

Vernon
Daily
News

sports

Editor — DON KENDALL

KENDALL'S KORNER

Disparity in football

The aim of every professional sports league is parity. National Hockey League has been attempting to reach that goal since its first expansion in 1966. With a few exceptions, the NHL is close.

Best example of parity is the National Football League. Each of the league's 28 teams have lost at least twice, in their first nine games.

Defending Super Bowl champion Oakland Raiders are struggling below the 500 mark while San Francisco 49ers, one of the worst teams in the NFL last year, is leading its division.

Unfortunately, the Canadian Football League does not enjoy the same equality as its southern rival.

ACT OF MERCY

It would be considered an act of mercy, by CFL fans, if Commissioner Jake Gaudaur presented the Cup to Edmonton Eskimos now... and playoffs were cancelled.

But Gaudaur won't cancel the playoffs so let's take a look at what will happen in the next month.

Winnipeg Blue Bombers host B.C. Lions in the Western Conference semi-final next weekend. Even the most loyal B.C. fan will admit that if Lions play against the Bombers, like they did last Saturday against Saskatchewan Roughriders, they will be out of the game before the national anthem is finished.

Lions, thanks to two timely fumbles by Saskatchewan quarterback Joe Barnes, defeated Roughriders 15-11. It is hard to believe they won with six yards total offense in the third quarter.

Bombers trounced Lions twice during the regular season and should make it three straight.

ESKIMOS SOLID

Eskimos have too much depth, for either Winnipeg or B.C. Edmonton can win with its offence, defence, or specialty teams. So, Eskimos will represent the West against the top team in the East, in the Steeple Bowl.

The Eastern semi-final next weekend will have the red-hot Montreal Alouettes taking on Ottawa Rough Riders. This place Montreal won three of 16 outings and is currently riding a one-game winning streak. Second-place Ottawa, with its 5-11 record, would have finished in the Western basement.

Hamilton Tiger-Cats play either Montreal or Ottawa in the Eastern final. Ti-Cats got off to a quick start, but have slowly sunk to the level their Eastern rivals. Hamilton managed to defeat Toronto Argonauts last weekend, but just 10 days ago, were manhandled by the Lions.

Edmonton will defeat whichever team wins the East, probably Hamilton, with little fanfare.

Now, and in the foreseeable future, parity in the CFL is just a dream.

SPORTS BRIEFS

VSS fourth in valley final

Vernon Senior Secondary School girls' volleyball team placed fourth in the valley final last weekend, at Kelowna. The VSS squad was defeated 5-2 by Kamloops and 3-0 by North Kamloops. Lelaine Kuhn and Loraine Crawford scored for the local squad against Kamloops.

BALLEY WINS
Frank Balley won the \$35,000 Kamloops Labatt's Bonsel Monday with a 5-4 victory over Bert Gretzinger of Kelowna in the championship final. Balley's Calgary tourneys splits the \$10,000 first prize. Balley trailed 4-2 into the ninth end but scored two in the ninth and stole the 10th end when Gretzinger came up short on a draw. Second prize was worth \$5,000. Gretzinger's tourneys won four new automobiles in the recent Vernon Curling O'Keefe Carspiel.

TWO GAMES
Two games are scheduled in Valley Hockey League action Wednesday, at the Lumby Arena. At 7 p.m., Mountain Meadows Mustangs face the Sabres and at 9 p.m., National Hotel Raiders meet Lotus Gardens.

DECLARES DRAFT
NEW YORK (AP) — Slugger Reggie Jackson of New York Yankees officially declared for

Royals capture tourney

By CHRIS CASTRUCCO
Daily News Correspondent
Vernon Royals won their third consecutive senior girls' volleyball tournament last weekend in Penticton.

Royals defeated K.L.O. of Kelowna, in Saturday's championship match. Overall, Vernon posted a 14-3 record in the tourney.

Royals' final preparation for the Okanagan finals is today when they host a league tournament.

Meanwhile, Vernon Panthers placed fourth in a boys' volleyball tournament at Kelowna.

George Elliot, of Winfield, defeated Panthers in the consolation final.

Vernon hosts Kamloops, Salmon Arm, and North Kamloops in a league tournament today.

LOOK BACK FIVE YEARS

NOVEMBER, 1976
Vernon squall and Racquet Centre's delayed opening is scheduled for Nov. 13. The club was originally slated to open its doors, next to the Coldstream Hotel, in October.



MORRIS VARDABASSO, of Teachers, goes up and over Armstrong's Paul Gaudet during Carling O'Keefe Men's basketball League action Monday, at the Priest Valley Gymnasium. Vardabasso scored 22 points to help his club edge Armstrong 79-75. Waiting for a possible rebound are Teachers' Dave Jackson, left, and Mike McKay (Right News Photo)

MEN'S HOOPLA

Teachers start season by defeating Armstrong

Vernon Teachers edged Armstrong 79-75 in the Carling O'Keefe Men's Basketball League season opener Monday, at Priest Valley Gymnasium.

In other games, National Hotel nipped Trophy Gallery 57-54 and Express Construction defeated Wheelhouse Drywall 61-55.

Rene Doletti was the top sniper for Teachers with 24 points. Morris Vardabasso sunk 22 for the winners, including 18 in the first-half when Teachers built a 43-30 lead.

BIG TEAMS

Tony Walcott led Armstrong's offence with 20 points while Mike McKay dropped in 17.

Teachers and Armstrong are

considered the pre-season favorites because of their superior height. The matchup between 6'8" Doletti and 6'9" McKay created constant action under the baskets.

FORCED TURNOVERS

National Hotel, the shortest team in the loop, employed a full-court press the entire game against Trophy Gallery. The strategy paid off as Hotelmen created numerous turnovers.

Bob Martindale was the big gun for Nationals with 26 points while Dave Charlton added 10.

HUGE LEAD

Clint Kanester countered with 15 for Trophy Gallery and Kelly Olson dropped in 12 before fouling out early in the second-half.

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A nugget of information

Mining puts 46,000 B.C. people to work.

In 1980, 18,497 people were directly employed by B.C. mining companies. In addition, the industry supported a further 28,000 people who work in the province for companies which provide services, supplies and equipment to the mining industry. It's also estimated that B.C. mining expenditures support a total of 55,000 workers throughout Canada.

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Powerful Knights whip Lakers 12-2

In the B.C. Junior Hockey League's Interior Division there are Penticton Knights and four other teams.

Knights are proving game after game that they are in a class by themselves. Latest evidence was unveiled Monday night when Penticton blanked Vernon Lakers 12-2 before 350 witnesses at the Civic Arena.

Since dropping the season opener in Revelstoke, Knights have recorded 14 consecutive victories.

"They are awesome," said Vernon Coach Gord Macbeth. "The biggest difference between Penticton and the other teams is experience... they have 14 holdovers."

SCORED FIVE

Leroy Rempel led the Knights with five goals while Dan Brennan added a pair. Singles went to Brad Beck, Bob Shirk, Rick Trupp, Rick Boh, and Jim Cammala. Ray Ferraro collected six assists.

Peter Oliphant and Paul Cloutier replied for Lakers.

Knights led 5-1 after the first period. After Beck had made the score 4-1 early in the second, Oliphant narrowed the gap at 6:28. However, Penticton took control. By the time the second period ended, Knights were in front 9-2.

Vernon netminder Shawn Oswald blocked 34 shots while Ian Wood kicked out 25 at the other end.

The teams split 10 minor penalties. A battle of the giants took place in the first period when Vernon's Gary Stihl, who stands 6'5", tangled with Penticton's 6'3" Rob Proudfoot. After engaging in hand-to-hand fighting majors and game misconducts.

Macbeth said, "Penticton has tremendous balance... they've got 18 quality players. Knights' Coach Marc Fezzin has done quite a job motivating those kids."

LEAGUE RECORD

Penticton added to a league record it established last week when Rempel collected the team's 13th short-handed goal of

the young season, in the opening period.

Lakers got from the tying pan into the fire Friday when they travel to Penticton. Vernon, which now possesses a 6-10 record, has dropped five games to Knights.

Next home game for Lakers is Sunday when Revelstoke Rockets are in town.

REBOUNDS: Lakers were missing five players with various injuries. Defencemen Gord Olson and Rick Harries were called up from the Vernon Juvenile Reps for Monday's game... Macbeth expects to release two or three players today.

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