

# Vikings hoping to move ahead of Broncos tonight

Vernon Vikings will be out tonight to take over sole possession of second place in the interior division, of the B.C. Junior Hockey League.

Vikings travel to Merritt where they will do battle, for the fifth time this season, with the Centennials.

## STANDINGS

### Interior Division

	W	L	T	PTS
Kelowna	10	3	0	20
Penticton	7	7	1	15
Vernon	7	9	1	15
Merritt	4	9	1	9

### Coast Division

	W	L	T	PTS
Chilliwack	10	6	0	20
Langley	9	5	1	19
Bellingham	8	8	0	16
Nanaimo	4	12	0	8

Vernon is tied for second place with Penticton Broncos, three points back of first place Kelowna. However, the Broncos have two games-in-hand on the Vikings.

In the four previous meetings this season, Vernon has won two, Merritt one, and one game ended in a tie.

Cents won the last encounter, played in Vernon, 9-6.

Two or three of the Vikings will be fighting for their jobs tonight. After the game, Vernon coach Joe Tennant, plans on assigning some players to the club's farm team in Grand Forks.

## WENT HOME

Bruce Wood, who joined Vikings three weeks ago, and did little more than ride the bench, elected to go home this week rather than report to Grand Forks.

Newly acquired Larry Thompson, a 180 pound forward, was impressive in his first game with Vernon Sunday when the Vikings thumped Chilliwack 5-1.

Tennant said, "Although

Thompson didn't get any points, he hit a lot of people and looked like he has a lot of talent."

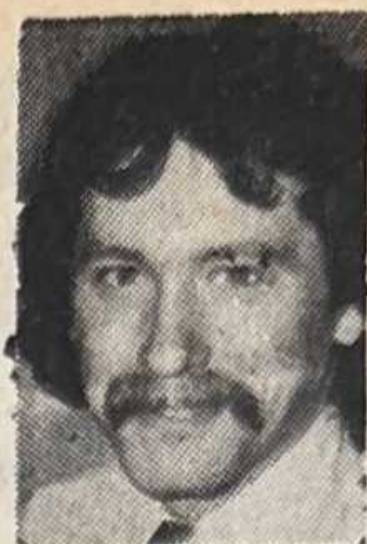
Vikings hope to have a couple new players within one week, and one of those will probably come from Medicine Hat, Vernon's tier one affiliate.

The Hat is carrying one extra player right now and will continue to do so, for a few more days, until defenceman Cliff Lane's shoulder injury heals. When Lane returns, one player will probably be assigned to Vernon.

## SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PTS
Bob Irvine, P	13	21	34
Doug Berry, K	10	21	31
Sandy Bain, L	7	24	31
Alex Belcourt, B	11	18	29
Perry Schnarr, K	13	14	27
Kirk Aulin, P	9	18	27
Kirk Fyffe, N	18	8	26
Dwight Bailey, V	15	11	26
Mark Schnarr, K	12	14	26
Lane Lavik L	10	15	25

# Ken's future looks bright



At this time last year, Ken Holland's hockey career looked grim, to say the least.

He appeared to be on the way to a long, lonely stint in the North Okanagan or Monashee Hockey League.

But, as the saying goes, "What a difference a year can make."

Ken, a Vernon boy, now a member of the Medicine Hat Tigers, is getting compliments from hockey people all over Western Canada. At this time last year, all he was getting was slivers from sitting on the bench.

Vikings' coach last season, Vern Dye, elected to go with Charlie Briskham in the nets most of the time and the result was Holland, then 18, spent most of the year as a spectator.

## A LONGSHOT

Kenny left Vernon back in early September, bound for Medicine Hat's camp with dozens of other local hopefuls. As a matter of fact, calling Holland a hopeful at that time was being an optimist.

Medicine Hat had decided to keep three goaltenders with the team until at least Christmas. Several very talented goalies were at the Tigers' camp but Ken survived the first set of cuts, and then the second set.

That left four goalies in camp, vying for three spots. It boiled down to Jim Scammel, a promising 17-year-old, or Holland. Once again his chances looked bad, but he won out, and Scammel ended up in Vernon.

His appearances to date for the Tigers have been impressive. In eight games, Ken has won seven and lost one, and in one of those victories, he recorded a shutout.

His only loss came Friday when the Tigers were thumped 9-2 by Saskatoon. However, it wasn't Ken's fault, and just to prove that, the coach chewed out everyone on the club for letting their goalie down in his draft year.

## FIRST STAR

Holland got the starting nod again Saturday and was named the game's first star as the Hat defeated Edmonton Oil Kings 5-3.

That little mention of it being Kenny's draft year, shows at least one person has confidence in him.

True, he is not the biggest goaltender in junior A hockey, in fact he is one of the smallest. But, let us not forget there has been some pretty good little goalies.

Guys like Charlie Hodge, Rogatien Vachon, Roger Crozier, and Eddie Giacomin, certainly are not giants and they still made a pretty good living.

Guts, determination, and desire got Ken to Medicine Hat, and with credentials like that, it might just get him to the pros.