

Vikings win in over-time

Vernon Vikings huffed and puffed their way through two lack-lustre periods before getting on track in the latter stages of the third frame and go on to take an overtime period victory away from visiting Nanaimo Clippers by a narrow 7-6 score Thursday night in B.C. junior 'A' hockey action.

This was a repeat of the game the two clubs played last week in Nanaimo when it took an extra session for Vernon to come through with a 7-6 win.

Surprising part of it all stemmed from the fact it was Dave Caldwell again doing the scoring honors only this time it only took him 14 seconds to score the winner, his second of the night.

Nanaimo picked up a 3-2 first period lead, held a 4-3 difference after the second session and added their fifth marker of the night with only 18 seconds gone in the third period.

However, Vikings finally decided to start playing hockey and came back with a pair of goals of their own within a space of five minutes, but the Clippers Al Smith rounded out a perfect night with his fourth goal in the game to put the visitors back in front by the 6:30 mark.

Then with just 19 seconds to go in regulation time, Martin Stein capped a well earned goal to put the game into the sudden death overtime. This was his second effort of the evening.



DAVE CALDOW
... 14 seconds



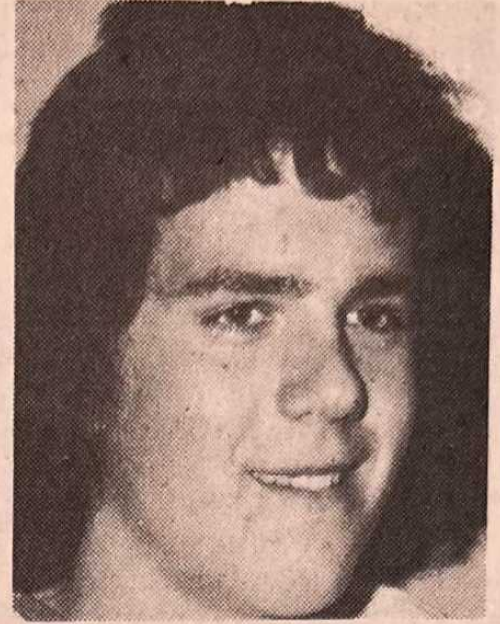
MARTY STEIN
... he tied it

Other Viking scorers were single effort from Grant Sidnick, Tim O'Donnell (his first of the season) and Rod Dyck.

Scoring for the Clippers was a four goal effort by Al Hill with the singles coming from Steve Buckley and Wade Smith.

Next big test for the Vikings will see them host Kelowna Buckaroos this Sunday night with game start time set for 7:30 p.m.

While the game is part of the regular schedule, an added feature will see the Winter Carnival hockey award go to the winner of the game in question.



KEN PRICE
... four assists

Major league ball possible for Toronto

TORONTO (CP) — Baseball is eager to move into Toronto, major league commissioner Bowie Kuhn said at news conference Thursday, prior to a sports celebrities dinner at which he was guest speaker.

"Many baseball men feel Toronto has a great potential for major league ball," Kuhn said. "At the last expansion in 1968, many felt that Toronto was even better than Montreal — but we had no applications from Toronto."

If Toronto builds an approved stadium and if the applicants meet the financial requirements, Kuhn said he is certain the city will get an expansion franchise.

"The Montreal (Expos) success has been a surprise to some, but not to me," the commissioner added. "Both these cities had an excellent history in minor-league baseball and if an application had been received from Toronto five years ago, I'm sure the decision would have been made just like that," Kuhn said.

The commissioner says he is sure expansion is the best course for baseball. "We are forming a committee to examine expansion and they'll go into everything."

ports

G BULWER, Sports Editor

an Grootel a chance

Flaten of Prince Rupert, Wayne Laface of Vernon meeting Herb Van Grootel of Vernon and Bill Fowler of Quesnel going against Ivan Carlisle of Smithers.

