

# Blades whole season wrapped up in one game

By DENIS FESER  
"I've been trying to tell you all year, but you never listen," Smitty, the Vernon Blades trainer scolds them following Tuesday evening's 6-2 defeat at the hands of the Penticton Broncos which has concluded all of their hockey for another season. "You never listen," Smitty repeats, shaking his head and glancing about the dressing room.

"Oh, now Smitty," Utility-man Al Southward, who has played every position but goal this past season, coos, and the big man breaks out in a smile. But an observer can't help but think that Blades not listening goes further than not having all of their socks stacked in the room in time for Smitty to tie them into a neat bundle.

Rick Reilly, who is most guilty because he hobbled off to the shower with one knee swollen right out and his mind not on dirty socks, would have cared four or five months before but he was suddenly one of Blades stars in the past number of weeks so he just shrugs it off and says he'll sort them out when the Blades hold a post-mortem at the arena Thursday night.

Ken Pollen didn't have a sore knee but he is sitting quietly by himself just getting over a bad bout with the flu. He started the game but quit

after the first period. As one of Blades better rearguards, on a unit that has been described as the best defensive weapon since the slap-shot, he was missed very much out on the ice.

Nobody would agree more than Gerry Allen, the Blades goalkeeper, who had to stop close to 2,000 shots this year. Sure, captain Graham Elliott led a couple of rushes up the ice; Scott Smith tried to hold his end up despite the fact there was just too much of it; Barry Mori, when he was on the point, would hustle back quickly following a mistake; and Gord Clarke won two fights, both mis-matches. But Gerry had to get in front of 56 shots just the same and he couldn't be blamed for a few mental lapses during the contest.

Now, he sits quietly, more out of necessity than choice.

Tom Serviss, who never missed a shift and killed penalties and worked the power play and, even dropped back on defense for the final period when Blades needed goals badly, is just as tired, but still finds the energy to make cutting remarks at Clarke, who watches the blood squirt from a torn ankle.

Youngsters Mike Perepolkin and Wayne Dye watch in silence. Both

Midget age, they have been running in some pretty fast company of late, and their role with the club isn't one of talking. Coach Odie Lowe benched them both for a better part of the game because he felt he had to go with his older, more experienced hands.

Like, he stuck with Tom Williamson, now, also silent. He knows he's had a good year, the best on the club according to the scoresheet (not counting Allen), but it hasn't gone right for him in the past couple of weeks. He changed his style of play a number of times, but could not come up with anything that would work.

He just couldn't get going. It was little wonder he did not make the scoresheet.

Keith Rolston and Lawrence Quechuck, who joined locals from Williams Lake and Quesnel respectively, made the scoresheet.

At 8:03 of the second session, Rolston left one defenseman tied up in knots when he moved the puck out and in and then flipped it past Broncos goalie Doug Thompson, who stopped 20 shots. Trouble was, Broncos had scored three times already and were to score three more before Quechuck rapped in the final goal of the match at 11:46 of the third stanza.

Penticton had gotten a goal each from Wayne Schaab, Gene Peacosh, Tom Madden and Bob Mowatt and two from Ray Picco.

Their dressing room is a noisier scene. They did not make the finals the year before but this year they are confident they can take Kelowna Buckaroos. They didn't learn until a little later that Bucks blanked the Kamloops Kraft Kings 8-0 to take their semi-final series, also in five games.

Blades are not concerned with who wins between the Bucks and the Broncos but they can't help but hope Broncos wipe the Bucks. It would leave them in a little better light. They could also point at the Bucks and say "hey, look at that. Look what happened to them." It would take some of the pressure off. And they wouldn't have to listen. Because nobody would be talking about them.

## Broncos 6, Blades 2

Summary—  
First period—1. Pen. Schaab (Mowatt, Madden) 11:58; 2. Pen. Peacosh (Schaab, Taggart) 17:15. Penalties—Mowatt and Quechuck, Allen, Schaab, Clarke (major) and Hays, Madden.  
Second period—3. Pen. Picco (Luxton, Conner) 6:53; 4. Ver. Rolston (Southward, Smith) 8:03; 5. Pen. Madden (unassisted) 19:34. Penalties—Smith, Smith, Elliott.  
Third period—6. Pen. Picco (Conner, Palanio) 25; 7. Pen. Mowatt (Peacosh, Madden) 3:30; 8. Ver. Quechuck (unassisted) 11:46. Penalties—Smith, Conner, Peacosh and Clarke (majors and misconducts), Quechuck, Hays.

## In NOHL

### Weekend play will tell all

The North Okanagan Hockey League goes right down to the wire this weekend with Lumby Flying Frenchmen and Armstrong Cougars battling for first place and Grandview Warriors and Head of the Lake Stampede meeting to decide the fourth and final playoff spot.

Games last weekend only helped to tighten the league even more. In the preliminary, Lumby jumped three points ahead of Armstrong by downing Grindrod Elks 8-3, but Cougars came back within a point when they drubbed Head of the Lake 13-2.

The Lumby-Armstrong match this Sunday will go

at the 7 p.m. starting time with Head of the Lake-Grandview scheduled for 8:45.

Last weekend Frenchmen and Elks tied 2-2 after the first period, but after two Lumby started to pull away leading 4-2 and then pumped in four goals to Grindrod's one in the final session.

Lumby scorers were Bill Benner, with two, and Gerry Altwasser, Gary Anderson, Dave Pattie, Ted Koski, Pete Kowalchuck and Don Czeplil and Bob Sutherland.

Harold Thorlakson scored five times for Armstrong, Adrian Blaniel and Norm Ogasawara three times, and Norm Reimer twice. Hector Louis and Al Wiffen claimed Head of the Lake markers.

**NOHL STANDINGS**  
GP W L T F A Pts.  
Lumby 11 9 1 1 74 29 19  
Armstrong 11 8 1 2 64 33 18  
Grindrod 12 6 5 1 47 48 13  
Grandview 11 1 9 1 33 66 3  
Head of Lake 11 1 9 1 28 70 3  
Games Sunday, March 5, re-scheduled from Feb. 12—Lumby vs Armstrong (7 p.m.); Warriors vs Stampede (8:45 p.m.).

**Frenchmen 8, Elks 3**  
Summary—  
First period—1. Lum. G. Anderson (Benner) 5:49; 2. Grin. Umari (unassisted) 9:29; 3. Grin. Czeplil (Anchikowski) 12:01; 4. Lum. Benner (Altwasser) 13:09. Penalties—Baron, Pattie.  
Second period—5. Lum. Benner (Altwasser, Baikwell) 9:56; 6. Lum. Altwasser (Inouye) 12:43. Penalties—Anchikowski (misconduct), Czeplil.  
Third period—7. Lum. Pattie (Koski) 2:53; 8. Lum. Koski (D. Anderson) 3:38; 9. Lum. Kowalchuck (Anderson, Derry) 9:57; 10. Lum. Roland (G. Anderson) 10:39; 11. Grin. Sutherland (Marshall, Bladon) 14:50. Penalties—Feser.

**Cougars 12, Stamp 2**  
Summary—  
First period—1. Arm. A. Blaniel (Ogasawara, Thorlakson) 2:11; 2. Arm. A. Blaniel (Ogasawara, Hill) 6:16; 3. Arm. Thorlakson (A. Blaniel) 9:34; 4. Arm. Thorlakson (Ramsey) 12:30; 5. Arm. Reimer (J. Blaniel, Beck) 14:02; 6. Arm. Ogasawara (unassisted) 17:06; 7. Arm. A. Blaniel (Thorlakson, Ogasawara) 19:46. Penalties—W. Wilson.  
Second period—8. Arm. Thorlakson (Hill) 1:15; 9. Arm. Thorlakson (Ogasawara) 5:17; 10. Arm. Reimer (J. Blaniel, Beck) 4:00; 11. Arm. Thorlakson (Ogasawara) 17:43; 12. Arm. Ogasawara (Thorlakson) 19:58. Penalties—Reimer, R. Louis, Bock-Phillips.  
Third period—13. HL. Wiffen (R. Louis) 5:01; 14. Arm. Ogasawara (A. Blaniel) 9:18; 15. HL. H. Louis (Cameron) 18:15. Penalties—J. Blaniel and Wiffen, Reimer and P. Wilson, Reimer.

### Doubles bring out sixty-four

Thirty-two couples or 64 people took part at the Mixed Doubles Competition staged at Lincoln Lanes last weekend.

The couples, bowling for money prizes, topped the competition with some good scores. Shig Tabata and Irene Genier led the entry list with a 3058 high for a block of six games. Val Andretta and Emily Smith teamed up for a 3048 total good for second place; Larry Falconer and Marg Morphy took third with a 2966; and fourth spot was claimed by Ben Anderson and Nancy Kawaguchi who shot a 2953.

Larry Falconer and Marg Morphy claimed the high single with a combination 569 total and the high three of 1499.

Entries came from all parts of the North Okanagan.

Lincoln Lanes manager Bert Hardington, who promoted the Sunday afternoon competitions, says he would like to hold another within the next month, before the end of the present 5-pin season.

USAF airborne tankers can pump two tons of fuel a minute into other aircraft.

## denis feser

When a fellow sports writer, new to the valley and its ways by just three months, broached Okanagan Junior Hockey League president Doug Daws of Kamloops with the question as to why scribes and radio and television people in this part of the country were not given the opportunity to voice their choices when it came to all star selection, he was given a sharp and firm answer.

You don't attend all the games, he was told.

Well, if the statement were true, it would be reason enough to stamp out sports writers and other

such forms of life. But it is not true. This year more writers than ever before have attended games.

### So, we picked our own

When you get the door slammed in your face, the next step is to build your own house. Arrangements were made and, at the close of the regular schedule, each writer in the four member cities of the circuit selected three teams of his own, pooled them with other writers and thus produced the first and second

teams found elsewhere on these pages.

It is a first for Okanagan writers. This season's selections might not go over too good with coaches in Kamloops or Vernon because of the 14 all star positions, only one is occupied by a Vernon player and there are none filled by a Kamloops youngster.

### Some interesting aspects

What should be most interesting is how the sports writers' choices compare with those chosen of the coaches. If the writers are left feeling way out in left field, so to speak,

at a different position throughout the season.

Local players to especially impress out of town writers were defenseman Ken Pollen, forward Lawrence Quechuck and goalie Gerry Allen. The one to earn the most respect was Ivan Malinosky who, up until he hurt his ankle at the Christmas break, was as good as any candidate for the Most Valuable Player Award.

The Kamloops writer suggested Blades Tom Serviss as the league's most gentlemanly player and there is little doubt that they would have liked to include him in the all star selections had he played the full year.



IVAN MALINOSKY  
... all star pick

then suggestions that the "experts" knew little of what they were talking about all through the past months would seem to bear some amount of truth. If the double drafting of teams, however, appears anywhere close, then writers can do a little pointing and say that their predictions and ideas are not far removed from those of the coaches, trainers, team bus drivers and managers.

Other sidelights in the team picks are still more interesting. Out of town writers leaned a little more towards Vernon players than this writer did.

Writers agreed on only three choices unanimously: defenseman Jackie Taggart of Penticton; centre Brian Fisher of Kelowna; and forward Gene Peacosh of Penticton, all first team picks.

Also, writers were under the impression that a better player should be given preference over an average player even though the better player may have toiled

## Penticton-Kelowna share puck laurels

The pennant winning Penticton Broncos and the second place Kelowna Buckaroos completely dominate the Okanagan Junior Hockey League statistics released early this week.

Eugene Peacosh, the ex-Edmonton Oil Kings forward, breezed to the scoring title with 94 points. The big left winger had 51

Following are the final statistics as compiled by league office:

TOP SCORERS			
	G	A	Pts.
E. Peacosh, Pen.	51	43	94
B. Fisher, Kel.	39	45	84
J. Strong, Kel.	27	44	71
B. Mowatt, Pen.	19	51	70
R. Picco, Pen.	37	31	68
M. Meehan, Kel.	32	31	63
W. Schaab, Pen.	30	33	63
T. Luxton, Pen.	24	38	62
D. Cousins, Kel.	26	34	60
L. Palanio, Pen.	17	43	60
T. Williamson, Ver.	30	30	60

PENALTIES PER TEAM			
	GP	Total	Mins.
KAMLOOPS	40	822	
KELOWNA	40	793	
VERNON	40	776	
PENTICTON	40	658	

PENALIZED PLAYERS			
	Total	Mins.	
D. Daws, Kamloops	182		
R. Osborne, Kamloops	139		
L. Palanio, Penticton	128		
K. Cam, Vernon	124		
D. Steinke, Kamloops	101		
D. Cousins, Kelowna	90		
D. Halsey, Kelowna	90		
G. Elliott, Vernon	89		
J. Bedard, Kamloops	84		
M. Meehan, Kelowna	83		
T. Williamson, Vernon	80		

GOALIES AVERAGES			
	GA	Average	
R. Rideout, Kel.	126	3.3	
V. Borisenko, Pen.	14	3.5	
D. Thompson, Pen.	132	3.66	
D. Ingram, Vernon	5	5.0	
L. Anderson, Kel.	11	5.5	
G. Allan, Vernon	210	5.6	
W. Denault, Kmlps.	153	5.74	
H. Budarick, Kmlps.	90	7.5	

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## Soccer meeting called

An important juvenile soccer meeting for all parents, prospective coaches and managers, has been called for this Friday evening at the Community Centre gymnasium.

The meeting, organized to elect an executive for the upcoming soccer season, will start at 7:30 p.m.

Proposed affiliation with the B.C. Juvenile Soccer Association is also expected to be discussed.

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