

# The SPORTS

DON KENDALL — Sports Editor

PHONE 545-0671

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### KENDALL'S KORNER

## Curling rink a busy place



Vernon Curling Club will be a hectic place for the next couple weeks as Winter Carnival, and the activities that go with it, move into the club.

First event is the 12th Annual B.C. Hydro Mixed Bonspiel which runs Saturday and Sunday.

Teams from 16 districts, from Cache Creek east to the Alberta border, will be vying for the Southern Interior Championship.

Fun-filled annual Jopo Bonspiel gets underway Feb. 10 and runs through to Feb. 12.

Service clubs, civic officials, the media, carnival directors, and several other groups take part in the Jopo 'Spiel, designed for enjoyment not competition.

One of the year's curling highlights, the annual Valentine's Mixed Bonspiel runs from Feb. 13 to 15.

A total of 72 rinks from Kelowna, Winfield, Oyama, Oliver, Osoyoos, Kamloops, Revelstoke, Trail, Lumby, and Vernon will be competing.

Speaking of curling, the Doug Chilton and Herb Van Grootel rinks deserve a lot of credit for the fine showing they made in the B.C. Curling Association Playdowns this week in Trail.

No one can remember the last time a Vernon rink went through the BCCA preliminary play undefeated as the Chilton foursome accomplished.

### POSSIBLE RECORD

When the slumping Vernon Vikings head into the Nanaimo Arena tonight, there is a good possibility they will be skating into a building with people hanging from the rafters.

Nanaimo Clippers' officials are expecting a near-capacity crowd, in their new rink, for perhaps the biggest game of the BCJHL season.

Last time Vikings played in Nanaimo, more than 1,800 people were on hand. That was the same afternoon as the Super Bowl. Now with Clippers only four points behind Vernon, and no Super Bowl to compete with, it is possible there could be 3,000 people on hand tonight.

Clippers have won 15 of their last 16 games, with the only loss to Vikings. Fan support has been fantastic in the Vancouver Island city, with the club averaging more than 1,100 fans per game.

Vikings, on the other hand, have had only a handful of crowds more than 1,000 this season, and far more under 500.

Maybe a few more people in the stands at home would give the team enough of a boost to solve its problems on the ice.

Hockey fans here get a real treat next week when the Medicine Hat Tigers, of the Western Canada Hockey League, make their annual appearance here, Feb. 11, to play the Vikings.

People here will remember several of the Tigers, including Don Murdoch, Ken Holland, Cliff Lane, Owen Lloyd, Gary Gilchrist, and Ron Areshnekoff, from their days in Vernon.

# Zelinski scores pair as Cents edge Langley

Merritt Centennials edged Langley Lords 5-4 in Thursday's only B.C. Junior Hockey League game before 490 fans in Merritt.

Darrell Zelinski scored two goals for the Cents while Greg Agar, Perry Wray, and Bob Wasson added singles.

Randy Larsen, Rob Jones, Roy Payout, and Ron Kolman replied for Langley.

Merritt held period leads of 2-1 and 3-2.

Tonight, the Lords travel to Kelowna to take on the Buckaroos while Chilliwack Bruins play the Blazers in Maple Ridge and first-place Vernon Vikings tangle with second-place Clippers in Nanaimo.

Vikings' Coach Joe Tennant told the Daily News his club had an excellent meeting Thursday, which he hopes will help the team snap its slump.

Vernon has lost four of its last five games and now lead Nanaimo by only four points.

## JUST WAIT

Tennant said, "there is no one reason why we aren't

winning now. It is a combination of things. But, all we can do is wait and hope it ends tonight."

Vikings travel to Chilliwack Saturday and Sunday they play the Blazers in Maple Ridge.

Tennant said, "If we hope to hold on to first-place, we've got to win at least two of these coast games. Hopefully, one of the wins will be against Nanaimo."

Clippers have lost only once in their last 16 games.

## CANADA AT THE GAMES

### By THE CANADIAN PRESS Luge

**Women's singles:** Carole Keyes, Ile Perrot Nord, Que., 22nd after second of four runs; Mary Jane Bowie, Montreal, 23rd; Julie Chase, Cluny, Alta., 26th.

**Men's singles:** Larry Arbuthnot, Pointe Claire, Que., 33rd after two of four runs; Michael Shragge, Ottawa, 39th; Denis Michaud, St. Jerome, Que., disqualified.

### Nordic Skiing

**Men's 30-kilometre cross-country:** Hans Skinstad, Devon, Alta., 30th in field of 67; Bert Bullock, Inuvik, N.W.T., 31st; Ed Day, Valemount, B.C., 42nd; Reijo Puiria, Thunder Bay, 56th.

ezowski, Toronto, and David Porter, Port Perry, Ont., 10th after original set pattern; Susan Carscallen and Eric Gillies, Toronto, 14th.

**Pairs:** Candy Jones, Toronto, and Don Fraser, Richmond Hill, Ont., 13th after short program.

### Speed Skating

**Women's 500 metres:** Cathy Priestner, Calgary, won silver medal; Sylvia Burka, Winnipeg, 11th; Kathy Vogt, Winnipeg, 21st.

### Luge

**Women's singles:** Carole Keyes, Ile Perrot Nord, Que., 22nd in field of 26 after third of four runs; Mary Jane Bowie, Montreal, 23rd; Julie Chase, Cluny, Alta. 26th.