KAMLOOPS ROCKETS' Jay Kozak puts a shot over the shoulder of Vernon goalie Trent Smith during Saturday's BCJHL game at the Civic Arena. Canadians won that game in overtime, but on Sunday, Kozak led the Rockets to an 8-2 victory over Vernon. The best-of-seven series is now deadlocked 2-2. (Daily News Photo)

LOWE OUT FOR SEASON

Playoff series tied 2-2

Vernon 8, Kamloops 7 (OT)
Kamloops 8, Vernon 2

Vernon Canadians suffered a double blow Sunday in their best-of-seven British Columbia Junior Hockey League quarter-final series with Kamloops Rockets — they were bombed 8-2 and lost the services of the league's top scorer for the playoffs.

Vernon edged Kamloops 8-7 Saturday in double overtime but Terry Lowe, who collected 160 points in 59 games this season, suffered a cracked ankle when he was the target of a vicious two-handed slash in the first period.

The series is now tied 2-2 and resumes Tuesday night in Kamloops. Sixth game is back in Vernon on Wednesday.

GUTSY PLAYER

If there was ever any doubt who the Most Valuable and gutsiest player in the BCJHL is, Lowe settled the issue on Saturday. He played the final 68 minutes of the game in tremendous pain, getting an overtime goal and two assists before a post-game x-ray revealed the injury.

Lowe is the latest member of Canadians' growing injury list that may cost the team the series.

Already sidelined are Dean Hascarl (separated shoulder), Lance Vachon (broken wrist), and Rich Creelman (sprained ankle).

In Kamloops Sunday, Rockets got three goals and two assists from Jay Kozak.

The first period ended in a 2-2 tie but 12 minutes into the second, Norm Meyer scored the winner with a shorthanded goal from the Kamloops blue line.

Brothers Clayton and Clint Fehr scored singles for the winners along with Terry Seitz and Al Radke.

Both Vernon goals came from Brian Matthews.

Trent Smith was bombarded with 68 shots while Brian Henderson blocked 29 for Kamloops.

In Vernon Saturday, Tom Ouchi got the winner after only 18 seconds of the second overtime period.

About 1,000 fans were treated to one of the most entertaining games in recent years.

Canadians battled from behind six times and didn't lead until John Mercer put them ahead 7-6 late in the first overtime period.

MERCER HOT

Mercer scored twice for Vernon, giving him six in the first three games of the series. Dave Schneider, Dale Slous, John Neeld, Larry Pearson, and Lowe rounded out the scoring.

Kozak, with two goals, Al Graves, Radke, Dave Kirby, Don Soroke, and Clayton Fehr replied for Kamloops.

The teams were tied 0-0 at the end of the first period, 2-2 at the end of the second, and 5-5 after 60 minutes. Both clubs scored two goals in the first overtime session.

After Mercer put Canadians in front at 6:29 of the 10-minute period, Vernon hit the post twice and Matthews missed an empty net after Rockets had pulled goalie Ian McEachern in favor of an extra attacker. That set the stage for Soroke to tie the game, on an individual effort, at 9:10.

BRAWL ERUPTS

The game was delayed 20 minutes in the third period when a brawl erupted between fans and Kamloops players. The RCMP was called in to restore order.

McEachern finished the night with 53 saves while Smith blocked 38.

In other quarter-final play, Kelowna Buckaroos pounded Merritt Centennials 11-4 Sunday but Merritt leads the series 2-1; Chilliwack Colts beat Bellingham Blazers 5-3 in overtime Sunday for a 1-1 series split; and Nanaimo Clippers cruised to a 10-1 victory over Abbotsford Flyers Saturday for a 2-0 record.

Daily News
SPORTS Page
DON KENDALL—Sports Editor
PHONE 545-0671
6 VERNON DAILY NEWS, MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1979

Sinners capture B.C. hoop title

Armstrong Sinners edged Vancouver's Little Flower Academy 48-44 Saturday night to capture the British Columbia 'A' girls' basketball championship in Gibsons.

Sinners won five consecutive games in the four-day tournament. For Little Flower, it was their fifth second-place finish in the last eight years.

PROUD MANAGER

Armstrong Manager Dick Lonsdale told the Daily News he is very proud of his team's effort.

Lonsdale said, "Even the pressure of the final game, our girls kept their composure. They could have panicked, but they didn't that could have made the difference."

PRESS WORKS

Sinners trailed 16-10 after the first-quarter and 26-20 at half-time. However, they came out with a full-court press in the second half and reeled off six points in 26 seconds. Heidi Schoenberger was the dominating force during the press with three steals and two baskets. By three-quarter time, Armstrong led 38-34.

Sara Enoch, who was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player, led the Sinners with 21 points. Schoenberger, selected to the first all-star team, finished the game with 13 points.

Suzanne Miscisco replied with 14 points for Little Flower.

GUARDS GREAT

Armstrong got great games out of guards Suzanne Lemaire and Karen Saumer. Lemaire, who was overlooked by the all-star committee, was a two-way standout throughout the tourney. And Saumer was a defensive stalwart until she suffered a knee injury with five minutes to play in the final game. Full extent of the injury is not known.

Lonsdale said, "It was a great experience — something I'm sure our girls won't forget for the rest of their lives."

Cougars rally to dump Elks

Vernon Sport Cougars overcame a 3-0 deficit to edge Grindrod Elks 6-4 in North Okanagan Hockey League action Sunday night before more than 300 spectators at the Civic Arena.

NOHL STANDINGS

TEAM	GP	W	L	T	Pts
Grindrod	30	25	4	1	51
Vernon	30	18	11	1	37
Westside	30	17	11	2	36
Rutland	30	15	15	0	30
Winfield	30	9	21	0	18
Revelstoke	30	4	26	0	8

In other weekend games, Elks crushed Rutland Molsons 11-5 and Winfield Raiders trounced Revelstoke Selkirks 13-3.

The victory gave Cougars second-place and the home-ice advantage in the NOHL semi-finals, against Westside Packers.

Elks, due mainly to the heroics of netminder Ed Forslund, held Cougars scoreless until 15:33 of the second period when Gary Gilchrist split the defence and put a slick move on Forslund.

Less than a minute later, Les Salo narrowed the gap to 3-2. And before the period ended, Gilchrist tied the game with his 41st goal of the season.

The big winger finished the night with three goals for Cougars while Mike Correale and Grant Sidnick rounded out the scoring.

NOHL scoring champion Dave Caldow assisted on three goals, giving him 88 points, 11 more than second-place Gilchrist.

Jim Sparrow, Bernie Price, Rick Harris and Bernie Reed countered for Grindrod.

45 STOPS

Forslund, who made some incredible stops finished the night with 45 saves while Charlie Briskham blocked 21 shots for Cougars.

Each team was assessed four minor penalties.

Grindrod will meet Rutland in the other best-of-seven semi-final series. Playoff schedules will be announced Tuesday.

Juvenile Reps advance with overtime victory

By DALE MAJOR
Daily News Sports

Rod Trentini scored three overtime goals to lead the Vernon Coca-Cola Juvenile Reps to a 7-5 victory over Salmon Arm in the deciding game of the best-of-three Okanagan-Mainline semi-finals in Salmon Arm on Saturday night.

Vernon will now face Kamloops in the OMMHA finals.

In the free-wheeling affair, Vernon led 3-2 at the end of the first period, but trailed 4-3 after the second. At the end of regulation time, the clubs were tied 4-4.

TWO EACH

Wayne Straigier and Darcy Anderson scored two goals each for Vernon.

In overtime, Mike Hyrclew gave Salmon Arm a short-lived 5-4 lead before Trentini caught fire.

Steve Kelly, with two goals, Mike Stagler and Brian Fuller rounded out the scoring for Salmon Arm.

In the nets, Darren Zupp made 39 saves for Vernon while Noel Hugo made 42 stops for the losers.

Salmon Arm had opened the series with a brawling 7-3 win in Salmon Arm. Vernon came back to tie the series with a controversial 7-2 win on Friday.

On Friday, the teams were tied 2-2 after 20 minutes. However, in the second period, Salmon Arm started a penalty barrage. Finally, with 3:46 left to play in the middle period, referee Lyle Balfour called the game and awarded it to Vernon. At the time, Coke was leading 7-2.

100 MINUTES

Salmon Arm was assessed 92 of 100 penalty minutes.

Trentini also scored three goals in that game, while Anderson, David Fish, Brad Moore and Glen Hampton added singles. Bob Sophonow added three assists.

Vernon Manager Gary Zupp said, "After two terrible games, Saturday's game was the best one I've ever seen. It was a pleasure to watch."

Zupp said it was a super team effort, but had special praise for Trentini and goalie Darren Zupp, his son.

The manager said, "Rod played super in both games — it is tough to beat six goals in two games. And Darren had his best game of the season Saturday."

Hoopsters battle tonight

Vernon Major Men's Basketball League playoffs wind-up tonight at VSSS.

At 7:45 p.m., Silver Star Suns will take on Cherry Creek Trappers in the consolation final. At 9 p.m., Cosens Bay Rattlers battle Priest Valley Saints for the league title.

Season over for Panthers

Penticton Lakers captured the Okanagan senior boys' basketball championship Saturday with a convincing 88-70 victory over Kelowna Owls, in Penticton.

Lakers now advance to the B.C. championships, to be held March 14-17, in Vancouver.

Owls tangle with KLO Cougars, on Tuesday night, for the valley's second berth in the provincial meet.

KLO eliminated Vernon Panthers with a 67-61 victory on Saturday afternoon. Cougars led 44-26 at half-time and were able to hold off a Vernon rally in the fourth-quarter.

Panthers' Coach Rick Inrig said, "The end of the first and second quarters killed us. In both quarters, KLO finished by outscoring us 10-2.

Kelly Olsen, who was named to the valley's second all-star team, led the Vernon attack with 19 points.

Wilf Haak dropped in 13 points for the Panthers while Greg DeLeenheer scored 12 and Rick Beaton added 10.

Francis Braan and Al Halyk replied with 17 points apiece for the Cougars.

After an opening round loss to Penticton, Vernon bounced back to beat Westsyde Whundas, before losing to KLO.

PRAISES GUARD

Inrig praised the play of guard Glenn Collingridge and the rebounding of his forwards.

He said, "Over the three games, Collingridge was our most consistant player. He did a super job on defence and scored his share of points.

"As for the forwards, their shooting was erratic, but they dominated the boards."

Inrig can look forward to next season with nine of his 13 players returning.

Smoke Eaters beat Barons

Allison Smoke Eaters doubled Rene's Barons 4-2 in White Valley Hockey League playoff action Saturday night at the Lumby Arena.

Eric Hiebert, Jeff Shirley, Brian Sherk, and Rolf Staudhammer scored for the Smokies. Robin Lacroix and Kevin Wiens replied for Barons.

Playoff action resumes tonight when Allison takes on Lotus Gardens, at 9 p.m.

Leaf... with...

By THE CANADIA...

Philadelphia Flye... couple of other ... Hockey League ... snapped out of the ... this weekend.

NHL
Wales Conferen...

	W	L	T
Norris Divisi...			
Montreal	43	12	8
Los Angeles	28	27	9
Pittsburgh	27	26	9
Washington	20	34	10
Detroit	15	34	14
Adams Divisi...			
Boston	36	17	11
Buffalo	25	24	13
Toronto	26	27	11
Minnesota	23	29	11
Campbell Confer...			
Patrick Divisi...			
Islanders	40	12	10
Rangers	34	21	8
Atlanta	35	23	6
Phila	28	20	14
Smythe Divisi...			
Chicago	24	27	12
Vancouver	19	35	10
St. Louis	16	40	8
Colorado	13	44	8

"Good hockey clu... stay in the doldru... long," said Flyers' c... Quinn after Phil... thrashed Buffalo Sa... Sunday night.

"I think we're gain... confidence. It's a ... start toward the play...

Boston Bruins, w... been having trouble ... of late, completed a su... weekend with a 6-4 ... over Detroit Red W... Detroit.

"We're starting to ... puck in the net agai... Boston coach Don ... whose Bruins also b... nesota North Stars ... Saturday.

"We've had four, ... six goals in our la... games. I can see the ... coming back into our...

The same might be ... Toronto Maple Leafs, ... a pair of weekend ... after coach Roger Neil... reinstated to lead ... Neilson was fired Fri... rehired Saturday af... players voted to as... owner Harold Bal... Neilson could have ... back.

"We had a guilty ... when Ballard fired ... said Leafs' captain ... Sittler. "We let him ... most of the season."

But they bounced ... beating Philadelphia ... Saturday and downin... York Rangers 4-2 on ... night.

"It's nice knowing th... is solidly behind you, ... Neilson. It's almost ... knowing more than hav... job itself."

In other NHL game... day, Washington C... edged Minnesota 5-4 ... sburgh Penguins d... Colorado Rockies 7-2 a... Angeles Kings nipped ... couver Canucks 3-2.

Byma... first ...

ORLANDO, Fla. (... The first two time... Byman attempted to g... playing rights on ... American pro golf to ... failed.

"It was," he sai... blessing in disguise."

After the first failu... played the mini-tour... won a couple of tourna...

After the second, he ... Europe. In 1977, he w... Dutch and Scandar... Opens and, later in the ... won the New Zealand ...

"Those were definite... ping-stones," he said ... scoring his first Am... triumph Sunday with a ... the second hole of a s... death playoff against ... Schroeder in the Ba... Citrus tournament.

"I had to have those ... ping stones, that exper... to be able to handl... pressures and the dema... this tournament. I'm no... I could have won withou... experience. Probably ...

"I have an over-ridin... to be one of the best p... out here," said the 23-ye... player. "To be recogni...

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