

Broncos blast Vikings

PENTICTON (Staff) — Vernon Vikings defence should be fined for missing the bus to here for Thursday's B.C. Junior Hockey League game.

Penticton Broncos moved four points ahead of the Vikings in their battle for second-place in the interior division with a 10-6 victory. Broncos also have two games in hand.

Vernon led 2-0 and 3-1 early in the first period before the defence packed it in for the night.

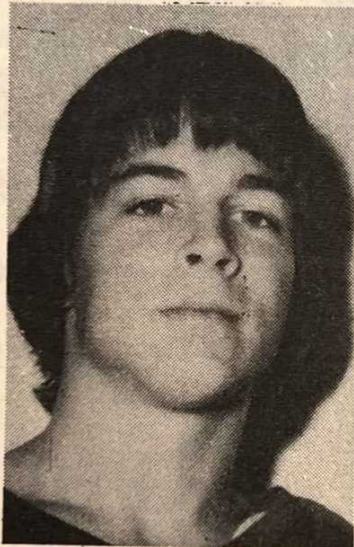
LLOYD HITS

Only Vikings' blue liner who appeared to be in the same arena as the Broncos was Owen Lloyd, who threw a few crunching body checks. Otherwise, the defence failed to finish their checks or work the puck out of the defensive end properly.

In recent weeks, Vernon has had to score at least seven or eight goals to win a game.

Toller takes first place

QUEBEC (CP) — Toller Cranston of Toronto took a giant step toward his fifth straight Canadian



DARRELL BILSTEN
... scores 20th

Vernon Coach Joe Tennant failed to place the blame solely on the defence asking, "Where were the back-checking forwards."

True the forwards did miss a few back-checks but, there is no doubt, the blame lies with the defence.

SEVEN POINTS

Bob Irvine scored three times and added four assists for Penticton while linemate



BOB IRVINE
... seven points

Del Iannone scored three and set up three others. Wade Jowett, Pat Sevryn, Bryan James, and Blair Chapman rounded out the Broncos' scoring.

Darrell Bilsten and Grant Sidnick, with their 20th goals of the season, Darrell Booth, Ron Areshnekoff, Brian Griese, and Jeff Boychuk replied for the Vikings.

For Sidnick, the goal ended

a five-week scoring slump.

Vernon goalie Jim Scammell was left alone on numerous occasions. On one goal, Iannone hammered away at the puck, untouched for five seconds, before beating Scammell.

BUSY NIGHT

Penticton netminder Dennis Ewanchuk made 44 saves while Scammell turned away 39 shots.

Broncos were four-for-four on power play opportunities and added one short-handed goal.

Vikings now face seven games in the next 10 days starting tonight when they host the Bellingham Blazers. If Vernon hopes to remain within striking distance of Penticton, or hold on to their 12 point lead over last-place Merritt, something has got to be done about the defence.

In other BCJHL games Thursday, Darrell Zelinski scored two goals in leading Merritt to a 5-3 win over Bellingham, while in Chilliwack, Vernon Quaroni scored four times as the Bruins thumped Nanaimo Clippers 12-2.

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Jr. **HOCKEY**



TONIGHT
Bellingham
Blazers

VS

VERNON VIKINGS

Face-Off 8:00 p.m. Sharp

Attend the Game & Cheer On Our Team