

PROVINCE

Teams on Edge for Allan Cup Tilt Tonight

Fort William Writer Tells of "Fine Points" of "Thundering Herd"—Five Forwards of Equal Calibre—Young and Speedy—Tuckwell, Defense Man, to Be Brought West for Finals.

By F. W. EDWARDS
(Sporting Editor Fort William Daily Times-Journal)

WHEN Fort William's "Thundering Herd" steps out on the ice against the Trail "Smoke Eaters" tonight in the first of their two-game elimination series in the finals of the Western Canada Allan Cup playdowns, Vancouver fans are in for a rare tit bit.

While the British Columbians are reputed to have a team of exceptional merit, they do not want to underestimate for a minute the qualities of the boys that have travelled from the heart of Canada to be their opponents.

For a click of fighters and for consistency in both aggressive and defensive playing, the "Thundering Herd" fully live up to the name prairie scribes have wished upon them.

They are not fully intact, Harry Tuckwell, one of their crack defensemen, having been left at home. Tuckwell is a mountain of strength physically as well as aggressively and it is probable that he will join the team later—if they are successful in downing Trail.

From observations of the "Smoke-eating" tribe and from what is to be gathered on the streets, the British Columbia champs are an aggregation to be taken seriously.

Hod James, former secretary of the Thunder Bay Senior Amateur Hockey Association, now of Vancouver and perhaps one of the most versed hockey critics in Canada, who has followed the progress of both teams daily through the columns of the Daily Province, is of the opinion that Captain Bobby Davis and his boys from Thunder Bay will cop the series, but further believes that they will have their work cut out to do so.

Considering that the "Thundering Herd" have passed such famous sextettes as Port Arthur and Winnipeg, there is every reason for Pacific Coast dopesters to puzzle their heads over the prospects of their favorites in the forthcoming series.

It will be a rattling fine series no matter which team is successful, if local newspaper talk and street propaganda is any criterion. In practice yesterday the Forts revealed themselves in fine shape and impressed rail-birds with the fact that they are a hard nut to crack. Something of the Fort players may be of interest to readers. The defense is comprised of not only a trio of careful and astute defenders, but also the oldest members of the team, both in years and experience.

Harry Fraser, twice an Allan Cup finalist, and Bob Davis, a veteran of the first war, are the defense men. Fraser is a speed merchant and a wicked shot, while Davis applies himself to any situation that may arise as capable as any man in the game. "Silent" Fred Kearney, the goal tender, has risen from the ranks over night and proved himself a sterling puck-blocker. He lacks nothing. His tongue is silent but his eyes are always alert and daring is a strong suit with him.

Of the forwards there are few teams in Canada can boast a more uniform quintette. Anyone of them may be considered dynamite. "They know their onions" and they possess the necessary qualifications that go with it. Frank Hacquoil is the daddy of the front line. He is the oldest of the lot, but as young and active in his play as the rest. The beauty of his performing is that he never knows the meaning of the work quit and he acts like a fresh tonic whenever he is out. He is a cold reserve and dangerous from the drop of the puck.

Eric Pettinger, the boy who left a prairie home to live at the head of the lakes, is another hard man to get along with from an opposition point of view. "The Cowboy," as he is called, is a tower of strength at centre ice and he is as pretty as a picture to watch in action. He is another boy to mark and mark well.

Jimmy Ward, "Curley-locks," right winger, is still another of the attackers that has done a lot toward winning for his club the name of the "Thundering Herd." Born in Fort William and brought up in Kenora, Jimmy is a lad that will command a great deal of respect from the British Columbians before the series is over. He fears nothing and splits a board with his shot.

Also on the firing squad of the Fort Williams is a native born British Columbia, one Donald McLeod, a sharp-shooter and goal-getter of last year's Fort William Junior Champs. Donald, called "Porky" for short, is a heavy set boy and a lovely stick-handler.

Last, but not least, is Tommy Cook, the midget of the team and part of the Thunder. Small but nifty catches Tommy just right. He plays centre forward and plays it as few can.

In summing up the exploits of the Fort William club this winter, one need only look at their record against the Port Arthur Allan Cup holders to know that they are a team to command a great deal of respect. In nine games in which they engaged the Port Arthurs this season the Forts won seven, taking their last four in succession and winning both the league and district championship. The Forts were weak this season and Fort William strong in relief players. When a man is relieved on the blue and white squad another takes his place with every bit as much punch and stamina as the one that went off.

Bobby Genge will be in charge of tonight's contest.

The teams with their positions and numbers will be as follows:

Fort William	Position	Trail
1 Kearney	Goal	9 Jackson
2 Davis	Defense	8 Anderson
3 Fraser	Defense	7 Reddick
7 Ward	Right Wing	10 Hanson
8 Pettinger	Centre	5 Kendall
9 McLeod	Left Wing	3 Wheatley
6 Hacquoil	Substitute	6 Lauriente
5 Cook	Substitute	4 Gustason

