

Ex-Vikings return to Vernon tonight

Vernon Vikings will have all they can handle tonight when they host their parent club, Medicine Hat Tigers of the Western Canada Hockey League.

It will be like coming home for several of the Tigers who started their junior A careers with the Vikings.

One of those players, Don Murdoch, is setting the WCHL on fire. Murdoch is now second in the league in scoring behind Victoria's Mel Bridgman, and leads the league in goals with 43.

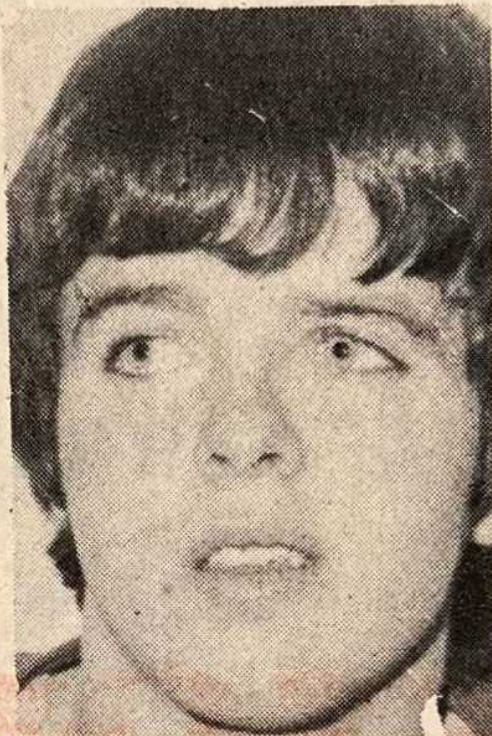
In the past six games, Murdoch has scored eight times.

Starting in the net tonight for Medicine Hat will be Vernon native Kenny Holland.

Holland has been having a great year with the Tigers. Friday night in Kamloops when Medicine Hat lost to the Chiefs 5-4, Holland was named third star. Earlier in the year, Kenny recorded his first junior A shutout with the Tigers.

WORKED HARD

After spending most of last season on the bench with the Vikings, Holland's future looked dim. But, he worked



DON MURDOCH
... leads WCHL

hard and has turned into one of the top netminders in the WCHL.

Other ex-Vikings on the Tiger roster are defenceman Tim Sanche and Cliff Lane.

Sanche toiled with Vernon for parts of three seasons before going up to stay with the Tigers last year. Lane was a member of the Vernon Essos when they captured the B.C. championship in 1972.

Vernon coach Joe Tennant plans on dressing all his

players tonight so Tiger Coach Jack Shupe can get a look at everyone here.

Shupe would no doubt like to find one or two more players to bolster his line-up before the Vikings' roster is frozen Jan. 10.

INTERESTED

One player Shupe is definitely interested in is winger Greg Walmsley. Walmsley, captain of the Vikings, was scheduled to join the Hat two weeks ago for a five-game trial but could not play because of a cheek injury.

Meanwhile, in BCJHL play over the weekend, Penticton Broncos suffered a pair of losses, 8-4 to Kelowna Buckaroos Saturday and 4-2 to Merritt Centennials Sunday.

The two losses left Broncos in third place in the interior division with 41 points, one behind the Vikings. However, Vernon trails first place Kelowna by 22 points.

In other games, Bellingham dumped Nanaimo 5-2, Nanaimo edged Bellingham 4-3, and Langley Lords were defeated 9-7 by Chilliwack.

Eagles battle to tie with Kal

Kal Hotel had its win streak stopped at nine games, but its undefeated string grew to 10, when they battled to a 2-2 tie with Vernon Screaming Eagles in North Okanagan Hockey League action Sunday at the Vernon Civic Arena.

In the other NOHL game Sunday, Armstrong Cougars edged Winfield Raiders 4-3.

Dave Caldow gave first-place Kal a 2-0 first period lead but a goal by Barry Dye narrowed the gap to 2-1 after 40 minutes.

Rod Irwin tied the game for the Screaming Eagles at 11:39 of the third period. Despite several good scoring chances, neither team could break the tie in the final minutes.

Mike Herrling made 28 saves for Vernon while Mike Smithson turned away 22 shots for Kal.

Eagles were assessed seven of 13 minor penalties and Kal's Ted McDermid was given a 10 minute misconduct in the first period.

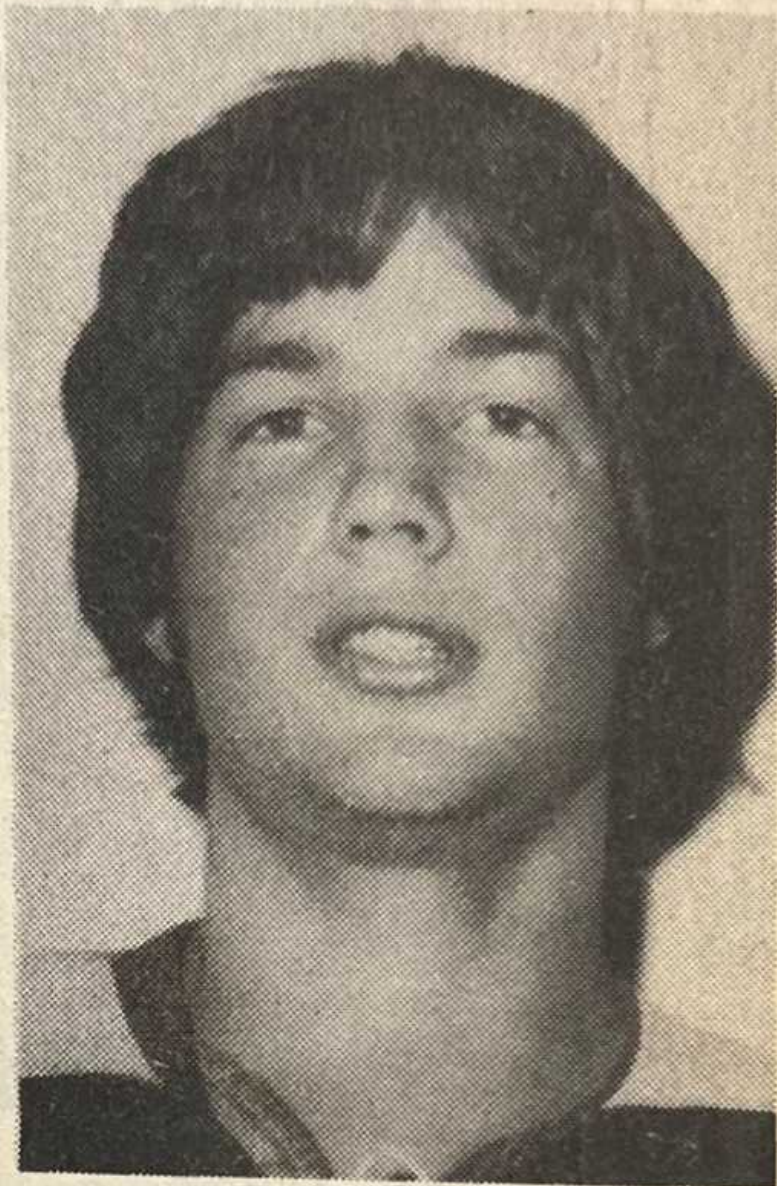
LATE GOAL

In the other game, Wally Bevan scored with less than seven minutes remaining in the game to give Armstrong the win over Winfield.

The teams battled to a 1-1 first period tie and Cougars led 3-2 after the second. However, Clint Eccles tied the game for the Raiders midway through the third period.

Bevan then scored his second goal of the night at 13:23 on a pass from Larry Plante.

Scott Shirley and Ken Haller got Cougars' other goals while



DAVE CALDOW
... two for Kal

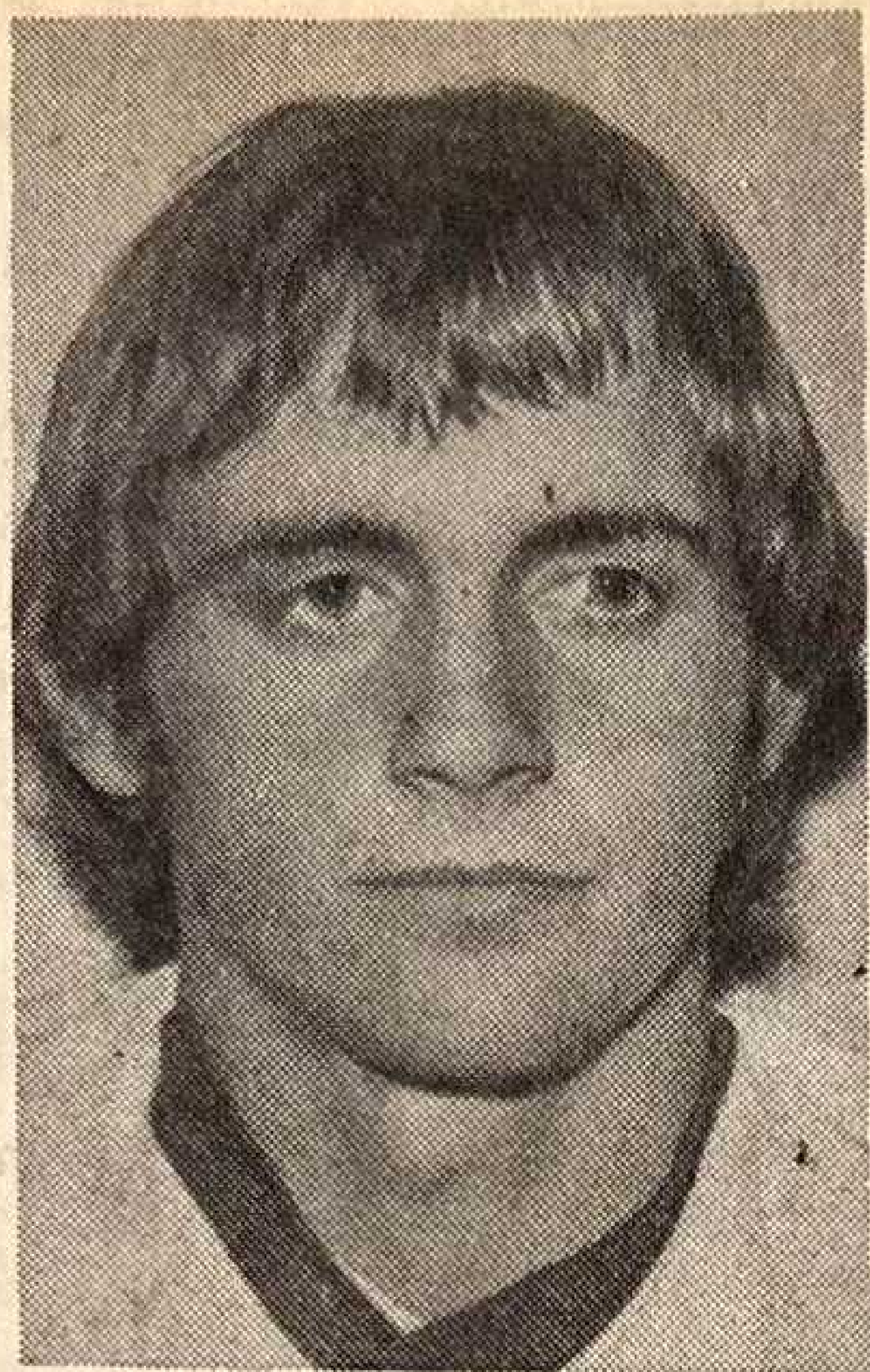
Bruce McDonald and Randy Niro replied for Raiders.

Winfield goalie Dee Kutchera made 23 stops while Barry Dinwoodie blocked 19 shots for Armstrong.

Cougars were handed three of five minor penalties.



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ERNIE GARE

. . . scored one

Spokane dumps Smokies

By **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Spokane Flyers goaltender Don Wallace didn't have a lot to do Sunday during Flyers 7-4 victory over Trail Smoke Eaters but things weren't as quiet at the other end of the ice.

Trail goaltender Henry Durkin was kept busy as the Flyers outshot the visitors 45-16 and outscored them 7-4 in a Western International Hockey League contest.

It was the only league game scheduled Sunday. In Saturday action Cranbrook Royals beat Nelson Maple Leafs 9-7 and Kimberley Dynamiters beat Spokane 5-3.

Gail Holden led Flyers Sunday with a pair of goals while Ken Gustafson, Wayne Dye, Bob Trembecky, Ernie Gare and Bob Stoyko added singles.

Tough weekend for Medicine Hat

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flin Flon Bombers got in some shooting practice during weekend play in the Western Canada Hockey League as they dumped Calgary Centennials two straight nights on home ice.

The Bombers, fifth in the Eastern Division, fired 50 shots Sunday to post a 9-3 win following a 5-4 win Saturday in which they managed 47 shots.

In other Sunday games, New Westminster Bruins edged visiting Medicine Hat Tigers 5-4, Winnipeg Clubs shocked Regina Pats 5-3 and Lethbridge Broncos beat Brandon Wheat Kings 5-3.

In the other Saturday encounter, Victoria Cougars walloped the Tigers 10-2 in Victoria.

Flin Flon 9 Calgary 3

Bob Watson, Dan Kunst and Kelly Kehoe each had two goals for the winners, with Jeff McDill, Kevin Marinos and Rich Gosselin adding single goals. Dennis McLean, Rick Lalonde and Greg Neeld replied for the Centennials, still in last place in the West.

New West. 5 Medicine Hat 4

Richard Shinske scored twice in the third period for the Bruins to snap a 3-3 deadlock. Brad Maxwell, Steve Clippingdale and Kevin Schamehorn rounded out the Bruins' attack, while Barry Dean, with two, Jim Bertram and Don Murdoch countered for the Tigers.

Winnipeg 5 Regina 3

Guy Lash, Larry Skinner

and Steve Plouffe scored in little more than three minutes of the second period to give the visiting Clubs the victory. Grant Fakin and Randy Brydges had the other Winnipeg goals, with Al Dumba, Les Grauer and Jon Hammond scoring for the Pats. The game was marred by numerous penalties, with the Clubs taking 16 of 24 minors, four of eight majors and a misconduct.

Victoria 10 Medicine Hat 2

The first-place Cougars got three goals from Greg Miazga and two from Danny Lucas. Others came from Peter Morris, Don Cairns, Gord Roberts, Rick Peter and Al Hill. Murdoch and Bertram scored for the losers.



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