

NORTH SPORTS OKANAGAN

Blades Tackle Kelowna Friday

Vernon Juniors have yet to win — Kelowna Juniors have yet to lose.

Put the two together in an Okanagan Junior "A" Hockey League game Friday night in Kelowna and sit back and watch.

On the surface the outcome of the game would appear assured — for the high flying Buckaroos. But, they barely managed to squeeze past Blades in their only previous meeting (2-1).

Blades have been bothered by intermittent periods when they manage to undo all they built up by virtue of heads up play previously.

In two recent games they took early leads and they couldn't hang onto them as they opened up holes through which Kamloops poured in goals to win.

The game bids fair to be exciting as Blades have reportedly had enough of the guff handed out to consistent losers.

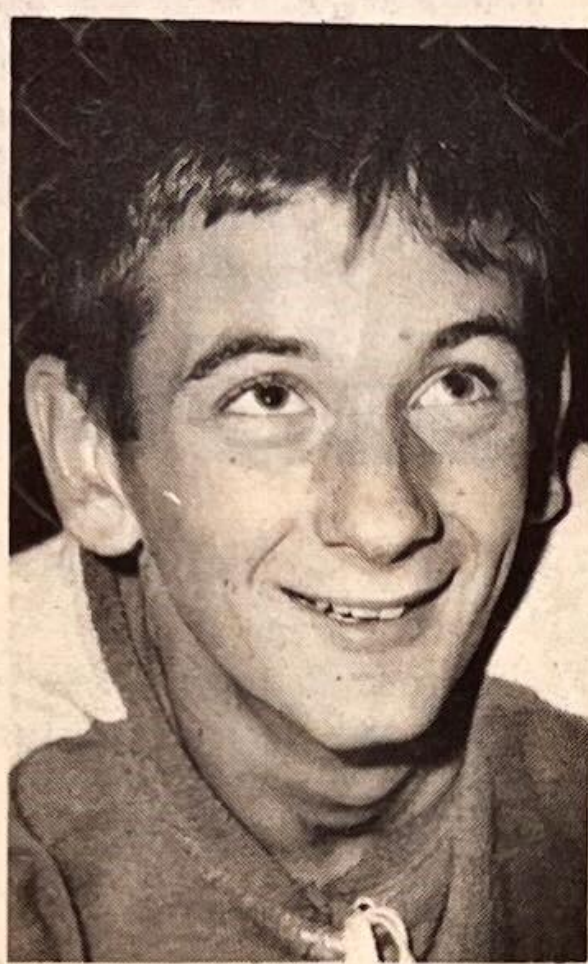
"We're out to win, and we think we can" head coach Hap Schaffer noted in a rare burst of confidence.

Speedy Ivan Malinosky could prove to be the difference. The rocketing forward from Quesnel has added punch to the Vernon attack by his ability to blitz in and retrieve the puck ahead of the pack.

Dale Sorochnik has seemingly found the handle and has been hitting the goal with fair consistency of late. He has been the Blades most consistent scorer to date.

Bob Stein is due for an outburst of scoring. He has hit for three goals in the first five games and has been close on many other occasions.

The return of speedy forward Marv Maier to the lineup should increase the ability of Blades to take ad-



DALE SOROCHUK

... top scorer

vantage of those close in scrambles they've been missing on in their first few outings.

Coach Hap Schaffer also expects smooth centerman Patty Phillips from Williams Lake in strip for the game after missing the last two contests with Kamloops Kraft Kings.

The Blades will be out to show critics that they can play a whole game—not just sections of one.

Falkland News Items

Mr. and Mrs. George Ayres have returned home from Victoria where they attended their daughter, Shirley's wedding Oct. 23. Shirley and her husband, Gordon Baird, spent a short visit with Mr. and Mrs. Ayres in Falkland while enroute home to Victoria after their honeymoon in the Interior.