



(Daily News Photo)

VSSS runners qualify for B.C. championship

Vernon Senior Secondary School boys' and girls' cross-country teams have qualified for the British Columbia Championships, Nov. 21, in Victoria.

VSSS girls captured the valley title for the first time while the boys' squad placed second, Tuesday, in Peniticon.

Three VSSS girls were among the first 10 runners to complete the 4,900 metre (2.54 miles) course. Roby Prevost was fifth, Gudrun Harfies sixth, and Donna Hanson 10th. Other team members who contributed to the Vernon victory, in the reverse scoring system, were Laura and Wendy Vyvan.

Brenda Shackleton of Mt. Boucherie School, in Kelowna, won the race. Salmon Arm's Cynthia Karras was runner-up and Susan Luckey, of Lumby, placed third.

REIMER FIRST

In the 5,540 metre (3.44 miles) boys' race, Vernon's Mel Reimer finished first and team-mate Bill Bishop placed third. Sandwiched between the two VSSS runners was Dale Sheriff of Salmon Arm.

Larry Rohr, Derek Smith, and Robert Gordon were the other Vernon runners to place.

Kelowna boys were first in team standings. Top four teams in the boys' and girls' categories, as well as the top 10 individuals, qualify for the provincial meet.

Vernon's contingent travels to Vancouver this weekend for the Pacific Coast Cross-country Championships.

VSSS Coach Greg Fraser told the Daily News his team has the potential to do well at the Victoria meet.

"We're going to Vancouver this weekend so our kids can get used to competing against hundreds of other runners," he said. "That experience will be important to them."

Soccer CHAMPS

Beairis Elementary School recently captured the Silver Pheasant Trophy emblematic of soccer supremacy in School District 22, for the second consecutive season. Team members are from left, back row: Coach George Fraser, Rob Udy, Bob Leibel, Howie Finch, Ross Blankley, Walter Kalashnikoff, Bading, Ryan Hage, and Scott Slobeg. Front row: Richard Radosh, Vay Phung, David Klassen, Peter Lee, Leroy Connell, Darrell McAuley, David Marcellus, and Justin Morgan. Also on the team was Dennis Holland.

Lakers reduce roster

Vernon Lakers, of the B.C. Junior Hockey League, released two players Tuesday.

Lakers' Coach Gord MacBeth cut forwards Brian Eremko, from Kamloops, and Ron Duval, from Comox.

MacBeth said, "We wanted to reduce our roster and neither Duval or Eremko had shown us much."

IN PENITICON

Lakers return to the ice Friday, in Peniticon, against the first-place Knights. Up to three of Vernon's five injured players may return to the lineup for that outing.

Wayne Bodnaruk (ankle) and Ray Willmet (charleyhorse) will play while Ron Ford (shoulder) is listed as a doubtful starter. Bob Morden (jaw) and Mike Wiebe (back) are not yet ready to return.

FROM OILERS

MacBeth said, "I'm hoping to get another defenceman from (tier one affiliate) Kamloops Oilers before Friday's game. I'm expecting to hear from them today or Thursday."

Vernon's next home game is Sunday when Revelstoke Rockets are in town.

REFS MEET

A North Okanagan basketball referees' meeting, scheduled tonight has been postponed.

The meeting has been rescheduled to Nov. 12, at W. L. Sexton Junior Secondary School.

For further information phone Mel Briggeman at 542-9716.

HORSE TALK

with Janice Neufeld



Last week we checked into the legal regulations governing livestock auctions. There are several items involving the accepted customary procedure which, if paid careful attention to, will help to make your auction experiences happy ones.

In deciding to sell a horse through an auction service, you would do well to acquaint yourself with the local seasonal market trends and preferences as to breeds and types. Selling a galloped show horse in an area where perhaps working ranch horses are in greatest demand may prove difficult. Prices in this region are lowest in late fall because of the expense of keeping the horse through the winter months. If you wish to set a reserve bid on your horse consider these points as well as making an honest appraisal of the horse's age, training, soundness, and disposition.

FOUL PLAY

Once you have consigned your animal to the auction service for sale, you are committed to go through with the contract. It is a foul play to sell the horse before he appears in the auction ring or to drop your reserve bid upon leaving the ring and sell the animal aside from the bidding. You do not have to let the horse go if you do not wish to accept the highest bid, but you can expect to be charged the entry fee, and some sales a buy-back fee.

The appearance of both horse and handler can make a great difference in that final bid. Buyers are far more attracted to a horse that is clean, smooth and shiny, is in good flesh, and has had its feet trimmed. Neat, appropriate tack, and a well dressed handler create a good impression as well.

AFRAID TO SELL

You are still afraid to risk selling your horse through an auction service? Perhaps you've been led to believe that all those buyers lining the rail and crowding the stands are just waiting to cheat you out of a fine animal so they can abuse or even destroy it. Let's take a look at the buying portion of these in attendance at a typical horse auction.

See that young boy over there by the gate? He has been promised a horse for his birthday the next day. All his fingers are crossed inside his jacket pockets. He has already proven his ability to ride and care for horses but, can he dare hope for one of his own? His mom and dad could be bidding on your horse.

Up in the stands a retired gentleman holds his bidding card ready. He can no longer ride, but would love to have a pony to drive in a cart for pleasure. Maybe your pony and price would suit him.

Over there is a little girl, a very experienced rider, whose horse has met with a tragic accident. Where will she find another to take his place? Another tiny girl needs a very gentle, willing pony so she can ride along with her family. She has loved horses since before she could walk but when is just the right one for someone so small and so keen? The hopes of these two are directed toward the next lot through the sale ring.

JUMPING PROSPECTS

An outcrier waits patiently to bid on a couple of sturdy, quiet geldings for his pack string, and the dealer watches for the kind of horse that would suit a customer he has in a distant town where jumping prospects are in short supply.

Both are prepared to pay a fair price for their choices and are not about to waste that by cruelty or carelessness. Stale, old, abused and crippled horses do not work effectively or bring good prices so it is in their best interests to care for them properly.

Personally, I find horse auctions great fun, even if I am neither selling nor buying.

Football playoffs scheduled

Four teams have advanced to the Carling O'Keefe Men's Flag Football League semi-finals, scheduled Sunday, at Vernon Senior Secondary School.

At 11 a.m., second-place Lakeside Black Russians take on sixth-place Bearded Clams and at 12:30 p.m., first-place Labatts Blues battle fifth-place Cobras.

Championship game will be played Nov. 15.

In quarter-final action last weekend, Bearded Clams defeated Cobras 19-17. Cobras blanked Tallmen 7-0. Black Russians downed NorKor Natives by default, and Blues eliminated Camels by default.



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