

# Blades Disappoint Again; Drop Fifth Game In A Row

**Kelowna 6, Vernon 4**

If a shakeup meeting over the weekend was supposed to have improved the Vernon Blades, such improvement was little in evidence Tuesday night.

Hometown fans at the Civic Arena were once again short-changed by their disappointing juniors who dropped a 6-4 decision, their fifth in a row, to Kelowna Buckaroos.

By so doing they dropped ever deeper into the lower dungeons of the Okanagan Junior "A" Hockey League, five games off the pace, while the Buckaroos inched their way to within a game of the league - leading Kamloops Rockets who they winged in mid-flight Monday in Kelowna by a 5-4 score.

The game here Tuesday was the same tired, repeat

performance the Blades have staged off and on (and mostly on) since the season began a month ago. A ragged, ineffectual bit of play - acting, spirited and strong at times but guaranteed to stink the house out in at least one of the scheduled three acts.

And the smelly scene this time around was the second period when the Buckaroos hammered in four unanswered goals to shatter a shaky 2-2 tie as well as the humor of the audience.

The Blades tried to muscle back into the spotlight in the 20-minute finale but the old refrain of "Too Little and Too Late" drowned them out and they had to settle for two goals, not the necessary five.

It was a total team effort by Kelowna that collapsed the Blades with captain Harvey Stolz, Gordie Schnepf, Doug Bulach, Richard Bulach, Doug Chisholm, and Marcello Verna each scoring once.

For the Blades only one line worked effectively all night, that of Buck Sherk, Bobby Stein and Gordie Kineshanko. Sherk and Kineshanko each scored and Stein assisted twice. Dave MacKay connected from fellow blueliner Gordie Nuyens and impressive rookie Wayne Wutzke notched his fourth tally in as many games.

First Period: 1. Vernon, Sherk (Stein) 8:36. 2. Kelowna, Stolz (T. Strong) 9:29. 3. Vernon, Kineshanko (Stein, Sherk) 13:52. 4. Kelowna, Schnepf (J. Strong) 16:12. Penalty—Sorochnik (hooking) 3:01.

Second Period: 5. Kelowna, D. Bulach (Stolz) 7:10. 6. Kelowna, R. Bulach (D. Bulach) 11:19. 7. Kelowna, Chisholm (unassisted) 16:27. 8. Kelowna, Verna (Evans) 16:57. Penalties — J. Strong (tripping) 4:09; Stephen (tripping) 5:13; Nuyens (tripping) 9:25; MacKay (crosschecking) 15:09.

Third Period: 9. Vernon, MacKay (Nuyens) 11:47. 10. Vernon, Wutzke (Nuyens) 19:57. Penalties — Verna (hooking) 2:53; Kivisto, Kineshanko (slashing) 10:08; Chisholm (boarding) 11:10.

Shots: Woodward 8, 6, 8—22; Robinson 6, 14, 15—35.

*Skinner*

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