

Ice fishing — not yet

By NONIE FRISBY
The only two things anyone is talking about this week is Christmas and ice fishing. Christmas is this weekend, but ice fishing is not.

No. Pinus Lake is not frozen over, in fact there isn't any ice on the lake at all and not even any snow as of last Monday. Pinus Lake is at the 3,400 foot level, other lakes at the same elevation may be frozen, but Pinus is a very deep lake and will not freeze over as quickly as a shallower lake at the same elevation.

We haven't had enough cold weather yet to produce too much ice fishing. Until it gets quite a bit colder, I will not recommend ice fishing on any lake.

Keep asking myself, "What's with this weather?" We have a cold wet summer and a warm dry winter. If we keep this up we'll have the same temperature all year round and I'll leave and go to Phoenix.

NO PROBLEM
Why do you know about wolves, the four legged ones that is? Concern has been expressed for the Fish and Wildlife branch say this is not so. It feels that the wolf population has increased since the 1950's. You couldn't tell by me, I don't recall ever having seen a wolf in this area.

The wolf was given big game status in 1964 and this meant it could no longer be trapped and hunted without season or bag limit. Before this date the wolf was trapped and hunted without special status or protection. During

the 1950's a widespread poisoning program really reduced wolf populations. This program was stopped in the early 1960's. The wolf population then started to increase and continued to do so right through the 1970's.

Today the Fish and Wildlife branch feels the wolf population is good and in no trouble, and they intend by their regulations to keep it that way.

The branch is concerned with the well being of all wildlife populations and they want to ensure the wolf population is healthy, state within the limits of its environment. I think that has been the branch's answer — limits of its environment. There is no point in trying 10,000 wolves where only 2,000 can survive.

MIST SURVIVE
This is a problem most of us do not understand. Take our local pheasant situation. Most of us remember when there were hundreds, if not thousands of birds right where we are now. I don't know where they have gone, but I do know that there are not as many pheasants as there used to be. I like to see where I hope we have another 25, I am very happy today, but if they don't survive here what would be the use of re-populating this area with pheasants?

Here we are again the eve before Christmas eve and our Christmas is a very, very happy holiday. You'll be hearing from me again in 1977.



VERNON VIKINGS' captain (left) Gary Huitt swamps in alone on Merritt goaltender.

Brad Earp during Wednesday's BCJHL game. Huitt was shutout, but his

learn-mates enjoyed a big night as Vernon dumped the last-place Centaurs.

Gymnastic leadership clinic set

Well-known Kamloops gymnast John Henderson will conduct a leadership training clinic at Vernon Senior Secondary School on Jan. 9 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Vernon Parks and Recreation Department, sponsor of the clinic, invites anyone interested in any form of gymnastics to attend. Adults and teenagers who wish to be involved in a leadership role, as spotters and instructors, are welcome. There is no charge for the clinic.

Subjects discussed will include setting up of equipment, handling and spotting of equipment, layout of a lesson, safety, and the effective use of leadership personnel.

It is anticipated additional clinics covering other areas of gymnastics, such as floor routines, ball, hoop, and flag routines, will be held in the future.

For further information phone 545-0498 or Rob at 545-1218.

The SPORTS Page

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VERNON DAILY NEWS, THURSDAY, DEC. 23, 1976

Canada's soccer team advances in cup play

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (CP) — Canada's national soccer team finds itself in the quarter-finals of the World Cup Wednesday night over the United States in 1976 World Cup play.

The victory in the preliminary round playoff game sent the Canadians into second-round play for the first time in World Cup history and culminated almost two weeks of training in hot, unfavorable conditions on this tropical island in the West Indies.

The win put Canada in the second round against Haiti or Cuba, El Salvador, Mexico and Surinam. Wednesday night's victory became necessary when the U.S., Canada and Mexico finished in a tie in a preliminary series. Mexico advanced because of a better goal average.

The beginning of the American football season is under way early in the second half of Wednesday's game, with Canada holding a 1-0 lead over Brian Budd's team in the 72nd minute.

The game turned rough with players on both teams engaging in hard tackles in the second half, forcing Kamloops' referee, Ed Lamirre, to intervene several times to remove offenders.

PECHER SENT OFF
In the 80th minute, Steve Pecher of the United States was sent off for vealicious for a foul on Canada's Victor Kodelja.

With the American team reduced to 10 men, the Canadians held the rest of the way. Bob Lenarduzzi made it 2-0 for Canada in the 83rd minute, and Bob Boltho of Victoria, a member of Canada's Olympic team, completed the scoring from a direct free kick seven minutes later.

In the preliminary round, Canada beat Haiti 2-0 and lost 2-0. Against Mexico, the team was held to a 1-1 tie.

Refs needed for volleyball
Vernon Parks and Recreation Department is looking for volleyball referees.

Refs, who will be paid per game, are needed for several leagues starting in January. For further information phone 545-6055.

Racquet centre holds tournament

Several dozen players took part in the Vernon Racquet and Squash Centre's first-ever third-place tournament last week.

In the men's racquetball 'A' division, Fred Caulfield won a 12-pound turkey for taking first place. Riley Tyford was second and Bill Both captured third spot.

In the 'B' division, Ken Bryan was the turkey winner while Geoff Smith and Jack Jarrett picked up a shirt.

Smith also won a 12-pound bird for placing first in the squash competition. Murray Greenberg got an eight-pound turkey for runner-up, while third-place finisher Bill Stanger "kicked up a shirt."

Mike Sigale defeated brother Darrin in the championship game of men's handball.

In women's racquetball, Zoe Wakelin was the winner while Linda Irwin placed second, and Nancy Kurba was third. Lesley Platt was the top female squash player followed by Jennifer Sigale, and Wakelin.

Vikings stretch unbeaten streak

Vernon Vikings stretched their unbeaten streak to four games with a 7-1 victory over Merritt Centennials in B.C. Junior Hockey League action Wednesday before 480 fans at the Civic Arena.

BCJHL STANDINGS

TEAM	GP	W	L	T	Pts
INTERIOR DIVISION					
Kelowna	47	12	2	6	40
Kamloops	39	12	21	3	27
Merritt	40	10	20	0	20

COAST DIVISION

TEAM	GP	W	L	T	Pts
Nanaimo	42	11	1	1	23
Lepidley	40	20	0	0	40
Bella Bella	17	17	1	1	36
Maple Ridge	39	12	1	1	25
Abbotsford	39	12	21	3	27

Team captain Gary Gassoff appears determined to do something about Vikings' lack of offensive power. Gassoff, known primarily as a defensive player, scored three unassisted third period goals to lead the attack.

It was the veteran's second offensive power play goal to lead his season goal total up to 14.

Jack Lesley scored twice for Vernon, while Derek Rideout and Brad McDonnell added singles.

Bob Duchamp, Don Nachbaur, and Nell Robinson replied for Centennials.

Gassoff, like most of his team-mates, has been having trouble putting the puck in the net. However, in the last four games, Vikings have scored 21 goals. Prior to that stretch, the club's goals for average was 3.2, worst in the BCJHL.

Vernon led 1-0 at the end of the first period and 3-2 after the second.

Vikings' Keith Fernald blocked 42 shots while Brad Earp and Kelly Dube combined to stop 37 shots in the Merritt goal.

Vernon was assessed 117 minor penalties and each team picked up a fighting major and a 10-minute misconduct.

MISSING TWO
Vikings were without defencemen Stewart Brian Maser and winger Brian Lang, who both left early to return home for Christmas.

Vernon gets a week off, until Dec. 29, when they host Kamloops Braves.

Vikings' General Manager Vern Dye told the Daily News he is moderately happy with the season to date.

PLAYING 500
Dye said, "When you are playing 500 hockey on Christmas, you can't complain too much. We're looking for a better performance after Christmas. Besides, some wins, the thing we need most is fans."

Vernon is firmly entrenched in third place in the league's Interior Division, 18 points ahead of fourth-place Kamloops Braves, 15 behind second-place Kelowna.

Play resumes tonight when Langley Loyals travel to Bellingham to meet the Blazers.

Freestyle camp on Silver Star

Canadian Freestyle Coaches Association will be holding its annual Christmas camp next week at Silver Star Ski Area.

The amateur camp will run from Dec. 27 to 31. Nine instructors will be on hand including Jeff Wood, Bruce "Straw" Adams, and Steve Hubbard. Instruction will be provided in ballet, aerials and mogul skiing techniques.

Spokesman for the camp, Phare, told the Daily News up to 70 skiers are expected to turnout.

"Our registration has been very good, and despite the lack of snow, it should be our best camp ever."

Although only strong skiers will be accepted, no previous freestyle experience is necessary.

PIN POINTS

December 17
Orya Dandy Club
Women's high single Florence Ancher 187, high double Ida Giles 318, high average 104 Giles 175.
Men's high single Steven Slat 208, high double Glyn Ramsdale 275, high average Glyn Ramsdale 164.
Bowler of week — Ladies Anna Horner 43 pins over average; Men's Robert Mitchell, 73 pins over average.

December 15, 1976
Wed. Matinee
Women's high single — Marilyn Keston 319, high triple — Barb Cooney 497, high average — Sharon Henick 265.
Team High Single — Odds N. Egan 172, high triple — Blanks 363.
"200" Club Marilyn Keston 519.

TEAM STANDINGS

TEAM	POINTS
Blanks	340
Ball Points	327
Lane Coos	294
Royal Cool Coos	24

December 15
Wed. Early Birds
Women's high single — Lorrie Becotte 462, high triple — Lorrie Becotte 286, high average — Lorrie Becotte 194 — Love Birds 199, high triple — Love Birds 360.

TEAM STANDINGS

TEAM	POINTS
Whitewins	220
Loons	175
Ding Bats	309

Tillicum to host league for skiers

Tillicum Valley Ski Area will be the scene of a Team Challenge League in January. Firms and organizations are invited to enter teams in the five-week league. To qualify a league must have three skiers on the hill on five consecutive Wednesday nights, starting Jan. 5.

Skiers' times will be tabulated and carried forward towards a total season score and the annual championship trophy. The trophy will be presented to the team having the best record.

SPORTS BRIEFS

FIN FILES SUIT
SEATTLE (AP) — A male basketball fan is suing Seattle SuperSonics of the National Basketball Association for \$2 million because women are admitted to games at half-price on Sundays. Bruce MacLean, who filed a civil complaint in King County Superior Court, said he and all other men attending the Sunday games have been deprived of their civil rights. He is seeking to make it a class action suit.

FINLAND BEATS U.S.
BANKA BYSTRICA (Reuters) — Finland beat the United States 6-3 in the opening game of the world junior hockey championships in this Czechoslovakian community Wednesday. Canada was represented by St. Catharines Fluorine starting today with a match against Poland. Other games Thursday have

the four lowest times of the five races. That means if a team misses one race, it still could win the trophy.

The courses will be set in such a way that a novice skier can enjoy it, but it will still be a fun challenge for better skiers.

Cost of participation is \$4 for lift ticket and \$1 for race entry fee.

HECTIC SCHEDULE FOR TWO SISTERS

TORONTO (CP) — When 15-year-old Kelly Ann Albright won the 200-meter butterfly at the Ontario senior short-course swimming championships, her father was at the poolside, cheering her on.

Her mother was in an arena 30-odd miles away, where 18-year-old Deborah Albright was winning the central Ontario sectional figure-skating championship.

It was a triumphant weekend for both sisters — Kelly Ann finished ahead of Wendy Quirk of Pointe Claire, Que., a member of the family, and a reward for a strenuous schedule maintained by a nurse at the pool and Deborah at the skating session. Between 8 and 9:30, she picks them up and drives them to school. The girls often have breakfast in the car.

DAD TAKES OVER
"That's my driving shift," Florence said. "The afternoon duties go to my husband. He comes home after 4 p.m., sets his dinner in a hurry, drives Kelly-Ann to the pool, for a five-o'clock practice and collects Deborah, who skates at 8:30."

Gregor Albright, a former hockey player, is training program supervisor for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He bought Deborah her first pair of skates at age 2 1/2 and learned from different teachers as the family moved.

NAMED TRAINING SITE
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Squaw Valley, site of the 1960 Winter Olympics, will become the nation's first all-sport Olympic training site under a new 12-year agreement. The United States Olympic Committee signed a lease Tuesday with the private owner of the Lake Tahoe resort, Mainline Properties of America.

HOCKEY CLUB FOLDS
ST. GEORGES (DE HERALD, QUE. CP) — Andre Veilleux, president of Beauce Braves, announced Wednesday that the North American Hockey League club has decided to suspend operations today with a match against Poland. Other games Thursday have

REMEMBER WHEN

By THE CANADIAN PRESS
Rapid Robert Peller was the first to play in the 1940-41 season. He was 36 years old today — in 1940 — by New York sports writers.

The first NHL game was played on Oct. 3, 1917, between the Toronto St. Patricks and the Montreal Canadiens. The game was a 1-0 victory for the Canadiens.

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VOLKSWAGEN PORSCHE AUDI

SANTA CLAUS was on hand Wednesday, with the helper, to present the

awards for the Vernon Lacrosse and Squash Club Turkey Tournament. First

place finishers with Santa are, from left, Leslie Platt, Mike Sigale, Geoff Smith,

and Ken Bryan. It was the first journey for the recently-opened centre.

(Daily News Photo)

(Daily News Photo)