Esks, Riders have momentum on their sides

Dan RALPH The Canadian Press

he Calgary Stampeders have home-field advantage but it's the Edmonton Eskimos who'll have momentum Sunday in the West Division final.

Calgary won the season series 2-1 but ended the regular season with three straight losses, including a 29-20 decision Edmonton on Oct. 28 at Commonwealth Stadium. The Stampeders' losing streak is their longest before a playoff game since 1957.

Edmonton ended its regular season with five straight wins then beat the Winnipeg Blue Bombers 39-32 in the West Division semifinal Sunday at Investors Group

Quarterback Mike Reilly, the CFL passing leader, has been a pivotal figure in Edmonton's win streak, passing for 11 TDs while rushing for six more. Reilly also hasn't thrown an interception in four straight games.

Reilly, a finalist with Toronto's Ricky Ray for the CFL's outstanding player award, has made 12 starts versus Calgary and has more TDs against the Stampeders (21) than any other team. Reilly has just three career wins over the Stampeders but did rush for a league-best 12 touchdowns this season.

Reilly and Calgary starter Bo Levi Mitchell had made two playoff starts against each other, having split the two previous games. Mitchell boasts a 9-3 career regular-season record versus Edmonton with 18 TD strikes.

The Stampeders were a CFL-best 7-2 home record but have dropped two straight at McMahon following 17 straight victories. Edmonton was a stellar 6-3 on the road

Reilly was 89-of-127 passing (70.1 per cent) for 1,065 yards this season against Calgary. He also had six TDs against three interceptions while being sacked nine



Calgary Stampeders quarterback Bo Levi Mitchell gets sacked by Almondo Sewell of the Edmonton Eskimos during a Sept. 9 game in Edmonton. The teams clash in the CFL West final on Sunday.

times. Mitchell completed 64-of-98 pass attempts (65.3 per cent) for 856 yards with three touchdowns and three interceptions while being sacked just three times.

A matchup worth watching will be Edmonton's offence (leaguehigh 27.2 offensive points per game) facing Calgary's staunch defence (league-low 16.7 offensive points against). The Stampeders also led the CFL in fewest TDs (35), passing TDs (17), yards (314.7 per game) and quarterback pressures (125).

Conversely, Edmonton led the CFL in offensive TDs (52), rushing TDs (20), net offence (406.8 per game), fewest sacks (29), pass efficiency (103.8) and passing yards (331.8) while finishing second overall in rushing (96.3).

Running back C.J. Gable, acquired from Hamilton during the season, has really enhanced Edmonton's ground attack, rushing for 107 yards on 16 carries (6.7-yard average) and two TDs versus Winnipeg. Gable did the bulk of his damage in the second half, running for 92 yards and two touchdowns on 11 carries while the Eskimos' defence forced three second-half turnovers.

Of course, Canadian Jerome Messam (1,016 yards, 4.7-yard average, nine TDs) anchors Calgary's rushing attack behind an offensive line that also allowed just 30 sacks this season.

Calgary will be rested and have home-field advantage but Edmonton will counter with plenty of

Pick: Eskimos.

Saskatchewan Roughriders versus Toronto Argonauts (East final, Sunday afternoon)

The Riders look to do what's never been done before in the CFL: reach the Grey Cup as a crossover team. After finishing fourth in the West, Saskatchewan dumped the Ottawa Redblacks 31-20 in the East semifinal Sunday at TD Place.

Saskatchewan swept the season series 2-0, rallying from 10- and 13-point deficits en route to a 6-2 record versus East Division rivals.

Marcus Thigpen was instrumental in Saskatchewan's win over Ottawa, rushing for 169 yards. That included a huge 75-yard TD run in the second half that cemented the victory.

But a key for Saskatchewan has been its ability to capitalize on turnovers. The Riders scored 130 points off 40 takeaways during the regular season, second only to Winnipeg (166 points off 42 takeaways).

Veteran Kevin Glenn starts for Saskatchewan but it was Canadian Brandon Bridge who took centre stage the last time these teams met. Bridge, from Mississauga, Ont., replaced Glenn in the first half and finished 20-of-28 passing for 292 yards and two TDs in rallying the Riders to a 27-24 road win Oct. 7.

The six-foot-five, 230-pound Bridge effectively evaded Toronto's pass rush and kept plays alive with his feet. And that's big considering the Argos finished tied with Calgary with 50 sacks while Saskatchewan was ranked eighth with 27.

Toronto finished that game without running back James Wilder Jr. (concussion). The East Division's top rookie rushed for 72 yards on 13 carries and added seven catches for 90 yards before being forced out.

Linebacker Marcus Ball (foot) and Bear Woods (upper body) also didn't play for Toronto. Woods will definitely suit up Sunday with Ball expected to.

Ray threw for over 300 yards in both games versus Saskatchewan with five TDs and 74 per cent completion average.

Toronto president Michael Copeland says over 20,000 tickets have been sold for the first-ever playoff game at BMO Field, which is definitely a positive development. And while the Argos were 6-3 at home under head coach Marc Trestman, all three losses were to West Division clubs.

Also worth noting is Saskatchewan is 6-4 on the road this season while Toronto is 3-7 versus West Division competition.

Pick: Roughriders. Last week: 2-0 Overall: 55-27-1.

DeRozan, Lowry help knock down Knicks

The Canadian Press

TORONTO — Kyle Lowry might have matched his season-high of 22 points Friday night, but it was one of his assists that will go down as arguably the play of the night.

Late in the first half, Lowry walked the ball up to just past halfcourt, nonchalantly pointed skyward before launching an alley-oop that DeMar DeRozan finished in spectacular fashion.

The Raptors' backcourt mates had their way with New York in a 107-84 victory, DeRozan scoring 22 points and Lowry adding 10 assists in Toronto's third consecutive win.

"That's huge," coach Dwane Casey said on the play of his two all-stars. "I think Kyle's

getting it back, you see the bounce in his step, the rhythm of his shot is coming back. DeMar is doing a good job of quarterbacking.... he had seven assists, that's huge, so 17 assists plus their points out of that group is huge."

C.J. Miles finished with 14 points, while Pascal Siakam added 13, and rookie OG Anunoby, in his third career start, chipped in with 11 for the short-handed Raptors

Tim Hardaway Jr. and Kristaps Porzingis topped the Knicks (8-7) with 13 points each.

In their first game back at the Air Canada Centre after three strong performances on the road, the Raptors controlled the game

THURSDAY'S GAME

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Chilliwack at Surrey, 7 p.m.

Alberni Valley at Trail, 7 p.m.

Vernon at Merritt, 7 p.m.

TODAY'S GAMES

Wenatchee at Coquitlam, 7 p.m

Penticton at West Kelowna, 7 p.m

Victoria at Powell River, 7:15 p.m.

Cowichan Valley at Penticton, 6 p.m.

West Kelowna at Prince George, 7 p.m.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

20 10

15

60 48

2

10

32

22 60 54

21 18

Victoria at Powell River, 5 p.m.

Nanaimo at Chilliwack, 7 p.m. Alberni Valley at Merritt, 7 p.m.

Wenatchee at Langley, 7 p.m.

Trail at Salmon Arm, 7 p.m.

Detroit

Boston

Nanaimo at Prince George, 7 p.m.

Cowichan Valley at Salmon Arm, 7 p.m.

virtually from the opening tip-off, led by as many as 22 points in the third quarter, and took a 78-64 advantage into the fourth.

The Knicks pulled to within 10 points in the fourth, but Miles drilled a three-pointer to follow up a three-point play by Lowry, and the Raptors were up 97-78 with 5:22 to play. Back-to-back baskets by Siakam gave Toronto a 23-point cushion with 3:19 to play, and Casey subbed out his starters soon after.

"Those guys are great players," Knicks coach Jeff Hornacek said of Lowry and DeRozan. "When they're rolling and they're going, all of a sudden the other guys get open looks."

The Raptors shot a decent 56 per cent on the night, while holding the Knicks to 33

Pct PF

0 .600 222 253 0 .333 236 241

0 .300 179 280

.800 227 165 .444 190 171

.333 149 182

.000 143 240

Pct PF PA

3

2 5

0

Tennessee

Indianapolis

Pittsburgh

Baltimore

Cincinnati

Porzingis shot just 3-for-13, and DeRozan praised the Raptors' young forwards - Siakam and Poeltl - for keeping the big Latvian in check.

"They did a great job, man," DeRozan said. "There's so much you could say about them, but they always step up to the challenge, no matter who it's against. Last game it was (New Orleans') DeMarcus Cousins and Anthony Davis, now it's Porzingis. Those guys always step up to the plate."

(swollen knee), Norman Powell (hip pointer), and Delon Wright, who will travel to New York with the team next week for

The Raptors were missing Serge Ibaka

LOCAL RESULTS WESTWOOD PUB P.G. REC HOCKEY LEAGUE THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Heat H.C Snipers 6 Lobar Log Transport 5

Realty PG 11 Rhythm and Sound Blues 7 Knights Hockey 5 Accurate Earthworks/James

GLASS EXPRESS P.G. GENTLEMAN'S LEAGUE TGIC/WPG/WIC Ducks 3 Inland Spring BX Pub Storm 7 Capabilities/Top Corner Ice Dogs 1

Spokane

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	Moose Jaw	22	17	5	0	0	95	59 34			
	Swift Current	19	14	4	1	0	84	54 29			
	Brandon	20	13	6	0	1	80	63 27			
	Regina	22	12	8	2	0	75	72 26			
	Prince Albert	21	9	9	3	0	67	75 21			
	Saskatoon	20	8	11	1	0	60	86 17			
CENTRAL DIVISION											
		GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	GF	GA Pts			
	Medicine Hat	20	13	7	0	0	81	67 26			
	Kootenay	22	9	12	1	0	64	88 19			
	Red Deer	23	9	13	1	0	72	87 19			
	Lethbridge	19	7	11	1	0	63	78 15			
	Calgary	22	6	13	3	0	69	85 15			
	Edmonton	21	5	14	2	0	61	93 12			
WESTERN CONFERENCE											
U.S. DIVISION											
		GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	GF	GA Pts			
	Portland	18	14	4	0	0	83	46 28			

72 65 28 71 75 23 62 75 20 64 69 20 10 9 9 Seattle 21 **B.C. DIVISION** 101 70 31 85 75 27 0 1 Vancouver 9 83 88 22 8 9 2 8 13 0 2 60 66 20 0 64 80 16 21

Note: Two points for a team winning in overtime or shootout; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one which is registered in the OTL or SOL FRIDAY'S RESULTS

Moose Jaw 5 Calgary 2 Brandon 4 Saskatoon 1 Kootenay 4 Red Deer 3 Swift Current 4 Medicine Hat 3 Kamloops 6 Vancouver 2 Kelowna 7 Lethbridge 4 Tri-City 4 Prince Albert 1 Victoria 1 Spokane 0 Seattle at Everett, late TODAY'S GAMES Saskatoon at Moose Jaw, 7 p.m. Calgary at Swift Current, 7 p.m. Regina at Portland, 6 p.m. Kootenay at Red Deer, 7 p.m. Kelowna at Vancouver, 7 p.m. Lethbridge at Kamloops, 7 p.m

Edmonton at Prince George, 7 r

Everett at Seattle, 7:05 p.m. Victoria at Tri-City, 7:05 p.m Prince Albert at Spokane, 7:05 p.m Swift Current at Brandon, 4 p.m. Regina at Everett, 4:05 p.m.
TUESDAY'S GAMES Saskatoon at Moose Jaw, 7 p.m. Portland at Kootenay, 7 p.m. Medicine Hat at Prince George, 7 p.m. Lethbridge at Victoria, 7:05 p.m. WEDNESDAY'S GAMES Saskatoon at Swift Current, 7 p.m Portland at Calgary, 7 p.m. Lethbridge at Vancouver, 7 p.m GP W L OTL SOL GF GA Pts

Medicine Hat at Prince George, 7 p.m. Kelowna at Spokane, 7:05 p.m. FRIDAY SUMMARY **OIL KINGS 1 AT COUGARS 5** 1. Prince George, Cholowski 6 (Bethune, Boyd) 4:35 2. Prince George, McDonald 12 (Cholowski, Maser) (interference) 11:55, McDonald Edm (cross-checking) Second Period

3. Prince George, O'Brien 5 (McDonald) 15:55 4. Prince George, Mikhalchuk 5(Schoettler, O'Rourke) Third Period 5. Edmonton, Fix-Wolansky 10 (McDonald, Soustal)

2:58 (pp) 6. Prince George, O'Brien 6, 11:46 (sh) Penalties - PG bench (too many men, served by Leppard) 1:00, Bethune PG (hooking) 2:04, Warm Edm (slashing) 4:48, Boyd PG (double minor checking from behind) 8:42, Atkinson Edm (double high-sticking) 11:50, McDonald Edm (cross-checking), Maser PG

Shots on goal by Edmonton 7 8 9 -26
Prince George 13 14 13 40
Goal - Edmonton, Child (L,4-8-1-0); Prince George, Gauthier (W,2-4-0-1). Power play – Edm: 1-6; PG: 1-5.
Referees – Kevin Bennett, Dexter Rasmussen; Linesmen - Michael Beam, Alex Teichroeb.

Attendance – 2,922. Scratches - Edmonton: D Jantzen Leslie (healthy) LW Davis Murray (upper-body, two-three weeks), RW Andrei Pavelenko (healthy), D Fedor Rudakov (healthy); Prince George: G Isaiah DeLaura (healthy), D Jonas Harkins (healthy), LW Ben Coppinger healthy), RW Matt Mosher (healthy).

SCORING LEADERS

MAINLAND DIVISION

	G	A F	Pt
Tyler Steenbergen, SC	28	21	49
Aleksi Heponiemi, SC	15	33	48
Glenn Gawdin, SC	14	26	4(
Matthew Phillips, Vic	16	22	38
Jayden Halbgewachs, MJ	17	17	34
Brayden Burke, MJ	8	26	34
Jordy Stallard, Pa	15	18	3
Ty Lewis, BDN	10	23	3
Kole Lind, Kel	11	21	32
Ty Ronning, Van	20	11	3
Kale Clague, BDN	10	21	3
BCHL			
Not including Friday's game			

OTL

20 18 18 16 51 59 Florida 19 10 14 45 METROPOLITAN DIVISION OT GP W 11 Pts GF GA 61 55 59 51 Columbus 20 12 Pittsburgh 58 66 N.Y. Islanders 18 Washington Washington 20 N.Y. Rangers 20 10 9 58 63 Philadelphia 19 17 8 7 8 6 19 18 **WESTERN CONFERENCE** CENTRAL DIVISION GP \ Winnipeg Nashville 20 19 59 52 60 57 Chicago 19 19 Dallas 52 GP Vegas San Jose 10 Calgary 8 7 10 20 19 Vancouver 9 48 53 Edmonton 15 NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs. THURSDAY'S GAMES

Toronto 1, New Jersey 0, OT

N.Y. Islanders 6. Carolina 4

Tampa Bay 6, Dallas 1

Arizona 5, Montreal 4

GF GA Pts

78 33

80 90 27 Minnesota 6. Nashville 4 25 11 9 2 3 78 74 27 St. Louis 4, Edmonton 1 22 3 17 1 1 51 93 8 Colorado 6, Washington 2 Note: the winning team is awarded two points and Vegas 5, Vancouver 2 credited with a victory in the W column; a team losing Florida 2, San Jose 0 Roston 2. Los Angeles 1 FRIDAY'S GAMES Columbus 2, N.Y. Rangers 0 Detroit 3, Buffalo 1 TODAY'S GAMES Calgary at Philadelphia, 10 a.m. Arizona at Ottawa 11 a m Edmonton at Dallas, 11 a.m. New Jersey at Winnipeg, noon Florida at Los Angeles, 1` p.m Carolina at Buffalo, 4 p.m. Toronto at Montreal, 4 p.m. N.Y. Islanders at Tampa Bay, 4 p.m. Chicago at Pittsburgh, 4 p.m. Minnesota at Washington, 4:30 p.m Colorado at Nashville, 5 p.m. St. Louis at Vancouver, 7 p.m. Boston at San Jose, 7:30 p.m SUNDAY'S GAMES N.Y. Islanders at Carolina, 3 p.m Colorado at Detroit, 3 p.m. Ottawa at N.Y. Rangers, 4 p.m. Florida at Anaheim, 5 p.m. MONDAY'S GAMES Calgary at Washington, 4 p.m Columbus at Buffalo, 4 p.m. Winnipeg at Nashville, 5 p.m. New Jersey at Minnesota, 5 p.m. Anaheim at San Jose, 7:30 p.m. **SCORING LEADERS** Not including Friday's gar

Steven Stamkos, TB Nikita Kucherov, TB Johnny Gaudreau, Cgy Jaden Schwartz, StL Brayden Schenn, StL Blake Wheeler, Wpg Anze Kopitar, LA Jakub Voracek, Pha Mark Scheifele, Wpg Vladimir Tarasenko, StL Connor McDavid, Edm Sean Couturier, Pha Claude Giroux. Pha Evgeni Malkin, Pgh Evgeny Kuznetsov, Wash

CFL All Times Pacific SUNDAY, NOV. 19 EAST DIVISION WEST DIVISION Edmonton at Calgary, 1:30 p.m SUNDAY, NOV. 26 At Ottawa East vs. West Champions, 3 p.m

NFL **AMERICAN CONFERENCE**

2 4

.778 257 195

.444 137 224

0 .400 201 222

New England

3 5 6 667 253 208 Kansas City Oakland .444 196 214 0 .333 166 239 0 .333 167 172 Denver NATIONAL CONFERENCE EAST 889 283 179 Philadelphia Washington 5 0 .444 207 232 0 .111 150 238 SOUTH Pct PF PA .778 268 165 New Orleans .700 213 180 .556 197 179 3 4 0 Carolina Atlanta Tampa Bay 0 .333 173 208 Pct PF PA .778 217 165 2 4 4 Detroit 0 .556 244 210 Green Bay Chicago 6 0 .333 150 194 WEST Pct PF PA 2 0 .778 296 162 0 .667 211 165 A Pts L.A. Rams 10 25 35 17 16 33 Seattle 5 0 .444 155 223 0 .100 174 260 Arizona San Francisco SUNDAY'S GAMES Baltimore at Green Bay, 10 a.m Arizona at Houston, 10 a.m. 19 24 Washington at New Orleans, 10 a.m. 18 23 Jacksonville at Cleveland, 10 a.m. 11 22 Detroit at Chicago, 10 a.m. L.A. Rams at Minnesota, 10 a.m. Kansas City at N.Y. Giants, 10 a.m. Cincinnati at Denver, 1:25 p.m.

Buffalo at L.A. Chargers, 1:05 p.m.

New England vs Oakland at Mexico City, MX, 1:25 p.m. Philadelphia at Dallas, 5:30 p.m. Open: Indianapolis, San Francisco, Carolina, N.Y. Jets MONDAY'S GAMES Atlanta at Seattle, 5:30 p.m THURSDAY, NOV. 23 Minnesota at Detroit, 9:30 a.m. L.A. Chargers at Dallas, 1:30 p.m. N.Y. Giants at Washington, 5:30 p.m SUNDAY, NOV. 26 Tennessee at Indianapolis, 10 a.m. Carolina at N.Y. Jets. 10 a.m. Tampa Bay at Atlanta, 10 a.m

Buffalo at Kansas City, 10 a.m. Chicago at Philadelphia, 10 a.m. Seattle at San Francisco, 1:05 p.m. Jacksonville at Arizona, 1:25 p.m. Denver at Oakland, 1:25 p.m. New Orleans at L.A. Rams, 1:25 p.m. Green Bay at Pittsburgh, 5:30 p.m. NBA All times Eastern

THURSDAY'S GAMES

Houston 142. Phoenix 116 FRIDAY'S GAMES Indiana 107. Detroit 100 Miami 91, Washington 88 Brooklyn 118, Utah 107 Cleveland 118, L.A. Clippers 113, OT Toronto 107, New York 84 Chicago 123, Charlotte 120 San Antonio 104, Oklahoma City 101 Minnesota 111, Dallas 87 Sacramento 86, Portland 82 Denver 146, New Orleans 114 Phoenix 122, L.A. Lakers 113 SATURDAY'S GAMES L.A. Clippers at Charlotte, 7 p.m Utah at Orlando, 7 p.m. Boston at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m. Golden State at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m. Houston at Memphis, 8 p.m. Milwaukee at Dallas, 9 p.m. Sacramento at Portland, 10 p.m. SUNDAY'S GAMES Washington at Toronto, 3:30 p.m Indiana at Miami, 5 p.m. Golden State at Brooklyn, 6 p.m Detroit at Minnesota, 7 p.m. Chicago at Phoenix, 8 p.m. Denver at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m MONDAY'S GAMES Cleveland at Detroit, 7 p.m. Indiana at Orlando, 7 p.m. Minnesota at Charlotte, 7 p.m. Utah at Philadelphia, 7 p.m. L.A. Clippers at New York, 7:30 p.m. Oklahoma City at New Orleans, 8 p.m Portland at Memphis, 8 p.m. Washington at Milwaukee, 8 p.m Atlanta at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m Boston at Dallas, 8:30 p.m. Denver at Sacramento, 10 p.m

TRANSACTIONS BASEBALL

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE - Suspended Toronto SS Hugo Cardona, INF Yhon Perez and C Leonicio Ventura (DSL Blue Jays) 72 games, Houston RHP Carlos Pimentel (GCL Astros) 56 games and free agent RHP Angel Nesbitt 50 games for violations of the Minor League Drug Prevention and Treatment

AMERICAN LEAGUE OAKLAND ATHLETICS - Named Matt Williams third

NATIONAL LEAGUE ATLANTA BRAVES - Announced the resignation of

senior adviser John Hart. NEW YORK METS - Agreed to terms with LHP Matt Purke on a minor league contract.
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES - Named Jim Gott bullpen **FOOTBALL**

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE League fined N.Y. Jets CB Buster Skrine \$48,620; Minnesota DT Linval Joseph, Arizona LB Karlos Dansby and Seattle DT Sheldon Richardson \$18,231

and Minnesota WR Stefon Diggs \$12,154 for their actions during last week's games.

ARIZONA CARDINALS - Signed WR Larry Fitzgerald CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

League fined Winnipeg Blue Bombers DE Jackson Jeffcoat for a high hit on Edmonton Eskimos QB Mike

HOCKEY NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE COLORADO AVALANCHE - Recalled F Dominic Toninato from San Antonio (AHL). COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS - Signed F Cam