

# Sunday racing at B.C. tracks

Vernon's Kin Race Track and other horse racing facilities in British Columbia may be permitted to operate on Sundays by 1982. An amendment to provincial legislation is expected to give local governments the right to hold a referendum on Sunday racing. Russ Postill, of the Vernon Agricultural Association, which operates Vernon Racing Days, said he is optimistic there will be Sunday racing locally within two years.

Postill said, "I'd like to see it here next year, but we haven't done our homework yet. I hope we'll have Sunday racing at our meet in 1982."

Postill, who is mayor of Coldstream Municipality and Chairman of the North Okanagan Regional District, said the Daily News there is nothing wrong with Sunday racing. "We do everything else on Sunday, why not horse racing?"

The Vernon meet ran for six days this year with racing on Fridays, Saturdays, and Mondays.

In a related announcement, Finance Minister Hugh Curtis recently introduced amendments to the Horse Racing Tax Act which will increase funds available to assist the horse breeding and horse racing industries in B.C.

The new legislation provides that one-half of the revenues obtained from the seven per cent pari-mutuel tax be set aside for purse supplements, breeders' assistance and other grants.

Previously, one per cent of the pari-mutuel tax had gone to the B.C. bred purse supplement fund and half of one per cent to the Breeders' Incentive Fund.

Postill called the changes a step in the right direction. "The breeders need help and this should do it," he said. "I think the call of horses will improve and the number of horses will increase."

The pari-mutuel tax provided \$5.5 million in revenue for the provincial government in 1979 from a total amount wagered at thoroughbred and standard-bred racetracks of \$102 million.

Postill said it is time the provincial government realized horse racing is a big business. "Anywhere there is horse racing, it is a multi-million dollar industry. It is time the government recognized that fact."

The 1981 edition of Vernon Racing Days, scheduled next July, may expand to nine days if sufficient volunteer help can be obtained.



## HOOF BEATS

with  
Jeanne White

A weekly column to aid the novice horseperson.

If your horse or pony is two-and-a-half years old or more, and has been worked on the lunge and/or long reins, has been saddled and bridled, well-handled, and is obedient, then it is a good time to start him under saddle.

He is still too young to attempt any prolonged work, but certainly mounting can be done as well as simple exercises. The actual backing should be done by a fairly light person, especially in the case of smaller ponies and horses.

The ideal place would be your enclosed riding ring or a loose box in a stable and two helpers will be needed. Obviously this has been done by two persons and also by only one when necessary, however, we are discussing the best way of breaking a horse and not the quickest nor most expensive.

Have the animal saddled and bridled and also put a stirrup leather loosely around his neck so the rider can take hold of this if the animal should give a few bucks or attempt to be awkward. It is important at this stage particularly, not to hurt his mouth or he will forever associate a person on his back with pain and discomfort.

ASSISTANTS

One assistant should hold the horse and the other can be ready to give the trainer or rider a leg up. It is preferable to do this at first rather than put the pressure on by mounting with the stirrup. The trainer then leans across the pony's back, putting weight on the saddle and makes a fuss of him - patting, talking, etc.

This procedure should be repeated for a few days and when the animal is quietly accepting it the trainer can put his right leg over the saddle, being careful not to drag it over his rump. If the animal has been properly prepared it is unusual for him to offer resistance. He will trust you and will be more curious than anything. Again, the rider and assistant who is holding the pony should pat him and talk to him.

The next stage is the one at which the animal may buck or move suddenly if he is going to do anything unusual at all. The assistant should walk the pony forward and turn him slightly. The trainer sits quietly but prepared to stay on if anything should occur such as bucks, etc. It is important the animal knows he cannot dislodge the rider if he should happen to buck.

As the assistant is leading the animal forward and making turns occasionally to left and right, he should also make halts and use the same words as used when lunging, such as walk on, and halt. Work at this stage should be confined to the walk. Gradually the trainer will use the bridle to indicate the movements to the animal at the same time the assistant is walking on, or halting, so he will associate them.

This work should not carry on for any longer than 20 minutes at a session until the horse or pony has accepted it with no sudden movements. The trainer should also mount and dismount, using the stirrups, from both sides to get him used to this.

SUFFICIENT FOR TWO YEAR OLD

For the two year old, the work covered so far is sufficient, he has been introduced to his elementary training and will not forget it. He should now be turned out and allowed to mature. Too much riding at this age can be injurious. He will be much stronger and more developed in the spring. For those of you who are breaking an older horse, we will carry on with the various stages of training in the next columns.

COMING EVENTS

The I.P.E. starts next week and should be a big affair as usual with lots of horse activity. It is something for everyone so don't miss it! Keep your cruelty letters coming 1 - p. 22 one up at the Daily News if you haven't already.

### TENNIS CHAMPS

Helen Ross and Rob Keenan teamed up to win the local playdowns of the Bulek Challenge Mixed Tennis Tournament at Kelowna's Four Seasons Racquet Centre. Kelowna will also host the provincial championship, Sept. 13. (Daily News Photos)



Village Green Tennis Centre. Ross and Keenan won advance to the district finals, on Sept. 6, at Kelowna's Four Seasons Racquet Centre. Kelowna will also host the provincial championship, Sept. 13. (Daily News Photos)

## Lakers acquire promising goalie

Vernon Lakers of the British Columbia Hockey League, feel they have found a first string goalie.

Lakers' President Hank Aarssen announced today the club has signed 19-year-old Jim Balint.

Balint started the 1978-79 season with Kamloops Rockets, of the BCJHL. At Christmas, he was called up to Calgary Wranglers, of the Western Hockey League.

Last year, he went to Invermere to play Junior 'B' hockey and complete his high school education.

A DANDY

Aarssen said, "I think we've found a dandy. I saw him play in an exhibition game last weekend in Invermere, and as far as I'm concerned, he is a super goalie."



Meanwhile, high-scoring John Neeld has indicated he will attend Lakers' training camp.

Neeld scored more than 100 points with the Vernon junior club in 1978-79 and was top scorer with Seattle Breakers, of the WHL, last season with 97 points.

Aarssen said, "John has been invited to a couple other camps, but he is going to take a look here first. He would certainly be an asset to our team."

New Westminster Bruina, of the WHL, are also interested in the 20-year-old forward.

Lakers open their training camp next Tuesday, with the first exhibition game scheduled Sept. 14, in Revelstoke, against the Bruins.

## IN CALGARY

### Vernon gal to join university swim team

Margie Polyraia, of Vernon, left this week to join the University of Calgary swim team.

While in Calgary, she hopes to obtain a degree in physical education through a scholarship in swimming.

Polyraia started swimming at eight years old, in Ocean Falls. She has been a standout swimmer for the Vernon Kokanes for the past seven years.

Her next goal is to obtain a national qualifying time in the 100-metre butterfly.

Polyraia will return home at 11 TO A SIDE

In 1860, Walter Camp of Yale picked delegates at a sports convention to agree to a rule calling for 11 men to a football team.

Christmas to discuss her experiences with younger Kokanes.

The Vernon club has produced several strong female swimmers, including Terry Miller, Miller, at age 15, placed 16th in 100-metre butterfly, at the Canadian championships, with a time of 1:22.

Ex-Kokanee Tracy Baird swam well this year with the provincial summer program and hopes to continue competing at the university level.

Baird needs only a one second improvement in the 100-metre breaststroke to qualify for the division two championships at that event.

Pacholuk, and Jill Strachan have used their talents in coaching after graduating from the Kokanes.

Two of the club's top prospects are Jennifer Strachan, 14, and Jodi Palmer, 12.

Strachan finished 16th in the consolation final of the 100-metre freestyle in her first appearance at the Division Two Western Championships this summer. Her next goal is to qualify for the national finals.

Baird needs only a one second improvement in the 100-metre breaststroke to qualify for the division two championships at that event.

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**Daily News**

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## McDonald tops in junior event

Maureen McDonald captured top honors in the Spallumcheen Closed Junior Mixed Tournament this week.

McDonald, who recently competed at the Canadian junior championships in Ontario, carded round scores of 68 and 69 for a 36-hole total of 137.

A total of 16 golfers took part in the two-day event.

Hanneke Dellen recorded the low net score with rounds of 71 and 70 for 141.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Road hockey starts Sept. 8

Vernon Men's Road Hockey League season will get under way Sept. 8 with three games at the Central Outdoor Rink. The loop has expanded from four to six teams this season with Super Stars, Screaming Eagles, Gordie's Minors, Screaming Legends, and defending champion Tigers.

RANDY JONES OUT

SAN DIEGO (AP) - Former Cy Young Award winner Randy Jones may be through for the current National League baseball season and will have to change his pitching style to make a comeback, San Diego Padres' team doctor said Tuesday. Dr. Paul Bauer said a damaged nerve in Jones's shoulder is irreparable.

VEECK IMPROVES

CHICAGO (AP) - Chicago White Sox president Bill Veeck was in a good condition Tuesday, two days after he was admitted to hospital with respiratory problems. Veeck, 66, was taken to hospital Sunday night and received oxygen and intravenous fluids. A hospital spokesman said.

WYTHILL WAIVED

SAN DIEGO (AP) - Lyndell Mitchell, a three-time 1,000 yard punter who was traded to

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