

Up to five ex-Vikings may stick with Tigers

At least three, and possibly up to five, members of the 1974-75 Vernon Vikings are expected to make the tier one Medicine Hat Tigers this season.

Tigers have seven graduating players and Medicine Hat Coach Jack Shupe is looking to Vernon, their tier two affiliate, to fill several of the holes.

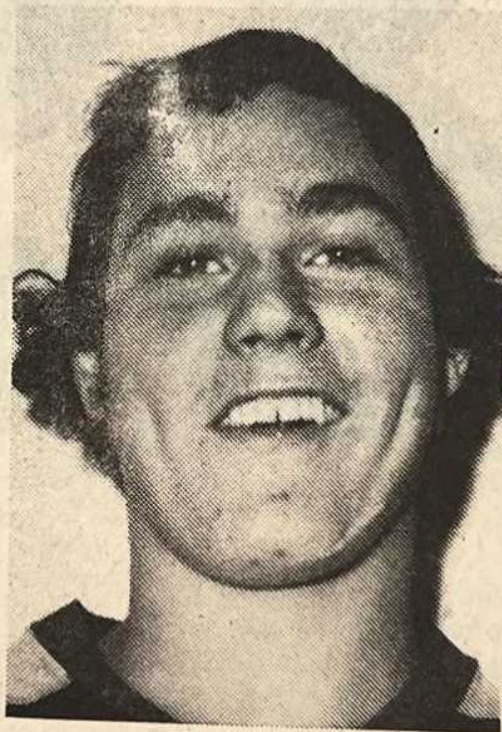
Vernon native Kenny Holland will be the only over-age player Shupe keeps on his club this season. Holland split the goaltending duties last year with Jerry Farwell.

Farwell is gone and the back-up job, behind Holland, will probably go to one of Vikings' goalies, Jim Scammel or Darrell Furmanek.

DEFENCE WEAK

Defence appears to be Tigers weak spot, with only three veterans returning.

The Hat is extremely high on 195-pound defenceman Owen Lloyd, who picked up more than 250 minutes in penalties last year with the Vikings.



OWEN LLOYD
... top prospect.

Up front, Medicine Hat has six incumbents led by ex-Viking Don Murdoch.

Top prospect to fill one of the five forward vacancies is centre Ron Areshnekoff, who led Vikings in scoring last season.

Tigers are also high on centre Darrell Billsten and winger Gary Gilchrist, two of Vernon's top performers in 74-75.

More than 100 players will be attending Medicine Hat's camp, which begins the second week in September.

One ex-Viking who won't be at the camp is forward Marty Stein who will be attending U.B.C., and has been invited to tryout with the Thunderbirds.

Pirates regain first place lead

By ASSOCIATED PRESS
Bill Viridon and Pittsburgh
Pirates are back in business.

"I know the last two weeks my teammates have definitely been waiting for me to pull out