

Here's some of what
you missed

if you didn't read
The Brandon Sun last week...



Rodeo fun moves indoors in Virden

VIRDEN — Folks here donned their cowboy hats, pulled on their boots and had a great time this week at the town's annual rodeo.

Virden Indoor Rodeo and Wild West Daze began with a bang as hundreds turned out at the Virden Community Recreation Centre for the first night of rodeo competition Friday evening.

"We had a full house," rodeo committee member, Kelly Lyng, said yesterday. "I expect we'll see the same kind of numbers for tonight."

Events kicked off Thursday and continued into the weekend as residents enjoyed a parade, dance and traditional rodeo events such as roping, bare back riding, saddle bronc riding and bull riding.

It was a lineup of events worthy of a town with strong ties to the rodeo scene.

Virden, after all, is the home town for Miss Rodeo Canada 2006, Aleaha More, and proclaims itself the 'Human Chuckwagon Race Capital.'

Locals young and old lived up to that unofficial title as teams of four dragged a wagon loaded with a barrel and driver through a course for the quickest time and a chance to win prizes up to \$500.

"It's pretty funny, you get a good laugh out of it," Lyng said.

The rodeo and Wild West Daze ends today with the crowning of the rodeo queen and a demolition derby.

Dobson double trouble for Arsenal

Chris Dobson gave Arsenal a chance to knock off the Brandon Senior Men's Soccer League champions today.

Dobson slotted a pair of goals to help Arsenal beat Remington's Hotspur 3-1 in the championship semifinals of the Brandon year-end soccer tournament at Canada Games Park on Saturday.

The regular-season champion Double Decker Fury dumped the Minnedosa Triumph 4-1 in yesterday's other semifinal, setting up a battle between the first-place Fury (12-3-3) and third-place Arsenal (9-6-3) in today's championship final at Canada Games Park at 1 p.m.

Ryan Yuen had the other goal for Arsenal, while Darcy Simard replied with the lone strike for Hotspur, which was second in the regular season with an 11-5-2 record.

Carlos Ortiz, Mark Burgess, Chad McQueen and Andrew Cook scored for the Fury, while Dennis Zboril replied for the Triumph.

Arsenal advanced to the semifinals by edging the Brandon Kodiaks 1-0 in yesterday's quarter-finals, while Hotspur shut out the Neepawa Rangers 2-0 and Minnedosa blanked the Royal Oak Inn Royals 2-0.

The Kodiaks earned a berth in today's consolation final (11 a.m., Canada Games Park) by knocking off the Royals 3-0, while Minnedosa forfeited to Neepawa.

PIC OF THE WEEK

Fire hall search begins all over again

With the smoke still clearing on Brandon City Council's decision to stay away from the corner of First Street and Rosser Avenue, officials at city hall and the Brandon Fire Department are taking the first cautious steps to find a new place to build a main fire station.

Fresh from council's 7-4 decision Monday night not to build the fire hall beside a former scrapyard at First and Rosser, Brandon Professional Firefighters Association president Terry Parlow met BFD Chief Brent Dane yesterday morning to talk about what to do next.

Meanwhile, Mayor Dave Burgess said yesterday that it's back to square one as far as finding a new site, adding that all options — including the possibility of a third satellite fire station on the North Hill — are in play.

Two things are for certain, though. One, a fire hall will not be built at First and Rosser, even if the contaminated site is cleaned up. Two, everyone wants to pick a spot for a new fire hall as soon as possible.

"Nothing changes as far as how important it is to move forward with a replacement to the fire hall," Burgess said.

"We definitely want to move forward on a solution to the fire hall. And it's very important to have the (First and Rosser) site cleaned up and put to some use."



An officer trains his weapon on a man who was walking near the scene of a bust in Belmont on Tuesday afternoon. The man was not involved with the marijuana grow operation. It's the third time this week the Mounties have taken down an operation in Westman.

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