

# Rockets Open Playoff Series In Arena Tonight

## Kamloops Teams Will Compete For B.C. 5-Pin Titles

Some 300 to 400 British Columbia fivepin bowlers will converge on the Okanagan next week when play gets underway Feb. 17 in the 1982 provincial bowling championships at Kelowna's Meridian Lanes.

Teams from Kamloops, Kelowna, Penticton, Vernon, North Surrey, New Westminster, Chilliwack, Revelstoke and Prince George are entered.

This year's competition will include roll-offs in the men's, women's and mixed bowling divisions.

A total aggregate point system will determine the winners, with the top four teams slated to compete in the Western Canada Bowling Championships in Saskatoon April 19, 20 and 21.

## "Play It By Ear" —Coach Stewart

Kamloops Central Rockets coach Kenny Stewart won't let sudden acclaim influence his normal judgement tonight when the local Missilemen play host to Penticton Vees in the first game of a best of five Okanagan Mainline Junior Hockey League semi-final playoff series.

Stewart, who was reportedly named as coach of the league's first All-Star team earlier this week (still no official release) said Friday that he plans to have his charges play this one by "ear".

"I know we have a better club than Penticton, but playoffs can do funny things to hockey players," stated Stewart. "We're

just going to go out there and play our usual game and take any breaks that come our way."

The second game of the series is slated for Sunday afternoon in Penticton. A third will be played Feb. 14, at Kamloops, with a fourth, if necessary, in Penticton Feb. 16, and a fifth in Kamloops Feb. 17.

Rockets are reported to have placed no less than five players on the league's first All-Stars and Stewart, when questioned as to whether he thought this fact might cause a few of the lads to come down with a sudden case of enlarged heads, said he didn't think so. "Most of them are pretty realistic about something like this," he said. "They know that they might never have accomplished the records that they did had it not been for the remaining members of the team."

Rockets placed forwards Jackle James, Vic Minamide and Glen Richards as well as defenceman Buck Crawford and goalie Peter Sternig on the first All-Star team. Centre Glen Madson was named to a wing position on the second team.

Vees, who finished the regular season in third spot, placed goalie Dale Harder and defenceman Gil Goodman on the second team. Penticton's Don Slater was named coach of the second All-Star squad.

Tonight's game is slated to get underway at 8:30 p.m. at which time Rockets will be presented with the Elks Trophy, emblematic of the Okanagan Junior League's regular season champion.

## Palmer Sets Up 5-Stroke Lead In Open Tourney

PHOENIX, Ariz. (AP) — Defending champion Arnold Palmer reached the halfway point of the \$25,000 Phoenix Open golf tournament with a five-stroke lead.

Palmer shot a three-under-par 68 to go with his brilliant 64 of Thursday for a 36-hole total of 132, 10 under par.

He gained two strokes on second running Art Wall Jr., who scrambled for a 76 Friday after a first-round 67.

Stan Leonard of Vancouver had a 71 to add to his first-round 73, for 144.

Palmer's performance Friday was highlighted by a two-under-par three on the 349-yard seventh hole. He got away a tremendous drive and an unbelievable No. 1 iron shot left him with only a three-foot putt, which he sank.

Bob Rosburg, playing with Palmer, estimated the sensational No. 1 iron shot at 280 yards.

Seven strokes back of Palmer and two behind Wall at 129 are Johnny Pott, Gene Littler, Don Massengale, Bob McCallister, Rosburg and Gardner Dickinson.

Ninety pros, those scoring 149 or better, and 10 amateurs qualified for today's third round.

This left Wilf Hornumuk of Winnipeg in the running. He added a 72 Friday to his first-round 76, for 147.

Bob Panasiuk of Windsor, Ont., had a 79 for a 153 total, and Al Johnston of Montreal came in with a 78 for a 154 total.

## Only Stone Rink Still Unbeaten

PENTICTON (CP) — Reg Stone of Trail, one of the greatest skips in British Columbia's curling history, is within two victories of a shot at his sixth provincial title.

Stone took a stranglehold on a double-knockout series for the B.C. Curling Association Championship with a convincing 14-7 triumph over Gus Levins of Kitimat here Friday night and remained the competition's only undefeated entry.

Wins over Scotty Ross, also of Trail, and youthful Eric Bisgrove of Kimberley in the first two draws today would move Stone into the provincial final.

Frenchy D'Amour, second, and Harvey McKay, lead, is favored to win the BCCA title today on the strength of its fine showing in the series. All of the Stone wins have been by comfortable margins.

Reg is not the only name player on the rink. Roy is considered one of the finest thirds in Canada while D'Amour can point to having skipped B.C.'s only Dominion champion.

D'Amour 49, won the Canadian final at Calgary in 1948.

First draw today is at 9 a.m. with Stone meeting the rival Ross rink. The 2 p.m. draw has Stone playing Bisgrove.