

Buckaroos Next On List For Win-Hungry Blades

Vernon Blades, after two setbacks by Kamloops Rockets, will try for their first win of the Okanagan Junior "A" Hockey League season at the expense of the Kelowna Buckaroos this weekend.

Friday night they face this year's edition of the Buckaroos in Kelowna and they're banking on coming away winners.

If not they get another crack at the Kelowna juniors Saturday night here at the Civic Arena.

The Saturday clash will be at 9 p.m. as last season, to enable late evening shoppers

to get to the game in time.

Season tickets are still on sale. They may be obtained at the Arena the night of the game, from Ernie's Esso service or from players on the club.

No lineup changes are contemplated as yet but the Blades will certainly be paying closer attention to their checking on the weekend with that big loss in Kamloops a jarring memory.

Fans will find the Buckaroos somewhat an altered club with but six of last year's faithful back in the lineup. They include forwards Harvey Stolz, John Strong, Roy Ueda, Gordon Odegard and Terry Kasubuchi. Doug Chisholm looks to be their only returning defenceman.

The rest of the club is brand new, mostly made up of ex-juveniles.

Undoubtedly they're considerably weaker with the loss of such as league scoring champ Bob Gruber, his partner in puckery Fred Thomas and the meat of their defence, notably Phil Larden, Ron Lakes and Ken Hamanishi. Sid Shussel, their goaltender, is now a memory too.

Just how weak they are we'll know come Friday or Saturday when they strut their stuff against the Blades. They have already suffered an 8-2 beating by Kamloops in the opening league game Saturday.

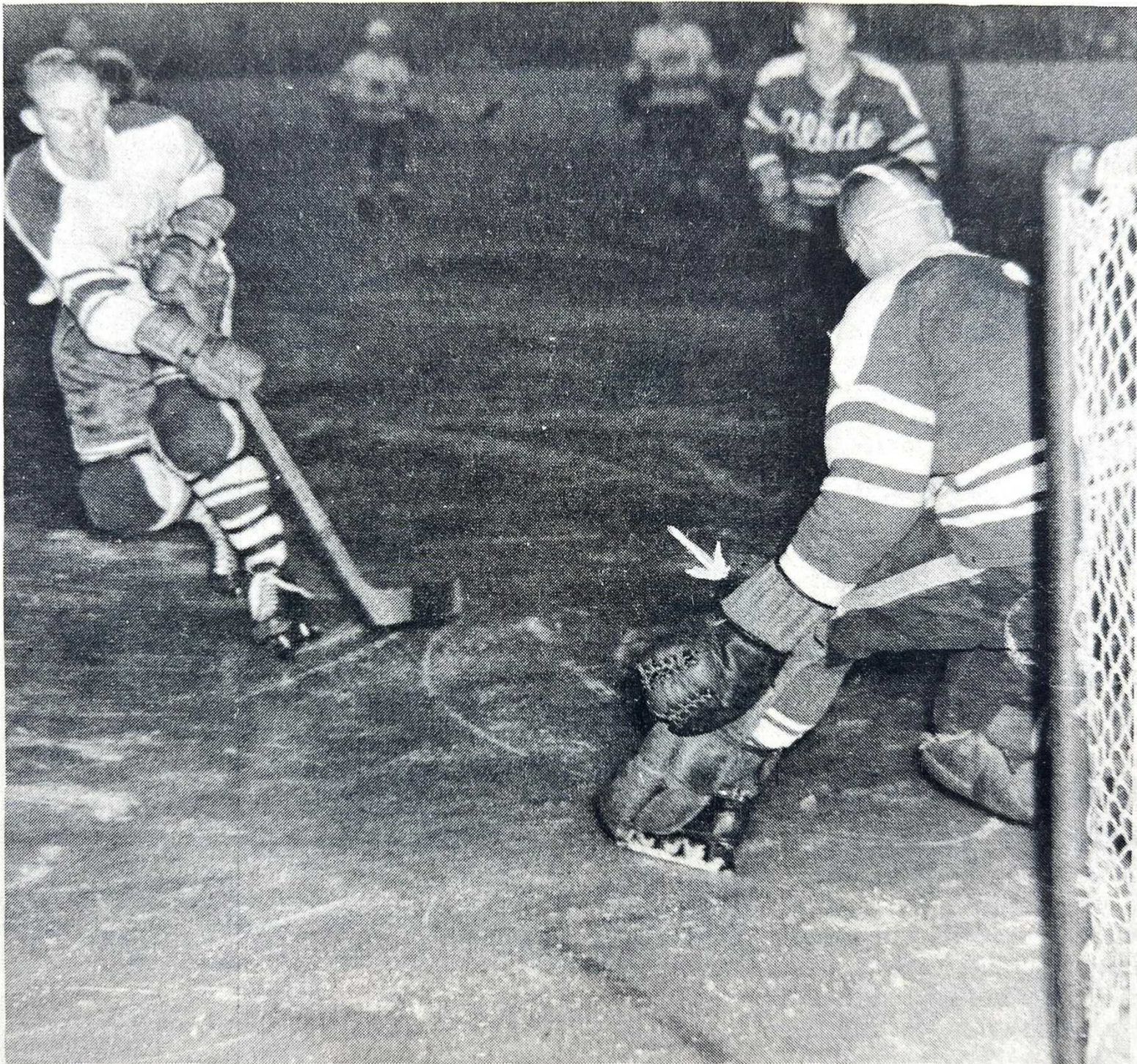
Those Stars Are Coming Back—Again?

Yes. They're coming back. Wouldn't you know it?

We mean the Harlem Stars, that laugh-catching bunch of basketball zanies that make the annual tour of the Okanagan every fall as regularly as—well—as regularly as the Harlem Stars.

They'll be in town Wednesday, October 23 and will hold court (the basketball variety) at the Vernon Senior High School gymnasium.

Back will be one-armed wonder Boyd Buie, "Showboat" Buckner, the piggy-back hoop stylist. "Big Dad-



"Woody" Comes Through Again

A standout in Tuesday night's junior hockey opener here was Vernon Blades' rookie goaltender Brian Woodward. A recruit from Salmon Arm, Woodward made a number of important saves to hold visiting Kamloops Rockets to a 2-1 score. He is pictured here snaring puck (arrow) shot at point-blank range by Rocket winger Dale Sandyke early in the third period.

Blades Lose But Look Like Comers

Rockets Squeak Jr. Opener With Goal In Dying Seconds

KAMLOOPS 2, VERNON 1

If Tuesday night's display was any criterion Vernon Blades are headed for a smashing success in their third season and Civic Arena fans are in for some junior hockey action par excellence.

In one of the best and most exciting home openers seen in some time the Blades tirelessly fought visiting Kamloops Rockets through three playoff-style periods of hockey, pushing Kenny Stewart's crew to the limit only to fall 2-1 in the dying seconds of the game.

Just 42 seconds left on the clock and overtime on the way. That's when rookie Rocket forward Jim Harrison dashed Blades' hopes for an opening season victory, blasting a quick faceoff pass into the net to crack a hard 1-1 nut and send the Kamloopsians home with their second straight decision of the 1963-64 Okanagan Junior "A" Hockey League campaign.

Yes, the Blades lost that first game but there was no shame, only disappointment, on the collective faces of the Blueshirts as they trooped off the ice.

Because they knew that rusty though they were they had outplayed, outhustled, outshot, outchecked and just about outlasted a team that came to town with three games already under its belt and twice as much pre-season practice time.

Early Goal

In the first period it was just about 50-50 with the Blades edging the Rockets 11-9 on shots but falling behind 1-0 on the scoreboard thanks to an early strike by winger Robbie Jamieson.

In the second period they started to gather momentum, outshooting Kamloops again 11-10 and locking the score on a picture goal by defence-man Gordie Nuyens. Then in the final period they took complete command, bottling the Rockets in their own zone, blitzing them 14-4, only to see that fifth Kamloops shot hit where it hurt most.

The undisputed star for the Blades Tuesday was their new goaltender Brian Woodward. A big pre-game question mark Woodward made the fans forget about last season's "golden boy" Gary Holland with a sensational showing between the pipes despite the fact he had never before played a game of junior hockey.

A juvenile tryout from Salmon Arm, Woodward made the big stops when they counted most, especially in the first period when the Rockets came dangerously close to adding to their 1-0 edge.

Stopped Breakaways

Showing good reactions and covering the angles well he stymied a number of clear Rocket breakaways with arm and leg gymnastics. Salmon

Arm hockey fans should be please advised to watch their homebody in action here in future games. It looks like he had a steady job.

The Rockets' netminder, Harvey Budarick, was no less spectacular at the other end of the ice-house, spitting out 36 of 37 fired his way by determined Blade attackers.

Both Woodward and Budarick, along with winning goal-scorer Harrison, were named to the three-star selection following the game.

Also playing well Tuesday was another newcomer, winger Frank Harrison. He fed Nuyens with a perfect pass on his second period goal and set up two or three more that might have beat Budarick had one of his linemates been snappier on the receiving end.

Harrison teamed up with Ike Coulter and Ralph Litzenberger and this combination worked very well. Corky Agar, Alan Rogan and Dale Sorochnik also did well both ways.

Ferocious Checking

Vernon checking was ferocious, especially in the final period, and threw all three of Kenny Stewart's fast-skating lines off kilter.

The game moved along very smoothly under the watchful eye of referee Don Jakes. Only five penalties were assessed, four to Vernon including a 10-minute misconduct to team captain Jim Stephen for talking.

Jamieson gave the Rockets a quick lead at 3:27 on a well-screened goal that Woodward had no chance on at all, taking a pass from Rick McShane and back-handing a high one from the left side.

A sudden bomb like this would have been enough to even rattle a more experienced goaltender but Woodward, minutes later, showed he had the stuff, swallowing a pair of blistering shots as the Rockets sought to draw further blood.

Pressure Turned

Midway through the period the pressure started to go the other way and it was Budarick who was hanging tough.

The Blades continued to apply the clamps in the sandwich session and at 8:03 they were rewarded. On a three-way play Coulter slipped the puck to Harrison ghosting down the left boards. The lanky winger levelled a perfect pass to Nuyens busting through centre and it was a masterpiece of timing and precision, the hustling blueliner deflecting the puck in from just outside the crease.

In the third period the

Blades set up permanent shop in the Kamloops zone but Mr. Budarick just couldn't be beat. Then, with Litzenberger off for tripping, the Rockets got their big break as the final seconds ticked away.

On a faceoff called on the left of Woodward, Dale Sandyke flipped to Harrison who whirled and rifled it at point-blank range 2-1. Game over.

Game Summary

First Period: 1. Kamloops, Jamieson (McShane) 3:27. Penalty: Nuyens (10:10).

Second Period: 2. Vernon, Nuyens (Harrison, Coulter) 8:03. Penalties: Kineshanko (11:44); Stephen (16:58).

Third Period: 3. Kamloops, Harrison (Sandyke) 19:18. Penalties: McShane (3:09); Litzenberger (17:42).

Shots:

Woodward	9	10	4	—23
Budarick	11	11	14	—36

Ladies' Club Wants Curling Registrations

The Vernon Ladies Curling Club requests all ladies with curling registration forms to turn them in as soon as possible to Box 191, Vernon.

For the information of all new curlers there will be a babysitter available at all afternoon sessions. Contact Mrs. Cliff Fee at 2-7518.

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Hub Rocketry Blasts Blues

Early 3-0 Bubble Goes Pop When Kamloops Guns Zero In

KAMLOOPS 9, VERNON 4

Kamloops Rockets are a tough team to beat anywhere and even tougher on their home ice and so Vernon Blades discovered for the umpteenth time Wednesday night.

The Blades, though jumping to an early 3-0 first period lead, just couldn't hold down the free-wheeling, fast-skating Sons of Stewart on the wider confines of Kamloops Memorial Arena and ended up on the battered end of a 9-4 score.

They might have preserved their early lead but they made two big mistakes — they stopped checking and they couldn't stay out of the penalty box.

Tuesday night here in Vernon they checked the Rockets ragged and it showed in the score, 2-1, even though they lost. Back in Kamloops Wednesday they eased up and bro-o-o-ther! You can't do that with the Rockets.

Found Range

Give them an inch and they'll take the whole blinking arena and don't you forget it! Starting from the 12-minute mark in the first period they found the range on rookie goalie Brian Woodward and pumped in the rubber with a vengeance—eight straight goals, three in the first period to knot the count, four in the second period and two for good measure in the 20-minute finale, spaced by one lone Vernon reply.

And sitting in the sin-bin didn't help the cause any. Out of 18 penalties called by referee Dale Cassell, 11 were thumbed at Blade culprits and three Rocket goals came with Vernon shy a man.

Two rookies and a sophomore combined to lead the Rockets to their second straight win over the Blades and their third in the Okanagan Junior "A" Hockey League in as many starts.

Juvenile-aged juniors Jim Harrison and Ken Rodgers and second-year man Eric Shishido each potted two goals apiece, while singletons were notched by Eddie Begg, Larry Roberge and Bill Steinke. Young Shishido also set up three goals to have himself a five-point night.

Defenceman Gordie Nuyens, leftwinger Buck Sherk, rightwinger Dale Sorochnik and centreman Bobby Stein scoring for Vernon in that order.

Nuyens and Gordie Kineshanko together collected most of the 11 Blade penalties—three apiece. Defenceman Dave MacKay got in a fracas with rival blueliner Ken Rinaldi in the third period and they each drew "fighting fives."

Busy Night

Despite what the score read the Rockets only outshot the Blades 37-35 but most of their volleys were testers and young Woodward had a busy night. He looked a little shakier this time around but nevertheless won the admiration of the crowd and a second-star rating in the regular post-game selection.

Nuyens drew first blood at 5:03 in the first period, beating goalie Lee Simpson with a rising slapshot. Just 37 seconds later Sherk blasted in a pass from Stein and Kineshanko and at 7:53 Sorochnik converted Corky Agar's offering.

This looked fat and comfortable but back came the Rockets with three goals in a

row, Shishido, Roberge and Shishido again to nullify it all. The second came with Kineshanko cooling it in the box for interference.

The Rocketeers didn't waste much time in the middle frame, taking a lead they never relinquished. Harrison blasted in the tie-breaker from an extremely tough angle, then came bombs by Rodgers, Steinke and then Harrison again to make the score 7-3.

At 2:08 of the third period Begg struck on a long slapshot. Then came Stein's tally, the prettiest goal of the night. The fleet centerman worked in past two defencemen with some slippery hand-switching, deked Simpson on the short side and prodded it home.

With three minutes remaining Rodgers ended the gunnery with Shishido assisting.

Game Summary

First Period: 1. Vernon, Nuyens, 5:03. 2. Vernon, Sherk (Stein, Kineshanko) 5:40. 3. Vernon, Sorochnik (Agar) 7:53. 4. Kamloops, E. Shishido (Steinke, Fournier) 12:38. 5. Kamloops, Roberge (Steinke, Rinaldi) 16:50. 6. Kamloops, E. Shishido (Sandyke, Begg) 17:07. Penalties: Coulter (1:50), Roberge (4:20), Rinaldi (6:52), F. Harrison (8:47), Kineshanko (16:15), Steinke (19:00).

Second Period: 7. Kamloops, Harrison, 4:55. 8. Kamloops, Rodgers (Sandyke, E. Shishido) 9:06. 9. Kamloops, Steinke, Sandyke, E. Shishido) 11:44. 10. Kamloops, Harrison (McShane) 19:33. Penalties: Sherk (5:35), Rinaldi (9:20), Stephen (9:47), J. Harrison (15:05), Nuyens (19:24), Kineshanko (19:59).

Third Period: 11. Kamloops, Begg (T. Shishido, Rodgers) 2:08. 12. Vernon, Stein (Harrison) 6:12. 13. Kamloops, Rodgers (E. Shishido, T. Shishido) 17:10. Penalties: MacKay, Rinaldi (4:32), Nuyens (5:22), Steinke (5:37), Kineshanko (13:46), Nuyens (19:57).

Shots: Simpson 10, 10, 15—35; Woodward 16, 11, 10—37.

Volleyball League Opens Next Week

The Vernon Commercial Volleyball League gets underway next week Thursday, October 24 at the Vernon Senior High School gymnasium.

Eight teams are entered in the league which will play every Thursday night through to March 12.

Those in the league include two clubs from the soccer team—Royalite and Royalite B, Hall's Gravel, Christianson-Nash, Art's B-A, Galbraiths, Teachers and Telephones.

Games will be at 7:30 and 8:30. A schedule will be published next week.

The number of babies born in Australia last year fell for the first time since 1948—to 2,905 fewer than the 239,986 births in 1961.