

# It's official: NFL war ends

NEW YORK (AP) — With none of the pomp and all of the circumstance of Grant and Lee putting down their guns and taking up the quill at Appomattox, Ed Garvey and Sargent Karch officially brought peace to the world of pro football.

Tuesday's was a simple ceremony at the offices of the National Football League's Management Council, the haven of the owners, 33 stories above Madison Avenue.

## Howe scores 900th goal

HOUSTON (AP) — Gordie Howe has learned to take the milestones of his career in stride.

When he scored his 700th goal, his father was informed of the feat and replied, "What took him so long?"

"When I scored my 800th, I tried to leap up in the air and I came down right on my backside," Gordie laughed.

So Tuesday night, when Gordie scored his 900th career goal to extend his legend, he merely skated about accepting congratulations from his Houston Aeros teammates, who went on to blast the Phoenix Roadrunners 8-3 in a World Hockey Association game.

A Houston crowd of 8,707 assembled to see Howe, hockey's all-time scoring leader, go for the historic 900th goal.

They were hardly seated before the sore-footed Howe took a pass from his son Marty at the blue line, skated up to goalie Gary Kurt and poked in a goal with only 1:31 gone in the game.

Karch, the executive director of the Management Council, sat next to Garvey, his counterpart with the Players Association. Alongside Karch was Wellington Mara, owner of the New York Giants and president of the Management Council. Alongside Garvey was Len Hauss, a center for the Washington Redskins and a vice president of the association.

And out in the hallway stood Pete Rozelle, the commissioner of the kingdom, beaming because he knew the players will spend the next five years bludgeoning each other in ballparks instead of battering the owners in courtrooms.

"This is their show," Rozelle said, nodding toward Karch, Garvey & Co. And perhaps the most powerful man in professional sports — save for the players' agents and union chiefs — remained on the sidelines this time.

Finally, at 3 p.m., EST, in they strode. They took their places at the head of the oblong table. Cameras began cranking. Tape recorders began whirring. Garvey and Karch took out pens to put their initials to the document which would end more than three years of labor strife and place the emphasis back on training camps instead of restraining orders.

Then Garvey paused, his hand and pen suspended briefly in mid-air, as though some insignificant detail might yet destroy the compatibility.

"Shouldn't I have something to sign?" Gimme a piece of paper, somebody," Garvey proclaimed.

As the snickers subsided, a copy of the contract, a stack of papers which will ultimately cost the 28 club owners something like \$107 million, was slipped onto the table and the chiefs of the two warring nations put their marks on it.