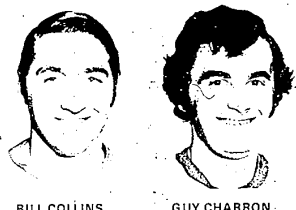


Meet Your New Red Wing Neighbors!



BILL COLLINS

GUY CHARRON

By TOM DONOGHUE
Sports Editor

If you think you are seeing more of the Detroit Red Wings this winter, you could be right. The Detroit Red Wings have skated into Observerland, four families strong.

The Tim Ecclestons and Gary Doaks have taken up winter residence in Southfield and the Guy Charrons and the Billy Collins are living in Redford Township.

Now, to get you a little more acquainted with these four players and their families, and to get you a little more into the mood for the NHL playoff drive, here are your neighbors.

Starting off with the senior member of the Observerland foursome, here is Billy Collins, No. 22 on the Olympia ice.

COLLINS, 29 years old, and his wife, Carol, have two children in Brenda, 5½ years old, and Scott, three years old.

The 6-0, 190 pound right winger was born in Ottawa, Ontario, July 13, 1943, and was given a pair of skates at the age of six and began his professional career with Denver in '63 in the WHL.

He was drafted by Minnesota from New York in the expansion draft in '67, traded by Minnesota to Montreal for Jude Drouin in '70, and was traded by Montreal with Mickey Redmond and Guy Charron to Detroit for Frank Mahovlich on Jan. 13, '71.

Billy and Carol, who were married on May 30, '64, make their home in Ottawa where they both went to high school.

High school sweethearts, yes, but ...

"CAROL TURNED ME DOWN when I asked her to the prom," said Billy. "It was only three days prior and she told me that I had to give her at least a week's notice."

"We then cooled it for about a year," added Billy, with wife Carol sitting across the way, smiling. Collins played football and basketball while in high school but his main love was hockey.

"I never thought of anything but hockey," said Billy, smiling across at Carol. "My mom and dad encouraged me all the way and Toronto started scouting me when I was 13. I eventually turned down scholarships to St. Lawrence and Michigan Tech."

Collins' first big season came in the '69-70 season with Minnesota, scoring 29 goals. Then came the trade to Montreal and Detroit, quite a surprise seeing they had just bought a home in Minnesota.



THE TIM ECCLESTONE FAMILY, living in Southfield, includes 16-month-old Mark, a

Golden Retriever, King, and Tim and his wife, Sue.

Carol remembers her husband's first hat-trick better than anything.

It came when she was nine months pregnant.

"I was so excited, I almost had the baby right there in the stands," said Carol. "It turned out to be a false alarm. The following week Bill got his second hat-trick and the following morning, Scott William came into our lives."

Collins refers to his wife as the "greatest second guesser in the world of hockey."

"Carol is always saying things like, 'Why didn't you shoot? Why didn't you pass? Why didn't you score?'" chuckled the right winger.

Just down the road from the Collins in Redford Township is another Red Wing, 23-year-old Guy Charron and his wife Denyse.

Born in Verdun, Quebec, Charron was schooled in the Montreal Canadiens' system and came to Detroit in January 1971 along with Mickey Redmond and Collins.

THE CHARRONS are French-Canadians, attended the same high school in Verdun, and were married in June of '69.

Guy then turned pro in the fall, played 20 games in the NHL with Montreal in two years and it was then on to Detroit.

"I'll never forget that first night in Detroit. I was told I would be on the line with Howe and Delvecchio. I couldn't believe it, here I was 22 years old ... playing with 39 and 42 year old super stars."

"All I remember about that first night was Alex feeding me a pass and I was breaking in all alone and hit the goal post," sighed Guy.

Guy has been caught in the many line changes of Johnny Wilson but is not afraid to speak of his likes and dislikes.

"I can't really click with Redmond, we differ too much. He is a great individualist and I prefer to open up the game."

"I can play my type of game with Delvecchio and Marcel Dion; as Frenchmen can play together," said Charron.

He's No. 8 on the ice and could be around the Detroit organization for quite a few years.

That takes care of the Redford contingent of the Red Wings, now across to Southfield where right winger Tim Ecclestone and defenseman Gary Doak are taking up winter residence.

The 25 year old Ecclestone and his wife, Sue, have one spry 16-month-old boy, Mark, and another child expected in May.

NO. 17 isn't even the one who wears the crown around his household.

The "King" is a four-month-old Golden Retriever, and you guessed it, named King.

Tim is a 188 pound, 6-0 right winger, born in Toronto, Ontario.

Unlike most major league hockey players, Tim spent just one year in the Ontario Hockey Association Major "A" circuit before turning pro. After one season with the Kitchener Rangers, he signed his first



TIM ECCLESTONE

GARY DOAK

pro contract with New York in '67. Before he had a chance to report to the Rangers training camp, he was sent to the St. Louis Blues as a part of a five-player transaction.

He was traded by New York with Gary Sabourin, Bob Plager and Gord Kanngieser to St. Louis for Rod Seiling.

Tim was immediately accepted in St. Louis and married Sue on August 16, '69.

The first three years at St. Louis saw the Blues in the Stanley Cup finals with Ecclestone improving with each season. Then with 15 goals in the first 47 games in '70-'71 came the trade to Detroit on Feb. 6, '71.

Tim went along with Red Berenson to Detroit for Gary Unger and Wayne Connelly.

"We were just getting settled in St. Louis and then the trade happened, but we moved as a family, disappointment and all," said Ecclestone.

The Ecclestons make their summer home in Toronto, where Tim is employed as an instructor in a hockey school. He is also quite the avid golfer and Sue is tops in driving the golf cart around the fairways.

Now to the lone defenseman of the crowd, 26 year old Gary Doak, a native of Goderich, Ontario where he and his wife, Judy, make their summer home.

Gary is a product of the Detroit organization and played his junior hockey with the Hamilton Red Wings in the OHA from '62 to '65 before turning pro.

DOAK INKED his first professional contract in '65 and was assigned by Detroit to their American Hockey League farm club in Pittsburgh. He appeared in 48 games before being dealt to the Boston Bruins.

During the stay with Boston, he was a member of the Stanley Cup champion squad of 1970.

Gary remained with Boston until June 1970 and was then drafted by the new Vancouver Canucks. The New York Rangers then acquired him and the Red Wings traded for him in May of '72.

Gary and his wife, Judy, are not alone in their Southfield apartment.

They have the company of four-year-old Tausha, a bronze colored poodle who is every bit part of the family, according to Gary.

You won't see No. 19 scoring a lot of goals for Detroit in this year's stretch drive, but if a rugged, scrappy defenseman catches your eye, chances are it's Goderich's own Gary Doak.

There they are, the four Red Wing puckmen living in Observerland.

Take notice the next time you go out to borrow a cup of sugar.



BILLY COLLINS FAMILY, living in Redford, includes Billy and his wife, Carol, 5½-year-old Brenda, and three-year-old Scott.



GUY CHARRON and his wife, Denyse, are living in Redford.



GARY DOAK and his wife, Judy, share an apartment with their poodle, Tausha, in Southfield.



TIM ECCLESTONE

Season	Club	League	GP	G	A	P	PM
1967-68	Kansas City	CPHL	13	4	4	8	9
1968-69	St. Louis	NHL	50	6	8	14	16
1969-70	St. Louis	NHL	68	11	23	34	31
1970-71	St. Louis	NHL	65	16	21	37	59
1971-72	DETROIT	NHL	27	4	10	14	13
NHL Totals			328	70	121	191	186
DETROIT Totals			99	22	45	67	46

BILLY COLLINS

Season	Club	League	GP	G	A	P	PM
1963-64	Denver	WHL	58	17	15	32	54
1964-65	Baltimore	AHL	11	0	1	1	0
1965-66	St. Paul	CPHL	58	6	0	0	0
1966-67	St. Paul	CPHL	58	12	29	41	47
1967-68	Baltimore	AHL	58	18	29	47	55
1968-69	Minnesota	NHL	69	20	18	38	50
1969-70	Minnesota	NHL	71	9	11	20	41
1970-71	Minnesota	NHL	75	9	10	19	24
1971-72	DETROIT	NHL	74	29	9	38	48
1972-73	DETROIT	NHL	40	6	2	8	39
1973-74	DETROIT	NHL	36	5	16	21	10
1974-75	DETROIT	NHL	71	15	25	40	38
NHL Totals			367	73	73	146	200
DETROIT Totals			107	20	41	61	48

GARY DOAK

Season	Club	League	GP	G	A	P	PM
1963-64	Pittsburgh	AHL	1	0	3	0	0
1964-65	Pittsburgh	AHL	2	1	0	1	4
1965-66	Pittsburgh	AHL	48	0	6	6	88
1966-67	DETROIT	NHL	4	0	0	0	12
1967-68	Boston	NHL	20	0	6	6	28
1968-69	DETROIT	NHL	17	4	3	7	96
1969-70	Boston	NHL	29	0	1	1	50
1970-71	Boston	NHL	59	2	10	12	100
1971-72	Boston	NHL	22	3	3	6	37
1972-73	DETROIT	NHL	13	1	5	6	63
1973-74	Boston	NHL	44	1	7	8	63
1974-75	Vancouver	NHL	77	2	10	12	112
1975-76	Vancouver	NHL	6	0	1	1	23
1976-77	New York	NHL	49	1	10	11	54
NHL Totals			310	9	50	59	479
DETROIT Totals			4	0	0	0	12



GUY CHARRON

Season	Club	League	GP	G	A	P	PM
1967-68	Montreal	NHL	15	0	0	0	0
1968-69	Montreal	NHL	65	37	45	82	20
1969-70	Montreal	NHL	15	2	2	4	2
1970-71	DETROIT	NHL	24	5	13	18	6
1971-72	DETROIT	NHL	64	9	16	25	14
1972-73	DETROIT	NHL	108	19	22	41	20
DETROIT Totals			88	17	20	37	18