

IN THIS CORNER

DICK AYRES

First game of the Senior B basketball playoffs between Gordon and Anderson and Columbia Cellulose 300 Club is scheduled for 9 p.m. tonight. The playoffs are to be a best-two-out-of-three series with the winners meeting the league champions Manson's Omegas in the finals for the Civic Centre association trophy. Second game will be played Saturday, February 27, the Tuesday date being taken up by the first game of Ketchikan High school-Bo-Me-Hi series.

Result of the playoffs is anyone's guess with CCC who lost 11 out of 15 games during the season still hot after downing the second-place hardwaremen 70-47 in the last league fixture. Both teams were short-handed in that last encounter with G & A minus Joe Davis and CCC without their playing coach Poy Pay. Both teams should be at full strength tonight and Minor Simundsen's squad will be definitely out to erase the humiliation of that recent lacing. Out of the league's top ten scorers, CCC has four of them. Bill Sunberg, Sid Scherk, Don Scherk and Freddy Christensen. G & A only have two men that made more than 100 points in 13 or 14 games. Rupe Holkestad and Joe Davis.

At the same time comparison of the youth versus experience of both teams avails the arm-chair statistician little, since many of the younger players have been cagers since they were knee-high to a referee. Apart from Pop Pay (who like ourselves claims to be the same age as Jack Benny) Mel Thompson is the old man of the CCC squad at 25. (These are the age players signed in with at the beginning of the season.) Youngest member of the pulp millers is Fred Christensen at 18, with Don Scherk, Harold Marshall, Gordy Cameron all at the former voting age of 21. Don Scherk is 22 and the team's top scorer Bill Sunberg is 23.

On the G & A roster Ron Webber is the youngest player at 19 with Ev Abbey the ancient of the team at 31. In between there are "young-oldsters" Jimmy Flaten at 23, Bob Currie at 24, Rupe Holkestad at 26, Joe Davis at 27 and Ted Arney at 29.

So there's nothing for it but to go to the Civic Centre and see which of these teams can dream up the fabulous series we have a hunch these playoffs will be. There's nothing like a team well-out of the running staging a comeback to take the trophy in the playoffs just the same as the runner-up always drives to get the silverware which it figured it rightfully was entitled to in league play.

Besides the Senior B fixture there's another interesting race clash tonight. We have the WORD on the Inter A duel between league-leading North Stars and last-place Watts and Nickerson. Should the bottlers win tonight's game then the Inter A playoffs will start on February 27 between the clothiers and second-place Fraser and Payne.

BUT, a Watts and Nickerson prophet told us last night that "if Bo-Me-Hi Rainbirds" can win a game after losing six straight, then Watts and Nickerson can do it after losing 11. You can bet that Bill McChesney's luckless crew will try, anyway.

Basketball commission members around the Civic Centre recently were paying tribute to Jack Marchant, who was forced to give up his post due to other commitments. Jack spent a great deal of his time working for basketball here and besides keeping time for the leagues for about three years, was always willing to help when needed, until he got too busy.

Jack Judge, who returned to the city from Vancouver this week, took in the Diamond Belt tournament at Exhibition Gardens while he was down south. In his opinion the Belt tourney was better than the Golden Gloves. Don't see how it could be, Jack, without any Rupert fighters down there. Besides this year's Golden Gloves "go" may see two titles successfully defended by Andy Marshall and Bill Morrison and Billy Tuschya may bring back a third title.

POST SCRIPTS—Frosty's basketball team who bowed to Bo-Me-Hi Rainbirds last night certainly missed the services of Nina Youngman. Nina was in the building however, guzzling large quantities of imaginary booze while rehearsing for her role in "The Street Car Named Desire," scheduled for the Civic Centre starting March 1. (That's a free plug if we ever saw one) ... No matter how hard you try to do something right, it always gets loused up somehow. In yesterday's league statistics Don Hartwig's field goals came out in print as 12 instead of 42. Anyone would think we had it in for the guy. ... Not only that but we left off Mel Holkestad's name altogether which was very bad since we tried to include everyone whether they played one game or 14. Mel's total for two games was 1 field goal, no free throws attempted, 2 fouls and 2 points.

Johnny Palmer Leads Texas Open; Kesselring Still in Running

SAN ANTONIO, Tex. (CP) — Johnny Palmer of North Carolina, who thinks San Antonio's 6,400-yard Brackenridge Park course is the easiest on the winter golf tour illustrated his point by breezing round it twice in a nine-under par 62. He headed a field of 90 into the third round of the \$12,500 Texas open golf tournament today.

The Canadian sensation of the first day's play, Rudy Horvath of Windsor, Ont., who shot a

blazing 61 in the first round, ran into hard luck Friday and wound up with a par 71 which left him far down the list.

Gerry Kesselring of Kitchener, Ont., is the only Canadian left in the tournament as the three other contenders failed to qualify for the next round. Kesselring, who can't win any money because of his probationary pro status which still has a month to go, ended the second round with 131, tied with four others.

Vernon Trims Okanagan Champs

By The Canadian Press
Penticton V's may be finally slacking off after clinching first place in the Okanagan Senior Hockey League. Friday night the last place Vernon Canadians scored six goals against them in the first period, good enough for a 6-2 win.

Johnny Harms opened the scoring at the two minute mark followed by Leo Lucchini and Bob Ballance. Bill Warwick got the only goal of the period for Penticton before Jim Malacko, Tommy Stecyk and Jack Miller finished the scoring for the period.

The second period was scoreless. Penticton got their final goal when George MavAvoy finished off a play from Grant Warwick and McDonald at 3:45 of the third. The game repre-

sented one of the few times this year Penticton has been beaten on home ice.

Kelowna plays at Kamloops and Penticton at Vernon in the OSHL tonight while Trail is at Kimberley and Nelson at Spokane in the Western International Hockey League.



FRANCES DAFOE AND NORRIS BOWDEN of Toronto are pairs figure-skating champions of the world. They won the title in competition at Oslo. Last year they won the Canadian and North American pairs title. This photo was taken just before their departure from Canada for the international competitions.

Calgary Clubs Vancouver 4-1 To Pull Within Four Points

By The Canadian Press

Any doubts about Calgary Stampede's claim to second place in the Western Hockey League were dealt with in Vancouver Friday night.

Fresh from a 4-2 victory over Canucks in Calgary Wednesday night, Stampede kicked off a West Coast tour by clubbing the league leaders 4-1 to pull within four points.

Edmonton Flyers beat Saskatoon Quakers 3-2 in Edmonton to move three points ahead of New Westminster Royals and tighten their hold on fourth place.

Royals were beaten 3-1 in Victoria and the Cougars now lead last-place Seattle by eight points.

Calgary blasted 32 shots at Lorne Worsley while Bill Brennan kicked out 13. Stampede marksmen were Archie Scott, Steve Black, Jim McFadden and Jack Lundy, while defenceman Mid Houghton turned the trick for Canucks.

Stampede went ahead 1-0, 2-0, and out-scored the home club 2-1 in the final stanza.

Brennan's shutout was spoiled

when Houghton pulled the trigger from the blue line. The puck caromed in off Brennan as he went down.

At Edmonton, Jim Anderson, Steve Hrymak and Bill Bucyk scored for Flyers. Aggie Kukulowicz and Ron Murphy counted for Quakers. It was Bucyk's first goal in 59 games for Flyers.

Murphy, who catapulted to fame on the end of Bernie Georfrion's stick in the National Hockey League, scored on a solo dash while his team was a man short. Kukulowicz picked up the other Saskatoon marker with Flyers a man short.

Vic Lynn became a six-stitch casualty when he caught a puck in the teeth in the third period.

Royal's goalie Lucien Dechene starred in defeat in Victoria. The nimble netminder booted out 41 of 43 shots blasted his way within two periods as Royals played a sluggish game.

Colin Kilburn, Gene Achtymichuk, and Tony Schneider racked up goals for the Cougars and Ollie Dorohoy connected for Royals.

Claude Evans capably replaced Red Almas, recalled by Buffalo Bisons in the American Hockey League, in the Victoria nets.

Swedish Team Edges Canucks In Stockholm

STOCKHOLM (CP) — Toronto Lyndhursts fell 5-4 before a junior Swedish hockey team Friday night putting an end to the 10-game winning streak they had enjoyed for a month.

The defeat marked the end of a warm-up European exhibition tour for the Toronto club which left for Toronto, Canada, in the world hockey championships beginning here Friday. A team of expatriate Canadians pro-gave them their only other defeat, 11-2, in Paris last month.

Lyndhursts won all their other contests in Switzerland, Italy and Germany.

The Canadians trailed 3-0 in the second period. After a scoreless first frame, the youthful Swedish team rapped in three fast goals.

Tallies by Norm Gray, Harold Fiskari and John Petro evened the count but in the finale Sweden's Lars Soederberg sank his third goal.

Gray's second marker only narrowed the gap for the Canadians.

Last Night's Fights

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Rocky Castellani, 160½, Cleveland, outpointed Ernie Durando, 160, Bayonne, N.Y., 10.

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — Irwin Schultz, 165, New York, knocked out Eddie Springer, 163, Coral Gables, Fla., 6.

MELBOURNE — Marshall Clayton, New Orleans, outpointed Ivor Germaine, Australia, 10, welterweights.

Holliston Rink Plays Rowbotham

The Holliston rink will meet the Rowbotham quartet next Tuesday in the finals of the Grotto Cigar Store trophy competition as a result of matches last night. Holliston beat Oster-tag 9-8 and Rowbotham defeated McKenzie 10-7 in an even game not settled until the ninth end when Rowbotham got three points.

Rupert Motors round robin results last night are as follows: Robertson 10, Moore 7; Johnson 10, Matthew 5; Wakley 12, Petersen 5; Ford 15, Georgeson 5.

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Birds Collect First Victory From Frosty's

Screams of happiness echoed round the Civic Centre gym last night as Sheila Hicks' Bo-Me-Hi Rainbirds chalked up their first win of the season, in seven outings, downing a stubborn Frosty's Locker squad 17-14.

The game used up Frosty's last game and gave the locker crew a four-win-four-loss record with Dom's Department store team taking the Girls' Basketball league championship with six wins and one loss for a total of 12 points and still one game to play.

In the close Junior Boys' league Sea Cadets edged Annunciation School 34-29 to move into a first-place tie with the league leaders Orme's Drugs. In the other Junior Boys' fixture Sports Shop crept up to third place with a 30-23 victory over NBC Power.

Desperate for one victory before the season ended the Bo-Me-Hi girls went all out to put Frosty's on ice. Sparked by Myrna Knutsen who collected 12 of the high school's total the Bo-Me-Hi crew took advantage of their speed on the break-

aways and sank 50 per cent of their free throws. Only the persistent checking of Nellie Pavich who led the Locker crew with 6 points kept Frosty's in the game. Bo-Me-Hi took the first quarter 5-2; lost the second 4-3; won the third 5-3 and tied the final stanza 4-4. Frosty's inaccuracy at the foul line could have cost them the game as they only sank two free shots in 14 tries. Rainbirds committed 12 fouls, Frosty's 8.

Sea Cadets first half lead of 24-8 stood them in good stead as Annunciation came back strong in both the third and final quarters outscoring the sailors 11-5 in the third and 10-5 in the last quarter. Husvik led the winners with 11 points and Smith scored the same amount for Annunciation.

Bowes with 14 points led the Sports Shop to its win over NBC Power. The Sports Shop crew took the first quarter 9-4 and the second 15-8 but NBC came back to take the third frame 8-2 and the final one 3-2. Top men for the power squad was Landie with 9 points.

GIRLS LEAGUE

Bo-Me-Hi Rainbirds — Knutsen 12, E. Jones, M. Farmer 3, Botrakoff, 2, Jackson, Giske, Selvig, Wick, Martin, Wood, Total 17.

Frosty's — M. Youngman 4, Windle, Pavich 6, Marshall 2, Sharp, Horne 2. Total 14.

JUNIOR BOYS

Sea Cadets — Christoff 7, Husvik 11, Flood 8, J. Howell 1, Iveson, McLeod 2, Lugin 5, Newfield, A. Howell, Total 34.

Annunciation — Bury 8, Lyons, Joe Arsenau, Jim Arsenau, Smith 11, Basso 2, Toth 1, Letourneau 7. Total 29.

NBC Power — Stewart 2, Landie 9, Desautels 5, Kelsey 6, Hargrove, Furniotis 1, Way, Ritchie, Total 23.

Sports Shop — Olson, Bowes 14, Laird 12, Mitchell, Fleming, S. Wong 5, B. Wong 5, Rensvald 4. Total 30.



FRANK LEAHY, Notre Dame's football coach since 1941, except for the war years, give up football "for reasons of health." Leahy appears at left in 1929, when he tackle on Knute Rockne's championship Irish team. At right 24 years later, Leahy and bows his head in a prayerful attitude as his team battles a surprising Iowa team. Dame came back to the Iowa in the game's closing seconds. Leahy had six unbeaten seasons in 11 years at South Bend.

Kayhi Cagers Here Next Tuesday

The annual battle for the Frank Murkowski trophy, symbolic of International High school basketball competition, resumes next week when Ketchikan High school Polar Bears come to Prince Rupert for a two-game series with Booth Memorial High school Rainmakers.

The final two games of the 1953 series, to be played at the Civic Centre Tuesday and Wednesday nights, February 23 and 24, will see both teams going all out for a clear-cut win.

To take the trophy from Kayhi, the present holders, Bo-Me-Hi must win both games. In 1952 the Polar Bears and Rainmakers split the two-game series and since the Ketchikan squad had won the trophy in 1951 they retained it.

The trophy was originally presented to the schools for competition by the late Frank Murkowski former president of the First National Bank in Ketchikan.

The 1953 series, postponed in December because of travelling conditions, is split between the Ketchikan and Prince Rupert squads.

In January Jack Evans took the Rainmakers up to Ketchikan and came home with a one-win-one-loss record. Ray Basse's Polar Bears took the first game 51-45 and the Bo-Me-Hi cagers took the second game 46-41.

A series victory by Bo-Me-Hi Rainmakers would give Prince Rupert two wins to Kayhi's three over the last six years. Ketchikan High school won the trophy in 1948, 1950 and 1951. Prince Rupert won it in 1949.

The Ketchikan players will arrive by plane Tuesday afternoon. They will be presented to the Bo-Me-Hi students at a special assembly later that afternoon. Wednesday noon they will be guests at a luncheon at Booth Memorial high school and will leave at midnight after the second game.

Slated to take the floor against the Prince Rupert squad are Jim Miller, Jerry Raines, John Gilbert, Arnt Antonsen, Robert Anderson.

HODGES, MORGAN SIGN VERO BEACH, Fla.

Brooklyn Dodgers today brought two more of the National League champions in line with the signing of first baseman Gil Hodges and utility infielder Bobby Morgan.

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