



A Royal spot

Times photo by GORM LARSEN

Royal York Royals goaltender Dave Thompson attempts to smother the puck before Dixie Beehives Gerry Cantarutti (10) and Tony Ranucci (17) can put it in the net in a Provincial Junior A hockey game Friday at Dixie arena. The Royals defeated the Beehives 8-5.

Beehives call on relief coach

By PAUL WILLIAMS
There's a line going around Dixie Arena Gardens that if you see Howard Pallett, president of the Dixie Beehives, approaching, watch out because he may hire you as coach.

Vern Jackson, veteran Dixie hockey executive, spent a week in the South recently and forgot the saying, Pallett collared Jackson Sunday morning as soon as he returned from his holiday and by 7:15 that night Jackson was behind the bench of the Beehives.

Despite the presence of Jackson, the Beehives lost their third game of the week 6-4 to Wexford Raiders. Friday at Dixie arena they lost 8-6 to the Royal York Royals and North Bay Trappers demolished the Bees 14-4 in North Bay Thursday.

With 13 games left in the season and only two wins and four ties the Beehives are in danger of eclipsing last year's dismal record. The 1975-76 Bees won six games and tied four in 13 Provincial Junior A contests.

Baseball has relief pitching and thanks to Pallett and the Beehives hockey now has relief coaching.

Jackson relieved Bill McNicol after McNicol had served behind the Bees' bench for 13 games. McNicol took

over from Pat Grace after Grace stepped down after 17 games.

This is Jackson's second appearance as a relief coach. Last year he was brought in from the bullpen and appointed interim coach after Gerry Inglis decided he couldn't stand losing any longer and resigned after 17 games.

McNicol was unable to man the bench Sunday as he was involved in a coaching clinic. Pallett used the opportunity to change coaches and said after the game that Jackson will probably finish the season as coach. "It is not fair to the players to keep on changing coaches," said Pallett.

Jackson didn't see the

change as all that important. "We have been helping each other out all along anyway," explained Jackson. "We know each others plays so there won't be much of a change for the players."

McNicol will go back into the bullpen and probably will be available if Jackson needs relieving.

On the ice, Dixie was eight minutes from earning a tie with Wexford Sunday. Bill Koitsis who scored in all three Beehive contests this week, broke in on Raider goalie Dan Albin only to shoot the puck over the net. Fortunately for the Bees the puck took a funny bounce and came out in front of the Raider net. Mike Fitzgerald shovelled the puck

into the goal to tie the game.

Elation was short lived as the Raiders scored twice to win their 15th of the season.

Defending Provincial Junior A champions North Bay Trappers play the Bees Friday at Dixie arena. "In their own rink they could beat half the Major Junior A clubs," says Pallett. On enemy ice they are something else. Even the Beehives beat them the last time they were in Mississauga. However they are still good enough to threaten for first place in the league.

NOTES: Tim Adams, Grant Hansen, Fitzgerald and Koitsis scored against Wexford. Jeff Bacon, Mike Donnelly, Tony Ranucci, Fitzgerald,

Adams and Koitsis scored against Royal York. Mike Martin scored twice in North Bay.

Defenceman Tim Adams was the only Beehive picked to the western all-star team.

Wowchuk has bird in hand

There's only one reason why Dave Wowchuk didn't win four titles at the Toronto and District Under 16 Junior Badminton Championships Sunday in Toronto. The reason was that there were only three titles he could have won.

The 14-year-old Gordon Graydon student won all three events he entered in representing the Boulevard Club at the tournament.

Wowchuk defeated fellow club member Chris Harris 15-12, 15-8 to win the singles championship. He had earlier

beaten another Boulevard Club member, Al Cooper, 15-7, 17-18, 15-6 in the semi-final.

Wowchuk then teamed with Harris to defeat Erindale Junior Badminton Club members Robert Athey and Joylon LamWatt 15-10, 12-15, 18-15 in the doubles final.

Wowchuk took his third championship of the day in the mixed doubles as he and Martha McIntosh of the Grange Club teamed up to beat Boulevard Club members Al Cooper and Lorraine Fitzpatrick 15-8, 15-12.

Athey didn't win any titles in the tournament but fared quite well.

In the singles competition he advanced to the semi-finals before losing 15-12, 15-8 to Harris.

He and LamWatt won the semi-finals of the boys' doubles competition by defeating Mike Harrison of the Applewood Junior Badminton Club and Dwight Yhap of Agincourt 9-15, 15-12, 18-17.

Rogers misses Europe

Dan Rogers received a free trip to Montreal on the weekend but was disappointed he couldn't go further east.

The 17-year-old Mississauga swimmer managed a second, two thirds, a fourth and a sixth in individual events at the Pointe Claire pool but wasn't

happy with his performance. The main reason for his discontent was that his swimming didn't qualify him for the Canadian team that will travel to Europe in February.

"I went there to try to make the team," Rogers said. "I think if I'd won the 200 backstroke I probably would

have made it. The guy who beat me made it because of that."

Rogers, brother of Canadian Olympic team member Bruce Rogers, missed first place in the 200 metres backstroke by one second with a time of 2:14.2.

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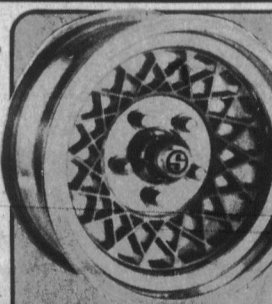
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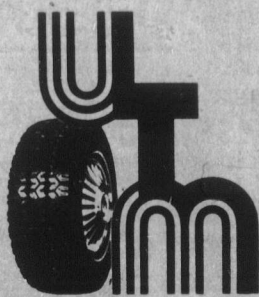
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