday night, but even in that game too he was more than effective on other attempts for the amount of protection he got from his completely bewildered and battered forward and defence sections. He is a clever goalie and nobody can take that away from him.

Down With Them!



Hockey Scores

National League Playoffs
Detroit 2, Montreal 3. (Montreal wins best-of-seven semi-final 4-2).
Boston 1, Toronto 4. (Toronto leads best-of-seven semi-final 3-1; one game tied).

American League Playoffs
Pittsburgh 3, Cleveland 2 (overtime).
(Pittsburgh leads best-of-seven final 1-0).

Pacific Coast League Playoffs
Victoria 3, New Westminster 2. (Victoria leads best-of-seven final 2-0).

American Hockey Association Playoffs
Atlantic City (EHL) 3, Toledo (MHL) 5.
(Toledo wins best-of-seven semi-final 4-3).

MEMORIAL CUP
O. H. A. Final
Barrie 2, Toronto Marlboros 5. (Best-of-seven series tied 2-2).

Islanders Leave By Bus For Games At Sydney

The Islanders set out on the last lap of their campaign to bring this province its first major or senior league hockey title in history when they left the Forum by bus for Sydney yesterday afternoon shortly after three o'clock.

Faced with the huge task of besting the Millionaires in the series that has been hammered down to a best of two affair from the best of seven starter, the Islanders were given a hearty send off by local backers who gathered at the Forum and followed the bus out of town by car. The teams stand on even footing with five points each as the result of two wins each and a tie.

Coach Leo Lamoureux will send his team into action tonight without the services of centre Frank Bathgate and goalie Hal Gordon. Bathgate worked out with the team yesterday morning but did not feel fit enough to play tonight.

Both boys are still under hospital care. Team physician Dr. Frank MacMillan stated Bathgate was still suffering from the effects of a bruised back while Gordon's shoulder was coming along nicely.

Jack Morrow and Denny Brodeur have proved capable substitutes for both boys. "Red" Favero again will take over Bathgate's job of centering pucks and Beaton while Morrow will move into Favero's right wing spot on the Trainor-Fawcysyn line.

Islanders Leave By Bus For Games At Sydney

A number of club officials and supporters left with the team. Among those boarding the bus were: Messrs. Bill Massey, acting president of the club; Somerled Trainor, legal advisor; Bill Brown, Forum Manager; Frank Trainor, and T.L. FitzGerald, Guardian sports editor.

Islanders, who have become known as the most air-minded major league team in Canada, intended to leave by plane but poor weather kept them grounded. They waited as long as they could for the weather to lift but were forced to leave around three o'clock in order to make the boat.

Millionaires, too, had air trouble on Saturday. Arriving over the Sydney airport on their return from the games here, they were kept in the air by fog. They circled the airport for a while but were forced to fly to New Glasgow. They drove from New Glasgow to Sydney by bus.

The Islanders intended to spend last night in either New Glasgow or Truro and complete the rest of the trip today.

Too Late To Classify
TIMOTHY SEED FOR SALE, free from weed seed. Scott Cairns, Freetown.

Leafs Shutout Bruins 6-0 In Final Game

Mayor Urges Sportsmanship In Games

Mayor B. Earle MacDonald yesterday wired Sydney's Mayor Gallagher and Dr. C. A. MacDonald, President of the Sydney Hockey Club asking them for their co-operation to see that the remaining games in the Islanders-Millionaires series be conducted in a manner befitting sportsmanship and fairplay. Following is the text of the message: Mayor Gallagher, Sydney, Sydney Hockey Club, Syd-

Our hockey team left here by bus today short two of our players, Gordon and Bathgate, severely injured and in hospital, and with two other players badly cut from the games played here this week.

Would appreciate your personal interest to see to it that nothing more is done to mar the balance of the games being played as they should be. I am sure you will agree that the best interests of the game will be served by a closer application of the rules of sportsmanship and fair play.

Nickel Coin Runs Away With Grand National
AINTREE, England, April 8—(Reuters)—Nickel Coin, a sturdy nine-year-old mare who thrives on duck eggs and Irish beer, emerged Saturday from a pack of slithering, tumbling horses to run away with the Grand National steeplechase. Only two others finished, one a remount.

Under the capable hands of Johnny Bullock, Nickel Coin plunged over the 30 fences on the course of four miles 856 yards and in the straight drew away from the Irish-owned Royal Tan to win by six lengths. Nearly 250 yards behind came Derrinstown in third place.

Thirty-one horses fell or lost riders in the first 2 1/4 miles of this sensational race. The crowd of 250,000 screamed and waved arms in tense excitement.

Nickel Coin was a 40-to-1 shot and Royal Tan 22-to-1 Jockey Tony Power was thrown clear by Derrinstown about one-half mile from home. He remounted and the horse finished third. Derrinstown started at 66 to 1.

Five were scratched from the final running. They were T.O.D. Knight's Pass, Hal's Venture, September Air, and Lucky Purchase.

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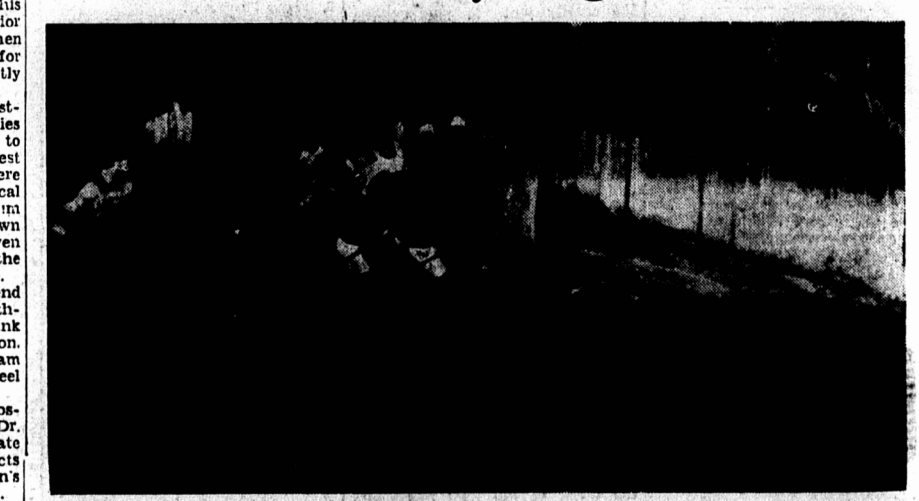
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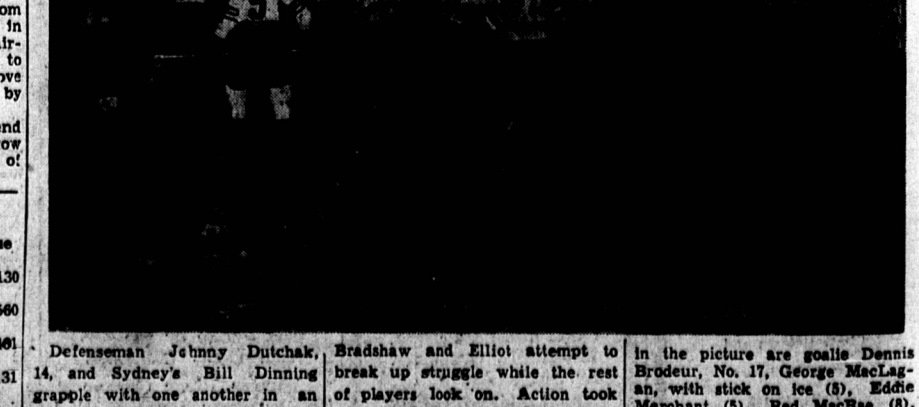
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Action In Friday Night's Game



Islanders' Phil Vitale takes big puck and clear. Sydney's Hildebrand waits expectantly for the pass-out which never came while referee Casey Bradshaw watches from the corner in the third period Friday night.



In the picture are goalie Dennis Brodeur, No. 17, George MacLagan, with stick on ice (5), Eddie Marchant (5), Red MacRae (8), and Marcel Clements. Photo by Frank Schaniel

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BOWLING
Y. M. C. A. Alleys
Ladies Friday Afternoon League

Team 1 2130
Pts—30 3-4.

Team 2 2560
Pts—24 3-4.

Team 3 2460
Pts—46.

Team 4 2131
Pts—19 1-2.

Team 3 winner of 2nd section.
High Single—A. Sutherland 285.
High Three—G. Barbour 675.

Defenseman Johnny Dutcher, Bradshaw and Elliot attempt to break up struggle while the rest of players look on. Action took place following a face-off to the right of the Islanders' net. Shown