

Royals to play in Vancouver tournament



VERNON ROYALS TRAVEL to Salmon Arm this weekend to play in the Jewels International Tournament. Working on a one-on-one drill in preparation for the tourney.

By DON KENDALL, Daily News Sports Editor
Vernon Royals will be taking part in one of the toughest girls' high school basketball tournaments ever held in British Columbia this weekend.

Royals are one of eight teams taking part in the Salmon Arm Jewels International Tournament on Friday and Saturday.

Included in the tourney will be three provincial champions and one of the top teams in Washington state.

Royals' Coach Deloy told the Daily News it is an honor just to be invited to the tourney.

BEST TOURNEY
Routeley said, "This has to be the best tournament in B.C. this year, as far as I'm concerned, the competition will be as tough as in the provincial final."

Play gets under way Friday, at 12:30 p.m. with Alberta taking on the top team in Regina and Sask. Central High School.

The pre-tournament party is an eight-team B.C. champion Salmon Arm battles with Calgary Wise Wood at 2 p.m. Manitoba club from Westwood of Winnipeg; tackles Victoria High School at 7 p.m.

Final game of the day has Royals tangling with Tacoma, ranked as one of the top teams in Washington.

Play gets under way Saturday at 10 a.m., with the championship game slated to be held at 8:30 p.m.

The tourney is a double-knockout affair. Routeley said, "There are no easy teams in this tournament. Salmon Arm invited the best teams they could find."

On the way home, Panthers will stop in Hope, on Saturday, to tangle with the Mustangs.

Although Routeley would not make a prediction, he hinted the Royals are always the team to beat.

IN VANCOUVER
In Vancouver, Vernon Panthers will be taking part in the annual Prince of Wales Tournament.

The four-team tourney gets under way Thursday, at 6:30 p.m., with Carson Graham taking on Vernon. Finals are scheduled on Friday night.

On the way home, Panthers will stop in Hope, on Saturday, to tangle with the Mustangs.

Although Routeley would not make a prediction, he hinted the Royals are always the team to beat.

MISS DAVENPORT
Vernon will be making the trip without centre Tom Davy who will be holidaying in Hawaii.

Inrig said, "Naturally we'd like to see Davy back in the line-up, but as long as we don't get into foul trouble, I think we'll be okay."

Patners spent most of their practice time this week working on a modified zone defence and a half-court press. The defence is basically a diamond with one man moving to the ball.

The half-court press is designed to isolate the ball carrier against two defenders, near the sideline.

These will be the last exhibition games for VSSS before the regular season schedule, next Wednesday, when Kelowna Owls are in town.



VERNON PANTHERS are to Vancouver this weekend to Kirk Christmas with a half-court press. In practice Tuesday, are Brent Krusek and Steve King. Daily News Photo.

CURLING CLUB NEWS

By RON HOUSTON, Vernon Curling Club Manager

Playoffs will be held this weekend in Kamloops, for the ladies' district playdowns. At our club, the men's zone four finals will be held.

At Kamloops, four Vernon rinks will be competing for a shot at the zone final, scheduled at Armstrong on Jan 22 and 23. The teams are sketched by Jean Skibolovich, Maureen Weir, Marg Balcombe, and Thelma Trickett.

16 TEAMS
In Vernon, 18 teams from Vernon, Armstrong, Enderby, and Salmon Arm will be competing for one berth in the provincial final at Kelowna, in early February. Draw time Saturday will be 9 a.m., 12 noon, and 5 and 8 p.m. Sunday times are 8:30 and 11 a.m.

One of the most popular curling events in this area, the Lumby Spiel, is under way this weekend. Several top Vernon rinks are taking part.

Commercial league will be holding a turkey shoot Sunday afternoon and all curlers are invited to attend.

HOLLY SPIEL
An event in the Holly Spiel was won by the Barry Blais foursome. They edged Doug Spencer in a thrilling final. B event was won by R. Wood. Curling with Blais were his wife Donna, and Pete and Delores Peschak.

The club's New Year's Eve dance was a smash with good music, good food, and a lively crowd.

The ice at our club continues to be among the tops in the interior thanks to the hard work of the on-ice staff. Ice condition is getting more important as the bonspiel season approaches. The Vernon Men's Open is next weekend.

The SPORTS Page

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10 VERNON DAILY NEWS, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 5, 1977

Rescheduled game in Vernon tonight

Price and Markie hosts Winfield Raiders in North Okanagan Hockey League action tonight, at 8:30 p.m., at the Civic Arena.

The game was scheduled to be played in December, but was postponed when the arena's ice machine broke down.

Price and Markie is the hottest team in the NOHL, currently riding a four-game unbeaten streak. It is the coincidence that the streak started when the club signed goalie Charlie Brikscham and winger Wayne Dye.

Brikscham has been brilliant between the pipes while Dye has supplied P and M with the necessary firepower up front.

Raiders trail first-place Vernon Sport Cougars by three points, while P and M is two points behind.

Meanwhile, in Pleasant Valley Hockey League action tonight, Vernon Leafs drubbed Tri-Lake Cougars 7-2.

Rick Inrig led Leafs' attack with two goals, while Cougars trailed 2-1 at the end of the first period and 3-1 after the second.

FOR TENNIS Covered courts being considered

There is a good possibility Vernon may have four covered tennis courts in operation by Oct. 1, 1977.

Vernon Parks and Recreation Director John Mahler told the Daily News the city has been approached by a private company, from Vancouver, interested in leasing city land to construct the courts.

Les Sallay, manager of Sallacham Tennis Centres Ltd., was in Vernon on Tuesday to discuss the proposal with Mahler.

The concept calls for Sallacham to lease public lands and install fourplex pavilions, at championship level, covered courts.

HAS MERIT
Mahler said, "I think the idea has merit. I'm not convinced, at this point, it is something the city should do. However, if it benefits the community, the proposal should be considered."

Mahler will discuss the concept with the Parks and Recreation Committee, which in turn will submit the proposal to city council.

Sallay says he can get approval from the city within 30 days, the courts could be ready by October 1.

However, city approval is not the only condition which stands in the way of construction. Before Sallacham will consider the project, at least 300 people must take out membership in the tennis club.

Sallay said, "Before construction starts, we have to be sure we're committing financial funds. Our fees are much more reasonable than other facilities in Vancouver."

The complex would be covered by an city-supported structure. During the eight, twelve-month of the year, the courts would be open to the public. However, during the four-

SPORTS BRIEFS

HOCKEY MEETING
The Vernon Hockey League will be holding a meeting Jan. 10 in the Lumby Hotel. All teams are asked to have representatives on hand at 7 p.m. sharp.

PUP SCORES
In Senior Pup House League action last week, Red Top thumped Boston Plaza 6-1, Alhambra edged Village Green 3-2, Bear Alignment doubled Standard Oil 4-2, and Trailhead aced Rendall Tractor 2-1.

IN FIRST
Trailhead moved into first place in the West House League standings this week by blanking Vernon Sport 3-0. The team has 11 points, one more than Vernon Sport and four more than Butcher Boys.

Last-place Pup Reps have yet to gain a point. In their two standings, Elks have 14 points, Geners and Archie Fleming eight, and Universal Wanderers four.

DENIES SALE
ATLANTA (AP) Tom Cousins, boss chairman of the financially-troubled Atlanta Flames, denied a report Tuesday that the National Hockey League club will be sold to businessman Earl Thomas. Cousins said he would report earlier that Cousins was flying to Atlanta for talks about purchasing the club for a reported \$5.2 million.

Red-hot Vikings upset first-place Penticton

Red-hot Vernon Vikings continued on their winning ways Tuesday when they upset first-place Penticton 5-3 in B.C. Junior Hockey League action before 450 fans in the Peach City.

ICHL STANDINGS
W L T Pts
Penticton 21 12 2 49 178 64
Kelowna 30 11 291 180 61
Vernon 22 20 1 208 184
Kamloops 13 30 159 120 26
Meritt 11 32 0 139 220 22

COAST DIVISION
Nanaimo 21 12 2 41 123 63
Langley 21 20 240 242 42
Sooke Ridge 20 21 208 184
Belleville 19 20 191 213 40
Abbotsford 19 26 112 215 38

Third-place Vikings have now lost only once in their last eight outings.

Vernon sent two, and sometimes three, forecheckers in deep to contain Vees in their own zone. The strategy worked as Penticton coughed up the puck 17 times in the second period in their own end.

The clubs battled through a scoreless first period, although the red light behind Penticton goaltender, Jim Scammel, was lit once when Jack Lefley, while laying in the crease, pushed in his own goal. Scammel with a glove and the goal was disallowed.

OPENED SCORING
Captain Gary Gassoff opened the scoring for Vikings on a powerplay, at 1:58 of the second period. Penticton applied a lot of pressure in the next few minutes, but it was an ex-Vee, Ken Peterson, who scored next to make the score 2-0.

Ken Peterson narrowed the gap to 2-1, at 19:30, when a shot from the point hit him in the back and he was an ex-Vee, goalie Keith Ferner. However, just nine seconds before the

period ended, Torgeson got his second goal of the game when he picked up Gassoff's rebound.

Some persistent forechecking by Rich Creelman, brought up by Gary Eades and Shawn Dineen, on a powerplay, narrowed the gap to 4-3 midway through the period.

However, any hopes Penticton had of a comeback was thwarted at 15:30 when Lefley beat Scammel in a scramble.

Vees' shareholder, Bryan Couling called his club's effort the worst of the year. He said, "Our defence was just pitiful."

NON-SUPPORT
Scammel, who made 31 saves, appeared upset with the play of his defence. After one stop, he threw the puck to

centre ice and remained on his knees for about a minute. A Penticton fan voiced the goalie's displeasure when he said, "If you guys don't start playing hockey, Scammel will sue you for non-support."

On the other end, Ferner continued his improved play. He blocked 27 shots, including three labelled blasts by Darren Becker. In his last three starts, Ferner has allowed just six goals.

Vernon was assessed four of six minor penalties. Vikings' General Manager Vern Dye was pleased with the victory on Penticton's ice, particularly because his club was short-handed. Gary Huth and Kevin White are sitting out suspensions while centre Darcy Wilkinson is suffering from bone chips in his left foot.

Dye said, "The game looked sloppy, but I think it was our forechecking that made it look that way. When you shutout Gord McKay and Kevin Maxwell, you're doing something right."

Maxwell is the BCHL's leading scorer while McKay leads the league in goals with 52.

REMEMBER WHEN

Cacl (Babe) Dye, former National Hockey League star, died 10 years ago today—in 1965—in Chicago at the age of 65.

AFTER A MEDIOCRE
START this season, Vernon Vikings' Keith Ferner is starting to display the form that gave him the lowest goals-against average in the BCHL last season. He blocked 27 shots Tuesday as

Vernon edged Penticton 5-3. Ferner has lowered his average to 3.77. (Daily News Photo)

Search resumes for a new boss

TORONTO (CP) — The search for a replacement for National Hockey League president Clarence Campbell is resuming and league governors expect to name his successor by June.

Jacques Courtois, president of Montreal Canadiens, said Tuesday, "A five-member committee suspended its search for a replacement for the 78-year-old league president in April after he and others were charged with 'illegally giving or agreeing to give' benefits of \$90,000 to Senator Louis Giguere in exchange for the senator's influence in obtaining a lease extension on the duty-free shop at Mon-

tréal's Dorval airport granted to Sky Shop Export Ltd. Campbell is a former officer of the Sky Shop company and the case is still in the preliminary stages. The last hearing was Sept. 27.

"Mr. Campbell's personal problems were the reason for the committee slowdown in finding a suitable replacement," Courtois, a member of the selection committee, said in an interview. "In no way did we want to make it appear we had lost faith in Mr. Campbell."

"We will be listening up on the search immediately, though. By June of this year we should have a successor. We've got to hustle this along."

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