



VERNON VIKINGS' defenceman Gary Gassoff, right, gets some help from a team-mate along the boards

as he wrestles the puck away from a Chilliwack Bruins' defender. Gassoff scored once as Vikings

dumped Chilliwack 7-2 in BCJHL action Saturday in Vernon. Vikings' next home game is Saturday when they

host Merritt Centennials. (Daily News Photo)

Vikings' quick start leaves Bruins behind

Vernon Vikings scored four goals in the first 11 minutes of the opening period and went on to defeat Chilliwack Bruins 7-2 in B.C. Junior Hockey League action Saturday before 1,023 fans at the Vernon Civic Arena.

For Vikings, it was their fifth consecutive victory.

Ex-Chilliwack captain Gary Huth scored twice to lead the Vernon attack. His linemates, Jack Lefley and Grant Sidnick, added singles.

Lefley, the outstanding player of the game, had three assists to go with his goal.

Other Vernon marksmen were Gary Gassoff, Ken Stroud, and Drew Tumbach.

Tim Hollett and Rich Fournier replied for the last-place Bruins.

TWO HURT

But, the win could be a costly one for Vernon. The club's top two defencemen, Terry Anaka and Brian Griese, both suffered injuries and were unable to finish the game.

Anaka hurt his ankle and Griese may have pulled a hamstring. However, Anaka may be ready for Vernon's next game, Friday in Penticon.

Vikings' goalie Keith Ferner protected his goals against average, best in the BCJHL, by blocking 31 shots. In the last three games, Ferner has allowed only four goals.

Chilliwack goalies Vic Malli and Rick Nitchke combined to block 37 Vernon shots.

It was a frustrating night for Vikings' winger Calvin Halasz

who had his six-game goal scoring streak halted. Halasz has scored in seven of the nine Vernon games to date, and both times he was blanked, Bruins supplied the opposition.

Vikings' Coach Joe Tennant was pleased with his team's effort and said he hopes the fans like Vernon's new style of play.

He said, "We're playing it clean, fast, and hopefully, entertaining."

Vikings picked up four of seven minor penalties and each team was assessed a major.

Sunday in Penticon, the Vees dumped Chilliwack 4-1.

Meanwhile, on the coast, Nanaimo Clippers' Coach Larry McNab plans on

protesting to league headquarters about Merritt Centennials' rough play.

Cents suffered their third consecutive loss to Nanaimo on Saturday 10-3. However, Merritt picked up 76 of the 109 minutes in penalties.

Maple Ridge Blazers then made it four losses in a row for the Centennials when they dumped the Interior club 9-7.

VSSS teams defeated in tournament finals

Two Vernon Senior Secondary School teams placed second in the annual Oliver Invitational Volleyball Tournament held over the weekend.

The Vernon boys' 'A' team and girls' team both went down to defeat in the tournament finals.

After posting a first-place 8-2 record in round-robin play, the Vernon boys got a bye to the finals and was defeated by Oliver, 15-12 and 15-13.

Oliver dumped Kelowna Owls 2-0 in the semi-finals.

Coach Dick Chambers said his boys played well, particularly Keith Richards, a standout defensively, and Dave Turner, who blocked and hit well.

However, the Vernon coach was naturally disappointed with the team's loss in the final.

Meanwhile, the VSSS girls tied for second in round-robin

Greenwood praised her team and singled out Pat Dantzer and Terry Rossman for their fine play.

The girls' team will be competing in the annual Trail Tournament next weekend, while the boys' AA team will be at UBC.

Prior to the competition at UBC, the Vernon boys will be taking part in a league tournament Wednesday in

Revelstoke.

In the Vernon Parks and Recreation Department Honeymooners' Volleyball League, the Sunday Drivebeats will be the Up-and-Atoms 2-1 Sunday at the Recreation Centre.

In other games, Six-packs beat Royal Bank 2-0. Cheeky Devils downed the Sundowners 2-0, and Hot-to-go outclassed the Rookies 2-0.

Six local rinks in car 'spiel

Six local teams qualified over the weekend to compete in the second annual Vernon Carling O'Keefe Car 'Spiel. The six rinks were among 21

car 'spiel, and May receives his \$50 entry fee back.

In 'B' final games, John Omelchuk hammered Ed Chaput, of Lumby, 8-1, Randy