

SPORTS

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VERNON DAILY NEWS, THURSDAY, JAN. 5, 1978

CURLING CLUB NEWS

By RON HOUSTON
Vernon Curling Club Manager

Twenty-two teams participated in the two-event Holly Fun Spiel held over the holidays.

Ken Curtis, with his wife Flo, and Ron and Phil Corbett captured the A event by beating Bob Kilborn's team.

B event was won by the foursome of Doug and Maureen Weir and Glen and Abby Bridgeman. They beat the Tony Vaneck rink.

CLUB CONROLS PLAYOFFS
Ten teams from our club start playoffs Saturday, at 10 a.m., for four spots in the zone finals - scheduled Jan. 21 and 22 in Enderby.

LADIES' ZONE PLAYOFFS
Six teams from Vernon travel to Salmon Arm this weekend for ladies' zone playoffs.

SUNDAY MIXED LEAGUE
There are two women sheets of ice every Sunday for mixed curling. Any rink interested in finishing off the season can contact me at the rink. Rates are reasonable and the new teams will qualify for the mixed spiel in March.

MEN'S OPEN SPIEL
This popular event starts next weekend with 84 teams playing off for \$1,000 in prizes.

Teams from Prince George, Pentiction, Salmon Arm, Kamloops, Kelowna, and Vernon will be taking part. Kelowna has 20 rinks entered.

Flin Flon moves into division lead

By THE CANADIAN PRESS
Flin Flon Bombers moved into first place in the Eastern Division of the Western Canada Hockey League, stopping Brandon Wheat Kings 11-7 Wednesday before 1,052 fans.

In the other game, Portland Winter Hawks broke Lethbridge Broncos 10-3 to strengthen their grip on first place in the West-1 Division.

Flin Flon now has 48 points, two more than Brandon. Portland has 40, four ahead of New Westminster Bruins. Lethbridge remains second in the Central Division, four behind Billin, Bighorns.

Jordy Douglas and Steve Blue scored three goals each to please the home-town fans in the Bombers 11-7 win over the Wheat Kings.

The Bombers jumped into a commanding 8-0 lead in the first period but Brandon closed out the goal to 8-4 in the second.

Other Flin Flon scorers were Glenn Hicks, Ray Neufeld, Greg Tebbutt, Craig Levee and Brad Cook.

LEADS WHITESAITS
Ray Allison scored twice for the Wheat Kings with singles

LOOK BACK FIVE YEARS
JAN. 5, 1973
Vernon Essos announced a trade with Kelowna Bruins under which the Bombers would acquire high scoring winger Ted Campbell in 25 games with the Bruins. Campbell had 16 goals and 20 assists.

ED FORSLUND
...in goal

BOB POWELL
...from 71-72

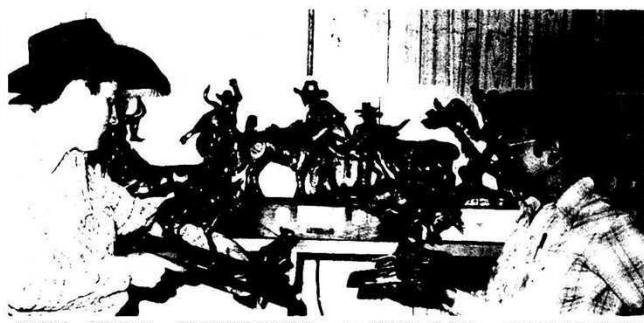
JOHN PRICE
...may play

Essos and they are excited about getting back together again and many fans who haven't seen a game for several years have indicated they'll come out to watch the Essos.

All members of the 1972 squad will not be able to play, however the holes will be filled by Essos from other years.

The goaltending duties will be shared by Mike Smithson, Ed Forslund and Charlie Brennan - all still playing in the Vernon area - in the North Okanagan Hockey League.

Other players who have continued their participation include Les Sale, Jeff Shirley, Bob Powell, George Gough, Wayne and Barry Dye, Lyle Brewer, and Graydon Brown.



VERNON COWBOYS Blaine, left, and Cecil Louis look over some of the trophies hand-carved by Jim Wilkinson of Armstrong, Wilkinson has made more than 100 rodeo trophies (Daily News Photo)

Cowboy-turned-carver making rodeo trophies

The North Okanagan is known throughout Canada for its top-notch cowboys! But, there is an ex-cowboy, living in Armstrong, who is making quite a name for himself out of the saddle. Jim Wilkinson, 33, started carving western figures about 10 years ago in the last few years, his carvings have become well-known trophies throughout the west. Wilkinson told the Daily News he had no idea of going into trophy carving when he first started whittling white pine and birch a decade ago. He said, "A few of my friends told me the carvings might make good trophies, so we started putting plates on them and sold a few."

He has sold trophies to Head of the Lake Rodeo, Williams Lake Stampede, Kamloops High School Rodeo, Chase Rodeo, and several others. 15 YEARS Wilkinson said, "I rodeoed for 15 years - so I always had an interest in the sport. I guess that is why I started carving this type of figure." He quit rodeo a few years ago because of his family and the high cost of travelling the circuit. Wilkinson said, "I took part mostly in bareback and bull riding - and enjoyed it. But, it is pretty expensive when you're not winning." He has more than 100 carvings spread all over the west, most valued at between \$300 and \$500. While that might seem like a lot of money for a trophy, it takes a lot of time to make one. TWO WEEKS He said, "If I work at it hard, every day for two weeks, I can complete one carving." So far, the hobby doesn't give him enough money to make a living, however, he plans on doing a lot of carving in the future. "I don't have any hopes for this year's rodeos yet, but I'm hoping to get quite a few. I'm making them for people making them." "Majority of his work is in cowboys' houses, however, there is one on display in the Koi Hotel sports Den and another at Watkin Motors.

Vees suspend player and trade two others

Vernon Vikings are having their problems struggling to stay out of the cellar in the P.C. Junior Hockey League. However, things are not exactly rosy at the other end of the ladder, either. Pentiction Vees, battling for first-place with Merritt Centennials and Kelowna Bunchucks, suspended one player and traded two others on Wednesday.

Larry Playfair, Peterson, and newcomer Dave Ross scored first-period goals for Portland in the Winter Hawks' steadily built away after that. ADD LEAD Two goals by Paul Mulvee, and one each by Wayne Baybich and Harry Turnbull increased Portland's lead to 7-2 in the second period and two goals by Tim Tooke and one by Baybich in the final period closed out the Portland scoring.

Lethbridge scored one in each period. Steve Tambellini, the league's leading scorer, Rod Gilmour and Larry Doyle scored for the Broncos. Portland outshot the visitors 50-29. Gord Garbutt started in the Lethbridge net, but was replaced by Clint Gossard after Tooke's first goal in the third period.

Bart Hunter went the distance in goal for Portland to pick up his 11th win of the season. The Wheat Kings get another crack at the Bombers and a share of first place in a rematch tonight in Flin Flon. The Wheat Kings travel to Medicine Hat to play the Tigers.

Langley led 3-2 at the end of the first period, 5-4 at the end of the second and was ahead 7-5 before the Clippers scored four goals, starting at 16:05 of the third.

Eight seconds after the Clippers began their comeback, a bench-clearing brawl stopped the game. The altercation began when Dain Phillips of Langley punched the head of the Clippers' Maurice Jaeger, Terry Lesclain, Bob Taylor and Chris Tucker added singles. Langley managed only 29 shots at Andy Gourlay and Terry Klesinger.

Nanaimo now has 43 points, five more than second-place Brandon, Blazers in the Coastal Division. Langley is last with 24.

In games tonight, Bellingham visits Abbotsford Flyers and Merritt Centennials play the Bruins in Revelstoke.

SPORTS BRIEFS

COUGARS WIN Tri-Lake Cougars edged Shadows 5-4 in Pleasant Valley hockey League action Wednesday night at the Civic Arena. The teams were tied 0-0 after the first period and 1-1 before 600 fans in the Vancouver Island city.

FINAL DAY Today is the final day registrations will be accepted for the Vernon Major Women's Basketball League. Play gets under way next Tuesday. Entry fee is \$12 per person or \$100 per team. For further information, or to sign up, contact the Recreation Commission.

HOLIDAY RESIGNED DENVER (AP) - Colorado Gov. Richard Lamm on Wednesday resigned his office for state employees he had declared in honor of the Denver Broncos, who will play in the Super Bowl on Jan. 10. The holiday would have cost him \$2 million, Lamm said. "I made a mistake," Lamm said.

BECOMES INSTRUCTOR CHICAGO (AP) - Former National League batting champion Billy Williams has rejoined the Chicago Cubs organization as a minor league batting instructor, the club announced Wednesday.

HELD TO LEASE OAKLAND (AP) - Oakland Oilsium management and city and county officials agreed Wednesday to hold the Oakland A's baseball team to its lease on the coliseum, Charlie Finley, owner of the American League club, has sold the team to Denver millionaire Mark Davis who wants to move it to Denver. But the A's have a contract to play at the coliseum through 1987.

EXTENSIVE CONTRACT CINCINNATI (AP) - Gaelle Michel Dion has signed an extended contract through the 1979 season, Cincinnati Stingers of the World Hockey Association said Wednesday.

Among those playing hockey in other cities, who hope to attend if they schedules permit, are Ernie Gare (Triall), Glen Walton (Kimberly), John Price (Queens), Bill Vernon (Powell River), and Jim Lawrence (Vancouver).

Dye said, "Several players from other years have appeared about 10 years ago and we will certainly use them if we have the room." Among them are Tom Williamson (1968), Bob Mayer (1970), Ken Price (1973), and Greg Wainwright (1974).

Dye said, "You can bet those guys will be playing to get the last time they were played together, they lost." Meanwhile, Vikings leave Friday morning for a three-game coast road swing which gets under way in Langley

AARON R'COVERING ATLANTA (AP) - Henry Aaron, major league baseball's top career run slugger and a vice-president of Atlanta Braves, was doing well in Piedmont hospital Wednesday, a spokesman said. Aaron was operated on 10 days ago for suffering chest pains, a team spokesman said.

CURTIS IMPROVES CINCINNATI (AP) - Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver Isaac Curtis has discarded his crutches and started exercises to strengthen his left knee, operated on 10 days ago for cartilage damage. A high-anxiety cast was placed on the National Football League player's leg.

DEC. 14-11 Women's high single: Mary Anderson 774, high triple: Donna Robinson 635, high average: Gena Bamford 719. Men's high single: Len Melbourne 277, high triple: Snig McGee 420, high average: Joe Goldenblatt 253. Team high single: Coliseum Hotel 196, high average: Mary Anderson 774, high triple: Donna Robinson 635, high average: Gena Bamford 719.

DEC. 14-7 Mixed Women's high single: Nevada Campbell 684, high triple: Doris Demaris 484, high average: Don Demaris 370. Men's high single: Gene Hoff 560, high triple: Gene Hoff 765, high average: Mary Anderson 774, high triple: Donna Robinson 635, high average: Gena Bamford 719.

TEAM STANDINGS Coliseum Hotel 44-17, Vancouver 39-21, Chilliwack 39-21, C.C. 39-21.

DEC. 14-7 Mixed Women's high single: Bernice Rook 269, high triple: Bernice Rook 635, high average: Gena Bamford 719. Men's high single: Lane Loons 368, high triple: Lane Loons 765, high average: Gena Bamford 719.

Happy Gang 401, B.C. 399, Gena Bamford 719, Lane Loons 425.

REMEMBER WHEN By THE CANADIAN PRESS JACKIE ROBINSON announced his retirement from baseball to become an executive of a restaurant chain 22 years ago today - in 1956. It was a bombshell announcement. Jackie Robinson said the trade had nothing to do with his retirement from baseball.

PIN POINTS

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Ski marathon slated Jan. 15

Skating enthusiasts throughout the interior will converge on Stussli Cross-Country area Jan. 15 for the first annual 30 km. Marathon. The Stussli area is located 22 miles west of Vernon, off Highway 17, east on Cedar Hill Road.

The course is 10 km. long. Entrants may set their own pace, completing the course one, two, or three times. There is a total of 12 age classes and all participants will receive commemorative crests. Class winners will be presented with medals.

The starting time is 9 a.m. Entry fee is \$15 for adults and \$3 for skiers 19 and under.

North Okanagan Cross-Country Ski Club Publicist Ken May told the Daily News he is hoping the marathon will grow each year. "We would like it to become a major cross-country event. Salmon Arm has the Skitikin meet and 100 Mile House has the Cariboo Marathon - now we have our own."

Skiers are asked to register as soon as possible by contacting Stussli Sport Centre in Vernon.

GIRLS' SOCCER MEN'S BROOMBALL WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

8 p.m., Recreation Complex, indoor soccer league starts with fun night. Regular season gets under way next Thursday.

7 p.m., Balmbrushers vs. Vernon Verbrass 8 p.m., Block Brothers vs. Vernon Raiders

11:30 a.m., Civic Arena, Super Valu Flames vs. Vernon Raiders.

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Skier participating in the annual 30 km. Marathon in Stussli Cross-Country area.

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