

Sports
BRIEFLY

Blues seek deal to sell

ST. LOUIS (AP) — St. Louis Blues owner Sidney Salomon Jr. says he and his son Sidney Salomon III are making "every effort possible" to sell the National Hockey League team.

"I wish we were close to making a deal," Salomon said Sunday. "We're doing everything we can to get close to several groups. We want someone who will first will keep the team in St. Louis and also run the type of organization of which we will be proud."

Salomon, in addition to heavy financial burdens for the Blues, cited poor health as his reason for wanting to sell.

"I've had two heart attacks, my son's health is not good and the advice we've had from the doctors is that we've got to cut back."

"If it were five or six years ago, or even two or three, you'd have to fight us every step of the way to get us out. But things have changed."

The biggest problem of the Blues has been labelled operational costs of the 18,000-seat arena, a refurbished building the club owns and which is heavily mortgaged.

"If I had good health there would be no problem," said Salomon, a wealthy insurance executive. "We'd get the money we'd need—there would be no problem with that—and we'd carry on. But unfortunately that isn't the situation."

St. Louis businessman Joseph Simpkins was reported to have met with Blues representatives again over the weekend but was believed to have taken a dim view of the team's indebtedness.

"We are operating on the assumption that we can make the arrangements that have to be made," Salomon said.

Snooker champ

SHEFFIELD, England (Reuters) — John Spencer of Britain won the world professional snooker title Saturday when he took a 25-21 lead against Cliff Thorburn of Toronto in their 49th frame final.

It was the third time Spencer has claimed the title.

The players had started the day even at 18-18 but Spencer quickly jumped to a 21-18 lead and then moved ahead 22-20 before clinching the victory in the 46th frame.

Connors rich

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (AP) — Defending champion Jimmy Connors fought back a determined Raul Ramirez and gusty winds Sunday to win the \$250,000 Alan King tennis tournament.

Connors, the top-seeded player in the tournament, won \$50,000 with his 6-4, 5-7, 6-2 victory over his Mexican opponent and increased his career earnings at Caesars Palace to \$810,000.

Connors, by winning this tournament, raised his match record at Caesar's Palace to 181 and put him over the \$2-million mark in lifetime earnings.

Waltrip wins

TALLADEGA, Ala. (AP) — Darrell Waltrip blocked Cale Yarborough nearly into the wall on the final lap and preserved a narrow victory over Yarborough, Benny Parsons and Donnie Allison in a hectic finish to Sunday's \$240,000 Winston 500 stock car race.

Waltrip took a car-length lead from Allison with 11 laps to go and managed to keep his three pursuers just behind him by blocking, diving low on the track to try to break the draft and keeping his Chevrolet floored.

Yarborough finished second and Parsons third.

Waltrip, who won the Rebel 500 last month for his first Grand National Superspeedway victory, led six times for a total of 26 of the 188 laps. Eleven different drivers traded the lead 62 times, just two short of a world record for the distance.

The top five cars bunched up for the sprint to the checkered flag after Joe Frasson crashed in turn two on the 162nd lap. Dave Marcis narrowly missed the crash, sliding down the infield grass along most of the backstretch. He recovered to take fifth in the 41-car field.

Voyagers win

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (AP) — Jim Cahoon's first goal of the American Hockey League playoffs proved to be the last his Nova Scotia club needed this season as the Voyageurs posted a 4-3 win Saturday night over Rochester Americans to win the Calder Cup for the second consecutive year.

Houston, 24, had signed with the New York Giants of the NFL for the 1977 season but it was discovered he was ineligible because he hadn't been out of high school long enough. He was an all-state high school tackle from Mississippi in 1974, and was signed by the Memphis Southmen of the WFL in 1975.

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MEETING PLACE

The Northwest Brigade Canoe Club will hold its spring general meeting Wednesday at the Prince George Senior Secondary School.

A paddling film will be shown and refreshments served.

The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. in room 609.



A Mackenzie player struggles for possession of the ball, as three members of the Labatts close in on him.

Goalies outstanding in soccer openers

Gaetano Mauro is starting where he left off last year, but he appears to have company in the outstanding North Cariboo Soccer Association goalies' club this season.

Mauro posted a shutout, along with two others, as the NCSA opened play at Rotary Stadium Sunday.

Mauro and Labatts-Tripke whipped Mackenzie 5-0; Doug Higgins and Woodland Sash United overcame an outstanding performance in goal by the North Stars' young Sergio De-

bianchi to win 1-0 and Tony Bendelie and Croatia blanked the Kickers 3-0.

Defending champion Labatts-Tripke had no trouble with the northern club, as it built a 2-0 lead before halftime.

Marcel Skusek with two goals, one on a penalty shot, Bill Cummings, Ed Hastings and Chris Kowoliss scored for Labatts-Tripke.

Croatia got two goals from high scoring Nick Vukovich and one for Ivour Katalinic, as it built a 2-0

halftime lead enroute to the easy win.

The last game of the day was the most entertaining, as the junior North Stars battled powerful Woodland Sash United to a standstill during regular time, but a goal by Lorne Brown from 20 yards during injury time proved to be the difference.

North Stars' netminder Debiarichi played an outstanding game, receiving praise from several NCSA veterans.

The Elks were idle and will open their season Sunday.

The schedule for this week's games has not been completed, as there is a possibility of an eighth team joining the league.

However, there will be three or four games at Rotary Stadium Sunday.

	P	W	L	F	P
Labatts-Tripke	1	1	0	5	0
Croatia	1	1	0	3	0
Woodland Sash Utd	1	1	0	1	0
Elks	0	0	0	0	0
North Stars	1	0	1	0	1
Kickers	0	1	0	3	0
Mackenzie	1	0	1	0	5

Citizen photo by Doug Weller

Lions sign two imports

VANCOUVER (CP) — The British Columbia Lions of the Western Football Conference announced Friday that two import defensive linemen have signed with the club.

Don Ratliff, a 6-foot-six, 255-pound defensive end from Maryland and Carnell Houston, a 6-foot-3, 265-pound defensive tackle are the imports.

Ratliff has had NFL and WFL experience since graduating from the University of Maryland in 1973. The 26-year-old comes from the New York Jets of the NFL and played in 1965 with the Philadelphia Eagles. In 1973 and until the WFL folded in 1975 he played with the Florida Blazers. He then went to Detroit Wheels and finished in 1975 with the Philadelphia Bells.

While at University of Maryland he played tight end and made 36 receptions for six touchdowns.

Houston, 24, had signed with the New York Giants of the NFL for the 1977 season but it was discovered he was ineligible because he hadn't been out of high school long enough. He was an all-state high school tackle from Mississippi in 1974, and was signed by the Memphis Southmen of the WFL in 1975.

WITH EXPOS, JAYS

Still doesn't like him

LOS ANGELES (AP) — In 1971, when Rick Monday played for Oakland A's, the manager was Dick Williams.

"I didn't like him then," Monday said Sunday, "and what happened today didn't totally surprise me."

As Montreal Expos, managed by Williams, ended the Los Angeles Dodgers' winning streak at eight by a score of 6-2, Monday and Williams exchanged words in a fifth-inning flare-up that brought players streaming from both dugouts.

Monday had just grounded out, but fell in the batter's box when his spoked caught in the dirt. As he got to his feet, he suddenly gestured toward the Montreal dugout.

"I'll tell you what he (Williams) said," said Los Angeles manager Tom Lasorda. "He yelled, 'Get that SOB off the field.' He's not going to talk to one of my players like that."

For all the yelling, the Dodgers managed only seven hits off Montreal's Steve Rogers, his record 2-1. The loss was the fourth this season for the Dodgers, and the second in the last 17 games.

That's easy to say after winning 8-2

KANSAS CITY (AP) — Whitney Herzog has seen all he wants of the expansion Toronto Blue Jays.

"They're a fine team with some good players and they're going to beat some people this year," the Kansas City manager said Sunday.

"They're scrappy. You let up on 'em, you're likely to get beat."

Herzog's Royals whipped the Blue Jays 8-2 in an American League baseball game Sunday to take two of their three weekend games in the first meeting of the clubs.

Herzog said the Blue Jays "are definitely better" than Seattle Mariners, the American League's other new entry this season.

"Seattle doesn't have a pitcher like (Jerry) Garvin,"

dislike for the man, but he had nothing but my respect as a manager."

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Second baseman Lenny Randle, traded by Texas Rangers after slugging the team's manager, expressed regret over the incident upon signing a five-year contract Friday with New York Mets.

"It just happened and I wish it hadn't," he told a news conference before the Mets opened a three-game series National League baseball against San Diego Padres.

A left-hander who started two games for the Royals in the American League playoffs against New York last year, Gura had been planned strictly for bullpen duty this season.

Gura's victory Sunday moved his record to 2-0, which no doubt is exactly what Herzog has in mind.

WCHL PLAYOFFS
Bruins surprise

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C. (CP) — New Westminster Bruins defeated Brandon Wheat Kings 6-4 Sunday night to take a 3-1 stronghold in their best-of-seven Western Canada Hockey League final series.

The teams were tied 1-1 at the end of the first period before 4-320 fans and the Bruins took a 3-2 edge into the final 20 minutes.

The fifth game will be played in Brandon Tuesday with a sixth game if necessary set for New Westminster on Wednesday.

Brad Maxwell scored two goals to lead the winners, which outshot Brandon 37-32. Randy Rudnyk, Mark Lofthouse, Don Hobbins and Ray Creasy scored the other New Westminster goals while Bill Derlago, Dave Semenko, Wayne Ramsey and Ray Allison replied for Brandon.

New Westminster picked up 12 of 20 minor penalties and each team picked up three majors for fighting.

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Front office problems for Toronto Blue Jays

TORONTO (CP) — Peter Bavasi, general manager of Toronto Blue Jays, says two of the American League baseball team's front-office staff have been fired and three have quit in the last two months.

Bavasi said in an interview Friday the rapid staff turnover is not his fault and has not undermined morale.

"I did things that are not in the management textbook, but the results are there," Bavasi said.

He said he works 19 hours a day and expects the same of his staff.

"We worked night and day"

to get the team started, he said. "We were totally exhausted, but we pulled it off."

Bavasi said Ron Millichamp, vice-president of marketing, and Millie Tancrajer, an executive secretary, have been fired.

The employees who resigned are Joanne Devine, sales administrator, Judy Craig, Millichamp's assistant, and Harold Denok, of the team's ticket sales department.

Bavasi said a turnover of five out of 45 staff is no indication of severe problems.

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Randle regrets actions

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Pirates start looting league

by Associated Press

Pittsburgh Pirates, behind Al Oliver, captured their seventh National League baseball victory in eight games Sunday by edging Houston Astros 4-3 in 10 innings.

Oliver tied the contest with a home run in the ninth, then singled home Omar Moreno with the winning run in the next inning.

Moreno opened the extra inning with an infield single and stole second. Two outs later, Ken Forsch, 2-2, walked Dave Parker intentionally to pitch to Oliver, who bounced his gamewinning single to right.

Willie Stargell aided the Pirate attack with two solo home runs.

Ted Simmons tripled home two runs and drove in another with a sacrifice fly as St. Louis Cardinals stopped Atlanta Braves 8-0 behind the five-hit pitching of Eric Rasmussen, 2-3. Atlanta starter Dick Ruthven, 3-3, left the game in the third after suffering an ankle injury while running out an grounder.

Chicago Cubs pitchers Rick Reuschel, 3-1, and Bruce Sutter combined to limit Cincinnati to seven hits as the Cubs snapped the Reds five-game winning streak with a 4-1 victory.

Larry Christenson hurled a six-hitter and singled home two runs to pace Philadelphia Phillies over San Francisco Giants 7-2.

Two home runs by Gary Carter and a three-run homer by Del Unser paced Montreal Expos to a 6-2 victory over Los Angeles, snapping the Dodgers eight-game winning streak. Steve Rogers, 2-1, scattered seven hits while Elias Sosa, 0-1, was the loser after replacing starter Don Sutton.

New York Mets, behind Roy Staiger and Lenny Randle, crushed San Diego Padres 8-2. Staiger drove in two runs with a double and a homer while Randle, making his first start as a Met, had a triple and two singles.

In American League action, Pat Kelly led off the 10th with his second home run of the game, lifting Baltimore Orioles to a 3-2 victory over California Angels. Ross Grimsley, 2-1, picked up the routing victory although giving up eight hits, including a home run to Bruce Bochte.

Thurman Munson's third homer in as many games

GAL'S GOLF TEE TIMES

The regular weekly day women's golf events begin this week at the Prince George Golf and Curling Club.

A scotch four ball event is planned for Tuesday Morning.

Anyone is welcome, including women whose names are not on the draw.

More information is available at 563-3452.

Following is the Tuesday morning draw:

• Tee One: Carol Storoschuk, Vivien LeMeigeon, Isabel Brigham, Margaret Morgan; Tee One Anita McDonald, Norma Rote, Linda Kincaid, Eileen Bout; Tee Two Bev Samba, Molly Rustad, Connie Goudy, Lenore Bowman; Tee Three: Jane Kennedy, Alice Campbell, Jane Flitten, Eileen McIse; Tee Three: Anna Skugegal, Jennifer Dupre, Peggy Kent, Kay Yip; Tee Four: Nancy Young, Lorraine Doreh; Tee Four: Dina Neilson, Muriel Whitwham; Tee Four: Gerry Carmichael, Ruth Carson, Helen Samuelson, Alice Thibaudeau; Tee Five: Marian Greves, Phyllis Parker, Ada Cleghorn, Ev Carlisle; Tee Five: Gerry Faulder, Della Pearson, Bonnie Duchscherer, Eileen Allen; Tee Six: Liz Sadowsky, Joyce Rota, May Munro, Betty Kerr; Tee Six: Lorraine Knight, Doris Spence, Rosemary McInnis.

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