



LAVINGTON'S Anita Sobon runs at least 55 miles per week while attending the University of Victoria. With the cross-country season now completed, she is looking forward to road races in the New Year. (Daily News Photo)

## Sobon 11th in huge field

Finishing 11th in a cross country race may not sound like much. But, when you consider there were 800 competitors, that is quite a feat. Anita Sobon, of Lavington, finished 11th in the recent six-mile Seawall Race in Vancouver, where she was representing the University of Victoria, where she is now taking her fourth year of physical education. Anita, 21, started running competitively at W. L. Seaton Junior Secondary School and continued at VSSS, where she also started in field hockey and basketball. She told the Daily News she wasn't surprised at placing well in the Seawall Race. Sobon said, "I worked hard in preparation for the race and I knew I was in pretty good shape."

**55 MILES**  
Her training consists of running 55 miles per week, broken up into three hard workouts and four individual sessions. After the Seawall Race, UVic Coach Ron Bowker said, "Anita is improving with every race. We think she will do well in the national club championships." But, Sobon didn't get to compete in the national meet. Just after the Seawall Race, she pulled some tendons in her knee and was unable to compete for three weeks. She said, "I was disappointed about missing the national championships, but there will be more races."

**ROAD RACES**  
When she returns to Victoria in January, Anita will start intensive training for the upcoming road race season. Most of the road races are three miles and Anita feels that is her best distance. She said, "I know I'm strong at three miles. However, I also like running longer distances — like the Seawall. It was six miles."

Anita admitted she would even like to try running a marathon some time. She said, "I realize it would take a tremendous amount of training, but I think a marathon would really be an adventure."

**RANKED SECOND**  
Sobon is the second-ranked female long distance runner at UVic, behind Debbie Scott, who is rated nationally. But, Anita doesn't have any real ambition to become a national or international competitor.

She said, "To compete nationally takes a great deal of time and dedication. If I had the time and ability, I would probably consider it. Right now I'm content with running for enjoyment."

### BOWL PREVIEW

## Clemson battles Ohio in Gator Bowl classic

By ASSOCIATED PRESS  
Not long after 58 U.S. college seniors show their stuff for the pro scouts at Montgomery, Ala., coach Dan Ford of Clemson will do his utmost to impress another football VIP—coach Woody Hayes of Ohio State—in the Gator Bowl.

"This is the biggest game of my life as a head coach," said the 30-year-old Ford, who also faces his first game as head coach when he sends his Tigers into the Gator Bowl against Hayes' Buckeyes tonight.

"We are playing a super team with a great tradition," said Ford, who took the team over early this month after Charley Pell left to take the head coaching job at Florida



By FRANK BROWN  
The Associated Press  
For Los Angeles Rams, there is the Minnesota Jinx to think about. For Denver Broncos, there are those unnamed Pittsburgh Steelers. For Dallas Cowboys, there is defence of their National Football League title. Houston Oilers and Atlanta Falcons? They're just happy to be around. "It doesn't matter if Santa Claus is coaching (New England)," said Houston coach Bum Phillips. "The money's on the line now and the Patriots will come to play." The Oilers face New England in the American Football Conference semi-final. "This time, we have 11 problems we have to stop," said Atlanta coach Leeman Bennett, whose Falcons meet the Cowboys in a National Conference semi-final on Saturday. "They have everything. Obviously, they're way ahead of when it comes to players. They have the experience at the key positions, tremendous speed, excellent depth, we could lose a great team, but I still

## PLAYOFF PREVIEW

feel we're supposed to win." Every time the Los Angeles Rams play in a playoff action, it seems the Vikings are supposed to win. The Vikings, says Malvard, have just times in a row, and hope to extend that on Sunday. "There is no jinx," said Los Angeles coach Ray Malvard, who took over after George Allen was fired two games into the pre-season. "I'm 1-0 against Minnesota. There's no jinx. The Rams recorded a 34-17 triumph during the regular season. "The only way we could lose this time is if we



make mistakes and aren't ready to play. That won't happen." Denver coach Red Miller isn't so sure Pittsburgh isn't as good as they say. "We will kick their butts if they come to Pittsburgh." "PROVED WE'RE GOOD" For Houston to get to Pittsburgh, or Denver, the Oilers must get past AFC East champion New England. "We've proved we're a good football team," said Houston defensive end Elvin Bethea, a survivor from the 1-13 Oilers teams of '81. "I've been waiting 11 years for this. I'm really happy for the first time since I got here. I'm finally at

### Daily News

## SPORTS Page

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6 VERNON DAILY NEWS, FRIDAY, DEC. 29, 1978

## Pee Wee Reps in semi-finals

Vernon Watkin Motors doubled Calgary 4-1 Thursday at the Red Deer Invitational Pee Wee Hockey Tournament. The victory puts Vernon in the semi-finals tonight against Swift Current, Sask. Red Deer and Fort Saskatchewan. Allan Watkins in the other semi-final game.

Vernon trailed Calgary 2-1 after the first period, but scored four unanswered goals in the second frame.

**FOUR POINTS**  
John Barber led the winners' attack with two goals and two assists. David Munk and David Pitcher also scored twice while Clayton Adams and Les Olsen added singles.

Bruce Major was the top playmaker with three assists. Vernon lost its first game in the tourney, 3-2 in overtime, to Fort Saskatchewan. However, Watkin Motors coach Mel Major said he has the best skating club in the tournament.

**BAD BREAKS**  
Major said, "If we play up to par, we can beat anyone here. Against Fort Saskatchewan, we got a couple bad breaks and they got the winner on a penalty shot."

The Vernon coach praised the play of Barber. He said, "John has really been doing a job for us—at both ends of the rink."

The championship game is scheduled Saturday, at 10 a.m.



TOM DAVISON ... at centre  
JON ROSMAN ... from 1978

## Grads ready for Panthers

At least 10 players will line up for the Grads tonight when they tangle with Vernon Panthers, at 7:30 p.m., at Vernon Senior Secondary School.

Panthers Coach Rick Inrig told the Daily News he expects the Grads to be tough.

**EXPERIENCE**  
Inrig said, "Our team has conditioning on its side, and the Grads have experience, and a lot of talent."

Shelving the centre duties for Grads will be Rick Wilson (1974) and Tom Davison (1977). The forward will include Mike Korman (1977), Dave Turner (1977), Doug Lemiski (1978) and Jon Rosman (1978). In the backcourt will be Glen Sirges (1978), Ed Watterhouse (1977), Mike Sorba (1978), and Bob Corbett (1978).

**IN ALBERTA**  
Panthers will be without at least one regular, Greg DeLeenher, who is holidaying in Alberta.

Vernon starts its regular league schedule next Wednesday, at home, against North Kamloops.

### NHL TOP 10

By THE CANADIAN PRESS  
National Hockey League scoring leaders after Thursday games:  
G A P  
Trotter, NYI 24 35 59  
Lafleur, Mtl 24 35 59  
Chouinard, Atl 24 35 59  
Daly, NYI 24 35 59  
Bobby, NYI 24 35 59  
Federko, Sjl 12 35 48  
Nolan, NYI 12 35 48  
Middleton, Bos 12 35 45  
Gardner, NYI 12 35 45  
at Montgomery to watch the contest, as well as other bowl sites after the Blue-Gray and Gator clashes kick off the second big bowl weekend for U.S. college football.  
Unranked Stanford, 7-4, meets No. 11 Georgia, 8-1-1, in the Bluebonnet Bowl at Houston on Sunday night.  
On Monday, No. 11 Nittany Lion from Penn., 11-0, meet No. 2 Alabama, 10-1, at New Orleans in the Sugar Bowl, which should decide the U.S. national championship. No. 8 Houston, 9-2, faces No. 1 Notre Dame, 8-3, in the Cotton Bowl at Dallas, Tex.  
Then No. 8 Michigan, 10-1, plays No. 3 Southern Cal., 11-1, in the Rose Bowl at Pasadena, Calif., and No. 4 Oklahoma, 10-1, battles No. 4 Nebraska, 9-2, at Miami in the Orange Bowl.

## Canada whips Swedes in Grenoble Tournament

GRENOBLE, France (CP) — A piece of misfortune turned out to be a lucky break for the Canadian Olympic Red team when it won the opening game of the Grenoble International Hockey tournament with a 7-3 victory over a Swedish first-division club on Thursday.

The Canadian squad was led by John Markkell of Cornwall, Ont., who scored three goals. Dave Breakwell of the University of Alberta scored twice, while Rocco Pagnello of the University of Toronto and Dan Makarski of the University of Clarkson University, each scored once.

For Markkell, who attends Bowling Green University, the goals were a "lucky break" since his line was scheduled to sit out the game after playing in Prague, Czechoslovakia, on Tuesday.

However, one of Canadian players had his equipment misplaced during the trip to France and coach Tom Watt of the University of Toronto decided to play the Markkell line instead.

Sweden had jumped into a 2-0 lead, partly on an own-goal mishap when Ed Small of Ottawa flipped the puck into his own net while trying to clear the goal crease area.

Markkell scored twice to tie the game. Sweden went ahead 3-2 in the second period before Breakwell and Markkell gave the Canadian team a 5-3 lead, going into the third period.

The Canadian team has lost just once in six games during its European tour. It plays a Czechoslovak first-division team Saturday to close out

## Soccer players needed

Vernon Men's and Women's Indoor Soccer Leagues will be accepting registrations, at the Recreation Complex, until Jan. 5.

The men's league, which gets under way Jan. 10, is for players 16 and over. Prospective players register on an individual basis and will be assigned to teams, with a maximum of eight men on each roster. Up to six teams will be formed.

**AT RAL**  
Games will be played Wednesday evenings at Kalamalka Junior Secondary School. Entry fee is \$11 per player. The women's league, for players 14 and over, starts Jan. 11 at the Recreation Complex gymnasium. A maximum of 32 players will be accepted. Women register on an individual basis and are assigned to teams. Entry fee is \$10 per person.

**HAVE FUN**  
Game supervisor Ian Gibson said you don't have to be a great soccer player to have fun. Gibson said, "We welcome beginners as well as experienced players. The main idea is to enjoy yourself and get fit."

For further information on either league phone 545-6035.



**KAMLOOPS SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION Presents**  
B.C.S.R.A. Sanctioned Snowmobile Race January 13th and 14th, 1979. Racers pre-register at K.X.A. Grounds Friday, Jan. 12/79 from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.  
For information contact Roy Bartsch 376-8028 or Rod Wheatley 579-5882.

## Pezzin to coach Penitcion

PENITCION, B.C. (CP) — Mark Pezzin of Castlegar, B.C., has been appointed coach of Penitcion Vees of the British Columbia Junior Hockey League.

Vees general manager Chris Parker announced the appointment Thursday. Pezzin, 28, coached Castlegar Rebels to two consecutive Kootenay International Hockey League championships in the past two seasons. He replaced Al Formo who took over as interim coach for two games twice for Rebels while Pete Johnson, Brian Antony, and Conrad Kober added singles.

Pezzin will be coaching tonight when last-place Vees play host to first-place Merrit.

## Bydlowski scores two

Raiders defeated Vernon Sport Lakers 5-3 in Pleasant Valley Hockey League action Thursday night at the Civic Arena.

Tony Bydlowski scored twice for Raiders while Pete Johnson, Brian Antony, and Conrad Kober added singles. Peter Dubels, Larry Fisher, and Randy Nornish replied for Lakers.

## LOOK BACK FIVE YEARS

DECEMBER, 1973  
A brand new, \$3,000 ice hockey time clock has been donated to the City of Vernon by Coca Cola Ltd., and Westco (B.C.) Ltd.

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