

Red hot Lakers bury Centennials



ORIOLES WIN 3-2

DeJesus blames himself for Philadelphia's loss

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Ivan DeJesus, whose error permitted the winning run to score, was ready to take the blame for Philadelphia Phillies' defeat in the third game of the World Series. But his teammates absolve the little shortstop and blame their own silent bats.

"I don't have any excuses," DeJesus said of his seventh-inning error Friday night. "We lost the game because I made the error."

DeJesus's bobble allowed Benny Ayala to score from second base in the seventh inning to snap a 2-2 tie and give Baltimore Orioles a 3-2 victory and 2-1 lead over the Phillies in the best-of-seven series.

"I saw the ball coming," he said of the hard one-hopper off the bat of Dan Ford. "I went down on one knee to play the ball down."

"It hit my glove. I couldn't catch it and it just kept going. That makes me mad."

Several of his teammates said they believed the ball hit a wet spot on the turf and skidded on DeJesus, usually among the most sure-handed shortstops in the National League.

SHOULDER BLAME

The Phillies' biggest hitter shouldered some of the blame on himself and the other hitmen in the lineup.

"We're at home, get a two-run lead and could have blown the game open early with a hit," said Mike Schmidt, who is 0-for-12 in the Series. "You can't beat everybody, 1-0 and 2-1."

"What have we got, five runs, three on home runs, one on an error?"

Some Phillies were also upset about the benching of Pete Rose, who sat out the game while Tony Perez played first. Rose, who said he has been told he would play today in the fourth game, was upset and other players were disturbed with the furor over the

Perez was embarrassed to be in the middle. "He (Rose) was upset," Perez said. "They make the decisions and I do what they tell me to do."

"I think I played well. I hit the ball good."

The Phillies were less upset about DeJesus's error. Reliever Al Holland, who threw the pitch that should have been the third out, said it appeared the ball hit a wet spot and skidded, forcing DeJesus to change direction. Schmidt said the ball was hit hard, indicating he didn't believe it was an error.

"If we wanted the ball hit to anyone, it would be Ivan," said outfielder Greg Gross. "The ball skidded on him."

Phillies' manager Paul Owens said he thought the runner, Ayala, momentarily screened DeJesus. "From where I was, the ball was hit really hard and I think the runner screened Ivan out and thus the ball got there quicker than he thought it would."

Holland said: "I don't think they (the Orioles) think they really beat us. We made an error and beat ourselves. That was the difference in the game."

Schmidt lamented the lack of consistency on offense. "I'm pressing a little bit to get my hits," he said. Of his last at-bat, he said: "I struck out on ball four."

Fulton sr. girls win running meet

Fulton Senior Girls won their third consecutive cross-country meet during the North Zone Cross country com-

Gord Simpson, above left photo, proved a tough man to contain in front of Merritt Centennial's net Friday night. Merritt defenceman Guy Williams tries to slow Simpson down but the speedy

By JIM JUDD
Daily News Sports

It had to happen sooner or later. . . . Vernon Lakers were finally going to unload on the hapless Merritt Centennials and bury them good.

Friday night Lakers' scoring machine was well-oiled and it produced a 15-3 victory over struggling Centennials.

"The problem for us is defence," said Merritt coach Enio Sacilotta. "Obviously we need a goaltender because five or six goals should be enough to win in this league. We had one (goalie) but he chose to live in the fast lane so we got rid of him."

Merritt dumped five players recently due to what Sacilotta described as a "bad attitude" problem.

Meanwhile, the hungry Lakers preyed on Centennials' problems every chance they got.

Gord Simpson exploded out of his shell for three goals and set up another by Rob Kossan but it was Lakers' leading scorer Dave Wensley who continued his incredible pace.

The younger Wensley scored once and added five assists for his second six-point outing in three games. Wensley, who now has 25 points in 10 games, has had 15 points in his last three.

Vernon set the pace of the game early as they peppered Merritt goaltender Gerald Forbes with 27 shots in the first 20 minutes. They took a 3-1 lead to the dressing room on a pair of tallies by Simpson and one by Kossan. Kossan's marker, set up by Simpson who stole the puck from a Merritt forward, was a

Lakers' forward scored three goals on the night. Above, Alan Young (15) bangs at a loose puck in front of goalkeeper Gerald Forbes while Tom Kurucz (17) looks for a rebound. Lakers peppered

short-handed effort . . . one of two Lakers got on the night.

Lakers opened up a big space in the scoring after 40 minutes with seven second period goals giving them a 10-3 lead.

Vernon got second period markers from defenceman Ken MacKenzie and Regan Desroches, brothers Scott and Alan Young, Bruce Major, Tom Kurucz, and Simpson who completed his first hat-trick of the season.

Pat Ryan and Jerry Choinicki replied for Merritt while Brent Demerais had their first period tally.

Vernon exploded for three more markers in the third before Centennials added a pair of power-play markers to close the scoring.

Kossan notched his second for the night while blue-liner Gavin Shuya marked his return with a goal and Wensley added his single.

Demerais, with his second and Mark Bogelow, replied for Merritt with man-advantage situations.

As expected Lakers' coach Mike Enemark had little to say in the way of negative feelings.

"I thought defensively in our own zone we played much better and consequently we were much better offensively," said Enemark. "All round we outplayed them quite badly. . . . we really controlled the game."

Enemark went the distance with rookie goaltender Mark Kulak, who despite having to face just 26 Centennials' shots, showed remarkable poise and ability for someone so new to the sport.

"Believe it or not that was his (Kulak) first

Forbes with more than 70 shots and hit the twine on 13 of them as they buried Centennials 13-5.

(Daily News Photos)

game of organized hockey," said Enemark.

However, the youthful Kulak wasn't overly satisfied with the way he performed.

"I wasn't that impressed with myself," said Kulak. "I should have covered more rebounds."

"I feel really confident with the team, though," he added. "They control the game really well."

Most surprising of all for the evening, though, was the lack of penalties handed out. Lakers took the bulk of the load with eight of the 10 minors called. The team played almost 18 minutes of the opening period before they were penalized.

In other BCJHL action Friday night, Penticton Knights remain undefeated as they edged visiting Shuswap Totems 5-4 while on the coast Langley Eagles defeated nanaimo Clippers 5-2.

In Penticton Brett Hull scored twice, including the winner at 16:51 of the third, to lead the Knights.

Aaron Scott, Murray Winnicki, and Mike Barzal added singles for Penticton who led 2-0 and 3-1 by periods.

Rob Klenk had two for Shuswap and Henry Reimer and Kent Duncan had one apiece.

The win increases Penticton's season record to 8-0 and drops Shuswap to 1-9.

In Langley Joe West scored one goal and set up two others to lead the hometown Eagles to victory. Darin Alexander, Jim Dupuis, Neil Reimer and Don Cumiskey also scored for Eagles while Stan Czenek and Kent Lewis replied for nanaimo.