

# Rockets Blast In Here Friday

## Defending OJHL Champions No Soft Touch For Blades

The Okanagan Junior "A" Hockey League season rolls into its second weekend of activity with the "haves" having a go at the "have-nots."

Kamloops Rockets and Kelowna Buckaroos, both possessors of immaculate two win-two loss records, will be pitting their respective talents against that of the two win-less members of the OJHL circuit, Vernon Blades and Penticton - Summerland El Rancho Broncos.

The Rockets draw a pair of games with the Blades Friday and Saturday while the Buckaroos play an identical back-to-back set with the Broncos.

Friday night is the big night as far as Vernon puck fans are concerned. The Blades host the Rockets at the Civic Arena starting at 8:30 p.m. in what is the first appearance here this season of the defending champions.

The Rockets, as in past seasons, are once again touted as the team to beat this year and so far they have lived up to their renowned reputation, boasting as they do, two victories in as many starts.

It is true the Rockets have lost many of their top players of last season, fellows like Murray Owen, Larry Roberge, Glen Richards and the like, but they have a substantial crop of returnees and promising rookies ready to fill the gaps.

Foremost on the list is the Scooter line of centre Eric Shishido and wingers Eddie Begg and Dale Sandyke, one of the most prolific scoring combos in the league last season.

Couple this trio with all-star goalie Harvey Budarick and defencemen Terry Shishido, Ken Rinaldi and Ken Rodgers and you have the nucleus of a contending club.

The Rockets also boast some hard-hitting ex-juniors in defencemen Wayne Leveay and Charlie Cook and a pair of forwards in George Uyeda and George Meridew. They only

have one out-of-towner in the lineup at the moment, Brent Campbell, a Merritt recruit.

To successfully counter this considerable assemblage of talent the Blades will have to show marked improvement over their play last weekend.

They hope to be somewhat stronger on defence with the arrival of a goaltender and rearguard from the Kootenays. Gerry Mayers, the goalie, was due in Monday and Al Herrick, the defenceman, was supposed to be here last weekend.

If they don't make the scene the defensive lineup will remain as is with Norm Schiman starting in the nets and Jim Stephen, Bob Ouchi and juveniles Scott Smith and Gordie Clarke on the blueline.

Flashy centre Bobby Stein, injured in the opening game of the season down in Kelowna last Friday, is expected to be back in action with his old wingmates Buck Sherk and Allan Rogan.

Gary Koski, so impressive in his first two outings, will likely pivot another line with Dale Sorochnik and Herc Koberinski. Ralph Litzen-

berger and Ike Coulter will also dress and there is a strong likelihood that George Watson and Mike Clerke may be invited back from juvenile ranks.

Game time Friday is 8.30 p.m. at the Civic Arena. Saturday night the Blades pay a visit to Kamloops.

## Business Girls Meeting Oct. 29

The Vernon Business Girls Curling Club is holding a general meeting Thursday, Oct. 29 at 7:30 p.m. in the curling club.

All old members and any interested newcomers are urged to attend this meeting.

## King, Queen Crowns Won

Bill Thompson and Shan Langford were named king and queen of respective 300 clubs in Wednesday Mixed Bowling League play at Del-Mar Lanes this week.

Thompson rolled a 322 game to claim the king's crown and Langford racked up a 303 to win the nod as queen.

A league executive was formed with Charlotte Harwood as chairman, Wayne King as treasurer and Gay Engelsberger as statistician.

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