

NORTH SPORTS OKANAGAN

Dear Santa Claus

As King Cam leaned over the boards earlier this winter at Blades practice (he's been known to attend the odd one) he asked for three front teeth for Christmas. Well, okay, maybe he's got smaller teeth.

The point is that I may be built a bit like you and I was writing up a list at the time, but it wasn't until a few minutes of meditation over my make-up kit (which gets my face just as jolly well red as your's is made out to be) a few hours later, when the idea struck me that perhaps if the King's wishes were passed through two channels, they might have a better chance of reaching your ears in time.

Also, the thought came to me that if the King has any Christmas wishes, being a normal clean living all Canadian youngster, then a number of other people involved in the sporting world here must also have some presents that they might like around the season to be jolly.

You can start by packaging up those three teeth for the King and you might as well toss in a couple extra ones because the Blades play in Kelowna tonight. Speaking of the Blades, if Gord Clarke hadn't come along you could have sent coach Odie Lowe a couple of Mean, I mean really mean, blueliners.

Here is a list of the others I have checked twice and Dear S., could you pay particular attention to the P.S. clause?

— fast balls for Russ Keckalo come springtime;

— a new pad of writing paper for Lumby Flying Frenchmen coach Garth Tubman;

— lights for Polson Park;

— about three seven-footers for Panthers basketball coach Doug Weeks;

— a new and easier spelling for Malino... Malenosk...

... Malynoski... (Ivan, the hockey player fellow);

— more wins for the Junior Blades away from home;

— a healthier ankle for Ike Coulter;

— an acting coach to teach Gord Nyuens a better sand throwing act while sliding into second base;

— bigger (a) crowd (s) for intermediate hockey games;

— a new pair of hockey pants for Norm Ogasawara;

— ashes for... forget it...

— a working permit for Rick Marquardt;

— a higher price on eggs;

— more swimmers for the Community Centre pool;

— more Luckies for road games;

— an unbreakable stick for Al Southward;

— a new speech for Don Kerwin;

— another pass catcher for Ross McDougal;

— less shots on goal for Gerry Allen;

— just a little more snow for Silver Star;

— and nosnow Christmas for avid golfers.

And, oh yes, P.S. Mr. Claus, would it be too much to ask for a bodyguard for the sports editor?

After this he might need one.

Kelowna tonight

The Kelowna Buckaroos and the Kamloops Kraft Kings are targets the Blades zero in on this week-end.

Blades, who are presently 10 full points back of the Bucks, could make an eight point affair of it. Tonight they are in Kelowna and Monday afternoon (Boxing Day) the Kraft Kings will visit here.

Game time is 8:30 p.m. this evening with 2:30 the scheduled starting time Monday at Vernon Civic Arena.

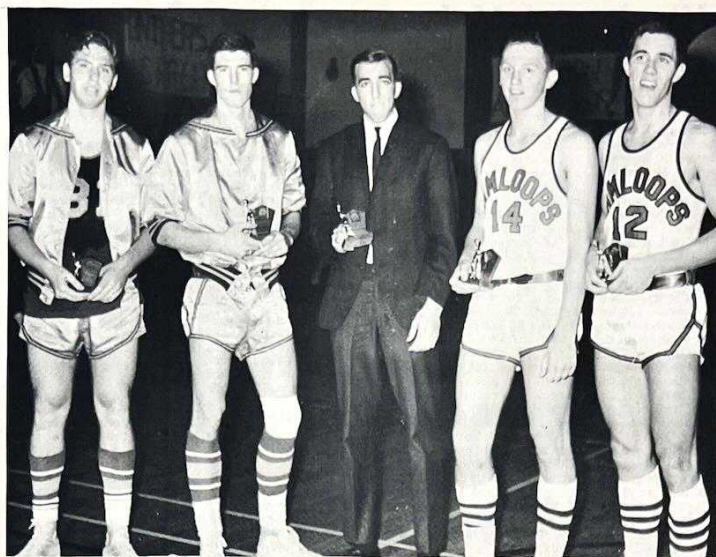
Other holiday action will see Kamloops at Penticton tonight and Penticton visiting Kelowna Monday. To earn a two point step up the OJHL ladder all Blades have to do is win tonight. The combination of the two Vernon wins and two

Kelowna losses would jump them within three games of the Buckaroos and striking distance of the Broncos.

Monday afternoon in the Civic Arena another treat will be iced for local puck fans. Starting at 1:45 and running to 2:15 30 of the youngest members of the Minor Hockey Association in this city, the Pups, will play a game. Regular admission will be charged which will entitle ticket holder to take in the junior contest also.

Three door prizes are offered fans as well as the special shot on goal for program holders that has now climbed to 50.

The first troops to wear uniform clothing were those of Louis XIV of France in the 17th century.



Players picked as tops in the Panthers Christmas Basketball Tournament were, from left to right: Dave Hislop and Bob Beaupre (Vancouver College), Ron Thorson (Prince George), and Brian Marchuck and Bob Paterson (Kamloops).

Now it's four in a row Quechuck nets two in victory

Two goals by Lawrence Quechuck in his second consecutive game helped the Vernon Blades defeat the Kamloops Kraft Kings 4-1 Wednesday evening and run their current win streak to four games, the highest it has been in two years.

For Quechuck they were goals eight and nine of the year. For Blades: It was the game that drew them within one victory of the .500 mark and back to 10 points away from the Kelowna Buckaroos.

Blades will travel to Kelowna to play the Bucks tonight in a game starting at 8:30 p.m. The Bucks are only one point back of league-leading Penticton Broncos. Both teams were idle this week.

Quechuck fired both counters in the first period after defenseman Dennis Daws triggered Kraft Kings only goal. Other Vernon markers were added by King Cam, in one of his better games of the season, and Keith Rolston.

The match was played before less than 500 fans and was marred by two egg throwing incidents and some refereeing which Blades coach Odie Lowe described as, "well, you saw it." Referees played no favorites dishing out at least two borderline penalties to each team which helped allow the game for over 10 minutes in the second period.

It was goalie Gerry Allen again who held Blades in tact until Quechuck could come up with his special brand of heroics. Allen blocked 56 shots on the night including 28 in the first period.

Just before Daws clicked from the blueline with a bounding slapshot, Allen had barred the door during a Cam penalty for knocking Kraft Kings Roy Sakaki into the second row of seats.

Daws goal came at 6:47 of the opener and, after Allen weathered a five minute major to Tom Williamson for elbowing and seven minutes each to Graham Elliott and Sakaki for high sticking and fighting, Quechuck went to work.

Gord Clarke lifted the puck down the ice just as Williamson returned and cageman Wally Denault made the mistake of clearing it to the corner instead of taking the icing whistle. Quechuck grabbed the puck, skated behind the Hub City net and deposited it in back of the slow moving goal at 17:37.

At 19:10 Quechuck scored a second time (what proved to be the winner) by using Williamson as a decoy in a two on one situation.

Blades scored once in each of the final two periods. At 2:55 Rick Reilly took the puck to the Kamloops end boards after finding too many bodies to get by trying to reach the goal. He hooked it free to Rolston and the big forward snapped it into the cage.

At 13:05 of the third period Cam completed the

caused much concern in the Vernon Camp when he caught a Robbie Osborne elbow in the mouth... Osborne received a five minute major for the infraction... Blades out-shot Kraft Kings in the second period 19-8 but lost out in the other two 28-9 and 21-8... Ken Pollen continues to make the Blades look sharper on the ice with his falling in front of shots... he's even got Graham Elliott doing it now... Gord Clarke dished out a vicious body-check to Dave Grant in the third period and King Cam just happened to be coming along behind at the time... Lawrence Quechuck stayed out for the final five minutes of the game to try and gain a hat-trick... Blades were minus the services of defenseman Glen Barron who was working and Bruce Allen.

OJHL STANDINGS

	W	L	T	F	A	P
Pen.	15	4	0	116	78	30
Kel.	14	8	1	139	74	29
Ver.	9	10	1	93	94	19
Kam.	3	17	0	55	113	6

scoring driving a low slapshot past Denault by picking the left hand corner perfectly. Set up twice just before the marker, he finally got away an All Southward pass in less time.

Summary
First period — 1. Kam, Daws (Sakaki) 6:47; 2. Ver, Quechuck (Clarke) 17:37; 3. Ver, Quechuck (unassisted) 19:10. Penalties — Cam, Cam, Williamson, (major), Elliott and Sakaki, Elliott and Sakaki (majors).

Second period — 4. Ver, Rolston (Reilly) 2:55; 5. Ver, Cam (Southward) 13:05. Penalties — Williamson, Williamson (misconduct), Osborne, Osborne (major), Begg, Service, Cam, Grant, Janicki, Daws, Quechuck.

Third period — no scoring. Penalties — Begg, Clarke, Elliott. BLUE CHIPS... Tom Serviss left Wednesday's contest with an arm injury and returned to the action midway through the middle session... Ivan Malnosky

Exciting!
JUNIOR HOCKEY
MONDAY
DEC. 26
2:30 p.m.
Vernon Civic Arena
VERNON BLADES
vs
KAMLOOPS KRAFT KINGS
ADULTS 15.00 STUDENTS 10.00 CHILDREN 5.00

Holiday scoreboard

23 — Friday (OJHL) Vernon at Kelowna; Kamloops at Penticton (8:30 p.m.) Basketball — Vernon Panthers vs Alumni (8 p.m.)
24 — Saturday —
25 — Sunday —
26 — Monday (OJHL) Penticton at Kelowna; Kamloops at Vernon (2:30 p.m.) OMHL — Kelowna at North Kamloops.
27 — Tuesday —
28 — Wednesday — OJHL Penticton at Kamloops, OMHL — Revelstoke at Kelowna.

29 — Thursday — OMHL North Kamloops at Vernon (8:30 p.m.) Film feature High Road to Skilling (Community Centre, 10 p.m.)

30 — Friday — OJHL Vernon at Penticton; Kamloops at Kelowna (8:30 p.m.) OMHL — North Kamloops at Salmon Arm.

Researchers on the coding moth, a menace to the apple industry, have found that one moth will travel about 300 feet in an orchard in one day.



Merry Christmas

A snowy scene, a soaring spire... symbols of Christmas, its joys and aspirations. We greet you, and thank you for the pleasure of serving you.

STAN and DAVE at

Clinden Styles
FOR MEN

the lager beer with Holiday spirit



take home a Case for Christmas
and have plenty on hand when friends drop in...

This advertisement is not published or displayed by the Liquor Control Board or by the Government of British Columbia. OVC

OPEN TONIGHT UNTIL 9 P.M. SATURDAY UNTIL 5:30 P.M. **Gordon Skinner** MEN'S and BOYS' SHOP OPEN TONIGHT UNTIL 9 P.M. SATURDAY UNTIL 5:30 P.M.

GIFT SPECIALS!

REG. 19.99
MEN'S SWEATERS... SPECIAL 15.88

REG. 19.99
MEN'S CORD JACKETS... SPECIAL 15.88

REG. 7.00
MEN'S SHIRTS... SPECIAL 4.99

SKI SWEATERS

Rendale - Knit Rite... Terrific Selection

21.50 - 24.95 - 29.95

MEN'S TIES
1.00-1.50-2.00

MEN'S SOCKS
1.00 - 1.50

Never Press Shirts 6.00, 7.00, 8.00
Never Press Slacks... 7.95 - 8.95

Gordon Skinner
MEN'S and BOYS' SHOP

TO OUR MANY FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS... A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

From the Management and Staff...



JACK BLANKLEY
General Manager



HARRY KUCH
Service Manager



HANK MURRAY
Sales Manager



SYD HOLLOWAY
Accountant



VIC POLCHEK
Parts Manager



LEN POSTILL
Body Dept. Manager



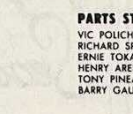
RON TRASK
Service Sales



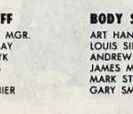
SERVICE STAFF
HAROLD CAMPBELL



BERNIE POULIN



BEN WYATT



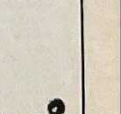
LOUIS HILDT



JOHN GERTZ



HARRY KIM



JOE KAVOLINAS

We Thank You For Your Patronage in 1966

Watkin Motors Ltd.

Dealer for the Total Performance Ford Cars and Trucks...

THUNDERBIRD - MUSTANG - FALCON - FAIRLANE - GALAXIE - BRONCO and FORD - TWIN "11" BEAM TRUCKS