

SPORTS IN BRIEF

VALOUR FC MANAGES DRAW WITH CAVALRY FC

VALOUR FC and Cavalry FC played to a 0-0 draw in Canadian Premier League action Tuesday night at IG Field. Cavalry had a slight edge in play with 52.9 per cent possession to Valour's 47.1 per cent. Jonathan Sirois earned the clean sheet for Valour stopping seven shots while his Cavalry counterpart Marco Carducci stopped the three shots he faced. Yellow cards were issued to Valour's Jared Ulloa and Brett Levis and Cavalry's David Norman Jr.

KANE MAY HAVE USED FAKE VAX CARD

SAN JOSE, Calif. — An NHL investigation into Sharks forward Evander Kane about whether he may have violated the league's COVID-19 protocol revolves around the alleged use of a fake vaccination card, according to a new report.

Kane is facing two investigations, with one, according to an NHL news release that was posted to the league's website on Sept. 22, involving "allegations of inappropriate behaviour potentially jeopardizing the health and safety of Club members." The other "involves serious accusations" related to his past behaviour in his marriage.

Front Office Sports first reported details of the league's investigation into the possible COVID-19 protocol violation. A Sharks spokesman declined to comment.

In an email to this news organization, NHL Deputy Commissioner Bill Daly said in general, each team is responsible for managing information about each player's vaccination status. Daly also said there remains no timetable for the league's investigations to be completed.

Making or buying a fake COVID-19 vaccination record card is against U.S. law. The FBI in March issued a statement that said, "the unauthorized use of an official government agency's seal (such as HHS or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)) is a crime, and may be punishable under Title 18 United States Code, Section 1017, and other applicable laws."

CANADA 2 MEN SHORT FOR MEXICO MATCH

CANADA will be without forward Junior Hoilett and midfielder David Wotherspoon for Thursday's CONCACAF World Cup qualifying game in Mexico.

The two British-based players — Hoilett is with England's Reading while Wotherspoon plays for Scotland's St. Johnstone — will instead join Canada in Jamaica for Sunday's match against the Reggae Boyz.

Canada Soccer says the two are skipping the Mexico game because of the quarantine requirements following a visit to the country by British residents.

There is also a question-mark over the availability of veteran goalkeeper Milan Borjan, who is recovering from COVID, according to his Red Star Belgrade club. Maxime Crepeau of the Vancouver Whitecaps and James Pantemis of CF Montreal are the other keepers on the Canadian roster.

The 51st-ranked Canadian men play No. 9 Mexico at Mexico's City's historic Azteca Stadium on Thursday before heading to Kingston to play No. 59 Jamaica on Sunday. Canada then returns home to host No. 68 Panama on Wednesday at Toronto's BMO Field.

Mexico (2-0-1) currently leads the eight-team final round of CONCACAF qualifying. Canada (1-0-2) is second on goal difference, tied on points with the U.S. and Panama.

Jamaica is last in the so-called Octagonal at 0-2-1.

KOEPKA, DECHAMBEAU GOING HEAD-TO-HEAD

BROOKS Koepka and Bryson DeChambeau will finally get their match, even if it's just 12 holes.

After butting heads in a dispute driven largely on social media for the better part of two years, Koepka and DeChambeau will face each other in the latest edition of "Capital One's The Match" the day after Thanksgiving at Wynn Golf Course on the Las Vegas Strip.

The Nov. 26 exhibition will be shown on TNT and give everyone plenty of time to relive their back-and-forth that began at Liberty National in August 2019 and appeared to cool when they were teammates on the winning U.S. team at the Ryder Cup.

DeChambeau hinted at "something fun coming up here" during his news conference at the Ryder Cup. Koepka was asked about it two days later at his news conference and said: "I have no idea. I didn't listen to the comment or hear what he said."

Both will have open mics during the 12-hole match.

Koepka and DeChambeau have been paired together only four times on the PGA Tour, most recently in 2019 for the opening two rounds of the Arnold Palmer Invitational at Bay Hill. The other occasions were the third round of the Tour Championship in 2018 and the final round of the 2016 Masters, when DeChambeau was an amateur.

— staff, the news services



AMC grand chief Arlen Dumas (centre) with Mike Miller, Jake Thomas, Jackson Jeffcoat and Stanley Bryant (from left) at IG Field for the unveiling of the Bombers orange jerseys. The Bombers and Edmonton Elks will wear orange jerseys during pre-game warmups Friday.

'A healing light for us to move forward,' says AMC Grand Chief

Orange jerseys raise awareness

TAYLOR ALLEN

THE Blue and Gold will be in orange this week.

The Winnipeg Blue Bombers and the visiting Edmonton Elks will wear orange jerseys during pre-game warmup on Friday night at IG Field to recognize Orange Shirt Day.

It's the first time this has been done in the CFL and fans will be able to own a part of history as the jerseys will be auctioned off online after the game. Proceeds will go to each team's charity of choice. The Bombers chose the Winnipeg Aboriginal Sport Achievement Centre and the Elks selected Spirit North.

The uniforms were unveiled at a news conference at IG Field Tuesday as Bombers fullback Mike Miller, left

tackle Stanley Bryant, defensive end Jackson Jeffcoat, and defensive tackle Jake Thomas modelled the new look.

Grand Chief Arlen Dumas of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC), Assembly of First Nations Regional Chief Cindy Woodhouse, Grand Chief Jerry Daniels from Southern Chiefs Organization, Blue Bombers president and CEO Wade Miller, and Exchange Income Corporation (EIC) president Carmele Peter were in attendance and spoke at the event.

"When the 215 unmarked graves were discovered and the country started reeling and the communities were again reinvigorating the trauma of residential schools and that shameful history, at the time, our colleagues on the provincial government were floundering and didn't know whether or not it'd be appropriate to lower flags and had no idea how they should move forward," Dumas said.

"But I got a very significant call from Wade in acknowledgement of that day in asking: 'What meaningful steps can be taken to address this history that affects so many of us?' And here we are today, acknowledging the history of residential schools, memorializing the 6,500-plus unmarked graves that we've found, and finding a guiding light and a healing light for us to move forward."

Starting in 2017, the Bombers and EIC have been bringing members of Indigenous communities throughout Manitoba to games at IG Field. It started with 40, but this Friday's game will see 1,000 members — from all over Manitoba, as well as parts of Northern Ontario and Nunavut — coming to the game. EIC is covering the cost of flights, transportation and hotels for everyone in the program. They're also providing the members with orange hoodies to wear on game day.

"It's truly impactful to see a child's

face light up because they're seeing a professional football player for the first time, or they walk into the stadium in awe because they've never been anywhere like it, or they're staying in a hotel for the first time, it's truly, truly impactful," said Peter.

"So, when we had the opportunity to partner with AMC and the Bombers to make the events of Friday a reality, we jumped in with both feet."

The Bombers and AMC discussed some ideas on how they could work together to raise awareness and settled on wearing orange uniforms in the pre-game warmup. The Bombers contacted the CFL's jersey manufacturer, New Era, and they were able to get them designed and made on short notice.

"It's the right thing to do and we've got that ability to do it," Miller said.

taylor.allen@freepress.mb.ca
Twitter: @TaylorAllen31

Element of surprise no longer in play for Redblacks QB

DAN RALPH

CALEB Evans won't have the element of surprise tonight when the Ottawa Redblacks visit the Toronto Argonauts.

The 23-year-old rookie quarterback was 15-of-22 passing for 191 yards and three touchdowns while also rushing for 59 yards in leading Ottawa to a 34-24 win over the Edmonton Elks in his CFL debut last week. He'll make a second straight start when the Redblacks (2-5) face Toronto (4-3) at BMO Field.

Chris Jones, Toronto's new defensive consultant, will have had the benefit of game film to from the win over Edmonton to help in his preparation, not to mention time as the Argos are coming off the bye week. Jones has a well-earned reputation of being a defensive guru over his time in Canada as a head coach, defensive co-ordinator or position coach.

"He (Jones) has always given quarterbacks fits each week," Toronto head coach Ryan Dinwiddie said. "He (Evans) can create plays with his legs, which you've got to be able to do at this level especially in this league... he can throw it too."

"We've got to disguise some looks... where he thinks a certain coverage is there and we roll into something different."

With veterans Matt Nichols (shoulder) and Dominique Davis (hamstring) both ailing, Ottawa head coach Paul LaPolice had to choose between Evans and fellow rookie Taryn Christian as his starter against Edmonton. He opted for Evans because he felt the former

Louisiana-Monroe star performed better during training camp.

Christian will again serve as Evans' backup.

With CFL teams not playing any exhibition games this year, Evans was an unknown commodity when he took to the field against Edmonton. However, Toronto will have more than Evans to deal with as speedy DeVonte Dedmon has registered punt-return TDs in the Redblacks' last two contests.

Veteran McLeod Bethel-Thompson will make a second straight start for Toronto, which is unbeaten at home (3-0). Bethel-Thompson completed 13-of-19 passes for 210 yards and two TDs in the Argos' 30-27 win over Montreal on Sept. 24.

Montreal did roll up over 550 yards offensively, including 178 yards rushing. But Toronto's defence forced three turnovers (two interceptions, one fumble recover), and the Argos were flagged just five times for 45 yards while the Alouettes took 11 penalties for 129 yards.

Pick: Toronto.

Edmonton Elks vs. Winnipeg Blue Bombers (Friday night)

At Winnipeg, Trevor Harris has come off the six-game injured list (neck) and is expected to start for Edmonton (2-5). The bad news for the Elks — who've lost two straight — is their offence will face a defence that's allowing a league-low 13.4 offensive points per game. What's more, the Blue Bombers (7-1) have won four straight and are unbeaten both at home (4-0)



Ottawa Redblacks QB Caleb Evans was victorious in his first CFL start.

and within the West Division (4-0). And the defending Grey Cup champions are a whopping plus-14 in turnover ratio while the Elks are a league-worst minus-13.

Pick: Winnipeg.

Calgary Stampeders vs. Saskatchewan Roughriders (Saturday night)

At Regina, it's the second of three meetings this year between the two West Division rivals. Calgary (3-5) claimed a 23-17 home victory Saturday with veteran Bo Levi Mitchell throwing two TD strikes. Cody Fajardo threw for 269 yards but had no touchdowns and an interception. However, the Riders (5-3) are a solid 4-1 at home

while the Stampeders are 1-2 on the road. New Riders receiver D'haquille (Duke) Williams won't play as he's completing his COVID-19 quarantine.

Pick: Saskatchewan.

Ottawa Redblacks vs. Montreal Alouettes (Monday afternoon)

At Montreal, the Alouettes (3-4) look to register a second straight win following their come-from-behind 23-20 overtime decision in Hamilton on Saturday. The squad showed resiliency in rallying from a 17-3 fourth-quarter deficit. Canadian linebacker Chris Ackie was big with a fumble recovery and key sack defensively. And another huge benefit for the home team is, unlike Ottawa, it won't be playing for the second time in a five-day span.

Pick: Montreal.

Toronto Argonauts versus Hamilton Tiger-Cats (Monday afternoon)

At Hamilton, the Ticats (4-4) look to resume their winning ways at Tim Hortons Field after having their 11-game win streak there halted by Montreal. Jeremiah Masoli was 23-of-33 passing for 223 yards in his first start for the Ticats since suffering a rib injury in a 30-8 loss to Saskatchewan on Aug. 14. Fatigue shouldn't be as big a factor for the home team as it might be with Toronto, which will be playing for the second time in five days.

Pick: Hamilton.

Last week: 1-3.

Overall: 14-20.

— The Canadian Press