

ATTENTION:
ALL ENGINEERING STUDENTS

DEANS' FORUM

WED., NOV. 28th NOON-1:00
ZACHRY LOBBY

DEAN HERBERT RICHARDSON WILL
DISCUSS PLANS FOR THE
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

by S.E.C.

Canadien's Guy Lafleur ends classy NHL career

United Press International

MONTREAL — Guy Lafleur, one of the most gifted and exciting players in National Hockey League history, announced Monday he has retired from the Montreal Canadiens.

Lafleur, who played with an elan, skill and grace that was seldom equalled in NHL history, decided to end his 14-year relationship with the Montreal Canadiens, claiming a lack of motivation.

In the end it was Father Time that caught up with what was once one of the swiftest skaters the league has ever seen.

"I made my own decision in this," said the right winger who finished his career with 518 regular season goals, ninth on the all-time list. "I was not pushed into it."

"It was not something I decided this morning or yesterday. But it was something I thought about for a long time. We had a good playoff last year and I was thinking about coming back and having a good year. But as you know I didn't score 20 goals in 20 games."

Lafleur, 33, was far more than just a great hockey player. To the French Canadian fans the "Flower" was a hero who carried on in the tradition of Howie Morenz, Maurice "Rocket" Richard and Jean Beliveau.

Lafleur's mane of flying hair as he made ice-long rushes, and his booming shot became part of his legend.

Lafleur said he had thought about retiring after last year's playoffs — an embarrassment for him when he was benched for the opening two games and failed to score a goal in the remaining 12. But Lafleur decided instead to come back for one more campaign.

It didn't work out.

After scoring just two goals in 19 games this season, Lafleur did not accompany the Canadiens to Boston on Sunday night for a game against the Bruins and made his decision public Monday.

Still, Lafleur, who has two years remaining on his contract, maintains he did not feel he had lost his scoring touch.

"It (retirement) wasn't because of my slump," he said. "I just wasn't motivated anymore. My wife is expecting a baby and it became tough for me to go on the road, to pack my bags and to leave."

He squashed any comeback possibilities.

"I have no intention of making a comeback. This is a firm decision."



What's The Holdup? Are You Waiting for Christmas?

THIS IS THE LAST WEEK.

Junior Senior & Grad Class Pictures for The Yearbook ARE NOW Being Taken At The PAVILION Through Friday Nov. 30th