



VERNON'S SIXTH goal came off the stick of Norm

Meyer in third period of action at the Vernon Civic

Arena Wednesday. (J. Nittel Photo)

## IN THE BCJHL

# Vikings chalk up first win in 6-4 defeat of Kamloops

By JACK NITTEL  
Daily News Sports  
Correspondent

The Vernon Vikings chalked up their first victory of the season, Wednesday downing the Kamloops Braves 6-4 in B.C. Junior Hockey League action at the Vernon Civic Arena before a sparse crowd of about 250 fans.

The Vikings spotted the Braves an early goal and then went on to score five unanswered markers in a scramble which saw both teams having difficulty moving the puck out of their own ends.

Vernon scored two power play goals and Steve Danshin was the big gun for the Vikings, picking up two goals and an assist.

Vikings led 4-1 after the first period, while the Kamloops squad narrowed the lead to 5-3 after two periods of play.

Reg Rempel opened the scoring for the Braves at the 1:54 mark during a scramble in front of the net, then it was Danshin from Green and Gasoff to tie the score at 7:16 while both teams were playing one man short.

### POWER PLAY

A power play goal by John Schmitz from Lefley and Torgeson at 9:13 put the Vikings ahead 2-1.

Torgeson assisted again at the 14:02 mark on a goal from Green and then Kelly Kaneda rounded out the first period scoring at 18:27 from Gasoff and Danshin.

In the second, Danshin picked up his second goal of the night beating a shaky Kamloops netminder at 4:22, before Kamloops started to exert some pressure with a goal at 9:09 by Greg Dunn.

Kamloops took advantage of some sloppy play in the Vernon end which saw the Vikings cough up the puck three times before Dennis Warwa popped one in from the side of the net at 16:46.

In the final minutes of the second period, while playing short-handed, Gasoff had a clear cut breakaway but lost control of the puck when he tried to deak Braves netminder Ken McNabb.

### GOOD CHECKING

In the third frame, Norm Meyer scored Vernon's second power play goal at the 9:11 mark and Kamloops rounded out the scoring at 15:27 when Lance Lestander popped one in from the right side after some good forechecking by the Kamloops squad.

Vernon was given three of the seven minors with each

team picking up a fighting major.

Vernon's goalie, Keith Ferner, playing a steady game, kicked out 24 while McNabb handled 30 shots.

The Vikings go against Kamloops again on Friday in Kamloops and host the Coast division leaders, Langley Lords on Saturday. Game time is 8:00 p.m.

In other BCJHL action two four-goal performances and outstanding goaltending were the keys as Maple Ridge Bruins thrashed Nanaimo Clippers 13-3 in a British Columbia Junior Hockey League game Wednesday.

Gerald Mykituk and John Ogradnick each scored four goals in Nanaimo to lead the Bruins in a fight-filled game. Stewart Robertson added two and Terry Kirkham, Kevin O'Rourke and Randy Irving completed the scoring.

Maple Ridge led 4-0 and 9-3 at the end of the periods.

Richard Martens was steady in the Maple Ridge goal, stopping 47 shots as Nanaimo outshot Maple Ridge 50-43.

Mickey Wilgress, Morley Anderson and Jeff Wylie scored for Nanaimo.

The Clippers drew seven of 12 minor penalties and seven of 13 fighting majors. Each

Is One Go  
Why Sasges  
Are



# Former Viking makes early impression with NY Rangers

NEW YORK (AP) — New players, new uniforms, new numbers, a newly decorated dressing room—and most importantly, a new attitude.

Those were the new-look New York Rangers, and they opened their National Hockey League season with a 6-5 victory over Minnesota North Stars on Wednesday night.

The Rangers had finished in last place in the Patrick Division of the Campbell Conference last season, missing the playoffs for the first time in 10 years, and coach-general manager John Ferguson had promised some changes for this year.

He made them—in bunches. Most noticeable was the infusion of new players—seven rookies and one other newcomer, veteran Ken Hodge,



**DON MURDOCH**  
... garners praise

acquired from Boston—played against Minnesota. And their spirited play contributed greatly to the victory.

Phil Esposito sported the unconventional uniform No. 77 after wearing No. 12 last season—no contest for the No. 88 worn by Hodge, the highest in the league.

## **LAUDS MURDOCH**

"There's a tremendous enthusiasm here and things have been dead here for 50 years," said Hodge. "I thought I played pretty well, but that kid (Don Murdoch) is really good."

Murdoch, one of the seven rookies, fired in two goals, including one in a decisive three-goal second period, when the Rangers broke loose from a 3-3 tie and took a 6-3 lead.

Murdoch had been informed earlier in the day by his mother in Cranbrook, B.C., that his father had suffered a heart attack, his second in recent months.

"Maybe my two goals will cheer him up," said Murdoch.

Dan Newman and Walt Tkaczuk, boasting a new, full-grown beard, also scored for the Rangers in the second period. Murdoch, Greg Polis and Wayne Dillon produced the first-period goals.

Ferguson expressed satisfaction with the victory, but said, "There's a lot of shoring up to do in certain areas."

"The kids came through and I like that," he added. "Murdoch seems to be a natural goal scorer."