

Park encouraging

Sports BRIEFLY

BOSTON (AP) — Brad Park, Boston Bruins' all-star defenceman, was reported in excellent condition Friday after undergoing surgery to repair torn cartilage in his left knee.

"The outlook is very encouraging," Dr. Carter Rowe said after performing the 1½-hour operation at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Park, 27, has had 16 goals and 37 assists in 43 games for the Bruins since being acquired from New York Rangers Nov. 7 in a trade involving Phil Esposito. He will be sidelined indefinitely.

He was injured when his skate caught in a rut in the ice in the final minute of a 2-1 victory over New York Islanders Feb. 21.

Park joins team-mate Bobby Orr on the injured list. Orr has been sidelined since undergoing his fifth operation on his left knee Nov. 29.

In championships

University of Calgary Dinosaurs and Concordia University Stingers of Montreal emerged from the Canadian Intercollegiate Athletic Union's regional semi-final tournaments during the weekend to join University of Guelph Gryphons and the host University of Toronto Blues in the CIAU championship tournament.

The Dinosaurs, first-place finishers and playoff champions of the Canada West University Athletic Association, defeated arch-rival University of Alberta Golden Bears 3-1 in the sudden-death championship game in the western regional tourney.

Concordia, Quebec University Athletic Association winners, took the eastern berth Saturday night with a 5-3 win over St. Francis Xavier X-Men, champions of the Atlantic Universities Athletic Association.

Golfers honored

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Two-time Masters champion Gary Player of South Africa is among 15 foreign golfers extended invitations to compete in the April 8-11 tournament at Augusta National Golf Club.

Player, the only foreign Masters champion, claimed crowns in 1974 and 1961 and was runner-up in 1962 and 1965.

The list released Sunday includes four who will be making their debut in the Masters — Japan's Takashi Murakami, Australia's Jack Newton, Brazil's Priscillo Gongalez Diniz and Australia's Bob Shearer.

Diniz became the first amateur to win the Brazilian Open last year, and Murakami won the Japan Open and Japan PGA in 1975. Shearer was a runnerup in the individual scoring in the 1975 World Cup and captured the Madrid Open.

Other golfers receiving invitations were South Africa's Hugh Baiocchi, Maurice Bembidge of England, South Africa's Bobby Cole, Australian Bruce Crampton, Argentina's Roberto de Vicenzo, Australian Bruce Devlin, South African Dale Hayes, Australian Graham Marsh, England's Peter Oosterhuis and Japan's Masashi Ozaki.

In AHL

Ken Broderick's shutout goaltending and some unintentional help from a player in another rink Sunday night helped Rochester Americans to move two points closer to Nova Scotia Voyageurs in the American Hockey League's northern division.

Broderick stopped 25 shots on goal to post his second shutout of the season as Rochester whipped Baltimore Clippers 6-0 to move to within eight points of the division-leading Voyageurs.

And at Halifax, where New Haven Nighthawks downed the Voyageurs 5-2, Nova Scotia left winger Glenn Goudup spent 21 of the game's 60 minutes in the penalty box. Three of New Haven's goals were scored on power plays while he was off.

In WIHL

Third-place Spokane Flyers scored a double victory during weekend action in the Western International Hockey League, leaving them with 50 points, six less than Trail Smoke Eaters and four less than Cranbrook Royals.

Spokane defeated Cranbrook 5-2 at home Sunday to follow up a 4-3 victory over Nelson Maple Leafs at Nelson Saturday.

In BCJHL

With one game left to play in the regular British Columbia Junior Hockey League season, league positions were firmed up Sunday.

League-leading Vernon Vikings defeated Kelowna Buckaroos 10-4 at Kelowna Sunday after edging the Buckaroos 5-4 at Vernon Saturday; Nanaimo Clippers beat Chilliwack Bruins 4-3 at Chilliwack after a 7-4 home-ice victory over Langley Lords the previous day; Merritt Centennials downed Penticton Vees 5-3 at Merritt Saturday; and Maple Ridge Blazers edged Langley 5-4 at Maple Ridge after defeating Chilliwack 8-2 at Chilliwack Saturday.

All defends

PARIS (AP) — Muhammad Ali has signed a contract to defend his world heavyweight boxing championship against Richard Dunn of Britain in Munich on May 24, promoter Bob Arum said Monday.

The fight, which would be televised live in prime time to North America, is contingent on Dunn's winning the vacant European heavyweight championship April 6 in London from Bernd August of Germany.

Arum said the contracts were signed in London over the weekend. He described Dunn, 31, as "a much stronger puncher, a much better fighter" than Ali's last opponent, Jean-Pierre Coopman of Belgium.

Mikita honored

NEW YORK (AP) — The National Hockey League tonight will present its Lester Patrick Award for "outstanding service to hockey in the United States" to a Canadian citizen who was born in Sokolce, Czechoslovakia.

But there are young players across America who long ago awarded Stan Mikita a prize of their own — the gift of gratitude for opening a door that would be closed to them but for a veteran hockey player who cared.

Without him, there might never have been an American Hearing Impaired Hockey Association, giving deaf or hard of hearing youths a chance at first-hand instruction in the fundamentals of a complex sport.

It might seem a strange turnaround for the Chicago Black Hawks centre, who grew up in St. Catharines, Ont., and was a willing fighter in the early part of his career. To the people who have coached him, played with him or against him, the answer is simple.

"It's just a matter of growing up," said Chicago coach Billy Reay, who has guided Mikita in virtually all of his 18 seasons. "He began to realize that you

can't pick up any points or win any hockey games from the penalty box."

Ken Dryden, the Montreal Canadiens goaltender said recently: "He's great around the net. He's as dangerous to me now as he ever has been."

And defenceman Doug Jarrett of New York Rangers, who played with the 36-year-old star for many years in Chicago, added "He's still one of the best centres in hockey."

But to hear Mikita explain it, those three are talking about the wrong guy.

"It's quite an honor," he says of the Lester Patrick Award, "but I don't know whether I deserve it."

"Maybe they just wanted to give it to a Czech, and I'm the only one around."

Mikita works closely with the aurally handicapped, who come from as far away as California to attend his annual hockey camp.

"It started some years ago," Mikita said recently. "I worked with one boy who was 15 years old, the son of a family friend of mine. His dad got him interested, and I'd bring him down to skate after practice was over."

FIGURE SKATING

Cranston may start boycott

GOTEBORG, Sweden (CP-AP) — Toller Cranston of Toronto has decided to boycott a European tour by the world's top figure skaters and several other western stars might follow his lead.

A score of the world's top skaters were to have taken part in the three-week tour sponsored by the International Skating Union.

Cranston, who finished fourth in the men's singles at the just-completed world championships here and won a bronze medal at the Olympics, has become a crowd favorite because of his brilliant free skating.

Charles Dover, manager of the Canadian team, announced Cranston's decision shortly

before the tour's departure for Oslo today. He would not give the reason for Cranston's action, saying only that it was personal.

It is no secret, however, that Cranston is disillusioned with the championships' judging system which kept him out of the medals.

This goes for several other North American skaters who think their modern style is underrated by the judges compared with the style of skaters from the Soviet Union and that East European judges vote as a bloc.

The tour is not an obligation for the skaters, but they are expected to join it to help the federation sell tickets.

Listed for the tour starting

today, going on to Western Europe and Britain in mid-March and then ending in Eastern Europe and Moscow at the end of the month, were all of the world champions and their closest competitors.

There were seven Russians, including the pairs and ice dance world champions, as many East Germans, four United States skaters including women's champion Dorothy Hamill, men's champion John Curry of Britain and Dianne de Leeuw of The Netherlands.

Friends of Curry, however, indicated he would leave the tour after it performed in London on March 17, although British team manager John Weaver did not confirm this.

The U.S. skaters — Miss Hamill, Terry Kubicka and dancers Colleen O'Connor and James Millns — may also quit the tour before the East European section starts March 18, sources close to them said.

Miss Hamill said after winning the world championship she was tired training and competing in Europe since Jan. 24 and she wants to go home.

"Nothing can be said officially, but I doubt that Miss Hamill and others will complete the tour after London, even if the Russians are furious," one source said. "Dorothy can always fall sick."

"The Russians have done it many times."

World championships like ice re-run

GOTEBORG, Sweden (CP) — The 1976 world figure skating championships turned out to be almost a re-run of the figure skating events at the Winter Olympics.

Dorothy Hamill of the United States, competing with ice show talent scouts waiting in the wings, completed a sweep by Olympic gold medal-

winners by taking the women's singles title.

The 19-year-old from Riverside, Calif., turned in an even stronger free skating performance than she did at the Olympics and had little trouble dethroning 1975 champion Dianne de Leeuw of the Netherlands.

Miss de Leeuw, who now

lives in the United States, dropped to third place behind 1974 champion Christine Errath of East Germany, reversing their Olympic standings.

The other repeat winners here were men's singles champion John Curry of Britain, dance champions Ludmila Pakhomova and Alexan-

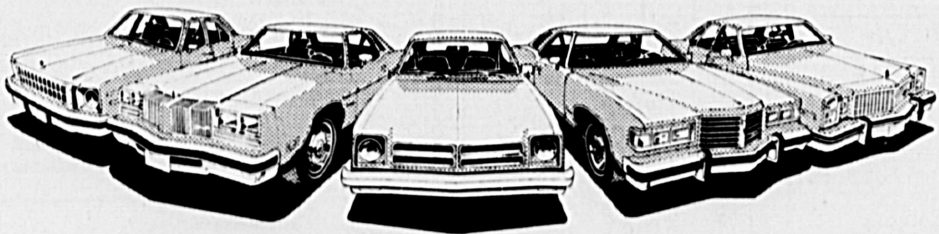
der Gorshkov of the Soviet Union and pairs champions Irina Rodnina and Alexander Zaitsev of the Soviet Union.

The only real progress shown by Canadians was in the dance. Barbara Berezowski of Toronto and David Porter of Port Perry, Ont., climbed to seventh from ninth place.



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HOCKEY STATISTICS

National Division					Quebec								
W	L	T	P	A	W	L	T	P	A				
36	17	14	256	178	100	39	22	4	282	245	82		
36	17	14	256	178	100	33	30	4	249	231	70		
28	30	10	220	207	66	24	41	5	237	295	53		
23	35	9	223	279	55	18	45	2	268	321	41		
23	35	9	223	279	55	14	26	1	134	172	29		
Smythe Division					Eastern Division								
26	23	17	202	204	69	Cincinnati	31	36	1	253	281	63	
27	27	13	228	228	67	N. England	28	33	6	211	246	62	
24	31	11	207	236	59	Cleveland	28	32	5	223	227	61	
18	45	4	153	243	40	Indianapolis	26	37	3	192	206	55	
12	44	10	156	282	34	Houston	41	22	6	258	213	82	
Adams Division					Western Division								
42	12	11	258	186	95	Phoenix	32	27	6	241	222	70	
36	19	12	278	201	84	San Diego	32	29	4	253	224	68	
31	25	12	257	231	74	y-Missouda	30	25	4	211	212	64	
23	36	9	218	241	55	y-suspended by league							
Norris Division					Results Sunday								
49	9	10	283	146	108	Cincinnati	5	New England	3				
29	27	11	280	251	69	Cleveland	5	Indianapolis	1				
31	29	7	214	225	65	Winnipeg	3	Calgary	1				
20	38	9	171	259	49	Edmonton	4	Quebec	2				
8	50	9	186	328	25	San Diego	5	Phoenix	2				
Results Saturday					Results Saturday								
Atlanta	6	NY	Rangers	6	Cleveland	5	Houston	4					
NY	Islanders	5	Pittsburgh	3	New England	5	Phoenix	3					
Philadelphia	4	Kansas	City	1	Indianapolis	3	Cincinnati	2					
Montreal	6	Detroit	1		Toronto	5	Calgary	2					
Boston	4	Washington	3		Games Tuesday								
Vancouver	5	Minnesota	3		San Diego	at	Houston						
St. Louis	4	Buffalo	4		Winnipeg	at	Toronto						
Toronto	7	California	7		Quebec	at	Calgary						
Results Saturday					Top 10 scorers in the World Hockey Association after games Sunday:								
Philadelphia	6	Detroit	1										
NY	Islanders	6	Washington	3	Tardif, Que	57	G	A	P				
Montreal	3	Buffalo	2		Nilsson, Wpg	57	58	115					
Pittsburgh	5	Minnesota	0		Hull, Wpg	40	60	100					
Toronto	4	Los Angeles	1		Hedberg, Wpg	46	49	95					
Vancouver	5	Kansas City	3		S. Bernier, Que	32	62	94					
St. Louis	7	Chicago	4		Cloutier, Que	49	43	92					
Games Tuesday													
St. Louis	at	NY Islanders			Florek, Pho	31	57	88					
Boston	at	Atlanta			Lacroix, SD	22	65	87					
Vancouver	at	Los Angeles			Ullmann, Edm	31	61	82					
Top 10 scorers in the National League after weekend													
					Bordeleau, Que	29	53	82					
James, P					REGINA (CP) — Standings after two rounds at the Canadian men's curling championship:								
Alleur, Mtl													
Jarvis, Pha													
Barber, Pha													
Lahovich, Mtl													
Arache, Pgh													
Verreault, Pgh													
ronovost, Pgh													
ittler, Tor													
otvin, NYI													
rotier, NYI													
World Canadian Division					W L T P A								
Winnipeg													