



Canucks Seiko Ouchi (left) and Gordie Kineshanko (right), Laugh It Up With Buck Sherk After Boxing Day Win.



Doctor Warren Cunningham Examines Injured Eye Of Netminder Bob Jones.

Boxing Day Victory For Spirited Blues

Vees Take Loss In Vernon For Second Straight Time

VERNON 4, PENTICTON 1

An enthusiastic squad of Junior Canadians earned the respect of their Peach City opposition and the right to leave by the front door of Civic Arena Tuesday with a bruising 4-1 defeat of Pentiction Junior Vees in Okanagan Junior A Hockey League action here.

Odie Lowe's Canucks never let up the disorganizing and tearing away of Vee offensives in the drive for their second victory this season.

The game featured no sudden bursts of speed or power but built gradually through two periods of pounding action into a fiery final frame of lightning fast hockey.

NO LOVE LOST

Throughout, neither club gave evidence of the season's characteristic good will with the exception of Canuck Gordie Kineshanko who seemed to be congratulating his Vee counterparts on their inelegant ups and downs.

Kineshanko, beginning to find his stride in the young O.J.A.H.L., was high point-getter of the Boxing Day tilt with a goal and two assists.

Only injury of the rugged contest went to the Blue's leading marksman, Gary "Buck" Sherk. The tall winger suffered a three-stitch gash on the cheek when banged from the Pentiction crease during a rush on goal-tender Dale Harder.

CAME BACK

The cut didn't dampen Sherk's spirits any. After scoring the

only goal of the premier period, Sherk made up for his loss of ice time by assisting in the last Vernon marker for his 19th point of the season.

Not as many persons as were expected turned out for the holiday afternoon game. But there were more than usual and as coach Lowe told his boys between periods, "Your making yourselves some new fans out there today. Keep it up."

Vees didn't get their lone tally on the scoresheet until halfway through the last period to extinguish the secret hopes of a shutout by the Canucks and their likeable Westwood netminder Bob Jones.

USUAL FORM

Jones, playing with an injury rendering him unable to focus the right eye, displayed his usual fine form although unaccustomed to the lack of work experienced in the Vernon cage.

Vernon opened the scoring at 8:13 of the first period on Sherk's marker from Kineshanko and big Reg Main.

Main held in from his defensive position on the point, dumping in to Kineshanko in the corner. Gordie, making a habit of coming up with the puck along the boards, passed over to Sherk in front to bank it in.

Pentiction outshot Vernon during the first period and part of the second but the shots were from outside the strong Canuck defence and gave Jones little

trouble. It wasn't until 14:51 of the second period that Vernon's hammering attack paid off.

MOST VALUABLE

Dave Kowal, working from the blue line, and fast becoming one of the most valuable men on the Blue roster, held in the puck time and again giving Al McBride a chance to slip it in the corner.

Third Vernon marker was a 20-foot drive from the boards by Kineshanko and engineered by Kowal and Seiko Ouchi.

Pentiction's only goal was scored by Shelly Attwell from Howie McNeil at 7:14 of the last period. High Vee marksman Charlie Cuzzocrea was held pointless although tagging the goal post on one occasion, after beating Jones.

FINAL GOAL

After going scoreless for the past 10 games, Ouchi finally counted for the last Vernon goal with less than two minutes of play remaining.

The tally came on a three-way play by Ouchi, Sherk and Kineshanko.

Sports Digest

HOCKEY

O.J.A.H.L.

FRIDAY:
Kamloops at Pentiction

SATURDAY:
Vernon at Kelowna
Pentiction at Kamloops

NOHL

Suspended until New Year

CURLING

HOLLY BONSPIEL

SUNDAY:
Final Draws

SPORTSMEN'S

By Nonie Frisby

News

Admiration I have for lots of people, and especially to all the bird lovers who turn out on Boxing Day to make a bird count. I am usually so done for I just want to sit and relax, but it's a good job there aren't too many people feeling like that. It was a lovely day Tuesday for this annual event and I understand they all had a very successful day, with at least 73 species of birds being observed.

This morning I have had quite a few calls for wheat to feed pheasants. Actually the birds are better off now than they were about 10 days ago. Drove to Lavington a few days ago and counted over 100 birds in one field. All were as busy as beavers and seemed to be fairing very well. Keep an eye on the birds, but don't let them get too dependent on you.

Now is the time to do a little ice fishing with the kids before they return to school. Together, even over a hole in the ice, can be good for parents and kids. I hear some good reports from Deep Lake. Also hear a couple of good reports from Okanagan Lake. Big ones, too.

A few interesting items I picked up:

Did you know that the Fisher is one of the mammals smart enough to be able to eat a porcupine without getting hurt?

Did you know that owls snore? The snoring of owls has more than once brought these birds some local fame or notoriety. On several occasions in England the mystery of haunted houses has been solved when strange sounds were traced to owls which snored while sleeping. Barn owls, both adult and young, snore loudly on occasion. Ladies, complain no more about your husbands. It could be a barn owl.

Did you know that mountain beaver never hibernate? Even in the higher mountains where the snow piles up and stays on the ground for several months, it maintains its daily routines. The only thing I haven't been able to find out is, what is the daily routine of a mountain beaver?

One more, did you know that only two kinds of creatures, men and ants, engage in organized physical conflict between groups of the same species?

We had an organized physical

conflict between Alan and Missy the Spaniel. They combined forces against one small mouse in the bathroom at 5:45 the other morning, and for a space of time the mouse had the situation well in hand.

Missy was in hot pursuit and the mouse was leading by a whisker when it did an abrupt about face and bit Missy on the nose, and then made for Alan's pant cuff. The mouse was finally routed and disposed of, but Alan claims he now knows why women are terrified of mice. Never a dull moment.

News is a little scarce this week due to the fact most people are occupied with other things. Many sportsmen are now busy showing their children how to operate the beautiful gifts that Junior got for Christmas. The young man is usually sitting deep in a corner with a funny book while Dad plays with the new electric train, or demonstrates to his wife how the new skis will really fly.

That's all for 1961. I wish you all the very best for 1962. May you all have a very happy and prosperous New Year. If you can't be prosperous at least be happy.

Blues On Road For Last Game Of Old Year

Vernon Junior Canadians travel to Kelowna Saturday for their last Okanagan Junior A Hockey League game of the old year against the Kelowna Buckaroos.

And while the first half of the season hasn't been kind to Coach Odie Lowe's cellar-dwelling club, the Canucks, could launch the new year in a win streak.

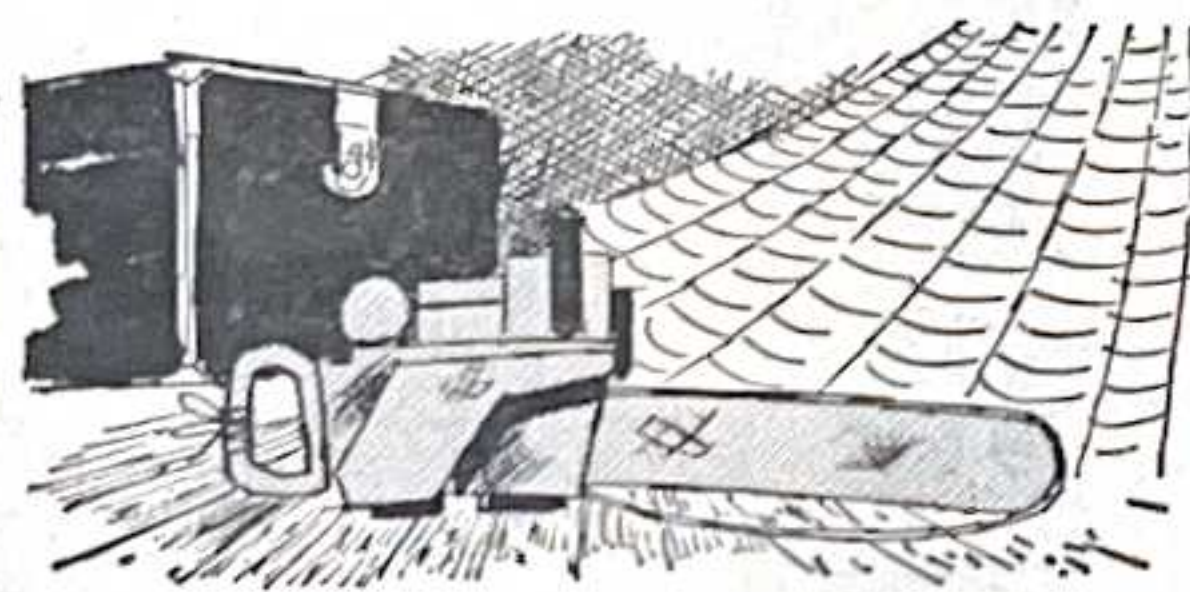
The team has shown a lot of improvement of late and Tuesday's victory over Pentiction Junior Vees featured an amazing Canuck spirit that seems to be building with each game, win or lose.

Oddsmakers are calling it 6-3 for Saturday's Kelowna-Vernon contest in favor of the Bucks but Lowe has his own opinion. "If we get the boys out for the road trip, and they skate as hard and fast as they did against Pentiction, we might just . . ." but he didn't finish as he hastened about other dressing room duties.

Last game in Kelowna, Buckaroo supporters expressed disapproval of the calibre of hockey Vernon has been playing on road trips.

"I would like to make them eat their words," remarked Lowe.

While the dove is considered an emblem of peace, it will mercilessly peck an opponent to death if engaged in combat.



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