

SPORTS FRONT

By PIUS CALLAGHAN

THE SPONSORS of the Stanley Cup playoffs (we're talking about those who saw it that we heard and saw the games) certainly went to considerable expense to provide between-period comments from outstanding sport personalities.

Many of these were extremely interesting and informative, while some others would have been better had they never been seen or heard. We definitely are not talking Red or Canadiens when we make these statements but we are expressing an opinion that we already know is shared by a great many other sport folks around these parts.

LAST THURSDAY NIGHT, Tom Foley got Ace Bailey and Bill Cowley together for a chat. We were particularly interested to hear what Cowley had to say because Bill did a job with Halifax Wolves in the old Big Four days. We had always followed Cowley's doings with a certain amount of pride. That was natural, of course, because of the many great performances he had turned in here while a member of the Wolverines.

After Bill went to the big time Island hockey fans read just about every bit of copy they could on the great centre. They were delighted with his outstanding success as a member of Boston Bruins and Cowley had indeed a great measure of it.

WELL, THURSDAY NIGHT Cowley took a big drop in our estimation as he talked to Tom Foley. Cowley, at least in our opinion, was very reluctant to give any praise to today's hockey players. We know full well that Bill was quite a performer himself but we also know there are several players performing on the ice lanes today who are most outstanding. Cowley, however, appeared to want to live in the past and we thought we could detect a lot of 'sour grapes' in his statements.

We are tired of these comparisons of players and teams of today and 25 years ago. To our way of thinking, attempts of comparison are just a lot of nonsense. The game has changed tremendously and how players of yesterday would perform under present day conditions, is something we feel that nobody can tell us.

BILL COWLEY was a great performer in his day. There are loads of great players today. The present day players usually are the first ones to laud the fine showings of those players who performed many years ago in the National Hockey League. And most of the old timers are indeed willing to go overboard for the efforts of the stars of today.

However, we think Cowley has shown us that he doesn't wish to belong to the latter class of old timers.

HIS COMMENTS were in direct contrast to those of King Clancy and Red Horner who were heard the same evening. Both Red and King, great performers in their day, showed the greatest humility. They were quick to sing the praises of today's players and they even expressed doubt that they would have done so brilliantly had they been playing with the players of today.

Folks will remember Clancy and Horner and their great achievements with the Toronto Maple Leafs. There are very few defence teams that have been as colorful as the King and his partner Red. Not only were they colorful, but they possessed great hockey ability that helped make the Leafs a real power.

But there was no small talk from either of these gentlemen. They preferred to let their talents speak for themselves.

No sir, no 'sour grapes' from these two.

ANOTHER DISAPPOINTMENT came from the great Canadiens' defenceman, Doug Harvey. Interviewed by Foley following Montreal's great victory on Saturday, Harvey was slow to mention the Leafs' great surge in the final period. Indeed Doug was hard to express the opinion that his club took things easier in the third when the Leafs almost chased the Blakemen out of the Montreal Forum.

No, we are not trying to say that Canadiens didn't deserve their victory. We would be giving away to 'sour grapes' if we did. But we do think that Leafs earned the respect of everybody Saturday with their gallant stand in those closing minutes. Had Jacques Plante shown any weakness, Canadiens could easily have seen Saturday's victory slip away.

We don't think the Canadiens' as a team would refuse to give Toronto all the credit in the world for their game but losing fight in the dying moments of that fifth ball game, General manager Frank Selke said he wasn't at all surprised that the Maple Leafs didn't roll over and play dead in the final period. Between the first and second period Selke said he wasn't satisfied with the 3-0 margin Canadiens enjoyed. He wanted more because he felt the Leafs would bounce back and make a real hockey game of it.

Doug Harvey is a great hockey player. Nobody can take that away from him. The success of the Canadiens has depended to a great extent on Doug's performances. But his comments in the dressing room Saturday won't increase his popularity.

NOW THAT HOCKEY has concluded for this season, folks will turn their attention to baseball which now has a couple of weeks under its belt.

It's still pretty early to get all steamed up concerning certain teams. There's a long way to go before a fellow can be proved right or wrong. However, there are a few significant facts that have appeared so far in this year's campaign. One of them is the fact that Joe Gordon's Cleveland Indians got, they went six games without a loss and when they finally did lose it took a four-run uprising by Kansas City Athletics in the ninth to turn the trick. Milwaukee Braves got away in a hurry but there wasn't anything too surprising about that. Most folks had expected such antics from the defending champions of the National League.

However, Los Angeles, who couldn't get untangled last spring, are showing some signs of life this season. When we sent this column to press, the Dodgers were 5-3 and showing intentions of winning a lot of ball games.

Sunday they got a four-hitter from Johnny Podres and Duke Snider hit a home run. If these two gentlemen can come through with a big year, the Los Angeles club might yet be an outfit that will cause a lot of trouble.

Just keep your eye on them.

A GREAT HOCKEY FAVOURITE of the first Big Four days, Jackie Kane, has been sidelined in the past few weeks by illness. Hockey fans of the 1930's recall Jackie's many great rushes on the Forum's ice lanes. Although small in stature, Kane, as an Abegweit performer, was always able to take good care of himself with the biggest of his opponents. A great skater and a smart stick handler, Jackie made the old red light glow on numerous occasions.

Jackie leaves today for Halifax where he will enter the Victoria General Hospital for treatment. His many friends here will be wishing him a speedy recovery to his former good health.

Whitby Dunlops Seek To Set New Canadian Hockey Mark

TORONTO (CP) — Whitby Dunlops are betting on their lucky Canada sweaters to help them set a new Canadian hockey mark.

Whitby players wore the sweaters when they captured the world hockey title at Oslo last year and they've since looked on them as a lucky omen.

The sweaters were worn Sunday when the eastern Canada senior champions skated out a listless 5-2 victory over Vernon Canadians in the opener of the best-of-seven Allan Cup series.

General manager Wren Blair has indicated the players want to keep using the worn and fading outfits for the rest of the series. Second game is scheduled Wednesday in Maple Leaf Gardens.

Probable Pitchers

NEW YORK (AP) — Probable pitchers for today's major league games (won-lost records in parentheses):

- American League
 - New York at Washington (N)—Larsen (1-0) vs Ramos (2-0)
 - Chicago at Kansas City (N)—Pierce (1-0) vs Grim (1-1)
 - Cleveland at Detroit (N)—Molish (1-0) vs Foytack (0-0)
 - Baltimore at Boston — Portocarrero (0-1) vs Casale (1-0)
 - National League
 - San Francisco at Los Angeles (N)—Miller (0-0) vs Koufax (0-0)
 - Cincinnati at Milwaukee—Purkey (2-0) vs Spahn (1-0)
 - St. Louis at Chicago—Blaylock (0-0) vs Hobbie (1-0)
- (Only games scheduled)



BADMINTON CHAMPIONS

P.E.I. Badminton Champions determined in thirteen hours and about 100 games at Summerside on Saturday, are seen above with their trophies. From left to right, they are: seated; Marion Mac-

Donald of Charlottetown, mixed doubles; Pat Breen of Slemmon Park, ladies singles and ladies doubles; Meryl McGrath of Slemmon Park, ladies doubles. Standing are: Keu Judson of Char-

lottetown, mixed doubles; Earl Smith of Summerside, men's doubles and men singles; and Dr. Alan Stewart of Summerside, men's doubles.

World Champion Canucks Have Last Closed Session

MONTREAL (CP)—Coach Toe Blake and his Montreal Cana-

Castro Invited To Hurl Against Mickey Mantle

WASHINGTON (AP) — Joe Cambria, veteran scout for Washington Senators, invited Fidel Castro in return to Washington tonight and pitch against Mickey Mantle of New York Yankees.

"I'd like to," replied Castro. But he added his scheduled probably would not permit it.

Carr Predicts Walker Cup Win For Britain

DUBLIN (AP) — Ireland's Joe Carr, the best amateur golfer in the British Isles, predicted Monday that Britain will beat the United States in the Walker Cup match next month.

Then he added: "Furthermore, we had better beat them. It's for the good of the Walker Cup competition that I say that. The Walker Cup is in very, very great danger."

Petes Capture Junior Series

PETERBOROUGH, Ont. (CP)—Peterborough Petes, comeback kings of the Ontario Hockey Association, edged Hull-Ottawa Canadiens 2-1 Monday night to win the eastern Canada junior championship and the right to meet Winnipeg Braves for the Memorial Cup.

BASEBALL

International League
Toronto 010 000 003—4 8 0
Miami 000 000 000—0 5 0
Woodschick and Thompson; Anderson, Parsons (9) and Bucha. L-Anderson.

diens had a quiet little meeting Monday, the last closed session of the hockey season for the team that has achieved a record of four straight Stanley Cup championships.

The meeting was in the familiar surroundings of the Canadiens' dressing room in Montreal Forum. The get-together was in sharp contrast to the bodiam of Saturday night after Canadiens had defeated Toronto Maple Leafs 5-3 to win the best-of-seven cup final 4-1.

The official break-up of the team for the summer will come today. The meeting Monday was largely to acquaint the players with the wind-up program.

CIVIC RECEPTION

First there was the civic reception for the team Monday night at Montreal city hall, where Mayor Sarto Fourmier extended the city's congratulations.

Today the players will assemble at the Forum for the official picture-taking of the dual-title team—champions of the National Hockey League and world title-holders as possessors of the Stanley Cup.

After that the players will be on their own until they meet again for the training season in mid-September.

Whether all will be back, whether the draft or trades this summer will bring about changes, was left to conjecture. Top officials weren't commenting. Also, there are plenty of likely prospects in Canadiens' extensive farm system.

ROCKET RETURNING

It was considered a certainty that the veteran Maurice (Rocket) Richard will be on hand again. The Rocket will be 36 years old next August. A serious injury in mid-season took him out of the game until the cup final. Then groin pains smote him, and the famous Rocket was used sparingly in the final. Of his own volition he sat out the last game on the bench.

Something new for next season, so far as the players are concerned, is espoused by goalie Jacques Plante. The lanky net-minder, a top figure in Cana-

diens' victory, has every intention of wearing a facial protective mask throughout next year's campaign.

In his career Plante has twice been the victim of cheek-bone fractures, as well as lesser serious injuries. He wears a mask in practice scrimmages but has found it unsuitable for actual play because quick visibility of the area below his skates and the goal line is restricted.

Plante said he will talk with the manufacturer of plastic masks and hopes something new can be devised.



CANADIAN IS THIRD

Finnish Policeman Wins Annual Boston Classic

By JOSEPH MacSWEEN
Canadian Press Staff Writer
BOSTON (CP) — Eino Oksanen, a Finnish policeman, opened up in the last mile Monday to win the Boston Marathon while Canada's wispy Gordon Dickson placed a brilliant third.

Oksanen, 27, suddenly scorched the wet pavement with a burst of speed toward the end to beat Johnny Kelley of the United States who had commanded the pace after passing the halfway mark in the gruelling grind of 26 miles, 385 yards.

Kelley, who set a record when he won the Boston classic in 1957, finished second while Dickson, a 26-year-old Hamilton, Ont., insurance man came home third after a killing duel with a second Finn, Veikko Karvonen, who was the 1954 winner of this marathon.

Oksanen's time was two hours, 22 minutes and 42 seconds. Kelley was 2:28.43, Dickson 2:24.04.

WINNING TIME

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Cup Opener To Be Played At Winnipeg

WINNIPEG (CP) — The first four games of the best-of-seven Memorial Cup final between Winnipeg Braves and the eastern winner either Peterborough Petes or Hull-Ottawa Canadiens, will be played in the Winnipeg Arena.

Pirates' Skinner Is Sidelined

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Left-fielder Bob Skinner, who banged into the outfield fence to make a spectacular catch against the Braves at Milwaukee Saturday, probably will be out of the Pittsburgh Pirates lineup for three or four days, the club reported Monday.

Skinner suffered a back injury in making the catch.

Karvonen 2:24.37, Osvaldo Suarez of Argentina 2:28.24, Robert Pape of England 2:28.26 and Nobuyoshi Sadanaga of Japan 2:29.30.

An all-morning rain eased just before the race began but there was some mist during the running. And the air was in the chill 40s spoiling chances of a record but removing the danger of many athletes wilting in heat such as the 84 degrees of last year's marathon.

Kelley's record time in 1957 was two hours, 20 minutes and five seconds. He placed second last year to Yugoslavia's Franjo Mihalic who didn't run Monday.

"I'm satisfied but of course I would have liked to win," said Dickson, a native of Claresholm, Aita. He placed seventh and fifth in the 1956 and 1957 marathons and fifth in the British Empire Games marathon in Cardiff, Wales, last year.

EIGHT CANADIANS

All eight Canadian starters—fewer than the usual Canadian delegation to the marathon—finished. Billy Smith of Hamilton, a 24-year-old Scot who has been living in Canada only three years, placed 17th after leading in the early part of the race.

John Church, 25, English-born resident of Toronto, was 25th; George Gallant, 30, a native of Shediac, N.B., employed by the CNR in Halifax, was 37th.

He was followed by George Norman, a 47-year-old runner from Toronto, who has battled in 41 marathons. Farther back were Raymond Noel of Quebec City, Sid Smith of Burlington, Ont., and Katervo Paakkola of Toronto.

A total of 150 runners jumped out for the starting gun at suburban Hopkinton and before long Smith was in the leading heading a pack of 18 including Dickson with Church close behind. It was a slow marathon at this point—the runners from 10 countries eyeing one another carefully.

UP WITH LEADERS

Dickson was up with the leaders all the way—at times heading the pack which was gradually cut down as the race progressed. At

Flamingham, 6½ miles from the start, the tally showed Karvonen and Dickson in close competition along with Britain's Pape, Canada's Billy Smith, Kelley and Japan's Takayuki Nakao. It was anybody's race at this point.

With 15 miles to go, Dickson was ahead by a stride with Kelley at his elbow and the two Finns behind.

Just before the fourth checkpoint at Woodland Park — 17½ miles from the start—the runners hit a down grade that upset the stride of Nakao and an American runner, Hal Higdon of Chicago, who fell back.

Then the marathoners hit a series of climbs in which Kelley and Oksanen pulled into the lead while Dickson and Karvonen began their duel at between 20 and 300 yards behind the leaders.

HEARTBREAK HILL

Approaching well-named Heartbreak Hill on the outskirts of Boston, the front pair led by about 200 yards and the Dickson-Karvonen combination seemed to gain about 50 yards by the time the rise was topped near Boston College.

Oksanen waited until within a mile of the finish when he easily passed Kelley whose face was contorted with the struggle of the run. At this point there was no question of Dickson or Karvonen winning the race although the Canadian pulled ahead for a comfortable margin over the Finn, one of the world's outstanding long-distance runners.

Cramps Bother George Gallant At Marathon

BOSTON (CP) — George Gallant, 30, of Shediac, N.B., and Halifax, managed to finish in the Boston Marathon Monday although he suffered from stomach cramps. He was 37th.

Temperatures were in the low 40s after a morning rain and Gallant said he should have put on a sweat shirt for the early part of the marathon.

"I was happy to finish because I couldn't lift my arms for the pain in my stomach," said Gallant who has run the Boston Marathon three times before this year.

The crew-cut Gallant, a native of Shediac representing the Halifax Track and Field Association in the marathon, is a peppy with the Canadian National Red ways.

Married seven years, he has a six-year-old boy, Gordon, who shows signs of being a runner too.

"He can run around the track at Halifax three times without stopping," said papa Gallant proudly.

Drive out ACHE



NOTICE

A meeting of the Navy "Tars" Hockey Club will be held Tuesday, 21st April at 7:30 p.m. in H.M.C.S. Queen Charlotte. All players are asked to attend.

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