

# Playoffs start tonight

By DON KENDALL  
Daily News Sports Editor

The British Columbia Junior Hockey League playoffs get under way tonight at Kamloops Memorial Arena when the Rockets host Vernon Canadians in the first game of a best-of-seven quarter-final series.

Second and third games are scheduled in Vernon, on Thursday and Saturday nights.

In 10 games against the Rockets this season, Canadians posted six victories. However, in Kamloops, Vernon managed only one win in five outings.

Canadians' Coach Greg Kvistle told the Daily News "I expect a long, tough series. He said, "Our two clubs have been relatively equal over the season. I don't think either team is going to get blown out of the rink."

Kvistle plans to keep two of his lines intact with Terry Lowe between Tom Ouchl and Larry Pearson while Brian



GREG KVISTLE ... leans even

Woodman centres Dale Stuch and John Need. With the return of winger Rich Creelman, the third unit will have John Mercer between Creelman and a midjet rep.

**OUT FOR YEAR**  
The Vernon coach said, "Dean Hascard is out for the

season and (Lance) Vachon won't be able to play until at least Saturday, so we're a little short of forwards. But, there are some good midjets. We'll use Brad Moore on the third line tonight, with Kevin Potier as an extra forward."

Moore is a big, aggressive winger while Potier, who plays winger with the midjets, is known as a good skater and puckhandler.

Kvistle plans to alternate his five defencemen, "With the four who are playing best getting the ice time."

**MUST FORECHECK**  
One of the rearguards who'll get plenty of action is all-star Dave Downton. Downton feels the key to stopping the Rockets is forechecking.

He said, "We've got to bottle them up in their end - to win we'll have to forecheck well." The 20-year-old Regina native said he doesn't have trouble with any one particular Kamloops player, but he singled out one line as being tough to stop. Downton said, "The line with (Clint) Fehr,



RICH CREELMAN ... returns

(Allan) Graves, and (Jay) Kozak is pretty potent."

Kvistle feels there are two main things his club has to do to advance to the semi-finals against the winner of the Merritt-Kelowna series.

**ERRATIC IN GOAL**  
The rookie coach said,

"First, we have to get good goaltending. Trent (Smith) has been erratic this year and he has to come up big."

"Secondly, we have to get some goals on the Stuk-Matthews-Need line. Lowe's line always plays well and Mercer's line should be able to hold its own. Slus, Matthews, and Need are all good scorers and they're going to have to put the puck in the net for us to win."

**ROCKETS HEALTHY**  
Rockets, who finished second in the BCJHL's Interior Division, five points ahead of Vernon, are healthy. Ian McEachern is expected to start between the pipes, with Brian Henderson, a two-year-old veteran of the Western Hockey League, as backup.

The Kamloops defence is led by Doug Liddler, who set a league record for goals by defencemen with 37 this season.

Top scorers on the Rockets were Murray Matheson, with 90 points, and Fehr, with 88.

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VERNON DAILY NEWS, TUESDAY, FEB. 27, 1979

## Two teams reach final

Priest Valley Saints and Omineca Bay Rattlers advanced to the Vernon Major Men's Basketball League finals.

Saints whipped last-place Cherry Creek Trappers 79-58 and Omineca Bay Rattlers upset Silver Star Suns 72-71 in semi-final action Monday night at Vernon Senior Secondary School.

Trappers, who won only one

game during the regular season, jumped to an early 24-16 lead. However, by half-time Saints were in control and held a 36-20 edge.

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Trappers, who won only one

## Four clubs in ILA

Interior Lacrosse Association Commissioner Murray Ellis is confident his league will operate with four strong teams in the 1979 season.

Ellis told the Daily News the loop will again function with Armstrong Shamrocks, Kelowna Bruins, Roseland Redmen, and defending Canadian champion Vernon Village Green Tigers.

The rookie commissioner said, "There was some question as to whether Kelowna would have a team. But, the Bruins seemed to have cleared up some of their problems and have a positive approach to the 1979 season."

"Roseland, which was the league's weak link in 1978, has taken steps to ensure it is competitive this year. The Redmen have several new players, have already started practicing, and have pre-season games lined up with coast teams in April."

"I have no doubt that Vernon and Armstrong will still be the strong teams, but I think the other two clubs are getting closer."

The ILA all-star game, between the Tigers and the top players from the league's other three teams, will be played May 4, in Armstrong. "Tigers' third annual invitational tournament is slated for May 19 and 20, at the Civic Arena.

**WERE FAVORED**  
In the other game, Suns were heavily favored to knock-off the three-place Rattlers. However, goals proved to be Silver Star's downfall.

Six Suns committed a total of 22 fouls, including four each by Jack Butala, Brian Craig, and Geoff Green.

Dennis Roberts was the top scorer for Rattlers with 20 points while Bill Pitcher sunk 15. Glen Buentner and Dave Jamieson collected 12 points apiece.

Butala and Craig sunk 16 each for Silver Star while Tom Williamson added 14.

Suns led the entire game, until the dying seconds, when Rattlers sank two consecutive field goals.

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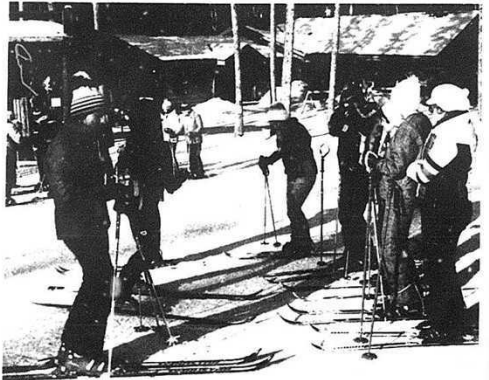
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**Lumby hosts girls' game**  
Lumby and Kamloops will meet next Saturday, in Lumby, to decide the Okanagan's representative to the B.C. girls' hockey championships.

In a game last weekend, Vernon edge Kamloops 2-1 and the teams fought to a 2-2 deadlock. First team to record four points was the series.

In the first game, Sandy Moss and Bernadette Irmann scored for the winners in the 16. Wendy Warren scored for Irmann provided the goals for Lumby.



## SPRING SKIING

Instructors Paul Colvin and Pam Kempton give the girls some tips on Ladies' Day at Tillicum Valley. Despite the warm temperatures, Tillicum Manager Sandy Wood

reports his area has good spring ski conditions. Boyd said providing the rain holds off, his area will be open for another two-to-three weeks. On Silver Star, Manager Woody

Woodman reports excellent spring conditions. It was sunny Monday, but snowing this morning said Woodman. Tentative closing date for the Star is April 27. (Daily News Photo)

# Sinners headed for B.C. finals

At 12 strong Sinners left today, for Gibsons, where they will compete in the British Columbia Senior Girls' A Basketball Championships. Armstrong's first game is Wednesday, at 7 p.m., against Grand Forks. On Thursday, Sinners tangle with Garibaldi, of Haney. Twelve teams are entered in the four-day tournament.

Armstrong Coach Tony

Wolcott told the Daily News his club is one of three to beat.

Wolcott said, "I think Revelstoke, Little Flower Academy (Vancouver), and ourselves are the three strongest teams. With a little luck, we could go all the way." Armstrong was rated as the number one team in the province for most of the season. However, Revelstoke

upset the Sinners 58-48 in the valley finals. "We beat Revelstoke four out of six games this season, and I'm sure we can do it again. In the Okanagan finals, we'll be going into foul trouble area we had rebounded on."

**ON THE BOARDS**  
The girls who control the boards for Sinners are centre Sara Enoch and forward Heidi Schoenberger. Enoch, who stands 5'11", was named to the first all-star team in the valley to date.

The third member of the starting front line is Helen King, described by Wolcott as a super outside shooter.

Armstrong with Cheryl Smith and Suzanne Lemaire. Smith, named to the first all-star team, is a standout defensive player.

Lemaire, selected to the second all-star squad, is more of an offensive threat. The championship game is scheduled Saturday night, at 8 p.m.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

**TWO GAMES**  
Two games are scheduled in White Valley Hockey League action tonight at the Lumby Arena. At 7 p.m., Rene's Barons will meet Coldstream Hotel Sabres. And at 9 p.m., Peersless Pipe Blenders tangle with All-Son Smoke Eaters.

Winner of the Allison-Peersless game gets fourth-place in the league.

**INDOOR SOCCER**  
Three games were played recently in Men's Indoor Soccer League action at the Lumby Arena. Roadrunners blasted Strikers 4-0. Herby's topped Kats fought to a scoreless draw and Barons whipped Wanderers 5-0.

**MEETING SCHEDULED**  
Anyone interested in assisting with a proposed new sewer increase tournament is invited to attend a meeting Wednesday, at 7:30 p.m., in the offices of the Vernon Daily News. The tourney has been tentatively scheduled for May 19 and 20.

**MAY OPERATE**  
KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) - A decision will be made Friday on whether to name one of the injured right thumb of Kansas City Royals' third baseman George Brett as American League baseball team said Monday. Brett was examined Monday by Dr. Bill Honson, a hand specialist, who said calcium deposits from a one chip injury last summer were interfering with ligaments in the thumb.

**ROYALS GET PITCHER**  
PITTSBURGH (AP) - Kansas City Royals obtained right-handed relief pitcher Ed Rodriguez from Milwaukee Brewers on Monday for cash and a minor league player to be named following the 1979 season. Rodriguez, who agreed to a two-year contract, with the Royals, will be 28 on March 6.

**SAILOS TO COMPETE**  
OTTAWA (CP) - The 1979 National Youth Sailing Championships will be held at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club June 22-28. The Canadian Yachting Association said Monday that the event will be for sailors 16 years or under by Dec. 31, 1979, sailing Lasers and 420's of both sail craft.

**OLYMPICS IN CHINA?**  
TOKYO (Reuters) - Chinese Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping said Monday that China might want to hold the 1988 Summer Olympics. Kyodo News Agency said that Teng, in a Peking interview, said China would send a delegation to the Moscow Games next summer "if the problem of Taiwan's status is settled."

**CHANCE FOR BRILES**  
ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) - For the second straight day, New York Mets added a veteran pitcher to their spring training roster Monday, inviting Nelson Briles, 35, to try out for the baseball club. Briles was 4-1 in 16 games with Baltimore last season and was released over the winter. On Sunday, the Mets added Wayne T. Curtis, 30, to their spring roster; he was released by Montreal.

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LOOK BACK FIVE YEARS  
FEBRUARY, 1974  
Vernon senior high school basketball teams travelled to Rutland Tuesday night with the girls coming home with a thrilling 39-33 victory, and the boys losing a see-saw battle by a slim 61-56 difference.  
FEBRUARY, 1974  
The Rick Shymanski rink of Vernon won the Jim Curly Memorial Trophy in the 10th Annual Southern Interior Division B.C. Hydro Curling Bopsiel.

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**SOCIETIES** - You are invited to apply for funding for any worthwhile project that provides an opportunity for young people to learn valuable job skills this summer. Tourism Information Centres that meet the standards established by the Ministry of Tourism and Small Business Development are also invited to apply for funding under this program.

**HOW TO APPLY** - Applications for funding are available from any Provincial Government Agent, Ministry of Labour Office or one of the B.C. Youth Employment Offices listed below.

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<b>INTERIOR REGION</b> Cranbrook: 12A - 13th Avenue South V1C 2V3 Kamloops: 345 - 3rd Avenue V2C 3M5 Kelowna: 1449 St Paul Street V1Y 2E4 Nelson: 501 Front Street V1L 4B8 Penticton: 301 Main Street V2A 5B8 Vernon: 3306 - 32nd Avenue V1T 2M6	426-2283 374-0078 763-9241 352-5378 492-7247 542-1397
<b>LOWER MAINLAND REGION</b> Abbotsford: 291 - 2630 Boulevard West V2S 5N7 All Other Lower Mainland Areas: 4946 Canada Way V5G 4J6	853-7497 291-2901
<b>NORTH REGION</b> Dawson Creek: 214 - 10401 - 10th Street V1G 2H9 Prince George: 1663 Victoria Street V2L 2L4 (Local 224/225) Smithers: 3883 - 2nd Avenue V0J 2N0 Terrace: 4548 Lakelse Avenue V8G 1P8 Williams Lake: 516 - 123 Borden Street V2G 1R1	762-5296 562-8131 847-4229 635-4997 398-8258

From all other areas, call Operator for Zenith 2210 (toll free) and an application form will be mailed to you.

**APPLICATION DEADLINES:**  
BUSINESS/FARMS SOCIETIES  
MARCH 12, 1979 MARCH 2, 1979

NOTE: All applications received by deadline date will be carefully considered for funding.

Province of British Columbia  
Ministry of Labour  
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Ministry of Tourism and Small Business Development