

Game 1 Loss Aside, Lightning Remain Confident

PLAYERS SAY THERE ARE POSITIVES TO BUILD ON

By ERIK ERLENDSSON
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OTTAWA — The Lightning walk a thin line heading into tonight's Game 2 of their Eastern Conference quarter-final series against the Senators.

On one side is a sense of confidence that for 40 minutes during Game 1, Tampa Bay found the formula for success against the top-seeded Senators. For the first two periods Friday, the Lightning had all the ingredients for victory — they had the early lead, they made the little plays such as blocking 22 shots and forcing 18 giveaways, they took the home crowd out of the game and they successfully killed penalties.

"I felt that our team came out and played a real good playoff game," assistant captain Tim Taylor said. "I think we put ourselves back on the map as a playoff team for two peri-

ods. We know how we can play. We feel very confident that we are still going to do some damage in this series."

On the other side, Ottawa delivered the first blow. In a span of 67 seconds in the third period, the Senators scored two power-play goals to take the lead.



Taylor

Tampa Bay, meanwhile, failed to sustain any type of consistent attack in the third. After firing 29 shots through 40 minutes, the Lightning had seven in the third period despite four power-play chances — including one that carried over to start the final 20 minutes.

"We're not down on ourselves by the way we played," assistant captain Fredrik Modin said. "We weren't playing bad, we just weren't playing good enough. It's a fine

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Breaks didn't go Bolts' way in opener.

TONIGHT'S GAME



Eastern Conference Quarterfinals
Game 2 (Best of 7)

Tampa Bay at Ottawa, 6
Sun Sports

SCHEDULE

(Ottawa leads series 1-0)

- Game 1: Ottawa 4, Tampa Bay 1
- Game 3: Tuesday, at Tampa Bay, 7
- Game 4: Thurs., at Tampa Bay, 7
- Game 5: Saturday, at Ottawa, 7*
- Game 6: May 1, at Tampa Bay, 7*
- Game 7: May 3, at Ottawa, 7*

*—if necessary

Bolts Can Build By Winning

OTTAWA — For days, the Lightning have insisted the playoff pressure is on the Ottawa Senators, which probably explains why Ottawa only won Game 1 by three goals.

Enough with this 8-seed talk, that there's no pressure on the Bolts. Game 1 will become increasingly demoralizing unless things change tonight in Game 2.

You don't get that game from John Grahame every night. Or nine power plays. Or the other goalie being a rookie in his first playoff game. And you lost, 4-1. Enough about Game 1 being something to build on. How do you build on a three-goal loss to a team that always beats you? There's only one way to build at this point. You win.

There is pressure. It falls on all Lightning shoulders, but especially falls on the men who two years ago lit lights for a Cup winner. They



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know who they are. So do you. Your eyes will follow them tonight. The Lightning need a real something.

"Goals," John Tortorella said. "We have to score," Brad Richards said.

It falls mostly to Richards and the rest of the top Lightning lines: the Vinnys, Prospal and Lecavalier; Mar-

See FENNELLY COLUMN, Page 4 ►
Lightning have to increase production.

NFL Draft April 29-30, ESPN



Associated Press file photo

Then NFL Commissioner Pete Rozelle welcomed Bo Jackson after the Bucs made the Auburn running back the first pick in the 1986 draft.

First ... To Worst



Former Bucs owner Hugh Culverhouse was convinced he could get Bo Jackson to play in Tampa. But Jackson's ideals clashed with the controversial owner's methods.

Bo Jackson was worthy of the No. 1 pick, but when the Bucs picked him 20 years ago it was their biggest draft mistake.

By IRA KAUFMAN
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TAMPA — It's been 20 years since the Bucs were spurned by a two-sport star and a first-class iconoclast.

After investigating Hugh Culverhouse's reputation, mercurial running back Bo Jackson turned his broad back on a record-setting offer from Tampa Bay's controversial owner, picking up a bat instead of a football.

The No. 1 overall pick in the 1986 draft embarked on a baseball career with the Royals, leaving a lousy team in tatters and at least one former Buc in ecstasy.

"Bo's a good guy, and I was glad he was strong enough to tell Culverhouse, 'I don't want to play for you,'" current Bucs personnel executive Doug Williams said. "A guy like Bo Jackson had the power to say no."

Despite a five-year, \$7.6 million proposal from Culverhouse, which represented the most lucrative contract offered for an NFL rookie, Jackson stalled the Bucs and opened negotiations with the Royals through his agent, Richard Woods.

Yes, the same Richard Woods who called Williams after the draft to discuss the sorry state of the Bucs' administration.

"When you draft first overall and don't sign the player, it's a huge mistake for the franchise," said former coach Leeman Bennett, who went 4-28 in his two seasons on the Tampa Bay sideline. "Mr. Culverhouse told me, 'Don't worry, we'll get him in here.'"

So we draft Bo, don't sign him and the next year, I get fired."

Culverhouse's key administrator, Phil Krueger, said he had a queasy feeling the 1985 Heisman Trophy winner could run away from One Buc Place.

"Auburn coaches said he couldn't hit the curveball, but in my mind, I thought the baseball option would be a problem for us," Krueger said from his home in South Florida. "Mr C. was in love with that name — Bo Jackson. Culverhouse would never show his hand, but when Bo didn't sign with us, I think he was hurt and bitter by it."

That pain only intensified a year later, when Jackson went back into the NFL draft and was selected by the Los Angeles Raiders

See BO JACKSON, Page 6 ►
"I chose another route."



Williams QB's dealings with team affected Bo's decision.

Missed Chances Spoil Rays' Comeback

WIGGINTON HOMERS IN 9TH; ERROR HELPS TEXAS

Rangers 6, Devil Rays 5

By EDUARDO A. ENCINA
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ARLINGTON, Texas — If there's one thing the Devil Rays have proven so far this season, it's that they're never out of a game until the final out.

Even on a night when the Tampa Bay hitters spent most of the game frustrated because they couldn't get runners to cross the plate. They entered the final inning of their game Saturday night against Texas having stranded nine runners.

With the Rays down to their final out, third baseman Ty Wigginton hit an opposite-field, game-tying three-run homer in the top of the ninth off Rangers closer Francisco Cordero.

But in the bottom half of the inning, Rangers shortstop Michael Young singled against reliever Shawn Camp, sending Rod Barajas home and handing the Devil Rays a heartbreaking 6-5 loss at Ameriquest Field in front of 35,302.

"These are tough ones, but I really think our pitchers did a nice job," Rays manager Joe Maddon said. "Camp did what he was supposed to do. He got the ground ball. The direction was against us, plain and simple."

Young's hit came after shortstop Tomas Perez took his foot off second base trying to get Barajas on a fielder's choice.

After saving pitcher Edwin Jackson, making his Devil Rays debut, from receiving a loss during their final at-bat, the Rays could only look back

See RAYS LOSE, Page 12 ►
Jackson pitched well in Rays debut.

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Kevin Harvick Gets Sweep At Phoenix

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Storm Routed By Orlando, Fall To 6-7

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Tim Tebow Shines In UF's Spring Game

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BO BY THE NUMBERS

32

Home runs for Royals in 1989, the year he was named All-Star Game MVP



4.18

Reported time in the 40-yard dash

221

Yards in "Monday Night Football" game Nov. 30, 1987, vs. Seattle



54

Average yards per carry for his four-year NFL career

0

Carries as a member of Bucs