

SPORTS

District Competitors To Take Part In Annual Meeting

From many northern snow-laden slopes championship material in skiers will storm the doorstep of Smithers, February 17 and 18.

This is the site of the annual B. C. Championship meeting, approved by the Canadian Amateur Ski Association. Clubs expected to compete for four major trophies in jumping, downhill, slalom and cross-country racing are Prince George Club, Omineca Ski Club, Wells Lake, Wells Ski Club, Jaspers and Smithers.

Invitations have been received by the Prince Rupert club. It is not expected local members will enter competition according to unofficial reports.

Smithers Ski Club, with a membership of 50, have been very active this season, says Arden Dahlie, club captain. A site was chosen last summer of considerable clearing accomplished. A new jumping ski lift has been built, capable of 100-foot jumps.

Projects for a three-year improvement program include a large log-constructed ski lodge, with accommodation; clearing of the mountainside to the 100-foot level, and improvements to a nine-mile cross-country course.

A block has been added to the said Mr. Dahlie. From Prince Rupert has come Peter Stetten, winner of several major Norwegian and Swedish cross-country competitions. Walter Lottchen, just a year from Switzerland, has gained recognition as a hill runner, and will be featured in the championship by the Smithers club.

The major contenders representing Smithers in the senior class will be Jorgen Dalie, 27, 4-way contender; Ed Malkow, 31, 3-way; Emil Mesich, 24, 3-way; John Lopadat, 24, 4-way. Jimmy Briggs, 17, although still junior class material will compete 4-way in both, junior and senior races. Young Briggs is ace-in-the-hole for Smithers, as a jumper, being fearless, capable and of exceptional form.

"We are placing a lot of confidence in Jimmy," said Mr. Dahlie. "We think he is championship material."

This year's defending champions are Gordon Williams, Donald Gunn and Donald Green, all members of Wells Ski Club.

The northern championship journey will be held in Smithers coincident with that town's 20th annual ski event.

A dance will wind up the occasion.

Would Close Hockey Gap

TORONTO—Toronto Maple Leafs, playing the cellar-dwelling but unpredictable Chicago Black Hawks at the Maple Leaf Gardens, are hopeful of reducing the five-point gap which now separates them from the league-leading Detroit Red Wings.

Tomorrow night, the Maple Leafs will be playing at Boston. The Red Wings have only one week-end engagement with the Montreal Canadiens at home tomorrow night.

Tonight the Boston Bruins are at the Montreal Forum. This is a battle for third place since the Bruins are only one point below the Canadiens.

The week-end National League schedule is as follows:
Tonight—Boston at Montreal, Chicago at Toronto.
Sunday—Montreal at Detroit, Toronto at Boston, New York at Chicago.

The league standings today:
W D L F A P
Detroit 29 9 11 159 103 67
Toronto 26 10 11 144 96 62
Montreal 17 10 22 114 129 44
Boston 16 11 21 117 137 43
New York 13 15 23 105 137 41
Chicago 12 9 23 122 153 33

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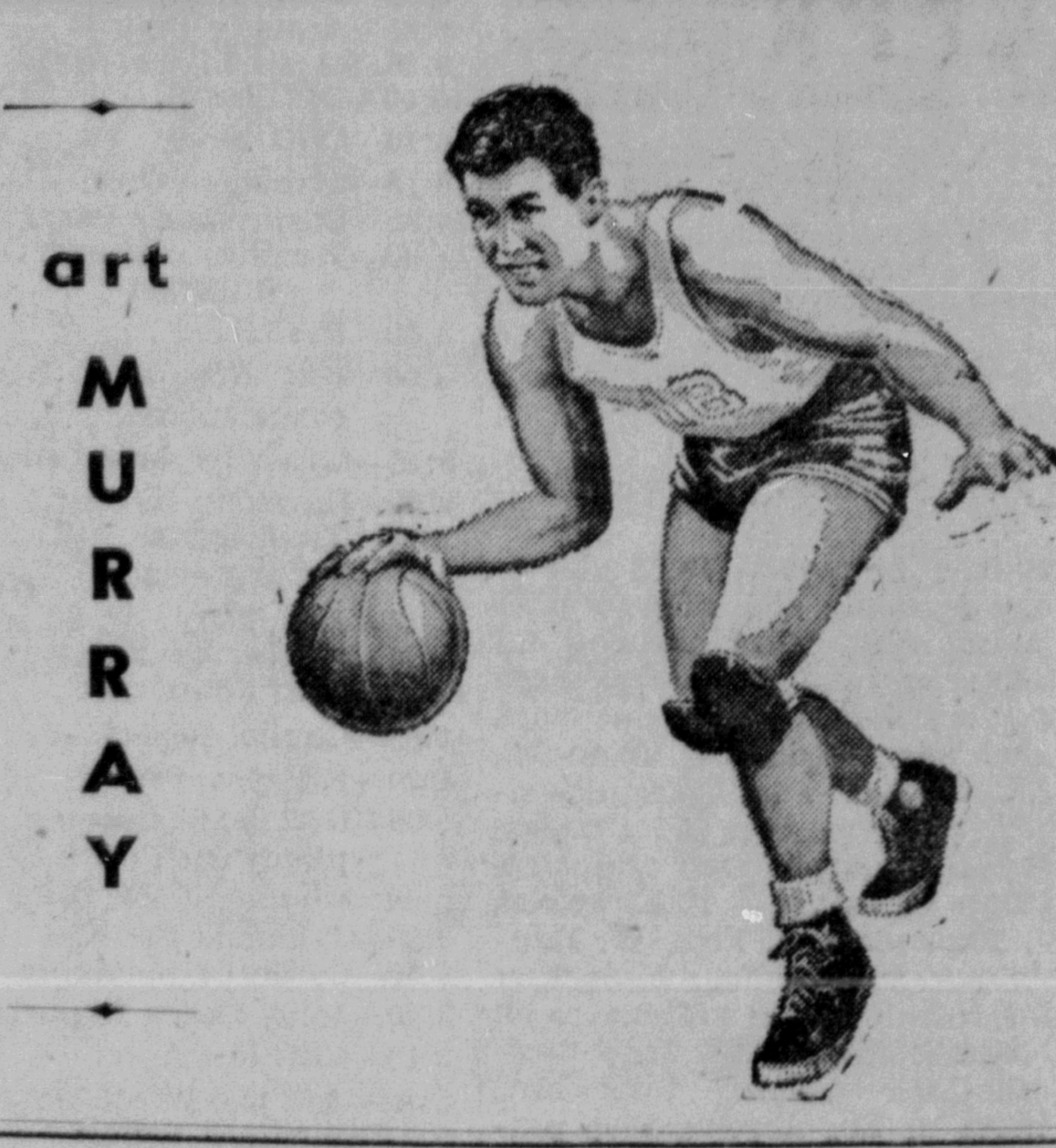
Life assurance? said a friend the other day, "Death insurance is more like it."

This casual remark gave me chance to put across an important point about the business of life insurance.

I told him life assurance was concerned with life rather than death. Its chief job was to defuse the consequences of death by making a normal life possible for those left behind. I told him those held together by the bonds of insurance policies; widows saved from poverty; old folks living out their lives in dignity and comfort; of children getting a good start in life with a college education; of men and businesses saved to provide a means of livelihood for a growing family.

These things are made possible every day by life insurance. Beyond death and comfort to bless and enrich the lives of those he loved. Yes, it is life insurance.

TRAILING the MELON



art MURRAY

Today I'm going to write mostly about the coming international tournament because it is really something to write about.

Those of us who have been connected with this sport for a while will recall the jumble we staged at Acropolis Hill gym a few years ago when Prince Rupert drifted off with the honors and New Metlakatla was beaten by our second string team which was composed of one or two of our present crop of all-stars and a few that seem to have dropped off along the way.

In that series also the clever Johnny Mills and our Booby Houston tangled in a duel that was the subject of comment throughout the tournament.

Mills, who was easily the class of Ketchikan stars of the last decade or so, was practically a team in himself when he got going and it seemed that only Houston could do anything with him.

This year Kitimat will be the unknowns in the tournament and it is a bit of a shame that they could not have had more time to work on their team this year. Most of their boys work hard all winter in the herring fishing fleet and it generally takes them a month or so to shake their sea legs and get down to work.

Actually not too much can be expected of the Kitimat club this year but it is a start in the right direction as far as local promoting is concerned to have them in on the big show.

Stan Shaw, coach of the native tournament champions, is in hospital here due to an accident suffered at the village last week but it is hoped he will be able to be up and about when the opening whistle sounds next Thursday.

I am going to give you more complete information on the teams next week and the records of each team so far this year. I have already received a complete list of players on the New Metlakatla and Ketchikan squads and it looks as though Alex Bill has a job on his hands.

TONIGHT
Tonight Brownwoods can climb into a first place tie with Co-on in the City Senior League and they should easily. They meet Gordon & Anderson in the feature of the weekly Saturday night show and will be out for revenge for the whipping they took the last time they met the hardware men.

I don't predict victory for Brownwoods because of the fact they are meeting the basement dwelling hardware crew, but by reason of the fact that I cannot see why they should lose to either of the other two teams in the league. They will be minus Bill Sunberg tonight. Bill is resting comfortably with a broken limb at the General Hospital—that is if you can rest comfortably with a broken limb.

Have been wondering what has

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SPORT SHOTS

Charlton Athletic, floundering near the bottom of England's First Division Soccer League, has reached out to the playing fields of Sweden to bolster its fading fortunes. Struggling against the threat of relegation, Charlton has come up with the catch of the season by signing up 25-year-old Hans Jeppson, Sweden's high scoring international centre-forward.

It was quite a catch at that for the six-foot blonde recently turned down an offer of £10,000 (about \$30,000) and £100 a month from a leading soccer club in Italy. Charlton got him without putting up a penny by signing him as an amateur for a period of three months. Players of his calibre have been retailing at anywhere between £15,000 and £20,000 on the current transfer market.

Jeppson, "capped" 12 times by his native selectors, led Sweden's world cup team at Rio de Janeiro last summer. He has just returned from a tour of the Far East where he scored 29 goals in 14 games for his Stockholm club. Hans also scored one of the goals when Sweden beat England 3-1 in an international test in 1949.

When Charlton's shrewd manager, Jimmy Seed, announced the capture of his prize, Jeppson was pressed for his reasons in rejecting the alluring Italian offer and signing on as an amateur.

"I came to England on business and to study the language," was his blunt reply. "Mr. Seed sought my aid so I will mix business with pleasure because I

love football. I am not exactly a soccer artist, but I do score goals." Jeppson proved he was right in his latter claim by scoring the winning goal against Sheffield Wednesday in his first appearance with his new club.

Some of London sport columnists, however, look with disfavor on the deal. They claim that search for talent in other lands is a poor compliment to the thousands of youngsters in Britain, itching to break into the game. Harry Ditton, writing in the News of the World, let go this broadside: "Football can be a soul-destroying business, especially when a club of the standing of Charlton is caught in the throes of threatened relegation. But it's both surprising and disappointing that a manager with such a proud record as Seed has built should admit that he does not know where to turn in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales for his idea of the right players—for that's what Jeppson's signing means in effect. It's not to the credit of any club to go chasing around the Dominions and the Continent for players who ought to be produced at home."

Charlton, however, isn't the only major league club guilty of combing distant fields for player talent. Middlesbrough, for one has the Jamaican, Lloyd Delapenha and the Italian, Orlando Ugolini, rated as one of the soundest goal-keepers in the United Kingdom. Manchester City and Bristol City picked up a couple of players in Germany, while Hull obtained their stellar wing-half, Viggo Jensen, from Copenhagen. London's great Arsenal club went still farther afield by giving a trial to the Iclander, Albert Gudmundsson, later transferred to the Racing Club de Paris.

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BLONDIE by CHIC YOUNG

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WHEN HE PICKED HER UP IN HIS STRONG ARMS AND CARRIED HER OVER THE THRESHOLD I NEARLY SWOONED

HOW THRILLING!

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NO!

DAGWOOD STOP DOZING... HERE COMES THE BIG LOVE SCENE

DAGWOOD WAKE UP... THE SHOW IS OVER AND WE'RE ON OUR WAY HOME

WASN'T THAT ROMANTIC WHEN HE CARRIED HER OVER THE THRESHOLD?

FNFF

OH, WELL... WE'VE BEEN MARRIED A LONG TIME

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