

# SPORTS

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## KENDALL'S KORNER

### A little potpourri

If your son is thinking of becoming a professional hockey player, you better make sure he is going to be a superstar.

It is tough to make a living in pro hockey these days, and it is getting tougher. More and more journeymen pros are finding themselves out of work.

Two entire leagues, the Southern and North American, folded last season. And two established leagues have lost teams midway through their schedules this season.

Phoenix Roadrunners left the Central League and Hampton Gulls dropped out of the American League.

Recent statistics reveal the number of minor league jobs have decreased by 40 per cent in the last two years. And the number of minor and junior players is increasing in both Canada and the U.S.

If your youngster is convinced he wants to be a pro, send him to college. More college players are being drafted every season. And if he doesn't make it to pro, at least he'll have an education.

Some people say school athletes aren't motivated, but it doesn't seem to bother Ken Dryden.

## NAMES IN SPORTS

Vernon Parks and Recreation Director John Mahler has been appointed regional coordinator for touch football in B.C.

A release from the B.C. Amateur Football Association, states that there will be more than 40 flag football teams in the North Okanagan this year.

I hope they have that figure right—all through the release they refer to our recreation director as John Nahler.

Vernon basketball referee Mel Briggeman is one of six officials who have been chosen to work at this week's provincial senior boys' 'A' basketball championships in Armstrong.

Joining Briggeman are Harold Cronk of Duncan, Stok I'Chida of Castlegar, Ron Ready of Kelowna, Stew Melwood of North Vancouver, and Wayne Highland of Kamloops.

Twenty-six referees applied to work at the four-day tourney, which starts Wednesday.

Tip of the hat to North Okanagan MLA Pat Jordan.

Despite her hectic schedule, she finds time to help numerous sporting groups and has attended dozens of functions in the last few years.

Few MLAs would take the time and effort, like Jordan did, to ride 100 miles in the recent Snowaramas '78.

Terry Lowe, who played his minor hockey in Vernon, picked up more than 120 points this season with 'B' of the Alberta Junior 'A' Hockey League.

Lowe, 19, was one of the few bright spots for Taber, which suffered through a disastrous season and missed the playoffs.

Another Vernon product, Dean Solheim is back in action with Lehighridge Broncos of the Western Canada Hockey League.

Solheim picked up six goals and four assists in two games last weekend. He had been sidelined for several weeks with an injury.

Rick Wilson picked up a lot of hardware for his mantle last weekend.

Wilson was all-star in the Vernon Senior 'B' Basketball Tournament, with Vernon Selects, and was named Most Valuable Player and top scorer, with Vernon Lodge Tigers, in the Enderby Invitational Tournament.



## FINNING CHAMPS

With a score of 8-6 in an extra end, Vancouver's Randy Curmack rink won "A" event in the eighth annual Finning-Tractor Mixed Funspiel held in Vernon last weekend. With Randy, rear left, are three

team; and "D" event was won by Kamloops' Mildred Waddell foursome. The three-day Funspiel attracted curlers from Vernon, Nelson, Houston, Williams Lake, Quesnel, Revelstoke and Edmondton.

(Daily News photo)

## Kamloops here tonight for crucial junior game

Vernon Vikings can move to within two points of a playoff berth tonight when they host Kamloops Chiefs in B.C. Junior Hockey League action, at 8 p.m. at the Civic arena.

Despite a lengthy slump, Vikings trail fifth-place Revelstoke Bruins by only four points. However, time is running out on the Vikings. Vernon has only 10 games remaining, including seven at home.

**TOUGH GAMES**

Of the remaining 10 games, six are against the BCJHL's

three top teams. Vikings meet Merritt Centennialis, Penitence Vees, and Bellingham Blazers twice each.

The other games are against Abbotsford (2), Revelstoke, and Kamloops.

General Manager Vern Dye told the Daily News he is confident his club will catch the Bruins.

Dye said, "We're playing well enough to win, but we're not getting any breaks. I think the time has come for the puck to start bouncing our way."

Dye said, "We're losing a lot of games by one or two goals. If we can get some people in the stands cheering for our club, it might be enough to turn a game around."

All children, accompanied by parents, will be admitted to tonight's game at a reduced cost.

## LEAGUE STATS

Team	W	L	T	A	P
Merritt	12	1	0	212	85
Penitence	42	5	2	431	239
Kelowna	22	22	0	313	239
Kamloops	28	30	1	300	373
Revelstoke	10	48	0	225	426
Vernon	10	48	0	225	426
Bellingham	20	19	0	323	246
Nanaimo	34	23	1	350	296
25th Ave	10	20	0	212	354
Langley	16	41	0	212	354

## SCORING LEADERS

Player	Team	Goals	Points
Vincent, P.	23	63	85
Peerson, N.	43	82	135
Merkosky, Kam	49	81	130
Strider, B.	42	73	119
Berry, B.	49	63	112
Ferrer, A.	45	63	108
Rucks, N.	45	63	108
Edwards, P.	51	56	107
Fitzpatrick, P.	51	56	107
Smith, B. N.	37	67	105



## ALL-STARS

Rick Wilson, named from right, was second Most Valuable Player and leading scorer in last weekend's Enderby Men's Basketball Tournament at

## Only two teams remain in battle

leaving Husky with only five players in overtime.

**HEFTY HELPS**

In the other game, Kal Lake used his superior height to advantage. Rick Wilson, who stands 6'3", led the winners' attack with 25 points while Eric Parke, centre, Dennis Roberts added 16. Guard Dennis Roberts collected 15.

Ratters held a 30-28 edge at half-time and the clubs were tied 51 after regulation time. In overtime, Ian Houchin was able to sink only one of three foul shots, for Pioneers, which proved to be the difference.

Gary Pruden led the Cosmos Bay attack with 27 points while Mike Korman added 14 and Jack Robinson dropped in 10.

Steve King and Ed Waterhouse replied with 14 apiece for Pioneers. Waterhouse and Dave Jackson both fouled out.

## Final chance for baseball

Vernon and District Minor Baseball Association will hold its second, and final, registration on Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., in the Village Green Mall.

Assoc., a President Art Block said there was a good turnout for the first season last weekend and all players are urged to sign-up Saturday to avoid being aged 16 to 18 are eligible to play for families with more than two boys, a family registration rate is available.

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# Armstrong hosts B.C. hoop final

Pleasant Valley Secondary School, in Armstrong, will be hosting the British Columbia senior boys' 'A' basketball championships this week.

A competition is limited to schools with a total enrolment of less than 200 boys.

Twelve teams will be taking part in the four-day tournament.

Representing the Okanagan are Revelstoke and Winfield, with Armstrong Saints entered as the host team.

Armstrong Coach Tony Wolcott told the Daily News he feels the championship is up for grabs.

Wolcott said, "The competition is very level. All the teams are close talent-wise. Some clubs come in with bigger reputations as favorites. However, Wolcott feels any team is capable of winning, including his squad.

Wolcott said, "We've lost to Revelstoke four times this year, but we're getting close every time. And we've beat Winfield both times we've played them this season."

Armstrong's strength is under the boards. The rebounding corps boasts a wealth of height including 6'4" Angus McDonald, 6'3" Jack Wood, and 6'3" Rick Galuska are the Saints' top mops.

Duncan McDonald, who is equally at home inside or out, and guard Doug Galuska are the Saints' top mops.

Wolcott said, "If we have a weak spot, it is shooting. It is quite erratic at times. If we shoot well, we'll be tough to beat."

First round games, on Wednesday, have Winfield against Burnaby Central at 1:15 p.m., Howe Sound meeting Armstrong at 3 p.m., Prince Charles battling Hazelton at 7 p.m., and Kumbher playing University Hill at 8:45 p.m.

Reynolds, Vanderhoop, Hope, and Revelstoke received opening round byes and do not see action until Thursday.

The championship game is scheduled Saturday, at 8:45 p.m.

## Boyd captures silver in Canadian freestyle

Vernon's Sue Boyd won the silver medal at the Canadian Amateur Freestyle Championships last weekend at Banff.

After the ballet, mogul, and aerial competition, Boyd was the first-place winner in aerials, third in ballet, and fourth on the bumps.

B.C. Coach Steve Hubbard told the Daily News he was upstaged that Boyd didn't win the gold.

Hubbard said, "The conditions were far from ideal. There were rocks and ice everywhere. Alberta was the only province with two judges at the meet. As far as I'm concerned, Sue was the winner."

Boyd plans to beat Bowie at the Inter-provincial team meet, in two weeks, in Ontario.

She said, "I'm going to do my best to beat Laura-Lee in Ontario. I think I can."

**VERNON SKIER**

Only one Vernon skier on the B.C. team was Bob Bibby, who placed 21st overall in senior men's slalom. Bibby was 21st in moguls, 21st in ballet, and 28th in aerials.

Hubbard said, "No one at the meet got better air, in the aerials, than Bibby. But, his jumps have a low degree of difficulty and that really hurt him."

Best performance by the B.C. men was turned in by



Next meet for Boyd and the B.C. team is in Ontario, in two weeks. (Daily News Photo)

Todd Smith, of Invermere, who placed fourth in intermediate, and Keith Reid, of Vancouver, who finished six in seniors.

## Local snowarama best in province

Vernon's recent Snowarama '78 was the most successful event of its type in British Columbia.

Twenty-one snowaramas were held throughout the province, sponsored by the B.C. Snow Vehicle Association and the Lion's Society for Crippled Children.

Vernon snowmobilers gathered pledges totalling \$26,000—more than half the annual province-wide goal.

Frank, Martina of CIBC, Daily News Sports Editor Don Kendall, outdoors expert Smokey Trumbley, and North Okanagan M.S. Pat Jordan raised more than \$12,000 between them.

With eight community snowaramas still to go, the provincial dollar total exceeds \$70,000. The final figure is expected to surpass \$100,000.

Little's Barriere turned in the most money on a per capita basis, with the North Thompson community raised almost \$5 for every person in town.

Snow Vehicle Association Secretary Manager Bill Shields of Vernon said, "The International Snowmobile Association in Washington reports our total is the highest in the world, in relation to the snowmobile population. And there are a lot of winners—about 75,000 crippled girls and boys throughout the province."

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