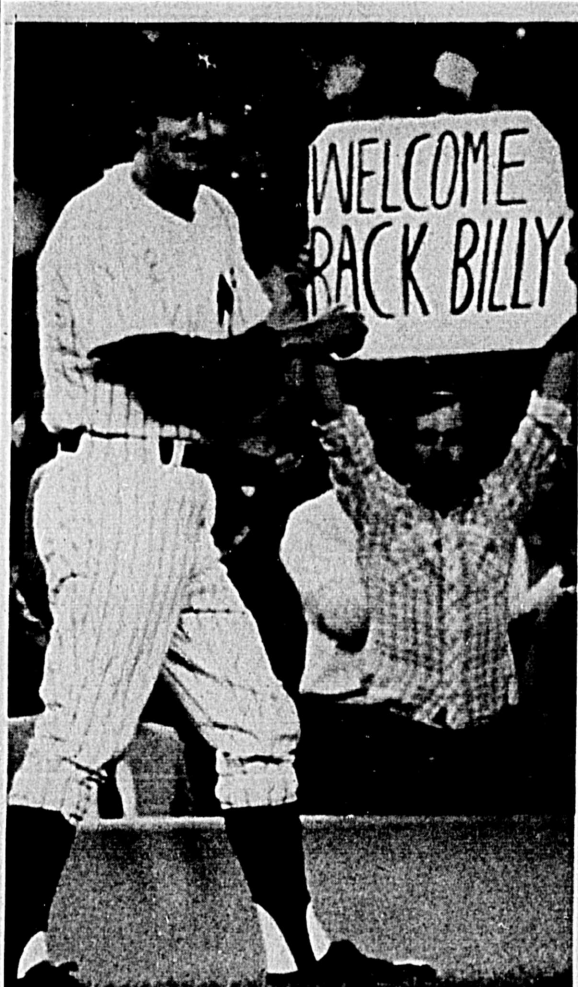




Billy Martin grins as he returns to Yankee Stadium.

FEW CHANGES

Martin's back in old position

NEW YORK (AP) — In the manager's office, it was as though Billy Martin had never been away. The pictures which decorated the room during his regime were back on the walls, having been stored in a closet while Bob Lemon ran New York Yankees.

Martin's sleek, grey luxury automobile with the YANKEES licence plate was in its accustomed spot in the Yankee Stadium parking lot. He was greeted by about a dozen autograph-seeking youngsters Tuesday when he and club owner George Steinbrenner returned by limousine from a mid-town luncheon meeting.

Insisting he is "the same Billy Martin," the man Steinbrenner says has changed and matured, the returning manager donned the famed pinstripes again to try to put some spark into the slumping World Series champions.

"Other than wearing a suit and tie, I'm the same Billy Martin," Martin told a mid-afternoon news conference. Hours later, he officially succeeded Lemon — the man who replaced him last July.

Martin's first moves were to nominate 10-game winner Tommy John as Tuesday night's pitcher against Toronto instead of the announced Jim Beattie. He also dropped second baseman Willie Randolph from second to seventh in the batting order.

He also will run the team from the third-base coaching box when the Yankees are at bat. Mike Ferraro, the team's regular third base coach, said he had been told by the manager that Martin would coach third "for the next four or five days."

The Reggie Jackson situation — and the troubled relationship between Martin and the slugging outfielder — will have to wait until Jackson, currently on the disabled list, recovers from a leg injury.

However, Martin, apparently under orders from Steinbrenner, went out of his way to praise Jackson as "a very important part of this club. We need him to win the pennant and World Series."

Jackson's return date has not been decided. But Martin said Jackson will be the designated hitter until completely healed and then will play right field, "although he may not play the outfield in some parks."

Much of the questioning concerned whether the brash and fiery Martin, known as Billy The Kid because of his quick temper and the fastest fists in baseball, had indeed changed.

"I'll still be me," Martin replied. "I'll just be careful who I answer to."

This was in reference to his remark to newsmen last year that Jackson was "a born liar," and Steinbrenner "convicted."

"Nothing forced me to resign other than a conversation that came out of my mouth," he said.

Martin resigned last July 24, one day after his Jackson-Steinbrenner crack. The low-key Lemon, Martin's exact opposite, took over and the Yankees, who had been 14 games out of first place on July 19, stormed to their second consecutive World Series championship. On Tuesday, they were fourth in the American League East, 8½ games from the top.

Neilson coaching Buffalo

BUFFALO (AP) — Scotty Bowman, new general manager of Buffalo Sabres, today introduced the dual-coaching concept to the National Hockey League and announced the appointment of Roger Neilson as his associate coach.

Neilson, 45, coached Toronto Maple Leafs the last two years.

Bowman refused to comment on the status of assistant general manager John Andersen, who began the 1978-79 season as director of scouting and became acting general manager in December.

Andersen said Tuesday he had learned through the press of today's 9 a.m. EDT news conference, and Bowman's unilateral work bringing in Neilson put him in a mood "to go in and clean out my desk."

Bowman said at the news conference both he and Neilson would coach the team this season, but that Neilson would be the head coach in 1980-81.

Bowman, who only last week joined the Sabres after quitting as coach of the Stanley Cup champion Montreal Canadiens, said he was pleased to be working with Neilson again.

"We go back to the 1960s when I was coaching in the junior ranks for Montreal and Roger was a scout."

Neilson, a successful coach with Peterborough in the Ontario Major Junior Hockey League before joining the Leafs organization, had a 75-62-23 record with the Leafs in two seasons and the club's playoff record in those two years was eight wins and 11 losses.

His move to Buffalo ended several weeks of speculation about whether he would stay in Toronto where Leafs owner Harold Ballard fired and rehired Neilson in a bizarre two-day episode last March.

Neilson had also planned to consider a job offer from Boston Bruins but instead accepted Bowman's offer after a meeting Tuesday.

Terms of his agreement with Bowman were not announced but it was reported he will receive \$70,000 a season, about \$30,000 more than he got with Toronto.

Ali agrees on retirement

DURBAN, South Africa (AP) — Mike Mortimer, chairman of the championships committee of the World Boxing Association, says Muhammad Ali has agreed to retire from boxing on July 5, reports the South African Press Association (SAPA).

The SAPA said confirmation of Ali's retirement plans came from Mortimer in a telephone interview Tuesday as South African heavyweight Gerrie Coetzee prepares for a bout with Leon Spinks of the U.S. this weekend. The winner likely will meet John Tate of the U.S. for the heavyweight world title later this year.

"My committee has recommended that this fight be counted as one such elimination bout in view of Ali's retirement," Mortimer said.

Earlier this month, boxing promoter Bob Arum said Ali had sent a letter to the World Boxing Council confirming his retirement.

However, last weekend Ali denied having sent such a letter and WBC chairman Mandry Galindez said he had not received any word from the heavyweight champion about his retirement.



Hamilton's David Quehl drops a pass in the Lions' end zone during the second quarter of Tuesday's exhibition game.

The Citizen Sports

RON ALLERTON
SPORTS EDITOR
562-2441

CITY SOFTBALL

Merchants closing in

by MIKE TRICKEY and DAVE PAULSON
Citizen Sports Reporters
The Mackenzie Merchants closed within one game of leading McDermids Canadians by winning an extra inning decision in one of two Spruce City Men's Fastball Association games Tuesday.

Mackenzie's Brian Marchuk delivered a run-scoring single in the top of the 10th inning to beat Ted Doyle Trucking 3-2. Ed Gelin was the winning pitcher and Jim Valachi the loser.

In the second game, Lomak Contracting overcame a 2-0 first inning deficit to defeat winless Save-T Driving School 4-2.

Rick Cunningham threw a one-hitter to get the win and Roy Umpherville was the loser in his first appearance of the season.

P.G. Croatia first again

P.G. Croatia moved back into a first-place tie in North Cariboo Soccer Tuesday, as it edged Woodland Sash United 2-1.

The Croatians needed two goals late to win.

Nick Vukovic and Mato Micic scored two minutes apart in the last five minutes, after Woodland's Bob Linde scored at 63 minutes.

Labatt's Trippke, which has a game in hand on the Croatians, takes on City Furniture today at 6:30 p.m. at Rotary Stadium.

Eight straight for champions

Labatt's remained undefeated in senior men's baseball Tuesday, as the defending league champion downed the Prince George Hotel juniors 7-4.

Omer Gascon went the distance, in striking out five and allowing six hits, in Labatt's eighth straight win.

The winners scored four times in the top of the first and never looked back, adding one in the second and two in the sixth.

The juniors scored one in the first, two in the third and one in the seventh.

Losing pitcher Dean Eberle struck out six and gave up six hits in going the distance.

Labatt's takes on Mountain Truck Service today at 6:30 p.m. at Monty Gabriele Park.

Local judo pair off to nationals

Two local judo competitors compete in the Canadian championships this weekend in Prince Albert, Sask.

Audrey Robinson of Mackenzie, who trains in Prince George, is the defending Canadian champion in her weight class and joins Alline Bourassa of Prince George and 14 other B.C. athletes, Saturday and Sunday.

Prince George's John Huntley is manager of the B.C. contingent.

About 240 athletes from across the country are competing in the two-day affair.

In games today, McDermids puts its seven-game winning streak on the line against Analog at 7 p.m. and Pine Centre Mallers play the Clonadonald Lads at 8:30 p.m. at the Spruce City Field.

Backwoods Corner Juniors came up with a sub-par performance Tuesday and saw their five game winning streak snapped 5-2 by Jack Ellis Saw Shop.

The win moves Jack Ellis within two points of the leading Juniors.

Backwoods made a series of errors in the first two innings and trailed 5-0.

Lorraine Chartrand pitched the win and Carol Legere took the loss.

Interior Warehousing downed Yellowhead Inn 3-1 in the second game.

The loss was the seventh straight for last place Yellowhead Inn.

Mary Potkin was the winning pitcher and Alma Mohr the loser.

In today's games, Interior Warehousing meets Yellowhead Inn at 6:45 p.m. and Backwoods Corner takes on Pioneer Homes at 8 p.m.

Prince George Pulp moved within two points of first in the Nechako Division of the senior men's slow pitch league by downing the K-Wobblers 7-1.

The loss was the second in as many nights for the Wobblers against the pulp crew.

Rick Pfliger was the winning pitcher and Ken Merritt took the loss.

Sunrise Rentals stretched its Fraser Division lead to four points over Godfrey Appraisers by dumping Latter Day Saints 14-4.

Wayne Dobson pitched the win and Lloyd Mackenzie took the loss.

In games today, Latter Day Saints play Northwood Pulp at 6 p.m. and Shakey's Canadians play the K-Wobblers at 7:15

p.m. at the men's slow pitch field on Highway 16 West.

Baldy Hughes regained a share of second in recreation mens' play Tuesday.

Danny Ernewein pitched the win, as Baldy Hughes downed CFS Logging 8-2. Losing pitcher was Ed Randle.

Baldy Hughes is tied with Fraser Stationers with 14 points, two behind the RCMP. CFS is fourth with 10 points.

In today's game, the RCMP meets last-place Indian Friendship Centre at 6:45 p.m. at the Highway 16 West park.

Action Gulf moved into a second-place tie in commercial womens' play with a 6-2 win over National Hotel in the second game of a doubleheader.

Marlene Lafon pitched the gulfers to the win.

In the other game, Northwood Pulp won its third in nine starts, as it downed International Waterbeds 11-6. Winning pitcher was Marie Chisholm.

Monarch Life plays Doug Neal Cowgirls today at 6:30 p.m. and P.G. Pulp meets Tabor Arms at 8 p.m.

Both games are at Carrie Jane Gray Park.

Hepwood Contracting maintained its lead in the junior girls' league, but lost its second of the season Tuesday.

J and L Auto Body got a two-out double from Christine Murdoch in the seventh inning to score two runs enroute to a 6-5 win over the league leaders.

Sandra Lipinski was the winning pitcher and Gerry Desmet the loser.

The senior women's slow pitch league has four games at Peden Hill today.

Northern Sportswear meets Kai Tire and Pacific Gold plays Chinook Construction at 6:30 p.m., while Neil's Trailer takes on Northern Mountain Helicopter and Analog plays Husky Transfer at 8 p.m.

KING TEAM COACHES REQUIRED

Greater Prince George Minor Hockey Association require coaches for Pee Wee, Bantam, Midget & Juvenile, King Teams.

Please apply to King team Supervisor George Wilmut, 563-2055 or Asst. King Team Supervisor, Vince Law, 962-9896. Deadline, Aug. 15th, 1979

Presented by Civic Properties & Recreation Commission

PLAY TENNIS

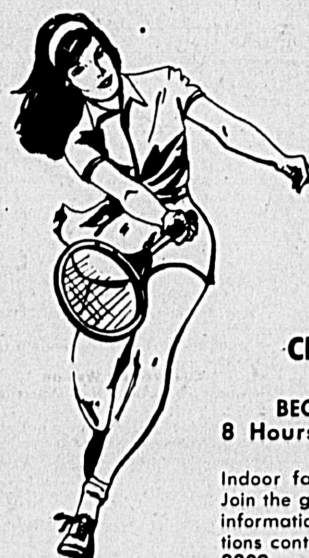
Qualified Instruction for

— Novice
— Intermediate
— Advanced

CITY TENNIS LESSONS

BEGIN JUNE 25th
8 Hours — 4 Weeks — \$25.00

Indoor facilities for wet days. Join the group in your area. For information on times and locations contact the Coliseum 563-8802.



Lions winners over Tiger-Cats

by Canadian Press
Toronto Argonauts' head coach Forrest Gregg had spent five days telling reporters how much he was looking forward to meeting Edmonton Eskimos.

He explained that the defending Grey Cup champions would prove a good test for his newlook Argos, particularly the secondary which would face a still challenge in defending against the Eskimos' pass-oriented offence.

Gregg got his wish.

Quarterbacks Bruce Lemmerman, Tom Wilkinson and Charlie Weatherbie combined to complete 21 of 32 passes for 360 yards and three touchdowns Tuesday night as the Eskimos whipped the Argos 31-16 in Canadian Football League pre-season play.

In the only other game, Ken Hinton's 48-yard punt return set up the winning touchdown as British Columbia Lions downed Hamilton Tiger-Cats 16-11.

At Vancouver, Hinton's return set up a short touchdown run by Robert Johnson in the third quarter as the Lions overcame an 11-10 halftime deficit.

Hinton was hauled down at the Hamilton two-yard line by punter Dave Marler and one play later Johnson swept into

the end zone to give the Lions their second win in as many games during the exhibition season.

Hamilton took the halftime lead after rookie quarterback Ed Smith hit wide receiver Kerry Smith with a five-yard touchdown pass late in the second quarter.

Marler accounted for the rest of the Hamilton scoring with a convert, a 38-yard field goal and a single on a missed field goal.

The Lions' other touchdown came in the second quarter when rookie defensive back Tyrone Gray picked off a Smith pass at the Hamilton 40 and returned it for a touchdown. Lui Passaglia converted one of the B.C. touchdowns and also kicked a 20-yard first-quarter field goal.

Jerry Tagge operated the B.C. offence in the opening half, but was inconsistent in his throws, completing nine of 16 passes for 94 yards. Carlos Brown and Dennis Shaw shared the Lions' quarterback duties completed four of 12 attempts for 54 yards and Shaw hit on just one of four for 12 yards. All three were intercepted once.

RIVERSIDE Auto Body Ltd.

We can handle your ICBC claims promptly. Specializing in Major & Minor repairs, Sand Blasting and Complete Paint.

PHONE
564-2512



The Canadian Wado-Kai Karate Federation

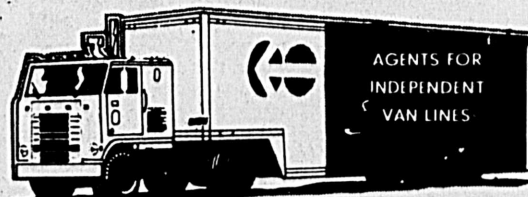
Would Sincerely Like to Thank the
PRINCE GEORGE BREWERIES LTD.

for their support to our recent training seminar which was conducted by Sensei Suzuki, the highest graded Karateka in the world.

RUTLAND MOVING & STORAGE LTD.

FOR FREE ESTIMATE CALL
564-9595

SPECIALISTS IN HOUSEHOLD MOVING
— STORAGE — PACKING — SHIPPING
— MOVING — ANYWHERE



MODERN HEATED & FIREPROOF
STORAGE FACILITIES

1660 Ogilvie St.

Prince George



Money players

Vancouver millionaires Nelson Skalbania (left) and Herb Capozzi smile after their \$10,000 winner-take-all racquetball match. The men played to raise money for new facilities for racquetball in Vancouver. Skalbania won 21-18, 10-21, 21-18 and will give the \$10,000 to the downtown YMCA for construction of a new court.