

Vikings explode — rack four goals in final period

PENTICTON — Vernon Vikings exploded for four goals in the final period to beat the Penticton Broncos 8-3 in B.C. Junior Hockey League action here Friday.

The win moved the Vikings within one point of the Broncos, who hold second spot in the Interior Division.

The score was tied 2-2 after the opening frame, but the Vikings moved ahead 4-2 following the second.

Darrell Billsten, Dwight Bailey and Jack Lefley each scored two goals for Vernon. Jeff Boychuk and Gary Gassoff scored singles.

Penticton goals came from Jim Grant, Kirk Aulin, and Pat Severyn.

The Broncos were outshot 59-32 by the Vikings.

The game started on a rough note with a fight in the first five minutes, but settled down with Vernon taking five of the nine minor penalties called.

The Vikings have a chance to move ahead of the Broncos tonight, as they take on the Nanaimo Clippers in the Civic Arena at 8 p.m. Merritt Centennials, who shutout the

Vernon squad 5-0 this week, visit the city Sunday.

Kelowna Buckaroos lead in Interior Division by 17 points as a result of a 6-5 win over the Clippers Friday. The Buckaroos have 50 points, followed by the Broncos with 33, the Vikings with 32 and the cellar-dwelling Centennials with 27.

Langley Lords extended their hold on first place in the coast division with a 3-1 victory over the Bellingham Blazers. The Lords have 35 points, Chilliwack Bruins have 32, the Blazers have 27 and Nanaimo is in fourth spot with 20.

In Langley, second-period play was interrupted by a bench-clearing brawl which took officials 10 minutes to break up. After a further 30 minutes, officials decided to continue with the game.

Referees decided that each team would be able to play only eight players and that the other players would sit out 10-minute misconducts.

Langley led Bellingham 1-0 after the first period and 2-0 after the second period.

Randy Wiens, Sandy Bain and Ryan Walter scored for Langley while Kevin Schamehorne scored for the losers.

Bellingham goalie Jack Anderson stopped 50 shots while Langley netminder Brian Henderson kicked away 25.

Playing before almost 1,200 fans in Kelowna, the Clippers held Kelowna scoreless in the first period by consistently beating the Buckaroos to the puck and forechecking well in addition to scoring two goals. Kelowna battled back to tie the game 4-4 after two periods.

Scoring two goals for Kelowna was Gord Dumont while Rick Benningshof, Duane Monteith, Gord Gibson and Archie McKinnon scored singles. Ron McConnell led the losers with two goals and Clint Eccles, Bob Bergoyne and Kim Hillquist scored one each.

Each club was assessed a fighting major and Nanaimo picked up three of six minor penalties and a 10-minute misconduct.

Kelowna netminder Jerry Nekrasoff kicked away 12 shots and Nanaimo goalie Dan Rodgers stopped 40 shots.