

Sport Cougars need a victory against Elks

After Saturday night, Vernon Sport Cougars will have two chances of catching Grindrod Elks in the battle for first place in the North Okanagan Hockey League — slim or none.

Cougars trail the first-place Elks by 10 points, with 13 games remaining on the schedule. Vernon hosts Grindrod on Saturday and a victory would keep Cougars within striking distance. On the other hand, a loss would make the Elks' lead almost insurmountable.

TRIO FINISHED
Grindrod has lost only once in 17 games and has scored a league-leading 119 goals. A large part of the offense has been supplied by the trio of Gary Pearson, Ron Haggard, and Jeff Collins. However, it appears that line won't play another game together this season.

Collins is suspended and will not be back until the final four games of the regular season. Haggard has a pinched nerve in his back and is out of action for an undetermined length of time, and Pearson will be leaving for a fishing job on the coast at the end of January.

Pearson, the key player on the line, is second in the NHL scoring race, behind Vernon's Dave Cadlow. However, the

Elks centre has little chance of beating Cadlow because he'll miss six games in February.

LED WEXYBURN
Pearson, 21, is accustomed to collecting points. He spent three years with Wexyburn Red Wings, of the Saskatchewan Junior 'A' League, and led the club in scoring last season with 120 points.

Pearson said, "It would be nice to win the scoring race, but I don't think I've got much of a chance. I doubt if I'll be around for the playoffs either."

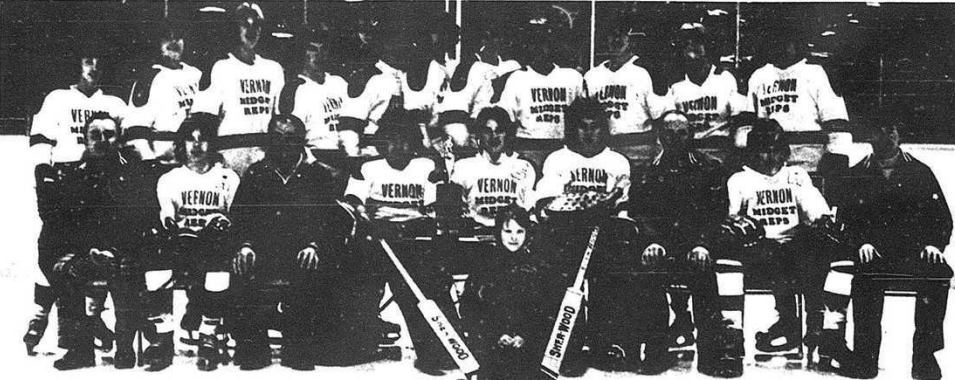
The Saskatchewan native almost wore a Cougar uniform this season. He said, "When I moved to Vernon in September, I went out with Armstrong Oldtimers for some time. One of the guys in the club in scoring last season (Grindrod Manager Frank ELKS), he phoned me, and I ended up playing for the Elks."

On Saturday, Cougars will be without rugged King Cam, who is sidelined with a shoulder injury. Game time is 8 p.m.

TEAM	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Grindrod Elks	17	15	1	1	119	61	31
Vernon Cougars	17	6	8	1	103	91	21
Rutland Motors	17	6	8	2	101	83	18
P and A Packers	18	8	8	2	104	91	18
Windsor Aces	6	4	2	12	32	24	12
Revelstoke Seals	19	3	16	0	68	154	6

PLAYER TEAM	G	A	Pts
Dave Cadlow, Vernon	22	53	53
Gary Pearson, Elks	22	29	51
Gary Gilchrist, Vernon	22	20	42
Gary Pearson, Motors	17	20	34
Ron Haggard, Elks	17	21	33
Fred Parent, Vernon	15	15	30
Doug Oishi, Packers	15	15	30
Rick Harris, Motors	14	16	30
Tom Connarty, Packers	14	16	30
Ken Weninger, Aces	10	16	26

PLAYER TEAM	PIM
Dave Lutch, Winfield	75
Lyke Brewer, Vernon	71
Wayne Farr, Motors	71
Brad Owens, Packers	55
Drew Kitch, Packers	55



TEAM OF THE WEEK
Vernon Midget Reps are enjoying a fine season. Last weekend the locals captured the Salmon Arm Midget Hockey Tournament championship. Those competing for the local all-stars include, front row: (left to right): Jack Bodnaruk (manager), Glen Hampton, Hank Wensley and Ed Porter (trainer). Wayne Bodnaruk, David Hildebrand (stick boy), Daryl Mills, Ray Williment, Kevin Poirier and Ed Porter (trainer). Back row: (left to right): Kevin Beavis, Alan Schwing, Bobby Wensley, Joe Leschak, Tom DeVries, Ron Hitterman, Luke Hildebrand, Dave Popolchak, Brad Moore, Ray Williment and Randy Jones. (Daily News Photo)

Daily News SPORTS Page

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CURLING CLUB NEWS

By RON HOUSTON
VERNON CURLING CLUB MANAGER

We have 14 teams entered in the club Seasons Playoffs which start Saturday, at 10 a.m. Three of these rinks will continue on to the zone finals in Salmon Arm, on Jan. 27 and 28.

The top four teams from the Tuesday night sweep draw, skipped by Jack Hockey, Blake Kimura, Randy Brown, and Barry Amies, are entered and must be considered the favorites.

Draw times are Saturday at 10 a.m., 2 and 7:30 p.m. On Sunday, the draws are 8 and 11 a.m., and 6 p.m.

LADIES' ZONE PLAYOFFS

Five teams from Vernon are entered in the ladies' zone playoffs in Kamloops.

We have two teams u, Laasles, two in senior ladies and one in junior ladies.

UPCOMING SPIELS

There is still room for a few teams in both the Valentine Mixed Spiel and the ladies' Silver Star Spiel. However, if you are interested in either event, enter soon.

CURLING TIP

Of importance to new curlers is the mental picture that you must have of the shot at hand. When you are in the hack ready to throw your stone, the only thought should be of how the shot is to be made. There is only one shot each time you throw so don't think of what might happen if you are light, heavy, wide, or narrow. Concentrate on those problems which cause you more trouble.

Slous fires four goals as Vernon dumps Abby

Dale Slous scored four goals Thursday night as Vernon Canadians defeated the hometown Abbotsford Flyers 6-5 in one of two British Columbia Junior Hockey League games.

In the only other contest, Kamloops Rockets took a 4-0 first period lead and went on to defeat Revelstoke Bruins 6-3.

The Canadians, who are in second-place in the Interior Division, lead the third-place Rockets by five points.

The outburst gave Slous 30 goals this season — the third Vernon player to hit that plateau.

Slous, linemates, Dean Hascarl and Terry Loue, scored two and one goal respectively and the trio combined for 13 points.

John Mercer and John Need also scored for the winners.

Anthony McMurphy, with two goals, Bill Stewart, Brad Mammel, and Don Werbeniuk

Lowie both missed breakaways and Slous could have scored or seven.

PRaises NEED
The Vernon GM had special praise for Need, who was moved back to defence to fill the hole vacated by the suspended Wayne Roberts.

Bloomer said, "John did a real good job for us back there. He is getting the puck out of our end and working like crazy."

Twenty-year-old Willy Madden played his first game with Canadians since signing last week. The Vernon native saw some duty, but is in need of conditioning.

Canadians travel to Bellingham tonight to meet the Coast Division leading Blazers for the first time this season. The U.S. team, which is loaded with 19 and 20-year-old players, has lost only eight times in 40 games this season.

Vernon winds up its coast swing on Saturday night when they visit the Colts in Chilliwack.

On Thursday in Revelstoke, Glen Soren provided the offensive punch for Kamloops with two goals and Brian Henderson turned in a strong goalkeeping performance stopping 42 Bruins' shots.

At Radke, Jay Kosak, Murray Matheson, and Al Graves also tallied for the Rockets.

Craig Williamson, Dennis Conroy, and Howard Doll countered for the Bruins.

GOALPOSTS: Roberts' three-game suspension ends tonight. Jan Ludvig scored two goals and the Czechoslovakians made a record 18 team got outstanding goaltending from Jiri Stelkik (1st Richmond Seals) and Pacific Junior Hockey League 7-2 in an exhibition game Thursday night. Langley, of the BCJHL, hosts the Czechs tonight. Vernon's next home game is Tuesday when Revelstoke is in town.

DEAN HASCARL ... two goals
... praised
JOHN NEED ... praised

Canadian's General Manager Sheldon Bloomer told the Daily News his club played a solid hockey game.

Bloomer said, "The guys played very well. With any luck, we would have scored 12 or 15 goals. (Tom) Ouchi and

Panthers to play Trail in Rutland Tournament

Vernon Panthers battle Trail in the opening round of the Rutland Invitational Basketball Tournament tonight, at 6:15 p.m.

Other first round games have KLO of Kelowna meeting Castlegar, Salmon Arm playing North Vancouver and the host Rutland Woodcocks tangling with Sentinel of North Vancouver.

Earlier this season, Panthers defeated Trail by seven points. And VSSS Coach Rick Inrig told the Daily News he expects his club to beat the Montgomery, a 6'11" forward

who suffered a knee injury in training camp, will dress.

Inrig said, "I don't mind dressing 14 players because nine of them are Grade 11's and it is good experience for them. I think both Arkel and Montgomery could turn into great rebounders."

If Panthers defeat Trail, they will meet the winner of the Rutland-Sentinel game on Saturday, at 12:15 p.m.

The consolation final is scheduled Saturday, at 7:15 p.m., with the championship game at 9 p.m.

Panthers' next league game is next Wednesday, again in Rutland, against the Woodcocks.

PIN POINTS

DEC. 14 Legion Mixed
Thursday 9-11
Women's high single, Joan Cumbrie 252; high triple, Chris Cooper 420; high average, Shirley Gielhot 210.
Men's high single, Mark Katzalay 335; high triple, Bob Dadds 269; high average, Mark Katzalay 335.
TEAM STANDINGS
Hong Kong Village 416/416
Wags & Kratts 406
Vets 403/9

DEC. 14 Thurs. Matinee
Women's high single, Lori Kier 293; high triple, Loris Kupryk 756; high average, Mary Ann Kier 416.
Men's high single, Tom Koenig 250

308; high triple, Sig Tabata 796; high average, Art Block 251.
Team high single, McCavin Toastmaster 1292; high triple, Noca Sunshine 376.
200' Club: Tom Koenig 308.
700' Club: Lori Kupryk 758, Mary Toros 726, Donna Edwards 724.
TEAM STANDINGS
South Paws 498
Slicky Fingers 434/434
McCavin Toastmaster 407/407
Dall 407/407

DEC. 14 Thurs. Matinee
Women's high single, Ivy Otway 285; high triple, Ivy Otway 726; high average, Loraine Reilly 156.
Team high single, Drop Ins 213; high triple, Grovers 748.
700' Club: Ivy Otway 305, 700' Club: Ivy Otway 726.
TEAM STANDINGS
Jet Set 431/431
Knob 426
Drops 426
Royal Coc Co's 392/392

Six local skiers compete in Salmo

Six members of the Silver Star Ski Club competed in a recent Canadian Ski Association race in Salmo.

Blair Gillespie placed sixth, out of 44 entrants. Scott Woodman finished in 11th position while Mike Forester placed 18th. The other Vernon skiers were Fred Giesler, Rod Ferris, and Daryl Goble.

Three of the racers, Gillespie, Woodman, and Forester have qualified to compete in a B.C. Cup meet Jan. 11 and 12 in Prince George.

Gillespie is eligible to ski in all three events — slalom, giant slalom and downhill while Woodman will be competing in slalom and downhill, and Forester only in downhill.

SPORTS BRIEFS

FINAL DAY

Registrations close today, at the Recreation Complex, for the Vernon minor boys' basketball training program. The clinic is open to any boy, from Grade 7 to 9, interested in having fun while learning the game and developing skills. There will be a total of 11 sessions, on Thursdays, at the Recreation Complex. Cost is \$6 per player. Instruction will be provided by Vernon Panthers' Coach Rick Inrig and members of his team. For further information phone 445-9635.

RAIDERS WHIPPED

Kinmen trounced Raiders 11-3 in Pleasant Valley Hockey League action Thursday night at the Civic Arena. The teams were tied 2-2 after the first period and 3-3 after the second before Kinmen exploited four first unanswered goals in the final 20 minutes. League play resumes Sunday, at 10:45 p.m., when Toros take on the Eagles.

SHADLES WIN

Sixteen-year-old Eagles edged Broombrusters 2-1 in Men's Branch League action Thursday night at the Centennial Rink. In another game, Vertebras battled to a 1-1 tie with Toros' Lead Ducks.

CONFIRM ENTRIES

TORONTO (CP) — Jack Nicklaus and Lee Trevino con-

ferred Thursday their entries in the \$350,000 Canadian Open golf championship. Nicklaus is the designer of Glen Abbey, site of the 70th championship, which will be held June 21-24. He has never won the Canadian Open. Trevino has won twice, in 1971 and 1977. Defending champion Bruce Lietzke was also confirmed his entry.

WANTS TO RETURN
BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Deaconemon Ken Breitenbach, 23, who retired from Buffalo Sabres six weeks ago, says he wants to return to the National Hockey League team. Fre says he will practise with the Sabres until Jan. 17, then play with Hershey Bears, Buffalo's American Hockey League farm club, while getting back into condition. Breitenbach complained of a lack of playing time when he left the team.

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 678-8882.

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