

SPORT ECHOES

BY NORMAN MACDONALD



MOST SENSATIONAL OF CAREER

Looking fit and rarin' to fight Yvon Durelle again, light-heavyweight champion Archie Moore plays with his 15-month-old daughter Lorena Marie in his hotel suite in Montreal. After relaxing in a steam bath, antique Archie told reporters that his knockout victory over Durelle after being felled three times in the first round was "the most sensational of my career. He put on a tremendous fight and deserves another shot," praised Moore, who celebrated either his 42nd, 45th or 49th birthday on Dec. 13. Tentative plans are for a rematch next June in a Montreal ballpark.

Russian Sports Writers Blast At Soccer Top Brass

By ROBERT ELPHEK
MOSCOW (Reuters) — Russian sports writers, who are smarting under the poor showing of Soviet soccer teams in international games recently, have launched a concentrated attack on the state soccer authorities for their "blundering mistakes" in the last six months.
The writers have complained about "stagnation" at the top which they say has led to apathy among the players, dull games, rough play, empty stadiums and a general slackening of interest in the game.
The first casualty among the top management is the chief coach, Gavril Kachalin, who was fired early in November. A five-man coaching council has been created to prepare future international teams and seek young talent.
The Soviet writers began demanding a shakeup immediately after Russia's disappointing performance in the World Cup competition in Sweden last June. The 5-0 defeat by England at London in October was the final blow.
Among the accusations against Kachalin were that he "glossed over" the reasons for his defeat, the worst ever suffered by a Soviet team in international play; that he lacked originality in training methods; and that he did not bother about the younger players.
The average age of Russia's world cup team was 26½ and that of the 18 players sent to England in October was 27.
The great debate on Soviet soccer began earlier this year with the revelation that Edward Streltsov, 21-year-old centre forward of the national team, was an incorrigible drunkard. He was dismissed from the national team, reinstated when he promised to reform, and finally disgraced when he was sentenced to a 12-year term of imprisonment as a "hoologian and ravisher" after a drunken orgy.
Soviet soccer fans and club managements were told by sports writers that they were partly to blame for Streltsov's fate. Excessive adulation had changed him in three years from a "pure, honest boy."
At the same time, the newspapers coined a new phrase, "star disease," to describe this process of moral disintegration. They said that many other players also had allowed success to go to their heads.
Clubs, coaches and national team selectors have been accused of relying too much on established stars and forgetting about the younger players. Kachalin was reproached for "staking everything" on Streltsov at the beginning of the season.
Officially, professionalism does not exist in the Soviet Union. Players are supposed to have a fulltime job and to play soccer in their spare time. Now the Soviet reader is being told that club managements frequently entice stars to join their teams with promises of automobiles, apartments and bonuses.
Readers' letters show that the average Russian is genuinely shocked by these revelations.
He believes that Russian athletes are pure amateurs. Now he is being told that many do not work but receive money from their "patrons."
Russian soccer officials are in a dilemma. They are firmly against professionalism, which they regard as an "evil of capitalism." Yet they intend to continue arranging games against foreign teams composed mainly of professionals. And in a state where success on the playing fields is as much a requirement as success in international diplomatic dealings, they have to produce teams that will win.

SPORTS FRONT

By PIUS CALLAGHAN

THE POWER that Toronto Maple Leafs held over Boston Bruins wasn't in evidence Sunday night at Boston Gardens when Milt Schmidt's men took charge and walloped the Leafs 6-3.
It was the seventh meeting between the two outfits this year and only the second time that the Bruins managed to finish in front. They lost four and tied one in the other five contests.
We were not surprised at the Boston win and we had called just that the other day in this column. Bruins are too good a hockey club to keep losing game after game to any one team in the National Hockey League. The Leafs had their number to a greater extent than any other outfit but Sunday's result will likely cause the Bostonians to think differently when they skate out to battle the Leafs the rest of this 1958-59 season.

HOWEVER, THE LOSS shouldn't cause any great concern in the Toronto camp. It was the first loss in seven games under Imlach and Olmstead, three wins and three ties making up the six. That's a pretty fair showing, and had the Leafs displayed this kind of form earlier this season a few of the National Hockey League teams would be looking up at them.
The tail enders get another chance next Saturday to humble the Bruins. They entertain Boston at the Gardens in the weekly televised feature. This time we call it for the Leafs to again trip the Beantowners.
However before that action, Imlach, Olmstead and family have an unpleasant jaunt to make. It's to Montreal and that's no pleasure trip no matter what you look at it. The only hope that Leafs have to escape defeat in this hotbed of hockey is to catch the Stanley Cup champions when they are in the real Christmas spirit. The game will be a week before the big day but Canadiens won't be seeing the Toronto boys again till New Year's Eve. Toe Blake's boys might just possibly be handing out their Christmas presents early and Leafs could be one of the first on the list.
It all sounds very nice, but Leafs fans shouldn't count on any such a thing happening.

DON MCKENNEY did something the other night he never accomplished before. He scored three goals in a National League game. As it turned out Hal's three were the difference between the totals of Boston and Toronto.

Over in Detroit, Boom Boom Geoffrion was doing the same thing. Boom Boom also collected two assists to take the National League scoring lead away from New York Rangers' Andy Bathgate.
Geoffrion led the Canadiens to a most impressive 6-1 victory over the runner-up Wings. It's not surprising to find Canadiens walloping any club 6-1 but the win in Detroit must be classed as a bit unexpected. Only the night before, the same two teams had battled to a 2-2 tie in Montreal. The Wings had looked fairly good on that occasion. It's true that Terry Sawchuk was a bit terrific between the pipes. However the play was fairly even and there was no indication that Canadiens would humble the Red Wings in such fashion on Detroit ice the very next night.

HOWEVER, there's no telling what these Montrealers will do to you. They can play the part of very sociable hosts and then turn real tigers when they pay you a visit in your home rink. Toronto knows all about how they love the ice in Maple Leaf Gardens. The Leafs have yet to gain one point in games with Canadiens in Toronto.

The Blakemen aren't very fussy where they play. Sure it's nice to have those ardent Canadiens' fans roaring their heads off at Montreal, but they can still wallopp the opposition with every fan in the rink against them. They were hooded lustily in Detroit on Sunday but the fan reaction didn't cause them to get the least bit upset. Two weeks ago they blanked the Wings 7-0 in Detroit and in their next appearance there they made it a 6-1 score. The two game total of 13-1 doesn't make the Red Wings look like very impressive runners-up.

NATURAL ICE rinks are in for their earliest start in years and that's great news for the hockey patrons in several Island communities.

Kensington had hockey action last night when the hometown Bombers played hosts to the Cavendish team. Alberton held a skate the other night and the South Shore league has got underway at Belemore, the earliest start in the 20 year history of this loop.

It's the same story all over the province and it's going to take a long mild spell to ruin the good surfaces that have been prepared. It's sure a great thing for the folks who must depend on cold weather for their playing surfaces. Last winter (we use "winter" advisedly) the rural teams had little or no chance whatsoever. This year promises to be exactly opposite.

So, you city folks who are growing going back and forth to work, because of the cold weather, have folks in the rural areas that are plenty happy about Jack Frost's early appearance. This could be a great year for the natural ice rinks and if it is they surely deserve it.

There's been a lot of poor ones.

JUNIORS AND NAVY TARS provide the action tonight at the Sports Arena. It should be an interesting battle with the Navy endeavouring to prove that their one-sided loss to Parkdale was just one of those things.

There's a word of advice we would like to pass along. The games are advertised for 8.15. That shouldn't mean that they start at 8.20 or 8.30. The paying customers are entitled to promptness and there's no excuse under the sun for these games not getting away on time.

Both games to date were a bit tardy getting underway. We don't know who was at fault but we do know that it shouldn't happen again.
Let's get going on time.

The Stadacona sailors encountered some "windy" weather at Civic Stadium on Friday evening. It took the Aces a little time to get into high gear, but when they did, they went like the beeping Nash Rambler in the latter part of the record. In the first period Summerside shots were accurate but lacked zip. They were much closer to the speed of silence than of sound. Laplante, the Stad goaler, lived up to the last part of his name, holding off the local boys when they did get a labelled shot away. Between the first and second periods with the score 4-1 against us, nobody was expecting victory. We were just hoping the score wouldn't be too lop-sided.

Steele must have given his boys the business in between rounds for they came out for the second period a different looking crew. After giving up one more tally to the Tars they scored five straight, nearly all the result of smooth looking and effective team work. From there on in the score stayed first in the Sailors' favor and then in favor of the Aces, who were ahead when the final siren sounded. It was an exciting game, well worth watching, but the crowd was small, probably due to the uncertainty of road conditions because of the storm.

Fans Shell Out For Tickets To Playoff Game

NEW YORK (AP)—Long lines of chilled football fans shelled out Monday for tickets to Sunday's playoff game between New York Giants and Cleveland Browns.
New York reacted vigorously to Sunday's 13-10 victory of the Giants over the Browns. As the Giants had to win the game to tie the Browns for the eastern conference title, no tickets could be sold until the game was over.
Then the dam burst. Police were called out to control the customers who besieged the ticket windows at Yankee Stadium until 11 p.m. They were back again Monday morning. Most of the tickets were snapped up.

The normal championship playoff rules will be used in the game. In the event of a tie at the end of regulation time, there will be a sudden death overtime.
Broadway oddsmakers have installed the Giants as slight favorites, 11 to 10, in the man-to-man odds with no point differential. Cleveland was a slight choice in Sunday's game.
Baltimore Colts will meet the winner for the league championship Dec. 23.

Rifle Shoot

The following are the results of the civilian small bore rifle shoot held at the R.C.M.P. Barracks December 9, 1958.
The next shoot will be held Tuesday night December 16, commencing at 7 p.m.

CLASS I	
P. J. Landrigan	100
Pat Landrigan	97
Roy Vessey	96
A. K. Mutch	95
R. E. Jenkins	95
Roy Coles	96
CLASS II	
Leonard McDonald	94
Barbara Place	91
Art Brown	91
Fred Younker	89
CLASS III	
D. O. Clark	95
Blair Brown	92
Allison Gillis	89
Milt Carver	86
CLASS IV	
Harry Edwards	82
Roy Clark	81
Fred Ranahan	80
Gordon Ranahan	80
Barry Edwards	80
Donnie Burns	80
Stephen MacLaine	80
Don Gallant	80
Eric Thomson	80

Benny Grady with two goals and one assist led the snipers, and played "three-star selection" hockey all the way. It was encouraging to see the rookie line of Claude Gaudet, Greg Deignan and Gerry Ronohan showing up so well, each of these freshmen notching up a goal. In the final period they finally started to mesh as a line, and they kept the Stad defence very busy trying to contain them.

Claude Gaudet in particular has all the natural qualities of a fine hockey player except, up to now, the spirit of give and take. He's a fast skater, a fine stick-handler, and he can put the puck in the net. But his opponents have him labelled as a lone ranger and they know what to do when he comes over the line. When some players hit the blue-line they may do one of a half dozen or so things. They may shoot, pass, or go in. They may fake a pass and shoot or go through, fake a shot and pass, etc., etc. As the King of Siam would say, because of this such an attacker is a many-headed Medusa monster, and a headache to all good defence men too. In the third period Friday night Claude showed signs of changing his ways. If he does, we predict he can still be one of the best in these parts. But it can't happen over night because habit is an ornery cuss to shake. Give the boy a little time.

The new (you name it) hockey league has been hatched at last. It had plenty of trouble breaking through the shell, and is not too spry looking a chicken as yet, but we have hopes it may develop into something really worthwhile. One team will centre around Birchmount and the other will have three Ace players to bolster its strength. The rest of the Aces and a team from Charlottetown will complete the 3-team league. Tonight the West Prince All-Stars will play the Aces, and fans wishing to know just how evenly balanced the two teams are should get to the Stadium and find out. It will be a pre-season exhibition match.

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Flyweight Champ Retains Crown; Decisions Filipino

By JIM BECKER

MANILA (AP)—Pascual Perez, the precision punching flyweight champion from Argentina, weathered the bull-like rushes of tough but crude Dommy Ursua to retain his title in an unanimous decision in 15 rounds.

A partisan crowd of 42,000, including President Car P. Garcia, his wife and cabinet ministers, saw the rough battle in the Manila Football Stadium. Most fans appeared to agree with the verdict.

The Argentine chair, backed away from wild swings in charges or Ursua and pumped his fists like pistons into the Filipino's face to pile up his victory on points.

Tennis Player Draws No. 1 Junior Ranking

NEW YORK (AP)—Earl Buchholz, Jr., who was sent to Australia with the United States Davis Cup team, to gain experience but outdid his more experienced teammates, drew the No. 1 junior ranking for 1958 in the list released Monday by the U.S. Lawn Tennis Association.
The 18-year-old player was given 16th place in the men's rankings, published Sunday.
The rankings do not become official until they are approved at the annual Tennis Association meeting, Jan. 17.

Buchholz, rated one of the most promising young American players, was not ranked last year because of insufficient data. But he was picked for the Davis Cup squad on the strength of his summer performances and went to the final of his first Australian tournament, the New South Wales championships.
In the senior division, Gardner Mulloy, a former Davis Cup player who barely qualified for the division this year, swept the indoor, outdoor and clay courts titles to earn the top ranking. He was eligible to compete because his 45th birthday came in November.

Neither fighter was in danger, although Ursua twice momentarily shook up the champion, in the first and thirteenth rounds. Perez punched open a cut under Ursua's eye in the fifth round, but the 25-year-old challenger did not bleed thereafter.

There were no knockdowns. Referee Frankie Carter, imported from California, scored it 149-141 for Perez. Judge Rafael Torres had it 145-142, and judge Sylva Sirols called it 146-142 for the champion.

The 32-year-old champion weighed 109½, his heaviest ever for a title bout. Ursua hit the 112-pound flyweight limit exactly.

NOTED BRAWL
The tough little Filipino, whose brawling tactics moved a Bankok crowd to a fight-stopping riot last year, was warned repeatedly by referee Carter for a series of infractions that ranged through-

out the rule book.
However, Carter deducted no points from the Filipino's total. Both fighters were visibly wilted by the 82.4 degree heat and the glaring ring lights but Perez, seven years the elder, appeared the fresher.
The victory was Perez's seventh defence of the title he won from Yoshio Shirai of Japan in Tokyo four years ago. It also marked his 49th professional fight without a loss.

TRAIN HIT BUS
SAGINAW, Mich. (AP) — A train, grinding toward an emergency stop, struck a stalled school bus at a station, sending the bus aboard the train and out head of the train. The bus was taken to hospital with possible skull fractures. Others suffered cuts and bruises.

Postpones Swim Of Hell's Gate
BOSTON BAR, N.H. — Louis Lourmalis postponed an attempt to swim Hell's Gate in the Fraser River when the tide made it impossible to get to the jump-off point.
The French frogman, Prince George, B.C., made the attempt for today.
Hell's Gate is the one-half-mile river which has to cooquer in the school bus at a station, sending the bus aboard the train and out head of the train. The bus was taken to hospital with possible skull fractures. Others suffered cuts and bruises.

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Curling Schedule

The following is the curling draw for Tuesday night at the Ch'town Curling Club.
7 P.M.
Ice 1—W. Worth, B. MacDonnell, Dr. Beck, N. MacKay vs. E. MacNutt, W. Rodd, R. Manning, B. Crockett.
Ice 2—Ed Tanton vs winner of Spillet and Turner.
Ice 3—Heath MacLean vs winner of Parker and Manning.
Ice 4—Game 30 section "B".
Ice 5—W.R. Jenkins, G. Anderson, B. Rogerson, J. Whitehead vs A.A. MacLeod, A.H. Anderson, T. White, Ross Smith.
8.30 P.M.
Ice 1—Open.
Ice 2—Skip Rotation, C. Asprey, L. Campbell, T. Whitlock, B. Fischl vs G. Bennett, B. Cox, C. Whitenect, Dr. Drysdale.
Ice 3—Points—D. Cameron, C. MacDonald, G. Dillon, A. Burke.
Ice 4—Points—J. Squarebriggs, Dr. MacDonald, Dr. Gallant, J.S. MacDonald.
Ice 5—Points—W. MacLaine, M. MacMillan, C. Whitlock, J. Cameron.

DIES AT 118
BELGRADE (Reuters)—Todor Sakotic, believed to be Yugoslavia's oldest man, has died at the age of 118 at Sjarinska Banja, southern Yugoslavia, press reports here said Monday.