

The SPORTS

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NOHL season gets under way

North Okanagan Hockey League got its 1976-77 season under way with two games over the weekend.

Vernon Sport Cougars had little trouble disposing of the Raiders 10-5, in Winfield, while Kal Hotel thrashed Vernon Screaming Eagles 14-3.

Cougars, playoff champs in the NOHL for the last two years, gave early notice they could be the team to beat. Player-coach King Cam has recruited several new players, including six who played in the Monashee League last season.

THREE GOALS
Willy Bevan led Cougars' attack with three goals while Jeff Shirley and Larry Lochhead added two apiece. Singles went to Wally Bevan, Neil Herzog, and Tom Williamson.

Ron Reynolds and Gary

Larsh notched two each for Raiders while Dave Demling blinked the red light once.

Jack Gilroy blocked 35 shots for the winners while Colin Grey turned away 30 shots for Winfield.

NO TROUBLE

In the other game, Kal, with only 13 players, had little trouble with the youthful Eagles.

Gerry Zaichowsky and Andy Vedan scored three apiece for the Hotelmen while Bob Powell, Clay Anderson, and Ted McDermid picked up two each. Bob McCallum and Garney Howard added singles.

Tony Sparrow, Henry Wilson, and Ernie Gabbs replied for Eagles.

Kal held a 6-1 lead after the first period and stretched that margin to 14-1 after 40 minutes.

Yankees commit bundle of errors

NEW YORK (AP) — It is said that if you are going to make mistakes, it is best to make them all at once and get them out of your system.

If that's the case, then New York Yankees should be in good shape for tonight's third game of their American League playoff series with Kansas City Royals.

Dock Ellis, a 17-game winner, gets the start for New York against Andy Hassler, 6-12, of the Royals.

The teams are tied 1-1 in the best-of-five playoff that will send the survivor into the World Series. The Yankees 7-3 loss in the second game was a nightmare for the New York team.

They made a season-high five errors of commission and at least one error of omission. There were pop flies falling all over the place. There was a missed cutoff throw and base-running blunders. It was a team loss in the truest sense.

"Did you ever see anybody look good when they lose?" wondered New York catcher Thurman Munson, who made two of the errors of commission, both bad throws on stolen bases.

Brett gambled trying for the triple and barely beat the throw. He might not have if Rivers had hit the cutoff man but the throw sailed past second baseman Willie Randolph and shortstop Fred Stanley had to make the relay. That was the error of omission.

Earlier, Royals' shortstop Freddie Patek had fnessed Chris Chambliss on the basepaths. Chambliss was on first base in the third inning with New York leading 3-2.

SAFE BY 200 FEET

Carlos May bounced a single into right field and Chambliss took off for second. Waiting for him was Patek, faking a play that sent the runner sliding in, safe by 200 feet as the ball bounced into right field. Another mistake.

In the eighth inning, the Royals wrapped up their victory with a three-run rally on a pop-fly attack of looping singles by Frank White, Patek and Buck Martinez, a trio of hitters who never will be confused with Murderers' Row.

WENMAN RESIGNS

Vikings looking for a new coach

Vernon Vikings lost two hockey games and a coach over the weekend.

Vikings' General Manager Vern Dye announced today that Coach Gerry Wenman has tendered his resignation.

Dye said, "Gerry felt it was in the best interest of the team to resign at this time. I understand he also has a couple personal problems."

Vikings won-lost record dropped to 1-7 after losing to Langley 7-5 Saturday and Kelowna 9-3 Sunday.

Dye said, "Wenman is kind of quiet and didn't feel he was getting through to his players. It was entirely his decision."

NEW COACH

The Vernon GM said players Gary Gassoff and Jack Lefley would run today's practice, but he hopes to announce a new coach by Wednesday.

He said, "I am considering two for the job and I hope to have the new coach behind the bench on Wednesday when we host Penticton, if not, I'll run the bench."

Vikings played well enough to win at home Saturday, but a last-minute collapse gave Langley the victory.

Chris Tucker's power-play goal at 19:21 broke a 5-5 tie and proved to be the winner. Terry Leclisn added an insurance marker, into an empty net, with two seconds left on the clock.

THREE GOALS

Leclisn led the Lords with three goals while Lane Lavik scored twice and Brian Henderson added a single.

Jack Lefley, Bruce Green, Gary Huth, Gary Gassoff, and Steve Danshin replied for Vernon.

Langley outshot Vikings 39-33. Vernon took 12 of 21 minor penalties, one of two majors, and one of three misconducts. In Kelowna on Sunday, Vikings started slowly and never recovered.

BIG LEAD

Buckaroos took a 5-0 lead in the first period and held an 8-1 margin after the second.

Rick Benningshof, Brian Mathews, and Doug Davis each scored twice for Kelowna. Mike Wills, Bill Audycki, and Phil Logan added singles.

Danshin, Gassoff, and Lefley tallied for Vikings.

Wenman tried everything to spark his troops, including a goalie change. After a shaky start, veteran Keith Ferner was pulled with the score 5-0. Rookie Jim Andrews allowed three goals before Ferner returned and played brilliantly in the third period.

Kelowna outshot Vikings 43-26. Vernon took eight of 11



GERRY WENMAN
... leaves club

minor penalties and the teams split eight fighting majors.

Cincy nearing berth in series

CINCINNATI (AP) — Manager Danny Ozark discovered what was wrong with his Philadelphia Phillies, but it may have been too late to save the Eastern Division champions from elimination in the National League playoffs.

"We've been out-luckied," he explained.

Ozark hopes for a change in Phillies luck in today's third game of the best-of-five series in which the Phillies trailed Cincinnati Reds 2-0.

Left-hander Jim Kaat, 12-14, pitches for the Phillies, and Gary Nolan, 15-9, tries to put the Reds in the World Series for the second consecutive year.

The Phillies, who won 101 games en route to the East title with an often spectacular defence, have slackened during the playoffs.

They had made only two physical errors in the first two games, but mental miscues—throwing to the wrong base against the Reds—was damaging.

Ozark insisted at Monday's workout at Riverfront Stadium that the Phillies had not been intimidated by Cincinnati's tactics. He pointed to his players who were bantering as they worked.

STILL SPIRITED

"If they were standing around (quietly), I'd be very embarrassed having them out there," he said.

Dye said, "I think we have the players to do the job. It is just a case of getting them going."

MISSING TWO

Vikings will be without defenceman Brad McDonald, still nursing a knee injury, and Kevin White, suspended, on Wednesday.

Dye said, "I hope the fans get behind us and give us a lift. We need their support."

In other weekend action, Penticton Vees won two of three games on the coast. Vees edged Abbotsford 5-4 and dumped Bellingham 9-3 before being nipped by Nanaimo 5-4.

Langley dropped a 5-3 decision to Merritt and came out on the short end of a 7-5 score with Kamloops. On the coast Sunday, Maple Ridge aced Abbotsford 4-3.

In the only game tonight, Kelowna is at Merritt.

The Reds Joe Morgan disagreed with Ozark.

"When we're doing our thing we create pressure," said Morgan, who had walked five times in two games but had yet to get a hit.

"It's not the pressure of the playoff that has been forcing Philadelphia to make mistakes. It's been us."

Morgan cited the sixth inning of the second game, in which the Reds scored four runs.

"Take Pete Rose. He's on first. (Ken) Griffey singles. Everybody in the world knows that Rose is going to third. The guy out in centre (Garry Maddox) knows he has to make a perfect throw to get him. He tries too hard and Griffey winds up at second."

The play described by Morgan was the key to the big inning. Three of the four runs followed.

The Reds, who had been trailing 2-0, went on to win that game 6-2. They won 6-3 Saturday.

TRIES FOR PICKOFF

Another big play in Sunday's second inning was a potential double-play line drive that glanced off the glove of Philadelphia first baseman Dick Allen, who only touched the ball because he was moving to first on a pickoff play.

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GARY BENSON
... two for Tigers

Kings stretch streak

Brandon Wheat Kings stretched their season-opening winning streak to seven games, while Flin Flon Bombers continued to suffer losses in the Western Canada Hockey League Sunday night.

Elsewhere, Medicine Hat Tigers scored four power-play goals to defeat Calgary Centennials 8-5, while in Portland, the Winter Hawks defeated New Westminster Bruins 7-5.

In Brandon, the Wheat Kings leapt into a 4-1 first period lead, en route to a 7-3 win.

Kamloops Chiefs capitalized on their experience to build up period leads of 2-0 and 5-0 as they defeated the Bombers 7-1 in Flin Flon.

In a game featuring a total of 74 shots on goal—44 by the Tigers—and 70 minutes in penalties, Medicine Hat's Jim Lomas scored the game-winning goal.

Gary Benson, Jim Nill, Brian Hill and Ron Areshenkoff all scored power play goals. Benson and Nill each scored once with the clubs at full strength, as did Cal Halasz.