Quebec blanks Edmonton 3-0

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec Nordiques are creeping up on Edmonton Oilers, leaders of the World Hockey Association, but don't blame Edmonton netminder Ed Mio.

WHA	W	L	T	F	A	P
Edmonton	40	27	2	284	230	82
Quebec	38	28	5	264	235	81
New Eng	33	28	9	271	252	75
Winnipeg	34	31	6	275	273	74
Cincinnati	29	37	6	249	259	64
Birmingham	28	37	6	251	277	62
x-Indian	5	18	2	78	130	12

x-disbanded

Mio played a strong game in a losing cause Wednesday night, blocking 38 shots as the Nordiques defeated the visiting Oilers 3-0.

Quebec goalie Richard Brodeur turned aside 26 shots to record the shutout.

In another game, Winnipeg Jets defeated Cincinnati Stingers 6-3. The win left the Jets one point behind third-place New England Whalers.

"If it hadn't been for Mio, the score would have been 7-0 or 8-0," said Quebec coach Jacques Demers. "We completely outplayed them. They hardly touched the puck."

Demers noted the Nordiques, who now are just one point behind the Oilers, are at home for six of their nine remaining regular-season games.

Quebec opened scoring midway through the second period when Mio foiled Paul'in Bordeleau on a breakaway, only to have Alain Cote bang in the rebound.

In the third period, Real Cloutier got his 72nd goal in 71 games, scoring on a rebound after Marc Tardif missed an open net. Richard Leduc closed the Nordiques' scoring with a short-handed goal at 14:25.

At Winnipeg, left winger Morris Lukowich scored two goals— his 58th and 59th of the season— to spark the Jets to their fifth win in their last seven starts.

Lukowich said Winnipeg coach Tom McVie has been stressing "the main thing that's going to win us games is that goals-against column. Tonight we let three in, I guess we're cutting it down a little bit."

Bobby Guindon, Willy Lindstrom, Barry Long and Rich Preston also scored for Winnipeg. The teams were tied 2-2 after the first period and Long got the only goal of the second.

Robbie Ftorek, Bill Gilligan and Peter Marsh replied for the Stingers, who were outshot 38-33.

Lukowich said although the Jets are eight points behind the Oilers, they haven't given up hope of catching them.

"They were winning all their games at home, they had quite a rest. Now they're on the road for six games. If they don't win all those six games, we could be right on their tail."

ROCKETS WIN OPENING GAME

KAMLOOPS, B.C. (CP) — Jay Kozak scored three goals in the second period to lead Kamloops Rockets to a 5-3 victory Wednesday over Richmond Sockeyes in first game of a best-of-three series for the British Columbia tier two junior hockey championship.

Two of Kozak's goal came in a 20-second span.

Al Graves paved the way for a Kamloops comeback from a 1-0 first-period deficit, with a goal early in the second, then added the clincher early in the third after Kozak's goals.

Jeff Dey, Keith Tucker and Don Davis were marksmen for Richmond, which trailed 4-2 after Kamloop's second-period drive.

Brian Henderson made 33 saves in Kamloops goal, while Paul Fricher stopped 49 for Richmond.

Kamloops drew two of three fighting majors and 14 of 29 minors before the crowd of 900 fans.

Second game is Friday in Delta.

Swiss victory tightens men's curling standings

BERN, Switzerland (CP) — For the sixth draw Wednesday night, it was -5 Celsius inside the glass-domed Allmend Ice Stadium.

But most of the 6,000 fans had something else on their mind. They were cheering every move by Peter Attinger of Switzerland.

It may have helped as the Swiss shaded Scotty Baird, skip of the United States rink from Bemidji, Minn., 4-3 to tighten the standings in the 10-country men's world curling tournament.

In a fifth-round game earlier in the day, Keith Wendorf of West Germany handed Kristian Soerum of Norway his first defeat in the round-robin schedule.

Wendorf, a son of army parents who used to reside at the Canadian Forces Base in Lahr, stole a total of six points in the last four ends, including three in the 11th, to win 9-6.

And Barry Fry, skip of the Canadian foursome from Winnipeg, enjoyed success with two victories to move closer to first place.

WINS FOUR STRAIGHT

Fry, who lost his first two games, won his fourth in a row 9-4 over Joern Blach of Denmark in the sixth round. In the fifth draw, Fry defeated Giuseppe Dal Molin of Italy 6-4.

Because of Norway's setback, the top four teams will meet in semi-finals Saturday with the survivors clashing at night for the championship. An unbeaten record would have given the first-place rink a clear road to the final.

With three draws remaining, the Norwegians held first place with a 5-1 record. At 4-2 were Canada, the United States, Switzerland and West Germany.

Scotland's Jim Waddell and Sweden's Ecke Bruneflod were 3-3, while Georges Magnier of France was 2-4. Italy had a 1-5 record and Denmark was winless after six games.

Canada, seeking its first world title since 1972 when Orest Meleschuk of Winnipeg beat the U.S. 10-9 in the final, faced Sweden, the Americans and Switzerland in its last games.

In other sixth-round games, West Germany beat Italy 8-4, Norway shaded Scotland 6-5 in an extra end and Sweden whipped France 10-4.

Other fifth-round scores were: U.S. 9 Sweden 2, Scotland 5 France 3 and Switzerland 5 Denmark 2.

HAPPY WITH PLAY

"I played well after the third end, I think," said Fry of his game against Denmark. "I don't think we missed very many shots after we fell behind 3-1 after four ends.

"We're in good mental shape now ... because I said we had to go out and win four games in a row after we lost our first two. We're looking forward to the three games against the so-called tougher teams."

The Canadians took a 4-3 lead over Denmark when Fry drew to the four-foot circle for three points in the fifth. He stole two points in the sixth and scored three in the eighth for the victory.

Italy, with Andrea Pavani throwing skip stones, led Canada 2-1 after five ends. But the Italians had a number of misses in the sixth and Fry made a last-rock takeout and stayed for four to take the lead for good.

"We didn't panic when we were down 2-1," Fry said. "We just waited for them to have a bad end, which fortunately they did. I think everybody gets up to play Canada.

"The Europeans are good curlers. You just can't go out on the ice and think you're going to beat them by six or seven points."

PIN POINTS

March 19
Mon. 9-11 Mixed

Women's high single, Carole Wendel 355; high triple, Carole Wendel 921; high average, May Turek and Carole Wendel 225.

Men's high single, Barry Gourlie 322; high triple, Barry Gourlie 751; high average, Archie Turek 234.

Team high single, Aristocats 1363; high triple, Turkeys 3849.

TEAM STANDINGS	
What Eagles	800
Ill Eagles	777½
Knockouts	739½
Aristocats	730

March 20
Tuesday Nite 9-11

Womens high single: Marg Forscutt 247; high triple: Marg Forscutt 637; high average: Willie Wendel 207.

Team high single: Good Gals +113; high triple: Good Gals +201.

Super Spare: Betty Griffin.

TEAM STANDINGS	
Good Gals	326½
Alley Cats	325½
Del's Belles	324½
Try Hards	324
C.S.D. Girls	314½
Latecomers	311½

March 20
Tuesday Mixed 7-9

Womens high single: Verna Babineau 277; high triple: Ruth Potts 723; high average: Ruth Potts 213.

Mens high single: Garry Monk 360; high triple: Garry Monk 903; high average: John Tykalovich 249.

Team high single: Dalt 1359; high triple: Dalt 3853.

TEAM STANDINGS	
Four Roses	389½
Genier's TV	349
Dalt	330½
Compensators	326½

March 20
Tuesday Coffee

Womens high single: Diane Dase 289; high triple: Ena Kronbayer 724; high average: Lil Jameison 224.

Team high single: Fruit Loops +237; high triple: Fruit Loops +429.

Super Spare: Elie Krawec.

700 club: Ena Kronbayer 724.

TEAM STANDINGS	
Lucky Charms	403½
Granola Kids	340½
Cap'n Crunch	330
Boo-Berries	315½
Cheerios	313
Fruit Loops	305½

March 21
Wednesday Matinee

Womens high single: Juanita Parr 281; high triple: Linda Morton 689; high average Mary Viala 202.

Team high single: Lane Loons +166; high triple: Lane Loons +298.

TEAM STANDINGS	
Lane Loons	696
Alley Oops	663
SO Shooters	614½
Rejects	580
Pansies	547
Kit Kats	514

March 23
Wed. 7-9 Mixed

Womens high single: Donna Desmarais 316; high triple: Carol Skidmore 727; high average: Lori Feniuk 228.

Mens high single: Bill Kniaz 305; high triple: Doug Machan 874; high average: Val Andretta 239.

Team high single: Ogopogo's +187; high triple: J.P.M's +232.

300 club: Donna Desmarais 316; Bill Kniaz 305.

TEAM STANDINGS	
J.P.M.'s	346½
Hot Shots	325
Happy Gang	318

Bighorns defeat Wranglers

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

By a score of 7-5, Billings Bighorns handed Calgary Wranglers their second consecutive defeat in a Western Hockey League central division playoff game Wednesday night.

In the western division, Joel Elliott and Bart Yachimec tied a playoff record with goals seven seconds apart to help Portland Winter Hawks to a 6-3 win over Victoria Cougars.

The eastern division was idle Wednesday night.

In Calgary, Jeff Zilke paced the Bighorns with three goals, Lindsay Carson scored twice, and Gordie Stafford and Mike Kouwenhoven added singles.

The Wranglers, who outshot the Bighorns 47-42 but trailed 3-2 and 5-4 by periods, received two goals from Ralph Krueger.

Esks sign two receivers

EDMONTON (CP) — Edmonton Eskimos today announced the signing of two import wide receivers, Kim Featsent and Travis McCord, for the 1979 Canadian Football League season.

Featsent, 23, at six-feet, one inch tall, was a late cut from the National Football League Cincinnati Bengals last year. He played football at Kent State University and set a record as all-time leading receiver.

McCord, 25, and six-feet, 2½ inches, out of Drake University, was a free agent last year before being signed by Denver Broncos. Cut during training camp he was picked up by Chicago Bears but later released. The Eskimos signed him during the off-season.

Martin regains his shooting eye

By ED SIMON
The Canadian Press

The word is spreading around the National Hockey League's goaltending fraternity: Rick Martin has his shooting eye back.

RICHARD MARTIN
. . . 28 goals

NHL	W	L	T	F	A	P
Wales Conference						
Norris Division						
Montreal	48	16	10	310	191	106
Pittsburgh	34	28	13	267	257	81
Los Ang	32	31	11	267	261	75
Detroit	21	38	16	240	281	58
Washington	21	39	15	252	316	57
Adams Division						
Boston	40	22	12	290	247	92
Buffalo	35	25	15	261	241	85
Toronto	31	32	12	243	236	74
Minnesota	27	35	11	242	254	65
Campbell Conference						
Patrick Division						
Islanders	46	13	14	31	195	106
Rangers	39	26	10	01	264	88
Phila	36	23	15	258	229	87
Atlanta	38	29	7	299	263	83
Smythe Division						
Chicago 74	26	34	14	222	263	66
Vancover 75	23	41	11	209	281	57
St. Louis 74	17	45	12	232	323	46
Colorado 75	14	51	10	191	313	38

Before Jim Pettie took the ice against Buffalo Sabres Wednesday night, the news had no particular significance to him. A rookie netminder with Boston Bruins, he was plying his trade in the minors a few years ago when the sharpshooting left winger was scoring 40 or 50 goals a year.

Pettie is a believer today after Martin produced a vintage three-goal performance to lead the Sabres to a 9-2 victory over the Adams Division leaders.

It was a night of lopsided scores all around the NHL. Pittsburgh Penguins extended their unbeaten string to 10 games with a 7-1 victory over New York Rangers, Los Angeles Kings had an 8-1 romp over Detroit Red Wings and Toronto Maple Leafs were 6-2 winners over Washington Capitals.

Martin's three goals against the Bruins gave the 27-year-old Verdun, Que., native 12 in his last 12 games and a total of 28 for the current campaign, equalling his output for the entire 1977-78 season.

But last season happened to be the least productive of his career, the first time his goal-scoring total had slipped below 36. And this season threatened to be even worse until his current scoring streak.

Since it began, the Sabres have won nine games, tied one and lost only two, assuring themselves of a second-place finish in the Adams Division.

"You build up confidence when they start to go in," Martin said happily. "You are looser, let your shots go a little faster. When a team is winning, it's easier for everybody."

The confident Sabres poured four goals behind Pettie within less than three minutes in the first period and widened the margin steadily as the game progressed. They led 6-0 before Terry O'Reilly put Boston on the board late in the second period.

The victory gave Buffalo goaltender Don Edwards an 11-game unbeaten streak.

NHL TOP TEN

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

National Hockey League scoring leaders after Wednesday games:

	G	A	P
Trottier, NYI	45	76	121
Dionne, LA	54	62	116
Lafleur, Mtl	48	67	115
Bossy, NYI	60	52	112
MacMillan, Atl	36	67	103
Chouinard, Atl	46	53	99
Potvin, NYI	30	64	94
Federko, StL	30	62	92
Taylor, LA	42	45	87
Middleton, Bos	38	48	86
Gillies, NYI	32	54	86

REMEMBER WHEN

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gordie Howe became the first man to play professional hockey at the age of 50 when he celebrated his birthday one year ago today — in 1978 — while playing for New England Whalers of the World Hockey Association. Howe was leading the Whalers at the time with 34 goals and 56 assists.

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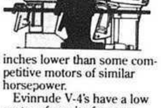

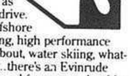

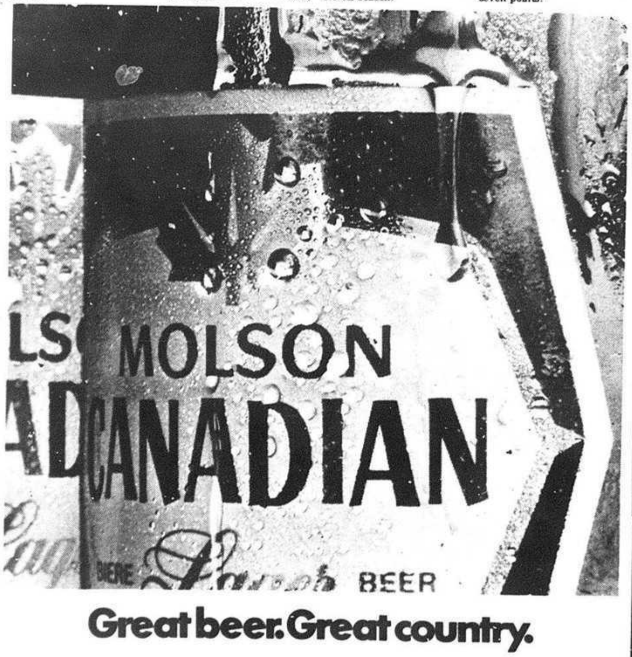

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