

# Blades win—then lose to Bucks

It took a minute and 54 seconds for the Vernon Blades to win one hockey game last night and another 58 minutes and six seconds to figure out a way to blow itself another.

To put it simply, Blades got lucky and scored the first goal of Wednesday night's 3-2 loss to Kelowna Buckaroos and thus wiped out a previous tie between the two teams that dated back to November 26.

But they fell apart like

a two dollar pair of shoes later in the game and thus lost a full point on second place Kelowna.

Keith Rolston was credited with the 1-0 first period lead that Blades garnered. He drilled a shot into a maze of players guarding the Central City net before two minutes of play.

Rookie Mike Perepolkin netted the other Vernon goal at the 4:15 mark of the sandwich session guid-

ing home the diggings of line mate Bruce Allen.

But two goals were just not enough to withstand a three goal outburst on the part of the visitors, who scored all of their markers in the second half of the game.

The Blueshirts, except for the stellar netminding of Gerry Allen, found uninspiring hockey in going only one way and were fortunate to escape by a one

goal deficit let alone earning a single point.

Scrappy Bruce Cousins finally got the Buckaroos going after the Kelowna team had two goals called back on them by referee Art Davidson, who listened to little argument after consultation with the goal judge. Cousins picked the third rebound in a row to come off of Allen's pads and hammered it past him. Allen, who under normal

circumstances had probably played well enough to earn a shut-out, had previously stopped sharpie

Minor Hockey Week winds up in Vernon this Saturday night when the Vernon Blades play host to the Penticton Broncos in a regular Okanagan Junior Hockey League fixture.

Broncs, who are presently leading the circuit with 54 points on 27 wins and five losses, need only two more wins to assure themselves of their first pennant since the inception of the league. They are scheduled to meet Kamloops Kraft Kings at home Friday night and a win there and a win in Vernon would decide it all.

Blades however, could be looking for their first victory in eight starts at the same time and could present a problem to the current pretenders to the throne.

Game time here Saturday evening has been established at 8:30 p.m.

Brian Fisher on a break-away and was attracted to the puck like a bear to honey.

Keith Boquist knotted the game at 9:15 of the third

session on a pass-out from Cousins and then fired the winner at 19:05 by out-ranging Ivan Malinovsky, who was patrolling the left point on a Vernon power play, to put a Terry Strong pass to good use.

The goal by Rolston earlier in the game was mostly the doing of the Buckaroos themselves. With only eight games left in their schedule (prior to last night's contest) and 10 points out of first place, the Bucks wanted the extra point in hope that it might mean the difference between pennant and also positions.

Because there were to be no games decided by a tie, the league executive recently picked the first goal in Wednesday evening's clash as the deciding factor.

The teams had fought to a 4-4 draw previously and due to a misunderstanding did not continue the game after the third period.

—OJHL STANDINGS—

	GP	W	L	Pts.
Broncs...	32	27	5	54
Bucks...	33	23	10	46
Blades...	32	11	21	22
Kings...	32	6	26	12

—SUMMARY—

Bucks 3	Blades 2
First period — 1, Ver.	Rolston (unassisted) 1:54.

Penalties — Malinovsky, Williamson, Olafson, Haley, Allen.

Second period — 2, Ver. Perepolkin (Allen) 4:15; 3, Kel. Cousins (Meehan, Boquist) 13:56. Penalties — Crimmon, Pollen, Cousins, Haley, Malinovsky.

Third period — 4, Kel. Boquist (Cousins) 9:15; 5, Kel. Boquist (Strong) 19:05. Penalties — Couves and Clarke (majors), Meehan, Haley, Haley.

## Men's Open for weekend

The annual Men's Open Bonspiel is expected to draw more than 44 rinks to Vernon this weekend.

The Bonspiel, put on by the Vernon Curling and Athletic Club, will welcome rinks from Banff, Nakusp, Lumby, Kamloops, Kelowna, Armstrong and Vernon.

Curling will take place Friday, all day Saturday and Sunday. There will be prizes in three events.

A new electronic method of dating archeological objects by heating them can estimate ages up to 500,000 years.

## Frenchmen increase lead

### Warriors-Stamps can't get going

Just as the North Okanagan Hockey League was beginning to look like another tight four or even five-way race for the pennant, two teams were beaten badly.

Last weekend, Lumby walloped a short staffed Head of the Lake crew 14-2 and Grindrod pounded Grandview 8-4.

The win moved Frenchmen into an undisputed hold on first place; two points ahead of Armstrong Cougars, who had the bye and hold a game in hand over leaders; and three ahead of Elks, who stayed as close as they could hope to with their victory.

Lumby opened up a 6-0 first period lead, fell off of their high scoring game in the second session allowing Lake Headers two unanswered goals, and then hammered in eight goals in the third.

Gerry Altvasser and Bill Penner slammed in three markers each, Don Roland, Parky Derry and Duane Anderson had two each and singles came from Gary Anderson and Rusty Ponton.

Willie Wilson, the league's most valuable player and scoring champion last season, claimed both Stampeder counters.

Two two goals against him continued to lower Lumby goalie Ray Ostrass' goals against average. He now has 23 goals against him in eight games for a 2.87 goals against average, almost a full goal less per game than his nearest rival.

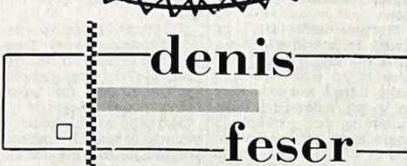
#### NOHL STANDINGS

	W	L	T	GF	GA	P
Lumby...	6	1	1	49	23	13
Arm...	5	1	1	37	25	11
G'rod...	5	3	0	32	30	10
G'view...	1	7	1	30	48	3
H. of L...	1	6	1	20	42	3

Grindrod scored twice in the first period before the Warriors replied. Elks got the only goal in the second session and then out-pointed Grandview 5-3 in the final period.

Ray Anchikowski and Daryl Koskimaki each scored two goals for Elks while single tallies were notched by Gord Almasa, in his final game, Wayne Marshall, Bob Umari and Gary Czepil. Grandview scorers were Harold Norris, Gordon O'Neill, Don Sahley and Herb Schley.

Games this Sunday see Grindrod hooking up with Head of the Lake in the 7



This week's word or, God save King.

The "Dirty Dozen", more affectionately known around town as the Vernon Blades, are well into the final leg of their league schedule this weekend with every game becoming more of a trial.

Sunday against New Westminster Royals, Blades looked like as good a team as any that stepped onto the ice here all year. True, the Royals weren't everything they were cut out to be, but Blades abilities, especially on the forward line, were not to be denied.

Blades skated with the Royals, in fact, possibly outskated them, until that fateful juncture in the game with 15 seconds remaining when a forward failed to come back and a defenseman missed an assignment.

It happened again Wednesday leaving coach Odie Lowe fit to be tied, And with good reason.

After taking a two goal lead, Blades could not score a third time and after a period of outright frustration around the Kelowna cage, fell apart.

It's becoming a hard habit to kick in Civic Arena these days. Blades go out and for almost three periods they knock the opposition about. Then, suddenly, they roll out the royal red carpet and couldn't treat opposition any better if they served coffee and talked about the weather, about the only subject they would seem qualified to discuss in the final minutes.

They leave goalie Gerry Allen alone to face opposition sharpshooters and then they wonder why he sometimes has nights when he couldn't get in front of a truck.

Defenseman Gord Clarke's mild fiasco with Kelowna's Dave Couves may have seemed out of order last night but the only thing out of order about it was that it came about two months too late. Couves, who has been involved in two scraps with goalie Allen so far this year, was only there slapping away after the whistle because it hadn't been suggested to him earlier in the season that he had no right being there.

Crease creepers have taken advantage of loose pucks on rebounds, of which there are plenty, and up until last night, had spent so much time around or in the Vernon crease one

would have to wonder whether they were going to pay taxes or not.

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Coach Lowe returns to his terrible twelve again tomorrow night and should the Kelowna game there prove something out of the extraordinary, chances are anybody could fill a uniform for Saturday evening's home stand against the Penticton Broncos.

His statements earlier this year had indicated that he felt he just did not have the players to beat Kelowna or Penticton may have some truth in it after all.

What should have stirred the Blades, who have shown, at times, that they can hold their own, only seemed to temper them.

Their "I don't care" attitude, which was once predominant among only a few, was expected to be cleared up when Lowe dug deep in the barrel to haul out a couple of bad apples a few weeks back. But it seems he waited too long and the rot had crept into some of the other players.

The old standby that you can't win games without going both ways is ample enough. There is only one player of the six on the ice that can only go one way. It is just his luck that he has been needed for double duty all year.

## Thrills spills at ski-doo hill

Ray and Jenny Redstone literally threw open the doors to the facilities at their ski-doo park last evening to members of the press, radio and television.

Most of those in attendance were novices at the thrilling sport but thoroughly enjoyed the numer-

## Luckies trample Cards

Vernon Luckies crept within three points of Okanagan Mainline Hockey League leading North Kamloops Old Stylers by blasting visiting Salmon Arm Aces 10-3 Tuesday evening.

Luckies, who have now played one more game than Old Stylers, scored eight times before Aces could come up with a reply and led 4-0 after one period and 8-1 after two sessions.

Playing coach Jim Moro continued to set the example by popping in a goal each period. Gord Nuysen returned to the fold for his second game of the year and produced two goals. Singles came from Jack Howard, Martin Schaefer, Al Rogan, Pete Sasakamoose and Don Jakes.

Salmon Arm goal scorers were Al Andrews, with two, and Frank Pouncy, one.

Two penalties were called in the contest, both to Vernon.

#### OMHL STANDINGS

	W	L	T	P
N. Kamloops...	16	5	0	32
Vernon...	14	8	1	29
Kelowna...	11	6	0	22
Salmon Arm...	3	13	1	7
Revelstoke...	2	11	0	4

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Summary

First period — 1, Ver. Moro (unassisted) 1:46; 2, Ver. Nuysen (Moro) 10:21; 3, Ver. Sasakamoose (Rogan) 13:41; 4, Ver. Howard (unassisted) 16:00. Penalties — Poggemiller.

Second period — 5, Ver. Jakes (Turcotte) 1:49; 6, Ver. Schaefer (Morris, Beck) 3:51; 7, Ver. Rogan (unassisted) 7:04; 8, Ver. Moro (Jakes, Wernicke) 10:19; 9, SA, Andrews (Sheffield) 15:21. Penalties — none.

Third period — 10, Ver. Moro (Jakes, Nuysen) 6:05; 11, Ver. Nuysen (Moro, Howard) 6:51; 12, SA, Andrews (Tilley) 7:38; 13,

#### SA, Pouncy (Andrews)

15:57. Penalties — none.

#### Exciting! JUNIOR HOCKEY

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vs

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