

Daily News

**SPORTS**  
PAGE

**CURLING CLUB NEWS**

By RON HOUSTON  
VERNON CURLING CLUB  
MANAGER



Three Vernon teams have qualified for the men's zone playdowns.

A total of nine rinks competed in the club playoff, held last weekend.

The winning teams were comprised of:  
(1) Wayne Laface, Mark Longworth, Ross Hadfield, and Barry Longworth.

(2) Frank Brewer, Bill Whitton, Bob Welsh, and Barry Brown.

(3) Barry Amies, Larry Wynn, Bob Kilborn, and Rob Pringle.

The zone finals are scheduled Jan. 17 and 18 at our club. The six teams that did not qualify are all expected to head for the B.C. Curling Association Bouspiet and playdowns in Prince Rupert.

**HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**  
Dec. 25 and 26: closed all day.  
Dec. 27: open to 9 p.m. (practice).  
Dec. 28: open noon to 9 p.m. (Junior and Holly Spiel).  
Dec. 29: open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Junior, Holly Spiel, and practice).  
Dec. 30: open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Junior, Holly Spiel, and practice).

Dec. 31 and Jan. 1: closed all day.  
Jan. 2: regular mixed curling at 6:45 and 9 p.m.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
The directors and staff of our club would like to wish all curlers a happy holiday season and success in the New Year.



MIKE WINTHER... NHL bound?

**Winther with Tigers for final junior season**

By DON KENDALL  
Daily News Sports Editor  
Vernon's Mike Winther is in his third season in the Western Hockey League. At this time next year, he hopes to be making his living in the National Hockey League.

Winther, a centre with Medicine Hat Tigers, was selected as an underage player by Edmonton Oilers, in the sixth round of the 1979 National Hockey League's amateur draft.

He attended Oilers' training camp in September and was sent back to junior with a parting comment from Edmonton General Manager Glen Sather, "Be ready, we could call you up at any time."

Winther was subsequently traded by Brandon Wheat Kings to Medicine Hat, the team he broke into the WHL with.

Wheat Kings received three 17-year-olds in exchange for the 19-year-old veteran. Winther for the year and Brandon is building for next season.

**TIGERS**  
After starting with Vernon 'kings (now Lakers), in the 1977-78 season, he went to the Tigers. With Medicine Hat, he was second on the team in scoring during his rookie season, with 68 points.

The following year, after a disagreement with Tigers' Coach Pat Gaudet, he was traded to Brandon. Winther is an aggressive player, but he is objected to the 'goon' tactics employed by Medicine Hat.

In the 1979-80 season he led Wheat Kings in scoring, with 90 points, which prompted his selection by Oilers.

Now back with the Tigers and Gmelin, he isn't particularly satisfied with his performance to date. He is fifth on the club in scoring with 42 points, including 22 goals.

"I'm playing on the third line, which means I don't get as much ice time," he said. "I'd like to score 50 goals this year and I still think I can."

Winther is playing behind Steve Sjujura, considered one of the top junior centres in Canada, and Brian Ziegler, a tremendous two-way player.

He feels Tigers still have a good shot at the WHL title, but admits there are several tough clubs — Regina, Calgary, Victoria, Portland, and all have the potential to win it. It all depends on who is going good in March.

Former Memorial Cup champion Vernon Brains are having a dismal season and the trade winds are blowing Brains into the open to be willing to unload any, or all, of their top three players: Anthony McMurphy, Randy Wickware, and ex-Vernon centre John Need.

Winther said, "I'd doubt if we'd want Need, 20, because we already have two 20-year-

olds (the WHL maximum). Both Derek Davis and Tom Adams are having great years. We might be interested in one of the other guys."

**A REALIST**  
Winther hopes to stick with the Oilers next season, but he is a realist. "It will be tough. Edmonton's strongest position is centre. They've got (Wayne) Gretzky, (Stan) Weir, (Matti) Hagman, and (Mark) Messier. Plus, they've got some good guys on their farm club at Wichita. I'll just have to see what happens."

If Winther reaches his target of 50 goals, Edmonton, or another NHL club, will have to take a long look at the former Vernon star.

**Glad Tidings**

We're making the most of the holiday spirit by wishing you the best greetings of the season.

From Dave Fletcher and All the Staff at...

**FLETCHER**  
Downtown Armstrong 546-3048 546-4970

**GUIDE REPORT**

**Sheep winter range threatened by leases**

By SMOKEY TRUMBLEY  
The following information has been brought to my attention by David Falconer, (status unknown to me).

I quote: "Mr. Trumbley, if possible, I would like to talk to you sometime soon about this problem concerning the highborn sheep on Short's Creek. Dr. Campbell-Brown told me you might be able to help."

"Please write a letter (preferably on a business or organization letterhead) as soon as possible objecting to the granting of coal leases along the south-facing north slope of Short's Creek. These leases should not be granted because:

1. The area covers nearly half of the California highborn sheep winter range. Any amount of geological testing could prove highly traumatic for these animals. (It is also their lambing area.)

2. The area contains several important mineral links used by all forms of wildlife, including sheep.

3. Short's Creek watershed is the last major watershed flowing into Okanagan Lake to remain inaccessible to vehicular traffic. As such, it is considered a prime candidate for wilderness preserve, or a Class A Provincial Park status. A roadway into the coal leases would irrevocably alter this

situation.

4. According to information gathered during a comprehensive study of the coal beds by a geological survey of Canadian Geological Co. Cairnes, the property has minimal commercial potential. Therefore, considering the extremely marginal potential of the area (in a province where coal is abundant), very little will be gained while much could be lost if these leases are granted. It is hoped that the office of the Coal Administrator in Victoria will reject the application by Imperial Metals and Power Ltd., of 709-74 West Hastings, Vancouver, to lease lots L422 and L422Z (see Short's Creek, 1:50,000 Topo. Map 82L-4).

"Please write Mr. Paul Hagen, Coal Administrator, B.C. Ministry of Mines and Petroleum Resources, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C. V8Y 8R6.

"Four or five sentences would be quite adequate. It is vital however, that this letter be mailed off as soon as possible. The coal administrator will be making his decision by year's end. Thank you very much, David Falconer."

(Webster's Dictionary — 1. The decline of the sun; the latter part or close of the day; the beginning of the night; evening; used chiefly in poetry as an

equivalent for evening. 2. The evening before a holiday; as, Christmas Eve. 3. Figuratively, the period just preceding some important event; as, the eve of a battle.

**CHRISTMAS** — (Webster's Dictionary): 1. Pertaining to commerce or trade, as, commercial relations. 2. Carrying on commerce; as, a commercial nation. 3. Proceeding from trade; as, COMMERCIAL BENEFITS OR PROFITS.

"MERRY CHRISTMAS"

**SANTA CLAUS** — (Webster's Dictionary): The Dutch name for Saint Nicholas, the patron saint of children; in nursery folklore, the jolly, little old man who brings good children presents at Christmas.

**COMMERCIAL** — (Webster's Dictionary): 1. Pertaining to commerce or trade, as, commercial relations. 2. Carrying on commerce; as, a commercial nation. 3. Proceeding from trade; as, COMMERCIAL BENEFITS OR PROFITS.

"MERRY CHRISTMAS"



**BOWLERS OF THE WEEK**

This week's honored bowlers are Carol Halliday, of the Tuesday 7-9 p.m. league, and Arnim Schulin-Wilkinghoff, of the Sunday 9-11 p.m.

league. Carol rolled a three-game total of 805 to go 250 pins over her 185 average. Arnim had a 746 threesome, 215 pins over his 177 average.

**Red Top Grocery defeats pup reps**

In Pee Wee House League action this week, Red Top Grocery beat Consumers Glass Pup Reps 8-6, Boston Pizza downed Tradeland Realty 6-4, and Vernon Lodge Hotel defeated Geniers TV 6-4.

Wade Handberg and Dean Trumbley each scored twice to lead Red Top. Hay Miller, Jamie Sinclair, Peter Srokovsky and Keith Makortoff fired singles.

Gerry Baron and David Schiman countered with a pair each for the pups. Tom Arkel

and Kelly Olsen triggered singles.

Darryl Reusch paced the Boston Pizza offense with a pair of goals and assists. Doug Revak also scored twice in the win. Richard Klassen and Robbie Udy had one each.

Clint Miller had two and Jason Schier and Darryl Hickson scored singles for Tradeland.

Stewart Hoyt fired three goals in the Vernon Lodge victory. Doug Jewett added a pair and Scott Cameron fired the single. Keith Lewendon, Dean Rimer, Brad Mee and Rod Neill shared the Geniers scoring.

**LOOK BACK FIVE YEARS**

**DECEMBER, 1975**  
Vernon Peeewe Reps suffered their first loss of the season Saturday when they were bombed 14-2 by South Kamloops.

**COUNCIL INDEMNITY COMMITTEE**

Citizens interested in serving on a volunteer five-member body established by The Corporation of the City of Vernon to study Council indemnities, expense accounts and allowances are requested to apply in writing to the undersigned on or before January 5, 1981.

City Clerk  
City of Vernon  
3450 30th Street  
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A "nugget" of information:

**Mining employs or supports over 40,000 people in B.C.**

In addition to employing over 16,000 people in B.C., mining supports over 25,000 others in our province. These are people in companies which provide services, supplies and equipment for the mining industry. It's also estimated that 50,000 workers throughout Canada are supported by mining activity in B.C. Mining is a major economic force in our province... and growing!

**THE MINING ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**  
"Building a stronger B.C."

\*Source: 1979 Price Waterhouse study of B.C. mining industry

**Lakers enjoy holiday break**

Vernon Lakers are currently enjoying a 12-day break from B.C. Junior Hockey League action. However, there was one BCHL game played Tuesday night.

In Richmond, Shawn Lynes and Daryl Goodwin scored two goals apiece to pace Richmond Sockeyes to a 7-4 victory over Cowichan Valley Capitals.

Also scoring for the Sockeyes, who led 3-1 and 6-4 by periods on the way to their 13th consecutive home-ice win, were Eric Catchpole, Jim Thom and

Rob Wallace. Dave Branting, Geoff Court, Dan Hodgson and Len Meyer replied for the Caps, who now trail Richmond by four points for third place in the Coast Division.

Richmond goalie John Dougan helped stoppage 49 shots, while the Caps Doug Thornton made 27 saves before 1,000 fans who were critical of referee Ron Vermeier who gave the Sockeyes 33 minutes in penalties compared with 19 minutes to the Capitals.

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