

Not easy or cheap



Becoming a champion isn't easy. It takes years of constant hard work. And being a champion certainly isn't cheap either. It involves big dollars.

Raising a winner is an expensive business as the Financial Post recently discovered when it asked the parents of five young sports champions to estimate how much it had cost them for each child to attain champion status.

Lowest figure was \$4,425. That's how much the parents of 14-year-old Shannon Smith of Vancouver estimate it has cost them for Shannon to reach Olympic calibre. Shannon was a bronze-medal winning member of Canada's Olympic swimming team this year. She has been swimming competitively since she was eight.

But, that is cheap compared to raising a show-jumping champion. Kim Kirton, now 16, entered her first riding competition at age four and emerged champion. At 14 she was riding with the Junior International Team as one of Canada's top four junior show jumpers.

Her father is a horse trainer and has his own stables. Without the financial benefits of having one's own stables, the Kirtons estimate it would have cost in the region of \$83,000, over a period of eight years, for a child to reach Kim's level of competency.

This would include \$18,000 for two good jumping horses, \$20,000 in travel expenses, \$19,200 in training and boarding fees, and \$16,000 in entry fees and grooming costs.

ANOTHER CARPSEL

With the highly successful Vernon Carling O'Keefe Car Spiel behind us for another year, we can focus our attention on the next big curling event in Western Canada.

Derek Golf and Winter Club's annual carpel, in Edmonton, is being held from Dec. 27 to 30.

Of the 27 teams in the starting field, 24 will be by direct invitation. Among those are Ron Northcott, Hec Gervais, Bob Pickering, Merv Mann, Rick Folk, and Bernie Sparles.

The other eight teams will be determined by two separate preliminary mini-spiels. Each mini-spiel will determine four qualifiers and these qualify for free entry to the major event. Also, each mini-spiel will determine a winner and runner-up which will receive \$1,000 and \$500 respectively.

Entry for the minis, to be held Dec. 10 to 12 and 17 to 19, is \$100 per team.

To enter, or for further information, write to Brian Bygrave, 3500-119 Street, Edmonton.

MOLSTAR PROGRAM

Recreational skiers at Silver Star will again have the opportunity to participate in the Molstar program this year.

Last season more than 21,000 skiers entered Molstar events in Western Canada.

The concept, developed six years ago, allows skiers to have friendly competitions among themselves without the pressure of full racing. By taking part, the average skier is given the opportunity of being clocked on a relatively simple slalom course.

Okanagan's best receive awards

Okanagan Light Horse Improvement and Show Association held its annual Horse and Pony of the Year Awards night last weekend at the Kelowna Riding Club.

Clubs from Okanagan gathered to honor the year's top performers.

Horse of the Year Award went to Golden Dawn, owned by F. Rebbelin of Sunmerland. Special Duke won the Pony of the Year Award. It is owned by Jackie Gies of Kelowna.

Vernon competitors picked up four awards while Armstrong horses won three honors.

Vernon's Boyd Family won the Family Ride Trophy while Nutmeg, owned by the Boyds, was named saddle pony of the year.

Valley Two Spot, owned by Jay Londe of Vernon, was selected top junior jumper while Jim Postill's Little King was named top pony jumper.

Camus Queen, owned by Allan Hornick of Armstrong, shares the matched pairs western award with Tazzy Dawn of Summerland.

Lynda, owned by Sheila Wagner of Armstrong, was the top junior jumper while Snp's Whiskers, owned by Armstrong's Barb Hay was the top competitor in junior western pleasure.



The SPORTS Page

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8 VERNON DAILY NEWS, WEDNESDAY, NOV. 24, 1978

50 bowlers enter twosome tourney

More than 50 bowlers took part in the recent Three-Hall Twosome Tournament at Lincoln Lanes.

Donna Hannah and Mark Katzaly picked up first place money while Eileen Sheldon and Stan Skidmore placed second.

Linda Flanders and Len Siemens finished third while Winnie Kowalski and Sid Flanders won fourth place money.

The Flanders-Siemens duo came up with the top game of the tourney, a 311.

All-Indian hoopsters in tourney

Vernon representatives have been decided for the Master-YBC tournaments, slated to be held Dec. 5. Regional champs advance to the provincial finals Dec. 18, at Chapman Lanes, in Vancouver.

In Master-Bancom competition, master Ed Meyer, girl Liam Sall and boy Jeff Connaught placed first. The trio rolled 227 pins over their combined average of 433.

Master Paul Wendel, girl Tracy Churlis and boy David Tremble were 195 pins over.

In Master-Junior play, master Willie Wendel, girl Liam Wiebe, and boy Walter Kronbauer were 169 pins over their 621 average. Master Marci Koenig, girl Helen White, and boy Darryl Gibson were runner-up with a plus-part in the recent Three-Hall Twosome Tournament at Lincoln Lanes.

Willie Wendel teamed up with girl Lynn Hoeckstra and boy Lytle Skidmore to win the Master-Senior event. They were 252 pins over their combined 537 average.

Second place went to master Carol Skidmore, girl Rhonda Gibson, and boy Roger Desmarats with 198 pins over average.

Three new faces in Vikings' lineup

Vernon Vikings will have three new faces in the lineup tonight when they host Kelowna Buckaroos in a B.C. Junior Hockey League game at 8:30 p.m.

Vikings' General Manager Vern Dye announced today goalie Gord Marshall and forwards Barry Lang and Gerry Mann will play tonight against the Bucks.

Marshall, 19, played for Nakuq Falcons of the Monastash Hockey League last season. He attended Vikings' training camp and was impressive. However, he chose to go home and work for the winter.

Dye said, "We'll have Marshall tonight and Thursday to back-up Keith Ferner. After Thursday's game, we'll have to wait and see. I think he plans on going back to Nakuq to work for a while, but he may come back."

In BCHL action Tuesday, Laurie Nordstrom scored at 2:38 of sudden-death overtime to give Merritt Centennials a 2-1 win over Kamloops Braves.

In other games, Penticon Vees dumped Kelowna 8-4 and Maple Ridge Bruins beat the injury-riddled Bellingham Blazers 7-3.

Penticon now leads the Interior Division with 42 points, five more than Kelowna. Vikings are third with 25, followed by Merritt 14, and Kamloops 12.

In other games tonight Kamloops hosts Penticon and Langley visits Nanaimo.

Home opener for Panthers

Vernon Panthers play their home opener tonight against Revelstoke in high school basketball action at Vernon Senior Secondary School.

In their only previous outing, Panthers edged K.L.O. 43-42 in Kelowna.

Vernon Coach Rick Inrig told the Daily News he is not sure how strong Revelstoke is, but his club will not take them lightly.

Inrig said, "We're small, there is no doubt about it. But, our guys do jump and rebound well."

STRONG POINT

Vernon's strong point should be at guard where Steve King will direct the Panthers' offense. King was perhaps the most consistent player on the Vernon squad last season and could turn into one of B.C.'s best guards this year.

Grade 11 forward Brent Zimmer has also looked good to date. Inrig said, "Brent is a natural player. He still has some things to learn, but he'll be a good one."

Rounding out the starting lineup are guard Kirk Christman, forward Brent Krusel, and centre Tom Davison.

BACK INJURY

Panthers received a blow to their bench strength this week when Grant Goldie was confined to bed for two weeks with a back injury. However, Dave Turner, Mike Kormos, and Ed Waterhouse give Vernon adequate reserve power.

After the boys' game, Vernon girls tip off their season at 8:30 p.m. with an exhibition match against Okanagan College.

RACES PLANNED

Promoting public interest in the sled dog races planned for Feb. 12 and 13 during the Vernon Winter Carnival are three Vernon members of the Okanagan Sled Dog Association with their Siberian huskies. From right are: Susan Quensel, with Blackjack; Bonnie Bingham, with Chuchi; and Doreen Schmidt, with Storm. The association members also were selling raffle tickets at Polson Place mall Saturday, to raise prize money for winners in the forthcoming races.

HOW TO LOOK VERY, VERY EXPENSIVE



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A new rate with a 3 minute minimum charge is now available when you call station-to-station from a coin telephone and pay for it at the same time.

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