

Ken Watson's Curling



WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOUR BACKSWING?

Nothing is more important than the backswing if you want to be effective as a curler. In any bonspiel game in which we were playing unfamiliar opponents, I always made it a rule as a skip to make mental notes of any irregularities in the swing of each opponent. Then I knew whether he was weak on the in-turns or out-turns, and the strategy was adjusted accordingly.

First watch your left arm. See that it is extended sideways, and a little ahead of the body (never behind you). Keep the broom handle well behind (and never ahead) of the broom straw. Note the illustration above and particularly the position of the broom in helping to maintain balance.

The use of your broom, how you hold it and what you do with it during the swing is vitally important in a good delivery. Too many young curlers get into the habit of using the broom to ride on during the follow-through of the delivery. This will be dealt with in a later article, but for the present, keep your broom straw pointed forward if you want to avoid trouble in your delivery.

Now you should be ready to start your backswing. Don't move forward to start it. Remember you are sitting on your right heel, relaxed, I hope. No wagging, no aiming, no leaning or reaching to pull the stone back, but not before you have checked the most important thing in the entire mechanics of the delivery — The position of your stone on the ice.

Monday ... What's Wrong With Your Backswing? (Cont.)

Chalk River Reactor Out Of Action

CHALK RIVER, Ont. (CP)—The world's most powerful atomic reactor, ruptured inside and leaking dangerous waters, will be out of action for months, but Canadian scientists are working on a new and bigger machine.

Top officials said Wednesday the Dec. 12 breakdown of the atom-splitting heart of Canada's atomic project has injected a new sense of urgency into the job Chalk River presently is doing—building a new, 30-million-dollar reactor whose capabilities will dwarf those of the ailing one.

Date for completion of the new reactor is some time next year. Right now it consists of holes blasted in a "rock" foundation and a skeleton framework of lumber.

Scientists say the reactor will lengthen Canada's lead in the field of reactors or nuclear furnaces, complex mechanisms which split atoms and release energy.

At the same time, they are beginning to put on paper their ideas for power plants that will eventually bring atomic energy to the practical-use level.

SPORTSMAN'S DIGEST By Hal Sharp ROAST OPOSSUM



Skin and dress the opossum, then cover it with cold water, adding a handful of salt to soak overnight. Then drain and parboil in water seasoned with salt and chopped peppers until tender. Now place opossum in a roaster, filling around it with peeled, baked sweet potatoes. Baste with the par-boiled broth every few minutes as it browns in a hot oven. Serve with cold slaw and hot bread. Lemon pie tops it off. It is an old Southern favorite. Good recipe for 'coon's also.

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City Cager Suspended By Referees

One of Prince Rupert's top senior league basketball players was suspended for one game by the Referees' Association, following a flare-up Tuesday night after the regular league game.

Suspended is Ray Spring of Mansions, who attempted to attack referee Ole Slatta after Spring was put out of the game for flagrancy.

The Prince Rupert Amateur Basketball Association ratified the decision of the Referees' Association, President Art Murray said today.

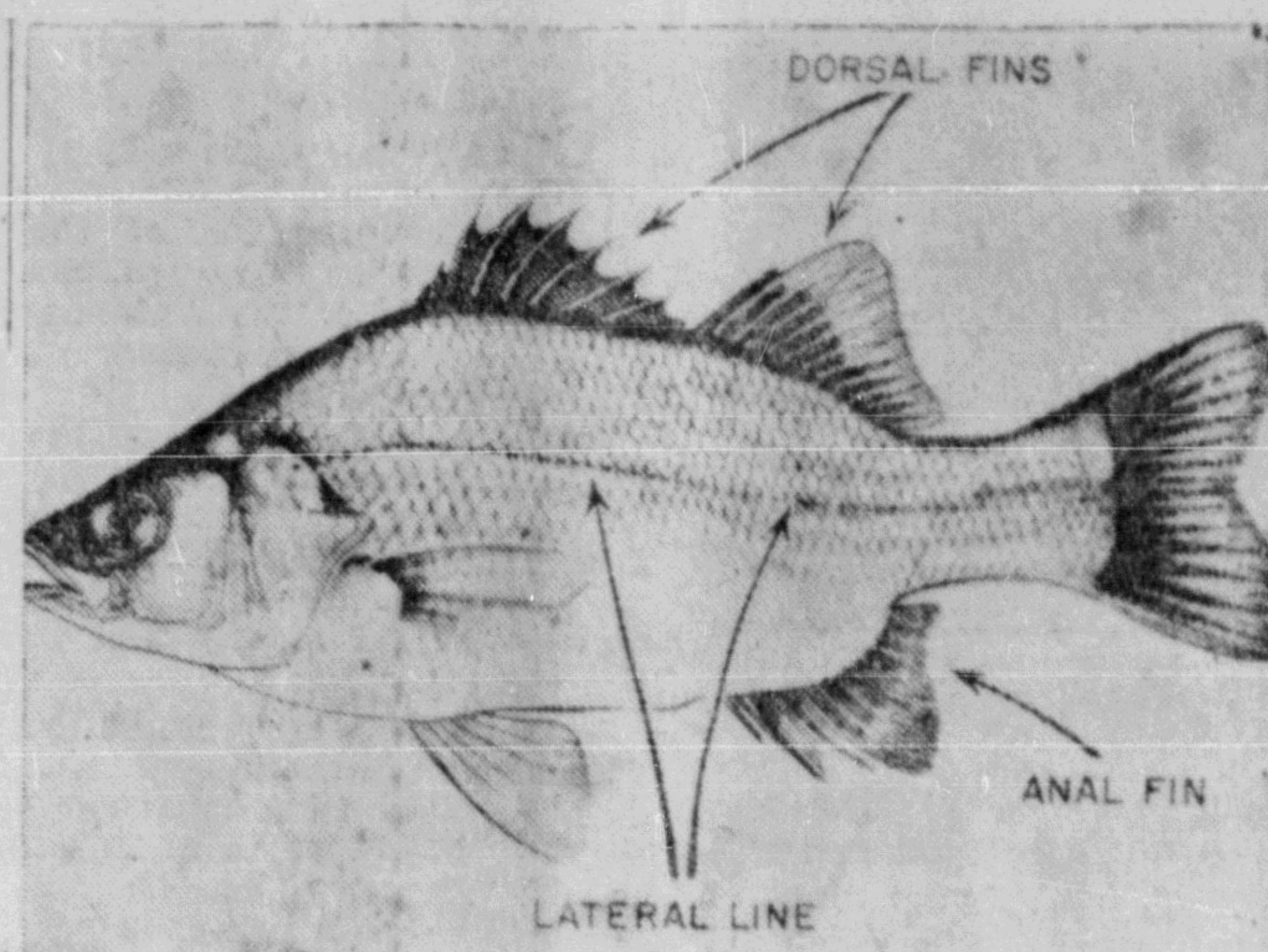
"His suspension would have been longer if he wasn't so vital to his team," Mr. Murray said, adding that "any repetition of his Tuesday night's behaviour will send him out of the league for the season."

GAME CANCELLED

Meanwhile, the scheduled Jan. 16-17 exhibition contest here between New Westminster Royals and Prince Rupert all-star Challengers has been cancelled.

Mr. Murray said the plans fell through because the Royals found out they couldn't get plane passage out of here on Sunday, in order for players to be able to return to work Monday.

This situation recalls the incident last winter when Vancouver's Eilers were absent from their homes for a week, forced first by their privately



RARE FISH—The netting of a number of white perch in Montreal district waters has caused a stir in ichthyological circles. None of the fish had been seen in the area in the last 75 years. The Quebec biological bureau said the fish is possibly a relic of seawater days of 10,000 years ago. (CP PHOTO)

chartered plane being held up en route by weather, then by delay in return air passage.

Attempts will be made, however, to arrange an exhibition game here in the near future with either a Ketchikan or Metlakatla team, said Mr. Murray.

Many Pheasants

ST. THOMAS, Ont. (CP)—The 1952 pheasant shoot at Pelee Island in Lake Erie yielded about 6,900 cocks and 1,500 hens.

The first Atlantic cable was laid between Cape Breton, N.S., and Newfoundland in 1855.

REMEMBER WHEN

Paul Berlenbach, former world's light heavyweight boxing champion who earned more than \$500,000 in pre-depression days, started a wrestling career at New York 17 years ago today. He was in a preliminary and got \$150 for 11 minutes.

CURLING DRAWS

Following are draws for Saturday curling which begins at 1:30 p.m. Rowbotham vs. Berg, Robertson vs. Turner.

Winners of tonight's draws will play off on the remaining sheet.

NHL Rookie Gets Shutout With Detroit

TORONTO (CP)—Young Glen Hall, up from Edmonton Flyers of the Western Hockey League, got his first shutout in his 107 pro hockey games in the fast company of NHL.

Subbing for injured Terry Sawchuk, Hall kept out the Boston Bruins as Detroit Red Wings beat them 4-0 Thursday night.

Tail-end New York Rangers came from behind twice to tie the third-place Montreal Canadiens 4-4.

Other scores:
WHL—Saskatoon 6, Tacoma 1.
WHL—Kimberley 5, Nelson 4.
OSHL—Kelowna 8, Kamloops 6.

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8:00 p.m.—JUNIOR
Wolves vs. Beavers
9:30 p.m.—LADIES
Shier's vs. C.C.C.

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Action On Annexation

EDMONTON (CP)—Premier Manning has indicated the provincial government has no intention of seeking immediate action on a proposal whereby Alberta and British Columbia would annex a large portion of the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

Manning said there definite plans to take proposal before federal government. "Such an extension of our territory might be possible in the future, if the people want it."

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