

Holland joins Team Pacific

While most of the young people in this country enjoyed a long day of feasting and celebration on Christmas, one Vernon youngster couldn't afford the luxury of basking in merriment for the entire day.

In fact, not long after most had finished opening gifts and having a Christmas brunch with the rest of the family, Vernon's Dennis Holland was rushing out the door for the airport.



DENNIS HOLLAND

Holland joined the rest of Team Pacific in Edmonton, Wednesday, and began team practice sessions Thursday in preparation for the Quebec Esso Cup, an international round-robin tournament scheduled for 11 Quebec communities between Dec. 30 and Jan. 5.

Holland is one of 22 under-17 hockey players from Alberta and B.C. who make up Team Pacific. In all there are five Canadian teams including Team Western (Saskatchewan and Manitoba); Team Ontario; Team Quebec; and Team Atlantic (made up of players from all four Maritime Provinces).

Czechoslovakia, Finland, Soviet Union, Sweden, and the United States will form the international competition for the five Canadian teams in the seven-day tournament. The opening and championship games will take place in Verdun, Que. with the other games scheduled for 10 other Quebec sites.

All five of the Canadian teams are holding pre-competition camps from Dec. 26 to 29.

Holland, 16 is currently toiling with Vernon Lakers, of the B.C. Junior Hockey League. He leads the junior A team in individual scoring with 27 goals and 59 points in just 32 games... good for fifth place overall in the BC-JHL individual standings.

The local hockey star joins 10 other B.C. players on Team Pacific including: Micah Aivazoff, and Judson Innis, Powell River; Doug MacDonald, Port Moody; Doneau Menard, Coquitlam; Darryl Mitchell, Victoria; Kerry Russell, and Peter Schmid, Kamloops; Joe Sakic, Burnaby; Joel Savage, Cranbrook; and Andrew Wold, Richmond.

The coaching staff includes Cam Kerr, of North Vancouver, who is acting as head coach. Assistant Coaches are Dennis Sukiwsky of St. Paul, Alta., Gary Braun of Vancouver, and Frank Sopko, of Fernie, B.C. Other staff members include Blair Simundson, trainer, of Calgary, Bill Ennos, team administrator, of Victoria, and Dale Henwood, Director of operations, of Red Deer, Alta.

The tournament is part of the Esso Program of Excellence, supported with financial assistance received from Esso Petroleum Canada and the Government of Canada Fitness and Amateur Sports Branch (Sport Canada) through its "Best Ever" program.

The Esso Program of Excellence was developed to identify Canada's top amateur hockey players in specific age categories and to provide them with opportunities to participate in international competition leading to the 1988 Winter Olympics.

The tournament will be divided into two divisions, with Team Atlantic, Team Ontario, Sweden, Soviet Union, and Team Western competing in the Imperial Division. Meanwhile in the Atlas Division the competing teams will include Czechoslovakia, Finland, Team Pacific, Team Quebec, and the United States.

Round robin competition will be held from Dec. 30 to Jan. 3 and the playoffs will be held on the final two days of the tournament including the championship game for the Quebec Esso Cup Jan. 5, at 4 p.m.

GUIDE REPORT

Fish kill

The words, "Winter Kill" have been heard by many persons and seldom do they know the meaning. Some think winter kill means the dying of fish by cold water, or by a lake freezing right to the bottom and consequently all fish are killed. Many anglers are not aware of the true meaning of winter kill and they often fish on a lake that occasionally is winter killed without knowing just how and why a lake suddenly has no fish in it.

Winter kill is a fairly common occurrence in some smaller lakes. The fish are slowly suffocated by the lake of oxygen. Two local lakes that in the past had winter kill effect the fishery, from only a few fish that did not die to total kill are Joyce (Green Lake) and Gardom Lake. Both lakes are shallow and freeze over every winter. Such small lakes have abundant weed growth and this attributes to high fish populations during summer months. That is why a severe winter kill is a puzzle to some anglers. These lakes were very productive during summer and fall season, and then after a hard winter, suddenly may contain very few fish, or no fish at all.

When a lake freezes over, it can no