Local boys doing well



Vernon is now a household word in several Maritime communities including Thorburn, Westville, Stellarton, Pictou Landing, and Merigomish.

Those towns are all located on the north coast of Nova Scotia, near New Glasgow, site of the Canadian Legion Curling championships.

B.C. is being represented by the Vernon foursome of skip Dave Simpson, third Dwayne MacDonald, second Ben Shewaga, and lead Jim Pow. And the boys from out west aren't doing too bad.

Play started Monday and Simpson recorded two victories, including a win over one of the top-ranked teams — Nova Scotia. Simpson edged Nova Scotia 8-2 before thumping Prince Edward Island 8-2.

Simpson tells us his club was very nervous at first, but is starting to settle down.

He said, "We were under a lot of pressure first game. We knew Nova Scotia had a good rink and we're playing in their home province.

"But, now we're starting to settle down. Our guys shot well against P.E.I."

TOUGH COMPETITION

Competition is extremely tough in the Legion Spiel which is recognized as second, only to the Briar, in Canadian men's curling.

Simpson said, "We knew it would be tough, but we didn't think the competition would be this good. There are several great teams here. Alberta, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia, and Ontario will all give us lots of trouble."

Skip of the Ontario team is six-time Purple Heart winner Vince Gallipeau. His team's talent doesn't end there — the third is four-time Purple Heart winner Earl Carson.

Brock Stackhouse's Otterburn Park rink has represented Quebec for the last four years and eight times altogether since 1964. Larry Auclair, second on the Quebec rink, is making his sixth appearance.

Alberta, the defending champion, is skipped by George Kjenner of Fort Saskatchewan.

Simpson said, "If we can keep our poise — we'll be okay. I think we have confidence now."

Vernon is scheduled to take on Newfoundland and Manitoba today.

CAR SPIEL MEETING

While we're on the subject of curling, the Vernon Curling O'Keefe Car Spiel committee has scheduled its annual meeting for Thursday night at the curling club.

Subjects on the agenda include election of officers for 1977 and Super Draw Curling.

Retiring Chairman Ted Luculik said he is concerned about the prospect of Super Draw being held in October, at the Newcombe North Tennis Ranch.

Luculik said, "I certainly don't think having Super Draw a week before, or after, us would help.

"We will be in touch with Super Draw organizer Mike McGrath within a few days to try to work things out. It will certainly be discussed in detail at Thursday's meeting."

October is a busy month for curling in B.C. and the popular opinion seems to be another big spiel isn't needed at that time of year.



'B' EVENT WINNERS

Carol Watson rink of Vernon captured first-place in the 'B' event, at last weekend's Silver Star Bonspiel at the Vernon Curling Club. Curling with Watson were third Edna Little, second Pat MacDonald, and lead Joan Grahame. Doris Johnson foursome of Kelowna captured the 'A' event while Lois Allen of Chase won the 'C' trophy and Jessie Vassar of Hinton, Alta. took the 'D' event prize home.

SPORTS BRIEFS

CARIBOO LEAGUE

Several ex-Vernon junior hockey players were prominent in the Cariboo Hockey League's final statistics this season. Jack Marsh, who played in Vernon during the 197?-?1 season, was third in the Canoon in scoring with 58 points. Dwight Bailey (1975) was fifth with 50 points and Ken Price (1974) placed 10th 42 points. Dennis Bergeron (1972), who played with Prince George Mohawks this season, was named top defenceman in the league.



DENNIS BERGERON
... top defenceman

CHURCH LOOP

Church of God defeated Alliance Alley Cats 15-8, 14-16, and 15-6; while Trinity Thunder blasted Vernon A's 15-8, 14-16, and 15-6 in Church League Volleyball action Monday at Kal School.

FINAL GAME

Barons will meet Roadrunners in the men's indoor five-a-side soccer league championship Wednesday at Kal School. In last week's semi-final games, Roadrunners bombed Hawks 11-4 and Barons outlasted Wanderers 11-8.

A THRILLER

Sun Auto Parts edged Tirebusters 15-5, 14-16, and 15-5 in the All-employee Volleyball League championship game Monday at Kal School. Audible caused the consolation final be defeating Lions Club 15-9 and 15-8.

COFFEE PARTY

Spallumcheen Golf Club ladies' division will open its season on March 30, at 10 a.m., with a coffee party in the club house. All lady members and guests are welcome. For further information phone 542-6047.

FIRST ROUND

Honeymooners' Volleyball League playoffs got under way Sunday at the Recreation Complex with four games. Friends dumped Goodtimers 8-15, 15-11, and 15-4; Daredevils edged Just Us 15-12, 9-15, and 15-11; Ballbusters trounced Spastic Spikers 15-0 and 16-14, and Chimos downed Hot Cheeks 13-15, 15-5, and 15-4.

FOUR GAMES

Four matches were played Monday in ladies' volleyball action at the Recreation Complex. Sneakers hammered Jugglers 15-2, 15-9, and 15-6; Operators downed Hightimes 6-15, 15-4, and 15-13; Heroes hammered Speedos 15-11, 3-15, and 15-9; and Spartans blasted K-Clan 15-8, 15-8, and 15-8.

UNDERGOES SURGERY

DETROIT (AP) — Detroit Red Wings defenceman Terry Harper will undergo knee surgery next Monday in Ann Arbor, Mich., to repair a torn ligament in his left knee, the National Hockey League team announced Monday. Harper's leg was immobilized in a cast after he suffered the injury during a March 12 game at Toronto. Surgery was decided during an examination Monday.

FIGHTS AT FORUM

MONTREAL (CP) — Clyde Gray of Toronto, Canadian and Commonwealth welterweight boxing champion, fights lowly-regarded Venezuelan Guerrero Chavez tonight. In a co-feature on the card at the Forum, Jean Lapointe of Montreal has been established a slight favorite to grab the Canadian lightweight championship from Nova Scotian Barry Sponacle.

PIN POINTS

Wednesday Matinee
March 9

Women's high single, Ollie Tischin 280, high triple, Linda Morton 695, high average, Carol Skidmore 208

Team high single, Lane Loons 1299 high triple, Kit Kats 3648

TEAM STANDINGS

Blanks	365½
Ball Points	341
Cow Girls	336
Odds n Ends	324½

March 13—Mixed—6-10

Women's high single Coby Franson 275, high triple Donna Desmeules 683, high average Carol Skidmore 209

Men's high single Paul Piche 355, high triple Searle Sheldon 797 high average Marcel Gallon 278

Team high single Lincoln Lanes 1298, high triple Smitty's 3600

300+ Club Paul Piche 355, Searle Sheldon 315

TEAM STANDINGS

Rox Bakery	206
Odd Couple	200
Lane Lions	195
S & Girls	194
Paul Piche 8 in row	

March 13—Sr YBC

Women's high single Debbie Woodroff 274, high triple Debbie Woodroff 654, high average Peggy Turek 220

Men's high single Randy Dunn 333, high triple Karl Turnquist 827, high average Tim Dooling 272

Team high single FFOT 1206, high triple Lucky Strikes 3208

300+ Club Randy Dunn 333, Karl Turnquist 331

TEAM STANDINGS

FFOT	84½
Stones	74½
Physicals	70½
Sunrise	705

Bowlers of the Week Sandra Dinney, ave. 164, triple 536, pins over 44, Scott Malcolm, 158, triple 659, pins over 185

100 Pins over Randy Dunn, 201 ave., single 333, pins over 132, Linda Scott, 157 ave., 264 single, pins over 107, Karl Turnquist, 208 ave., 331 single, 123 pins over, Ronald Krause 183 ave., 286 single, 101 pins over

March 11—Gym Dandy

Women's high single Timmy Laney 177, high double Timmy Laney 339, high average Ida Gilles 165

Men's high single Stuart Giddens 267, high double Stuart Giddens 391, high average Glyn Ramsdale 160

Bowler of the week Ladies, Sandy Schaffer, 54 pins over ave., men's Stuart Giddens, 115 pins over ave





BOWLERS OF THE WEEK

This week's top bowlers are Myrne Phillips of Punners in the Wednesday 7-9 p.m. League, and Laurie Blake of Misfits in the Tuesday 7-9 p.m. league. Phillips rolled an 814 triple, 244 pins over her 190 average. Blake recorded a 774 threesome, 186 pins over his 196 average.

BASEBALL MEETING TONIGHT

Vernon Minor Baseball Association will be holding its annual meeting at 7:30 p.m., in the National Hotel.

Main topics on the agenda include election of officers for 1977 and scheduling.

Vice-president Art Block said, "We're hoping for a good turnout. We have a lot of work to do and several positions to fill. It is impossible to operate a successful organization without a good executive."

Meanwhile, a second baseball registration will be held Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Recreation Complex. Boys six to 16 are eligible to play.

Lacrosse clinic Saturday

Vernon Minor Lacrosse Association will be holding a clinic Saturday at the Recreation Complex gymnasium.

It will be the last opportunity to register for boys wishing to play this year. Players aged six to 10 will attend the clinic from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, while boys aged 11 to 16 will be on hand from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Sticks will be on sale at both sessions.

Minor lacrosse registrar Murray Gilchrist told the Daily News about 140 boys have signed up to date.

Gilchrist said, "We registered about 130 boys last Saturday and another 10 boys contacted us Monday. We are anticipating 150-160 players, which will give about 10 teams."

Coordinator Fred McKenzie said, "We had no idea we would get a response like this. We had been planning for three or four teams. We've got a few bugs to iron out, but we'll try to accommodate every boy who wants to play."

Langley out, Vees hang on

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

One best-of-seven British Columbia Junior Hockey League semi-final series was decided Monday night while the other will go to a seventh game.

Nanaimo Clippers doubled Langley Lords 6-3 to win the coastal series 4-2, while in Penticton, the Vees beat Kelowna Buckaroos by the same score to tie the Interior series at 3-3.

The final game in the series is Wednesday in Kelowna.

In Langley, George Fritz broke a 3-3 tie with the Lords at 0:37 of the third period as the Clippers went ahead for the win and the coastal position in the league final.

The teams were scoreless after the first period and were tied 3-3 after 40 minutes.

Fritz scored twice for Nanaimo, as did Bob Janach. Singles were scored by Morley Anderson and Darcey Listeaghe.

Chris Tucker, Terry Jackson and Lane Lavik scored for Langley.

In Penticton, the Vees led throughout with a 2-1 edge after the first period and a 4-3 margin after the second.

Mike Bracko led the winning attack with two goals while Dave Smith, Ken Federaen, John Uveges and Carey Eades added one each.

Scoring for Kelowna were Bill Auderski, Scott MacLeod and Rod Danchuk.

Kokanee records shattered

Six members of the Vernon Kokanee Swim Club recently took part in the B.C. championships in Surrey. Although the club representation was small, four locals qualified for finals.

Bruce Berger was the top Vernon competitor placed fourth in the 150s freestyle, 19th in the 400 and 100 freestyle, and fifth in both the 100 and 200 backstroke. He has qualified for the Division II nationals in nine events and is getting close to qualifying times for the Canadian nationals.

BOTH QUALIFIED

Graham Schnare, 18, and Margie Potyrala, 14, both qualified for the Division II nationals in the 50 freestyle. Potyrala placed fifth in the finals of that event and established a new Kokanees' record.

Tammy Dantzer finished fifth in the 100 backstroke and missed the finals in 200 backstroke by only .1 second. She shattered team records in both events.

Jimmy Morden was the other Vernon swimmer to qualify for the finals. He placed fifth in 50 freestyle and set another team record.

TWO RECORDS

Jennifer Strachan did not place well, but did establish Kokanee records in 400 freestyle and 100 backstroke.

Vernon Coach Vince Mikuska said, "All our swimmers gained a great deal of experience and we are looking forward to big things at the summer championships."

Evans may lead Canada

MONTREAL (CP) — The Star says Cleveland Barons coach Jack Evans will be offered the job of coaching Team Canada at next month's world hockey championships in Vienna.

The newspaper says Evans, completing his second year as a National Hockey League coach, is the only choice of Team Canada officials who at one time envisioned two coaches sharing the job.

The Star says the second coach was to have been Tom McVie of Washington Capitals, but he has taken himself out of the running.

Evans has attracted the admiration of hockey people with his dedication to physical conditioning and the way he has kept the Cleveland squad playing respectable hockey despite the team's desparate financial plight.

The eight-team, double round-robin tourney begins at the Stadthalle in Vienna on April 21 and ends May 8.

WHA boss denies report

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Bill MacFarland, president of the World Hockey Association, has denied a claim that four WHA teams are preparing for merger with the National Hockey League and that two more will be picked.

Bobby Hull, a left winger with Winnipeg Jets, said last week he is confident the WHA will merge with the NHL by June 27 of this year.

MacFarland said at a league meeting Monday that he knows of no such situation. He said the WHA will exist as a separate league next year with at least nine franchises and possibly 11.

Hockey greats enter tournament

Eight teams, featuring some of the greatest players who ever laced up skates in B.C., will be competing in the second annual Vernon Oldtimers Hockey Tournament this weekend.

Honorary Tournament Director Don Warner will get the event under way Friday, at 7 p.m., with the dropping of the puck. First game will have defending champion Kelowna-Penticton battling last year's runner-up Vernon.

At 9:15 p.m., Kamloops will tangle with Rossland. Other first round games have East Kootenay against Banff on Saturday at 8 a.m., with Spokane battling Calgary at 10:15 a.m.

Play continues all day Saturday, with the consolation final scheduled Sunday at 10:30 a.m., and the championship game at 1 p.m.

HOST TEAM

Vernon could prove to be one of the teams to beat. The host club boasts several former senior stars such as Tom Stecyk, Walt Trentini, Don Jakes, Jim Moro, Jack Howard, and Odie Lowe. The roster has been bolstered this year with the addition of Larry Fischer, Bob Hawkins, Cal Gord, and Sheldon Bloomer.

Pre-tournament favorite has to be East Kootenay, from Kimberley. They recently won the Canadian Oldtimers Championship in Ontario. The club is led by former Vancouver Canuck Ron Hutchison and a member of the 1955 world champion Penticton Vees, Walt Peacosh.

Kelowna-Penticton will be led by last year's tournament MVP Red Bosscha. And Bosscha will have lots of help. The defending champs will be counting heavily on Clayton and Orv Laval, Pat Colburn, Mike Durban, Brian Roche, Ray Powell, and Jim Fairburn.

EX-PRO

Spokane Expos boast several former pro and senior stars. Del Topoll, who played numerous seasons in the Western Hockey League, leads the offence. Doug Kilburn, Blinky Boyce, Ernie Gare, and Don McGowan will supply lots of scoring punch. Between the pipes will be Verne Kneeshaw and Dave Cox.

Kamloops has lost twice to Vernon this year in exhibition play, but the Thompson River boys can't be counted out. Ken Stewart, who played briefly with Chicago Black Hawks prior to World War II, leads the club. Lorne Lussier, Fred Gaber, and Bud Evans are all senior hockey veterans.

Rossland Warriors have several former senior players on the roster including Dave Stewart, Leo Luchinni, Alex Birukow, and the Secco brothers, Ernie and Primo.

36 YEARS OLD

Banff, last year's consolation winners, has one of the oldest players competing. Bas Rivett, 63, still moves around the ice pretty well.

Calgary Fairview Oldtimers is not an awesome team, but the Alberta squad plans to bolster its line-up with the addition of several players from other prairie Oldtimer teams.

Daily News

SPORTS Page

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Simpson tied for Legion lead

Dave Simpson of Vernon, George Kjenner of Alberta, and John Morrison of Saskatchewan each won two games Monday to share the early lead in the annual Royal Canadian Legion curling championship in New Glasgow, N.S.

Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, and Quebec each had 1-1 records. Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, and Manitoba were winless at 0-2.

Simpson, representing B.C., edged Earl Jesse of Nova Scotia 5-4 in the opening round and defeated Art Love of P.E.I. 7-2 in the afternoon draw.

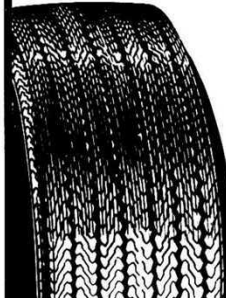
Alberta, the defending champion, defeated P.E.I. 10-2 in the first draw and turned back Ray MacIsaac of Manitoba 8-4 in the afternoon.

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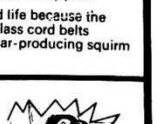
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