New breed of curler changes face of game

Paul Gowsell of Calgary doesn't look like your average world champion. He has long red hair, wears tee-shirts on the ice, and often dresses in blue jeans.

However, lack of etiquette certainly hasn't hurt the 20-year-old's ability to curl. Gowsell and his colorful foursome, from Calgary, flew into the curling spotlight in 1976 when they won the national and world junior championships.

Because of his lifestyle, Gowsell immediately became a focus of attention — and usually criticism. He told the Daily News the comments used to bother him, but he is used to it now.

Gowsell said, "I'll never forget what happened when we returned home from winning in Sweden. We had gone to a dance after the spiel ended and wore blue jeans — half the people there were in jeans. When we got back to Alberta we discovered that the press said we disgraced the country by wearing jeans to a banquet. That is what it has been like for us."

TOPS IN CALGARY

The young team's success certainly didn't end when their junior career did. Last year they won $10,000 in Brandon and placed second in Saskatoon. He then went on to capture first-place in the tough Calgary Super League.

Gowsell said, "We don't get hassled quite as much anymore — I guess people are getting used to us. I get along great with all the guys I curl against. Once in a while we get bothered about our sweeping style, and of course, there are still some people who don't like the way we look."

PAUL GOWSELL, winner of last weekend's Carling O'Keefe Car Spiel, is the focus of attention wherever he curls. It used to bother him, but not anymore.

COMPLIMENTED

Obviously Gowsell's opponents don't mind what he looks like. Five-time Alberta champion, Matt Baldwin of Edmonton, called Gowsell good for the game. Baldwin said, "He gives the game some color. We need more guys like him."

Saskatchewan Brier representative Les Rogers of Regina agreed with Baldwin. Rogers said, "People want to watch Gowsell and hope he loses. But, he brings the spectators out."

In his first bonspiel of the season, the Edmonton Cash event, he won five games, lost four, and picked up $1,200. However, he isn't happy with the way his team is playing. Gowsell said, "We're still not consistent. We have to play a draw game to win."

FOOTBALL SHIRT

At the Vernon Car Spiel last weekend, Gowsell surprised fans when he appeared for his second game wearing a football sweater. He explained his attire by saying, "I wore my curling sweater the first game and we lost. I wanted to change my luck."

His rink was the only one using the push broom in the Vernon spiel. He said, "A few years ago everyone was using them — they were a fad. So, we tried them and liked them. I think they work better."

He plans to keep curling as long as he keeps winning and that could be for quite a while. Call him a flake, a reject, or a disgrace — but the truth is he has put a new air of excitement in the game of curling.

DAILY NEWS SPORTS ALERT

MINOR HOCKEY

7:45-10 p.m., midget house league
6-7 a.m. (Thursday), bantam rep practice

ALL-EMPLOYEE VOLLEYBALL

At Bealrsto: 7:30 p.m., Vernon Auto Sport vs. Letrick; 8:30 p.m., Sun Auto Parts vs. Kal Tire.

MAJOR WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

All games start at 7:30 p.m. At Kal School: Bumpers, Hot Shots, Coldstream Hotel and Bib and Tucker. At OK Landing School: Village Green Inn, Speedos, Justice and Woodstocks.

WOMEN'S COMMERCIAL VOLLEYBALL

At Fulton: 7 p.m., Guzzlers vs. Heroes and Fonzie's Girls vs. Kootenay Six; 8 p.m., Dollies vs. Gusto and Jokers vs. Wesco; 9 p.m., Cobras vs. Collaborators and Roadrunners vs. All-stars.

At Seaton: 7 p.m., Stompers vs. Setters and Mixed Nuts vs. Kal Tire; 8 p.m., Sneakers vs. Fatswith and Howlers vs. Mission Impossible; 9 p.m., Gold Diggers vs. Magnificent Seven and Smashers vs. Red Top.

Skiers elect new executive

Herb Erickson has been elected president of the Silver Star Ski Club for the 1977-78 season.

More than 40 people attended the club's recent annual meeting at the Vernon Lodge Hotel.

Other officers elected were: vice-president Glen McPherson, secretary Judy White, treasurer Don Cameron, membership Roxanne Woodman, Alpine chairman Stan Slobodin, Nancy Greene chairman Elaine Thorlakson, transportation Marlene Thorlakson, finance Graham Kling, freestyle Bruce Alain, and social Judy Valair.

The club acts as the governing body for the alpine, freestyle, and Nancy Greene teams.

Slobodin said, "The aim is to promote and sponsor competitive skiing in these fields. After poor snow conditions last year, the club is attempting to revitalize competitive skiing in this area."

The national Pontiac Cup finals will be held in Vernon, which should help the club's growth.

Slobodin said, "We have the nucleus of a young and aggressive alpine team. With further coaching, plus snow, our skiers will be tough at various competitions.

"Several excellent Nancy Greene skiers are moving up to the alpine team this year. As a result, there are vacancies for skiers 13 and under, in the Nancy Greene program."

Dryland training has started, every Tuesday and Thursday, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at W. L. Seaton School.

Anyone interested is asked to phone 542-1056 or 542-9664.

LOOK BACK FIVE YEARS

NOVEMBER, 1972

After a 6-2 victory over Chilliwack, Vernon Essos were running second behind Penticton Broncos in the B.C. Junior Hockey League.

IN KELOWNA

VSSS wins tournament

By DAVID TURNER
Daily News Correspondent

Vernon Senior Secondary School boys' volleyball won the recent KLO Cougar Classic Invitational Volleyball Tournament.

There were 10 teams participating with KLO, Hugh McRoberts of Vancouver, North Kamloops, and Kelowna Senior Secondary School, competing with Vernon in section A. Vernon finished second in round-robin play after losing two out of three closely fought games to KLO.

In the quarter-finals Vernon dumped Penticton two straight although, both games were closely fought contests.

In the semi-finals VSSS defeated a very highly-rated Rutland team in three games.

In the finals, the Panthers came up big once more as they dropped Mennonite Educational Institute in the first game by a score of 15-2. The second game was a different story as MEI squeaked by with a 15-12 score but, Vernon didn't give up and won the final game by an overwhelming 15-4 score.

Vernon had two players chosen to the all-star team. Jim Tilton and Dave Harding, who along with Brent Zimmer, were also asked to tryout for the provincial men's team.

Panther coach Barrie Reid was elated with his team's success. "I was really pleased. The reason we won is that we gave a real mental effort. We never gave up. Just kept plugging away. Other times we've played really well and then gave up when the going got rough. This time we didn't."

Reid was full of praise for Tilton, Harding, and Zimmer, as well as Rick Beaton, who played very well. "Tilton played better than I've ever seen him play."

This weekend the boys will participate in the KSS Invitational, where they are the defending champions.

Daily News

SPORTS Page

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KENDALL'S KORNER

We're going to see Lions

Despite the recent collapse of the British Columbia Lions, there will be a playoff game in Vancouver this month for the first time in more than a decade.

Lions can finish no worse than second-place in the west and can still take top spot with a win or a tie next Saturday against Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

The Daily News has secured 40 tickets for the playoff game in Vancouver. All good seats have been sold for several weeks, however, we ordered our tickets in early-October and have come up with undercover seats, about the goal line, in the 35th row.

Whether B.C. hosts Edmonton Eskimos on Nov. 12 in the Western Conference semi-final, or the winner of Winnipeg and Edmonton, on Nov. 20, in the Western Conference final, we'll be there.

Total cost of the trip including return airfare from Kelowna, hotel accommodation at the Sheraton Landmark, transfers in Vancouver, admission to the game, and some extra-curricular activity is only $106 per person.

Until this Saturday's game is played, we won't know what weekend we'll be making the trip. However, we will start accepting reservations on Thursday morning. We already have 15-20 tickets taken, so book early and don't be disappointed.

Let us hope we're going Nov. 20 to see Leos capture the WFC championship for the first time since 1964.

BITS AND PIECES

The B.C. Junior Hockey League is only a month old and already three of the six teams in the Interior Division have changed coaches.

Latest to make a move is Kamloops Chiefs who fired their rookie coach, Craig Scott, on Monday. Chiefs had won only four of their first 13 games. Kenny Rodgers, a scout for Seattle Breakers, has been appointed as interim coach.

Previously, Sheldon Bloomer resigned his post with Vernon Vikings and Wayne Hornung quit the Kelowna Buckaroos.

Watch the Daily News on Thursday for the first column by our new outdoors writer.

Long-time columnist Nonie Frisby moved to Kamloops last month leaving us with a huge hole to fill. However, we have a well-known and highly knowledgable expert now on our staff. No more hints! Watch this spot Thursday.

Vernon will be hosting a huge judo meet on Nov. 23. Competitors from throughout the Interior will be on hand.

Alf and Henry Desnoyer and Ed Wunderly were smiling all the way to the bank after the Vernon Car Spiel. They purchased Paul Gowsell's team in the Calcutta for $1750. Their return for picking the winner was more than $9,000.

Matt Baldwin's second-place team was bought for only $550 and netted its purchaser more than $4,000.

Word is expected within three weeks on Vernon's bid to host the 1978 Canadian Senior B Lacrosse Championships.

Canadian Lacrosse Association will soon be meeting in P.E.I. to award all national finals.

PIN POINTS

OCT. 24
Monday Mixed 7-9
Women's high single, Lorraine O'Keefe 227, high triple, Lil Jamieson 620, high average, Lil Jamieson 195
Men's high single, Ken Owen 343, high triple, Ken Owen 805, high average, Glen Fey 233, Mark Kataiay 233
300 club, Ken Owen 343
TEAM STANDINGS

Pi...ion	246
Fireballs	230
Seymour 400	226
Red Heating	196

OCT. 24
Monday Mixed 9-11 p.m.
Women's high single, Willie Wendel 301, high triple, May Turek 734, high average, Marci Koenig 214
Men's high single, Jake Averinga 361, high triple, Jake Averinga 745, high average, Archie Turek 226
Team high single, III Eagles 1324, high triple, What Eagles 3655
300 club, Willie Wendel 301, 700 club, Willie Wendel 719, May Turek 734
TEAM STANDINGS

What Eagles	261½
Aristocats	215
Easy Eagles	208
Spread Eagles	202

OCT. 25
Tues. Ladies 9-11
Women's high single, Brenda Herring 259, high triple, Lillian Smith 648, high average, Kay Dulaba 195
Team high single, Latecomers 1259, high triple, Latecomers 3585
TEAM STANDINGS

Try Hards	227½
Pin Power	203
Good Gals	200
Latecomers	199½

SPORTS BRIEFS

SOCCER MEETING

Vernon and District Minor Soccer Association will hold its annual meeting tonight, at 7:30 p.m., in the Royal Canadian Legion. All executive, coaches, and parents are urged to attend.

THREE RINKS

Three Vernon teams will be taking part in the fourth annual Labatt's Crown of Curling next weekend at the Kamloops Curling Club. The rinks are skipped by Doug Chilton, Doug Smith, and Ernie Checkowski. Thirty-two teams will compete for $18,000 in cash.

HIKE PLANNED

Vernon and Kelowna Hiking Clubs are joining forces for a trip to Sugar Loaf Mountain on Sunday. Hikers will leave Vernon City Hall at 10 a.m. Anyone interested is advised to take a lunch and good footwear.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

In Men's Commercial Volleyball League play Tuesday, Stingers whipped Rookies 15-7, 15-9, and 15-10; 57 Selects downed Consumers 15-6, 15-3, and 16-14; Village Green beat Lagers 15-7, 15-10, and 15-5; NADS clobbered B.C. Hydro 15-3, 15-4, and 15-9; and Wallbangers defeated Hook-ups 15-10, 15-13, and 15-7.

FLYERS GET MURRAY

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Philadelphia Flyers reacquired defenceman Terry Murray in a straight cash deal with Detroit Red Wings, Flyers general manager Keith Allen said Tuesday. Murray has been playing for the American Hockey League Philadelphia Firebirds this season after being traded by the Flyers last February. No money figures were released in the transaction.

KLASSEN INJURED

RICHFIELD, Ohio (AP) — Cleveland Barons, reeling from four consecutive losses, suffered another jolt Tuesday when centre-left winger Ralph Klassen suffered possible torn ligaments in his left knee after being checked by Bjorn Johansson during team practice. He is expected to miss at least two weeks of the National Hockey League season.

ARGOS SIGN PLAYERS

TORONTO (CP) — Toronto Argonauts announced Tuesday they have signed Canadians Neil Lumsden and Stewart Francis to three-year contracts. Lumsden, a former college star with the University of Ottawa, is completing his second season as a fullback with the Canadian Football League club while Francis is in his sixth season with Argos.

Fulton teams victorious

The Clarence Fulton Junior Secondary School boys' and girls' volleyball teams added to their impressive records last weekend.

The girls won the eight-team Dr. Knox Exhibition Tournament in Kelowna. In the finals, Fulton came from behind twice to edge the host team 15-13 and 17-15.

Previously, the Vernon school had beat Mount Boucherie, Kalamalka, and Dr. Knox.

Coach Denis Murdoch told the Daily News his club played its best volleyball of the season.

Leslie Hewitson of Fulton shared the outstanding player award with Michelle Nutz of Dr. Knox.

The Fulton boys won their own Invitational Tournament. They lost only one of 12 games. Other schools entered were Shuswap, Enderby, and Seaton.

Mike Conley was the winners' outstanding performer.

Fulton will be hosting the north zone championships on Friday.

ALL STAR WRESTLING
Friday, Nov. 4, 8 p.m.
VERNON REC CENTRE
— MAIN EVENT —
DON LEO JONATHON & GUY MITCHELL vs AVENGER & MIKE SHARPE
VOLKOFF vs REMALDO
CODY vs GENERAL
Plus 2 Other Bouts
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VERN'S FAMILY RECREATION
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