

Grey Cup forecast

Two things appear certain Sunday, the Roughriders will win the Grey Cup and Canada's breweries will enjoy one of the year's most productive days.

First, about the 1977 Grey Cup parties are planned this year over better than in previous years.

On paper, the teams are almost identical. But the difference will be Saskatchewan's newly found running game.

Everyone concedes Lancaster has the greatest passing arm in Canada and he possesses a deadly array of receivers.

In front of a national television audience last weekend, Roughriders ran the way over Edmonton, the team to the Grey Cup.

Now Lancaster can offset his pasting attack with a competent ground game.

MUST STOP QBs

The key to stopping Ottawa will be containing quarterback Tom Clements and emergency backup. Next to all-star fullback Art Green, the Eastern Roughies' big ground-gainers were the two quarterbacks.

Every time the Roughies had a play they average in excess of seven yards, a pretty impressive figure.

Saskatchewan defensive end George Wells makes no bones about the quality of the Ottawa quarterback.

In the passing department, the two clubs are almost on par, but there is a big difference in the defensive secondary.

The Western Roughies' five defensive halfbacks picked off a league-leading 77 passes this season.

To further prove the ability of the five Saskatchewan deep men, three of them were selected to the WFL all-star squad.

EVENLY MATCHED

The kicking game should not play a major part in the game. Gerry Organ did not have one of his better years in the Grey Cup.

Neither team has a Johnny Rodgers returning punter or kicker, so again the clubs look pretty even in this specialty department.

Just to show you how even these teams are, here are a few interesting statistics from last year's game.

The two key Ottawa RBs: Can. 187; and total offence Ottawa 2673. Saskatchewan RBs: 187; and total offence Saskatchewan 2673.

FINAL ANALYSIS: Take the Western Roughies by four points.

TWO GAMES ON WEEKEND

Two games are scheduled this weekend in North Okanagan Hockey League action.

Tonight in Winfield, Raiders host Lumby Flying Frenchmen at 8:30 p.m.

Cougars lead the league with 10 points, three more than Raiders. Price and Markis has six points while Eagles have three.

In individual statistics, Price and Markis's Clay Anderson leads the scoring race with 13 points, including eight goals.

Cougars Jeff Shirley and Winfield's Ron Dalg are tied for third place with 11 points.

Doug Irwin, of Cougars, possesses the league's best goals-against average of 4.2.

Move from coast has little effect

The Canadian Press A year ago at this time, the Ontario Golden Bombers were in the basement of the National Hockey League's Ontario Division.

Now, after a season of ups and downs, they are in the middle of the pack.

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Panthers come back to defeat Port Moody

Verdon Panthers defeated Port Moody 3-4-1 Friday during the opening day of the Vernon Invitational High School Hockey All-Star Tournament at VSSS.

In Friday's other game, Major of Vancouver edged Kamloops Red Devils 7-6.

Panthers' Coach Rick Ingriss said the team played poorly in the first-half, but came on strong in the second-half.

Moody held a 2-20 edge after two quarters, but Vernon came back to tie a 37-29 quarter lead.

In action tonight, Kamloops meets Moody at 6:45 p.m., and 8 p.m., Vernon tares with Major.

The Vernon coach said, "It was great to see a big crowd out again Friday. I'm sure there will be a lot more people in the stands. Support like that certainly gives us a big lift."

"This is our last home game before Christmas, so we'd like to see our fans out in force tonight."

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Grey Cup showing by VSSS



STEVE KING ... 11 points

The SPORTS Page DON KENDALL—Sports Editor PHONE 545-0671

Vernon splits games in B.C. championship

Vernon Coach Anne Stokes told the Daily News she is extremely happy with her club's effort.

"There is no way we are going to finish as low as ninth, I think we have a good shot at third or fourth. We played our best game of the season against Smithers."

Vernon split four games Friday, putting it out of reach of the top two spots.

David Thompson of Vancouver leads the tournament with six straight wins while Kamloops is unbeaten in five games.

Vernon's two-day record is five wins and four losses.

VSSS lost to David Thompson 7-5, 10-11, and 10-3; and Victoria High 10-7 and 10-5.

The locals defeated Williams Lake 10-5, 12-10, and 10-12; and Smithers 10-11 and 10-14.

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Wind and cold weather may hamper offences

VERNON (CP) — One problem with playing the Grey Cup game in late November is that the weather is likely to be an obstacle.

In Friday's other game, Major of Vancouver edged Kamloops Red Devils 7-6.

Panthers' Coach Rick Ingriss said the team played poorly in the first-half, but came on strong in the second-half.

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Winkings hoping to stop Nanaimo

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Gaudaur is optimistic about Lions' franchise

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