Digby, RCMP toss away rule book, stage brawl

BOXERS FROM Prince Rupert. Dick Bury, 138, seen left. Len Shankie, 147, centre and Don Tasaka, 135, right, join Walter Oskey in carrying local color in the Inter-City boxing show staged by Canadian Legion in Terrace's new Civic Centre tonight. Bury is featured in the semi-main event, meeting Jimmy Mohart, 133, of Kitimat. Shankie meets Bill Blackwater, 144, of Hazelton and Tasaka takes on Neil Turner, 135 of Terrace. Oskey, at 164 will battle Ted Parkvan, 168 of Terrace in the main event. Other bouts include John Johnson (Terrace) vs Larry Degerness (Terrace); David Pitre (Terrace) vs Emil Zagar (Terrace; Pat Strandley (Terrace) vs Ray Bradry (Kitimat); Alf Hills (Terrace) vs Bill Van Westen (Terrace).

Player banished; attacks referee

By DON LOBB
Daily News Staff Writer

Digby and RCMP played floor hockey last night in the first game of the Senior Men's League semi-finals. Unfortunately for both teams and a fine crowd, they chose to throw away the rule book and comport themselves like roughnecks. RCMP won 9-8 after five minutes of overtime.

The first period was fast and well-played and the 4-1 edge held by RCMP was a deserved one.

By the end of the second period Digby knotted the count at 5-5, but play was getting rougher by the minute. Digby moved out front 6-5 nine seconds after the third period opened and play see-sawed back and fourth throughout the frame which ended in a 7-7 deadlock and forced the period of overtime.

There were three disputed goals and as regular time ended a donnybrook erupted when Alf Moran, from Digby by way of Kitimat, charged referee Doug Brunton and wound up out on his ear for at least one game.

After cooling things down, referee Charlie Giordano, working gratis, but forced to take more abuse than a major league baseball umpire drawing $250 per game, re-organized the show.

Robin Cameron got the tie-breaker just seven seconds after play resumed and Joe Warner far and away the best marksman RCMP have, iced the show with a pretty 15-footer at the 1.28 mark.

Digby got one back with a minute plus left, but the Mountie squad were not to be denied in the first win they have posted all season.

Top Mountie scorer was Warner with four, followed by Murland with two. Saunders, Penz and Cameron chipped in singles.

For Digby, Larry Sedchuk netted a hat trick, matched by Al Novecoski. John Vielander and Roger McKone got one apiece.

There were 24 penalties handed out during the contest, but because the referees were continually harassd by compliants, they must have missed and equally-divided more.

Infractions were the rule rather than the exception and seriously detracted from the enjoyment the game could have provided.

Typical of the reaction from the fans was a comment offered to league president Ernie Novakowski and this reporter following the game.

Armed in righteous indignation, a cash customer commented, "You guys got the lousiest referees I have ever seen. Why don't you get somebody that knows the rules. I can do better myself!!"

To which Novakowski replied, "Good, perhaps you'll come out and referee the next game."

"What?" answered Joe Fan. "Do you think I'd go out on the floor with those guys? Besides, I don't know the rules."

He never did disclose just what infraction of the rules he referred to in his initial complaint, but advised us to "ask anybody."

We did, and the net result was that eight of ten agreed the referees were not at fault. A stand which I heartily endorse.

Lineups:

Digby—McMillan, Hutchinson, Spark, Korney, Impey, Isnardy, Sedchuk, Vielander, Novecoski, McKone, MacClean, Moran.

RCMP—Slack, Morrison, McDonald, Warner, Saunders, Bodger, Johnson, Cameron, Arseneau, Murland, Gale, John.

Referees, C. E. Giordano, and Doug Brunton.

Open letter

To all Floor Hockey Players and Spectators:

Every Thursday night at the Civic Centre there are two games of Prince Rupert's fastest growing indoor sport floor Hockey.

Ever since this popular game was introduced three years ago it has enjoyed a steady climb in enthusiasm and participation. We now have three senior, three junior and three juvenile teams.

At the beginning of most sports there is usually a great deal to be done, and without co-operation it is impossible to establish such a league.

When floor hockey started here there were very few people that know anything about it, but it has now reached the point where a number of people do have considerable knowledge about the game.

However we now have differences of opinion which is natural.

Referring mainly to Thursday night's "hectic game" at which I was a spectator, two people made an earnest attempt to control the play.

These two people were asked to referee the match and they accepted with a bit of pushing.

They called the plays the way they saw them and in my opinion did a remarkable job under the circumstances.

They are volunteer referees who I am sure would rather watch than officiate.

As it stands now we are at the point where this sport is reaching its climax for the year and the competitions are very good. But unless more co-operation and sportsmanship is shown both by spectators and participants alike the league will come to an untimely end.

It is imperative for the welfare of this relatively new sport that we pull together and display the sportsmanship that will enable floor hockey to prosper and grow.

E. T. NOVAKOWSKI,
President,
Prince Rupert Floor
Hockey Association.

Thunderbirds crowned junior hockey champs

Parkers Thunderbirds of the Junior Floor Hockey League, last night battled to a 11-11 tie with Ormes Roughnecks to win the league title.

Ormes will now meet the Sports Shop Rockets in the best of three semi-finals starting next Thursday night. Winner will play Parkers in the best of five finals.

The game, which was much less hectic than the senior match, saw Parkers come from behind a 11-8 deficit in the final period to tie the tilt.

Ormes came out of the first period ahead 5-2 and by the end of the second stanza still held their lead 8-5.

Parkers matched goal for goal in the second period with the drug store squad and came back in the third period led by Ray Jessee with three garners.

Jessee was top scorer for the Garage crew with a total of five tallies and Robin Cameron, who also plays in the senior league, notched an equal five.

Chris Harvey pumped in three to take second scoring honors for the Roughnecks and Ken Cameron with three tallies also, was runner-up for Parkers.

The league "Champs" received a total of four penalties and Ormes were penalized twice.

Lineups:

Parkers—Pierce 2, K. Cameron 3, Adams 1, Kerr, Ruttan, Lemon, Martin, Derash, Jessee 5. Total 11

Ormes—R. Cameron 5, McLeod 2, Armstrong, Kangas, Olnose, Gottschling, Harvey 4, Stowe 1, Helland. Total 11.

Hershey dumped to fourth

By The Associated Press

After holding second place virtually all season in the American Hockey League, Hershey Bears in two days have lost all chance of finishing in the runner-up spot.

This odd turn resulted from Hershey's eighth straight defeat, a 3-0 whitewashing Wednesday night by Cleveland Barons. The victory gave the second-place Barons 73 points to fourth-place Hershey's 69. Even if Hershey ties in final ponits at the end of the regular season Sunday the Barons still would get the nod because they have won more games.

The slumping Bears are one point behind the third-place Rochester Americans, who lost 3-2 to Springfield Indians.

It was the third shutout for Cleveland's Gerry McNamara, all at Hershey's expense.

Hershey goalie Bob Perreault left the game at 172:43 of the first period with an injured elbow with Cleveland ahead 1-0 on Spider Mazur's goal.

Subbing for Perreault, Gil Mayer blanked the Barons until 7:52 of the third period when Gordon Vejprava scored. Clevelands' final goal by Michel Labadie came less than two minutes later.

Rochester rookie Bill Hicke, with a goal and an assist, set a league record with 96 points. The previous record was 94, set by Don Marshall of Buffalo in 1953-54.

Rochester took the lead in the first period on Hicke's goal at the 29-second mark. At 17:07 of the second period Colin Kilburn tied the count.

Duke Edmundson and Bruce Carmichael added Springfield's remaining goals in the third period and Gary Aldcorn scored the second Rochester marker.

New York—Jose Torres, 162, Puerto Rico, knocked out Leroy Gilphant, 167, New York, 2:15 third round.

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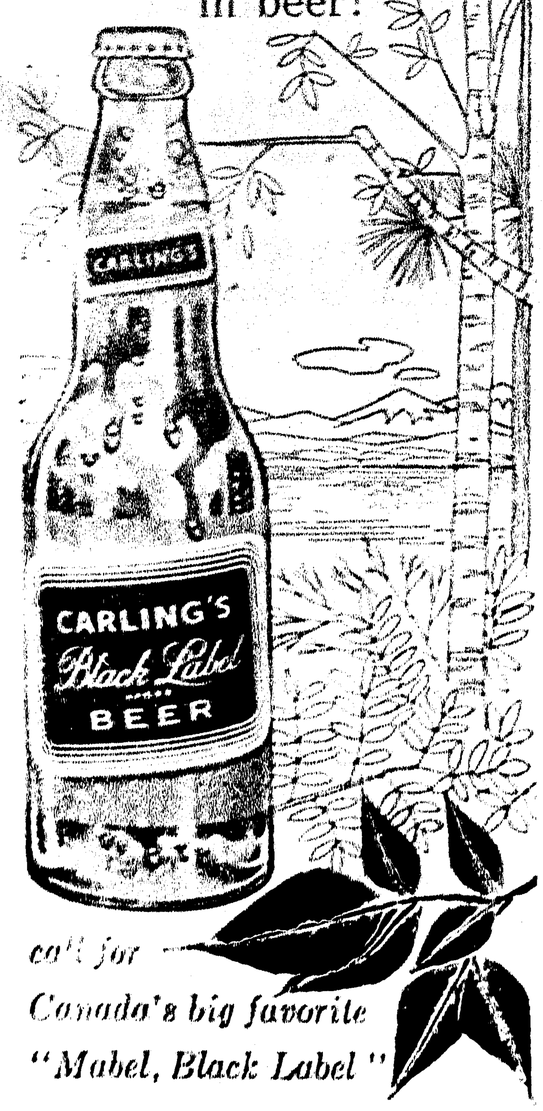

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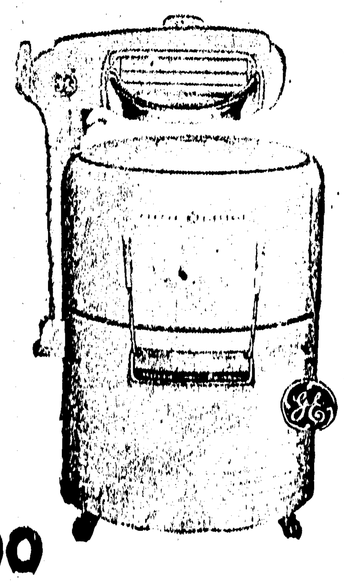

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