



VERNON VIKINGS' captain Gary Gassoff sweeps in for a backhand on Penticton goalie Jim Scammell during

Wednesday's BCJHL game in Vernon. Scammell, an ex-Viking, allowed only one goal as Vees thumped the

locals 10-1 in their season opener. Vernon is back in action this weekend when they go on a three-game

coast swing. (Daily News Photo)

The SPORTS Page

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Wheaties bomb Flin Flon 11-1

By THE CANADIAN PRESS
Brandon Wheat Kings went on a scoring binge while Calgary Centennials won a squeaker Wednesday night in the Western Canada Hockey League.

In Brandon, veteran centre Dan Bonar scored four times to lead the Wheat Kings to an 11-1 romp over Flin Flon Bombers while Calgary got three goals from Perry Turnbull to nip the Pats 7-6 and ruin Regina's league opener.

Referee Glen Agar handed out 16 minor penalties, eight to Brandon. Each team received one fighting major.

The Centennials led 4-3 after the first period and the teams were tied 5-5 after 40 minutes.

Kevin Krook, Gary Risling, Clint Eccles, and Scott Kowlewaski scored the other Calgary goals while Dirk Graham, with two, Dean Tidball, Keith Hertz, Glenn Rolfe and Brian Festerling scored for Regina.

Calgary took seven of eight minor penalties and the teams

Vikings embarrassed by high-flying Vees

By DON KENDALL
Daily News
Sports Editor

Vernon Vikings have a lot of work to do, and not much time to do it.

Penticton Vees built up a 5-0 lead in the opening period and went on to bomb Vikings 10-1 before 320 fans in B.C. Junior Hockey League action Wednesday in Vernon.

It was a disappointing way for Vikings to start the season and the club has little time to improve before it sets out on a three-game coast swing this weekend.

Vikings showed little offensive power, were caught up ice too often, and took too many dumb penalties. On the

other hand, Vees showed why they are picked as the team to beat this season.

11 LOCALS

Vernon General Manager Vern Dye went on an anti-inflation budget this year, hoping to trim the team's expenses by 440,000. The move left Coach Gerry Wenman with 11 local players on the roster, and unfortunately, only about half of them belong in the BCJHL.

Vernon goalie Keith Ferner got off to a shaky start and could be faulted on at least two of Penticton's opening period goals.

John Uvegas opened the scoring at 3:20 when left alone in front after an errant pass

from Vikings' defenceman Brad McDonald. Ted Cotter scored two minutes later when left alone in the slot.

Rookie Kevin Maxwell made the score 3-0 on a breakaway. Ferner made the save, but the rebound went in off defender Gary Cris. Next two goals, by Gord McKay and Tim Paul, both came from outside the blue line and only Ferner could be faulted.

ONLY GOAL

Bruce Green put Vikings on the scoreboard at 9:15 of the middle frame when he banged Gary Gassoff's rebound past goalie Jim Scammell.

McKay let one of his patented howitzers go to open the scoring in the third period. Then at 12:14, a major brawl broke out involving most players on the ice. As a result

of the melee, six Vikings, including Ferner, and two Vees, were ejected.

Rookie netminder Jim Andrews was then given an unpleasant welcome to the BCJHL. Bob Dietterle, Dino Sita, Paul, and Gary Eades beat Andrews before time ran out.

PENALTIES COSTLY

Vikings were assessed nine of 14 minor penalties, seven of 13 majors, and one of two 10-minute misconducts. The infractions proved costly as Penticton collected four powerplay goals.

Vernon's goalies, who blocked 42 shots, saw two-one breaks all night as defencemen were caught up ice and wingers weren't backchecking. Scammell made 35 saves for Vees, however, many were of the easy variety.

In Wednesday's only other game, Abbotford Flyers edged Nanaimo Clippers 4-3 in the Island city.

Huth would like to return here

Vernon Vikings have a golden opportunity to strengthen their offensive power.

Centre Gary Huth, who defected to Penticton Vees this season, told an interesting story in the press box at Wednesday's BCJHL game. Huth was unable to play because of a concussion picked up last weekend.

Huth, 20, told the Daily News he feels that Vikings did not want him back this season.

FIRST CALL

He said, "It was Aug. 22, and the first person I'd heard from since last season ended was Penticton General Manager Bryan Couling. He asked me if I'd like to play for Vees and attend college there."

"About a week later I got a call from Vikings' GM Vern Dye and he said he'd like to talk to me while on the coast the following weekend. I passed up a camping trip, waited home all weekend, and

never heard from him. So naturally I went to Penticton."

However, the classy centre is not bitter and would still like to come to Vernon.

He said, "If they call me tomorrow, I'd probably come as long as I could get my college courses transferred to Vernon. I don't think that would be a problem."

Huth was top scorer on Vikings, and eighth in the league last year, with 89 points. The previous season he picked up 89 points for Chilliwack Bruins.

He said, "I haven't signed anything with Penticton and would like to help Vikings. That is providing they have a serious attitude."

His coach last season, Joe Tennant, called Huth the ideal player to coach.

Tennant said, "Gary is a natural leader on and off the ice. He is quiet, but always thinking."

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10 VERNON DAILY NEWS, THURSDAY, SEPT. 30, 1976

THE OUTDOORS

Pheasant

season open

