Rainmakers in semi-final tonight

Tangle with Magee after second win

By DEREK ALLEN
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Special to the Daily News

VANCOUVER — Prince Rupert Rainmakers made it two straight in the British Columbia High school basketball tournament last night as they upset a strong Abbotsford squad 44-41.

The win keeps them in contention for first place and assures them that they will end up no lower than sixth, even if they lose their next two games.

Rupert beat Abbotsford in the first quarter. They fell behind 3-2 in the early minutes, but sprang back to take the period 19-11. Captain David Allen scored 9 points—two on a 49-foot long shot as time was running out—helping his team into an early lead that Abbotsford could not overcome.

The Fraser Valley team chipped away at that lead but Rupert maintained their edge—28-24 at half time and 39-22 at the three-quarter mark.

Rainmakers seemed to falter at the beginning of the fourth quarter as Abbotsford mounted a sustained and determined drive, but they recovered to make five points and wrap up the game.

CHECKED CLOSELY

Abbotsford's Mike Penny, touted as a potential all-star was held to 14 points by Dick Specht's close checking. He was the game's high scorer.

For Rupert, David Allen scored 13, John Olsen got 12, Mike Lemon 10, and Dick Specht made 7 points.

Coach Don Hartwig was high in his praise of his team:

"The ballplayers were tremendous. We played a team which really made us move," he said.

Some of his players were less satisfied with their performance. Their success certainly has not gone to their heads. Captain Allen said, "these people will really sit up and take notice if we ever play a good game!"

Rainmakers hit only 35 per cent of their field goal attempts, missing especially from right under the basket. They fluffed a disappointing number of lay-ups.

SHOOTING OFF

From the foul line, they made only 8 of 22 tries, shooting for 36 per cent and throwing away 14 points.

They were happy to get good support from the stands. More than 100 Rupert fans turned out to cheer them on, and the galleries were generous in their praise of good plays. The Abbotsford cheer squad was kind enough to lead courtesy yells for Rupert, and the Magee high cheerleaders—waiting for their own team to come on in the next game—added the support of the Magee section of the stands to the Rupert cause.

Meanwhile from Prince Rupert a telegram signed by 230 teachers and students and Jo, Jan and Sue Hartwig was sent to the Rainmakers before their game with Abbotsford.

It read, "Win or lose, school very proud. All Rupert behind you."

For tonight's game with Magee high, Rupert will have its own girls leaping and yelling. Ex-Bo-Me-Hi cheer leader Leona Ritchie is organizing a squad to co-ordinate Rupert yells.

MEET MAGEE

Magee won the right to meet Rupert in the semi-finals tonight at 9 o'clock when they upset favored Courtenay 47-45 after two overtime periods.

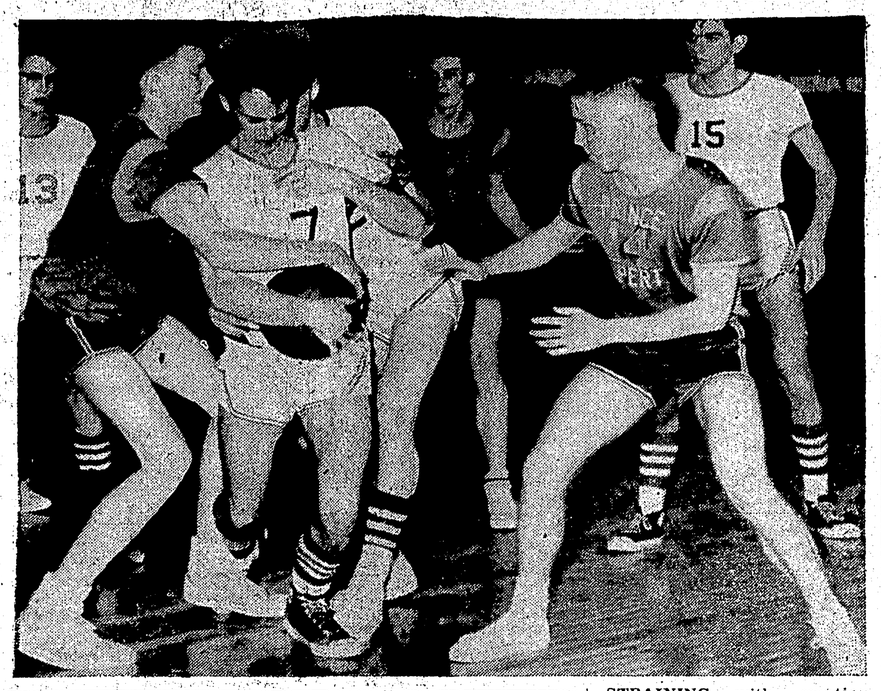
The Abbotsford team lost doubly last night. While they were upstairs dropping a basketball game, a thief was downstairs lifting four wallets from their clothing.

It was a glum crew that dressed just two locker rows over from the jubilant Rainmakers after the game.

Lineups:

Rainmakers—Allen 13, Specht 7, Olsen 12, Lemon 10, Mitchell, McLeod 2, Martin. Scuby. Total 44.

Abbotsford—Classen 2, Avocant 2, Bryce, Grant 3, Flodin 8, Meagher, Penny 14, Wellings, M. Wellings 11, Isaac 1, Schmmus. Total 41.



STRAINING with exertion, Prince Rupert's Mike Lemon tries to wrest ball from North Vancouver player. Bill McLeod at right (14) and John Olsen in background (11) are set to move in should ball roll loose. Rainmakers won game Wednesday afternoon 54-45.
—Photo by Roger McAfee.

Baseball Scores

St. Louis 10, New York 3; Milwaukee 9, Chicago 7; Washington 7, Los Angeles 7, Pittsburgh 3, Baltimore 2; Detroit 0, Philadelphia 4; Kansas City 4, Cincinnati 3; Boston 3, San Francisco 0; Chicago 8, Cleveland 6.

Los Angeles (AP)—Danny Valdez, 125, Los Angeles, outpointed Juan Ramirez, 125½, Mexico, (10.)

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Habitants edge Hawks in semi-final opener

MONTREAL (CP)—Montreal Canadiens took a one-game jump on Chicago Black Hawks in their Stanley Cup semi-final series, defeating them 4-3 Thursday night.

Montreal coach Toe Blake wkas dissatisfied with his team, despite their win before 14,193 spectators.

"We missed too many chances," Blake said.

But Chicago coach Rudy Pilous was openly encouraged by the performance of his underdog Black Hawks.

"The boys made a good try," he said.

Packers ahead

KELOWNA (CP) — Kelowna Packers slammed in five-second period goals and then held on to gain a 6-5 victory over Trail Smoke Eaters and take a 2-1 lead in their best-of-seven Western Allan Cup semi-final.

The series now shifts to Trail with the fourth game Saturday.

Canadians out

WINNIPEG (CP)—The battle for the men's singles title at the Canadian open amateur badminton championships Thursday night became an international affair as the last four Canadians were sidelined.

Advancing to the semi-finals, to be played at the Winnipeg Arena tonight, were defending champion Tan Joe Hok of Indonesia, Charoen Wattanasin of Thailand, Finn Kobbero of Denmark and Teh Kew San of Malaya.

Floor hockey semis tonight

Sports Shop meets Savoy Hotel tonight in the last of a best-of-three game semi-final floor hockey series at the Civic Centre.

In a junior fixture RCMP will meet Ormes in a game that will also decide finalists.

League president Ernie Novakowski said that tonight's games which were previously cancelled, will continue as scheduled. He said that the cancellations were brought about by players who did not confer with the league executive.

Game time for juniors is at 7:45 while the seniors meet at 8:30.

Nepal, remote Himalayan kingdom between India and Tibet, has a population of 8,500,000.

Sunrise deadlocks intermediate semis

Sunrise deadlocked the best-of-five Intermediate basketball finals last night but they had to go into an overtime period in order to down league champion Van's Bakery 38-33.

The two teams each have one win as Van's defeated the Sunrise crew 44-34 March 19. The two teams will clash again Saturday night.

Sunrise was trailing 29-24 at the end of the third quarter but outscored Van's 7-2 to set the stage for the five-minute overtime period.

A seven-point surge then clinched the game for the grocerymen.

Pacing Sunrise was centre Steve Comadina with 12 points and Jack Rudolph with 10.

For Van's, Gordie Hayward tallied 11 points.

Referee's Ken Specht and Bill Gurney levied a total of 13 fouls with seven going to Van's.

Lineups:

Sunsire—Gruber, Rudolph 10, Comadina 12, Armstrong 8, Haudenschild 2, J. J. Wong 3, Oskey 3. Total 38.

Van's—Derek Slack 5, Dean, Haywood 11, Wesch 7, Joe Arsenau 4, Fitzgerald, Irving, Smith 6. Total 33.

LAST NIGHT'S FIGHTS

Liverpool, England (AP)—Larry Baker, 147½, New York, stopped Tony Smith, 145½, Liverpool, (2.) Terry Downes, 159¼, England, knocked out Orlando de Pietro, 161½, Arcadia, Calif., (4.)

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