

Referee walkout averted

Officiating staff of the B.C. Junior Hockey League Interior Division will be on the job today after a threatened walkout over the suspension of former referee in chief Pat Clarke was averted, Wednesday.

Clarke, of Naramata, was suspended Tuesday, after comments he made to the Penticon

Herald, saying he was fed up with verbal abuse from owners, managers, coaches, players, fans and the media.

Clarke had resigned as referee in chief two weeks before but had been working as a linesman.

A meeting was held here between referees and Interior

representative Al Cartwright, while league governors also met to discuss the problem.

BCJHL president Vern Dye said Clarke's suspension was lifted and the league has appointed a new interior referee in chief, Ron Renneberg, of Kelowna.

"As far as I was concerned and I'm concerned as president of the league, I think we certainly ratified a lot of things concerning referees," he said.

Dye saw the whole incident as a misunderstanding and thought the referees have good intentions to work hard.

"The referees opened our eyes to some of their problems and I think they like some direction from the league," he said.

"Everyone seems pleased with the outcome," he said. "We are hoping we can help things from our end and improve the officiating even more."

"He is probably the best we have," he said.

Dye feels the incident was down a little out of proportion.

"We will just have to settle down, get on with the job, and hopefully, the problems will be forgotten."

Renneberg today said he felt great steps had been made as a result of the meetings.

"I think we have developed a solid base for improvement."

Renneberg said a disciplinary committee has been formed with league officials and the officiating staff to further examine any problems.

In order to make a good game, three teams are required, according to Renneberg.

"You need two clubs, of course, and a good officiating team. We want to have good officiating teams throughout the league."

One improvement he wants is more calling of "non-judgement" penalties, like misconducts.

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 PAGE
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GOLF WINNERS

(M. Hodgson Photo)

Vernon Golf and Country Club women's division recently held its annual banquet and awards night. Award winners included:

from left, back row: Esther Desnoyer, Grandmother's Trophy; Lilian LeBlond, Captain's Cup; Karen Hassard, Club Champion;

Sandi MacDonald, McKenzie Cup; and Barb Silvester, Wilmot Cup. Front row: Audrey King, most improved golfer; Celia Merritt, Watson

Cup; and Ruth Hove, Shea Industries Cup (shared with Celia Merritt). Sheila Petrick, won the Capitol Motors Trophy.

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TOUCH FOOTBALL

Huskies in B.C. final

Super Muffler Huskies, the first-place team in the Carling O'Keefe Flag Football League, will be representing the North Okanagan at the British Columbia Touch Football Championships this weekend in Richmond.

Sixteen teams, from throughout the province, will compete in the two-day tournament.

Huskies' spokesman Bill Melvor feels his club will be competitive. "I know we have a good team, but I don't know how good the other clubs are," he said. "We'll have to make some adjustments because the rules

are different than we play here."

Huskies have picked up three players, from the Tallmen, to strengthen their line-up.

Provincial champion advances to the Canadian finals Nov. 7 to 9, in Ottawa.

Hoop season nears

Defending Okanagan champion Vernon Panthers have started workouts in preparation for the 1980-81 high school basketball season.

Jack Yamaoka and Delroy Routley will co-coach the team this season. Veteran Coach Rick Inrig has moved to the coast, to work at the B.C. Institute of Technology.

Yamaoka said he has a lot of talent to choose from. "We've got 22 players out... and they all look good," he said. "We'll be cutting down to 15, and then 12."

Five members of last year's team that went to the provincial tournament are back this season. Forwards Pat Paul, Mike dePlyfer, and Jeff Baerg along with guards Al Gee and Lance Page form the nucleus of the squad.

Yamaoka said, "The veterans will have to fight for their jobs because we've got some great grade 11's."

Among the top rookies will be guard Daryl Ivins and forward Dale Dafoe, from Clarence Fulton, and centre Dale Olson, from W.L. Seaton.

First action for the Panthers will be Nov. 28-29 in the annual Salmon Arm Golds' Tournament.

LOOK BACK FIVE YEARS

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 Vernon Senior Secondary School students sold more than 1,800 B.C. Sports Federation tickets in their annual bite this week. Fifty per cent of the \$1 ticket goes directly into the VSSS athletic fund.

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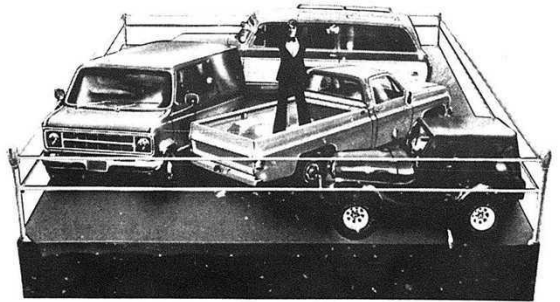
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