

SPORTS



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Mike Johnson: A native of Edmonton, Expos rookie pitcher Mike Johnson allowed just two hits to the St. Louis Cardinals and also chipped in with an infield hit. **PAGE 14.**



COVER STORY

McQuick shoots down Deloitte

by BRIAN DREWRY
Citizen Staff

Championships are always great but they're even sweeter when they're built from the ground up.

Just ask the McQuick Shooters.

The Shooters put the finishing touches on an outhouse-to-penthouse story Thursday night by defeating defending champion Deloitte and Touche 4-2 to take their first Prince George Women's Soccer Association Competitive Division championship.

"It's been a long time coming that's for sure," said McQuick coach Orlando Mauro, whose club also finished atop the regular season standings.

"These girls really wanted it tonight because they have been on the losing side of things for quite a while."

The Shooters didn't even let a first-minute goal by Deloitte and Touche forward Leslie Dyck spoil their day as they took the game to Deloitte for the entire first half getting goals from Ilana Young, Lori Faltenhine and Janice Kozak.

Faltenhine came all the way up from her unfamiliar role as sweeper to convert a penalty kick, something she's more used to doing.

"It was a little strange back there for me but I think I did all right," said Faltenhine, the teams top forward who was filling in for some absent teammates.

"And anytime you can beat Deloitte it's always special because they're the defending champs."

Faltenhine and the rest of the Shooters back four didn't have a lot of work, thanks mainly to their teammates in the midfield who controlled most of the game. Teammates like newcomer Kari Daly, a former Langara College player.

"She just joined us this year after moving up from Vancouver and she makes a world of difference out there," added Mauro.

The Shooters made it 4-1 just 10 minutes into the match when Kozak potted her second of the game off a close-in rebound. Dyck put Deloitte within two with 10 minutes left but that's as close as they could get.

"They have been the top team all year and tonight they showed why," said Deloitte coach John Paterson, whose club finished third in the regular season.

"They played really well and so did our girls but they just have a bit more talent than we do."

The Recreation Division final started out as a romp but ended with a bang as Ave Maria blew a 3-0 half-time lead to Northern Tile before bouncing back to win 4-3 in the penalty shootout.

After a scoreless 10-minute overtime the two teams went into the shootout and still couldn't decide anything after the first five shooters.

But when Ave Maria keeper Anita Sexton robbed Tracy Storey, Northern Tile's seventh shooter, the celebration was on.



Citizen photo by Dave Milne

Ave Maria goalkeeper Anita Sexton is carried from the field by coach Terry Wilson, right, and opposing team coach Dave Polano after injuring her ankle. The injury occurred while stopping the deciding shot in the women's Recreational Division soccer final Thursday night.

Caps' opponent finally known

by JIM SWANSON
Citizen Staff

Two's company, three's a crowd. The Prince George Cap-Abilities Oldstylers will face one foe, and not two, in their bid to become the provincial senior B lacrosse champions.

As of Thursday afternoon, Prince George Senior Lacrosse Association Commissioner Glen (Moose) Scott was still unsure if he was preparing for a two-team affair or a round-robin tournament featuring Cap-Abilities, Burnaby and Ladner.

Hours of long distance calls later, the Burnaby Lakers will be making the trek north for games Saturday and Sunday at Kin 1; Ladner, hosts of the upcoming President's Cup, will stay home.

The main issue was the cost of travel for Ladner, an automatic entrant into the national tournament as host. On Wednesday night, Ladner downed the Lakers 10-3 in the seventh and deciding game of the West Coast Lacrosse Association final.

It also hatched a controversy as to whether Ladner or Burnaby - or both - should show up in the Spruce City this weekend.

"It's a great compromise, and it will be good for the people of Prince George to see top-level competition again," said Hugh Tait, chairman of the B.C. Lacrosse Association.

Caps and Burnaby will meet Saturday night at 7 p.m., with the second game of the two-game, total-goal series slated for Sunday at 1 p.m. Both games will be played at Kin 1.

"What we don't have up here is the politics they have in Vancouver, and I'm glad for that," said Scott, lamenting the last-hour decision.

"Sometimes it's like the Hatfields and McCoys - they hate each other. The worst thing is that it's played on the players' minds, but hopefully they've been able to concentrate on practising this week."

A strong rivalry has existed between Caps and Burnaby since the Lakers won a tight game during the 1995 President's Cup, hosted by Prince George. The winner of this weekend's series will earn the provincial seed in Ladner, August 28-September 1.

Not since 1974 has a Prince George-based entry taken the provincial senior lacrosse crown. That team was coached by current Caps bench boss Tony Ciolfitto.

CFL

Lions like idea of dome playoff

by MURRAY RAUW
Calgary Herald

VANCOUVER — It's time for the B.C. Lions to start thinking about coming in from the cold.

The Lions have not played host to a Western Division playoff game under their cozy dome since 1986.

Excluding the 1995 Grey Cup team, fullback Sean Millington has never played in a playoff game other than in Alberta.

"It would be nice to have a playoff game here instead of going out there and freezing your butt off," Millington said Thursday. That may just happen this season.

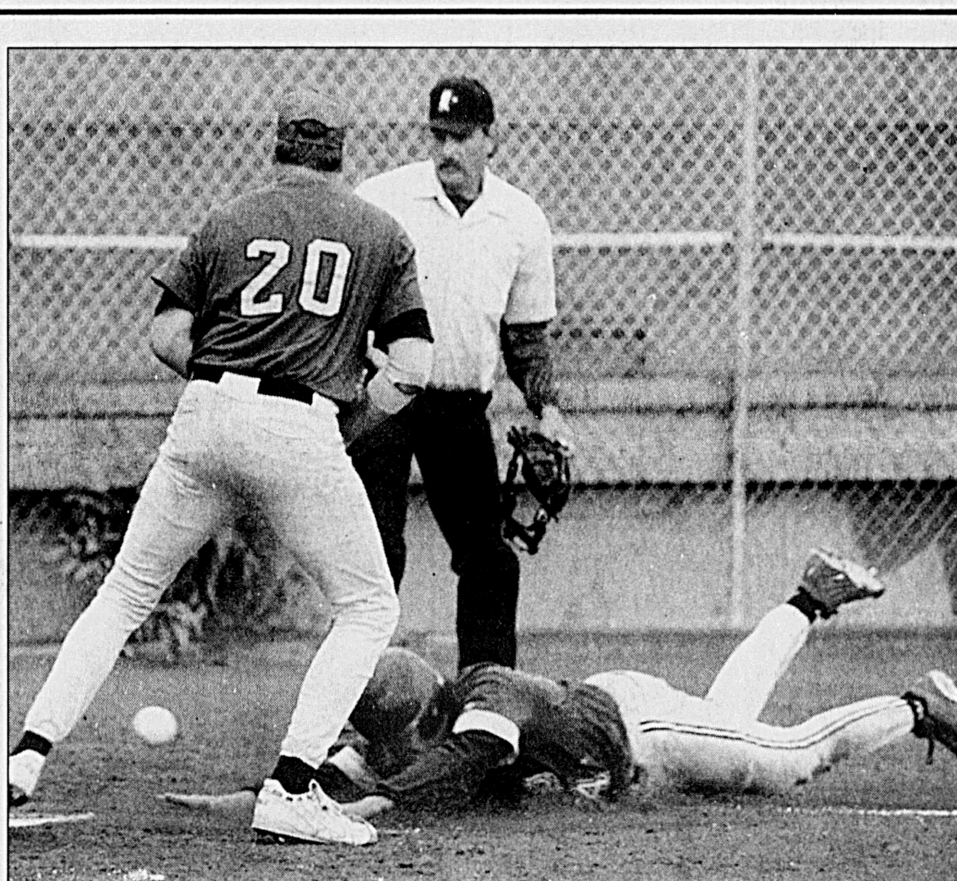
The Lions are off to a 5-3 start as the Canadian Football League season reaches the midway pole tonight when they meet the Calgary Stampeders (4-4) at B.C. Place Stadium.

Millington noted the Western race is no longer restricted to Edmonton and Calgary.

"This is a first-place game for us," he said. "We're shooting for the end of the season where we can host a playoff game. This one figures into that in a big way because if we win this one, we've won the season series against Calgary."

Both clubs hope to turn their running backs loose tonight, looking for them to duplicate their stellar performances from last week. Millington ran for a club-record 212 yards in a 39-26 win over Saskatchewan. The Stampeders will answer with Kelvin Anderson, who rushed for 127 yards in a 35-24 victory in Winnipeg.

"Perhaps I'm biased, but I feel it's classic football theory to run the ball," said Millington, the top pick in the 1990 CFL draft from Simon Fraser University. "You run the ball until it's stopped, then you pass until they back off."



Citizen photo by Dave Milne

LUMBER KINGS THREEPEAT. Baserunner Evan Potskin of Prince George Lumber Kings came home past Coaches Corner hurler Dan Carr (20) with one of nine runs as the Kings wrapped up their third straight Spruce City Men's Fastball Association title Thursday, 9-1 at Spruce City Stadium. Lance Potskin's third-inning triple triggered a four-run inning for the Lumber Kings. Chad Ghostkeeper added a home run in the sixth. The Kings swept the best-of-three final series 2-0.

Friends turn rivals on Canada Games range

CANADA GAMES

BRANDON, Man. (CP) — It was tough draw for Prince George at the Canada Summer Games archery competition Thursday.

Locals Cory Vandal and Kurt Johnson drew each other in opening round action in the compound unlimited event but they put on a great battle. Vandal edged Johnson 161-160 to advance to the medal round.

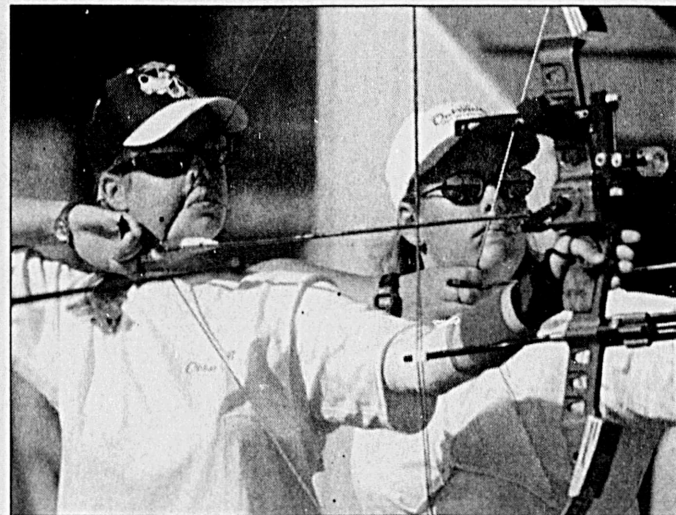
Johnson's luck wasn't any better in the team event as his Team B.C. squad was beaten eliminated by Manitoba in the opening round.

In other Canada games action, David Steffler pitched a no-hitter as Ontario blanked Manitoba 3-0 Thursday to advance to the Canada Games baseball championship Saturday against Quebec.

Centre-fielder Shawn Pearson went 2-for-3 and scored two runs while shortstop Kevin Kim also went 2-for-3 with a double and a single.

Quebec won its semifinal 4-3 over Alberta, rallying from 2-0 and 3-2 deficits to take the lead for good in the fifth.

Patrick Deschenes pitched six



CP photo

Ontario's Dawn Small, left, and Rachel Savage aim at the target Thursday to win the gold medal in the women's archery team competition at the Canada Games in Brandon, Manitoba.

innings, giving up three runs on five hits. Phillip Devey got the save, striking two.

In other baseball action, New Brunswick pinch-hitter Troy Godfrey tripled home Heath Stewart to spark a three-run fourth that gave New Brunswick the lead for good in a 6-4 win over Saskatchewan for fifth place.

Matt Mason went 3-for-4 and B.C. erupted for three runs in the sixth for a 5-4 come-from-behind win over Nova Scotia and seventh place.

Desi Doyle hit a three-run homer and Charlie Somers drove in four runs to lead P.E.I. to a 10-1 rout over Newfoundland for ninth place.

TWO MINUTE DRILL

SKATING

Spruce City skaters off to strong start

Citizen Staff

It's still summer but local figure skaters have begun to hit the ice.

The Spruce City Skating Club was at Burnaby Eight Rinks Aug. 16-18 for its inaugural event of the season, the B.C. Summer Skate, and several got off to fast starts.

On the competitive side, Aaron Wall and Rebecca Pousette teamed up to finish first in the juvenile dance competition and Stephanie Postmus took first place in the preliminary ladies event.

Taking home silvers in the competitive stream were Kyle Postmus in juvenile mens, Katie Van Burren and Jason Goldsmith in juvenile pairs and Jennifer Fening and Daniel Blanchard in preliminary pairs.

In the non-competitive stream, Wall finished first in the junior silver men's event and Pousette won the bronze ladies artistic competition.

Finishing second in the non-competitive stream were Megan Swan in the senior bronze ladies, Daniel Pousette in the junior bronze men and Jennifer Goldsmith in the junior silver ladies.

GAMES

Volleyball gold in view for B.C.

Citizen Staff

Two Prince George volleyball players are working on gold medals at the Canada Games.

With a 3-1 victory over Ontario, Jay-Anna Major Team B.C. have advanced to meet Saskatchewan in the final at 3 p.m.

On the men's side, Kelly Road grad Rob McGuire and Team B.C. moved through to the semifinals with a 3-2 decision over Manitoba. B.C. now faces Quebec in one semifinal, with the final set for 5 p.m. this evening.

GOLF

Aspen leads golf challenge

Citizen Staff

Aspen Grove Golf Club got the better of their Prince George Golf and Curling Club opponents Thursday at the Bank of Hong Kong Cup Challenge at Aspen Grove.

Aspen, the defending champions, leads the team event 5 1/2 points to 1/2 point.

In the team competition, two members of each club compete head to head for a round of 18 holes. Whichever team wins the round is awarded one half-point. Each hole is scored based on the two-person, best-ball system.

The tournament concludes today at the PGGCC.

TELEVISION

CANADA GAMES: Athletics and baseball finals at 10 a.m. on TSN (cable 16), wrap-up at 4 p.m.

FOOTBALL: CFL - Calgary Stampeders at B.C. Lions at 7:30 p.m. on TSN (cable 16); NFL pre-season - Seattle Seahawks at Cincinnati Bengals at 4:30 p.m. on NBC (cable 6).

BASEBALL: Toronto Blue Jays at Kansas City Royals at 5 p.m. on CBC (channel 2, cable 3).

GOLF: NEC World Series of Golf first round at 7 a.m. and second round (taped) at 5 p.m. on TSN (cable 16).

SCORECARD

BASEBALL

American League

Chicago 6 Toronto 3
Oakland 13 Boston 6
Detroit 2 Milwaukee 1 (12 inn.)
Baltimore 4 Kansas City 3
New York 4 Anaheim 3 (12)
Seattle 7 Cleveland 6

National League

Montreal 3 St. Louis 2
Los Angeles 4-1 at N.Y. Mets 3-3
San Diego 9 Pittsburgh 4
Houston 10 Colorado 4

FOOTBALL

CFL

Toronto 27 Saskatchewan 1
Edmonton 28 Hamilton 24