

# Rockets Zooming Ever Upwards In OJHL Race

## And Shishido Still Wields Hot Stick In Score-Athon

Kamloops Rockets are threatening to orbit out of sight in the Okanagan Junior "A" Hockey League race.

Thanks to a two-game sweep over second place Kelowna Buckaroos last weekend the league leading Rockets have now opened up an eight-point lead after 12 games.

The Rockets now boast 11 wins against only one loss, that defeat coming embarrassingly enough at the hands of the Vernon Blades who, until recently, were ensconced in the OJHL cellar.

The Blades are now in third place by virtue of a win and a tie over Penticton-Summerland Broncos, their closest rivals. They are also within seven points of the Buckaroos who they meet in a crucial two-game series this coming weekend.

Statistics released today show the pace-setting Rockets with a healthy 73-49 goals-for-and-against record. Kelowna has allowed the least goals, 37, in league play so far this season.

The Buckaroos do lead in one category, albeit an unenviable one. In 12 games they have collected 297 minutes in penalties, almost double the 183-minute total sported by the more law abiding Blades.

Kamloops Rockets, prolific centre Eric Shishido is still riding high atop the OJHL individual scoring column. He currently has 13 goals and 22 assists for 35 points, 11 ahead of Kelowna's Marcello Verna who has 24 on 10 goals and 14 helpers.

Tied for third with 21 points apiece are two more Rockets, wingers Dale Sandyke and George Meridew.

Sandyke is the league's top goal-getter with 16.

Two members of the Blades, Dale Sorochnik and Bobby Stein, share sixth place in league scoring with 13 points.

Buckaroo goalie Mike Gaal had his average shoved up a notch by the Rockets last weekend but it still is the best in the league. Gaal has allowed 37 goals in 12 games for a 3.08 mark.

Kamloops' Harvey Budarick also saw his average rise from 3.98 up to 4.07 which isn't far from the mark of 4.18 sported by Penticton - Summerland's starry Ernie Pushkarenko.

Rocket defenceman Ken Rinaldi continues to lead the way in the dubious penalties-in-minutes department. He now has served 72 minutes in the sin bin and also has one game misconduct against his record.

OJHL action this weekend will see the Blades taking on the Buckaroos while the Rockets lock horns with the Broncos.

Vernon visits Kelowna Friday night and hosts the Bucks at the Civic Arena Saturday night at 8:30 p.m.

### OJHL Standings

	W	L	T	F	A	P
Kam. ....	11	1	0	73	49	22
Kelowna	7	5	0	53	37	14
Vernon .	3	8	1	36	62	7
Pent.-S.	2	9	1	37	51	5

### League Scoring

	G	A	P
E. Shishido, Kam. ....	13	22	35
Verna, Kel. ....	10	14	24
Sandyke, Kam. .	16	5	21
Meridew, Kam.	10	11	21
J. Strong, Kel. .	10	9	19
Rodgers, Kam. .	2	13	15
Palanio, P.-S. ..	10	3	13

Sorochnik, Ver. .	7	6	13
Stein, Ver. ....	6	7	13
K. Begg, Kam. .	3	10	13
Kasubuchi, Kel.	7	5	12
Bedard, Kam. ..	5	6	11
Jamieson, Kam.	4	7	11
Rinaldi, Kam. ..	4	7	11

### Goalkeeper Averages

	GP	GA	Ave
Gaal, Kel. ..	12	37	3.08
Budarick, Kam. ....	11.3	46	4.07
Pushkarenko, P.-S. ....	11	46	4.18
Schiman, Ver. ....	11	55	5.00

## Vernon Reps Rapped 11-3

A powerful pee wee team from Penticton overwhelmed Vernon Pee Wee Reps 11-3 in an exhibition hockey game at the Civic Arena Tuesday night.

The Pentictonites, outclassing and outskating their Vernon rivals, jumped to a 4-1 lead in the first period, and had a 6-2 bulge going into the final frame when they outscored the Reps 5-1.

J. Anderson paced the Pentictonites with three goals and one assist.

Wayne Dye scored all of Vernon's goals.



Thursday Night A

Iowa Color