

NHL training camps remain open

A lockout by owners still a possibility without collective bargaining

(AP) Several NHL players are ending their holdouts, possibly feeling if they don't, they might be locked out.

With training camps opening this week, but no collective bargaining agreement in place, a lockout of players by owners is a possibility.

Right wing Cam Neely, who wants to be an unrestricted free agent next season, agreed to a one-year deal with the Boston Bruins on Tuesday.

Edmonton got two holdouts into camp, agreeing with defenseman Luke Richardson on a two-year contract, and goaltender Bill Ranford on a one-year deal. Both were expected to report to training camp today.

Ranford, 27, who earned \$1.2 million last season, became a free agent this summer.

Oilers general manager Glen Sather said talks with Ranford were deadlocked largely over the issue of whether the goaltender would be paid in Canadian or U.S. dollars.

Buffalo decided to hold on to injured center Pat LaFontaine for at least five more years, making him the fourth-highest paid player in the game in the process.

LaFontaine, who missed most of last season with a serious knee injury, was the NHL's second-leading scorer two seasons ago.

The Sabres are trying to insure the deal in case LaFontaine is hurt again. Reports say he will earn \$22.5 million over five years.

Neely, one of the league's top goal-scorers despite a succession of serious injuries, ended his brief holdout and agreed to a one-year contract.

Neely scored 50 goals in 49 games before a right knee injury on March 22 ended his season. He was limited by injury to 22 games the previous two seasons, but scored 20 goals.

Neely and the Bruins reportedly reached agreement earlier on a base salary of \$1.4 million, with incentives that could add \$1 million.

Philadelphia made a long expected move in choosing center Eric Lindros as captain.

Defenseman Yan Golubovskiy, Detroit's top pick in the June NHL draft, signed a multiyear contract.

Pittsburgh opened camp with a big task ahead: Replacing Mario Lemieux.

Lemieux, a six-time All Star and hockey's most dominant player when healthy, has decided to sit out this season to regain strength following four years of persistent medical problems.

Considering the Penguins' two consecutive early playoff defeats, Lemieux's job might not be the only one filled before the Oct. 1 season opener against the Chicago Blackhawks.

Some veterans' jobs may be in danger, and they know it.

The Stanley Cup champions re-signed left wing Mark Osborne, who played for them for 3 1/2 seasons in the mid-1980s.

Osborne, 33, played for Toronto last season, totaling nine goals and 15 assists in 72 games. He has appeared in 882 NHL games and has 527 points, with 211 goals and 316 assists.

Galloway suspended for two days

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Ohio State wide receiver Joey Galloway, who passed up the NFL to stay return to the Buckeyes for his senior year, was suspended Wednesday for two games for accepting money from a financial planner.

The NCAA said Galloway is ineligible to play the next two games, including No. 18 Ohio State's game Saturday at No. 25 Washington.

The university said Galloway received \$200 from a financial adviser when he was considering whether to make himself available to the NFL draft in January.

"When I took the money, I considered myself 100 percent leaving college football," Galloway said at a news conference.

"Then I went home and changed my mind about deciding to leave and I didn't repay the money."

He would not say who the adviser was. He said he repaid the money last week with an undisclosed amount of interest.

"Obviously I feel very bad for our football team and I feel bad for Joey," coach John Cooper said at the news conference.

"What does this do to our football team? I've talked to the team about this already, we've got to circle our wagons and pick up the slack."

Diener

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And when Leeland runs back the opening kickoff 102 yards for a touchdown, I will not be able to cap it off with a resounding imitation of ABC announcer Keith Jackson bellowing: "Oh lemme tell ya about LEELAND MACK-L-ROY."

That would get me tossed out of the Box faster than my 11th grade history teacher tossed me out of her class, when during a lecture, I told her that she reminded me of a bad lounge singer.

All these restrictions put upon members of the press. Still wanna be a sportswriter? Maybe? O.K. let me get back to the point of this column, if indeed there is one.

If Leeland and Rodney fulfill my prophecy and rush for a combined 750 yards and 15 touchdowns, I'll wish I had a date. Covering the game from the pressbox equals no date which equals no kiss after a score, unless I want to kiss the guy sitting next to me who is still belching up the barbecue. I may be hard up for a little face sucking but I seriously doubt I'd want to do that.

Come to think of it, while I'm still on the subject of kissing, I never kissed my date after an Aggie score anyway. And you know what? Come to think of it, I never even had a date to a game either. Oh well, I guess the no date-no kiss problem really does not apply to me. However, maybe it does to my Batt sports buddies, Dave and Nick.

Will they kiss one another? Cross that bridge when they get to it I guess.

Back to the main focus...

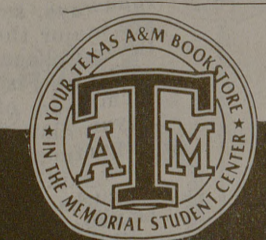
If indeed I was allowed to show emotion from the pressbox, opposing players wouldn't be able to hear me heckle, refs wouldn't be able to hear me argue a call, Corey wouldn't be able to hear me tell him who is covered and who is open, and R.C. wouldn't be able to hear tell him what play to run. Never had to worry about that when I was standing in my familiar seat: Row 800, third deck, seat 1000, goal line.

As much as I'd like to be out there with you, the members of the 12th Man, the Spirit of AggieLand, I cannot.

Drew Diener, sportswriter, has got a job to do. Come Monday, I am expected to report to you why Oklahoma's defense gave up over 1900 yards and why after a 235-6 victory, the Aggies are only ranked sixth in the country. That's my duty, and being the Eagle Scout that I am, I must fulfill my duty to you, the student body of Texas A&M University.

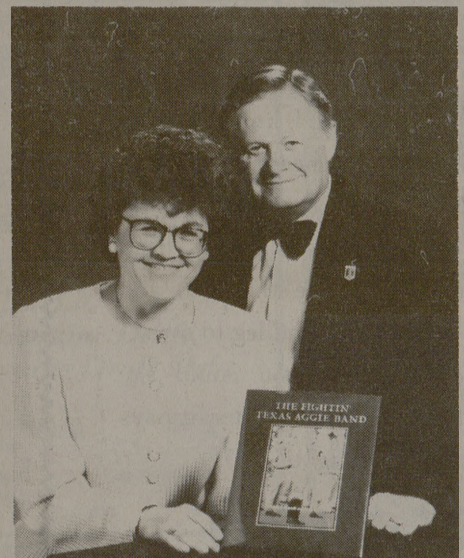
Don't fret, however, because Drew Diener, red-ass Ag, will be sweating his nasty pits off with you in spirit, looking on as the maroon and white roll to victory.

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DONALD B. POWELL is director of Business Services at Texas A&M University and 1993-1994 president of the Texas Aggie Band Association. MARY JO POWELL is associate director of University Relations at Texas A&M University.

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12:15P.M.-1:45P.M. LUNCH WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKER STATE REP. CHET EDWARDS '74
2:00P.M.-2:45P.M. BREAK-OUT SESSION III
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