

Merry Christmas

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone involved with sports in the North Okanagan a very Merry Christmas...

Clark Inglis, Bud Kelly, Linda Koehnig, Leo Gauthier, Graydon Brown, Glen Wheelhouse, Bob Barker, Fred McKenzie, Al and Ed Witten, Paul Wendel, Dave Charlton, Steve McLean, Marcel Gallon, John Tykavich, Joe Little, Terry Chambers, and Laurie Jenner.

Robbie Frazer, Gerry Holohuk, Donna Hickling, Al Mainland, Frank Strachan, Elmer Beaulieu, Gerry Bettison, Garth Gilman, Allan Fry, Bruce Card, Dale Major, Bill Orme, Dave O'Keefe, Dave Morris, Pat Dake and Ed Doherty.

Terry Modell, Art Horley, Tom Blackburn, Bruce Anderson, Greg Fraser, Debbie Sigale, Pitman Dennis Murdoch, Bruce Townsend, Brian Joe, Rick Monahan, Brian Tipler, Dale Rintoul, Marty Bellwood, Bill Roth, Dave Woodman, and Mike McAvoy.

John Tabor, John Mahler, Bryan Couling, Tom Service, George Beck, Mike Davies, Nick Schack, Ernie Kowal, Doug Weir, Barry Allen, Gerry Foeschek, Bob Williams, Ode Rivers, Pat Sweeney, Jim McMahon, George Green, Bruce Allen, Al Frissen, Bill Thomas, Bruce Rowland, and Ron Houston.

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Nordiques trio named all-stars

TORONTO (CP) - The night-scoring Quebec Nordiques trio of Marc Tardif, Serge Bernier, and Jacques Cloutier leads the World Hockey Association's East Division all-star team announced Thursday.

The three Quebec players, who scored a total of 70 goals up to Dec. 19, were among the first 12 players chosen for the East squad in a vote by WHA media representatives.

The first 12 on the West team were announced earlier, and the remaining players will be picked by Bobby Kromm of Winnipeg Jets.

Tickets for the Vernon Lodge Tigers championship across banquet will be on sale at the Vernon Lodge Hotel until Tuesday at noon.

Sabres' wishes answered

By ROSS HOPKINS The Canadian Press

Buffalo Sabres and Rene Robert have their Christmas wishes answered.

Table with columns: NHL, Campbell Conference, Patrick, W, L, T, P, Goals, Points.

Patrick Division: Philadelphia 20 7 128 44, Islanders 21 7 127 44, Atlanta 16 17 110 39, Rangers 10 17 103 38.

Winnipeg Division: St. Louis 16 17 103 37, Chicago 10 20 101 32, Vancouver 12 18 100 32, Colorado 8 20 91 18, Minnesota 9 22 88 14, Prince of Wales Conference.

Adams Division: Buffalo 21 11 122 77, Boston 21 11 122 76, Toronto 18 12 118 60, Cleveland 11 17 103 37.

Herris Division: Montreal 14 16 108 32, Pittsburgh 15 16 108 32, Los Angeles 11 16 108 32, Detroit 12 16 108 32, Washington 10 19 98 30.

"We're in first place for Christmas and what a great gift that goal was for me," right winger Rene Robert said Thursday.

night after his 10th goal of the season proved to be the winner in a 4-2 Sabre victory over Toronto Maple Leafs.

The Buffalo win, combined with Boston's 5-5 tie with New York Rangers, left the Sabres with a two-point lead over the Bruins atop the Adams Division of the National Hockey League.

In other action Thursday, Philadelphia Flyers took a two-point lead on second-place New York Islanders in the Patrick Division with a 5-3 win over Washington Capitals.

St. Louis Blues downed Vancouver Canucks 4-2 and Detroit Red Wings dumped Pittsburgh Penguins 5-2.

Goals by Bob Neely and Dave Williams early in the opening period had given Toronto a 2-0 lead. Later in the first period, Richard Martin scored for Buffalo.

The Leafs, with rookie netminder Mike Palmater performing acrobatics in his first game back after an eye injury, forced him to the sidelines for

an open net with less than a minute remaining and Palmater on the bench in favor of an extra attacker.

At Boston, the Rangers came from behind twice on a pair of second-period goals by rookie Don Murdoch—his 26th and 27th of the season—and another Steve Vickers in the third period for the tie.

The Rangers spotted the Bruins a 2-0 lead before striking back, improving their record to eight victories, two losses and seven ties in their last 17 games. They trail the Flyers by 10 points and are

second short-handed goal in as many nights broke a 1-1 tie at 10:47 of the second period and started the Flyers on their way. His second goal of the game at 18:24 of the period was the eventual winner.

EXTENDS STREAK In addition to giving the Flyers sole possession of first place, the home-ice win also

Smockey's return sparks Cowboys

By JOE DARY The Canadian Press

Don (Smockey) McLeod's return to the rink after a two-game layoff by influenza sparked Calgary Cowboys to a win over Minnesota Fighting Saints in one of three World Hockey Association games Thursday night.

Minnesota. All goals were scored in the first period. At Houston, two goals each by Rich Fraser and Trevor Ruskavok paced the Aeros to their win. Pool Popiel, and Marty Howe added the other Houston goals.

Rich Leduc, with two, and singles by Dennis Abgrall, Slaine Scougion and Pierre Guite, replied for the Stingers losing streak was extended to four games.

At San Diego, the Mariners lost snapped a six-game victory streak and ended stopped their unbeaten home streak at 18 games.

Ralph Backstrom, Larry Pleau, George Lyle, Danny Arndt and Tom Webster scored for New England while Norm Ferguson, Tony Casolato and Brad Rhines replied for the losers.

The win moved the Whalers into a fourth-place tie with Minnesota in the Eastern Division standings.

There is no action today and Christmas Day with play resuming Sunday with five games on tap.

Cincinnati will meet the Cowboys in the lone afternoon contest while at night, Houston visits Birmingham Bulls, Minnesota travels to New England, Indianapolis Racers visit San Diego and Winnipeg Jets play host to Quebec Nordiques.

Glen Somnar, Minnesota coach said his team had to alter its game plan for McLeod. "He feels the puck in his own end and gets it up to centre ice," Somnar said. "As a result, we had to try to work the puck into the Calgary zone."

"But they were standing up and we were not getting any chances. We got only four shots on goal in the last 20 minutes of the game."

SCORE FOR COWBOYS John Misruk and Rick Bess scored for Calgary while Dan Gruen replied for

Joy wins track award OTTAWA (CP) - Greg Joy of Vancouver, named as Canadian male athlete of the year in a year-end poll by The Canadian Press, also topped the Canadian Track and Field Association's yearly awards list.

The 20-year-old silver medal winner in the high jump at the Montreal Olympic Games was named by the CTFPA on Thursday as winner of the Col. Jack W. Davis Trophy for best track and field competitor in the country for 1978.

Joe Lawrence of Toronto in 1978 also earned him the F.N.A. Rowell Trophy as top field event performer in Canada. D. Bridger Memorial Trophy as the best competitor in jumping.

The award winners were picked by a CTFPA selection committee.

White Christmas - skiers hoping

SKI CLUB OPENS

Thanks to some snow this week, the Bobbie Burns Cross-country Ski Club, located 13 miles north of Lumby off Trinity Valley Road, will be open daily from Dec. 28 to Jan. 3.

Enjoying a quiet moment around the fireplace, in the ski lodge, are Paul and Shirley Pyhik. The area offers full cross-country facilities including ski rentals and instruction.

(Daily News Photo)

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The SPORTS Page DON KENDALL—Sports Editor PHONE 545-0671

VERNON DAILY NEWS, FRIDAY, DEC. 24, 1978

White Christmas - skiers hoping

Ski area operators throughout Western Canada are praying for a White Christmas.

More than a dozen areas in B.C. are still unable to open due to lack of snow.

Despite the unusually warm weather in the Okanagan, the Vernon has probably the best skiing conditions in the province.

Silver Star Ski area got three inches of fresh snow on Thursday, bringing the base up to 20 inches. Four lifts, the wee-tue, mid-tue, poma, and Yellow Chair will be open over the weekend.

Tillicum Valley opened its lifts to the top of the area, for the first time Thursday. The bar and handle tow will both be running over the weekend.

OPEN ON XMAS Christmas Day, both areas open at 10 a.m. with more snow, there is no way.

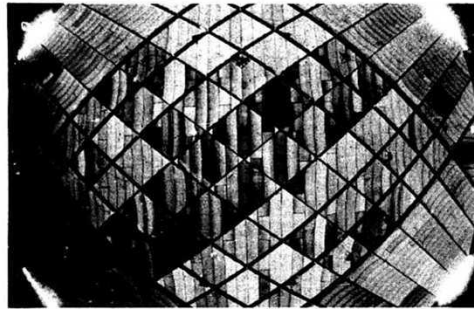
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Heidelberg Beer advertisement with logo and text: 'All the Best to you this season' and 'BC's great tasting beer'.



MODERN ART? More like the setting for a modern art — professional football. Geometric-patterned dome, above, covers the new Pontiac, Mich., Stadium, home of the Detroit Lions. Below, the 400,000 square foot air-supported dome is of Teflon-coated Fiberglass fabric, erected by Construction Services Division of Owens-Corning Fiberglass Corp.



Foreman gets chance for a sweet revenge

By ASSOCIATED PRESS
With all the talk of a revenge rematch between Pittsburgh Steelers and George Atkinson of Oakland Raiders, it has gone unnoticed that Minnesota, running back Chuck Foreman, has a score to settle.

Foreman will get his chance Sunday when the Vikings entertain Los Angeles Rams for the National Football Conference championship a few hours before the Steelers and Raiders square off in Oakland for American Football Conference title.

In the season opener, Foreman by Atkinson to the back of Pittsburgh wide receiver Lynn Swann's head resulted in a concussion for Swann, fines and warnings for Atkinson and bitter feelings on the part of the Steelers.

Meanwhile, Foreman remembers an early-season 10-10 standoff with the Rams, although he'd like to forget it.

"I had only 31 yards rushing, or something horrible like that," Foreman points out. "I think they did the best job defending me than anybody we played against."

SPORTS BRIEFS

HAD NARROW MARGIN
HAD RAGAZZ, Switzerland (Reuter) — Mauro Bernardi of Italy won an international slalom ski race Thursday in which only 28 of 115 starters completed both legs of the event. Bernardi had runs of 51.58 seconds and 51.82 seconds for a total time of one minute 43.20 seconds, beating Manfred Brunner of Austria and Walter Treusch of Switzerland by less than half a second.

MEALS RETURNED
(Reuter) — Australian swimmer Dawn Fraser received an unexpected Christmas present on Thursday—two Olympic gold medals which were stolen from her 10 years ago. They were mailed to her home in a cardboard carton. She won gold medals in the women's 100-metre freestyle at the 1956, 1960 and 1964 Olympics.

BALL TRANSFERRED
LONDON (AP) — Alan Ball, who helped England win the soccer World Cup in 1966, was transferred to Southampton from Arsenal Thursday for 60,000 pounds (\$102,000). Arsenal, in the English League First Division, agreed to let the 31-year-old star go after signing midfielder Alan Hudson from Stoke.

LOSE MONEY
HOUSTON (AP) — An official of Houston Aeros said Thursday the World Hockey Association club will end up in the red again this year unless there is a sharp increase in attendance. George Bolin, chairman of the board, said the Aeros are averaging less than 6,000 a game and added

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NHL TOP TEN
By THE CANADIAN PRESS
National Hockey League scoring leaders after Thursday's games.

G	A	P
Lafleur, AHL	26	29
DeLoach, AHL	17	23
Gilbert, NYR	16	23
Sattler, TOR	15	23
Shurt, AHL	20	19
McDonald, TOR	19	18
Perreault, B.J	20	17
McDonald, NYR	17	17
St. Martin, Buf	22	14
McNab, Bos	21	10
Selmskog, Tor	5	24

WHA TOP TEN
By THE CANADIAN PRESS
World Hockey Association scoring leaders after Thursday's games.

G	A	P
Hedberg, Wpg	20	29
Cochran, Que	17	29
Flores, Pfo	24	20
S. Bernier, Que	18	23
Leduc, Cin	18	23
Wilson, Wpg	15	22
Lacroix, SD	11	27
Tarantino, Wpg	11	27
C. Borgeleau, Que	15	26
Haglund, Tor	25	15
Harris, Tor	8	28

Warmest wishes for a joyest Christmas

May the Holiday season bring you peace and personal happiness throughout the coming year.

PAT JORDAN, MLA N. Okanagan

Fincups trounce Poland in junior championship

PRAGUE (CP) — Dale McCourt scored four goals Thursday as St. Catharines Fincups, representing Canada in the world junior hockey championships, thrashed Poland 14-0 behind goalie Al Jensen's 26-save shutout.

The Ontario Hockey Association Major Junior A club, bolstered by eight players from other league teams, jumped to a 3-0 lead in the first period and added five more goals in the second and six in the third.

Chipping in with two goals each in the game at Banika Bystrica in central Slovakia were Brian Anderson, Dave

Hunter and Geoff Shaw. Steve Hazlett, Willy Huber, Alan Secord and Joe Conlitti added single goals.

In other tournament games Thursday, West Germany defeated the United States 4-3, the Soviet Union beat the host Czechoslovakians 4-0 and Sweden edged Finland 5-4.

"I'm very pleased with the performance of the club," St. Catharines coach Bert Templeton said after the game, "especially the way they worked together when they consider it was the first time we played in a regular game with part of our team

and the kids we added." "However, we can't be overconfident. I know we'll have tough games ahead."

The Fincups play Czechoslovakia on Saturday.

Prior to leaving Canada, the Fincups were under the impression they could take 29 players for use in the tournament. When they arrived, however, tournament officials told the Canadians they would have to name 20 players and use them during the tournament.

Of the nine players the Fincups added from other OHA teams, only Craig Hartburg of Sault Ste. Marie

Greyhounds was forced to sit out the tournament because of the revised player limit.

Other players added to the Fincups roster for the tournament are Trevor Johansen and John Anderson of Toronto Marlboros, Brad Marsh and Rob Ramage of London Knights, Dave Hunter and Ron Dugway of Sudbury Wolves, Dwight Foster of Kitchener Rangers and goaltender Bob Davy of Ottawa '76.

Three of the eight players who will have to sit out the tournament because of the new player limit have injuries.

Blazers record win over Lords

BELLINGHAM, Wash. (CP) — Bellingham Blazers look a 4-2 lead in the third period and held on for a 4-3 victory over Langley Lords in a British Columbia Junior Hockey League game before 970 fans Thursday night.

Langley led 1-0 after the first period and the teams were tied 2-2 after the second. Erkki Lehtonen scored the winning goal at 15:35 of the third period. Jyrki Salminen, Jari Vitale and Jukka Neukarinen were the other Bellingham scorers.

Gordie Brandt, Ed Lebler and Rob Jones scored for

Langley, all on power plays. Langley's Al Wiebe stopped 35 shots while Harry Kart stopped 26 in the Bellingham goal.

Langley was assessed eight of 15 minor penalties and each team had a fighting major.

The win brought Bellingham, with 38 points, to within two points of second-place Langley in the Coastal Division.

League action resumes Sunday with Bellingham travelling to meet Abbotsford Flyers, and Penticon Veen playing the Buckraos at Kelowna.

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