



## IN THIS CORNER

DICK AYRES

**SMITHERS**—It was a tired collection of broom and stone boys who wound up the soggy but enjoyable bonspiel at the four-sheet Smithers curling rink Monday afternoon. Contrary to any reports that might have been circulating in Prince Rupert, the 'spiel continued right through as was agreed at the meeting Saturday night.

The Smithers club, headed by president Dick Heggie and piloted by a worried draw committee chairman Carl Spicer, made every effort to keep the bonspiel going since there were 15 visiting rinks, only two less than were entered from Smithers itself.

At the meeting Dick said from the start, "it's up to the visitors," to which Reg Collison added, "if the ladies could play on ice worse than this, which they did last year, surely the men can continue."

This was seconded by Mitch Greene who said "keep going," to which Ed Garner suggested that the games be shortened to eight ends. This was done and later that night the bonspiel got under way again. It came as a great surprise therefore that the four rinks decided before train time to call it quits.

Strange part of it is that though the temperature stayed between 38 and 40 degrees the ice was no worse when the bonspiel ended than it was Saturday night.

Tiredest of all the Rupert crew was undoubtedly "pile driver" Art Kristmanson, who threw a total of 64 extra rocks during the Dobb rink's last four games which they played short-handed.

The Rupert gang have been inviting all the Smithers boys to their own bonspiel March 19-22 and they will have to go some to out-do the Smithers curlers for their hospitality.

An English couple who learned the ways of the west in very short order are Dick and Gladys Balchin of the Hilltop hotel who turned their ultra-modern hostelry into a home away from home for the Rupert boys. It didn't matter what time of night the boys were curling there was hot coffee ready for them and in the wee, small hours the boys could make their own. Thanks also go to Wili Watson of the Hudson and Gordie Copeland of the Bulkley.

Highlight of the 'spiel for Ken Robertson was the goose dinner provided by Reg and Benny Collison. Also on the appreciated menus were the moose steaks provided for Dibbs' crew and Bill Anderson by Wili Watson and cooked to a turn by Cliff Delage.

In the long-time-no-see department was Fred Rush, former Rupert resident and well-known tennis player between 1936 and 1942. Fred, who married Dolly Derry, daughter of W. H. Derry, engineer at Booth, sends his regards to Dan Kristmanson. He recalls winning the city tennis championship in the mixed doubles with one of Sid Thompson's daughters but he can't remember her first name.

**POST SCRIPTS**—Personal thanks go to Dick Heggie and George Dobb for loaning us their cars to get around—to Bill McLean for the lecture on journalism—to Al Miller's rink for loaning us their room temporarily because it was so quiet (?)—to Carl Spicer for his co-operation and to the Smithers Curling Club for continuing their bonspiel to please the visitors who had come a long way at considerable expense and didn't want to go home until it was over.

## Hero of Half Century Ago, Alberto Braglia Taken Ill

MODENA, Italy (AP)—Alberto Braglia, who fell from Olympic fame to dismal poverty, was taken to a hospital today—a dying man and forgotten hero. An ambulance wheeled him silently through the streets of a city which a half century ago echoed his name. The cheers had come after he won a golden cigaret holder from Queen Victoria and prizes from King Christian of Denmark, and the last czar of Russia.

Alberto won one of the first prizes to be awarded in gymnastics at the first modern Olympic Games at Athens in 1904. He repeated his victories in 1908 and came home heralded as a hero. For a time he made good money. Then bad investments wiped away his fortune and he was forced to take

## Darrell Royal Released

EDMONTON (CP)—Darrell Royal, the man who brought split-T football to Canada, bowed out as head coach of Edmonton Eskimos of the Western Interprovincial Football Union Monday.

A few hours after Eskimos released the WIFU's all-star coach of 1953 from his contract obligations, the 29-year-old Royal left Edmonton by plane for Starkville, Miss., where he will become head coach of Mississippi State College.

Eskimo officials said Royal would return here in about a week to wind up his affairs.

Spring training at Starkville opens the first week in March. Royal will succeed Murray Warmath, who will take over as head coach at Minnesota State.

The move was in line with Royal's ambition to become a "career" coach. Eskimos didn't stand in his way.

Royal signed a three-year contract last season, his first in Canadian football, but Eskimos waived his obligations.

## Walls Drops In Ratings

NEW YORK (AP)—Upset defeats suffered by Earl Walls, Yolande Pompey, Danny Nardico and Gerhard Hecht have resulted in a vigorous shake-up of the latest boxing ratings, released today by Ring magazine.

Tommy Harrison, Los Angeles heavyweight, took over the No. 6 spot among the challengers by defeating Walls, the Canadian slugger from Edmonton, who twice knocked out Rex Layne, Coley Wallace, beaten by Ezzard Charles was dropped out of the top 10 and was replaced by Clarence Henry of Los Angeles.

Despite a disappointing performance against Jimmy Slade, Philadelphia's Harold Johnson retained his No. 1 spot among light heavyweight contenders.

## CURLING RESULTS

**ART MURRAY TROPHY (Women's) MONDAY**  
7 P.M.—Johnson 4, McLeod 9. Ramsay 7, McKenzie 5. McBroom 11, Schuman 9.  
9 P.M.—Bateman 9, Turner 6. Crossley 7, Willson 8. Anderson 9, Shier 6.  
**WEDNESDAY DRAW**  
Wakley vs. Petrov.  
Hamilton vs. Partridge.  
Lewis vs. Moore.  
**GROTTO COMPETITION (Men's) TONIGHT**  
7 P.M.—Matthew vs. LaBrie. Sieber vs. Stewart. Shier vs. Bird.  
9 P.M.—Kjalfsson vs. Ford.



**FORMER NEW YORK YANKEE** baseball star, Lefty Gomez of Durham, Conn., uses a bat to give a shock test to a new type of football helmet. Lovely Jane Tamburino of Chicago models the shock-absorbing headgear, which is said to be from three to five times more effective than previous models. Even with such protection, it doesn't seem that hitting her with a bat is the "sporting thing" to do. It's all for the sake of research.

## Quebec Boxer Retains Crown With 5th Round Knockout

QUEBEC (CP)—Scrappy Fernando Gagnon of Quebec, Canadian bantamweight boxing champion, slugged his way to a fifth-round technical knockout Monday night over Edmonton's Jersey Joe Edwards to retain his crown. The triumph was Gagnon's seventh successful title defence since winning the championship in 1946. The bout was scheduled for 12 rounds.

## Last Night's Fights

By The Associated Press  
**Quebec**—Fernando Gagnon, 116½, Quebec, stopped Jersey Joe Edwards, 113¼, Edmonton, 5.  
**New Orleans**—Santiago Estaban, 138¾, Los Angeles, outpointed Brian Kelly, 138¼, Niagara Falls, Ont., 10.  
**Brooklyn**—Johnny Saxton, 149½, Brooklyn, stopped Mickey Laurent, 159, France, 7.  
**Detroit**—John Barnes, 135¼, Detroit, stopped Kenny Lane, 137, Muskegon, Mich., 1.  
**Holyoke, Mass.**—Art Mullin, 122½, Philadelphia, outpointed Ken Adams, 123½, Waterbury, Conn., 8.

## HOCKEY STANDINGS

NATIONAL LEAGUE						
	W	L	T	P	Pts	
Detroit	28	12	9	135	87	65
Montreal	26	18	5	143	104	57
Toronto	25	15	8	101	80	56
Boston	21	22	6	121	132	48
New York	19	23	7	112	137	45
Chicago	9	37	5	100	172	23
WESTERN LEAGUE						
	W	L	T	P	Pts	
Vancouver	28	18	6	152	121	62
Calgary	29	19	3	194	149	61
Saskatoon	23	19	6	152	149	52
N.W.A.S.T.	21	24	7	159	165	49
Edmonton	20	24	8	183	194	43
Victoria	18	28	8	143	161	44
Seattle	7	27	6	146	180	40



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## Tie Game Tightens WHL Race

By The Canadian Press  
Victoria Cougars, casting worried glances over their shoulders at the Seattle Bombers and the Western Hockey League basement, added one point to their margin of safety at Saskatoon Monday.

Playing the first of a three-game Prairie jaunt, they tied the Quakers 1-1 before 3,000 fans and went five points ahead of Seattle and within three points of Edmonton Flyers.

Cause for most of the Cougar's concern over Seattle stemmed from a 5-1 lacing the Bombers handed Edmonton and a 3-1 win over New Westminster.

Quaker's goalie Chuck Rayner and Ralph Almas between the pipes for the Cougars were the stars of the game in Saskatchewan on Monday's fray.

## Playing Days Over For Joe Shack

LONDON (CP)—Joe Shack, veteran Winnipeg hockey player, left hospital today after a successful eye operation. But his playing days are over.

Shack, 38, has been told by his doctors that he faces permanent blindness if he continues playing, a friend said. It's expected that Shack will take a front-office job, possibly with Harringay Racers, which he captained.

Shack came to British hockey in 1946 and scored 274 goals. He suffered temporary blindness in his left eye from a displaced retina shortly after Christmas, and the operation followed.

## Powerful RCMP Rink Captures Major Honors in Smithers 'Sp

By DICK AYRES  
**SMITHERS**—Cagey veteran curler Cliff Delage of Smithers staved off a tenth end rally by the powerful RCMP rink of Stu McKim to win the Bulkley Hotel trophy in the final game of the 28th annual Smithers Curling bonspiel Monday afternoon.

Tied six-six in the seventh end Delage's quartet added single points in the eighth and ninth ends and held McKim to one point in the tenth to take the crucial game 8-7.

The strong McKim rink had already captured the Heggie Cafe trophy earlier in the day beating out Cliff Eomer of Burns Lake 9-7. Hugh Clarkston of Smithers defeated fellow townsmen Walter Burns 8-5 for the Wall Electric trophy.

The McKim rink also won the grand aggregate prize for winning the most games, taking 11 of 12 contests in which they competed. Delage was second with eight wins and Eomer third with seven.

It was the RCMP rink which put an end to Prince Rupert's bids for the major trophies beating out Ken Robertson's crew 6-4 in the eighth and downing Al Miller's squad 6-5 in the semi-finals. George Dibb's quartet failed to make the semis when they were trimmed 7-3 by Cliff Delage.

The Kenney Cup was won by Chuck Walsh of Burns Lake with

second prize going to Pat Thibault of Smithers who lost 6-5. It was Walsh who knocked Ken Robertson's squad out of this event 8-2 in the semi-finals.

Reg Collison of Smithers who defeated Jack Downey of Telkwa 9-5 to win the Hudson Hotel trophy, also downed Al Miller's Rupert team 9-4 in the semi-finals.

Bill Bovill of Smithers defeated Herman Bennet of Hazelton 9-2 to capture the Imperial Oil cup.

Of the seven Prince Rupert rinks which arrived for the bonspiel Saturday Dibb's rink won the most games with four victories to their credit.

Al Miller's crew won three games as did Mitch Greene's rink before four Rupert rinks deserted.

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