

with a 32-17 record.

# **Blades Find It Rough In Kootenays**

Vernon Blades returned home from the Kootenays Sunday night with a win and a tie in tow and some bruising memories to boot.

They play a rough and tough brand of junior hockey down there, the Blades and coach Hap Schaefer found. But not so rough that they couldn't fight on an even standing—and win.

Saturday night in an exhibition game with the Cranbrook Canucks (made up of Kimberley juniors also) the locals fought from behind to manage a 4-4 tie in overtime. Then Saturday they eked out a 3-2 win despite taking 9 of 15 penalties, mostly forced on them by poor refereeing.

Twelve players dressed for the Blades in the two-game exhibition series but only seven were regular juniors including goaltender Gary Holland. Making the trip to fill out the ranks were juveniles Ted Palm and Wayne Wutzke, ex-junior Buckaroo Perry Romeo, a midget Pete Kapak from Salmon Arm, and a junior, Jack Littler from Notre Dame College in Nelson.

Vernon standouts in the two games according to Schaefer were Corky Agar, Littler, and John Macko. Agar fired three goals, two of them in the first game Saturday to lead Blade scoring while Littler scored two in the second encounter, one the winner. Macko was unsurpassed on defence, outfoxing the opposition at every turn.

Bob Stein and Buck Sherk scored Vernon's other two goals Saturday.