

Holland is number one

Right now Vernon's Kenny Holland is riding the crest of a wave with Hinghamton Dusters of the North American Hockey League.

Holland has earned himself the number one goaltending position with first place. Dusters and is becoming well respected around the NHL.

The diminutive netminder was sent to Hinghamton by San Diego Mariners of the World Hockey Association. At least, Kenny was expected to be second string with the Dusters.

Hinghamton had just acquired veteran minor league netminder Bob Sneddon, 32, and Dusters had their power riding with him. However, Sneddon got off to a dismal start and Holland was out of the gate like a thoroughbred.

NINE VICTORIES

In his first NHL game, Kenny had nine wins. Sneddon's record after 10 games is five wins, four losses, and a tie. An even more impressive statistic is Holland's 2.87 goals against average, best in the NHL. Sneddon's average has soared to 4.82.

Holland appeared to win the number one berth about two weeks ago. Dusters had back-to-back games in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, and at home the next night, against Philadelphia.

Because NHL teams travel by bus, when there are back-to-back games, the goalies usually alternate. But despite the 200 mile journey from Johnstown, Holland played both games.

Kenny is enjoying himself in Hinghamton, particularly because almost every home game is a sell-out with over 4,000 fans on hand. And people are starting to hear about him.

Punch Imlach confirmed earlier this week that Holland has been placed on Buffalo Sabres' negotiation list. Reportedly, San Diego is also watching him closely.

IN THIRD SPOT

A former team mate of Holland is travelling in pretty fancy these days. He is, of course, Donny Murdoch.

Murdoch, setting the world on fire for New York Rangers, is third in the NHL in goals.

The rookie sensation has a goal, only one less than Guy Lafleur and six behind league-leading Steve Shutt.

If Murdoch keeps up his current pace, he will score 60 goals this season. Although, no one expects him to score 60, the rookie record is within his reach.

Richard Martin, of Buffalo Sabres, set the record of 44.

Anyone wanting to wish Murdoch good luck, in pursuit of the record and rookie-of-the-year award, can do so by putting their name on a telegram at Ernie's Esso.

The cost is only \$1 per name and the telegram will be sent just prior to Christmas.

NAMES IN HOCKEY

It is always interesting to look around hockey and see where some of the familiar faces go.

KEN GASSOFF, who had a brief stint with Vernon Esso, is enjoying a good season with Winston-Salem of the Southern Hockey League. Gassoff was 10th in the league in scoring.

of course brother BOB, another ex-Esso, is with St. Louis; and younger brother BRAD is with Dallas of the Central League.

Former native JIM MARSH, who spent one season with Esso, had eight points in his first four games with Syracuse of the North American League.

After a slow start, Vernon product GARY GILCHRIST is getting more ice time and starting to score regularly with Nelson Maple Leafs of the Western International League.

DANNY GARB'S older brother, ERNIE, who was with Vernon when Esso was the B.C. club in 1972, is enjoying a good season with Spokane Flyers of the WHL.

In what I hope BOB CRAIG, one of the most pro-



Tillicum Valley Ski Area recently held a contest to name its self-propelled snow-making machine. The winner was Jan Wetzel who named the contraption "Snarvus." For his choice, Jan receives a season pass at Tillicum. The public is invited to take a look at Snarvus all day Sunday. Although there is not enough snow for 1-bar operation, there is sufficient material to permit some skiing for the energetic skiers who want to hike up the hill. (Daily News Photo)

JAN AND SNARVUS

The SPORTS Page

DON KENDALL—Sports Editor
PHONE 545-0671

VERNON DAILY NEWS, FRIDAY, DEC. 3, 1976

Vernon facing busy weekend

Vernon Vikings have a gruelling three game weekend ahead in B.C. Junior Hockey League action.

Tonight, Vikings travel to Kelowna to take on the Buccaneers and Mike Willis, the defending league scoring champ, returned to B.C. this week after a stint with New Westminster Bruins.

On Saturday, Langley Lords are in Vernon for an 8 p.m. game, and Sunday, Merritt Centralia host the Vikings.

"Vikings' General Manager Vern Day told the Daily News the club has to post his first shutout of the season.

Darrell Parker and Gord McKay led the team in attack with 40 goals each.

In Abbotsford, Flyers fell behind 2-0 but rallied to down Kamloops. Rick Greenwood scored the winner at 8:38 of the second period.

Three goals from Erkki Lehtonen led Blazers to the home-ice win over Bruins. Terry Kirkham scored the lone Maple Ridge goal in other action tonight. Langley is at Penticon, and Kamloops visits Nanaimo.

Meanwhile, in league play Thursday, Penticon Vees hammered Merritt Centralia 9-0. Abbotsford Flyers downed Kamloops Braves 5-3, and Bellhingham Blazers edged Maple Ridge Bruins 3-1.

FIRST SHUTOUT

First-place Vees got an outstanding effort from ex-Viking netminder Jim Scammell. Scammell blocked every shot to post his first shutout of the season.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

BOWLERS MEET

Vernon Five-pin Bowling Association is holding a general meeting Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at Lincoln Lanes. Members are urged to attend.

BROWN INJURED

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Goalie Andy Brown will be out of action for the rest of the season, Indianapolis Racers of the World Hockey Association said Thursday. Norton injured his back during a pre-game warmup at Quebec Nov. 14. He underwent surgery Thursday.

REDNER REPLACED

CLEVELAND (AP) — Centre Dave Gardner of the Minnesota Fighting Saints of the World Hockey Association has been replaced by Rick Shirnake for the remainder of the season. Gardner suffered strained knee ligaments in Sunday's game against Toronto. Gardner will be replaced by Rick Shirnake from the Central League.

REQUEST WAIVERS

MONTREAL (CP) — Montreal Expos of baseball's National League announced Thursday they have requested waivers on right-handed pitcher Jack Kirby in order to give him his unconditional release. Kirby had a 1-8 won-loss record with an earned-run average of 5.7 last season.

FILE SUIT

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Minnesota Fighting Saints of the World Hockey Association have filed a \$6.8-million lawsuit against the St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce, the First National Bank of St. Paul and three individuals in alleging non-compliance with promises made in urging the team to move to St. Paul. The lawsuit was filed in Cleveland last August.

Panthers unbeaten after opening day

Three teams were undefeated after the opening day of play in the 20th annual provincial high school boys' volleyball championships in Victoria, B.C.

Top-ranked Prince George Polars, second-ranked Vernon Panthers, and surprising Vanier High of Courtenay went unbeaten.

Courtenay leads the 'A' side of the tourney with a 10-0 record. The island team downed Terrace 15-10 and 17-1; Kelowna 15-8 and 15-8; and Nelson 15-10 and 10-10.

18 VICTORIES

Polars, in second spot with a 4-0 record, stretched their winning streak to 18 by beating Prince George of Surrey 15-5 and 15-2; and Carson Graham of North Vancouver 15-1 and 15-8.

Maple Ridge occupies third spot on the 'A' side with a 4-1 record.

On the 'B' side, Panthers are in third place

because they have played less games.

Williams Lake leads the section with a 2-0 record, followed by Kitimat 2-3, and Vernon 4-0.

Defending champion Panthers beat Dawson Creek 15-3 and 15-7; and Golden 15-3 and 15-10.

HECTIC DAY

After a relatively calm opening day, Vernon has a hectic schedule today. Their first match was slated at 10:10 a.m. against Williams Lake.

Other games today put Panthers against 12th-ranked Central of Coquitlam, sixth-ranked Mission, eighth-ranked Spectrum of Victoria, and Cowichan.

First game Saturday has Vernon taking on four-time Kitimat.

There are 18 teams competing in the two divisions. The title game is scheduled Saturday night.

Pittsburgh netminder makes heroic return

By SCOTT ABBOTT
The Courier-Journal

Denis Herron, a lame-armed goaltender, returned to the Pittsburgh Penguins Thursday night ahead of schedule, but the National Hockey League's top netminder thinks it was just in time.

NHL Campbell Conference Patrick Division

Islanders	15	7	87	33
Philadelphia	12	4	80	28
Pittsburgh	11	4	80	28
Rangers	11	1	42	20
Imythe	10	1	42	20
St. Louis	10	1	74	25
Chicago	10	1	74	25
Colorado	7	3	70	17
Minnesota	7	3	70	17
Vancouver	6	18	64	10

Price: Washington Capitals Adams Division

Boston	10	3	101	73
Buffalo	12	4	96	29
Toronto	12	4	96	29
Cleveland	12	4	96	29

Norris Division

Montreal	10	2	81	42
Los Ang	8	1	92	25
St. Paul	7	4	82	20
Detroit	8	1	4	20
Washington	7	1	72	19

Herron, out of action after breaking his left arm in the season opener, stopped 37 shots in his return. The Penguins recorded a 4-2 victory over the stumbling New York Islanders.

In the other game, Medicine Hat Tigers trounced Winnipeg Monarchs 7-2 in Winnipeg.

Regina now has 22 losses in 28 starts and is mired in the cellar of the Eastern Division with eight points, six behind the Flin Flon Bombers. Both are well back of Brandon Wheat Kings at 49 and Saskatoon Blades at 27.

The win moved Portland into third place, tie with Kamloops Chiefs in the Western Division. Each team has 10 points. Victoria Cougars and New Westminster Bruins are tied for first with 32.

In the Central Division, Medicine Hat pulled two points ahead of Vancouver Monarchs. Letbridge Broncos lead with 32 and Kelowna Centralias are second with 28.

Dryden on a power play and Carr had the first shorthanded goal against Montreal this season.

Shutt converted a rebound after Jacques Lemaire and Pete Mahovlich had good chances against Kings netminder Gary Edwards.

Shutt said the Kings, under coach Bob Pulford, former Maple Leaf, had looked a lot like the dump-the-puck team of Punch Imlach 15 years ago.

"They're a 'y' defensive team anyway, but they were really playing it close with the lead. Their wings wouldn't flare in as soon as they lost the puck, they'd go straight back to their blue line."

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Regina thumped by Hawks

By THE CANADIAN PRESS
Regina, Pats continued to live up to their reputation as the worst team in the Western Canada Hockey League, bowing 5-2 to the Winter Hawks in Portland Thursday night.

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Bastien takes over control of Penguins

NEW YORK (AP) — When Blair had been removed from control of the hockey operations of the National Hockey League Pittsburgh Penguins, it was learned Thursday.

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Fulton to host Japanese

One of the top high school volleyball teams in Japan will be playing in Vernon later this month.

Senshu High School girls' team will make on Vernon Senior Secondary School's all-star team on Dec. 17 at the All-Star Junior Secondary.

Fulton is hosting the game in conjunction with the B.C. Volleyball Association.

Women's Volleyball Association.

Senju will arrive in B.C. on Dec. 7 and begin its tour of the Lower Mainland. It will also play games in the Kootenays.

The Japanese team will stay in Vernon two days, working out with the B.C. provincial team.

"Ticker" for the exhibition game will go on sale next week at our school.

Grey Machine bombs Maids

Two games were played in Vernon's Trixie hockey tournament Thursday night.

Grey Machine had no trouble defeating Inverness Maids 31-8. Sully Kohorst led the Grey Machine with Betty Sherk 11.

In the other game, Armstrong Builders of Kelowna defeated Ladies 21-16.

Erly Smith and Maureen Hieseler scored six each for the winners.

Cincinnati Stingers, but after the club's next contest he was dispatched to Charlotte Checkers of the American Hockey League.

He rejoined the Mariners on Wednesday night, scoring through with a goal in the club's 8-2 loss to the Jets in Winnipeg. The Mariners had lost their recent in attempts to catch the first-place Jets.

Divya was moved to within one point of idle Winnipeg in the standings when he split his previous 10 games and had lost two in a row. However, the victory was their 10th consecutive at home.

The Roadrunners' Robbie Flocke netted his 20th goal of the season in a losing cause, as the Jets won Thursday night, Indianapolis Racers got their third-period goals during the game.

Edmonton Oilers, while Indianapolis Racers scored in his first WHA game Oct. 9 against

Vernon manager dies at age 59

CHESTER, Pa. (AP) — Danny Murtaugh, who pledged to make his fourth base all retirement his last so he could devote more time to his grandchildren. He died at age 59.

Murtaugh, who left Pittsburgh Pirates two months ago, slipped into a coma and died Thursday after suffering a stroke two days earlier.

"In my younger years, I don't think I spent enough time with my children and grandchildren. I'm glad to make it up with my grandchildren."

Murtaugh was stricken Tuesday afternoon at his home in nearby Woodlyn and taken to Crozer Chestnut Medical Centre. The stroke was considered serious and his condition steadily deteriorated.

Royals visit Kamloops for basketball tourney

By DALE MAJOR
Daily News Correspondent

Vernon Senior Secondary School Royals travel to Kamloops today to take part in the Kamloops and District High School Girls' Basketball Tournament.

Royals first competition will be from Carson Graham of North Vancouver.

This year's edition of the Royals should be a well-balanced, explosive ball club.

BEST TEAM

Undoubtedly, Vernon will field its strongest team after a tremendous 1976 season. Last year's entire team is back, with some notable additions from the junior ranks.

Last week Royals kicked off their season with a 50-44 victory over Okanagan College.

Vernon Coach Delaney Routley is impressed with the way his squad is progressing.

Routley said, "Last season we

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