Feisty football owner dies while vacationing

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Carroll Rosenbloom, the Los Angeles Rams owner who drowned Monday while vacationing in Florida, was known as a shrewd businessman, a rebel, and a man "who never left any stone unturned to help people."

Rosenbloom, 72, drowned after he was dragged out to sea by a heavy undertow in Golden Beach, Fla., police said.

One of the National Football League's most visible and controversial team owners in the league's last three decades, Rosenbloom owned Baltimore Colts from 1953 until early in 1972. Then he traded them outright for the Rams in a unique sports deal.

"Carroll Rosenbloom played a major role in the growth and success of the National Football League, both through the performance of the teams he produced and through his active participation in the league's decision-making processes," said NFL commissioner Pete Rozelle, who had several run-ins with the feisty Rosenbloom.

"We had some differences over things in the league that he felt affected his team adversely," recalled Rozelle. "I was very pleased that in recent months we had a very close relationship."

PRAISED BY UNITAS

Johnny Unitas, the NFL Hall of Fame quarterback who played for Rosenbloom at Baltimore, said: "He gave a lot of guidance in the early part of the NFL's growth. He was not only concerned with winning, he was concerned with the players and their families.

"I never knew him to turn anyone down or leave any stone unturned to help people."

Rosenbloom and his wife Georgia were staying in the exclusive Miami-area resort city of Golden Beach. Police Chief William Henrikson said officers were called after Rosenbloom was dragged out to sea by the undertow.

"When we got to the beach, we saw two men in heavy surf about 150 yards from the beach," Henrikson said. "One man was trying to support the other. By the time we got there, the other man was near exhaustion. There was no apparent sign of life (in Rosenbloom) when we got to him."

The would-be rescuer was Raymond Tanguay of Montreal, who speaks no English. But he said through his wife Susan: "I wanted to save him. I did everything I could. But it was not enough.'

Tanguay, a middle-aged man, said he was standing on the beach when he heard Rosenbloom yell for help.

Rosenbloom, a Baltimore native whose love of the beach influenced his decision to move to Los Angeles, wasn't one to tiptoe around controversy or avoid confrontations.

CLEARED OF CHARGES

In 1963, an investigation cleared Rosenbloom of charges of betting on pro football games but the episode strained his relationship with Rozelle.

In 1970, after Rosenbloom and Colts' coach Don Shula had a dispute and Shula went to Miami Dolphins, the Baltimore owner accused Miami of tampering. In 1975, Rosenbloom was fined by Rozelle for criticizing game officials. A year later, the owner accused the commissioner of deliberately scheduling a Rams' game at the start of Yom Kippur, the holiest Jewish holiday.

Beattie axed by champions

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

When you've stood tall on the mound during the World Series, it's tough being cut down. That was Jim Beattie's sombre prospect today.

"I just didn't visualize going back to the minor leagues," the New York Yankee right-hander said Monday after learning that he had been sent to Columbus of the International League by the world champions. "It may have seemed inevitable to other people, but it just didn't seem very real to me."

Beattie was one of several players cut from major league rosters as teams moved to get down to the opening-day limit of 25. Both the American and National leagues start the season Wednesday.

Among the veterans to go were reliever Ken Brett, waived by California Angels, and righthander Buzz Capra, who was trying to make a comeback with Atlanta Braves.

"I'm a little shocked — I didn't expect it," noted the 24-year-old Beattie, who won four of six decisions down the September stretch, added a victory in the AL playoffs and topped off the year with a World Series triumph over Los Angeles Dodgers.

"When they called me into the office, I knew I was gone. At first I was really ticked off. I had to go out and run and get all the frustrated energy out."

TOO MANY PITCHERS

The decision to drop the 6-foot-6 right-hander was dictated by the top-to-bottom strength of the Yankee staff, rather than Beattie's modest spring record of 0-4 with an earned-run average of 6.25.

The Yankees added three pitchers in the off-season — Tommy John, Luis Tiant and Paul Mirabella, recipient of the James P. Dawson award as the Yanks' outstanding rookie in spring training camp this season. They joined a formidable staff that includes Cy Young winner Ron Guidry, Ed Figueroa and Catfish Hunter.

"All cuts are difficult," said Yankee president Al Rosen. "But in Jim's case, it was something we felt could be beneficial to him. By sitting around here, pitching in spots, he would have been wasted and probably hurt mentally as well. Because he's only 24, he needs to start every five days — that's where his future is."

The Yankees also sent rookie pitcher Ron Davis and outfielder Tommy Cruz to Columbus.

Brett, an 11-year major league veteran, had a 3-5 record last year with a 4.95 earned-run average. The 31-year-old Capra was trying to regain his job after surgery that sidelined him for most of last season.

Junior leagues facing a threat

OTTAWA (CP) — Junior hockey team owners face a threat from the newly-merged National Hockey League that could put them out of business, an executive said Monday.

If the NHL decides to draft under-age juniors, the three major junior leagues across Canada might cease to operate, said Ed Chynoweth, executive-director of the Canadian Major Junior Hockey League.

"We'll be out of business if they start taking our gate attractions," he said. "And that's no threat."

The league represents major junior hockey leagues in Ontario, Quebec and Western Canada.

Chynoweth said junior owners are concerned about rumors that under-age juniors will be drafted.

Several players, such as Wayne Gretzky, Mike Gartner, Pat Riggin, Rob Ramage and Craig Hartsburg jumped from junior hockey in Ontario to the World Hockey Association last year and attendance at junior hockey in the province is down 20 per cent, he said.

Bryan O'Neill, NHL vice-president, said the matter is under study and a decision will be made before the NHL draft in June.

Junior owners and the NHL have an oral agreement that players under 20 years of age will not be drafted by their clubs. The WHA, which was struggling to reach parity with the NHL, raided junior clubs and offered lucrative professional contracts.

Along with robbing junior owners of gate attractions, WHA owners were not compensating those teams the $40,000 claimed by the junior teams for player development.

FOUGHT IN COURTS

Junior owners fought the WHA through the courts. Player-agent Alan Eagleson, a Toronto lawyer and executive-director of the National Hockey League Players' Association, and Birmingham owner John Bassett were sued for inducing under-age juniors to breach existing contracts.

The Canadian Amateur Hockey Association also was drawn into the fray and threatened to withdraw sanction of WHA-European hockey series this season if compensation was not made.

Sockeyes beat Traders in Centennial playoffs

RICHMOND, B.C. (CP) — Dean Pronyk scored two goals to lead Richmond Sockeyes to a 4-2 victory Monday over Fort Saskatchewan Traders in the first game of the Centennial Cup quarter-final playoff before 1,250 fans.

The winner of the best-of-seven will play either Manitoba or Saskatchewan to determine the Western Canadian representative in the Canadian tier two junior championship.

Marty Achtymichuk opened scoring in the first period with a short-handed goal against Sockeyes netminder Paul Fricker but Richmond's Trent Angus answered with a single and then Pronyk dumped his first goal of the night on a power-play.

John Ewasiuk tied it for Fort Saskatchewan with the only goal in the second period.

Dave Keegan and Pronyk scored for Richmond in the third.

Fricker stopped 38 in the game while his Clint Maliarchuk made 35 saves for the Traders.

Richmond drew six of 11 minor penalties and the teams split two fighting majors.

The teams meet tonight for the second game.

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Several veterans are free agents

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto Argonauts and Hamilton Tiger-Cats have more than the shores of Lake Ontario in common.

Both cities have Canadian Football League teams that can't seem to get together with three veteran players who played out their options last season.

The Argos threesome — running back Mark Bragagnolo, punter Ken Clark and defensive-offensive lineman Doug MacIver — are among at least 10 veterans who played out their options last season and now are free — as of April 1 — to work out a deal with whatever club they want.

If they negotiate a contract with one of the other eight CFL teams, the team they leave can be compensated either through mutual negotiations between the two clubs or by a ruling of CFL commissioner Jake Gaudaur.

Hamilton Tiger-Cats are also at an impasse with three players — wide receiver Leif Pettersen, tight end Lawrie Skolrood and defensive back Randy Graham.

Hamilton coach John Payne said he was optimistic Pettersen would sign and that talks were continuing with the other two players.

Montreal general manager Bob Geary said the Alouettes have only two in the free agent status — quarterback-punter Sonny Wade, who subsequently has signed with Philadelphia Eagles of the National Football League, and defensive half-corner back Vernon Perry.

All-star linebacker Chuck Zapiec didn't play out his option, but the Als put him on waivers so he can try his luck in the NFL with former Als' head coach Marv Levy, who now holds the same position with Kansas City Chiefs.

Others who entered the free agent market Sunday were offensive tackle Jeff Hart of Winnipeg Blue Bombers and kicker Cyril McFall of Calgary Stampeders.

Doug Seymour, a defensive tackle with British Columbia Lions, played out his option last season but has since signed a new contract with the Western Conference team.

Dionne leads scorers during the second-half

MONTREAL (CP) — Centre Marcel Dionne of Los Angeles Kings held a three-point lead in the second-half scoring race as the National Hockey League entered the final week of its regular schedule.

Statistics issued by the league before the meeting Monday night between the Kings and the Rangers in New York, showed Dionne tied for second place in the over-all standings with right winger Guy Lafleur of Montreal Canadiens at 120 points. He had scored 26 goals and 33 assists for 59 points in the second half of the schedule.

That gave Dionne a second-half, three-point lead over right winger Mike Bossy and Bryan Trottier of New York Islanders.

Dionne had at least one point in 31 of his 36 games in the second half before facing the Rangers and had been held without a point only 14 times in 76 games this season. Only three times throughout the current schedule had Dionne gone two games without a point.

Trottier, with his over-all sixpoint lead over Dionne and Lafleur, has been held without a point in 12 games this season and only once did he go two games without a point. In the second half Trottier has points in 29 of his 36 games, scoring 14 goals and adding 42 assists for 56 points.

TOP GOAL MAN

Bossy, the league's leading goal scorer with 63, has been held without a point five times in the second half as he scored 28 goals and added 28 assists in the 31 games he obtained at least one point.

Lafleur, who scored his 50th goal of the season against Pittsburgh Penguins Saturday night, has been held without a point in 12 games this season, including seven times in the second half. Only once this season has Lafleur gone two games without a point, and the last time he went more than two games was his third, fourth and fifth games of the 1977-78 season. He has scored 22 goals and added 33 assists for 55 points during the second half.

The winner of the second-half scoring race wins $500 while the runner-up collects $250. Trottier was the first-half leader while Lafleur was runner-up. The over-all winner of the Art Ross Trophy receives $1,000 and the runner-up $500.

The Canadiens' goaltending duo of Ken Dryden and Michel Larocque hold an eight-goal lead in the Vezina Trophy race and have played one more game than the second-place Islanders and their tandem of Glenn Resch and Bill Smith.

If Montreal holds on it will be the fourth consecutive season they have won top goaltending honors. The record of five straight was set by Jacques Plante while with the Canadiens from 1955-56 through 1959-60.

All four division leaders have been established and each will receive a bye during the preliminary round of the Stanley Cup playoffs which begin April 10.

SCORING LEADERS
Monday game excluded

	G	A	Pts	Pim
Trottier, NYI	45	81	126	44
Dionne, LA	56	64	120	28
Lafleur, Mtl	50	70	120	24
Bossy, NYI	63	53	116	25
MacMillan, Atl	36	68	104	14
Chouinard, Atl	49	54	103	14
Potvin, NYI	30	65	95	48
Federko, StL	31	63	94	14
Gillies, NYI	33	55	88	66
Taylor, LA	42	45	87	122
Middleton, Bos	38	48	86	7
Maruk, Min-Was	30	56	86	69
McDonald, Tor	41	41	82	32
Sittler, Tor	35	45	80	67
Goring, LA	33	47	80	16
McNab, Bos	35	44	79	10
Vail, Atl	33	45	78	51
Barber, Phil	33	45	78	22
Perreault, Buf	26	52	78	20
Sutter, StL	39	38	77	160
Esposito, NYR	31	45	76	33
Hedberg, NYR	32	44	76	33
O'Reilly, Bos	24	50	74	205
Shutt, Mtl	35	38	73	29

GOALKEEPERS' RECORDS
Empty-net goals bracketed

	MP	GA	SO	Avg
Dryden	2,694	106	5	2.36
Larocque	1,926	91	3	2.83
Mtl (2)	4,620	199	8	2.58
Resch	2,419	103	2	2.55
Smith	2,141	104	1	2.91
NYI	4,560	207	3	2.72
Moore	217	4	2	1.11
Parent	1,979	89	4	2.70
St. Croix	117	6	0	3.08
Stephenson	2,027	112	2	3.32
Peeters	280	16	0	3.43
Phil (7)	4,620	234	8	3.04
Hamel	1	0	0	0.00
Palmateer	3,336	165	4	2.97
Harrison	1,283	73	1	3.41
Tor (3)	4,620	241	5	3.13
D. Edwards	3,040	148	2	2.92
Sauve	1,550	97	0	3.75
Ireland	30	3	0	6.00
Buf (1)	4,620	249	2	3.23
Cheevers	2,409	122	1	3.04
Pettie	1,017	70	1	3.54
Gilbert	1,194	71	0	3.57
Bos (2)	4,620	255	2	3.31
Herron	3,088	172	0	3.34
Millen	1,472	84	2	3.42
Laxton	60	8	0	8.00
Pit (5)	4,620	269	2	3.49
Esposito	3,600	200	4	3.33
Veisor	960	56	0	3.50
Chi (10)	4,560	266	4	3.50
Lemelin	874	48	0	3.30
Bouchard	3,504	196	3	3.36
Belanger	182	21	0	6.92
Atl (3)	4,560	268	3	3.53
Lessard	2,740	143	4	3.13
Grahame	1,820	125	0	4.12
LA (2)	4,560	270	4	3.55
Meloche	2,938	157	2	3.21
G. Edwards	1,337	83	0	3.72
LoPresti	285	25	0	5.26
Min (5)	4,560	270	2	3.55
Davidson	2,020	112	0	3.33
Thomas	1,668	101	1	3.63
Soetaert	872	55	0	3.78
NYR (3)	4,560	271	1	3.57
Hanlon	1,821	94	3	3.10
Bromley	2,024	133	2	3.94
Wilson	835	58	0	4.17
Vcr (3)	4,680	288	5	3.69

WHA STATS

HARTFORD, Conn. (CP) — World Hockey Association statistics released Monday

Scoring leaders

	G	A	P
Cloutier, Que	74	51	125
Florek, Cin	37	74	111
Nilsson, Wpg	36	62	98
Mark Howe, NE	39	58	97
Lukowich, Wpg	61	30	91
Gretzky, Edm	35	53	88
Tardif, Que	37	49	86
Lacroix, NE	31	51	82
Bernier, Que	35	45	80
Sullivan, Wpg	40	37	77
Ruskowski, Wpg	17	60	77
Leduc, Que	31	40	71
Thomas, Cin	31	36	67
Rogers, NE	27	39	66
Hislop, Cin	26	36	62
MacDonald, Edm	32	29	61
Chipperfield, Edm	29	32	61
Marsh, Cin	39	21	60
Keon, NE	21	39	60
Flett, Edm	23	33	56
Goulet, Bir	26	29	55
Sobchuk, Edm	25	30	55
Vaive, Bir	24	31	55
Lindstrom, Wpg	23	32	55
Preston, Wpg	25	29	54

Leading goaltenders

	Min	GA	SO	Avg.
Dryden, Edm	3,192	155	3	2.91
Brodeur, Que	2,193	110	3	3.01
A. Smith, NE	2,217	117	1	317
Corsi, Que	2,113	115	3	3.27
Dion, Cin	1,470	84	0	3.43

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Esposito scores winner for N.Y.

NEW YORK (AP) — New York Rangers and Los Angeles Kings played with five skaters a side for about half of their National Hockey League game. That, by and large, was the dull part.

NHL
Wales Conference
Norris Division

	W	L	T	F	A	P
Montreal	50	16	11	323	199	111
Pittsburgh	34	30	13	272	269	81
Los Angeles	33	33	11	279	275	77
Detroit	22	39	16	247	287	60
Washington	22	40	15	259	324	59
Adams Division						
Boston	42	22	13	304	255	97
Buffalo	35	27	15	264	249	85
Toronto	33	32	12	255	241	78
Minnesota	27	38	11	249	270	65
Campbell Conference						
Patrick Division						
Islanders	47	15	14	338	207	108
Phila	39	23	15	274	234	93
Rangers	40	27	10	309	275	90
Atlanta	40	29	7	311	268	87
Smythe Division						
Chicago	27	34	15	230	266	69
Vancouver	24	42	12	213	288	60
St. Louis	17	48	12	241	341	46
Colorado	15	57	10	200	320	40

It was when players paraded to the penalty boxes that strange things started to happen in the Rangers' 5-4 victory Monday night, which ended a four-game winless streak.

"At even strength we're all right," said New York's Phil Esposito, whose power-play goal at 8:23 of the third period was the winner. "But we take it too easy during our power plays and we get caught."

A perfect example came at 5:19 of the opening period when the Kings' Bert Wilson and Randy Manery were serving time.

Defenceman Rob Palmer, helping kill the two-man disadvantage, poked the puck off the stick of New York's Don Murdoch at the Los Angeles blue line. The Kings' Butch Goring caught up with it at centre ice, broke in on goalie John Davidson and scored — marking the fourth straight game in which New York has given up a shorthanded goal.

"Scoring shorthanded goals is a matter of out-thinking the guy with the puck and anticipating what he might do," said Goring, whose 34th goal of the season was the first of two in the game.

RANGERS PULL AHEAD

The teams were at even strength when Walt Tkaczuk tied it at 12:15 and when Pat Hickey put New York in front at 18:47. But the crazy stuff was just beginning; somehow the referee's signal for a penalty marked the departure of the defence.

After New York's Ron Greschner went off at 4:10 of the second period, the Kings' Marcel Dionne blasted a 20-foot shot. He got the rebound and shot again.

The puck bounced off Davidson to Charlie Simmer, who potted the third shot 59 seconds into the power play to tie it 2-2.

Hickey's second of the night, a breakaway, restored the Rangers' lead. Then it was the Kings' turn to get caught.

Manery cross-checked Pierre Plante and served his time without incident. He left the penalty box and raced toward the bench as his replacement stepped on the ice, but the puck ticked Manery's stick right in front of referee Bryan Lewis — who called Los Angeles for having too many men on the ice at 13:46 of the middle period.

Just 36 seconds later, Greschner gave the Rangers a 4-2 lead.

Then it was New York's turn for a dumb penalty. Team captain Dave Maloney was caught interfering with the Kings' Mark Heaslip at 15:55. Maloney yelled at Lewis and got two more minutes for his efforts.

The puck was in the Rangers' net not much later. Dionne, ignored by defenceman Carol Vadnais, put in a rebound for his 57th goal and 122nd point — four less than the Islanders' Bryan Trottier, the league leader.

Esposito's power-play goal insured the Rangers' second victory in nine games before Goring completed the scoring with 3:19 to play.

Wheat Kings edge Edmonton

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

Right-winger Ray Allison scored two power-play goals to pace Brandon Wheat Kings to 4-3 victory over Edmonton Oil Kings in a Western Hockey League playoff game in Brandon Monday night.

In the only other WHL game played Monday, Portland Winter Hawks exploded for five goals in the second period and went on to defeat New Westminster Bruins 8-3 in Portland.

Brandon's win was its third in four games of the double round-robin eastern division series. Edmonton fell to 2-4 while Saskatoon Blades are 2-2. After the round robin, the two teams with the best records will meet in a best-of-seven divisional final.

The Wheat Kings and Oil Kings skated to period ties of 1-1 and 2-2 before Allison put Brandon ahead when he scored from a goalmouth scramble early in the third period.

Brian Propp made it 4-2 at 7:41, deflecting a long shot by defenceman Brad McCrimmon past Edmonton Goaltender Gord Garbutt.

The Oil Kings got their third goal when Brandon forward Kelly McCrimmon inadvertently shovelled the puck behind Brandon netminder Rick Knickle. The goal was credited to Dave Barr of the Oil Kings.

Defenceman Craig Levie scored Edmonton's other goals.

Garbutt faced heavy pressure for most of the game, turning aside 64 shots. Knickle made 31 saves.

PENALTIES LEVIED

Edmonton took 10 of 17 minor penalties and the teams split two majors.

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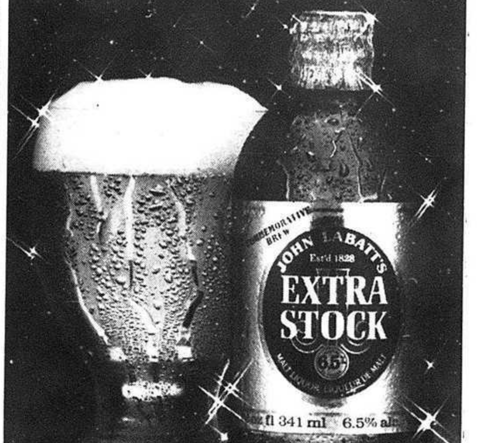

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