

Sportscene...



Fiery threat to Lions

THE Lee Valley Lions return to first division action on Sunday against the fiery Deeside Dragons, looking to preserve their 100 per cent record.

And they received a confident, but cautious message from manager Mike Smith before the home encounter.

"We'll beat Deeside, but it will be tighter than any other game this season," he warned.

The Lions have already tackled Deeside this campaign — and what a thriller it was.

Lee Valley won 9-8 with a last minute clincher in North Wales to take the Boswell Printing Shield, their first trophy.

But now league points are at stake and Deeside are playing at the Lea Bridge Road rink for the first time — something which could be to the Lions advantage.

"Normally, any team travelling a long way will be without at least one player," said Smith: "They were almost expelled from the league for not paying some registration fees, but it's all sorted out now."

The biggest Deeside threat will probably come from Canadian Danny Walker, who was impressive when the teams last met.

But watch out for their sometimes crude tactics, which includes frequent use of elbows.

The match starts at Lee Valley at 7pm — go along and support the side.

Last Sunday the Lions

gained a comfortable 10-3 win over their nearest neighbours, the London All Stars, in a friendly match arranged because of the lack of a league fixture.

In the end the game was easily won, but the All Stars stayed in touch with the Lions for much of the first two periods.

Bill Watson once again led the goalscoring exploits with three good strikes — he has decided to play on despite a nasty shoulder injury — and is still managing to produce the goods.

But perhaps the best Lions player was Watson's fellow American Will Fish, who hit a cracking goal and performed admirably throughout the contest.

The Lions started off in tremendous fashion — hitting two goals in the first minute of the match. But the All Stars came back and the scores were deadlocked at 3-3 half-way through the second period, Pete Doig got two of their goals and Terry Finnerty hit the other.

Then the Lions superior fitness and skills shone through and they went on to win the match with ease.

Alan Sandford hit two goals, and the others came from Dave Petrie, Fred Sandford, Simon Murray (a great goal) and Dave Rapley.

● The London All stars are playing in the second division this season and are playing their home games at Lee Valley.

The first one is against

Richmond on November 4 and they then play Bristol at Lea Valley on November 11. Their manager Dave

Richards hopes for support at these games. The All Stars are "very confident" of winning the second di-

vision and have already won their first game — 11-4 against Bournemouth —

Paul Newman.

Cheerleaders turn it on

THE Lee Valley Lions cheerleaders have emerged on the hockey scene, providing superb entertainment during breaks in the action.

At the last two home games, Tracy Davies, Collette Barker and their friend Samantha have been dazzling fans with their dance routines — and impressive costumes.

They are due to perform again this Sunday — so if you haven't seen them so far, make sure you don't miss it. (Ice hockey special — See page 10).