

Junior Canadians Take 1-0 Lead In Semis

Can Take Strangle Hold With Win Here Tonight

A packed house is expected at Civic Arena tonight as Odie Lowe's Junior Canadians skate into action against Kelowna Buckaroos in the second game of Okanagan Junior A Hockey League semi-finals.

Canucks, with an inspiring 2-1 win in the first game of the best of five playoffs at Kelowna, will have the added advantage of home ice to provide fans with what will probably be the most exciting Vernon game of the season.

LOOK GOOD

Lowe's squad is in top condition; skating hard and fast with a spirit that will surprise those who have missed previous games.

Winning their last three games, odds have swung toward the team that was plagued by player shortage and poor spirit during most of the regular season.

However, because of the large turnout Lowe was unable to dress three players for Tuesday's contest although the trio, defencemen Reg Main and Don Roland and centre Ike Colter,

are expected to be in action tonight.

Biggest problem for the Canucks will be to hold down the penalties. Twenty were handed out in the last game, nine to Vernon.

SUCKED IN

Kelowna, the most penalized team in the league, seemed to drag a Canuck to the sin bin at every opportunity and although the penalties were probably well-deserved, they were unnecessary.

Lowe is concentrating his off-the-ice lectures on getting up, smiling, then getting into position as soon as possible. "Don't let them hurt you," said Lowe, "but don't bother to force the issue. They look kind of silly standing there alone without gloves or stick."

EVEN TOUGHER

Despite the one-game lead and the advantage of playing on home ice, Canucks are prepared to go all out tonight. Every member of the team has remarked that the Bucks are going to be even tougher after dropping their first game.

All Star Game Ticket Sales Almost Over

Advance ticket sales for the February 24 Shrine All-Star hockey game indicate that interest in senior hockey throughout the valley is anything but dead.

Only a limited number of tickets remain to be sold and persons wishing to see the classic should purchase tickets immediately from Nolan's Drug Store, Winter Carnivals Headquarters or from any member of the Vernon Shrine Club.

One of the local stars, Merv Bidoski, says he will be in tip-top shape and is anxious to don skates and equipment again.

Many of the other members of the OSAHL are still active in hockey circles and are in good condition and with each determined to show that his ability has not diminished, a high class exhibition is assured.



And More Practice

Gord Nuyens (left) and Dale Sorochnik head for Junior Canadian practice after school Wednesday following Tuesday night's game in Kelowna which Canucks won 2-1 for a 1-0 lead in the semi-finals. Defenceman Nuyens, scoring Canucks' first goal to deadlock the

game and set the stage for victory, said he had never been so excited in his life. Sorochnik was responsible for setting up centreman Seiko Ouchi for the winning goal. Both boys are eligible by age to be playing juvenile hockey.

Seiko Ouchi And Gord Nuyens Tally For Inspiring 2-1 Win At Kelowna

Junior Canadians took a 1-0 lead in the best of five Okanagan Junior A Hockey League semi-finals Tuesday night with a 2-1 victory over Kelowna Buckaroos in a rough, thrilling contest at Kelowna.

About 400 ardent fans, 150 of them from Vernon, saw Canucks allow one goal early in the first period, then battle their way through the second and half of the third before Gordie Nuyens deadlocked the game.

Seven penalties later, with less than three minutes remaining in the game, Seiko Ouchi took a pass from Dale Sorochnik in neutral territory and skated in alone to beat Buckaroo goaltender Ed Shussel for the winning goal.

Tense action of the contest was highlighted at the midway point by a free-swinging brawl in the Vernon section of the crowd.

The large contingent of local supporters with the vocal capacity of a thousand were seated together on the south side of the Orchard City arena.

At the start of the game they were alone with their cheering and familiar strains of Dig Vernon Dig, but a foreign element moved in and the keyed-up situation broke loose.

For five minutes, while Junior Canadians were battling desperately to overcome the 1-0 deficit on the ice, fans were going at it almost as desperately in the stands.

But the episode was soon forgotten as the struggle on the ice became more and more intense.

After Ouchi's final goal, Canuck Gary Roland, fighting to ward off last-minute attempts by the Bucks, was sent to the penalty box on a debatable call for hooking.

LONG TWO MINUTES

It was the longest two minutes played by Odie Lowe's crew this season, as they fought tired and short-handed while Kelowna did everything but knot the score.

At the final bell, local fans were up and over the boards to dance with jubilant Canucks on the ice.

Terry Kasabuchi, playing brilliant hockey for the Bucks after being brought up from juvenile ranks, opened the scoring at 15:59 of the first period on a well-executed play with high-scoring captain Bob Gruber and diminutive ace centre Martin Schaeffer.

The goal only increased superhuman efforts by the Canucks to do the seemingly impossible—win the first game of the semis in Kelowna.

At the end of the period, a perfect play by Buck Sherk and linemates culminated in front of the Kelowna net, but the bell was ringing to end the period almost at the exact instant the puck rolled over the goal line.

NOT ALLOWED

Some thought it would be allowed. It wasn't and Odie Lowe and his Canadians weren't too concerned as they rested between periods determined to get the ones that count.

Second period action was fast and hard. Kelowna outshot

Vernon 11-7 as both Shussel and our own Bob Jones in the nets were outstanding in shutting out the teams.

Halfway through the third, Nuyens stopped a Kelowna attacker at centre ice with a check so complete he was able to control the puck home free to the Kelowna net.

Nuyens skated in to the left of Shussel, faked then glided past, flicking it in as he went to deadlock the contest.

Fighting and roughing penalties came hot and heavy from then on, as at least one of the teams was shorthanded during the remainder.

However, penalties did not slacken the pace and while Kelowna was shorthanded, Sorochnik, clearing from his end, laid a perfect pass on the stick of Ouchi heading across the red line.

Ouchi took the pass on the fly, wheeled around and skated in. A Kelowna defender slapped at the puck but hit Ouchi's leg. The impact broke the stick and it went flying to the corner, while the puck slipped into the net.

Lowe said after the game, "I couldn't even cheer. I thought the stick had gone in the net and the puck over to the corner. When I realized Seiki had scored, I was so happy I just stood there."

Ground Gained By Cannonballs In Ten Pin Loop

Beejays' Bob Leatherdale rolled himself a 225 game of ten pins Tuesday night then followed through with a three game total of 570 for men's high single and high triple honors.

However, second place Beejays still have a 7½ point spread between themselves and the league leading Cannonballs who took team high single of 803 and high triple of 2,292.

Mearissa Bonar took ladies' honors with a high single of 192 and a high triple of 440.

Third in the ten pin loop standings are the Flintstones with 26½ points and only a ½ point back are the Platters with 26 points.

Deadlocked in the cellar are the Woodchucks and the Rockets with 23 points.



SEIKO OUCHI... The Winner



GORD NUYNES... Tied It Up

Peewee Playoffs Open At Kelowna This Sunday

Peewee Reps travel to Kelowna Sunday for the first of a two game, total goal series.

Game time in the Orchard City is 5:30 p.m. and cars transporting the team will leave Civic Arena at 4:00 p.m.

Transportation will be provided for all Peewees from the six house league teams who wish to go along and cheer the Reps to Victory.

Second game of the series comes back to Vernon next Thursday at 5:00 p.m.

Because of inter-city minor hockey playoffs, Peewee house league games scheduled for 9:00 a.m. Saturday and 5:00 p.m. next Thursday have been rescheduled.

Both games will be played Saturday, February 17 with the Canadians meeting the Warriors at 8:00 a.m. and the Maple Leafs taking on the Redwings at 9:00 a.m.

Sports Digest

OJAHL Semi-Final
Saturday: Vernon at Kelowna
Penticton at Kamloops
Sunday: Kamloops at Penticton
Bantam Semi-Final
Friday: Vernon at Kelowna
Sunday: Kelowna at Vernon
Peewee Semi-Final
Sunday: Vernon at Kelowna

NOHL
Saturday: Lumby at Salmon Arm
Grandview vs Head of Lake (8:00 p.m.)

CURLING
Saturday and Sunday:
2x4 Bonspiel

Men's Gym Classes Postponed Tonight

Men's recreation classes held at Vernon High School gym Thursday evenings have been postponed for tonight because of preparations for a dance taking place in the gym.

The classes, formed recently to provide regular exercise for adult men, will resume again next Wednesday at the regular time.

The following week, classes will again be cancelled but will resume on Thursday, March 1.



Reject Champion No Honor At Weekend's 2x4 Bonspiel

"Two by Four Bonspiel," sponsored by the lumber companies' 10-team 2x4 league gets underway Saturday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. in Vernon Curling Rink.

Draws are divided into three events, A, B, C and the "rejects," and are designed so that all 10 teams start together and all finish together.

Every team makes the finals and all are guaranteed three games. A rink could curl five games but it would have to lose at least four of them.

Winner of the fifth game, after losing four, would be champion reject.

Among those entered is the rink of last year's winning skip Jock Reid, piloting the Vernon Lumber foursome. Also vying for high honors will be this year's 2x4 league winner Don Stephen and his Howie's No. Three rink.

Other draws Saturday will be at 7 and 9 p.m., with a draw Sunday afternoon and one at 7:00 p.m. Sunday.

Kamloops Rockets Dominate 1962 OMJHL All-Stars

Six out of seven members of the first Okanagan-Mainline Junior "A" Hockey League all-star team were picked from the league champion Kamloops Rockets.

The coaches' and managers' choices of the first and second all-star teams were released today by Leonard Miller, secretary-treasurer of the Okanagan-Mainline Junior "A" Hockey Association.

Only player named to the first team not playing with the

First Team	Second Team
Goal — Pete Sternig, Kam.	Dale Harder, Pen.
Left Defence — Buck Crawford, Kam.	Lanny Nevison, Pen.
Right Defence — Phil Larden, Kel.	Gil Goodman, Pen.
Centre — Jackie James, Kam.	Fred Thomas, Kel.
Right Wing — Vic Minamide, Kam.	Glen Madsen, Kam.
Left Wing — Glen Richards, Kam.	Bob Gruber, Kel.
Coach — Ken Stewart, Kam.	Don Slater, Pen.

Originally coaches, managers and the press were asked to cast first, second and third choices for an all-star team. First choices would receive three votes, second would receive two and third, one.

Rockets was Kelowna Buckaroo defenceman Phil Larden.

Named to goaltending duties on the number one team was Pete Sternig, while Buck Crawford, high-scoring Rocket defenceman, was chosen for the other blue-line position.

Forward line is centred by league scoring champion Jackie James with teammates Glen Richards on left wing and Vic Minamide on right.

Kenny Stewart, coach of the powerful Kamloops club, was first choice for all-star coach.

However, lack of co-operation from the press in Kamloops and Penticton prompted the throwing out of press votes in Kelowna and Vernon, leaving only the votes of coaches and managers.

What's N.E.W.?

QUALITY CARS

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