

Esk, Riders have momentum on their sides

Dan RALPH *The Canadian Press*

The 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 semi-final Sunday at Investors Group Field.

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 this season.

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



CP PHOTO

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 (league-high 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 momentum.

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.

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 made 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 (10-5).

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

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

per cent.

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."

The Raptors were missing Serge Ibaka (swollen knee), Norman Powell (hip pointer), and Delon Wright, who will travel to New York with the team next week for further tests.

CITIZEN SPORTS

LOCAL RESULTS
WESTWOOD PUB
P.G. REC HOCKEY LEAGUE
THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Heat H.C Snipers 6 Lobar Log Transport 5
Really PG 11 Rhythm and Sound Blues 7
Knights Hockey 5 Accurate Earthworks/James Western 5
GLASS EXPRESS
P.G. GENTLEMAN'S LEAGUE
TGIC/WPG/WIC Ducks 3 Inland Spring BX Pub Warriors 2
Storm 7 Capabilities/Top Corner Ice Dogs 1

WHL
All Times Local

EASTERN CONFERENCE

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	GF	GA	Pts
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
Tri-City	20	13	5	2	0	72	65	28
Seattle	21	10	8	1	2	71	75	23
Spokane	19	9	8	1	1	62	75	20
Everett	21	9	10	1	1	64	69	20

B.C. DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	GF	GA	Pts
Victoria	23	15	7	1	0	101	70	31
Kelowna	21	12	6	2	1	85	75	28
Vancouver	22	9	9	2	2	83	88	22
Pr. George	21	8	9	2	2	60	66	20
Kamloops	21	8	13	0	0	64	80	16

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 columns.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

Moose Jaw 5 Calgary 2	
Brandon 4 Saskatchewan 1	
Kootenay 4 Red Deer 3	
Swift Current 4 Medicine Hat 3	
Kamloops 6 Vancouver 2	
Prince George 5 Edmonton 1	
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 p.m.	

Everett at Seattle, 7:05 p.m.
Victoria at Tri-City, 7:05 p.m.
Prince Albert at Spokane, 7:05 p.m.

SUNDAY'S GAMES

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.
Medicine Hat at Prince George, 7 p.m.
Everett at Tri-City, 7:05 p.m.
Kelowna at Spokane, 7:05 p.m.
Regina at Seattle, 7:05 p.m.

FRIDAY SUMMARY

OIL KINGS 1 AT COUGARS 5

First Period

1. Prince George, Cholowski 6 (Bethune, Boyd) 4:35
2. Prince George, McDonald 12 (Cholowski, Maser) 15:23

Penalties

— Mohr Edm (hooking) 7:44, Schoettler PG (interference) 11:55, McDonald Edm (cross-checking) 14:19.

Second Period

3. Prince George, O'Brien 5 (McDonald) 15:55
4. Prince George, Mikhalchuk 5(Schoettler, O'Rourke) 17:16

Penalties

— None.

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 (roughing) 18:36.

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 Coppingher (healthy), RW Matt Mosher (healthy).

SCORING LEADERS

Not including Friday's games

	G	A	Pts
Tyler Heenbergen, SC	28	21	49
Aleksii Stepanovich, SC	15	33	48
Glenn Gaudin, SC	14	26	40
Matthew Phillips, Vic	16	22	38
Jayden Halbgewachs, MJ	17	17	34
Brayden Burke, MJ	8	26	34
Jordy Stallard, Pa	15	18	33
Ty Lewis, BDN	10	23	33
Kole Lind, Kel	11	21	32
Ty Ronning, Van	20	11	31
Kale Clague, BDN	10	21	31

BCHL

Not including Friday's game

MAINLAND DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	T	GF	GA	Pts
Langley	25	12	4	9	0	78	78	33
Chilliwack	25	12	9	2	2	86	84	28

Surrey	25	12	10	2	1	80	90	27
Pr. George	25	11	9	2	3	78	74	27
Coquitlam	22	3	17	1	1	51	93	8

Note: the winning team is awarded two points and credited with a victory in the W column; a team losing in overtime receives one point which is registered in the OTL column.

THURSDAY'S GAME

Langley 5 Coquitlam 2

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Chilliwack at Surrey, 7 p.m.
Nanaimo at Prince George, 7 p.m.
Cowichan Valley at Salmon Arm, 7 p.m.
Alberni Valley at Trail, 7 p.m.
Wenatchee at Coquitlam, 7 p.m.

Vernon at Merritt, 7 p.m.
Penticton at West Kelowna, 7 p.m.
Victoria at Powell River, 7:15 p.m.

TODAY'S GAMES

Victoria at Powell River, 5 p.m.
Cowichan Valley at Penticton, 6 p.m.
Nanaimo at Chilliwack, 7 p.m.
Alberni Valley at Merritt, 7 p.m.

West Kelowna at Prince George, 7 p.m.
Wenatchee at Langley, 7 p.m.
Trail at Salmon Arm, 7 p.m.

NHL

All Times Pacific

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	19	15	2	2	32	77	47
Toronto	20	13	7	0	26	73	63
Detroit	20	10	8	2	22	60	54
Ottawa	17	8	4	5	21	60	56
Boston	18	7	7	4	18	48	56
Montreal	20	8	10	2	18	51	68
Florida	18	7	9	2	16	59	65
Buffalo	19	5	10	4	14	45	68

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	18	11	4	3	25	61	55
Columbus	20	12	7	1	25	59	51
Pittsburgh	21	11	7	3	25	58	73
N.Y. Islanders	18	10	6	2	22	66	59
Washington	20	10	9	1	21	58	65
N.Y. Rangers	20	9	9	2	20	63	67
Philadelphia	19	8	8	3	19	52	51
Carolina	17	7	6	4	18	50	50

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	20	14	5	1	29	66	52
Vegas	18	11	4	3	25	59	49
Nashville	18	10	6	2	22	55	58
Minnesota	18	9	7	2	20	55	48
Chicago	19	9	8	2	20	59	52
Colorado	17	9	7	1	19	60	57
Dallas	19	9	9	1	19	52	58

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	19	11	6	2	24	58	46
Vegas	18	11	6	1	23	64	56
San Jose	17	10	7	0	20	44	38
Calgary	18	10	8	0	20	53	58
Vancouver	19	9	8	2	20	48	53
Anaheim	18	8	7	3	19	52	52
Edmonton	19	7	10	2	16	47	58
Arizona	21	3	15	3	9	51	83

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
Pittsburgh 3, Ottawa 1
Tampa Bay 6, Dallas 1
Arizona 5, Montreal 4
Winnipeg 3, Philadelphia 2, SO

Minnesota 6, Nashville 4
St. Louis 4, Edmonton 1
Colorado 6, Washington 2
Vegas 5, Vancouver 2
Florida 2, San Jose 0
Boston 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.
Los Angeles at Vegas, 5 p.m.

MONDAY'S GAMES

Arizona at Toronto, 4 p.m.
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 games

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.
Los Angeles at Vegas, 5 p.m.

MONDAY'S GAMES

Arizona at Toronto, 4 p.m.
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.