

SPORTS Page

DON KENDALL - Sports Editor

VERNON PHONE 545-0671

KENDALL'S KORNER

Patience pays off

An old saying goes, "You can only keep a good man down for so long. About a month ago, New York Rangers General Manager John Ferguson took that saying to heart and called up Eddie Johnston from New Haven Nighthawks of the American Hockey League. Chances are Eddie will never see New Haven again.

In his short stay with the Rangers, Johnston has captured the hearts of New York fans with his aggressive play - not to mention his seven goals. After placing second in the AHL scoring race last season, Rangers protected him in this year's interleague draft, with Rod Gilbert, Ken Hodge, Bill Goldsworthy, Don Murdoch, and first round draft pick Lucien DeBlois all on the right side, chances of Johnston sticking with New York seemed slim.

But when Ferguson traded Gilbert, Hodge and Goldsworthy fell into long slumps and were sent to New Haven, and two spots became vacant.

Johnston, who still makes Vernon his off-season home, didn't complain about spending two seasons in New Haven. Instead he kept his nose clean and played as well as he could.

Prior to the 1977-78 season, he said, "I'm going to try my best to make the Rangers, but if I don't, I'll go back to New Haven and wait for another chance."

Although he knew he could make almost any other team in the NHL, he didn't demand to be traded and his loyalty paid off in the end.

You can't bet your bottom dollar he is going to work his butt off with the Rangers. He has worked hard to get to where he is and doesn't want to lose that chance.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

If one name can be thanked for the success of the recent recreation festival, it is the name of Okanagan Regional District Recreation Director CHRIS NELSON. Nelson did a tremendous job spreading the word, through the area sports organizations.

Vernon Lodge Tigers' President ART HOESLEY wearing another hat these days. He is also chairman of the League Spectacular '78 Series (national championships) to be held in Vernon next September.

Hornley and his group have set up 20 committees to run the mammoth five-day event.

Vernon's KENNY HOLLAND can cause under some criticism this year as well with Blingman Dusters. Dusters, who moved up to the American Hockey League from the now-defunct North American League, have been having their problems - particularly on defence.

However, Holland played a standout game in a recent 1-1 overtime tie against the Philadelphia Firebirds. Holland blocked 33 shots and was named the game's first star.

OWEN LLOYD, an ex-Viking who decided to postpone his pro hockey career rather than get buried in the deep minors, made an impressive return to junior hockey this week.

In his first game with Seattle Breakers, of the WCHL, the burly rearguard scored a goal.

Phoenix Recreators, of the Central Hockey League, folded this week leaving about 20 players with no place to play - including TERRY McDONALD.

McDonald, who plays lacrosse for the Vernon Lodge Tigers, has been assigned to Flint of the International Hockey League. McDonald said, "I don't want to play in the IHL - it's a big league. I might have a chance to get on with Dallas of the CHL. If things don't work out in the next few days, I might be home for Christmas."



Vernon bowlers qualify

The bowlers who will represent Vernon at the zone trials, Jan. 21 and 22, in Kamloops, have been decided. In the men's open qualifying event (no handicaps), John Tykaloich took top honors with a 2322 total. Along the way, Tykaloich recorded high games of 305 and 294.

Other bowlers in the top 10 were: Frank Gratton 2277, Ron Potts 2203, Glen Fev 2198, Mark Katsalay 2183, Mary Zwarych 2101, Len Chabley 2093, Art Block 2056, Barry Killipa 1985, and Barry Coultie 1895. Space will be for Allan Wilfyn who rolled 1900.

Katsalay had high single with 327 while Fev rolled a 325, including seven consecutive strikes.

Ladies' open representatives will be May Ture, Marc Koehnig, and Carol Skidmore.

The closed women's (handicap) were: Bob Buchanan 1839, Sonny Herbat 1831, Alex Price 1745, and Paul Babinec 1698. Spare is Greg Brandt who had a 1684 total.

Women's bowler Jean Sauer rolled 2097 followed by Lena Herbat 1788, Lynda Fev 1786, and spare Donna Bower 1785.

BANTAM REP coach George Beck demonstrates new play to Herscote Manner (goalender), Jay Willimont and Bobby

Wensley (defense) and team captain Brad Moore. Beck has led his team to a 16 win, one loss and four tie record and feels that

MEET THE COACH

Beck has confidence in his Bantam Reps

Vernon Bantam Rep coach George Beck feels that he has a good team; perhaps good enough for shot at the provincial title. His team has not only one game in regular season play and none in exhibition play, for a total of 16 wins, one loss and four ties.

Beck feels that there are many reasons for the team's considerable success. He said, "We have a good breaking-out club, the size and power behind us and several outstanding players to give us the ability to climb past most other teams."

Beck's own experience includes coaching pee wees, pups and in total, bantams, for a total of 12 years, with three years on the Vernon Minor Hockey executive and 2 years as a goaltender in the North Okanagan League. He also did a short stint with the

Flin Flin Bombers, when they were part of the old Saskatchewan Junior League.

LOST ONE: The Bantam rep is part of a league that includes two Kamloops teams and clubs from Pentiction, Westside, Rutland, Kelowna, and Merritt. The only team to defeat Vernon this year was the Kamloops Jardines, who the Vernon Reps will meet this Sunday. Coach Beck feels that this will be a key weekend of play as it might determine who will eventually go on to win the league title.

Beck's all-around play is a prime requisite with Beck, who stresses that his teams be knowledgeable in all aspects of the game. "We are strong down the centre, on the wings, usually on defense and in goal," said Beck. "One thing I also do, strongly emphasize,

however, is strong back-checking and a better defensive game, even though we do have high scoring players. I would rather see a 1-0 game that a 10-9 game any day of the week," he said.

LOTS OF PROSPECTS: Most of the Bantam Rep players are in their last year in that division, meaning next year's midgets should also be a strong scoring race and Beck said, "I have plenty of rookies to choose from next year who should have little trouble filling the vacant spots, so I am looking forward to good things next year as well."

He presently has three players in the top 10 of the league scoring race and feels that are still more impressive players in the lower ranks that can help them dominate in years to come.

One thing that Beck wanted to impress upon people is the parental support he receives. "We have a good group of parents that will support the boys and give the club backing when it is needed. The only thing lacking on the team now is the crowds. But, with the calibre of hockey presently played, I anticipate this to pick up to make us a complete team."

Vernon has a good shot at the provincial bantam title if their momentum continues. (Daily News Photo)

Three games in three days for Vikings

Vernon Vikings won't have much time to savor the festive season this weekend.

Vikings, tied for last place in the B.C. Junior Hockey League's Interior Division, will play three games in three days, against two of the top teams in the league.

Tonight, Vikings travel to Pentiction to battle the Veas. On Saturday, Pentiction pays a return visit to Vernon. Then Sunday, at 2 p.m., red-hot Kelowna Buckaroos are in town.

Rob McLean, recently released after a three-game trial with Medicine Hat Tigers, is expected to make his debut on right wing for the Vikings tonight. McLean played minor hockey in Vernon before spending two years with the Edison Junior B team.

On Sunday, Vikings will have a play-in game in the series for only one game - a chap named St. Nick.

St. Nick will be at the game handing out goodies to the youngsters. All "children 14 and under will be admitted free to the game."

In action Thursday night, Kelowna and Bellingham Blazers edged closer to first place in their respective divisions.

The Blazers defeated Nanaimo Clippers 6-3 Thursday in Bellingham to move to 24 points, two back of Nanaimo which is first in the league's Coastal Division. In Nanaimo Wednesday, the Blazers trounced the Clippers 10-3.

Kelowna moved to 40 points, one behind Merritt Centennials in the Interior Division, at the expense of Revelstoke, edging the Bruins 5-4.

In the other game Thursday, Abbotsford Flyers beat Langley Lords 3-2 before more than 1,000 fans as Brad Mammell scored the winner on a three-way passing rush early in the third period.

Abbotsford is third on the Coast - 15th 28 points. Langley is last with 22.

George Phillipoff, Ted Boyko, Allan Anderson, Don Hrechyk, Jim Hissett and Nate Waddie scored for Bellingham. Greg Adams scored twice for Nanaimo and Nicholas Adams added a single.

LEADS KELLOWNA: Rob Wright scored twice to lead the Kelowna attack. Mike L'equart, Wayne Price and Paul Hecker scored once each.

At Abbotsford, the Merchants' Night promotion featured Santa Claus in the crowd but goalie Mike Quinn of Langley and Mike Schamber of Abbotsford played like a couple of Scrooges.

Quinn had 43 saves while Schamber blocked 33 shots.

Sunfun Tours presents RENO - 7 & 8 Days - weekly departures CALIFORNIA 15 Days - Feb 4 & Mar 4 ARIZONA 15 Days - Feb 11 DISNEYLAND 10 Days - March 24 LAS VEGAS 9 Days - Jan 21 NASHVILLE 19 Days - April 1 SAN FRANCISCO 9 Days - Feb 11 & Apr 22 (Last Minute Bookings Included) "Just for Fun" Call Sunfun 542-6901 (See Your Travel Agent) RENO Special Christmas & New Year's Departures

TILlicum VALLEY WITH THE CJIB SHORT STEP TO SKI Guaranteed Method • Great Fun Includes: 5 lift passes Rental of special short learning skis Instruction for five one-hour sessions Evening Program (Mon.-Fri.) 63.00 Weekend Program (Sat. or Sun.) 75.00 We can accommodate you at Tillicum Valley Phone 542-8173

PIN POINTS

Dec. 4-Ladies 9:11 Women's high single: Sandy Main and Lee Fast 258; high average: Sandy Main 261. Team high triple: Kids 1229. Pin's triple: Has Been 350.

TEAM STANDINGS: Try Haros 376; Has Been 370; Pam Morrison 358; Pam Morrison with 101 pins above average.

Dec. 7-7 Mixed Women's high single: Donna Cochran 296; high triple: Dee Budd 409; high average: Donna Cochran 311. Men's high single: Ira Arnold 295; high triple: Ira Arnold 743; high average: Merv Budd 221. Team high single: Short Circuits 137; high triple: Barons 362. 300 Club: Donna Cochran 304.

TEAM STANDINGS: Hot Shots 297; Opp Poops 382; Short Circuits 374.

Dec. 7-Matinee Women's high single: Carol Halliday 276; high triple: Carol Halliday 707; high average: Carol Halliday 311. Men's high single: Kii Kats 1248; high triple: Kii Kats 311. 700 Club: Carol Halliday.

TEAM STANDINGS: Happy Cam 495; Kii Kats 409; Biams 293; Royal Coo Coo 385.

Dec. 7-Early Birds Women's high single: Val Wiebe 658.

Team high triple: Skylark's 1232; high triple: Bluebirds 3627. Whipwits 4319; Bluebirds 4319; Woodpeckers 4319; Goodies 391.

DECEMBER 8 Thurs. Mixed 9:11 Women's high single: Alys Cowan 255; high triple: Freda Harrison 622; high average: Val Yorkyuk 188.

Men's high single: Ken Marko 222; high triple: Ken Marko 722; high average: Mark Katsalay 216. Team high triple: Pin Punchers 3271; high triple: Pin Punchers 3712.

TEAM STANDINGS: Pin Punchers 3740; Pace Setters 330; Vell Overs 309; Impressions 311.

Dec. 8-Gym Dandy Women's high single: Diane Sherk 169; high triple: Diane Sherk 313; high average: Ida Giles Vernon 5.0.

Men's high single: Larry Brown 182; high triple: Stuart Olive 360; high average: Arthur Nelson 171. Women's high triple: Carol Diane Sherk, 183 pins over average; Merv Bailey, 188 pins over average.

BROWN FIRED DETROIT (AP) - Herb Brown has been fired as head coach of the National Basketball Association Detroit Pistons, a team spokesman announced Thursday.

DAILY NEWS SPORTS ALERT

JUNIOR HOCKEY 7:30 p.m., Pentiction Arena, Vernon Vikings vs. Pentiction Veas.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL 7 p.m., Pen. Ar. 11, Vernon Royals vs. Salmon Arm Jewels in Pentiction Invitational Tournament.

BOYS' BASKETBALL 8 p.m., Kelowna Secondary School, Vernon Panthers vs. Kelowna Owls in a tournament.

LADIES' BASKETBALL 7 p.m., Salmon Arm, Vernon Tri-Lakers play their first game in a Senior 'B' Invitational Tournament.

CURLING 9 a.m., Armstrong Curling Club, mixed playoffs start.

MINOR HOCKEY 7:45 p.m., Civic Arena, Rutland vs. Vernon Pee Wee Reps.

8:30 p.m., Salmon Arm Arena, Vernon vs. Salmon Arm juveniles (exhibition).

SPORTS BRIEFS

SHADOWS WIN Shadows thumped Vernon Raiders 9-3 in Pleasant Valley Hockey League action Tuesday night at the Civic Arena. Allan Schuck led the winners' attack with three goals.

IN BROOMBALL Vernon Raiders blanked Verberbas 2-0 in Men's Broomball League play Thursday night at the Centennial rink. (Crychack) and Dwayne Archuk were the snipers. In another game, Block Brothers edged Balhbushers 2-1. Great Marowasky and Bill McCallum scored for the winners while Don Ferguson countered for the Balhbushers.

MAJOR WRESTLING In Major Women's Volleyball League playoffs Thursday at Kat School, Village Green 2, Speedos 0. Goldstream 2, Bumpers 0. Woodstocks 2, Bits and Tucker 0.

Village Green 2, Woodstocks 0; Justice 2, Coldstream 0; and Justice 2, Woodstocks 0.

SPORTS DRAW A Salmon Arm man won \$1,000 in the recent 1977 High School Sports Draw. Gord Sinclair joined M. Herron of Port St. John and T. Rippon of Vernon to share the \$1,000 winners. First prize of \$2,000 went to M. Hidalgo of Vancouver. Vernon Senior Secondary School came within 60 of becoming one of the top 100 selling schools in the province.

IN-DOOR SOCCER Registrations are still being accepted for the Vernon Girls' Indoor Soccer League. Any girl 14 and over is eligible to play. Games start Jan. 5, in the Recreation Complex gymnasium. The \$10 registration fee is payable at Woodstocks 2, Bits and Tucker 0.

INFLATION FIGHTER CANOPIES

Large stock for immediate delivery. PRICES START FROM \$349.00 AND UP. TRI-LAKE LINCOLN MERCURY 545-6081. parts hot line 545-6087.

LOOK BACK FIVE YEARS

DECEMBER, 1972 Canada's best known judo and weightlifting expert, Doug Rogers, of Vancouver, along with two of Japan's best belt judo experts are planning a clinic in Vernon.

SETS RECORD MOSCOW (Reuter) - Weightlifter Vartan Miltoyan of the Soviet Union set a world middleweight record of 196.5 kilograms (430 pounds) for the jerk while competing in the Soviet championships Thursday. Miltoyan, a silver medalist in the 1976 Montreal Olympics, held the previous mark of 196 kilograms (432 pounds).

Expert Body Work Vernon Star Autobody Ltd. 37th Ave. 545-2291

DOGS RUNNING GAME

Owners of dogs take notice that from December 31, 1977 to March 31, 1978, in the area known and described as the Thompson-Okanagan Region 3, any Conservation Officer or Constable without liability, may destroy any dog running at large and harassing big game.

D. J. ROBINSO, Acting Director Fish & Wildlife Branch

British Columbia has a flavour you won't find anywhere else. RUDER