Canucks loaned brilliant Ranger line

Loss of veterans may be forgotten

VANCOUVER (CP)—Last year Vancouver Canucks became the first coast team in modern league history to win the Western Hockey League playoff championship. This year, experts say, they almost certainly will repeat as the strongmen of the coast division.

Canucks appear to be better than ever.

They have lost two notable men from last season's championship club—Orland Kurtenbach, rookie of the year in this division, and Jackie McLeod, perennial all-star right winger.

In their places are no fewer than six eager and capable young hustlers who might even make Vancouver fans forget the artistry of Kurtenbach and McLeod.

THE DIVIDEND

Last weekend Canuck coach Art Chapman received the dividend he had been waiting for.

Assigned here by New York Rangers of the National Hockey League was the complete forward line of centre Ted Hampson and wings Dan Belisle and Mel Pearson.

Canucks are a Ranger farm club. Even so, New York general manager Muzz Patrick relinquished the brilliant trio of 21-year-olds to Vancouver on one specific condition: that they remain together and play as a unit.

"This line will be playing for he Rangers within two years," Patrick told Chapman. "Until then, they're yours."

SOFTENS THE BLOW

It softened the blow of losing Kurtenbach, detailed to Buffalo of the American League; and McLeod, who will play for Saskatoon and help with the coaching.

In addition, Canucks have such lustrous newcomers as defenceman Wally Chevrier from Guelph Juniors; wingman Don Carter from the Saskatchewan Junior League and Angelo Defelice from the Eastern Amateur League.

In goal is Guelph graduate Bruce Gamble. Flanking minor league great Phil Maloney on one line is Walt Peacosh, wonder boy from Penticton of the Okanagan League, and either Carter or Defelice.

PREMIER ON VACATION—Premier Duff Roblin of Manitoba, normally a dapper dresser, says he doesn't really care a hang about clothes. During the election campaign that put his Progressive Conservatives in power for the first time in 43 years he appeared in rural ridings wearing a droppy sports jacket, baggy trousers and an old fishing hat. The hat comes into use here as he enjoys one of his favorite hobbies—fishing. Here he takes a look at the pickerel being displayed by lodge owner Vic Burgess at Pine Island. —CP Photo.

Cellar-dwelling teams hold most fan appeal

By JACK SULLIVAN

Canadian Press Staff Writer

Figuring football teams' performances is a hazardous occupation at the best of times. A team may be practically knocked out of the park one day and a week or so later reverse the decision.

But try to understand what makes people go to games, especially when they involve Toronto Argonauts or British Columbia Lions. This season, as in the last few years, they've been busts on the field but big box-office hits in their own stadiums.

Those two clubs, as any football fan knows, can find more ways to lose a game than any in the country. They fumble, miss assignments, have passes intercepted and show little sustained offensive power, bring in reinforcements in wholesale lots, and send their fans home game after game mumbling to themselves.

FAITHFUL FANS

But these last-place clubs—Argonauts in the Big Four with one victory in seven outings and Lions in the Western Conference with a big zero in the win column in 10 starts—draw the fans as if they were Grey Cup contenders.

The cash rolls in, enough to bring chuckles to Managing Director Lew Hayman of Argonauts and General Manager Herb Capozzi of the Lions, but they're a couple of sad sacks when they look at the standings.

Take the case of Argonauts, at one time known as the New York Yankees of Canada — a team that in past years was the top dog in Canadian football.

Now, some of the Toronto sports writers are asking embarrassing questions, particularly concerning the ability of coach Hamp Pool.

Argonauts' lone win was a 15-14 thriller at home over Montreal Alouettes on Aug. 22 before 19,497 fans. Since then, they've lost five straight and their home-crowd figures have risen.

Now the Lions.

Their coaches and management have, at times, taken a fearful beating from the football writers but that doesn't stop crowds from beating their way to Empire Stadium, the largest park in the country and scene of this year's Grey Cup final.

The Lions have played five home games so far this year before a total of 124,158 persons. That averages out at 24,832 a game, the best in the country, and a figure that makes other club officials drool.

Attendance figures have steadily decreased since Lions opened the season at home before 30,463 fans, the largest crowd for a league game at Empire Stadium since Aug. 27, 1956. Last Monday, when they lost their 10th straight—22-6 to Saskatchewan Roughriders—only 20,226 persons watched the proceedings.

World series notes

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Hank Bauer, 37-year-old Yankee rightfielder, wasted no time Wednesday extending his own record as he hit safetly in his 15th consecutive world series game.

Bauer laced a Warren Spahn pitch between third base and shortstop when he led off in the first inning. Less than a minute later he was out, caught by Spahn's famed pickoff move as he roamed too far off base.

Bauer's home run in the fifth, scoring Whitey Ford ahead of him to give the Yanks a 3-2 lead, was his fourth in world series competition.

Moose Skowron hit his third in the fourth inning to break what had been a scoreless tie. Spahn, by the way, had his troubles with gopher balls even while compiling his 22-11 record during the regular season. He gave up 20 home runs to lead the National League.

Hank Aaron's eight-inning double kept his personal hitting record going. He's hit safely in each of the eight world series games he's played.

The first two Yankee batters singled off Spahn in each of the first two innings, but no damage was done, thanks to some fine throwing by Braves' outfielders.

Wes Covington, Braves left fielder, cut Yogi Berra down at third base when the Yankee catcher attempted to take two bases on Bill Skowron's single in the second. Then a great throw to third by Andy Pafko from deep centre held Skowron at second a moment later.

The first ball was thrown out by Jimmy Crushberry, 78, one of the 20 reporters who gathered at the 1908 Detroit Tigers-Chicago Cubs world series to form the Baseball Writers Association.

The 13 strikeouts by Yankee pitchers—eight by Whitey Ford and five by Ryne Duren—was one short of the world series record of 14 set by Brooklyn's Carl Erskine against the Yankees, Oct. 2, 1953.

Last Night's Fights

Oakland, Calif. (AP) — Johnny Gonsalves, 136, Oakland, Calif., outpointed Cisco Andrande, 135, Compton, Calif. (10).

Indianapolis (AP)—Franz Szuzina-Randy Sandy bout postponed to tonight (rain).

Lancaster, Calif. (AP) — Willie Gilbert, 165, Los Angeles, outpointed Cal Brad, 170, Los Angeles (10).

WAHL'S CATCHER CAROL McKAY NAMED MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

Wahl's catcher, Carol McKay has been awarded the most valuable player award in the women's softball league, president Janette MacDonald announced today.

Carol McKay was chosen for the award after ballot forms were published in the Daily News.

She is also the catcher on the women's all-star softball team.

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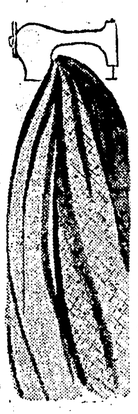

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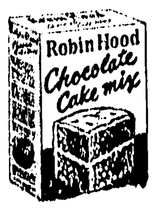

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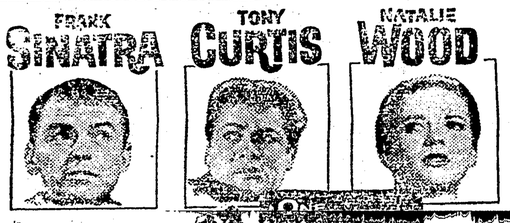

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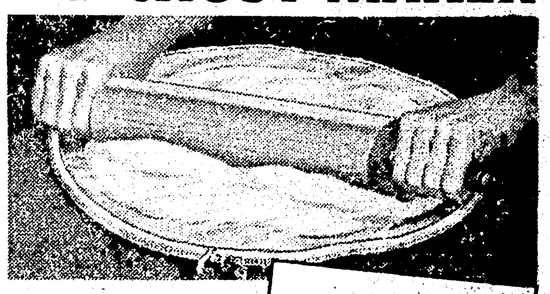

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