

SPORTS

Flyers use flair for dramatics to top Pens

Leivo's goal lifts Canucks past Stars

WASHINGTON, March 18, (RTRS): Sean Couturier scored with 3.4 seconds left in overtime Sunday to give the visiting Philadelphia Flyers a critical 2-1 win over the Pittsburgh Penguins.

Couturier's 29th goal came when he blasted the puck from the right circle to the far side past goaltender Matt Murray, who also gave up James van Riemsdyk's tying goal with 18.8 seconds left in regulation.

Flyers goalie Carter Hart, in just his second start in 11 games, made 41 saves.



Couturier

The game was played 16,000 days after Philadelphia (35-29-8, 78 points) last won the Stanley Cup in 1975, and the two points helped keep the Flyers' playoff hopes alive. They are six points out of an Eastern Conference wild-card spot with 10 games to play.

Islanders 3, Wild 2, OT

Brock Nelson scored at 1:04 of overtime as New York defeated hosts Minnesota, which had twice erased one-goal deficits.

Jordan Eberle and Anders Lee also scored, and goaltender Thomas Greiss made 32 saves as the Islanders won for the fifth time in their past seven games and bounced back from a disappointing 2-1 loss to the Red Wings on Saturday in Detroit.

Zach Parise and Jared Spurgeon scored for Minnesota, who lost for the fourth time in their past five games. Goalie Alex Stalock, making just his second start in the past 14 games, stopped 17 of 20 shots.

Golden Knights 6, Oilers 3

Jonathan Marchessault scored two goals, including what proved to be the game-winner early in the third, and Malcolm Subban had 16 saves to lead Vegas over visiting Edmonton.

Mark Stone, Cody Eakin, Brayden McNabb and Alex Tuch also scored goals, and William Karlsson and Reilly Smith each had two assists for the Knights (40-27-5, 85 points),

who won for the eighth time in nine games.

Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, Leon Draisaitl and Kris Russell scored goals, and Connor McDavid had two assists for Edmonton (32-33-7, 71 points), which remained seven points out of the second wild card in the Western Conference. It was the eighth straight multi-point game for McDavid, who now has 105 points this season.

Sabres 4, Blues 3, SO

Sam Reinhart scored in the third round of the shootout as host Buffalo snapped a seven-game skid with a victory over St. Louis.

Reinhart nearly won the contest in the waning moments of overtime, but his shot caromed off the left post.

ICE HOCKEY

Buffalo captain Jack Eichel and St. Louis forward Tyler Bozak each scored in the first round of the shootout. Reinhart's bid banked off Jake Allen's glove and into the net to set the stage for former Sabres forward Ryan O'Reilly, whose shot deflected off the crossbar to end the game.

Avalanche 3, Devils 0

Tyson Barrie scored two goals, Philipp Grubauer had 22 saves and Colorado kept its postseason hopes alive with a win over New Jersey in Denver.

Nathan MacKinnon had a goal and an assist to give him 91 points on the season. He joins Hall of Famer Peter Forsberg as the only two Avalanche players to have consecutive 90-point seasons. Colorado trails Arizona by four points in the Western Conference wild-card race. The Avalanche host the Coyotes on March 29.

Cory Schneider stopped 31 shots for the Devils, who had their two-game winning streak snapped. New Jersey has not won three straight since late December.

Canucks 3, Stars 2, SO

Josh Leivo's goal in the fourth round of the shootout lifted visiting Vancouver past Dallas.

The Canucks posted their second win in three games, while the Stars took their second straight loss, which prevented Dallas from gaining ground on St. Louis for third place in the Central Division.

Tim Schaller led the Canucks with two goals, marking the first two-goal



Nippon Ham Fighters' Kori Takuya makes a sacrifice bunt in the fifth inning of a pre-season exhibition baseball game against the Oakland Athletics at Tokyo Dome in Tokyo on March 18. (AP)

game of his NHL career. Jamie Benn and Taylor Fedun tallied for the Stars.

Ducks 3, Panthers 2

Adam Silfverberg scored with 4:43 to play as Anaheim continued to play spoiler with a victory over visiting Florida.

Devin Shore and Adam Henrique also scored goals, and Ryan Getzlaf had a pair of assists as the Ducks (30-35-9, 69 points), won for the sixth time in their past nine games, with all six of those victories coming against teams either currently in a qualifying position for the playoffs or fighting to become eligible.

The Panthers (32-28-12, 76 points) were the furthest out from eligibility in that group, but their hopes had been raised with a four-game winning streak that had them believing they could grab the second wild-card spot in the Eastern Conference.

NHL Results/Standings

WASHINGTON, March 18, (RTRS): Results and standings from the NHL games on Sunday.

Colorado	4	New Jersey	0	Philadelphia	2	Pittsburgh (OT)	1
Buffalo	4	St. Louis (SO)	3	Anaheim	3	Florida	2
NY Islanders	3	Minnesota (OT)	2	Las Vegas	2	Edmonton	3
Vancouver	3	Dallas (SO)	2				

Eastern Conference							Western Conference						
Atlantic Division							Central Division						
W	L	OTL	GF	GA	Pts		W	L	OTL	GF	GA	Pts	
Tampa Bay	55	13	4	283	190	114	Winnipeg	42	25	4	243	211	88
Boston	43	20	9	216	185	95	Nashville	41	27	5	219	195	87
Toronto	43	24	5	259	216	91	St. Louis	37	27	8	207	198	82
Montreal	37	28	7	212	212	81	Dallas	37	29	6	181	178	80
Florida	32	28	12	224	242	76	Buffalo	34	30	9	199	214	77
Buffalo	31	32	9	200	233	71	Minnesota	31	29	12	229	223	74
Detroit	25	37	10	195	247	60	Colorado	32	30	9	241	260	73
Ottawa	25	41	6	213	263	56	Chicago	44	21	7	256	206	95
Metropolitan Division							Pacific Division						
W	L	OTL	GF	GA	Pts		W	L	OTL	GF	GA	Pts	
NY Islanders	42	23	7	206	173	91	Calgary	44	21	7	256	206	95
Washington	42	23	7	248	225	91	San Jose	43	21	8	258	222	94
Pittsburgh	39	24	10	249	220	88	Las Vegas	40	27	5	220	200	85
Carolina	39	25	7	212	196	85	Arizona	36	30	6	195	200	78
Columbus	40	28	4	220	210	84	Edmonton	32	33	7	204	237	71
Philadelphia	35	29	8	222	241	78	Vancouver	30	32	10	196	223	70
NY Rangers	28	31	13	202	241	69	Anaheim	30	35	9	173	227	69
New Jersey	27	37	9	204	249	63	Los Angeles	25	38	8	168	227	58

Note: Overtime losses (OTL) are worth one point in the standings and are not included in the loss column (L).

Steelers add former Rams LB Barron

Dolphins sign QB Fitzpatrick to 2-year deal

WASHINGTON, March 18, (RTRS): The Miami Dolphins reportedly signed 36-year-old quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick to a two-year deal on Sunday, two days after trading Ryan Tannehill to the Tennessee Titans.

The journeyman Fitzpatrick joins his third AFC East organization and eighth team overall.

ESPN's Adam Schefter reported the deal was worth \$11 million, with incentives that could boost the total to \$17 to \$20 million.

The Dolphins are hoping for some "Fitzmagic" in South Beach. Last season with Tampa Bay, Fitzpatrick made headlines by becoming the first player in NFL history to throw for 400-plus yards in three consecutive games.

FOOTBALL

While juggling the Buccaneers' starting job with Jameis Winston, Fitzpatrick finished the season with a 2-5 record. He completed 66.7 percent of his passes for 2,366 yards, 17 touchdowns and 12 interceptions.

He played previously in the AFC East as a starter with the Buffalo Bills (2009-12) and the New York Jets (2015-16). His best season was with New York in 2015 when he went 10-6 and set career highs in passing yards (3,905) and touchdowns (31).

Fitzpatrick began his career with the then-St. Louis Rams (2005-06) and has also played for the Cincinnati Bengals (2007-08), Tennessee Titans (2013) and Houston Texans (2014).

The New Orleans Saints are signing former Minnesota Vikings offensive lineman Nick Easton to a four-year, \$24 million deal, multiple outlets

reported late Sunday evening.

According to ESPN, the Saints view Easton as their starting center moving forward, after three-time Pro Bowler Max Unger retired on Saturday.

Easton, 26, missed all of 2018 after having surgery to repair a neck injury sustained during training camp. He was locked in as the starter at left guard, where he started the first 12 games of 2017 before fracturing his ankle and ending the year on injured reserve.

Per STATS LLC, Easton hasn't allowed a sack in 23 career games (17 starts), though he did commit 12 penalties in as many games in 2017.

The Pittsburgh Steelers agreed to a two-year, \$12 million deal with linebacker Mark Barron, ESPN reported Sunday.

Barron was recently released by the Los Angeles Rams after 4-1/2 seasons with the organization.

Barron had 60 tackles in 2018 while being limited to 12 games due to an ankle injury. He also had one sack and one forced fumble.

The 29-year-old Barron has nine career sacks, eight interceptions five forced fumbles in 104 games (93 starts) over seven NFL seasons.

The Jacksonville Jaguars stayed busy in free agency, announcing the signings of wide receiver Chris Conley and offensive lineman Cedric Ogbuehi on Saturday.

NFL Media also reported that the Jaguars were signing linebacker Jake Ryan.

The moves follow the Jaguars' big free-agent splash when they signed former Philadelphia Eagles quarter-

back Nick Foles on Wednesday.

Conley, 26, played for the Kansas City Chiefs over his first four seasons, making 104 catches for 1,238 yards and six touchdowns. He emerged as a scoring target for Patrick Mahomes last season, catching 32 passes for 334 yards and five touchdowns.

Conley and Foles were teammates in Kansas City in 2016, and the wide receiver cited the signing of Foles as a big factor in his decision.

"There was opportunity here to begin with, but then the addition of him at quarterback ... that sealed the deal for me," Conley said.

Ogbuehi figures to replace offensive tackle Jermy Parnell, who was released as part of the Jaguars' efforts to free up money for Foles.

Ogbuehi, 26, started 25 of 35 games over his first four seasons, all with the Cincinnati Bengals, but appeared in just two games last season. A Texas A&M product, he was the Bengals' first-round draft pick in 2015.

Eli Manning has a lot more green in his pocket this St. Patrick's Day. The New York Giants paid their veteran quarterback a \$5 million roster bonus that was due Saturday, virtually assuring he will remain with the Giants in 2019.

If the Giants were to change their mind and release the 38-year-old Manning, they would lose that money plus \$6.2 million in dead salary cap space.

The Giants have the Nos. 6 and 17 overall picks in next month's NFL draft, and after passing on selecting a quarterback last year in favor of running back Saquon Barkley, New York is expected to take a QB in the first round.

Blue Jays outlast Twins

Harper works walk in return

NEW YORK, March 18, (RTRS): Bryce Harper returned to action Sunday after missing a game with a bruised right ankle and went 0-for-3 with a walk as the Philadelphia Phillies were defeated 7-3 by the visiting New York Yankees at Clearwater, Fla.

Harper was out Saturday after getting hit by a pitch on his ankle on Friday. He still has yet to record a hit this spring in a Phillies uniform.

Greg Bird, Gleyber Torres and Troy Tulowitzki each hit home runs for the Yankees, while New York starter James Paxton gave up one run but did not allow a hit over 4-1/3 innings.

Athletics 5, Fighters 1

Khris Davis and Jurickson Profar each drove in two runs as Oakland won the tune up before Wednesday's Far East season opener against the Seattle Mariners at Tokyo. Daiki Asama drove in the only run for the Nippon-Ham Fighters.

Astros 7, Braves (ss) 3

Houston left-hander Framber Valdez gave up two hits over four scoreless innings, while Alex De Goti and Nick Tanielu each drove in two runs at Kissimmee, Fla. Freddie Freeman hit a home run for host Atlanta.

Red Sox 3 (ss), Rays 2

Danny Mars and Ryan Fitzgerald each drove in a run in the eighth inning as host Boston rallied for the victory at Fort Myers, Fla. Taylor Walls had the only extra-base hit for Tampa Bay, a double.

Yankees (ss) 5, Orioles 3

Miguel Andujar, Luke Voit and Zack Zehner each hit home runs as New York won at Sarasota, Fla. Carlos Perez hit a home run for host Baltimore.

Tigers 3, Braves (ss) 2

Detroit right-hander Tyson Ross worked five innings while giving up two runs, but neither of them were earned at Lakeland, Fla. Rafael Orte-

ga and Sean Kazmar Jr each drove in a run for visiting Atlanta, which did not have an extra-base hit.

Blue Jays 9, Twins 8

Rowdy Tellez hit the tiebreaking homer in the bottom of the eighth inning and Randal Grichuk also went deep as Toronto outlasted Minnesota at Dunedin, Fla. Ehire Adrianza and Tyler Austin homered for the Twins.

Marlins 4, Cardinals 2

Right-hander Trevor Richards fired six hitless innings and Pedro Alvarez hit a home run as Miami won at Jupiter, Fla. Andrew Kinzer drove in a run for St. Louis, which had just two hits on the day.

Pirates 8, Red Sox (ss) 1

Corey Dickerson and Starling Marte each hit home runs for Pittsburgh and right-hander Jameson Taillon did not allow an earned run over five innings at Bradenton, Fla. Sandy Leon had two hits for visiting Boston.



Hyper

Juan Soto and Tyler Goeddel each hit home runs and Stephen Strasburg struck out six over fine innings as Washington won at West Palm Beach, Fla. Pete Alonso and Michael Conforto each hit home runs for visiting New York.

Indians 9, Reds 9

Yasiel Puig drove in six runs with a grand slam and a two-run homer for host Cincinnati in the tie with Cleveland in Goodyear, Ariz. Jordan Luplow and Eric Haase each drove in two runs for the Indians, who scored four runs in the top of the ninth to draw even.

Giants 7, Royals 2

Ace Madison Bumgarner pitched 6-2/3 innings, allowing one run on

five hits with six strikeouts for host San Francisco in Scottsdale, Ariz. Royals starter Brad Keller allowed one run in 4-2/3 innings.

Rockies 7, Cubs 2

Starter Chad Bettis allowed one run and four hits in 4-1/3 innings as visiting Colorado defeated Chicago in Mesa, Ariz. Cubs starter Jose Quintana worked four innings, giving up four hits and two walks while striking out three.

Rangers 7, Diamondbacks (ss) 2

Delino DeShields had two hits and scored two runs, and Nolan Fontana drove in two runs as host Texas defeated Arizona in Surprise, Ariz. Diamondbacks' starter Robbie Ray allowed two runs on two hits in 3-1/3 innings, with three walks and eight strikeouts.

Brewers 9, Dodgers 8

Hernan Perez had two hits and scored two runs, and Keston Hiura drive in three runs in Milwaukee's win over host Los Angeles in Glendale, Ariz. Chris Taylor had two hits, including a home run, and drove in three runs for the Dodgers.

BASEBALL

Padres 6, Angels 2

Eric Hosmer had two hits, including a double, and drove in three runs as host San Diego defeated Los Angeles in Peoria, Ariz. Angels starter Matt Harvey pitched 4-1/3 innings, allowing three hits and two runs with four strikeouts.

Diamondbacks (ss) 7, White Sox 3

Alex Avila hit one of three home runs for host Arizona in beating Chicago in Scottsdale, Ariz. Diamondbacks starter Zack Greinke went 5-2/3 innings, allowing three runs on seven hits with two walks and six strikeouts. White Sox starter Carlos Rodon worked 5-1/3 innings, allowing four runs and five hit with two walks and three strikeouts.



New York Yankees starting pitcher Jonathan Loaisiga (67) works in the second inning of a spring training baseball game against the Baltimore Orioles on March 17 in Sarasota, Fla. (AP)