

MINOR HOCKEY ROUND-UP Bantams split games



PIONEERS' Dave Jackson goes up for two points during Major Men's Monday night at Kal School. Jackson scored 12

Basketball League action Monday night at Kal School. Jackson scored 12 points, but his club dropped a 77-66 decision to Silver Star Mountaineers. (Daily News Photo)

KENDALL'S KORNER

Don't worry about Habs

You'll have to excuse the Montreal Canadiens if they don't look as worried as some of their fans. Canadiens, who lost only eight games during the entire 1978-79 season, have already lost seven this year. Their latest setback was Saturday night to the mediocre Pittsburgh Penguins.

Habs are still sitting comfortably on top of their division, and on paper, are one of the most powerful National Hockey League teams ever assembled. It just so happens that the Canadiens know that their team is still the best around, they bounced back Sunday to blank the Philadelphia Flyers 2-0.

At first look, the win over Flyers may not sound too impressive. But let us examine things a little more closely. Canadiens were missing five regulars including Guy Lafleur, Yvan Cournoyer, and Guy Lapointe, who were suffering from the flu. Murray Wilson is out for the season with a leg injury. And the club had to travel from Pittsburgh to Philly to play two games within 24 hours.

Biggest problem facing Montreal is getting psyched up for games against the weaker teams. Like everyone else, Canadiens know they have a truly talented team. On paper, teams like Colorado, Cleveland, and Washington shouldn't come within 10 goals of the Habs. However, hockey is played on ice, not paper.

Scotty Bowman has been called lots of things, including a gate-opener. But the truth is he must have one of the toughest jobs in hockey. Montreal lost two games in a row and Canadian fans were calling it a national disaster. Habs are expected to win every game — and if they don't — a lot of the blame is placed on Bowman's shoulders.

KEEPS PLAYERS HAPPY

Besides having to worry about winning, Bowman has to keep his multitude of players happy. Last year, "Dad" on the Habs became public when Pete Mahovich and Rick Chartrand complained about lack of ice time. Montreal has so many talented players to choose from, Bowman must convince the younger men that their day will come.

With Lapointe, Larry Robinson, and Serge Savard on the blue line — in a tight game the other defencemen don't get much ice time. But, the likes of Bill Nyrop, Pierre Bouchard, and Chartrand could be standouts with most other NHL clubs.

Up front, Canadiens carry 12 forwards and have another three or four capable of playing on the club standard in Nova Scotia.

Again, when a tight situation arises, guys like Lafleur, Steve Shutt, Pierre Larouche, and Jacques Lemarie are called on to do the job. Younger players including Mario Tremblay, Doug Jarvis, and Doug Riseborough collect splinters on the bench.

But, somehow the Canadiens' ship seems to be sailing smoothly this year. The seven losses have caused a few ripples, but everyone loses once in a while. If Habs win every game, the eight-month long season would be a waste of time.

Horton Bruins are having a great season. Buffalo Sabres are now combining defence with their potent offence. Toronto Maple Leafs are improving every game, and Philadelphia is still lough. However, don't bet against the Canadiens. They have the best club, and barring a major disaster, Coffey will be carrying the Stanley Cup next spring.

PIN POINTS

DECEMBER 11
Monday Mixed 9:11 p.m.
Athletic 8:11 p.m. (High) 11:00
Koning 8:11 p.m. (High) 11:00
Barnford 7:11 p.m. (High) 10:00
Tara 7:11 p.m. (High) 10:00
Men's 8:11 p.m. (High) 10:00
238 High School 8:11 p.m. (High) 10:00
High average 8:11 p.m. (High) 10:00
11:11 p.m. (High) 10:00
11:11 p.m. (High) 10:00
11:11 p.m. (High) 10:00

Priest Valley beat by height

Kal Lake Voyagers took a 48-28 half-time lead and went on to dump Priest Valley Saints 77-66 in Major Men's Basketball League action Monday night at Kalamalka Junior Secondary schools.

Kal Lake used their superior height to dominate the boards, forcing Saints to shoot from well outside.

Glen Winehouse led the Voyagers' attack with 32 points while Bud Reilly added 14 and John Denison dropped 14.

Paul Quessel and Bill Kirkland were top scorers for Saints with 16 points while Mike Sorba collected 15.

In other games, Cherry Creek Trappers nipped Cowichan Bay Rattlers 77-70 and Silver Star Mountaineers drilled Husky Seaside Pioneers 77-66.

34 POINTS
Mountaineers appeared to be in trouble early in the game when centre Ron Hooge fouled out. However, Eric Parker decided to put on a one-man show. Parker scored 34 points, before fouling out late in the game. Bob Shannon added 18 for the winners.

Geoff White was top sniper for Pioneers with 23 points. Steve King swished 18 and Ian Houchin dropped in 17 for the losers.

BALANCED OFFENCE
Trappers used a balanced attack to dispose of Rattlers.

SPORTS BRIEFS

CANUCKS WIN
Vernon Canucks edged Tofino 4-3 in Pleasant Valley Hockey League action Monday night at the Civic Arena. Jack Kowalski scored two goals for the winners.

VOLLEYBALL CHAMPS
Super Six captured the Honeymooners' Volleyball League championship Monday night at W. Seaton Junior Secondary School. Super Six dumped Rockets 2-0, 15-13, and 15-11 in the final game. In the consolation final, Jam Tarts beat Surs Timers 2-0, 15-17, and 10-9.

A'S VICTORIOUS
Vernon A's hammered Church of God 10-15, 15-6, and 15-1 in the Men's Church Volleyball League championship game Monday night at VSSS Trinity Thunder won the consolation title.

MICHAELS AT FIRST
NEW YORK (AP) — Gene Michaels was named first base coach of New York Yankees on Monday,

By DALE MAJOR
DAILY NEWS
CORRESPONDENT
Vernon Sun Valley Bearmen Repe split a pair of weekend Okanagan-Mainline Minor Hockey Association games.

On Saturday, Vernon blasted Kelowna 9-2 at home, but Sunday, dropped a 5-3 decision to Jardines in Kamloops.

For the bantams, it was only their second loss of the season, both to Jardines. Their won-lost record is now 10-2-2.

On Saturday, Vernon took period leads of 4-0 and 7-2.

Brad Moore and Tom DeVries paced the Sun Valley attack with two goals and two assists. Randy Reestyn also scored twice while Ray Willmott, Norm Day and Kevin Lelzer added singles.

Earl Dyck and Glen Kinsman replied for Kelowna.

In Sunday's match-up, the teams battled to a scoreless first period tie and Vernon took a 2-0 lead in the second. However, Kamloops came back with two goals late in the period and added three unanswered markers in the third.

Rick Woldund scored two for Kamloops while Brent Gropp, Bob Boucher, and Robbin Kossan netted singles. Reestyn and DeVries countered for Vernon.

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Vernon's record now stands at 11-4.

Against Westside, Vernon took period leads of 3-1 and 4-1 but couldn't hold on to a 4-1 victory.

David Marchand led the Vernon attack with a pair of goals while Donald Kinchik added a goal and two assists. Billy Baron and Kevin Threlkorn were the other marksmen.

Mike Barnham scored both Westside goals.

On Saturday, Terry Collins led Rutland past Vernon with period leads of 4-0 and 7-2.

Vernon Midget Selects win 'C' title in Oliver

Vernon Midget Selects captured the 'C' even in an invitational tournament in Oliver, last weekend.

Vernon won three games and lost one in the two-day tourney.

On Saturday, after throwing Armstrong 3-1 Vernon lost its second game, 7-5 to Revelstoke.

On Sunday, Vernon came back to win two straight, 4-2 over Penticon and 10-5 over Armstrong in the 'C' final.

In the final game, Brett Stenberg and Kevin Poirier scored three goals each for the winners while Clarence Klim added a pair. Singles went to Trevor Page and Glen Soedel.

Vernon's most valuable player, in individual games, were goalie Darren Zupp, defenceman Joe Leschuck, and Poirier.

for the locals with three goals and an assist. Other goal scorers were Al Belton, with a pair, and Kevin Edlour.

Lance Vachon contributed three assists.

Jan Walter, Dwight Ball, and Bruce Dougharty countered for Salmon Arm.

LOST TWO
Also over the weekend, Vernon Star West Realty Pup Repe dropped a pair of high scoring exhibition games. On Saturday, they lost 8-5, and Sunday 12-5, to Lumby Pee Wee Mustangs.

In the first game, Ray Duley paced the Lumby attack with four goals. Gordie Treer added a pair while Dean Freagh, Rick Shunter and Darcy Ross collected singles.

Les Olsen, with two, Bruce Major, Danny Martin, and Doug McBride scored for Vernon.

On Sunday, Duley had another four-goal game. Treer scored three and assisted on three others while Bob Edwards added a pair. Soles went to Roy Shunter, and Kevin Cole.

Olsen, McBride, Troy Mick, Warren Schneider, and Brent Glichrist replied for the pups.

LOOK BACK

DECEMBER, 1972
Vernon Esos of the B.C. Junior Hockey League announced they will begin revamping their team roster, and started by cutting goalsies Darryl Koch and Mike Dorris.

Team is hoping for financial help

Vernon Vikings' President Vyr Dye said today he is confident new investors can be found, within the next two weeks, to keep the financially-troubled B.C. Junior Hockey League team afloat.

The club is reportedly \$50,000 in debt and receiving pressure for its creditors.

Dye said, "We're hoping to get about 20 local people involved. Not only will that give us the necessary capital, but it will also get us more involved with the community."

One group had expressed interest in purchasing the entire team, however, they did not attend a meeting on Monday night, and it is believed they have changed their mind.

Dye said, "We hope to have everything tied up shortly after Christmas. Several people have already indicated they'll be joining us."

NEED CUT
Meanwhile, the club's new coach Hank Wensley should have some one-to-one help when his team's Christmas break ends Dec. 30.

Defenceman Rob Need, who was obtained two weeks ago with brother John from Kelowna Buckaroos, was released Monday by Medicine Hat Tigers of the Western Canada Hockey League. Need was disappointed he was cut, however, his mother has indicated to Dye he will report to the Vikings after Christmas.

Wensley said, "Our defence needs a shot in the arm and I think Rob will give that to us. He is a tremendous puckhandler and has a good point shot."

Right wing Rob McLean will also join the team. It is time for the next game against Kamloops Chiefs. McLean started practicing with Vikings a week ago, but was unable to play last weekend because his release from the Edison Junior team was not received by the B.C. Amateur Hockey Association.

SPORTS ALERT

WHITE VALLEY
Lumby Arena: 7 p.m., Braves vs. Burger Barons; and 8 p.m., Blades vs. Royals.

VOLLEYBALL
Clarence Fulton School, Men's Commercial Volleyball League playoffs.

Tiger tickets available

Tickets are still available for the second annual Vernon Lodge Tigers Lacrosse Club Championship Banquet on Dec. 26 at the Vernon Lodge Hotel.

Happy hour will be at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., award presentations at 8 p.m., and dancing from 9:30 to 1 a.m.

Presentations to be made include: most valuable player, most dedicated player, top scorer, and Tiger of the Year.

Tickets can be purchased at the hotel or by phoning Norm Brown at 542-7950.

BUDDING STARS
These budding young figure skaters are waiting patiently for their professional to teach them a group lesson. The professional skaters are members of the Vernon Figure Skating Club and meet for two sessions a week. From left are Kruti Warham, Germain Schmidt, Romy Frizell, Mark Christianson, Slobhan Chretien, Shell Ann Lynch-Staunton and Monique Dorigo.

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SPORTS Page

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