

# Barons' new goalie blanks Buffalo, 3-0

BUFFALO, N.Y. (UPI) — To goaltender Gary Edwards, it was like a dream.

To the Buffalo Sabres, it was the continuation of a nightmare.

Edwards, playing in his first game in goal for the Cleveland Barons since being acquired from the Los Angeles Kings Friday, stopped 27 shots in a 3-0 National Hockey League victory over the Sabres last night.

"I guess you could call it a little bit of a dream," said Edwards, who arrived in Cleveland Saturday and travelled by bus to Buffalo yesterday to meet his new teammates.

"I just met them at 7 a.m. and they all seem like a pretty nice bunch of fellows," said Edwards, who stopped 14 shots in the third period when the Sabres tried to come back from a 2-0 deficit.

"That's a great way to start," added Edwards. "The circumstances were more than gratifying. I hadn't won a game all year and it was my first game with a new team."

Edwards had an 0-6-2 record with the Kings and a 4.67 goals against average which had to

look appealing to the slumping Sabres before game time.

"I UNDERSTOOD Buffalo's game had gone a little sour," said Cleveland Coach Jack Evans after Buffalo's third straight loss. The Sabres lost to Washington at home Wednesday and Minnesota on the road Saturday.

Before the slump, Buffalo was leading the Adams Division. Now they find themselves four points behind the Boston Bruins.

"I knew they had played last night and would be weary so we were looking for points," added Evans, who decided to start Edwards in goal earlier in the day.

"I had in mind to start him yesterday and I made up my mind after the workout today. I thought he might as well get his feet wet right off the bat rather than sit around and fret."

Cleveland took a 1-0 lead with 18 left in the first period when Bob Girard batted in his own rebound. Mike Fidler added an insurance goal at 13:34 when the Sabres were two men short. Dennis Maruk scored the game's final goal into an empty net with 18 seconds left in the game.