

Editorial ? Leaf Nation need not mourn

The hopes of all Toronto Maple Leaf fans were high over the last week, especially as Monday night's game progressed. Many probably thought things were in the bag when the Buds went up 4-1. Alas, we were all given a good, hard lesson on just how fast fortunes can change. ?What might have been? turned out to be just a vision; a mirage that vanished when it got too close. Things like that are going to happen when one follows team sports.

There were 16 teams that qualified for the Stanley Cup playoffs. The reality is the followers of 15 of those clubs are going to wear dogfaces when their respective seasons end.

It would have been nice if the Leafs could have advanced, but let's also remember the proverbial glass is a lot more full than it has been since 2004. At least they made it to the post season.

The Leafs were mainly a bunch of young guys who were up against seasoned veterans who won all the marbles just a couple of years ago. Taking these guys to seven games and almost upsetting them is an experience that contains lots of lessons, and they may just serve them well in seasons to come.

And don't forget, they provided plenty of thrills and excitement over the last several days.

Despite Monday's loss, we think it's still fair to say the glass is half full.