

# SPORTS

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## KENDALL'S KORNER

### Brier highlights

"Fast Eddy" Lukowich, and his team from Medicine Hat, won the Brier last weekend — and surprised a lot of curling fans.

Many felt Bernie Sparkes of Vancouver was the man to beat. Of defending Canadian mixed champion Rick Folk of Saskatoon. Then there was Steve Oucut, the man who dethroned defending Canadian champion Jim Ursei in Quebec.

It was the first Brier for yours truly, and an event which won't be forgotten for a long time. However, the curling we see every year at the Vernon Car Spiel, is just as competitive and exciting.

Lukowich, along with Rick Folk and Bernie Sparkes, who tied for second, all curled in the car spiel last year. Folk even admitted that play might be a bit better at the Vernon spiel because the ice is better.

Some quick notes about the Brier:  
Lukowich's younger brother Morris is also quite an athlete. The 22-year-old winger has 37 goals this season with Houston Aeros of the World Hockey Association. He played his junior hockey in Medicine Hat, on a line with ex-Vernon Viking Don Murdoch.

Lukowich still throws skip rocks, but third Mike Chernoff calls the strategy. Fast Eddie said, "I was getting myself into big trouble playing it too complicated, gambling more than necessary."  
Chernoff replied, "But I just hold the broom. If Ed disagrees with a call, I go along with him because he has to have the confidence to make those shots."

In the game where Alberta clinched the title, against Gerry Hodson of Ontario, the prairie foursome was lucky.

Hodson counted only one in the first end when he should have scored at least three, maybe four.  
Later in the game, Hodson missed a draw shot by about an inch, bouncing his rock off a guard, and allowing Lukowich to steal three.

Hodson has a great sense of humor. In the 10th end against both Lukowich and Rick Folk of Saskatoon, with his rink trailing by six, he asked his team-mates if they wanted to go for the win or a 1-1.

The tournament attendance record was broken with 63,861 peo- ple going through the turnstiles. The old record was set in Winnipeg, in 1977, with 60,226 spectators. More than 100,000 tickets were sold in Vancouver, but there was about 40,000 no-shows over the six days.  
Folk was named the top skip and Lukowich was runner-up. Other members of the first all-star team were Chernoff and Kelvin Bauer and Al Cook of B.C., Peter Murray, the huge skip from New Brunswick, won the Ross Hartone Trophy for sportsmanship.

Seven of 10 countries competing in the world championships (Silver Broom), in two weeks in Winnipeg, have named their representatives.

Joining Lukowich are Jim Sanderson of Scotland, Kristian Soerum of Norway, Freddy Colliard from Switzerland, Denmark's Arvid Petersen, Pierre Boan of France and Italy's Leone Rezzadore.

Still to name their champions are Sweden, Germany and the U.S.  
Defending Silver Broom champion Ragnar Kamp is heavily favored to again represent Sweden.



**JACK ROBINSON**, of Cooswa Bay Rattlers, dribbles around Glen Wheelhouse, of Kal Lake Voyageurs, during Monday's Major Men's Basketball League final.

Rattlers stalled for the final three minutes and hung on to edge Kal 51-49. Robinson was top scorer for the winners with 18 points. (Daily News Photo)

## SPORTS BRIEFS

**592 REGISTER**  
Vernon Minor Soccer Association reports 592 boys and girls have registered to play this year. Number of girls playing has increased from 85 to 124, however, the total registration is down about 100 over last year. Director Karl Krause blames the drop on a lot of boys wanting to try lacrosse this year.

**PONY RACES**  
B.C. Pony Chariot and Chuckwagon Races will be held Aug. 5-7 at the Falkland Stampede Grounds.

**CO-CHAIRMEN**  
Bert Morgan and Dorothy Gower have been appointed to co-chair the 1979 Canadian Senior Ladies' Curling

Championships, at the Vernon Curling Club Eleven rink, which starts March 17. Other executive members appointed include Gladys Leck, Joan Morrison, and Muriel Wynn.

**LADIES' HOOPLA**  
Aileen Ford scored 11 points to lead Blue Demits to a 23-19 win over Fireweeds in a recent Commercial Women's Basketball League game at the YSSS. In another matchup, Enderby thumped Tropics 36-14.

**INDOOR SOCCER**  
In recent girls' indoor soccer play, Demons dominated Kickers 7-4 and Celtics thumped Overlanders 7-3. In men's play, Hawks trounced Barons 5-1 and Wanderers tied Roadrunners 3-3.

# Arena capacity may be reduced

Renovations to the Vernon Civic Arena are not scheduled to start until April 15, however, there is already considerable opposition to the plans.

The Daily News learned Monday that the architect's drawings call for seating in the arena to be dropped from about 3,000 to 1,800.

Fred McKenzie, co-chairman of the Canadian Senior 'B' Lacrosse Championships committee, calls the move utterly ridiculous.  
McKenzie said, "In one swoop, the Vernon Arena is going from the largest to the smallest in the valley. It doesn't make much sense to me."

The Lacrosse championships are scheduled Aug. 31 to Sept. 4 in the arena.  
McKenzie said, "If the seating is dropped to 1,800, we will have to take a look at the entire tournament and see if it is worthwhile holding here. Can you imagine holding a national final in a building that size? We had budgeted for a facility with at least 2,400 seats."

### GROUP UPSET

A spokesman for a local group negotiating to purchase the Vernon Vikings of the B.C. Junior Hockey League, said the drop in seating will create a serious problem for his group.  
The spokesman, who wished to remain

anonymous, said, "I understood the final seating would be about 2,500 or 2,600. The 1,800 figure is no good for us."

"We have several marketing concepts planned that would utilize the whole facility. And, if we can't put 2,000 to 2,500 people in the building in playoffs, in years to come, we never have a hope of breaking even."  
Jim Alveberg, chairman of the Winter Carnival Pee Wee Hockey Tournament Committee, told the Daily News reducing the capacity would take the incentive out of the tourney.

Alveberg said, "Our idea is to increase attendance every year — which we are doing. This year, we had 2,100 people at the final game. There is no doubt that we'd turn 1,800 people away from the game."  
**ALDERMAN SURPRISED**

Vernon Alderman Frank Williamson, who is a member of the North Okanagan Regional District Recreation Committee, said he hasn't seen the drawings, but is surprised with their content.

Williamson said, "I would hope we can continue to put at least 2,400 people in the building. But, I haven't heard the reasoning behind the large decrease. We'll have to take a look at all the reports before we make a final decision."  
The recreation committee is scheduled to study the drawings next Monday.

## Rattlers win basketball title

Cooswa Bay Rattlers captured the Vernon Major Men's Basketball League title on Monday night at Kal School.

Rattlers edged Kal Lake Voyageurs 51-49 in the championship game.

Cooswa Bay trailed only once in the game, 24-23, late in the first-half.

Jack Robinson led the winners' attack with 18 points while Gary Pruden sank 16.

Rick Wilson led Voyageurs with 18 points while Glen Wheelhouse dropped in 10.

However, the story of the game was the job Rattlers did on 68 — centre John Denison. Denison was held to eight points, including just two in the second-half.

Scott Shirley, with two goals, and Andy Vedan countered for Merchants. Village Green took 11 of 18 minor penalties.

The loss leaves Merchants' round-robin playoff record at 1-1.

## Pups bombard Kamloops

Vernon Star-West Realty Pup Repe blasted Kamloops 10-5 Saturday, at the Civic Arena, in the opening game of a modified elimination tournament to decide the OMMHA championship.

Also on the weekend the Star-West squad completed a perfect season by blanking Westside 14-0.

Against Kamloops, Vernon broke a 1-1 tie wide open with three goals late in the first period. Then, they stretched their lead to 8-3 at the end of two periods.

Brent Gilchrist spearheaded the Vernon attack with three goals, while Bruce Major and Les Olsen added a pair of goals and assists.

Keith Chase, Troy Mick and Coach McBride netted singles. Jeff Finley and Derek Webb each earned three assists.

Against Westside, Mick led the Vernon attack with two goals and four assists.

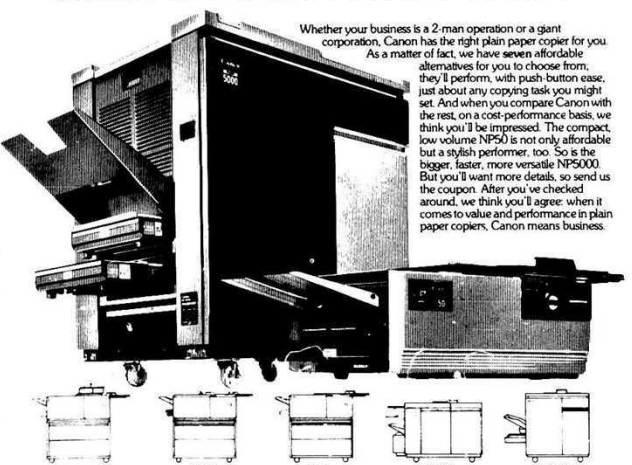
## SPORTS ALERT

**JUNIOR HOCKEY**  
8 p.m., Civic Arena. Vernon Vikings vs Merritt Centenials.

**WHITE VALLEY**  
Playoffs at Lumby Arena: 7 p.m. Sabres vs Braves; 9 p.m. Burger Barons vs Blades.

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**  
At Fullon: 7:30 p.m. Bulls vs Bucks; 8:45 p.m. Armstrong vs. Knites.

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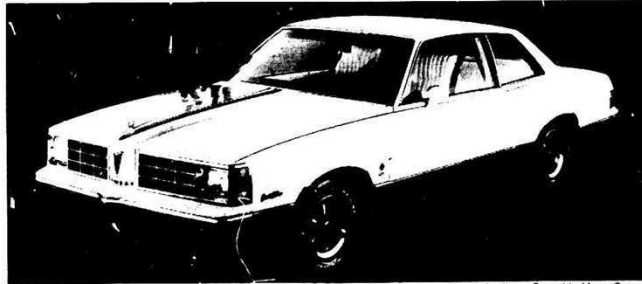
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## PONTIAC CUP

### 1978 PONTIAC CUP SCHEDULE

Jan 13-14	Sault Ste Marie, Ont	Sialom (2)	Feb 11-12	Mont Ste Anne, Que	Downhall (2)
Feb 3-4	Fortress Mtn, Alta	Sialom (2)	Feb 12-13	Saimo B.C.	Giant Sialom (2)
Feb 9-10	Lake Louise, Alta	Downhall (2)	Mar 4-5	Mont Tremblant, Que	Giant Sialom (2)
Mar 16, 17, 18			Vernon, B.C. PONTIAC CUP FINAL		



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Grand Prix-style instrument panel and the special ride and handling sophistication of Pontiac's Radial Tuned Suspension. You'd expect Pontiac to commemorate the 10th Pontiac Cup with something out of the ordinary. Check with your dealer for availability of this limited edition Pontiac Cup car.



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