

NORTH SPORTS OKANAGAN

Minor Hockey

Juveniles Take One Game Lead

Vernon Juveniles, still the hockey pride of Vernon despite the loud noises heard from their elders lately, racked up an 8-5 victory Sunday afternoon over Penticton in the first game of a best of three Okanagan Finals series.

Second game is set for Penticton tomorrow night, with the possible third for Vernon later in the week.

It was a hard fought contest from the first whistle, and none too clean at times either as young tempers seemed to get the best of both teams, with either side having to contend with goal-tending just short of fabulous at a number of times in the contest.

Sandy Stevenson led the well balanced Vernon attack with two goals while single counters were recorded by Brian Kakoske, Tom Williamson, Jerry Hoyer, Al Watson, Rick Reilly and Larry Hackman.

Penticton scorers were Gord Blais, with a hat-trick, and Don Millington with two.

Vernon led after a frame 1-0 as each goalie, Gerry Allen of Vernon, and George Balfour of Penticton, having to stop no less than 12 shots each.

Matters livened up quickly in the second period as Vernon outscored their guests 6-2 and appeared to have the game easily within their reach.

But an untimely five minute penalty in the last sojourn cost locals heavily as the Penticton boys out-

scored Juveniles 3-1 and earned a little more respect for themselves.

Minor Hockey Hi-lites.. Vernon Bantam Reps added to their reputation with a 5-1 victory over host Summerland yesterday afternoon.

Scott Shirley popped in two goals for the winners and single efforts were recorded by Doug Dirk, Steve Hubbard and Laine Marchand.

Defenseman Brian Lucier provided the only answer for Summerland.

Vernon wins the series two games to none and will meet the winner of the Kelowna-Penticton series for the Okanagan nod.

Midgets... Vernon Midgets were not so lucky as they failed to share in Sunday's spoils. After holding a 2-1 lead the local contingent ran second on a 4-3 score to Penticton in the Peach City yesterday.

Adrian Blais, with two, and Eddie Hays and Kerry Moss, with one each were Penticton scorers. Vernon retaliation came from Larry Fisher, Rick Munk and Jeff Wilson.

Next game of the series will be played in Vernon Civic Arena on Wednesday, January 26 at 7:15 p.m.

Pee Wee All-Stars... The youngest travelling members of Vernon Minor Hockey Association will go to Salmon-Arm for a game this Saturday.

Game time for Pee Wee Reps is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. in Salmon-Arm War Memorial Arena.

Meet Kings... Kelowna

Juniors Split With Hubsters

Blades 6 - Kraft Kings 5

Blades 4 - Kraft Kings 7

For a team that was supposed to expose nothing but its backside for the remainder of the season, the Vernon Junior Blades are not doing much running.

Paced by goalie Norm Schiman, who made the big stops at the big time including an all-important breakaway stop with 30 seconds to play in the contest here Friday night, and Marv Maier, who had a strong series with six points, Blades did not run—they skated.

They skated good enough to beat Kamloops Kraft Kings 6-5 in overtime Friday and except for a few lapses Saturday, clung with the Kings most of the way falling short of victory on a 7-4 score.

Kelowna Buckaroos were busy beating Penticton 6-1 to leave the Peach City six one point ahead of Kraft Kings in the fight for the second playoff spot. If Blades can beat Kamloops here in Civic Arena Saturday night then they go against Penticton in the semifinals. If they lose they meet the same Kings, who need nothing short of a win to assure them of second spot.

There were other bright spots in the Blades' lineup Friday.

Centre Bob Stein pushed his way further up the scoring ladder with a five point effort including the winning goal. Maurice Wernike, who scrapped his way to set up Vernon's first marker, proved that work is the best route to reward as he claimed the tying goal.

Kraft Kings lept to a 4-0 lead before Maier turned the toils of Wernike and Bill Nixon into meaning and then Neil Bilodeau, with a close in shot, and Wayne Blackburn, with a blast from the blueline drew Blades within a goal at the end of the second period.

Kamloops had taken their 3-0 first frame lead on goals by Eric Shishido, with two, and Robbie Jamison.



NORM SCHIMAN
... timely save.



MARVIN MAIER
... six points.

Kings went up by two goals in the third when Jack Moores pushed a tally home after 19 seconds had elapsed in the period.

And then it was Stein from Maier, Wernike from Maier and Stein all alone.

But Stein didn't get his unassisted effort recorded until the 10 minute overtime period which would not have come except for the final minute breakaway stop by Schiman.

Blades were outshot in the game 32 to 26 and were out penalized 10 to 7.

Saturday night locals let themselves fall behind 2-0 before they were able to record any satisfaction. Rodger and Sandky moved Kings up before Neil Bilodeau and Marv Maier cut in for Blades. It was Maier from Gamble and Bilodeau from Gamble and Maier.

Sandky and Maier then traded tallies and teams were deadlocked 3-3 after a period.

CIVIC ARENA SCHEDULE

Mon., Jan. 24—1:30 to 3:00, Mother and Tots; 3:30 to 5:00, Public Skating; 5:00 to 6:30, Pups Hockey Game; 6:45 to 7:50, Int. Practice; 8:10 to 10:00, Hit Parade Skating; 10:30 to 11:30, Jaycees vs Enderby Lions Club.

Tues., Jan. 25—7:00 to 8:00 a.m., Bantam A Practice; 2:30 to 3:30, Pre-School Skating.



THIS LITTLE GIZMO COULD