

ICE HOCKEY

Lee helps Wasps to record

By Norman de Mesquita

The first weekend of the Norwich Union Cup provided two surprises and a record. The record went to Durham Wasps, who won 26-0 at Sunderland with Tim Lee, their new import, setting the tone with a goal after only 14 seconds. He scored seven in all, with Mike O'Connor (four) and Len Redmond (three), the other main contributors. Lee Valley Lions and Solihull Barons embarrassed Nottingham Panthers and Streatham Redskins, from the premier division, to provide the surprises.

The Lions owed much to Vesa Pennanen, their Finnish goaltender, who made 35 saves and Janne Lehti and Jari Virta, their other two Finns, who shared the goals.

The Redskins had every chance at Solihull, recovering from a 6-2 deficit to lead 7-6

with four minutes to go. But two late goals — the winner coming from Jay Forslund with 70 seconds remaining — saw the Barons through. They were not so fortunate at Nottingham when they went down 11-6 and their two Scottish defencemen — acquired under controversial circumstances from Murrayfield Racers — had penalty trouble. Paul Heavey earned a match penalty for fighting and Paul Hand a game misconduct.

Fife Flyers made a good start with a runaway home win over Glasgow Eagles and the success by the odd goal in 21 at Murrayfield. Newcomer Mike Jeffrey scored 10 goals and 11 assists and Dave Stoyanovitch announced his return with 10 goals and seven assists. Todd Bidner who has moved from Fife to Peterborough had per-

sonal success with five goals, but his team went down 8-7 at home to Whitley Warriors.

The much-heralded arrival of Mark Pavelich did not bring Dundee Rockets immediate success. He had two assists in a 6-4 defeat at Ayr. Incidentally, New York Rangers still claim that Pavelich is under contract to them and are continuing to fight the move.

RESULTS: Norwich Union Cup: Fife Flyers 22, Glasgow Eagles 2; Nottingham Panthers 11, Solihull Barons 6; Sunderland Chiefs 0, Durham Wasps 26; Ayr Bruins 6, Dundee Rockets 4; Durham Wasps 7, Cleveland Bombers 3; Lee Valley Lions 3, Nottingham Panthers 2; Murrayfield Racers 10, Fife Flyers 11; Peterborough Pirates 7, Whitley Warriors 8; Solihull Barons 8, Streatham Redskins 7.

British league: First division: Swindon Wildcats 11, Altrincham Aces 15; Oxford City Stars 7, Altrincham Aces 11; Richmond Flyers 4, Bournemouth Stags 4; Southampton Vikings 4, Medway Bears 10.