

Montreal Canada
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SCRAPS

PAUL
MEGER



Paul Meger

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Canadiens Obtain Meger, Geoffrion

New Blood for Habs



BERNIE GEOFFRION

This duo is expected to help give Canadiens the necessary drive in their bid for an N.H.L. playoff berth. Geoffrion, high-scoring rightwinger of the Junior Nationals signed his professional contract yesterday. Meger, who showed with the Canadiens in the playoffs against Rangers last year, comes from Buffalo where he scored 36 goals and



PAUL MEGER

33 assists. He is a promising forward and Frank Selke had to talk far into the night to pry him away from Art Chapman. Vern Kasper and Ross Lowe shuffle off to Buffalo as part of the deal for Meger. Lowe, a defenceman, was obtained from Bruins yesterday.

As Hal Laycoe Traded

Youthful Stars Ready For Clash With Leafs

Show in Forum Game Tonight; Kaiser, Masnick, Lowe Sent Down

By HAROLD ATKINS

PAUL MEGER, the speedy little right winger of Buffalo Bisons in the A.H.L., has come into the Canadiens fold. Deal for the young pepper-pot was announced this morning from the Forum front office after three days of negotiations between Frank Selke, general manager of Les Canadiens and Buffalo's manager, Art Chapman.

Sealing of this deal marked the second transfusion of new blood into Canadiens in as many days. Yesterday, Bernie 'Boon-Boon' Geoffrion, star of the Junior amateur Nationales, jumped to the pro Habs. Both boys will be on deck tonight when Canadiens tackle Leafs at the Forum.

Five other players were caught in the upheaval, which Canadiens hope will produce a more potent combination. Defenceman Hal Laycoe, a consistent performer, was traded to Boston Bruins for rookie rearguard Ross Lowe, who moves to Buffalo, while Vern Kaiser was sent down to Buffalo on loan for the rest of the season. Bob Dawes, big forward with Cincinnati and former Toronto Leaf, will come here in exchange for youthful Paul Masnick.

Both Lowe and Kaiser are seen as part payment for Meger, who is remembered here for his outstanding play during last year's Stanley Cup playoffs. He put in a short apprenticeship with the Irvines and was a steady going worker. He has been playing in line style this season with Bisons. So far he has connected for 30 goals and 53 assists. Last night he tallied two goals in less than two minutes to give Buffalo a tie with St. Louis. Meger is out of Watrous, Sask. He first came into prominence as star of the Barrie Flyers of 1948-49. He weighs 160, stands 5'7".

Geoffrion has also had a swing with the Habs. He played three games with them on the lend-lease ticket and showed real class. He scored two goals and his tremendous shot for which he got the 'Boon-Boon' monicker, may carry him in the big show. He was one of the top scorers in junior ranks with 53 goals and 43 assists. He celebrated his 20th birthday yesterday.

Surprise

The Laycoe-Lowe deal came as something of a surprise. The latter, who is only 21, loomed a real comer with the Bruins. But Coach Lynn Patrick was looking for an experienced rearguard to spell his over-worked Bill Quackenbush, and figured Laycoe would work well in his future



Hal Laycoe

plans. The bespectacled rearguard is an effective type of defenceman who plays the puck and not the man. He has been plagued by minor injuries the past couple of seasons, but is back in full stride.

Lowe is a native of Oshawa, where he played with the famed junior Generals in 1947. He turned pro with the Bruin organization and was sent to Hershey of the A.H.L. He remained with the club most of 1949-50, setting in the odd game with the parent Bruins, who he joined on a permanent footing this semester.

Dawes also played with the Oshawa Junior Generals back in 1944. He turned pro with New Haven and since then has seen service with Springfield, Toronto, Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Cincinnati. He weighs 170 pounds.

With these new faces, Coach Dick Irvin hopes that things will be somewhat improved for his team. Certainly he should find out in a hurry if they have anything, for tonight they stack up against the tough second-place Toronto squad.

Irvin wasn't too concerned about the invasion, despite the fact Canadiens haven't been able to do better than top one of ten games against the Leafs this season. He said he would have Floyd Curry on deck tonight. There was some doubt as to Curry's condition. He was injured in the game against Boston on the weekend, but is reported back in shape.

Leafs will come this way with their 'Honeymoon' aid—Johnny McCormack. Banished to Pittsburgh for marrying without the consent of the Leafian moguls, Johnny was recalled before the deadline date and will be playing

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The Passing Sport Show



by Roy F. Moore

IT TOOK three days tough negotiation with smiling Art Chapman for Frank Selke to land Paul Meger. Now he has him beyond recall. Meger, who scored thirty-six goals and thirty-three assists so far for Buffalo, wound up his A.H.L. tenure by scoring twice in the last few minutes of play last night. Tonight he plays for Canadiens.

Selke landed Ross Lowe, a fast skating defenceman, from Boston in a trade of Hal Laycoe. So Lowe goes to Buffalo along with Kaiser in the Meger shuffle. Lowe is future insurance for Canadiens defence. Selke tried to get him early in the season but Ross wouldn't part with him. Some weeks ago Harold Cotton declared Lowe was the fastest skater in the league. He was in high favor with Bruins at the time. Now he seems to be in disfavor. Anyway Lynn Patrick wants more experience on his defence which is one reason he reached for Laycoe.

Boon-Boon Geoffrion, in turning pro, fulfilled a prediction made some days ago that he was about ready to jump. Nationales are not expected to go very far in the junior playoffs, so it is just as well that Boon-Boon jumps now. He is green, inexperienced, but a game hard shooting sort. He should improve if handled with patience. Anyway he is a popular player and along the road he should gather goals, some of which should be very useful.

Certainly Selke is trying hard to improve Canadiens' position and these recent moves can be listed as beneficial on every count. Much is of course expected of Meger and as he showed last year when here he is a hustling type who will bolster right wing.



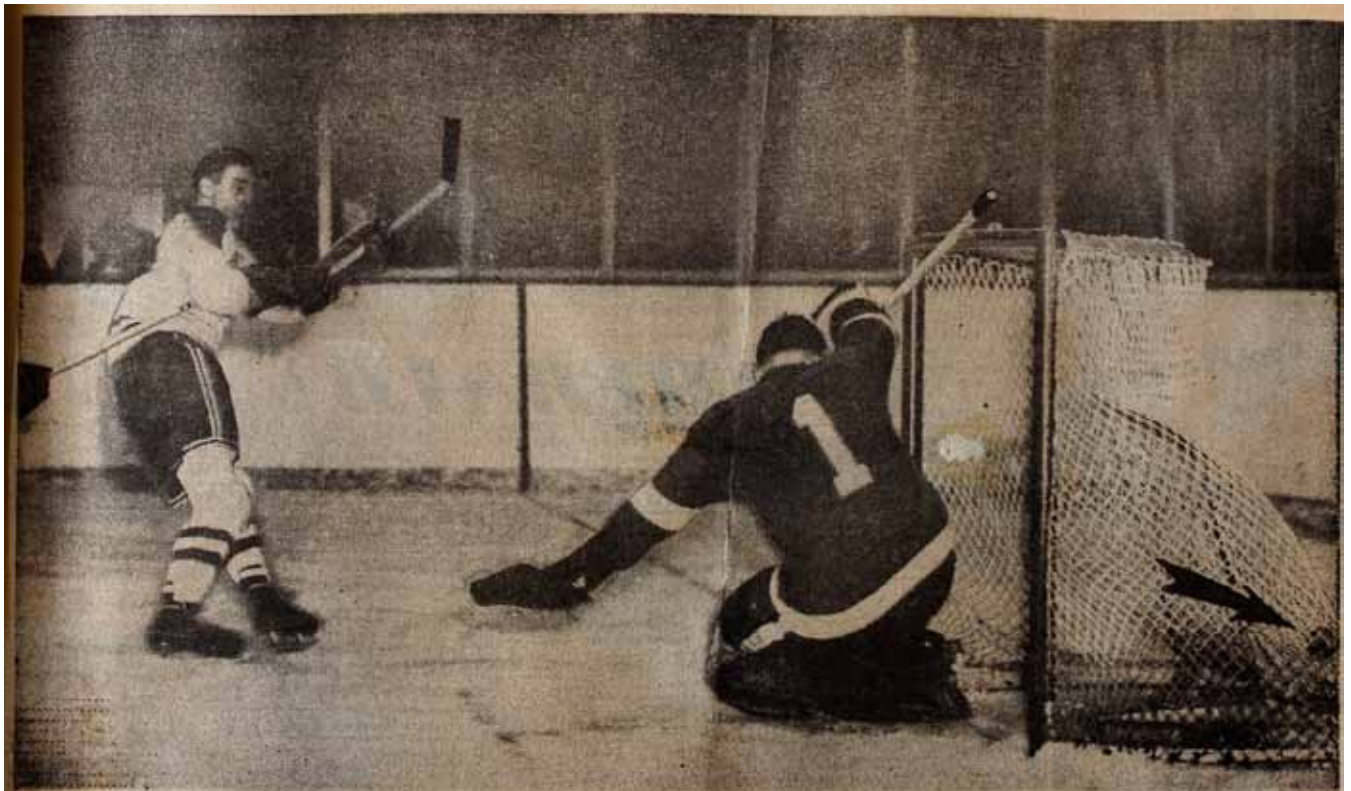
ROOKIE LINE—Canadiens trotted out this threesome last night, an all-new, all- rookie line that played well in a 2-0 tie with Leafs. Left to right: Boon-Boon Geoffrion, Bob Dawes, and Paul Meger.

Canadien Cut-ups



ELMER LACH, left, and PAUL MEGER are finding Habitant's winning streak is taking its toll in plasma. This pair of warriors can't vouch for the claim that a hockey player's life is a pleasant way to make a living. Elmer has

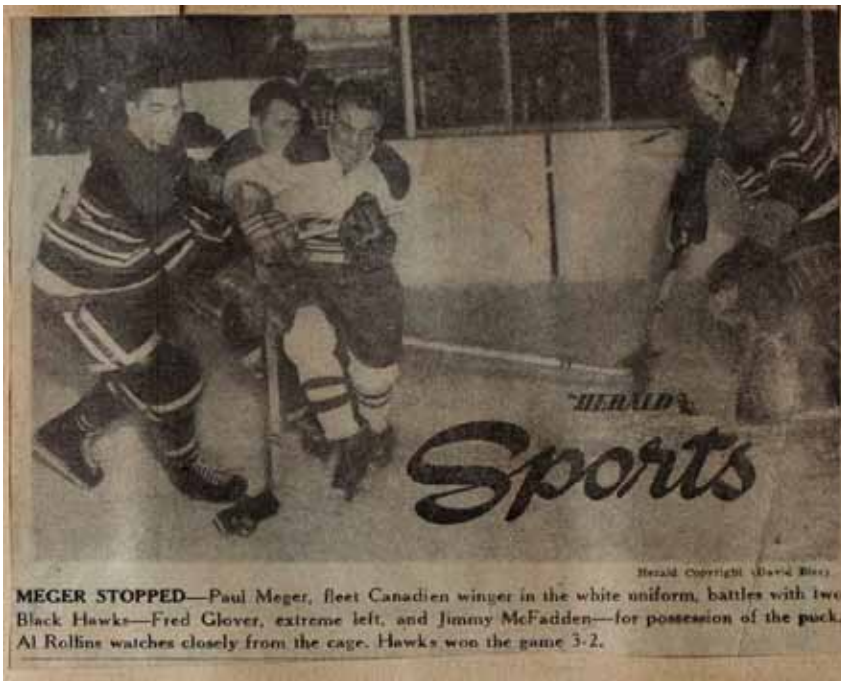
some intricate needlework in his right eyebrow, has a nick on the side of his nose and sports a fine shiner. Lacer Meger also has a shiner, a fine, blooming one; has a neat slice on his forehead, a split lip and sundry other facial abrasions.



THE BIG ONE — Rookie Paul Meger blasts a wicked drive past Detroit goalie Terry Sawchuk to give Canadiens a 3-2 win over the Red Wings. Meger's goal, his 21st of

the season, came with just three minutes to play at the Forum. (Story on Page 25).

David Copyright (David Wiley)



MEGER STOPPED—Paul Meger, fleet Canadian winger in the white uniform, battles with two Black Hawks—Fred Glover, extreme left, and Jimmy McFadden—for possession of the puck. Al Rollins watches closely from the cage. Hawks won the game 3-2.

Meger Sidelined By Eye Injury

Montreal, March 26 (UP).—Paul Meger, 24-year-old left winger for the Montreal Canadiens, was taken to hospital after the first period of the second semi-final game against Chicago tonight.

Club officials said Meger had suffered "a damaged right eye" from the stick of Chicago's Jimmy Peters during the free-wheeling first period. They said "We doubt if he'll make the next game."

Meger, one of Canadiens' "Fabulous Five" rookies last year, scored nine goals and 17 assists during the regular season. He set up Bernie Geoffrion's goal and scored himself Tuesday night in the Canadiens' 5-1 first game victory.

HAWKS HOPE TO JUMP HABS' PLAYOFF STYMIE BRUINS LOOK FOR UPSET

Chicago, March 28.—(UP)—The Chicago Black Hawks, who could beat Montreal occasionally during the regular National Hockey League season, must end a 10-game playoff losing streak to the Canadiens Sunday to retain much hope for the Stanley cup this year.

Chicago, loaded with veterans with Stanley cup experience, still has lost the first two games in the first round of the playoff against the Canadiens this year and opens a two-game series on home ice Sunday night.

Montreal, with sophomores Bernie Geoffrion, Dick Moore and Dick Gamble flashing toward stardom, toppled the Hawks 3 to 1 and 4 to 3 on Canadiens' ice.

Chicago has played Montreal in the first round in its last three appearances in the Stanley cup playoffs, but the Hawks haven't been able to whip the Canadiens in the cup race for 32 years, when Montreal won the series in 1940-41 with two wins and one defeat.

In 1943-44 and in 1945-46, the last Chicago appearances in the Stanley cup playoffs, Montreal swept each series in four games.

Goalie Gerry McNeil of the Canadiens has had the Hawks baffled throughout the campaign. He scored 10 shutouts in the 66 games he played, and three of them came against Chicago, once at the Stadium and twice in Montreal.

Chicago will be at full strength Sunday's game, while Montreal will use Calum McKay to replace the injured Paul Meger. It is uncertain whether Paul Meger, who missed the last game due to a stomach upset, will play for the Canadiens.

Boston, March 28.—(UP)—Free of jitters and a flax, Boston's underdog Bruins promised a rough hockey battle with Detroit tomorrow night for home city fans who will be getting the first glimpse of the series "A" Stanley Cup playoffs. The season's first sellout crowd, 13,909 Boston Garden fans, was expected for the third game in this best-of-seven series against the champion Red Wings.

Jitters abounded in the opening game at Detroit Sunday where the mechanical men from the motor city scored a 7-0 shut-out. But the hatless Bruins unexpectedly came to life Thursday by viciously checking their way to a 6-3 victory, first at the Detroit Olympia since Nov. 1, 1951.

"To beat those Wings you have to keep on top of them every minute," said Coach Lynn Patrick. "Give 'em an opening and they'll beat your brains out."

Patrick said he planned no change in his strategy. Two forwards, he said, would be assigned to cover high-scoring Gordie Howe and his wingmate Ted Lindsay.

In playoff hockey for the 23rd time, Boston was at full strength for the first time since last Nov. 6. Ex-Toronto forward Joe Klukay, severely shaken in the second game when he crashed into the boards, was recovered and ready to join veteran Woody Dumart in covering the Lindsay-Howe combination.

Despite their power and depth, the Wings showed evidence of sloppiness because of their inability to break through the sturdy Boston defense. In addition, the Bruins had broken Detroit's chances of a record of 10 consecutive victories in playoff hockey.



Paul Meger



Lynn Patrick

Montreal, March 26.—(UP)—The Chicago Black Hawks came down from the mountains again today to resume the Stanley Cup semifinal with Montreal Canadiens and a front office "lift" awaited them in the Forum.



Paul Meger.

James Norris, president of Hawks and major-domo of the International Boxing club, was to be among the 14,000 fans who generally agreed this would be a short series.

Norris didn't see Tuesday's curtain-raiser when the Black Hawks were outskated and outplayed in the Canadiens' 3-1 victory. Justy Rubin and freshman coach Ed Abel, who worked out the club yesterday at St. Jerome in the Laurentian mountains, thought the "A" looked tired in the opening game.

Frank Nighbor, general manager of the Canadiens, said: "We

didn't expect to win it four straight, but the way we skated them into the ice Tuesday indicated to me the series shouldn't go more than five games."

The sophomore jinx that plagued Dickie Moore, Paul Meger, Dollard St. Laurent, Dick Gamble and, to a lesser degree, Bernie (Boon Boon) Geoffrion, during the regular season appear to have ended in Tuesday's game.

Meger, who had scored only twice since Jan. 19 in the regular season set up Geoffrion's game-winning goal in the second period and scored the "insurance" goal himself in the third after veteran Emile (Burr) Bouchard had scored on a blinding snapshot to break the deadlock.

"I thought Meger played his best game of the year," Coach Dick Irvin said. "He was flying—the fastest man on the ice."