

VERNON GOLF CLUB pro Ron Wood is ready for another busy year on the links. Wood said memberships are up this season and the course is in great shape. (Daily News Photo)

Membership on the upswing at golf course

The amount of space in the Vernon Golf Club pro shop hasn't increased in the last few years, but the volume of business certainly has picked up.

Big Ron Wood, the club pro, has to watch his step in the shop these days to avoid stepping on the merchandise. But, he isn't doing much complaining.

BEST YEAR

Wood said, "It would be nice to have more space, but we're happy to be heading into such a good season. It looks like this could be our best ever."

Membership at the club has soared to 500, from about 450 last year. It is the biggest one year increase ever experienced by our club.

Wood said, "I'm not sure how to explain the amount of new members, but I do know we have a lot of young adults and juniors signing up."

Besides six major zone tournaments, there will be 24 club events held between now and October.

Next event at the club will be the Spring Calcutta, slated to be held on May 1. The first major event will be the Chinook Open, for men and ladies, from May 21-28.

Other featured events include: Zone 3 Men's Invitational on June 4-5; Vernon Ladies Sweepstake on June 25; Vernon Open on July 1-2; Silver Star Junior on July 16; and the Husband and Wife twoball on Oct. 9.

Retaliation nets Canada 13 penalties

GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN (CP) — "It was brutal," said defenceman Carol Vadnais, describing Canada's penalty-filled sixth game of its European exhibition hockey tour Thursday night.

"We'll kill penalties we deserve for being too aggressive but this is a joke," said Vadnais after helping the Canadian team beat the host West Germans 8-2 before 6,000 fans.

It was much like Wednesday's game against the West Germans in which Canada won 8-1 in Duesseldorf. There was plenty of illegal play on both sides although the Canadians retaliated a little too often and that's when the referee called most of the penalties.

The win raised Canada's record to 5-1-2 on its tour which continues Saturday and Monday in Prague with a two-game series against the defending world champion Czechoslovakians.

Referee Heinrich Ehresberger of Switzerland, the same official who handled Wednesday's game, gave Canada 11 minor penalties, a major, a 10-minute misconduct to Glen Sharpley and a match penalty to Jean Pronovost.

The West Germans received six minors while outshooting the visitors 32-27.

IGNORED INFRACTIONS

The referee generally ignored obvious infractions until fights broke out in the third period.

Eric Vail, Sharpley on a short-handed effort, and Walt McKechnie scored for the Canadians who led 1-0 after the first period and 2-1 at the end of the second.

Vladimir Vycatko and Hermann Einterstocker, on a power play, scored for the Germans.

Coach Johnny Wilson rested seven players—Phil Esposito, Greg Smith, Dennis Kearns, Dennis Maruk, Bob Murdoch, Ralph Klassen and Al MacAdam.

Tony Esposito made his first start in goal for Canada and turned in a strong performance before he was replaced by Gillies Meloche at 11:46 of the second period. Meloche allowed both goals, one on a breakaway.



BOB NYSTROM ... will teach

EDDIE JOHNSTONE ... returning

WAYNE BIANCHIN ... may come

PROS WILL TEACH AT ENDERBY SCHOOL

Enderby Hockey School Director Joe Tennant announced this week the school's second season of operation will be from Aug. 1 to 26.

Tennant told the Daily News he has lined up some top-notch instructors.

Among the confirmed instructors are Grant Mulvey of Chicago Black Hawks, Don Ashby of Toronto Maple Leafs, Bob Nystrom of New York Islanders, and Eddie Johnstone of New Haven Nighthawks.

Ashby of Kamloops and Vernon's Johnstone taught at the school last year, while Mulvey and Nystrom will be making their first appearances in Enderby.

Tennant said, "We haven't confirmed what days the pros will be on hand, but we hope each one will be in attendance for at least one week. There is also a good chance Wayne Bianchin, of Pittsburgh Penguins, will be at the school for a while.

"In addition to the pros, we will have some top-notch instructors from this area. We are hoping to have Peter Poeschek, Gary Gilchrist, and WCHL all-star Ron Areshenkoff back again."

The school will also be offering special instruction for goaltenders. Vernon product Ken Holland, an all-star in the North American Hockey League with Binghamton Dusters, will head the sessions. There is also a possibility netminding great Seth Martin will be on hand.

Tennant said, "The last two weeks are about 50 per cent full, so naturally we are very encouraged by the response."

Brochures can be picked up in Vernon at Art's Gulf or Ernie's Esso.

Slaton keeps it cool, Orioles go down 5-0

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

The weather in Milwaukee was just what the doctor ordered for Jim Slaton.

"In warmer weather, I might not have lasted as long," said the Milwaukee Brewer pitcher.

Slaton was making his first American League baseball start of the season Thursday after a long siege with the flu and with the help of cool temperatures, breezed through nine no-sweat innings and handcuffed Baltimore Orioles 5-0 on three hits.

"I would have sweated a lot more if it was warmer and it would have drained a lot more out of me," noted Slaton, who had lost six pounds during his illness and recovery.

In other American League games, Toronto Blue Jays beat Detroit Tigers 5-3, Seattle Mariners nipped Minnesota Twins 4-3 and Oakland A's edged California Angels 8-7. The Texas-Cleveland game was postponed by rain.

The Brewers took a 2-0 lead with two fifth-inning runs off loser Rudy May, 6-2. Don Money singled and took third on a double by Dan Thomas. Money scored on a single by Von Joshua and Thomas raced home when Larry Harlow bobbled the ball for an error in short center.

TOOK 4-0 LEAD

The Brewers made it 4-0 with a pair of unearned runs in the sixth and a single by Cecil Cooper and double by Sal Bando produced their final run in the eighth.

American League

EAST	W	L	Pct.	GBL
Cleveland	3	1	.750	½
Toronto	5	2	.714	—
Milwaukee	3	2	.600	1
New York	3	2	.600	2
Baltimore	1	4	.200	3
Detroit	1	6	.143	4
Boston	0	5	.000	3½
WEST				
Oakland	6	1	.857	—
Kansas City	4	1	.800	1
Texas	4	1	.800	1
Chicago	3	2	.600	2
Seattle	4	5	.444	3
Minnesota	3	4	.429	3
California	3	4	.333	4

Kiddie Korps steals show for Cardinals

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

It was senior citizens' day at New York's Shea Stadium but St. Louis Cardinals' Kiddie Korps stole the show.

"St. Louis might be the darkhorses," said New York manager Joe Frazier after the highflying, young Cardinals disposed of the Mets 4-1 Thursday and improved their National League baseball record to 5-1, all on the road.

After winning three games in Pittsburgh, the Cards were shut out by the Mets' Tom Seaver on Tuesday, but bounced back with a pair of victories. The hungry Redbirds are beginning to make believers of pre-season experts who consigned them to fourth place in the National League East.

In the only other National League game Thursday, San Francisco Giants outscored San Diego Padres 8-4 as Jim Barr pitched a seven-hitter and Bill Madlock and Willie McCovey belted two-run homers.

"Pittsburgh and New York are strong enough clubs to make or break you," said 37-year-old left fielder Lou Brock, the club's elder statesman, "and usually they break you more than make you."

Brock is caught up in the club's early-season spirit of success, but it doesn't surprise him.

PLAYERS DETERMINED

"This club was 80 per cent young, inexperienced players who were just happy to be in the major leagues and were awed by the opposition. But the last six weeks they adopted the attitude that they would stand up and fight and not be denied. What you see now are guys determined to prove they're big league ballplayers."

The young lions include first baseman Keith Hernandes, 23; shortstop Garry Templeton, 22; right fielder Heutor Cruz, 24; and rookie relievers John Urrea, 22, and Johnny Sutton, 24. Templeton and Hernandes each drove in a run Thursday while newcomer Tony Scott, who has less than two years of service in the majors, slammed a two-run triple while filling in for centre fielder Bake McBride.

When the Mets nicked winner Bob Forsch for a run in the seventh, Urrea came on and struck out Felix Millan, one of baseball's toughest hitters to strike out.

National League

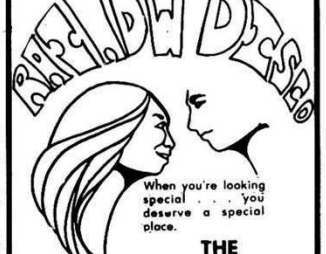
EAST	W	L	Pct.	GBL
St. Louis	5	1	.833	—
Chicago	3	2	.600	1½
Montreal	2	2	.500	2
New York	2	3	.500	2
Pittsburgh	2	3	.400	2½
Philadelphia	0	4	.000	4
WEST				
Houston	5	1	.833	—
Los Angeles	4	2	.667	1
San Francisco	3	3	.500	2
San Diego	3	4	.429	2½
Atlanta	2	4	.333	3
Cincinnati	2	4	.286	3½

Coldstream ball sign-up

Coldstream Minor Ball Association will be holding its registration on Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, at Coldstream Elementary School.

Girls aged 10 to 14 are eligible to play softball, but must present a medical insurance number.

Baseball is open for boys aged 11 to 16. For the first time, boys 11-14 will be playing baseball in Coldstream. However each registrant must show his birth certificate and medical number.



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SPORTS Page

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Motocross to be held in Vernon

Vernon Off-road Motorcycle Association will be sponsoring a CMA-sanctioned motocross on April 24, at the Head of the Lake Road.

About 170 entries, from throughout B.C. and Alberta, are expected to enter the event.

Association spokesman Don Mountenay told the Daily News he anticipates about eight local entries. Included in those will be B.C. junior open champion Doug Buckholz, of Vernon.

Spectators are welcome.

KENDALL'S KORNER

Revelstoke wants team



Despite popular rumors, B.C. Junior Hockey League officials have denied that league franchises move around more than a floating crap game.

Every year at this time, the great guessing game starts as to where BCJHL teams will be located next year, and how many teams there will be.

The league expanded to 10 teams last season, and despite several clubs showing large deficits, appears certain to have 10 franchises again in 1977-78. However, there will be some changes.

By hook, or by crook, Revelstoke will have a junior A hockey team next season. It could get a club two ways. Firstly, if Kamloops Chiefs, of the Western Canada Hockey League, decide to stay in the B.C. Interior, the Braves of the BCJHL will move to Revelstoke. But, if Chiefs move to Seattle as anticipated, Braves will remain in Kamloops.

Which brings us to the next possibility. Reportedly, Maple Ridge Bruins are planning a move. Bruins have drawn miserable crowds for the past two seasons in the over-saturated Lower Mainland. Team owner Ernie McLean is apparently tired of beating his head against the wall in Maple Ridge. He may try to relocate in another coast city, or move to Revelstoke.

Revelstoke has always been a good hockey town and city council recently cleared the way for a junior team to locate there.

The league's other eight teams appear content to stay in Nanaimo, Langley, Abbotsford, Bellingham, Kelowna, Penticton, Merritt, and Vernon. However, Langley had a dismal season at the gate and could be looking for greener pastures.

SPREADING NEWS

Merritt Coach Joe Tennant was in Vernon this week spreading the news about his second annual Enderby Hockey School. Tennant has lined up a pretty impressive group of instructors.

The fiery warrior stated last year that he would retire from coaching at the end of the 1976-77 season. But, he tells us now he is going back to Merritt, "To win a championship. I've got 16 good hockey players coming back and a lot of irons in the fire."

Commenting on Nanaimo Clippers' upset loss to Richmond Sockeyes, of the Pacific Junior League, Tennant said, "It has become evident our season is too long. Nanaimo was tired of playing hockey, while Sockeyes were just peaking. We have to cut our season back to about 50 games."

That statement comes from a man, who just two years ago, was advocating a long schedule so teams could make ends meet. But, it has become apparent to everyone, including Tennant, that no one wants to see or play that much hockey.

By the time Clippers were finished, they had played 90 games this season. That is a lot of hockey, especially when you consider many players also attend school or college.

WHAT IS NEW?

What else is new?

Well, the Molson Pro Team Race on Saturday at Silver Star should be exciting. You can bet competitors will be going all-out with the hope of taking home some of the $3,300 in prize money.

there is one way NHL officials could even up the current Montreal-St. Louis playoff series. Lend the Blues three defencemen, Larry Robinson, Serge Savard, and Guy Lapointe. That trio heads one of the most impressive defensive corps in history.

Last time we heard from Newcombe North, Tennis Ranch principle Mike McGrath, funds to finance the project, from Europe, had not yet arrived. Work is progressing, but the money is needed very quickly to ensure the ranch's success.

want some exercise — get ready for the March for the Handicapped on May 1.

Nordiques set to sweep series

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec Nordiques are in position to sweep their World Hockey Association quarter-final playoff series, but their coach will not let them think about it.

"We aren't taking anything for granted against the (New England) Whalers even though we've had their number for most of this year," said Quebec coach Marc Boileau on Thursday night. "We are just thinking about finishing off this series before we start looking ahead."

The Nordiques needed 1:50 of overtime to score their third consecutive victory over New England in the best-of-seven series. Defenceman Paul Baxter scored on a 20-foot wrist shot, giving Quebec a 4-3 win. The fourth game is scheduled for Saturday night.

A four-game sweep also is possible in the other quarter-final involving Eastern Division teams. Blair MacDonald scored three goals and Brian McDonald had two, leading Indianapolis Racers to a 5-3 victory over Cincinnati Stingers for their third consecutive triumph.

The fourth game of the series will be played Saturday night at Indianapolis.

In other quarter-final play, Houston Aeros and Edmonton Oilers return to action tonight at Houston with the Aeros leading 2-0 while San Diego Mariners and Winnipeg Jets play Saturday night at San Diego with the Jets leading the series 2-0.

CLOUTIER SET HIM UP

Real Cloutier set up Baxter with a perfect pass. Baxter then got past Whalers defenceman Gord Roberts and beat goalie Christer Abrahamsson.

"When I got the puck I was one-on-one against Roberts," said Baxter after his first goal of the playoffs. "I saw an opening to the inside and took it and then aimed the shot for a spot between the goalie's pads and let it go. And happily, it went in."

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