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Mike Palmateer



Few goaltenders make an impact in the hockey world like Mike Palmateer did in Toronto during his 8 seasons, 6 of them in Toronto and 2 in Washington. Unfortunately, his ravaged knees forced him to retire at the young age of 30.

Mike was an exciting, popular and acrobatic southpaw goaltender for the Leafs who made flopping an art form. He generally had a goals against average below 3.00 in an era of high scoring and bloated GAA's.

Mike's personality was quirky and lovable. He had to have his bucket of popcorn before each game. He claimed that a severely cut hand was the result of a drape-hanging accident – sure Mike, we believe that! And once, while playing for the Capitals, he was in the hospital being

prepped for knee surgery when the Capitals phoned him desperate for his presence in net as their back-up goalie was injured. Palmateer took an ambulance to the game and played, only to have his knee surgery a few days later. Unfortunately, those knees were the end of his career.



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