

SPORTS

Hockey:
Senators

Continued from Page 24

the season for Tugnut, who had 23 saves in a 3-0 victory over San Jose on Sunday. He ran his scoreless streak to 122 minutes, 57 seconds with his 25th career shutout.

Ulf Dahlen and Steve Ott scored for the Stars, who have won four of their past five games.

The Stars have 95 points, one more than Ottawa in the race for the NHL's best mark.

Tugnut was one of the most popular players in the Blue Jackets' first two seasons, receiving six write-in votes in Franklin County in the 2000 presidential election.

Blues 4, Sharks 2: In San Jose, California, Keith Tkachuk, Dallas Drake, Cory Stillman and Eric Boguniecki all scored as St. Louis beat San Jose. Brent Johnson stopped 19 shots to end his three-game losing streak as the Blues improved to 8-1-1 in their last 10 visits to San Jose. He and newly acquired Chris Osgood will compete for the No. 1 goalie spot the rest of the season.

Marco Sturm and Miroslav Zalesak scored for the Sharks, who lost their fifth game in six meetings. Zalesak, recalled from Cleveland of the AHL earlier in the day, recorded his first NHL goal.

Oilers 5, Flames 2: In Calgary, Alberta, Georges Laraque scored the go-ahead goal midway through the final period as Edmonton capped a busy day of trading by beating Calgary.

Laraque steered the puck in for his first goal in 18 games.

Shawn Horcoff scored eight minutes later, and Mike Comrie added an empty-net goal.

Ryan Smyth and Todd Marchant also scored for Edmonton.

Chris Clark and Craig Conroy had goals for Calgary, which had won four successive games.

Canucks 4, Islanders 3: In Vancouver, British Columbia, New York had a late third-period goal taken away by a referee's whistle and didn't have another answer for Sami Salo's goal that lifted Vancouver.

The Islanders, four points ahead of the New York Rangers at the bottom of the Eastern Conference playoff race, appeared to tie it on Shawn Bates' breakaway goal.

But referee Don Koharski, trailing the play, blew his whistle while Bates was in the clear because New York forward Radek Martinek was on the ice bleeding at the other end. Martinek caught an errant stick from Vancouver's Jarkko Ruutu in the face.

Randy Robitaille, in his first game with New York, Oleg Kvasha and Jason Blake also scored for the Islanders, who have just one win in nine games.

Brendan Morrison scored twice and Todd Bertuzzi had a goal and two assists for the Canucks.

Ukrainian
brothers
unswayedBy Tim Dahlberg
The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — This was supposed to be the breakout year for Wladimir and Vitali Klitschko, the Ukrainian giants with big plans to be heavyweight champions at the same time.

The way it's gone so far, it might turn out to be the year that breaks the boxing brothers.

Seemingly ready to conquer the heavyweight ranks as 2003 began, the Klitschkos now find themselves in search of fights, titles and respect — all of which seem difficult to come by.

The first crimp in their plans came when Lennox Lewis blew off a planned April 12 fight against Vitali. That was bad enough, but then Corrie Sanders' shocking knockout of Wladimir on Saturday night in Germany really shook things up.

"This is why sport is so interesting," a philosophical Wladimir said. "Nobody knows what comes in the future."

As this year began, Wladimir was coming off a December win over Jameel McCline and had just signed a nine-fight HBO deal, while Vitali seemed assured of his bout with Lewis for the WBC title.

"It's like five minutes before 12 o'clock," Wladimir said after beating McCline. "It's not 12 o'clock yet, but it will be so soon."

Lewis, though, backed out of the fight with Vitali to wait instead for Mike Tyson, leaving the No. 1-ranked WBC contender waiting at the altar. And while he's suing the WBC to force Lewis to face him, Vitali has no fights lined up and waits in limbo for the right scenario to unfold.

Vitali's problems pale in comparison to those of his brother, though, who was knocked down four times before the fight with Sanders was finally stopped in the second round.

Wladimir was the 1996 Olympic gold medalist and thought to be the better of the brothers. But he was



CORRIE SANDERS (left) of South Africa knocks out Wladimir Klitschko of Ukraine during the World Boxing Organization heavyweight world championship in Hanover, northern Germany on Saturday. Sanders won by knockout in the second round.

beaten so badly — and so easily — by the 37-year-old Sanders that it could take years to restore his confidence and reputation.

"You can recover, but it will take a long time. People will always remember that knockout," promoter Bob Arum said. "Look at how long Lennox Lewis took to recover from his knockout loss to Oliver McCall."

Arum helped promote Wladimir's knockout win over McCline and was maneuvering to be involved with his planned two fights in the United States later this year.

He said he told Klitschko's German promoter, Peter Kohl, to match Wladimir against a lesser opponent, but that they went with Sanders because he was cheaper.

"The German geniuses who run the show took a guy who punches like a mule and this is what happened," Arum said. "It's all greed. They didn't look at the long term."

Worse yet for Wladimir, he might lose part of his HBO contract because the network won't be interested in his fighting his way back to the top.

After his brother's loss, Vitali got into a shouting match with Sanders in the ring, promising to get revenge for Wladimir's loss.

But Wladimir says he will be the one fighting Sanders, and he wants a rematch as soon as possible. Speaking on the phone from Germany, he blamed the loss on not knowing what to do when he got caught by a big punch.

"I was never hit like that before. Not in amateur, not in sparring, not as a professional," he said. "It was a good lesson for me. Now I know a lot more about boxing."

Wladimir said he will recover and hopes to fight in New York City in the summer, perhaps in a rematch with Sanders.

"Of course this is a step back, but in the future I'd like to make two steps in front," he said. "In boxing history, a lot of champions come back from knockouts."

That goes for Vitali, too, who must also wait for his chance.

"Our plans with Vitali have not changed. We will both be heavyweight champions," Wladimir said. "Nothing has changed." ■

Soccer: Roma holds Arsenal to draw

Continued from Page 24

he headed over from six meters with the Arsenal goal at his mercy.

Roma captain Totti was sent off in the 22nd minute for a short-arm crack at central defender Martin Keown.

The two had been scrapping since the opening whistle and had just been talked to by referee Urs Meier when Keown fell in a heap as they tussled for the ball.

Meier immediately pulled out the red card but Totti was very unhappy with the decision and trudged towards Roma coach Fabio Capello on the touchline appealing in vain for justice.

Arsenal, who have not won at home in the Champions League since September, dominated possession but paid the price for not building on Vieira's goal with a second first-half goal that would probably have killed off Roma.

Too often the London side, whose midfield cut through the

Italian side at will, tried one flick too many or attempted the perfect final pass rather than attacking Ivan Pelizzoli's goal.

Soon after his goal, Vieira forced Pelizzoli into a diving one-handed save from another header. Pires netted, but was offside, after another corner caused flutters at the heart of the Roma defence.

Striker Thierry Henry's pace, coupled with Vieira's power and Robert Pires's artistry, totally governed the tempo of the game but the English champions were still only one goal ahead heading into injury time at the interval.

Home fans then watched in horror when a long ball from Brazilian midfielder Emerson found striker Cassano on his own deep in Arsenal territory. He chested the ball down, accelerated past England goalkeeper David Seaman and stroked the ball home.

Arsenal's profligacy continued after the interval. Sylvain Wiltord forced Pelizzoli into a fine save at



ROMA'S EMERSON (right) attempts to tackle Arsenal's Gilberto (left) during the UEFA Champions League game at Highbury stadium on Tuesday.

his near post before the French forward, and then compatriots Pires and Henry blazed over the Roma bar in quick succession.

Cassano's replacement by Montella caused the Arsenal

defense problems down the right but the Roma defense of Aldair, Samuel, Christian Panucci and Vincent Candela rode their luck to grab a point that looked extremely unlikely when Totti saw red. ■