

Bucks Just Game Away From Title

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KELOWNA 4
NEW WESTMINSTER 3

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Kelowna's rollicking Buckaroos, in search of their first B.C. junior hockey title in the club's four-year history, are within a game of their objective.

They took a giant stride in that direction with a pair of weekend victories over New Westminster Royals at Memorial Arena before a combined attendance of well over 6,000 fans.

Bucks edged the Royal City crew 4-3 in the opening encounter Saturday night and paroled by Lyn Swanson's six-goal splurge, throttled them 3-3 Sunday. The teams play the remainder of the best-of-five series at New Westminster Saturday night, and if necessary, Sunday afternoon and Monday night.

Swanson reached the peak of his year's performance with his play in both games. In addition to racking up seven goals on offence, he played a strong defensive game in his role as a penalty-killer and backchecked ferociously every time he served on the ice.

Keeping pace with the big leftwinger were linemates Garth Rizzuto and John Strong. Rizzuto assisted on all seven of Swanson's markers and chipped in with a goal of his own Sunday. Strong picked up five assists Sunday.

Buckaroos' big gun Saturday night was David Couves with a pair. Singles went to Terry Kasubuchi and Swanson.

Leading New Westminster snipers was a former Kelowna boy, Kevin McGladery, who notched a hat trick Sunday including a goal scored on a penalty shot in the last minute of play.

EX-BUCK TALLIES

In Saturday's game, a former Kelowna Buckaroo, Gary Kulchieski, Kerry Gallagher and Paul Shmyr tallied for the Royals.

Kasubuchi completed Kelowna's scoring rout Sunday with a singleton.

Both contests were laced with a heavy sprinkling of penalties. Kelowna sent out the bulk, 11 of the 19 minors called Saturday. But the roles were reversed in the second game. New Westminster were assessed 12 minors and two misconducts, while Bucks served nine minors and one misconduct.

Bucks opened up a two goal lead in the first period Sunday. Swanson capped off some fancy stickwork by John Strong, who faked around Royal's defence to set up Rizzuto. Swanson ripped home Rizzuto's rebound on a power-play.

MOVE PAYS OFF

Kelowna's coach Don Culley applied some strategy that paid off late in the frame. With Royals' Mike Piquin sitting out a charging penalty, Culley sent out five of his fastest forwards



LYN SWANSON
empties both barrels.

in the last thirty seconds and on an end-to-end rush Rizzuto hit the post. Kasubuchi pounced on the rebound and fired it behind goalie Don Wallis, at 19:58.

A defensive lapse resulted in McGladery banging in a loose puck at the 2:30 mark of the middle period.

Six minutes later Swanson got that one back when he drilled in a shot from the left side while New Westminster were two men short. Sixteen seconds later Swanson had his hat trick, tipping in Rizzuto's pass.

Swanson uncorked another hard wrist shot from the post side to tally his fourth at 11 minutes even.

McGladery was credited with the second New Westminster goal at 2:34 of the third period. He was the last attacker to touch the puck before two Buckaroo defenders in an attempt to clear the puck, allowed the disc to alight into the unguarded cage. Mike Gaal was just returning to his post after being trapped behind the net.

THAT MAN AGAIN

Swanson connected again at 14:07. Rizzuto performed a neat bit of thievery behind the Royals' net to obtain possession and centred out to the waiting triggerman.

Within 50 seconds, Rizzuto combined with the two Strong boys in a picture goal. John Strong fed the puck ahead to brother Terry at New Westminster's blueline. Rizzuto streaked past the defence and Terry set him up in front of Wallis. The big centre coasted past the goalie and flipped a back-hander into the lower corner of the net.

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At 17:02 Swanson ended Kelowna's deluge of goals snapping a seat 19 footer past Wallis.

Just before the final bell McGladery broke in from centre with a teammate and as he bore down on Gaal, Buck's test-guard Gordie Wallace threw his stick in a desperate attempt to find the break and McGladery was awarded a penalty shot when his shot was blocked by Gaal. McGladery made no mistake on the free shot. He skated all the way in on top of Gaal, deked the big netminder and tucked the puck into the cage.

Saturday night Kelowna scored a quick goal when Couves clipped at 2:08 of the first period. It came from a scramble in front of the net.

Linemate Kasubuchi made it 2-0 at 12:29 picking the lower right corner with Couves' pass.

Gallagher rifled the puck into the open side at 16:32 and Paul Shmyr pulled New Westminster even at 19:44 when his point drive was deflected past Gaal by a Buckaroo. Gaal had moved to the right side of the goal to block the shot when it hit another Buckaroo stick before caroming off Norbert Waldman's stick into the open side.

All four goals were counted while the scored upon team was shorthanded.

Rizzuto did a fine piece of faking setting up Bucks' third counter. He deked the defence and flipped a pass in front where Swanson was camped. His first poke was stopped by Wallis but he fired the rebound home after only 59 seconds had elapsed in the second period.

Couves combined with Kasubuchi and Marcello Verna to

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blast in what proved to be the winner at 3:12.

Buckaroos missed their two-goal margin until 15:41 of the final period when Kulchieski scored the premier goal of the night.

Royals' leftwinger carried the puck into the Kelowna zone from centre ice, deked two Buck defenders and veered around to the left side. Once in the clear he fired a 30 foot angle shot past Gaal who had little chance.

ICE CHIPS Both goaltenders came up with some sparkling saves. Wallis was particularly effective Saturday night when he performed acrobatics to keep some pucks out. Gaal was at his best when the pressure was greatest and when Kelowna was shorthanded. He made a fantastic stop off Gallagher on a three-man break near the end of the second period in Sunday's game while Kelowna was shorthanded. The Rizzuto, Swanson, John Strong trio were the most dangerous trio on the ice in both contests. They were also the strongest defensive unit. Bucks' penalty killing stood out thwarting Royals' power plays time after time. John Strong drew most applause for his defensive work.

Coaches Suggest Ban Grade 13 Hoopsters

VANCOUVER (CP)—Coaches at the B.C. High School Basketball Championship Tournament here this weekend voted to exclude Grade 13 students from further tournament play.

The matter now will be sent to the 126 member schools in the championship in the form of a resolution for approval or rejection.



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