

Vees' rookie netminder turns in dazzling game

Lowly Penticton Vees blanked Vernon Vikings 3-0 in B.C. Junior Hockey League action Wednesday before 480 fans in Vernon.

The loss, coupled with Nanaimo Clippers 6-4 win over Langley Lords, leaves first-place Vernon just four points ahead of the red-hot Clippers.

Rookie netminder Pat Murphy had to work hard for his first shutout as Vikings fired 36 shots at him, including 14 in the third period when they completely dominated play.

Murphy was forced into action last week when veteran netminder Dennis Ewanchuk suffered a leg injury which will keep him out of action for about three weeks.

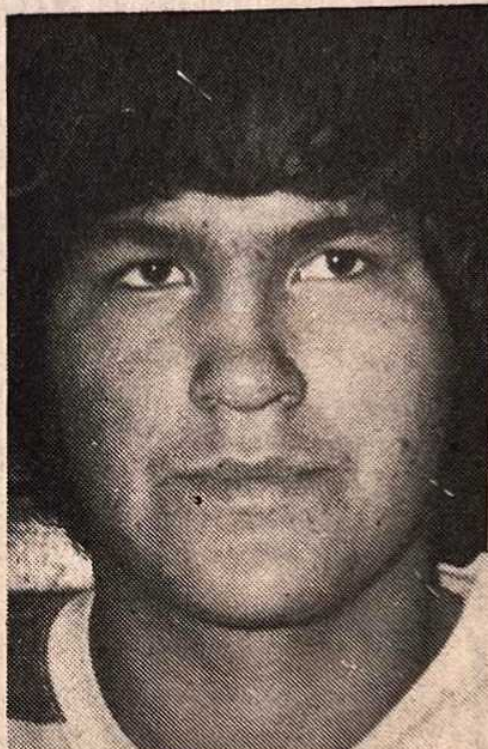
Gord McKay, Clark Turney, and Lory Call scored for the winners who led 1-0 after the first period and 2-0 after the second.

LINES JUGGLED

Vikings' Coach Joe Tennant juggled his lines several times during the game hoping to come up with the right combinations. But, everytime Vernon forwards penetrated Vees' defence, Murphy made a big save.

In the third period, the rangy goalie stopped Jack Lefley and Clyde Goodswimmer on clear-cut breakaways, and closed the door on Darcy Wilkinson and Goodswimmer front point-blank range on two other occasions.

The loss snapped Vernon's 18-game win streak at home,



CLYDE GOODSWIMMER
... robbed twice

and gave the club four losses in its last five games.

Vikings' netminder Keith Ferner blocked 25 shots. Each team took three minor penalties and two fighting majors.

With a three-game coast swing this weekend, Vernon faces the prospect of being knocked out of first-place for the first time since early October. Vikings have 69 points while Clippers have 65, with 17 games remaining in the schedule.

The two leaders clash head-on Friday in Nanaimo, then Vikings travel to Chilliwack Saturday and Maple Ridge Sunday.

SCORED TWO

In Langley, Geordie Robertson tallied twice for the winners.

Steve Amiss was a stumbling block for Lords' shooters as he stopped 46 shots while Al Wiebe and Dale Neilsen combined to stop 26 for Langley.

In a game featuring the two tail-ends clubs, last-place Chilliwack Bruins thumped seventh-place Maple Ridge Blazers 7-2. Doug Derksen scored four times for the winners.

Royals score 72 against Kelowna

By DALE MAJOR

Daily News Correspondent

Vernon Senior Secondary School Royals exploded with their highest scoring output of the season Wednesday when they whipped Kelowna Owls 72-44 in girls' basketball action in Kelowna.

For Royals, it was the third consecutive game they have scored more than 60 points. The win boosts Vernon's league record to 4-3.

Laurie Ogasawara turned in a standout performance with 22 points. Guard Leanne Wilms also had an out-