



Bucks Rout Rockets For First OJHL Title

KELOWNA 10 KAMLOOPS 0

In an overwhelming display of firepower, Kelowna Buckaroos Saturday night routed Kamloops Rockets 10-0 to take the Okanagan Junior Hockey League championship in four straight games.

The only degree of closeness in the one-sided fixture was in the first half of the opening period but after that it was played on Kelowna's terms.

They checked any semblance of a Kamloops threat to impotency. The few times Kamloops attackers did penetrate Buckaroos territory, Mike Geal blocked them at the net.

EARLY NOTICE

For the 3,000 persons who jammed Memorial Arena, the Amateur Hockey Association, hand-writing was on the wall. Early Bucks struck for two goals in the first period to extend the series to a frame. They added four more in each of the second and third periods.

Kamloops' beleaguered Har-

vey Budarick made 40 stops while Geal had only 23 shots to turn aside, for his second shut-out of the season. His first was the season's opener here when he blanked Vernon 8-0.

The win gave Kelowna the league championship for the first time in four tries since the league was formed in 1961.

Kelowna now advance against Trail Juniors in a best-of-three series with all games to be played in the Smelter City. The first game is set for Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. with the next on Monday night and a third, if necessary, Tuesday night.

ATTEMPT FAILS

Charles McLean, of Trail, first vice-president of the B.C. Amateur Hockey Association, announced the dates Sunday following an attempt by the Buckaroos to extend the series to a frame. They added four more in each of the second and third periods. Kamloops' beleaguered Har-



BOB GIORDANO
... hopes fulfilled

Bucks' general manager said.

The winner meets the victor of the New Westminster-Prince George series for the B.C. championship and the right to meet the Saskatchewan junior champs in Memorial Cup quarter-final playdowns.

John Strong and Terry Kasabuchi were the high scorers of the night. Strong fired four goals behind Budarick while Kasabuchi racked up his third consecutive hat-trick. Garth Ruzzio, Marcello Verna and David Couves chipped in with singles.

GOAL CHANGED

One of Strong's markers was first credited to Kasabuchi but later changed. It came at 16:32 of the first period, with Kelowna short-handed. Strong checked a Rocket near his own blue line and carried the puck back into the defense. Kasabuchi went streaking ahead of him through the defense and Strong fired toward the net. It looked as if Kasabuchi got his stick on the

disc and deflected it past Budarick.

One minute before Strong opened the scoring after line-mates Lyn Swanson and Ruzzio set him up in front of the goal. Swanson did most of the work setting up this tally. He carried the puck into Kamloops' end and tested Budarick twice before Strong struck.

STYMIE HOPES

The trigger-happy Bucks made a shambles of any hopes Rockets had in the middle period. Kasabuchi combined with Verna in a repeat of the second Kelowna goal. He streaked past the defense while Verna carried around the right side and deflected Verna's goalward bound missile at 4:40.

Twenty-six seconds later, Ruzzio stole the puck from a Kamloops defender and beat Budarick with a 20-footer, picking the lower left corner.

At the nine-minute mark "The Blaster" Kasabuchi lived up to his nickname. He rocketed a screamer from 25 feet out into the top of the cage. About all that was visible was the vapor trail.

Kasabuchi closed out the period's scoring after an end-to-end rush culminating with his tucking the rubber behind the Kamloops goalie.

Kelowna struck early in the third. Couves pulled the string after he and line-mates Verna and Kasabuchi had swarmed all around Rockets' net.

John Strong connected again with his third banging in Ruzzio's rebound at 8:26. Seconds later, Verna snared a face-off in Kamloops' zone and ripped a backhander home.

The score hit the double figures when John Strong rapped in his fourth counter after Bucks had hemmed Rockets in their own zone for over a minute.

Strong added one a unit for a five-point effort. Line-mate Ruzzio and Verna picked up three assists for four points each.



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Weekend Sweep Gives Wings Lift

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

OLD STYLERS 41 OSOYOOS 62

Kelowna Old Stylers pulled an upset Sunday, defeating favored Osoyoos 41-62 in a rough basketball game at Osoyoos.

This was the first loss Osoyoos suffered on their home court this season. The win gave Kelowna a 1-0 edge in the best-of-five Osoyoos senior B men's final. The two clubs clash again Tuesday night at 8 p.m. at the Kelowna secondary school gymnasium on Harvey Ave.

Some 150 persons watched the first Kelowna defence tie up

Albin Hochstetner with 16 followed by Gerhardt Richter with 14.

Bob Schuts played an outstanding defensive game for Old Stylers holding Hochstetner to one of his lowest scoring efforts. Gerry Robertson also sparkled defensively for Kelowna.

After Tuesday night, the teams meet again in Osoyoos Saturday night and later in Kelowna Tuesday, March 9, if necessary, with a fifth game in Osoyoos Saturday, March 13, if necessary.

spoiled Roger Crozier's rebound in the third period.