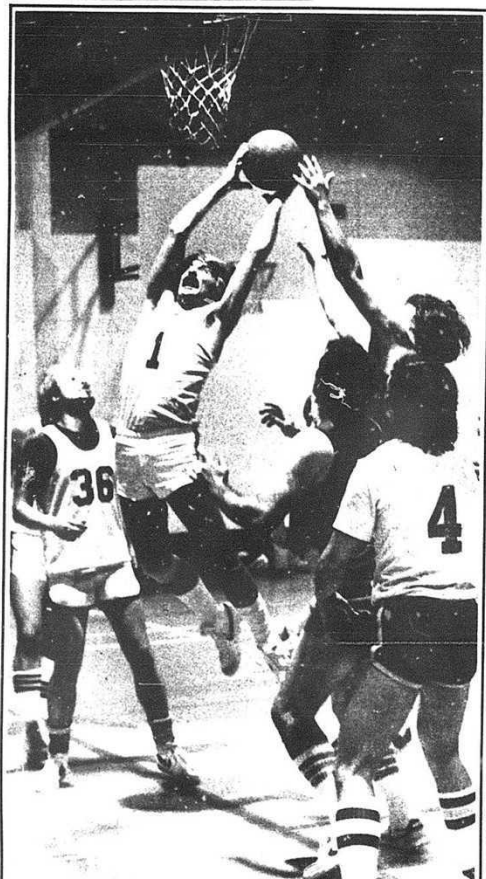


Fish believes Lakers will win their share'



DAVE FISH
...top scorer



TROPHY GALLERY'S Ian Houchin goes high in the air for a defensive rebound during Carling O'Keefe Basketball League action Monday night at the Priest Valley Gymnasium. Houchin scored 10 points to help his club down Price and Markle 71-67. Daily News Photo

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Gymnasium. Houchin scored 10 points to help his club down Price and Markle 71-67. Daily News Photo

By DON KENDALL
Daily News Sports Editor
Vernon Lakers host Pentlton Knights in B.C. Junior Hockey League action tonight, at 8 p.m., at the Civic Arena.
One player who believes his club can knock off the Knights is forward Dave Fish.
TOP SCORER
Fish has been one of the bright spots in a cloudy start for the Lakers. He scored twice to lead Lakers past Kelowna Buccaneers last Saturday. Although team statistics are not available, it is believed the little centre leads the club in scoring with 30 points.
"It is stupid to think you can win every game in junior hockey," he said, "but, from now on we'll win our share."
After winning only two of their first 19 games, Lakers have recorded victories in three of their last five outings.
"It is a different team now than a few weeks ago," he said. "We've got a different attitude and a lot of different people."
Gary Criss replaced Russ Newton as coach Nov. 4. Since that time, Criss has made several personnel changes including the addition of defencemen Darcy Anderson and Les Creelman.
Fish said, "Anderson and

Creelman have been a big help because of their puck-handling. Darcy is a great skater and Les throws perfect passes."
"Criss has also made a difference. Our practices are interesting and we're all working harder."
Fish was a member of the Western Canada Champion Vernon juvenile reps last year. He was fifth on the team in scoring, but admits he has never been known as a big guy.
"I can't skate as well as most of the other guys, so I always try to be aggressive and work hard. I usually get my goals in scrambles, but this year I've even scored on a few long shots."
Fish along with three other juvenile graduates, Kevin Forrier (a Laker), Joe Leschuk

(with Norwes Caps), and goalie Rex Sitak, attended Lethbridge Broncos' training camp in September. Although he went to only five workouts in Lethbridge, Fish feels the camp helped him.
"We scrimmaged every practice," he said, "I was out on the ice with a lot of good players and it helped me."
PRAISED WINGERS
Like any modest centre, Fish credits his wingers with most of his success. "I've been playing with Richie (Odiome) most of the season and as far as I'm concerned, he is the hardest worker on the club. (Kevin) Balfour started playing with us five game ago and our line is going good."
Fish hasn't really modelled himself after any one player.

although he likes, "Tiger Williams and Guy Lafleur because they are the best at what they do. And Walt Trentini has taught me a lot."
Trentini, a former senior star whose son Rod now plays with the Lakers, coached Fish in prep school. "He taught me the proper way to start in front of the net. No defenceman, no matter how big, can get me out of there. I'll always be in front of the net. He gave me advice and confidence."
MASKS MANDATORY
Fish said the biggest adjustment he had to make this year, going from front of the net, was discarding the facemask, a surprising comment from a hard-nosed competitor.
"I think masks should be mandatory. I don't really know why I'm not wearing one... I guess because nobody else in the league does."
Sitak, who quit the team in early October, was at Monday's practice and is expected to stick with the Lakers. "Rey will give us that added strength in goal that we've been lacking," Fish said.
Fish sets an example for his team-mates with hard work. If his desire and will to win is infectious, as it seems to be, Lakers could be much tougher on their opponents in the final three months of the season.

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SPORTS
PAGE
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MORE SNOW Star scheduled to open Saturday

Silver Star Ski Area will open for the 1980-81 season Saturday. About five centimetres of snow fell on the Star overnight bringing the base to about 50 centimetres on most parts of the mountain.
Silver Star Manager Dave Woodman told the Daily News he is expecting better snow conditions within the next couple of days. The weather forecast calling for snow," he said. "By Thursday, we should know how many lifts we'll be opening this weekend."
There were no major construction projects in the off-season, however, there were grooming and road im-

provements that will be evident to Silver Star skiers.
The Department of Highways paved another five kilometre section of Silver Star Road which should make access to the ski area easier, particularly during spring run-off.
GROOMING
A massive grooming program, that was initiated several weeks ago, was continued. Operations Manager Walt Keckalo said, "It is now possible to have good skiing, with a minimum amount of snow. However, with the amount of snow we have already received we do not anticipate any shortage this winter."
Silver Star has seven lifts, including three chairlifts.

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LOOK BACK FIVE YEARS
NOVEMBER, 1975
Tillicum Valley ski area opens this weekend (the first time in the history of the hill it has opened in the same weekend as the higher Silver Star.
Vernon Senior Secondary School Panthers advanced to the semi-finals of an eight team basketball tournament in Victoria, Friday, by defeating Claremont High School 64-61.

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Hotelmens rally for hoop victory

Morris Vardabasso scored 42 points to lead Coldstream Hotel in a 49-32 victory over Bino's Restaurant in Carling O'Keefe Basketball League action Monday night at the Priest Valley Gymnasium.
In another game, Trophy Gallery edged Price and Markle 71-67.
Coldstream trailed 45-31 at half-time in the second-

half. Vardabasso led the rally with 23 points, including 10 from the foul line.
Martin Ware added 16 points for the Hotelmen and Carl Schleiter sunk 12.
Bill Pitcher replied with 25 points for Bino's while Stu Fitzpatrick notched 23 and Charlie McIntyre added 14.
In the other game, Trophy Gallery held a 48-24 lead at

half-time. Price and Markle cruised for 13 consecutive points midway through the second half, but could not get closer than five points.
Tony Wolcott was the leading sniper for Trophy Gallery with 24 points while Dennis Roberts collected 14.
In the other game, Price and Markle and John Henson dropped in 18

SPORTS BRIEFS

Dye faces a suspension

Vernon Cougars, of the North Okanagan Hockey League, will be without winger Wayne Dye for at least three games. Dye was assessed a match penalty for kicking during last Saturday's game in Salmon Arm. A match carries a minimum three game suspension. Cougars' Coach Gary Swanson said he plans to appeal the call because, it stinks. It is time the officials in this league cleaned up their act.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Dye faces a suspension

Academicals: Silver Streaks face National Hotel at 8:15 p.m.; and defending champion Professionals tangle with Ramshorn at 9:30 p.m.

SPORTS BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES SUCCESSFUL

Guard Earvin (Magic) Johnson of Los Angeles Lakers underwent successful surgery Monday to repair a torn knee cartilage, doctors said. Johnson, 21, who was named most valuable player in the Lakers' championship last season, will be out of action for 10 to 12 weeks, the National Basketball Association club said. He injured his knee Nov. 18 in a game against Kansas City Kings.

SPORTS BRIEFS

GILMORE WINS

NEW YORK (AP) - Chicago Bulls centre zis Gilmore, who shot 875 from the field and grabbed 94 rebounds in victories over New York Knicks and Washington Bullets last week, was named the National Basketball Association player of the week for the period Sunday, Nov. 23.

SPORTS BRIEFS

WINS HUTCHAWARD

DAYTON (AP) - George Brett of Kansas City Royals has added another award to the growing list of honors for his 1980 baseball performance. The Hutch Award is presented in memory of Fred Hutchinson, former manager of Cincinnati Reds who died of cancer in 1964. Overcoming adversity is one of the key criteria in voting by major league players and broadcasters. Brett missed 45 games and was on the disabled list after suffering a right ankle ligaments June 9. He still managed to hit .390 and drive in 118 runs.

KENDALL'S KORNER
A streak of bad luck

PIN POINTS

- NOVEMBER 14 GYM DANDY CLUB**
Women's High Single: Bonnie McArthur, 180; High Double: Jill Lacey, 141.
Men's High Single: Arthur Nelson, 220; High Double: Fred Lewis, 146.
High Average: Fred Lewis, 146.
Bowlers of the Week
Women's: Celeste Constance, 90 pins over.
Men's: Jerry Waters and George Haeger, 71 pins over.
- NOVEMBER 15 BANTAMS**
Women's High Single: Tanya Evans, 200; High Triple: Tanya Evans, 414; High Average: Tanya Evans, 211.
Men's High Single: Aaron Varley, 211; High Triple: Trevor Jones, 290; High Average: Trevor Jones, 153.
NOVEMBER 16 BANTAMS
Women's High Single: Tanya Evans, 200; High Triple: Tanya Evans, 414; High Average: Tanya Evans, 211.
Men's High Single: Aaron Varley, 211; High Triple: Trevor Jones, 290; High Average: Trevor Jones, 153.
- NOVEMBER 16 BANTAMS**
Women's High Single: Dawn Klym, 197; High Triple: Dawn Klym, 407; High Average: Harmona Krause, 210.
Men's High Single: Scott Forster, 286; High Triple: Randy Wenden, 263; High Average: Scott Forster, 213.
TEAM STANDINGS
Wipeouts: 152
Spurs Pins: 147
Marauders: 142
Tender Lungs: 126
Phidias: 126
Mafia Five: 116
High Riders: 92
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Ernie Gare must be wondering when his luck is going to change. He has experienced a run of bad luck that would make even the most optimistic gambler give up poker.
Gare played junior hockey in Vernon, in 1972, before going to the Western International Hockey League to star with Spokane Jets and Trail Smoke Eaters.
Three years ago, in Trail, Ernie and a couple partners (including his brother Danny who is captain of Buffalo Sabres), opened a sporting goods store. The store burned to the ground last February.
After being away from Vernon for six years, he had an opportunity to move back here in September, as a teacher. With no job commitment in Trail, he packed up his young family and headed for the Okanagan.
Only days after he purchased a house in Vernon, he was informed he did not get hired for the teaching job.

TO REVELSTOKE

Revelstoke Selkirk, of the North Okanagan Hockey League, heard he was unemployed and got him a job at the Revelstoke dam site. With his family still in Vernon, he took the job and started playing with the Selkirk.
Two weeks ago, he suffered a broken leg at work and is fortunate to be alive. A pallet of cement bags, being moved by a crane about 80 feet above the ground, snapped above where Ernie and two other workmen were having a coffee break.
As they scrambled for cover, one bag fell on Gare, breaking one leg and badly bruising the other.
He is expected to be in a cast for at least 10 weeks, with another month needed to build the strength back up in his leg - which means he is finished in hockey for the season.
Only days after the accident, he received a phone call he had been awaiting for months. A professional hockey team in Switzerland had an opening and wanted Gare to leave for Europe immediately. The club reportedly pays its players \$1,000 per game - tax free. He had been trying to land a spot on a European club since last spring.

FRUSTRATING YEAR

It has been a pretty frustrating year," he said. "But, in one way, I guess I am lucky. All three of us could easily have been killed by those falling bags."
Instead of playing hockey in Switzerland, Ernie will have to be satisfied with being a spectator here this winter.

DUMONT ELECTED
Paul Dumont, of Vernon, has been elected to the executive of the Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society's (B.C. Division) Dumont, who served as the 11-member board for three years, was elected for a two-year term.

FILM SCHEDULED

A showing of the Sun Life Instructional Film will be the highlight of the North Okanagan Cross-country Ski Club general meeting Thursday, at 7:30 p.m. in the seniors' centre at the Recreation Complex. All members, and other interested skiers, are invited to attend.

SPIEL PLANED

B.C. Fruit Growers' third annual Growers' Mixed Banquet is scheduled Jan. 17 and 18 at the Kelowna Curling Club. Growers and industry people are invited to submit their names to Don Cheyne at 725-2226 or Eric White at 763-3303. Entry fee is \$16, which includes admission to a banquet.

THREE GAMES

Three games are scheduled tonight in Men's Intermediate Basketball League action at the Priest Valley Gymnasium, at 7 p.m. Cougars meet Fullerton at 8 p.m.

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