"Biggest-Ever" Curling Event Set As City Prepares For Annual 'Spiel

City To Be Thrown Wide-Open For March 22-27 Competition

By HARV GAY
Daily News Sports Editor

Mardi Gras time is drawing near for Prince Rupert.

It's the six days of the year when the city goes crazy, business takes an awful beating and old and young alike join in the colorful celebrations at Seal Cove.

For it is the Prince Rupert Curling Club's annual bonspiel—the biggest and most colorful event in northern British Columbia.

This year the city's bonspiel takes on an added attraction. It is the inaugurational year for the new $80,000, six sheet curling rink, one of the biggest in Western Canada.

And the bonspiel has assumed the name of the Marine Bonspiel, synonymous with the resource upon which majority of Prince Rupert thrives.

Bonspiel this year will be held March 22 to 27.

Invitations have been extended curling clubs all over the province to attend this inaugurational year of the Marine Bonspiel.

Already entries are pouring in from places as far south as Vancouver and east to Prince George.

Drawmaster Jack Laurie would not hazard a guess at the number of rinks expected but he said from all indications they will top anything seen in curling in B.C. —outside of Vancouver.

In previous years Prince Rupert, well-known for its warm-hearted hospitality, has provided entertainment and a host of new friends for the outside rinks.

But this year will surpass anything ever seen in the city before.

The city is to be thrown wide open.

Most Spectacular Event

City service clubs and lodges will play host to the visitors and theatres, sea trips and transportation will be provided free to the visitors as part of the city's contribution to make the Marine Bonspiel THE curling event of the province.

A massive seafood banquet and dance is scheduled to be held in the Canadian Legion Monday, March 25.

Seafood galore, compliments of four of the local fish plants will be set up in a gourmet's array

As a special attraction, B.C. Packers Ltd., are flying up a woman food consultant from Vancouver an expert in home economics to arrange the seafood banquet.

Dancing will last from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. on March 25.

Official opening will take place Saturday, March 23 at 2 p.m., when Mayor George E. Hills extends the welcome of the city to visiting rinks.

Following the opening remarks all rink members will join in a grand march around the ice led by the pipe band of the 120th Independent Field Battery, RCA (M).

The Mayor will then throw the first rock to declare the first Marine Bonspiel officially open.

Deadline for entries, both local and outside is March 18. Cost per rink is $30.

All rinks are guaranteed five games.

Rinks will vie for six competitions and will play under the revised Royal Caledonian Rules.

Six Trophies To Be Won

The six trophies are: The Grand Challenge donated by Fashion Footwear; the Second Primary, donated by North Star Bottling works; Secondary to the Second Primary, donated by E. T. Applewhaite; the Consolation donated by Bacon Fisheries and the Grand Aggregate donated by Frizzel Motors.

Players on the award winning rinks will each receive miniature trophies.

Visiting rinks start play Saturday morning at 11:30 a.m. Local rinks begin Friday morning at 7 a.m.

Curling will likely be around the clock Saturday and Sunday as an exceptionally heavy number of entries is expected.

The Prince Rupert Curling Club building will also assume an atmosphere synonymous with bonspiel's name.

Gillnets and pennants will decorate the interior and it is planned to freeze labels of canned products from the local fish plants in the ice.

The coffee room and adjacent "Post Mortem" room will also be decorated, the latter having been recently extended to enable more curlers in to "warm up."

Chairman of the respective committees in the unique bonspiel are: Art Murray, publicity; Jack Lindsay, general; Jack Skellern and Art Kristmanson, entertainment; Gordon Bateman, rules; Ev Shier house and ice; Harley Lewis, banquet; and Bert Fields, finance.

Club Commodore is the curling club president, Bobby Rudderham and Bonspiel Commodore is Jack Lindsay.

Vernon Still One-up

KAMLOOPS, B.C. (CP)—Vernon Canadians came from behind twice Monday night to force a 3-3 tie with Kamloops Chiefs in the second game of their best-of-seven Okanagan Senior Hockey League final. Vernon leads the series 1-0.

Rookie Merv Bidoski saved the game twice for the Canadians, firing a tying goal in the third period to send the teams into overtime and beating Kamloops goalie Jim Shirley again at 8:47 of the overtime period after the Chiefs had threatened to even the series.

Playing coach George Agar of Vernon scored the Canadians' other goal. Kamloops scorers were Al Swaine, Bill Hryciuk and playing coach Bob Dawes.

The score was 1-1 at the end of the first and Kamloops led 2-1 going into the third.

The third game of the series is set for tonight in Vernon.

Booth Girls Win Both Series

Booth Memorial High School senior and junior girls basketball squads swept over their Kitimat counterparts at Kitimat last weekend, the senior racking up a comfortable 62-30 victory and the juniors, just eking out a 18-17 margin.

Top marksman for Booth in the Senior event was Libby Pierce who snared 14 points, followed by Sandra Giske with 13 and Marilyn Farmer with 12.

Kitimat, feeling more at home in their own gym played a much better game than they did in Rupert last week, February 23 they lost to the local girls 45-11.

Taking advantage of the small gym, Frosty's racked up a half time score of 32-13. There were an exceptional number of fouls called and jump balls making for a long game.

Other scorers for Booth were Anna Colussi 10, Anna Carlson 4, Sylvia Holland 6, Bev Calderoni 3, Carll Wick.

In the junior event, the game was a thrill from beginning to end. Matching basket for basket, the final quarter was filled with suspense. The winning points were chalked up with 20 seconds left to play when a foul was called on Kitimat, Gladys Grimolfson made both shots count. Gladys also took high scoring honors with 8 points.

EVER HAVE A PROBLEM of carrying food to friends? This can be solved easily by using the tub-type waxed-cardboard containers in pint and quart sizes, which freezer owners use to stow away their frozen treasures.

Laird Leads Booth To Win Over Kitimat

Paced by Alan Laird with 16 points Booth Memorial High School Rainmakers racked up a 57-44 victory over Kitimat High School Chieftains in a game at the local school gymnasium Saturday night.

Rainmakers led all the way taking the first quarter 16-11. Kitimat came back during the second frame whittling the margin to 28-24 by the half.

Rainmakers applied the pressure again in the third frame to leave the Kitimat squad still trailing 40-34 and then went on to take the final stanza.

Kitimat scored 10 points on free shots while Booth only scored one.

LINEUPS:

Rainmakers—Johnson 12, Lyons 2, Kelsey 10, Laird 16, Allen 6, Twaites 3, Specht 4, Mah 4. Total 57.

Kitimat—Amos 2, Stewart 10, Patton 2, Grant 5, Richards 10, Bennet 5, Whiting 4. Total 44.

Softball Meet Tomorrow

Election of executive and officers for the Prince Rupert Softball Association will be held tomorrow night in the Savoy Hotel Sample Rooms at 8 p.m.

All members are urged to attend.

Besides the annual study of the constitution, discussion on last year's problems, pro-tem president, Len Harrington stated.

BIRD MAN—Goalie Davoski of the Nantes (France) team proves that the "man on the flying trapeze" has nothing on him as he "flies through the air with the greatest of ease." The "flight" occurred as Davoski leaped high to stop an elusive ball during the Nantes-Lyon soccer match at Paris' Parc des Princes. Despite his ability as a bird man, Davoski's team lost the game, 4-1.

B.C., Alberta Tied For Curling Lead

KINGSTON (CP)—Alberta and British Columbia were alone at the top of the Canadian Curling championship standings today with three straight victories.

Saskatchewan, which received a third-round bye, followed with two victories in as many starts.

Alberta, skipped by Matt Baldwin, came up with an easy 17-3 decision over last-place Prince Edward Island, but British Columbia again had to make a driving finish to beat Quebec 12-10 with a three-rock last end.

The Trail rink skipped by Reg Stone has had three tough games. They opened the five-day round-robin tournament Monday, with an 11-9 victory over Manitoba and followed with an 8-6 triumph over Nova Scotia in the second round, scoring three in the last two ends.

In other third-round games today Northern Ontario walloped Newfoundland 16-8 and Ontario got past New Brunswick 8-6.

In B.C.-Quebec game Quebec was sitting almost on the button while B.C. had three rocks in the house. On his last throw Stone took out the Quebec rock and sailed out of the house himself to score three and assure the victory.

Lions Lose Ed Vereb To US Army

VANCOUVER (CP) — Halfback star Ed Vereb of the B.C. Lions has been lost to the U.S. Army, the football club said Monday.

Lions manager Herb Capozzi said there are no immediate plans to replace Vereb, who was top scorer with the club in 1956, his first year with the club.

ED VEREB
. . . joins Uncle Sam's training class.

Basketball Semi-Finals Start Tonight

The first of three semi-finals in the Junior Civic Centre Basketball League gets underway tonight when Rainmakers take on Annunciation Crusaders at 7:30 p.m.

The winner of the best-of-two-out-of-three series will play Sunrise regular league winners in a three-out-of-five series for the Junior League championship.

A senior league game will take place at 8:30 p.m. with Fraser and Payne battling McRae Motors.

City Curlers At University In Third Place

Prince Rupert representatives in the UBC Curling League dropped to third place in the current round robin event after being stomped on by Vancouver's Shepherd rink, 15-1.

A wire from team captain Russel Morrison said: "Play was rotten and the ice was worse."

VOLLEY BALL IN EGYPT—Two Canadian teams take part in what is believed to be the first volley ball game played in Egypt. The Royal Canadian Engineers and the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps battle it out at the Abu Suweir base of the United Nations Emergency Force. (CP from National Dfence).

RECORD TOTAL

New Zealand's meat exports reached an all-time record of about £1,000,000,000 in 1956.

TOBACCO OUTPUT

World tobacco production for 1956 is estimated at a record of 8,428,000,000 pounds.

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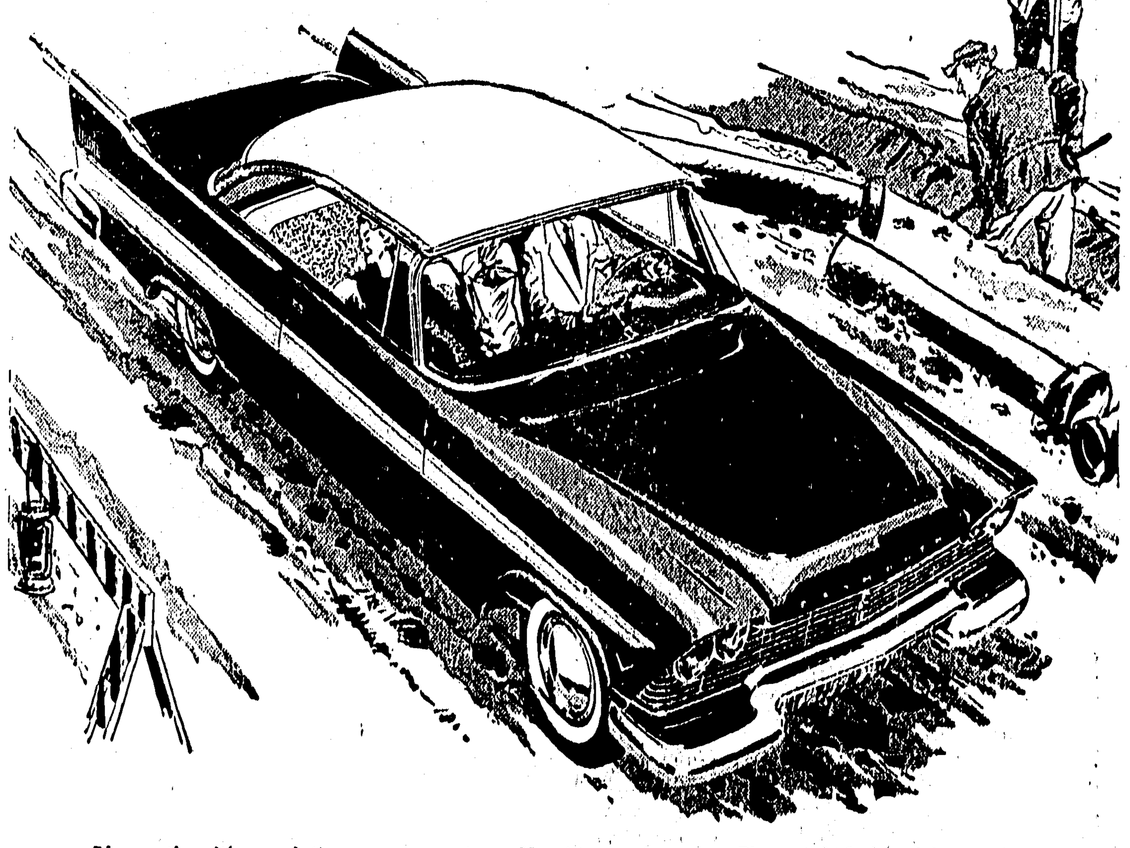
You'll notice . . . this year the BUMPS ARENT SO BUMPY



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