

Vikings host Buckaroos tonight

By DON KENDALL

Daily News Sports Editor

Local hockey fans get their first look at the Vernon Vikings tonight when they host Kelowna Buckaroos in exhibition B.C. Junior Hockey League action at 8:30 p.m. at the Vernon Civic Arena.

The old saying, "You can't tell the players without a program," will certainly be true tonight.

Bucks will have six players on the ice who played in Kelowna last season while Vikings will have only four incumbents dressed.

FOUR BACK

Goalie Darrell Furmanek, defencemen Peter Poeschek and Terry Anaka, and centre Darrell Billsten are the only members of last year's Vernon club who will be dressed tonight.

Six members of last year's team, Brad Schultz, Gary



GARY HUTH
... experienced

Gilchrist, Brian Griese, Owen Lloyd; Jim Scammel, and Ron Areshnekoff, are up with the



DARCY WILKINSON
... top rookie

parent club, Medicine Hat Tigers, and Jack Lefley and Dwight Bailey have ap-

parently stuck with Calgary Centennials.

Winger Grant Sidnick is back in Vernon but won't play due to an injury.

However, Vikings' Coach Joe Tennant feels his club will be much stronger this year once they get together as a unit.

Tennant said, "We've got one helluva lot of good kids who are going to make this team exciting."

TOP SCORER

One new player the Vernon coach is counting highly on, who isn't a rookie, is centre Gary Huth.

Huth, captain of Chilliwack Bruins last year, was ninth in the BCJHL in scoring with 99 points.

Tennant has a happy problem at centre. No less than seven players have shown well enough in camp to stick with the Vikings.



DEAN PRATICO
... on defence

Of the rookies, Darcy Wilkinson, of Edmonton, has been the best. Wilkinson looks



GREG SEPT
... from Edmonton

like he will be a good one.

Bill Ranson of Port Alberni, Steve Danshin of Grand

Forks, Rich Simpson of Edmonton, and Clyde Goodswimmer of Northern Alberta, have also had excellent camps.

On the wings, Greg Sept and Brent Bucyk of Edmonton, along with Randy Merritt of Revelstoke, have been among the most impressive.

Besides Anaka and Poeschek on defence, Dean Pratico of Revelstoke, Bob Putnam of Edmonton, and Murray O'Neil have looked good.

Tennant still has about 50 players in town, including local boys. However, 15 of those will be leaving for Grand Forks this week.

He will get another chance to look at his troops Tuesday night, in Penticton, against the Bucks again. The game is being played there because of the civic workers' strike in Kelowna.