



Getting the feel of Phil Wright's Rm Gordini is two-year-old Nathan Woolf of Salmon Arm. Nathan was

one of hundreds of spectators who admired the cars on display at Vernon Autosport Club's recent

motorshow at Village Green Mall. Nathan doesn't feel he is quite yet qualified for racing, but everyone at

the show agreed he has a lot of potential. (Daily News Photo)

### LEARNING YOUNG

**The SPORTS Page**  
DON KENDALL—Sports Editor  
PHONE 545-0671  
VERNON DAILY NEWS, WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3, 1976

**CURLING CLUB NEWS**  
By DON HOUSTON  
Vernon Curling Club Manager



Vernon Curling Club congratulates Doug Chilton, Dave Simpson, John Taporowski, and Doug Weir for their outstanding performance in the third annual Carling O'Keefe Car Spiel.

Against the top teams in the world, this foursome was third and only one shot away from being in the finals for the cars.

The Wayne Lafance and Larry Wynn teams also curled very well and this is proof that the calibre of curling has improved considerably in the last three years in this city.

The all-star team, as picked by an 11-year-old fan, had Tony Eberts at skip and Dave Simpson as third. The front end could have come from any of the top eight teams.

Close to 80 spectators packed themselves into the club Monday night to watch the battle for the cars and to cheer for Chilton as he played off against John Usackis.

Final for the cars was a thriller with both teams waiting for a break. The break came in the ninth when Eberts picked up two to gain control of the game and then won as Eberts made a pressure takeout to drive off with the cars.

The curler who impressed me, as he does each time I see him, is the great Carmel Campbell. Campbell won his first purple heart back in 1954 when he skipped his brothers in the MacDonald Brier out of the small Saskatchewan town of Avonlea.

**STILL FARMING**  
He and two of his brothers are still farming in Avonlea. He and his brothers moved in the late-'50s to take over a curling club in the Toronto area. Campbell, of course, curled third for Eberts.

Vernon Curling Club and thespiel committee would like to extend thanks to club members who helped in many ways to make this event such a great success.

Highlights of the Spiel can be seen tonight, at 7:30 p.m., on Vercom Cable TV.

### Three local rinks enter cash spiel

Three Vernon rinks will be taking part in the Labatt's Snow of Curling this weekend at the Kamloops Curling Club.

The rinks, skipped by Doug Chilton, Danny Puetz, and Doug Smith, will be competing for \$15,000 in prize money.

Team to beat could be Tony Eberts of Williams Lake. Eberts, the Canadian mixed champion, won last weekend's third annual Vernon Carling O'Keefe Car Spiel.

However, there will be plenty of competition. The men are edged 6-4 in the finals, picking up a great success. Skak... will be on hand.

**TOUGH FIELD**  
Among the other top contenders are the ending B.C. champion Bernie Sparkes of Vancouver; George Fink of Calgary, winner of last year's car spiel; Darrel Will of Kamloops, 1974 interior champion; and the 1975 provincial champ Kevin Smale of Prince George, and former B.C. champion, Grant Gibbs of North Vancouver.

Curling starts Friday at 8 a.m., with eight rinks advancing to the playoffs next Monday.

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### Several stars up for grabs

By NEIL CAMPBELL  
The Canadian Press  
TORONTO (CP) — Toronto Blue Jays can have the man who caught Hank Aaron's 75th home run and Mark Fidrych's catcher on their 1977 roster if they want them.

Pitcher Tom House and catcher Bruce Kimm will be among the more than 60 players available to the Blue Jays and Seattle Mariners in the American League expansion draft, which takes place Friday in New York.

Neither player is likely to go in the first round of the draft, which will provide the Jays and Mariners a nucleus of 30 players for the 1977 baseball season.

House caught Aaron's record-breaking homer in the bullpen at Atlanta when they were team-mates with the Braves. He spent the 1976 season with Boston Red Sox.

Kimm was one of three catchers who saw sporadic duty with Detroit, but he did all the catching when Firdych the Tigers' sensational rookie, was doing the pitching.

**STRESS YOUTH**  
One of the game's most illustrious names will be available in the first round but some of the early picks are likely to be people you never heard of who spent the summer playing in places like Chattanooga, Tenn., and Evansville, Ind.

Both the Mariners and the Jays want to stress youth in their draft selections, adding to the leavening of experience to the mix, but the established teams are protecting some of their most promising farmhands.

That may force Seattle and Toronto to pick more veterans than they had planned in what amounts to a giant crap game, a game for which the two expansion teams have spent thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours preparing.

With all of their preparation and scouting, officials of the new teams know Friday's draft is only a first step in building a team. In 1969, both Kansas City Royals and Seattle Pilots decided not to take a chance on Jim Palmer when he was left unprotected by Baltimore.

Palmer, who had won 15 games for the Orioles in 1966, had a doubtful future because of arm troubles, but he has now won 151 games in the eight seasons since he was ignored by the Pilots and Royals.

Kansas City, which topped the American League West this year, is considered a model expansion team but their draft list is far from impressive now.

**FIVE SURVIVE**  
Only five of their 30 selections spent most of the 1976 season in the majors and only pitcher Al Fitzmorris, who is not likely to be protected in this year's draft, is still with the Royals.

Some big names will be available at least in the first round. The Jays and Mariners will be able to pick from among Bill Lee, Pat Dobson, Wilbur Wood, Sparky Lyle, Brooks Robinson, Bill Melton, Boog Powell, Rico Carty, Paul Blair and Phil Freeman.

Dobson won 16 games for Cleveland Indians and won 20 games in 1971 for Baltimore Orioles, but his age makes him expendable. New York manager Billy Martin has been unhappy with Lyle, who won seven games and picked up 23 saves in relief for the Yankees.

Injuries sidelined Lee and Wood for most of the 1976 season.

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# Tennant back in league as coach of Centennials

By DON KENDALL  
Newly Sports Editor  
One of the most colorful men in junior hockey, in British Columbia, has come out of retirement.

Joe Tennant was named Tuesday as coach of the Merritt Centennials, of the B.C. Junior Hockey League.

Tennant, who has been involved with junior hockey for more than 20 years as a scout, coach, general manager, and owner, says he has a lot of work to do with his new team.

That season, Vernon was eliminated in the league semifinals.

At the end of the year, Tennant sold his shares in the club to Vern Dye and resigned his dual post.

Tennant turned down at least three jobs during the off-season and appeared content in retirement. However, he said he got tired of sitting around.

He said, "I had two offers from U.S. colleges or could have taken a job with the Flyers of the BCHL. But, I wanted to stay in the Kamloops area with Merritt. I can commute back and forth."

The fiery coach also has a warning for Vernon Vikings.

He said, "When we come to Vernon on Nov. 17, they better be ready for us. They better keep their heads up."

Gary Swanson resigned as coach of Centennials last week after the club got off to its worst start in three years amid rumors of dissonance.

Tennant was just long enough Tuesday to watch them drop a 7-2 decision to Kelowna Buckaroos.

Meanwhile in Langley, Stewart Robertson scored 2:09 of overtime to give Maple Ridge Blazers an 8-4 victory over the Lords.



JOE TENNANT ... in Merritt

**NEEDS HELP**  
Tennant told the Daily News he needs help in convincing players to turn Merritt into a contender.

He said, "They have only won four of 16 games, so it is obvious there is a lot of churning in the team. You won't recognize this team in a few weeks."

For several years Tennant was coach and GM in Kamloops, and the Chiefs of the BCHL. He moved up with Chiefs to the Western Canada League in 1972-73, but after two years in that league, was fired and moved to Vernon.

As coach and GM with Vernon, he led the club to a third-place finish in 1974-75, and a regular season championship in 1975-76. Despite

By LANCE BESWICK  
Daily News Reporter  
The first step towards providing improved ice facilities in the city has been taken by city council.

Aldermen on Tuesday decided to approve a request from the North Okanagan Regional District recreation committee to extend and cover in the Centennial ice rink.

Ald. Frank Williamson, who is a member of the NORDD committee, told council: "The work could be done at minimal cost. We have the land and ice plant already, so we wouldn't have to buy more."

"If the feasibility study shows this is the best solution, a referendum would be held after final agreement was reached with the city."

and not go into debt. Improvement of the present arena is OK, but I cannot let my son go to another arena."

**1977 FACILITY**  
But Aid. Jim MacArthur, until recently parks and recreation committee chairman, said: "We are using a 1977 facility for a 1976 population."

Halina said he was still using his wedding suit — and there's nothing wrong with it." But MacArthur pointed out that since Halina had got married, three generations of children had been born in Vernon.

Williamson said: "We're talking about looking at the proposal and letting them (NORDD) know if we would agree in principle to their idea. If we tell them no, they will just have to look for another site. It has been pointed out very strongly in

### Oakland to lose backbone

NEW YORK (AP) — Oakland A's, winners of consecutive world championships in 1972, 1973 and 1974 and five straight American League West Division titles from 1971-1975, are about to self-destruct.

The process will take place Friday when 24 players who won free-agent status by playing consecutive years without signed contracts will be selected in baseball's first re-entry draft.

Eight of them come from Oakland and include the eight-catcher Gene Tenace, outfielders Joe Rudi and Don Baylor, infielders Sal Bando and Bert Campaneris, and relief pitcher Rollie Fingers.

They form the heart and soul of the A's. All are expected to be chosen early and often in the draft.

Baltimore will make four contributions to the draft pool, and two of them—slugging outfielder Reggie Jackson, second baseman Bobby Grich and 20-game winner Steve Garland—are among the top names.

### Council gives approval to rink-covering study

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