

League finalists give good show

by PAUL SMITH
Sports reporter

The North Cariboo Senior Soccer League had its ups and downs this year, but the 1983 season ended on a positive note Sunday at Rotary Stadium.

After a clean, closely-fought 60 minutes of entertaining soccer, followed by another 20 minutes of scoreless overtime, the Rheingold Kickers won the league playoff title with a 2-1 victory over City Furniture in a shootout.

The game came to the 10th shot of the shootout, when Bert Houde beat Furniture goalkeeper Herb Chambers for the decisive goal and a 4-3 edge.

"Because the rest of the league was so shoddy this year, we wanted to have a good game," said Kickers' Bill MacIver, who scored Rheingold's only goal of regulation play. "And it was. We would have preferred a good loss to a shoddy win."

"Now we can go drink some beer with those guys (City Furniture) and have a good time."

The game had none of the violence or animosity of the final game of the regular season between Labatt's Pastry Chef and Prince George Croatia.

That game, which would have decided first place, developed into a brawl with eight minutes to play.

As a result, both teams were banned from the playoffs, leaving the door to the playoff title open to either Furniture or the Kickers.

The Kickers, who finished the year in fourth place with a 7-9-2 record, beat Farr Installations 4-0 in the first round, while Furniture, third at 7-6-4 in the regular season, dumped the Portuguese Football Club 2-0 to reach the final.

Both teams had good scoring opportunities early in the game. Kickers' goalkeeper Martin Briggs went down to block a shot on a breakaway on one occasion and teammate Houde knocked a left-footed shot off a cross just over the bar.

Perhaps the best opportunity, however, came when Furniture's Dave Kandola was left alone about four feet in front of Briggs, only to fire it straight at the keeper.

Both teams showed good ball control and buildup, but it was the Kickers who struck first when MacIver, with his second goal of the playoffs, one-timed a bouncing ball past Chambers late in the first half. The Kickers immediately settled into their familiar defensive role and although Furniture held a territorial advantage, the team couldn't get through to Briggs.

But midway through the second half, off a set play, Danny Walls scored when the ball deflected to him alone at the right side and he knocked it into the open net.

Regulation time ended tied 1-1 and neither team could score during two 10-minute periods of overtime.

The crowd of about 100 was on its feet for the shootout. Furniture had missed twice in five tries and Rheingold once in four when Houde stepped to the 12-yard-line for his shot.

He drove it low to the left side to give the Kickers the title.

"We had lots of chances," lamented City Furniture manager Ray Kandola. "But we just couldn't put the ball in the net."

"You can't win if you can't score."

The championship was the first since 1971 for the Kickers. Labatt's has dominated the playoff picture for the past 10 years, winning seven times.



George Pakos (11) heads in the third goal of the game and his first of two in the second half, while Prince George goalie Gaetano Mauro (dark uniform) and teammates try in vain to stop him. Other Prince

George defenders (from left) are Vic Santos, Graham West and Art Renaud.

Citizen photo by Dave Milne

Polarettes surprise

by DAVE PAULSON
Sports reporter

When the second set of B.C. high school girls' volleyball rankings are released Wednesday, the Prince George Polarettes figure to make a jump.

The Polarettes, ranked 10th in the season's first poll two weeks ago, upended the fifth-ranked Smithers Kanatas 13-15, 15-5, 15-5 in the title match at the Polarettes' invitational tournament Saturday night.

After finishing second to Smithers in the round-robin portion of the seven-team tournament, the Polarettes eliminated the D.P. Todd Trojans 15-13, 15-10 in the semi-final. Smithers earned a bye to the championship.

The Polarettes were the only team to beat Smithers more than once during the round-robin, taking the best-of-three 15-12, 13-15, 15-1.

PGSS coach Paul Wodchyc isn't surprised about beating Smithers, but expected a little more difficulty.

"I didn't know how we'd do in the final, but we handled them rather easily."

This was the first tournament of the year for Smithers, which is strapped financially and limiting its travelling.

Todd, which also might make an appearance in the next combined A and AA poll, was third in the round-robin, while the Duchess Park Condorettes were fourth, Columneetza of Williams Lake fifth and Correlieu of Quesnel sixth. Nechako, a Prince George team of recently-graduated players, had its games count only as exhibitions to fill in and lost only to Smithers.

The Polarettes started the round-robin with a 6-15, 15-6, 15-10 'oss to Nechako, then beat Smithers 2-1, swept two straight from Duchess, won two of three against Williams Lake, swept Correlieu and lost two

in a row to Todd.

At another girls' tournament in Mackenzie, the Kelly Road Runners won their first tournament of the year.

Kelly Road topped the six-team tournament the hard way, finishing third after round-robin play behind host Mackenzie and D.P. Todd's strong Grade 10 team.

Mackenzie earned a bye to the final by winning the round-robin, leaving Kelly Road and Todd to battle in the semi-final, which Kelly Road won 15-8, 15-6. Todd had beaten Kelly Road 15-6, 8-15, 15-13 in round-robin play.

In the final, Kelly Road lost the first game 16-14, but stormed back and captured the next two 15-6 and 15-7.

"They're finally starting to play together," sighed Kelly Road's first-year coach Josie Schmid, who starred with her twin sister Doris with Kelly Road's volleyball and basketball teams the past two years.

"I'm especially glad with the way they played in the semi-final and final."

Meanwhile, the Vanderhoof Viqueens, B.C.'s second-ranked girls' team, came close to making the final at a 24-team invitational at UBC in Vancouver.

In round-robin matches, Vanderhoof beat Vernon, Highland of Co-mox and New Westminster, but lost to Mission and dropped another heartbreaker to a Winnipeg team 19-17, 15-13.

If the Viqueens had swept Winnipeg they would have advanced to the final against top-ranked Mount Douglas of Victoria, but instead Winnipeg went to the final and lost, while Vanderhoof went to the game to decide fifth and sixth and lost to Oliver 15-2, 7-15, 12-15.

"We played well against Winnipeg," says Viqueens' coach Reg Veysey, "but we just didn't get the breaks when it counted. Then we weren't really motivated against Oliver."

The Viqueens play host to Prince George girls' teams this weekend, while most area boys' teams are at Kelly Road's invitational.

In the only local boys' action during the weekend, the Duchess Park Condors beat the seventh-ranked Correlieu Clansmen of Quesnel in the final of a five-team playday.

The Condors, ranked sixth in the season's first poll but left off the second top 10 last week, lost the first game to Correlieu 15-7, but rebounded to take the next two 15-10 and 15-8.

D.P. Todd finished third, College Heights was fourth and Kelly Road, missing two of its starters, was fifth.

B.C. CHAMPIONSHIPS

Handball finals here

There's no doubt. The 1984 B.C. closed handball championships will be in Prince George March 9 to 11.

A presentation by Prince George Handball Association secretary-treasurer Jim Feragen at a B.C. Handball Association meeting Friday night in Vancouver secured the tournament for this city.

PGHA president Greg Polis, who says he was verbally promised in January that Prince George would get the event, received a phone call recently indicating the BCHA "was having second thoughts," in Polis' words.

"I hit the roof when I heard that," explains Polis, who missed his plane Friday, subsequently missing the Vancouver meeting.

But Feragen made the presentation and Polis says, "there wasn't any objection."

Polis estimates the championships, in Prince George for the first time, will attract about 100 of the province's top players and organizers will likely have to book court time at Triad Racquet Centre, the Prince George Golf and Curling Club and the YM-YWCA.

"We're looking at the largest handball tournament ever in Prince George," explains Polis. "You'll see the best handball in B.C. here."

The next tournament likely to involve Prince George players is a Bellingham, Wash., event Nov. 25 to 27, although Polis reveals the Prince George closed might be the same weekend.

Winner notched by Edean

Prince George's most celebrated 15-year-old hockey player scored the winning goal for his team in the Western Hockey League Friday night.

Craig Edean, who only last April was leading the Chieftain Autopar Kings to the Western Canadian bantam title, scored the Seattle Breakers' fifth goal in a 6-4 win over the Lethbridge Broncos.

The win marked the first time in three seasons the Breakers have beaten Lethbridge in Seattle.

Saturday in the B.C. Junior Hockey League, former Prince George Spruce King Carlo Calfa scored once for the Vernon Lakers in their 4-3 loss to the Summerland Buckaroos.

Campbell Blair, who played last season with the Toyota Midget Kings, had one goal for the Penticon Knights in their 6-2 BCJHL loss Sunday to the Shuswap Totems, while former Spruce King Al Loring stopped 47 shots to lead the Nanaimo Clippers to an 8-4 win over the Cowichan Valley Capitals. Former Prince George resident Darrel Pederson scored once for Nanaimo.

New owner for Sonics

SEATTLE (AP) — Billboard magnate Barry Ackerley bought the Seattle SuperSonics for \$21 million Friday from Sam Schulman, who had long been at odds with the National Basketball Association hierarchy and other club owners.

The colorful and controversial Schulman, 73, along with Ackerley, 49, and Sonics' general manager Les Habegger, appeared at a news conference in the Kingdom to announce the deal.

The Beverly Hills, Calif., multi-millionaire had been owner of the Sonics since the franchise's inception in 1967. Only Franklin Mieuli, owner of the Golden State Warriors, has owned an NBA team longer than Schulman.

He took a one-third share of the Sonics when the franchise was formed in 1967. The total price for the franchise was \$1.75 million, he said.

The sale requires approval from the NBA governors, plus the board of directors and shareholders on First Northwest Industries Inc., parent company of the Sonics, and the SuperSonics Corp.

SOCCKER EXHIBITION

Olympic side beats locals

by MARK ALLAN
Sports editor

Nobody was surprised and few really disappointed Saturday when the Canadian Olympic soccer team downed a group of Prince George selects 4-0 at Rotary Stadium.

"I'd be very shocked at any local side that's capable of beating a national team," was the post-game comment of Bob Moynes, president of the Prince George Youth Soccer Association, which sponsored the Olympic team's visit.

"The final result was not unexpected but I think our side acquitted itself well," Moynes believes.

Organizers estimated a crowd of 700 took advantage of free tickets to see the game, partially financed by provincial government money through the Road to Olympics program, which makes the Victoria-based Olympic team available for exhibition games and clinics throughout B.C.

Referee Glenn Docherty of Vancouver, who is a linesman for some North American Soccer League games, had an

easy match to call, with both teams sticking to hard but clean soccer. John Connor of the Canadian Professional Soccer League's Edmonton Eagles scored in the 25th minute from a scramble and Ed McNally of the CPSL's Hamilton Steelers converted a nice, high cross with a header in the 33rd minute.

George Pakos of Victoria Athletic beat Prince George goalie Gaetano Mauro in the 70th and 89th minutes, one with a leaping header to the short side and the other with a bullet drive high to the same corner.

Prince George was kept almost exclusively in its own end in the first half, but pushed forward successfully early in the second. Still, goalie Dan Ferguson (Steelers) had to make only one save all game, when Dave Kandola tested him with a low, curling shot.

Mauro made a good sprawling save in the 28th minute, but saved the best for last, making two outstanding saves in the waning moments. The final one, a high, leaping effort to tip the ball over the crossbar was especially noteworthy.

Other Prince George standouts include Mauro's Labatt's Pastry Chef teammate Ed McLaren, who hustled constantly on right wing, and Vic Santos of the Portuguese Football Club, who made numerous hard but clean tackles in the first half.

Prince George coach Jim Briggs, who admits the result "was no surprise," praised Kandola and Art Renaud for adhering to the best of the game plan, which was unfortunately rendered ineffective by the superiority of the visitors.

The Olympic team, which was without expected participants Terry Felix (injured knee) and Paul Nelson, both of the Vancouver Whitecaps, had NASL midfielders Larry Dill of the Montreal Manic and Jim Easton of the Tampa Bay Rowdies.

Head coach Bob Bearpark was in Toronto with the World Cup team, so assistant coach Brian Hughes was the acting head coach.

Hughes, who says the game "went as predicted," explains the team faces the same situation when it plays such an exhibition.

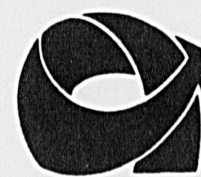
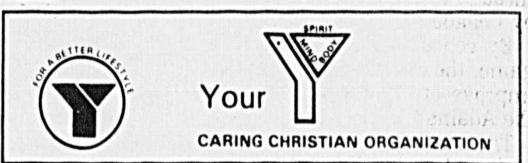
"Whenever we play this type of game they (host selects) always rise to the occasion." Actually, because of a recent decision by the world governing soccer body to permit pros to play in qualifying rounds toward the Olympics, Canada's World Cup team will form the majority of our country's Olympic team for next year's Games in Los Angeles. The team that played here Saturday, substantially the same squad that beat Bermuda 6-0 in Victoria and tied the same team 1-1 in Bermuda last spring in an Olympic qualifying round, won't be well represented in the next round.

Only Pakos, Connor and Ferguson are among the final pool of 22 players announced Thursday by World Cup-Olympic team overseer Tony Waiters to begin the next home-and-home Olympic qualifying series against Mexico Oct. 23 in Victoria.

"It was a bit of a disappointment Thursday," understates Hughes, who was nevertheless proud of his players for coming to Prince George and putting on a good show.

"It was a credit to them. What they're trying to do is show Tony Waiters he made a mistake in his selection — and the only way they can do that is by playing well.

"That's pride...they're wearing a Canadian shirt and not many people have a chance to wear a Canadian shirt."



ALI-CRAFT BOATS LTD.
215 1st Ave., Prince George, B.C.

MANUFACTURERS OF HIGH QUALITY ALUMINUM BOATS

Introduces a new model for 1984

FEATURING:

- 18 ft. long — 6 ft. 10 in. max. beam
- 170 H.P. Mercruiser with heat exchanger and oil cooler — silencer plus 2 stage Hamilton Jet.
- Twin gas tanks
- Full instrumentation and controls.
- 3½ gals. per hour fuel consumption
- Cruise speed 30 M.P.H. at 3000 R.P.M. 43 M.P.H. at 4200 R.P.M.
- Full length seats (double as sleepers) with storage underneath
- Two piece convertible top.

This model has been designed for the boater who wants big boat performance but small boat economy.

Available as complete turn-key boat on a trailer ready for the water.

- In kitset form and assemble yourself
- Bare hull and supply and install your own engine etc.
- Horsepower range — 130-140 h.p.

Plus we have other models available ex factory

- 20 ft.-22 ft.-24 ft. — either medium vee Jet Boats or deep vee for O/Board or I.O. units
- 18 ft. heavy duty O/Board fishing boat
- 18 ft.-20 ft. Sled for O/Board Jet
- 17 ft.-19 ft. Ski boats

We also have a fully experienced staff and can service or repair your existing boat.

Jet boat owners we can service your jet — new bearings and seals.

Build up and sharpen impellers and wear rings — either Hamilton — Jacuzzi or Berkeley (Take advantage of 25 years experience with all types of Jet Boats)

Drop in or phone our factory and discuss your requirements or problems and maybe we can add your name to our growing list of satisfied customers.



ALI-CRAFT BOATS LTD.
PRINCE GEORGE, B.C.

215 - 1st Ave. 563-3406 Bus. 562-7104 After Hours

2 ONLY!
1983 G.M.C. 1/2 TON 4x4 PICK UPS
No. 3539 and 3595

We are clearing out these two units at **SPECIAL PRICES!!!**

No. 3539 / TK10903	No. 3595 / TK 10703
• 250 cu.in. 6 cyl.	• Tinted glass
• 4 speed trans.	• 250 cu. in. 6 cyl.
• Aux. fuel tank	• 4 speed trans.
• Radio & gauges	• Aux. tank
• Posttraction	• Rally wheels
• Cold climate package	• Radio and gauges
• Plus other options	• Plus other options
List Price \$14,800	List Price \$13,989
SPECIAL DISCOUNT \$2,620	SPECIAL DISCOUNT \$2,379
YOUR PRICE \$12,280	YOUR PRICE \$11,613

GM BUILDING ON 75 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Schultz Pontiac Buick Ltd.
1111 Central 563-0271
DL 5656