

SPORTS

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KENDALL'S KORNER

A glance at playoffs



As the old cliché goes, "Playoffs are a new season." And the National Hockey League playoffs start tonight. Eight teams take part in the elimination round, for the right to take on the league's division winners in the quarter-finals. A quick look into the crystal ball will tell us who is going to advance.

Series 1 — Philadelphia Flyers vs Colorado Rockies Only a fool, or a member of the Rockies, would predict a Colorado victory.

Philly is no longer the most feared team in the NHL, but with the likes of Bobby Clarke, Reg Leach, Bill Barber, and Bernie Parent still around, Rockies will be in a match.

Another way to look at that series is that it took Colorado until the final weekend of the season to eliminate the hapless Vancouver Canucks.

Flyers in two games.

SABRES FAVORED

Series 2 — Buffalo Sabres vs New York Rangers. Sabres are the overwhelming favorites.

While Rangers have adequate firepower with the likes of Phil Esposito, Don Murdoch, Walter Tkaczuk, and Pat Hickey, they have no defence.

Even if the series turned into an offensive battle, New York would be in trouble. Buffalo has lots of sharpshooters such as Gilbert Perreault, Richard Martin, and Danny Gare, who can win their own Sabres in two.

Series 3 — Toronto Maple Leafs vs Los Angeles Kings. Leafs are favored, but in the middle of a slump.

Toronto finished well ahead of the Kings in final standings. However, the Leafs have been far from impressive in recent weeks. If Darryl Sittler and Larry McDonald don't fill the net with pucks, Harold Ballard's boys may get an early victory.

On the other hand, Los Angeles has just completed a disappointing season. Marcel Dionne, Sly Apps, and Mike Murphy failed to live up to expectations. But, they might peak in playoffs. And don't forget, Rogatien Vachon is between the pipes.

Kings in three.

COULD BE GREAT

Series 4 — Detroit Wings vs Atlanta Flames. This could be a dandy.

During the month of March, Atlanta was one of the hottest teams in the NHL.

Flames have a huge team, with adequate scoring, good defence, and great goaltending.

On the other hand, Detroit was the biggest surprise in the NHL this season. Wings won exactly twice as many games as they did in 1976-77. To finish the year right, Detroit blanked Montreal Canadiens 4-0.

Look for a hard-fighting series — if Wings get good goaltending, they'll win, no, they should still be Comeback Team of the Year.

Red Wings in two. (Remember I'm a Detroit fan). Somehow you get the feeling these next three weeks will be a waste of time. Barring a major disaster, like Guy Lafleur breaking both legs (he could probably still play on one leg), Montreal will win the Stanley Cup again.

Despite the 4-0 loss to Detroit on Sunday, the Canadiens are still one of the most awesome teams in NHL history. In the last two weeks, we got to see them manhandle Toronto and Boston Bruins on the tube.

Over an 86-game schedule, Habs proved they have the best team. And if I were a betting man, I'd wager they'll prove it again in playoffs.

PIN POINTS

MARCH 30
Thurs. 7:45 p.m.
Women's high single, Irene Walker 309; high triple, Irene Walker 747; high average, May Turek 315.
Men's high single, Paul Wendel 858; high triple, Paul Wendel 225; high average, Shig Tabata 728.

TEAM STANDINGS
Vernon Datsun 445/0
H. Roll's 350/0
M. Feyer 350/0
Noca Sunshine 349/0



8275 DONATION

Kurt Schubert a director with the Vernon Minor Soccer Ass'n. has received a cheque for \$275 from: Misty Montgomery, of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, for team sponsorship. This is the second year Eagles have donated to youth soccer and the donation will go toward the purchase of new uniforms. (Daily News Photo)

EMPLOYERS

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Silver Star considering mountain accommodation

The directors of Silver Star Ski Area have decided to investigate recent recommendations from Al Raine which call for overnight accommodation on the mountain.

Raine, who is employed by the provincial government as Ski Area Development Coordinator, said unless Silver Star has on-mountain accommodation the development, which will lose the tourist, sking business.

Silver Star Manager Woody

Woodman told the Daily News the directors recognize Raine's professional opinion. Woodman said, "We have reached the point where we can no longer finance new lift and day lodge facilities out of lift revenues."

If the government approves the construction of overnight condominium accommodation and private chalet development, then Silver Star will undertake construction and sale of condominiums and cabins.

with any profit to be reinvested in skier facilities such as lifts, parking lots, and lodge facilities."

However, there will be no development by the 1978-79 ski season, Woodman said. "We're looking at a three-to-five year plan. There are a lot of things to do between now and the time the first nail has been hammered."

The ski area is located in a Class 'C' park and all development must be approved by the provincial

government. In the past, it has been a nightmare to deal with Victoria because four branches of government were involved. However, a new government policy may alleviate that problem.

Woodman said, "The government is considering a policy which will call for the Land Management Branch to control all aspects of the park. And we understand that branch is in favor of development to bolster B.C.'s growing ski industry."



VERNON STUDENT HONORED

Vernon native Sheila Wells, a fifth-year education student at the University of British Columbia, is one of UBC's

top athletic award winners for 1977-78. Wells received Barbara Schrodt Trophy for her outstanding contribution to women's

athletics through participation, skill and administration. She is the daughter of Melv and Shirley Wells of 32nd

Merritt defeated Cup series in tie

here tonight.

SUMMARY
First Period
No scoring.
Penalties—Johnson M 3:15, Speer C 4:12, Farmer M 5:08, Calgary bench 10:02 (served by Craig Bentley), Brumwell C 13:38, Mattler M 18:00, Wagner C, Langstrom M majors 18:30, Johnson M 17:00, Laycock C 18:34.

Second Period
1. Calgary, Basen (B. Neufeld) 4:15
2. Calgary, Basoetta (Laycock, Speer) 11:41
3. Calgary, May (T. Scott) 12:01
4. Merritt, Beers (Farmer) 12:21
Penalties—Jacuinta C, Beers M majors 6:45, Laycock C 14:34.

Third Period
5. Merritt, Flockhart (Sirkka, Stankovenc) 6:50
6. Merritt, Sirkka (Stephen, Rabbit) 11:03
7. Merritt, Deschamp

(Johnson, James) 14:39
8. Calgary, T. Scott (Koenig, Stiles) 15:02
9. Calgary, Laycock (Basoetta, Speer) 18:38
Penalties—Farmer M 2:25, Johnson M 2:56, B. Neufeld C 8:42

Shots on goal by Merritt 1192-41; Calgary 1219-30

Goal—Trachuk, Calgary; Tolmanth; Merritt.

SKIN SHIN FIVE
WASHINGTON (I.A.P.) — Washington Redskins of the National Football League announced Monday the signing of five free agents, including quarterback Scott Gardner, who played at Virginia two years ago but has been in semi-pro ball the last two seasons. Also signing were veteran offensive lineman Bart Stuwot, tight end Skip Chaw and Fred Coleman and tackle Mark Griffin.



BOWLERS OF THE WEEK

This week's top bowlers are Glen Fey, of Fireballs in the Monday 7-9 p.m. league, and Carol Wendt, of Wild Eagles in the Monday 8-11 p.m. league.

rolled a 853 triple to go 158 pins over his 229 average. Wendt recorded an 824 threesome, 233 pins over her 187 average.



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WENATCHEE/LEAVENWORTH — May 12 - 14
VANCOUVER ISLAND — May 26 - 29
PORTLAND ROSE FESTIVAL — June 8 - 12
NICA CREEK/RADIUM — June 23 - 25
BRENDA MINES — June 28
BARKERVILLE — July 13 - 16

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GENERAL MEETING

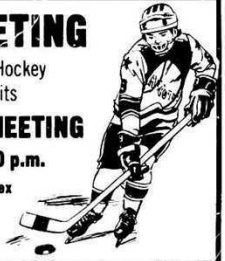
Vernon & District Minor Hockey Association is having its

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wed., April 12th at 8:00 p.m.

Vernon Recreation Complex

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