



Jim Coleman

Tom Watt hereby receives this department's nomination for the Presidency of the National Hockey League Coaches' Protective Association. The formation of a union by the men who stand behind the team-benches in the NHL is long, long overdue.

When he was invited to say a few words on national television Saturday night, Watt eschewed the customary platitudes and he unloaded on those hockey club-owners who dismiss their coaches in mid-season.

I am certain that there were hundreds of thousands of televisioners who shared my delight in hearing one of The Slaves putting the zing on those rabbit-eared executives who, when the team isn't winning, offer the coach's head as a public sacrifice.

Michael Gobutny, president of the Winnipeg Jets, can expect an earful from his fellow club-owners of the NHL, the next time they meet. His broad-brained hockey colleagues will be urging Gobutny to find some discreet method of silencing Watt immediately. Obviously, this first-year coach of the Jets is a dangerous heretic, who should be burned at the stake.

The producers of Hockey Night In Canada didn't permit Tom to run wild on Saturday night but, in the brief time which was allotted to him, he made his point succinctly. He inveighed against the shoddy treatment which Pat Quinn and Red Berenson received from the Philadelphia Flyers and the St. Louis Blues, respectively. And Watt made it plain that he, personally, was appalled by the new evidence that the coaches in the NHL are treated as Third-Class citizens.

The words, "Third-Class Citizens" are mine — not Watt's. Nevertheless, the hockey public is abundantly aware that NHL coaches are treated like cattle. Nine NHL coaches have been fired in the course of the current season and, until Saturday night, I hadn't heard one member of their endangered profession raise his voice in protest. They have become so inured to public humiliation that — when they are fired — they just take the money and creep away to brood in silence.

The situation now has become utterly intolerable for a coach who has any self-respect. Accordingly, it was a pleasure on Saturday night to hear some strong views expressed on national television by Watt, a man with a pristine record.

Tom Watt spent 14 years in the Canadian University League, where coaches are treated as gentlemen by their employers. Thus, in only his second year among the pros, he is repelled by the spectacle of members of his profession being treated as Third-Class Citizens.

Regretfully, I blame the coaches themselves for the curvy treatment which they have received in the past decade. They sat on their duffs and watched the NHL Players' Association become so influential that a coach was deprived of almost any power to demand discipline from individual players. But, the same coaches were too proud or too stupid to form their own protective association, to give themselves some bargaining leverage with the club-owners.

On more than one occasion, I've heard Alan Eagleson says that he would be willing to "advise" coaches on the proper steps to organize an association of their own. But, because of his involvement with the NHL Players' Association, he couldn't act as counsel for the coaches. As far as I know, only one coach — Don Cherry — employed Eagleson as his bargaining-agent in negotiations with club-owners.

The carnage in the NHL coaching ranks this past winter has reached utterly disgusting proportions. Coaches, who have been beheaded, were: Bert Marshall (Colorado), Garry Green (Washington), Larry Pleau (Hartford), Parker MacDonald (Los Angeles), Keith Magnuson (Chicago), Wayne Maxner (Detroit), Pat Quinn (Philadelphia) and Red Berenson (St. Louis). The ninth man, Jimmy Roberts, was a special case because it appears, now, that he was merely a substitute for Scotty Bowman throughout most of the regular season.

It will be interesting to see, now, whether or not the NHL club-owners attempt to muzzle this pestiferous Tom Watt. For a start, you can bet your case-axe that Tom won't be invited to expand his heretical utterances on Saturday-night telecasts which emanate from NHL arenas.

Maybe, if Watt becomes sufficiently angry, he will get around to emancipating the members of his profession. Those NHL coaches certainly need a protective association, or a bargaining-unit or a union — or whatever the hell you wish to call it.

Two more battles at Montreal camp

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (CP) — The gruelling part of spring training is all but over for several members of Montreal Expos.

"Andre Dawson, Gary Carter, Tim Lincecum, Chris Speier, Larry Parrish and Warren Cromartie are ready to start the season," Jim Fanning, the manager of the National League baseball team, said Sunday. "I'm going to start giving them a day off from time to time, and they'll no longer play a full game."

"The season is long and these guys are already in shape."

That means the only battles for starting positions appear to be at second base and right field. Rookie Wallace Johnson continues to impress in his bid to win the second-base job from incumbent Rodney Scott, while Tim Wallach, Terry Francona and Rowland Office are all seeking the right-field spot.

Meanwhile, newcomer Dave Hostetler seems determined to force Fanning to find room for him on the 25-man roster that will open the regular season in Pittsburgh on April 6. Hostet-

ler, a first baseman, has spent most of the spring displaying his power at the plate.

"I'm proud of Hostetler's work," said Fanning. "He's hitting the ball solidly. I don't have any choice — I've got to play him when he's hitting the ball with such authority."

Fanning was still expressing amazement at the home run Hostetler belted in Miami against Baltimore Orioles on Saturday night.

"That ball was hit more than 400 feet. Everyone knew the ball was going over the fence the minute Hostetler swung the bat. I have to let him play when he's hitting the ball like that."

Hostetler, who will be 26 next Friday, belted 27 homers and drove in 103 runs with Denver Bears, the Expos Class AAA affiliate in the American Association, last season.



Nine young Prince George bowlers had an outstanding weekend and helped propel their zone to third place in Canada.

They competed in the Pepsi-Cola high school championships.

The B.C. North zone swept the provincial aggregate title with a strong showing Saturday in North Vancouver and the zone was third in the country when a telephone comparison of nationwide results was complete.

The zone mixed team won the B.C. championship and was second in Canada, as Tamie Sarrazin and Karin Andersen of Prince George made contributions.

Sarrazin, of the Fifth Avenue Bowladrome, was runner-up in girls' provincial singles with 1,004 pins in four games. Andersen is from Nechako Lanes.

Greg Johnson led the zone boys' team to a B.C. title with 4,616 pins and the five-member

team was fourth in the Canadian standings.

Johnson was runner-up in boys' B.C. singles with 1,023.

Fifth Avenue clubmates Joe Lavoie, Bob Sarrazin and John Corelli were also on the zone team.

The zone girls' team was runner-up in the B.C. final and missed the title, won by the Kootenays, by just 73 pins.

Leslie Wilson and Donelda Steinback of

Fifth Avenue and Kim Florell of Nechako helped the team roll 3,995.

Local house playoffs for the next Canada Winter Games in Quebec are expected to begin in about one week, although dates haven't been confirmed yet.

Prince George adult bowlers compete this weekend at the classic provincial championships in Nanaimo.

STRONG AT HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Handball limelight to Astoria

As expected, only one team handball match was played Monday at the Civic Centre.

Astoria Inn downed CJCI 9-6 in a women's division game to win the championship of the three-team double-knockout.

Astoria, which dominated the regular season standings at 15-1-1, won three straight games in the playoffs. CJCI beat the Yellowhead Inn Juniors once, but lost two games to Astoria.

Meanwhile, Lomak-Gallery won by default in the men's division when Simon Fraser United didn't appear for the second game of the best-of-three final.

Defending champion Simon Fraser was protesting what it claims was biased officiating in an 18-15 loss to Lomak-Gallery Wednesday in the opener of the local men's final.

Lomak-Gallery takes the series 2-0 and represents Prince George at the provincial championships here April 2 to 4.

Astoria competes in the women's event. Yellowhead is in the junior girls' B.C. championship and the Dunkley Lumber Juniors represent Prince George in the junior boys' competition.

Sugar sure of easy win

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Sugar Ray Leonard, mixing praise and ridicule as effectively as left hooks and right crosses, set up challenger Roger Stafford on Thursday and then chopped him down at the news conference that officially announced their title fight.

Leonard, the undisputed world welterweight champion with 22 knockouts and one loss in 32 fights, called Stafford a worthy challenger, then predicted he'd knock him out with ease. The 15-round bout was set for here May 14.

"As quick as his speech was, that's how long the fight is going to last," said Leonard, 25, after Stafford, 27, had spoken for a couple of minutes.

Stafford, possessor of the American Boxing Championships welterweight title and a record of 19-2-1, said: "It's going to be a fight, a physical fight. I can't wait until May 14."

MEN'S SOCCER Labatt's plays

Labatt's Pastry Chef has been selected by the North Cariboo Senior League to break new ground for Prince George soccer.

The NCSL defending regular season champion will play the Okanagan winner May 2 in Prince George for the right to play in the four-team provincial championship.

The B.C. final is in Victoria May 15 and 16. This is the first time a Prince George team has been eligible for provincial playoffs, because NCSL affiliated with the B.C. Soccer Association only last year.

Penticton up 2-0; Spruce Kings next?

The Penticton Knights seem destined for another encounter with the Prince George Spruce Kings.

The Knights overcame a first-period onslaught Monday to beat the visiting New Westminster Royals 4-2 to take a 2-0 lead in the B.C. Junior Hockey League best-of-seven final.

The Royals pelted Penticton goalie Norm Foster with 18 shots in the opening period and led 1-0, but the Interior Division champion Knights fought back.

The series continues Wednesday and Thursday in New Westminster.

The BCJHL champion visits Prince George for the best-of-three tier two provincial championship starting April 2.

The Spruce Kings, who beat the Grande Prairie North Stars 4-1 in the Peace Cariboo Junior Hockey League final, lost 3-0 and 5-1 to Penticton in last season's tier two B.C. final.

Meanwhile, Spruce Kings' head coach Glen Bueckert will scout the games in New Westminster Wednesday and Thursday, possibly with assistance from a former Kings' coach.

Paul Migneault, who's coaching a junior team in Victoria, might help Bueckert analyze the Knights and Royals.

Prince George assistant coach Brian Graves will run practices while Bueckert is away.

Karate instructor returns to England

An expired visa means the College of New Caledonia Karate Club has a new head instructor.

Mick Robins must return to London after one year in Prince George, so Ken Corrigan is the new head instructor, effective this week.

Corrigan has a second dan black belt, the same as Robins and won the most sportsmanlike award in the karate competition at the B.C. Winter Games in Trail two weekends ago.

Robins, Corrigan and Bruce Boehler combined for a silver medal in the team kata competition.

Robins, who says he "would like to stay here" if

he had a choice, says the CNC club has been operational for three or four months and is open to anybody, not just college students. The club has about 40 members.

For information about joining, call Cheryl Koftnoff at 562-7488.

Hagler tries

NEW YORK (AP) — Marvin Hagler will defend his world middleweight boxing title against Thomas Hearns, former World Boxing Association welterweight champion, May 24 in Nevada, it was announced Monday.

B.C. HOCKEY FINALS

Viking peewees win first

by DAVE PAULSON
Sports Reporter

Prince George's entry in the B.C. peewee hockey championship got off to a good start Monday in Castlegar.

The Viking Construction Peewee Kings downed the host team 5-2, behind three goals by Shawn Lebrun. Singles were scored by Kevin Laliberte and Kevin Berger.

Viking jumped into a 3-0 first period lead and the second period was scoreless.

Viking played Terrace at 9 a.m. today, then met a strong Victoria team at 4:30.

Manager Skip Cleave says Viking should place among

the top three, along with Victoria and Richmond.

The seven-team tournament ends Saturday. Prince George plays Kelowna at 9 a.m. Wednesday, then takes on Cranbrook at 4:30. Viking's final game of the round-robin in at 11 a.m. Thursday against Richmond.

Meanwhile, the Farr Installation Bantam Spruce Kings play their first games in the B.C. bantam final Wednesday in Nanaimo.

Farr plays Terrace at 8 a.m., then meets Juan de Fuca from Victoria at 2 p.m.

In games Thursday Farr takes on Vernon at 8 a.m. and Cranbrook at 2 p.m. Farr plays Trail at 11 a.m. Thursday and its last two round-robin games are Saturday against Nanaimo and Delta.

One asked to B.C. camp

One Prince George minor football player will be in Vancouver April 3 to 10 to attend the B.C. Lions' development camp.

Tony Reynolds is one of 60 high school-age players from throughout the province taking part in the camp, conducted by the B.C. Amateur Football Association, with co-operation from the Lions' coaching staff.

Two other city players — Dan George and Phil Foucher — were selected as alternates and will participate only if two others drop out.

Meanwhile, local minor football president Graham Goodwin and head coach Dave Granade are in Vancouver this weekend for a coaches' clinic.

Weaver set for title fight

NEW YORK (AP) — Mike Weaver will defend his World Boxing Association heavyweight title against eighth-ranked Randy (Tex) Cobb, probably in May, promoters for the fight announced Friday.

A date and site have yet to be determined, said A.C. Donell of Tapco Promotions of El Paso, Tex., in a telephone interview.

Club available now for arm wrestlers

Arm wrestling interest is starting to bulge here.

After the Canadian record was broken for the largest entry field at the Mardi Gras arm wrestling event last month, a club is being formed.

The College Heights arm wrestling team will form the nucleus of the new group and it was impressive in a Saturday competition in 100 Mile House — winning five individual championships, plus the team title.

There were 43 entries, including five from here. The Canadian record field was set at 116 last month here at The Citizen-Woodwards Mardi Gras event at the Inn of the North.

Arnold (The Crusher) Roberts led the Prince George assault in 100 Mile.

He weighs only 163 pounds, but won the heavyweight right hand division — going against men up to 240 pounds. The Crusher also won the lightweight left and was second in lightweight right.

Brian Skakun won the lightweight right and was second in heavyweight left.

Ben Skoreepa won the featherweight right and also won best match of the day honors.

Steve Myers, the slight but lightning-quick 140-pounder who was so impressive here, won the middleweight right (two weight divisions above his normal section), then moved all the way up to heavyweight and was runner-up to team mate Roberts.

Tim Krause was fourth in heavyweight left.

This group and others, including a cou-

ple of females, competes at the Reid Hotel in Vanderhoof tonight.

Anyone interested in joining the club can contact Myers or Skakun at the College Heights Pub at 964-4500.

Final race ready for snowmobilers

The final B.C. Racing Division snowmobile event of the season is at North Central Raceways this weekend.

Oval racing happens Saturday and drag racing is Sunday, with registration at 8 a.m. both days and competition starting at 10.

The mild weather is melting ice and a decision will be made Thursday whether to hold the race.

If it's held, racers are expected from Revelstoke, Chase, Squamish, Smithers, Williams Lake and 100 Mile House.

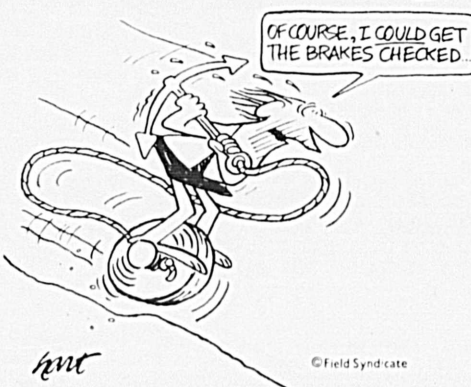
P.G. trio prominent in WHL encounter

Prince George native Mark Morrison helped the Victoria Cougars win their first game in Portland this season Monday.

Morrison's two goals, including an empty-net score, enabled the Cougars to defeat the hometown Winter Hawks 9-7.

Former Prince George resident Gary Nylund assisted twice for Portland and former Toyota Midget King defenceman Kelly Hubbard had one assist for the Winter Hawks.

Maybe your brakes aren't what they used to be.



2 Wheel Disc Brake Service

Uniroyal Centres put a stop to bad brakes. We'll supply and install new disc pads on your car's front wheels, re-surface 2 rotors and inspect brake calipers, hoses and seals. Service includes a complete road test of the vehicle.

\$73⁸⁸

Most domestic cars.
Parts and labour included.

Offer expires March 31, 1982.

Monroe Shock Absorbers

The ultimate shocks for the ultimate in ride control, guaranteed for the lifetime of your car.

Monroe-Matic Shocks for compact and standard cars

\$17⁸⁸

Each.

Radial-Matic for newer standard cars

\$22⁸⁸

Each.

Super "500" heavy duty for large size cars

\$23⁸⁸

Each.

Load Levellers for those extra heavy loads

\$38⁸⁸

Each.

Installation extra.

Most makes

Offer expires March 31, 1982.

Wheel Alignment and Front End Check

When your tires get out of line, you can end up wandering all over the road. Or you can let Uniroyal set things straight. We'll help you improve car handling and tire wear by adjusting caster, camber and toe-in settings and by checking front end suspension.

Torsion bar adjustment extra, if required.

\$12⁸⁸

Offer expires March 31, 1982.

UNIROYAL

UNIROYAL CENTRES

Tires. Brakes. Shocks. And no surprises.

3633 - 15th Avenue, Prince George, 562-1337
Mon - Fri, 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Sat., 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.



FOUR SEASONS
DODGE CHRYSLER

OPENING SPECIAL OIL, FILTER

Includes:
5 litres
oil
and filter
ONLY

\$9⁹⁹

(most cars)

"WE'LL DO IT WHILE YOU WORK
DOWNTOWN CONVENIENCE"

SALES: OPEN 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. **563-4099**

PARTS: OPEN 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. **563-4960**

SERVICE: OPEN 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. **563-4099**

FOUR SEASONS
DODGE CHRYSLER

1596-3rd Avenue at Vancouver Street
D5408

