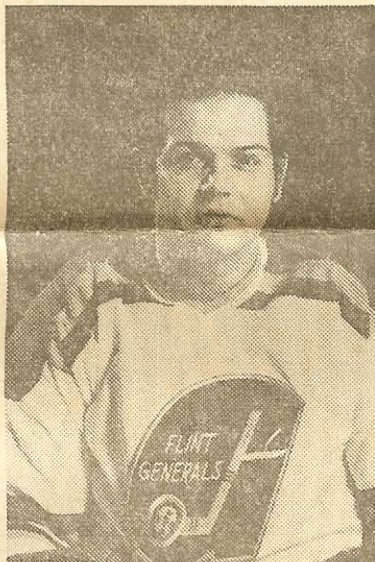


# Coach's hunch aids Generals' 4-3 win



**Bob Perani**  
Helps in clutch victory

International Hockey League									
North Division									
	W	L	T	Pts.	GF	GA			
Muskegon	42	26	6	90	265	231			
Saginaw	38	33	4	80	307	278			
Toledo	33	40	1	67	256	293			
FLINT	30	42	3	63	245	281			
Port Huron	27	44	3	57	220	265			

South Division									
	W	L	T	Pts.	GF	GA			
Des Moines	44	24	6	94	311	239			
Columbus	40	32	2	82	282	261			
Dayton	36	35	3	75	262	240			
Fort Wayne	30	44	0	60	236	296			

**Friday's results**  
FLINT 4, Toledo 3  
Port Huron 6, Muskegon 3  
Des Moines 4, Saginaw 4, overtime  
Only games scheduled

**Tonight's games**  
Dayton at Fort Wayne  
Saginaw at Des Moines  
Columbus at Muskegon  
Toledo at Port Huron

**Sunday's games**  
Fort Wayne at FLINT, 7 p.m.  
Des Moines at Port Huron  
Muskegon at Toledo  
Columbus at Dayton

By **LEN HOYES**  
Journal Sports Writer

TOLEDO — If Doug Carpenter's hunches continue to pay off, the Flint Generals may yet create post-season excitement in the International Hockey League.

He played a hunch by starting goalie Bob Perani Friday and the five-season veteran backstopped a 4-3 victory over the Toledo Hornets, giving the Generals two chances to nail down a playoff position.

There was more scoring help from unexpected sources as Jim Johnston and Gary Gilbert built a 2-0 lead in the first 7½ minutes, Doug Manchak and Jim Koleff scored in the third period to help the Generals end a string of eight road-game losses before 2,261 fans.

The victory gave Flint a 30-42-3 record and a three-point lead over Fort Wayne (30-44-0) in the duel for the "wild card" playoff spot.

THAT PUTS the pressure squarely on the Komets. They must beat the Dayton Gems tonight and the Generals on Sunday in Flint to pass the Generals. On the other hand, the Generals can back into the playoff position if Dayton wins tonight or do it themselves Sunday by winning or tying in the final game of the regular season.

In either case, that's cutting it close but the Generals are gaining confidence in these final days of the season.

That confidence can be attributed to the help from unexpected sources which Carpenter viewed as so important a few days ago.

Perani was a vital part of the help as he turned aside 29 shots, including at least a dozen of the sensational variety.

"BOBBY ALWAYS plays well in Toledo and Merlin (Jenner) doesn't play so well here," Carpenter said in explaining his decision.

He added, "We're a two goalie team and if we figure to go very far in the playoffs we'll need both. I have confidence that either of them can do the job for us, so I wasn't worried about playing Perani."

"He did a fine job for us last Saturday at Port Huron even though we didn't win. He always seems to play well in Toledo."

The game was only 27 seconds old when Johnston tipped in a shot from the point by Dan O'Donohue after Dick Mortenson had won a faceoff in Toledo's end. It was only the ninth goal of the year for Johnston but another of the "pick me ups" sought by Carpenter.

AT 7:16, Gilbert drilled his eighth goal of the year through a maze of legs in front of goalie Dean Jeffrey during a

power play. Dave Gorman had set up the play by keeping the puck inside the blue line and eventually getting it to Gilbert at the point.

Manchak's 27th goal came at 2:19 of the finale for a 3-1 lead after Brian Bird had scored for Toledo in the second period.

The Generals had a seemingly safe lead erased when Juri Kudrasovs won a faceoff and beat Perani with a backhand at 9:06 and when Moe Brunel punched home his 36th goal from a scramble in front of the crease at 17:03.

Almost everyone was thinking overtime when O'Donohue got the puck to Ernie Moser who joined Koleff in a two-on-one breakaway against defenseman Gary Davidson. Koleff used Moser as a perfect decoy and rifled a shot over Jeffrey's shoulder. It hit the post just below the crossbar and found the twine at 18:42.

KOLEFF'S 16TH goal of the year was his fourth game-winner. He also owns one tying goal, giving him a good improving rookie centerman a good share of the "important points."

Earlier he hit the post with the score 3-2 and Johnston also was thwarted by Jeffrey on a blistering shot from close range. Gorman and Jack Kell also had good shots turned aside when the score was 3-1. Frank Beaton's bid for an empty-net goal hit the post in the final seconds.

Perani also turned back good Toledo chances, particularly late in the second period when the Generals became tired from killing their third penalty of the period.

"We manage to keep it interesting," said Carpenter with a grin.

IF THE GENERALS qualify for the playoffs, their first-round foe will be Toledo. With a 3-2 edge on Toledo's ice and a 6-4 edge in the season series, they will be confident of getting into the semifinals.

Carpenter said, "Wouldn't it be something if this team, with all the problems and frustrations we've had, makes a run at the Turner Cup?"

That may be wishful thinking but if his hunches continue to pay off, who knows?

## IHL playoff dates are formalized

Flint got a major boost Friday when dates for the International Hockey League's playoffs were formalized.

Now all the Generals must do is make sure of getting there.

General Manager Frank Gallagher said the Generals will be the home team for first game in the best-of-three series against Toledo.

Toledo's arena was unavailable next Tuesday when the first game is scheduled to be played. A decision by Commissioner Bill Beagan was part of the discussion about the start of the series which must be concluded by next Friday.

The second game will be played at Toledo on Wednesday, and the third game, if necessary, at Toledo on Friday.

Gallagher said the sale of playoff tickets will begin immediately after Sunday night's game against Fort Wayne — if the Generals win.

Seats for season ticket holders will be held until 6 p.m. Monday unless other arrangements are made with the box office.

Remaining tickets will be sold starting at noon Tuesday.

The prices are \$3, \$3.75 and \$4.75, an increase of 50 cents from the regular season prices. Half of the increase goes into the players' pool.

## Blades' goalie has a 'vacation'

Jim Ernest, goalie for Blades, had a "vacation" as his teammates romped to a 13-0 victory over Somsports in morning league hockey at IMA Sports Arena. He faced only eight shots, none in the first period.

Tom McCloskey scored four goals and one assist and Ken Foss two goals and four assists. Tom Dutcher and Gary Burleson also scored two goals.

Larry Hansen scored four goals as Doghouse beat Local 659, 5-2. Gary Newton tallied twice for the loser.

## Frommelt ski champ

VAIL, Colo. (AP) — Lichtenstein's Willi Frommelt outraced former World Cup titlist Gustavo Thoeni of Italy in both final runs Friday afternoon to win the men's parallel slalom event in the Nations' World Series of Skiing.