TO MEET VIKINGS

Tigers in town tonight

Medicine Hat Tigers of the Western Canada Hockey League take on Vernon Vikings of the B.C. Junior Hockey League in an exhibition game tonight at 8 p.m. in the Vernon Arena.

Tigers are currently third in the Western Division of the WCHL while their number one farm team, the Vikings, lead the BCJHL.

Medicine Hat has not beat Vernon since 1973. Two years ago Vikings edged Tigers 3-2, and last year, the teams battled to a 7-7 tie.

Six members of the Tigers got their start in junior hockey with the Vikings.

62 GOALS

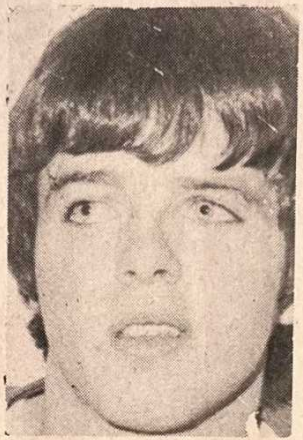
Don Murdoch, who forms one-third of the highest scoring line in the WCHL, spent one and one-half seasons in Vernon. Murdoch leads the league in goals with 62, and is second in the loop in scoring with 112 points.

His linemates are Greg Carroll and Morris Lukowich.



CLIFF LANE
. . . third year

Goalie Ken Holland played minor hockey in Vernon and spent one season with Vikings before graduating to Medicine Hat last season. Drafted by Toronto Maple Leafs last year, he decided to return to the Tigers as an over-age player.



DON MURDOCH
. . . leads league

Defenceman Cliff Lane, in his third season with Medicine Hat, started his junior career with Vernon Essos.



GARY GILCHRIST
. . . scoring now

Considered the steadiest defenceman on the Hat this year, he has a good chance of getting drafted by the pros.

Gary Gilchrist, Ron Areshnekoff, and Owen Lloyd all spent the 1974-75 season with the Vikings.

SCORING NOW

Gilchrist and Areshnekoff formed two-thirds of Vernon's high scoring WAG line. Since being reunited in the same line in early January, both players have started scoring more consistantly for Tigers.

Lloyd, a bruising 195-pound defenceman, picked up 268 minutes in penalties with Vikings. His style hasn't changed much this year as he would rather fight than switch.

Vikings' Coach Joe Tennant feels fans will see one of the best games of the season tonight.

Tennant said, "If we have a good night, we can beat them. They have a high-scoring club. We'll have to check them closely."

A large crowd is expected for the game so fans are advised to get there early.

His inmates are Greg Toronto Maple Leafs last

The SPORTS Page

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Wills scores two as Kelowna wins

Kelowna Buckaroos appear to have Vernon Vikings' number.

Third-place Kelowna handed the league-leading Vikings a 3-1 loss before 820 fans Tuesday in the Regatta City. It was the Bucks fourth consecutive win over Vernon.

"We just don't get up for games against Kelowna," said Vikings' Coach Joe Tennant. "We weren't mentally prepared to play hockey and it showed on the ice."

Mike Wills, who leads the league in scoring, paced the Bucks' attack with two goals while Phil Logan added a single.

Peter Poeschek spoiled Vic Malli's bid for a shutout.

Malli turned away 42 shots while Darrell Furmanek made 36 saves for Vikings.

Vernon was without defensive stalwart Terry Anaka, out with an injured shoulder.

Tennant said, "We also had two or three players who had the flu, which didn't help any."

Veteran Brian Griese, who logged a lot of ice time with Anaka out of action, turned in a great game.

In Tuesday's other game, Dan Hluski scored at 2:04 of sudden-death overtime to give Merritt Centennials a 6-5 win over Penticton Vees.

Pat Dupuis led the Cents' attack with two goals while Anthony Thomas, Kevin Willison, and Danny Rota added singles.

Penticton got three goals from Dwight Bailey and the others from Rob Feenie and Darrell Becker.