

# Ferner selected MVP

Goalle Keith Ferner was named Most Valuable Player on the Vernon Vikings at the club's awards banquet Thursday night.

Ferner, 19, currently has the lowest goals against in the B.C. Junior Hockey League with a 3.54 mark.

Upon accepting the award, the lanky netminder said, "It takes a whole team to win a championship and there are a lot of guys on this team who deserve this award."

Ferner's performance this year could be considered a Cinderella story. After getting off to a shaky start last season with Vikings, he was sent down to the club's farm team in Grand Forks for the remainder of the season. He was given little chance of making the Vikings prior to training camp this year, but he earned himself a spot and was selected the Interior Division's all-star goalie in January.

## SHARED AWARD

Veterans Terry Anaka and Brian Griese shared the Most Valuable Defenceman award. Anaka was also the top defenceman last season.

Griese, who joined Vernon in the 1972-73 season, said, "After four years, its our turn

to win the championship."

Vernon last won the BCJHL title in 1971-72.

For the second consecutive year, Darrell Billsten was named most Gentlemanly Player while rookie Clyde Goodswimmer was selected as the team's Most Popular Player.

Centre Steve Danshin, currently the second highest scorer on the club with 70 points, was voted Rookie of the Year.

Another rookie, 16 year-old Ken Oulton was honored as the team's Unsung Hero.

The award for top scorer will be presented after the final game of the season. Gary Huth currently leads in that department.

Special wards were made to Coach Joe Tennant, trainer Roly Sammartino, the club's stick boys Derek Aelchele and Lorne Ridley, and the two team doctors.

Vikings get back to the

serious business of playing hockey with the biggest game of the year tonight at the Civic Aren. Vernon hosts second-place Nanaimo Clippers at 8 p.m.

With five games remaining, Vikings lead the Clippers by four points. However, Nanaimo has two games-in-hand. So, in all likelihood, the winner of tonight's game will take the league title.

## UP FOR GAME

Tennant said, "The boys

are really up for this game and they know what they have to do. If we win our remaining games, there is no way they can catch us."

In five meetings between the two clubs this season, Clippers have yet to pick up a point.

Vikings' winger Calvin Halasz went a little farther than his coach. He said, "We've got the best team in the league, and we're going to prove it tonight."



**VERNON VIKINGS** held their annual awards banquet and dance Thursday at the Royal Canadian Legion. Award winners are;

from left; most popular player Clyde Goodswimmer, co-winner of best defenceman award Gerry Anaka, most gentlemanly

player Darrell Billsten, rookie of the year Steve Danshin, most valuable player Keith Ferner, unsung hero Ken Oulton, and best

defenceman co-winner Brian Griese. The banquet was organized, for the first time, by the Vikings' Booster Club.

(Daily News Photo)

## Hockey playoffs Saturday

Okanagan-Mainline Minor Hockey Association playoffs get under way this weekend with three Vernon teams involved.

Vernon Midget Reps travel to Kamloops Saturday to take on South Kamloops in the first game of a best-of-three semi-final round.