

# NORTH SPORTS OKANAGAN

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## Under New Coaching

# Blades Win Shooting Match But Outscored

The Vernon Blades, under new tutorship, fell again to their old mistakes and the Kelowna Buckaroos in a game played in the Orchard City Saturday night.

They dropped a 6-1 decision to the Okanagan Junior Hockey League leaders though outshooting them and holding them within range for two periods.

Not guiding the Blades Saturday was Bill Brown who decided last week to give up the position of coach and remain as general manager.

In his place in the players box were Hap Schaefer and Carl Sorensen who combined to coach the club on the trip to Kelowna.

As usual the Blades played competitive hockey in the first two periods against the Bucks but then succumbed to a splurge of last period scoring, largely due to cheap penalties and loose checking.

Gary Holland turned a complete about-face from his Tuesday game here and came up with a brilliant performance, stopping 43 shots.

The lone goal by Vernon that got past an equally sparkling Sid Shussel in the Kelowna nets late in the third period was notched by Buck Sherk. The goal kept his scoring string alive, now reading as five in five consecutive games.

Ace winger for the Bucks, Fred Thomas, and Wayne Horning each collected a pair to lead the enemy attack. Phil Larden and Harvey Stolz managed singles.

With any kind of luck or skill the Blades should have

led the game after the first period but instead were down 1-0.

The Bucks added two more in the second and pound three past Holland in the final frame to get the win.

Vernon outshot Kelowna in every period but couldn't find the hole, either through slowness or a weakening of the shooting arm. On the other hand the Bucks, always the alert opportunists, took every advantage they could from Blade defensive lapses to bust through and score.

It was here that Holland prevented the count being any higher as he stopped many breakaways cold.

In other action the same night the Kamloops Rockets kept pace with the Buckaroos by downing the league paupers, the Penticton Junior Vees, 11-0 in a game played in the northern town.

Two games are on taps for the Blades this week, against the Vees in Penticton Friday and the Rockets here in Vernon Saturday.

Counting its cancelled Boxing Day contest with the Vees Vernon has 11 games remaining in regular season play. The playoffs start in mid-February with the top team taking on the third place finisher and the second place team meeting the cellar dweller in the semi-finals.

## Clark, Foord W In Club Consul

Rinks skipped by Bill Clark and Tom Foord swept their respective ways to the "A"