

## SENIOR BOYS' BASKETBALL

## Panthers win tourney

Vernon Panthers passed their goal in winning the seventh annual Chimo Classic Senior Boys' Basketball Tournament with a 72-65 win over Killarney Cugars, from Vancouver, Saturday night at VSSS.

Before the tournament began, Panthers Coach Jack Yamaoka said he wanted to make it to the final and take it from there.

Panthers made it to the championship game with wins over Armstrong, Sturgeon Creek from Winnipeg and a 71-68 victory over Princeton, in the semifinals.

As usual, Panthers got off to a slow start in the first half against Killarney and there was some question whether Vernon could pull itself out of the hole it had dug.

Panthers were down 22-15 after the first quarter with Killarney controlling the boards and holding Vernon to outside shots.

In the second quarter, forward Dale Olson got things going for Panthers. Olson started a one-man show, hitting the boards at both ends and soon the rest of the Panthers were in the game.

By half-time, Panthers were leading 35-30. At three-quarter time, they had extended their lead to 54-44. Killarney narrowed the gap to 68-65 with three minutes remaining in the game.

Vernon seemed in trouble in the dying minutes, but two quick baskets gave them the cushion they needed.

Olson led Panthers scoring with 18 points while Kevin Korol, whooped 14. Terry Saik had 14 for Cugars while Rob Halli replied with 10.

When Panthers were down by nine points in the third quarter, Yamaoka admits he was worried about his team.

"I don't know what happened in the first half, we didn't seem to be in the game," said Yamaoka. "During half-time some of the guys told me they were a little nervous, but were ready to go in the second half."

Ironically, Panthers and Killarney were to meet in the first game of the tournament. However, a last minute change made Armstrong, Vernon's first opponent. The change was for the better as the two finalists put on quite a show for the more than 1,000 fans.

**TOUGH GAME**  
Panthers also had a tough game against Princeton, the top ranked single A school in the province. Princeton carried only six players for the tournament, of which five played.

Princeton had a very good team, they stayed out of foul trouble and made things tough to go in the second half. Olson led Panthers in scoring with 26 points while Korol had 20.

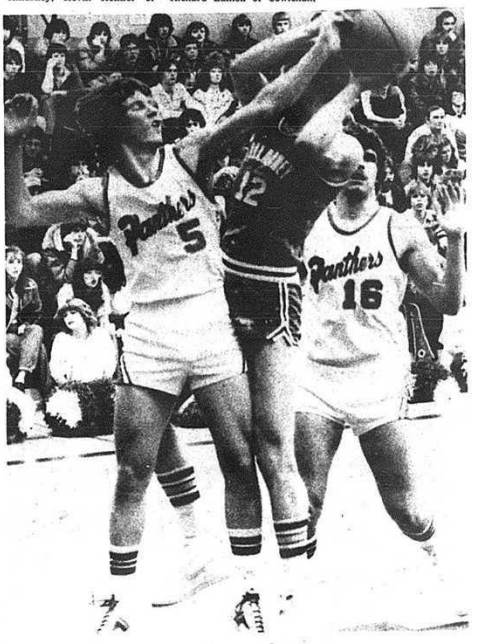
Princeton won the consolation final defeating St. Joseph's 57-78. Ed Anderson had 39 points while Ken Legge replied with 18 for Princeton. Mike Kornak hooped 38 for St. Joseph's.

**NAMED MVP**  
Anderson was named most valuable player of the tournament while Halli was named most inspirational player. Mark Luke of Princeton was named best defensive player and Olson was named best offensive player, with 34 points, in the four

games. Don Calligan of Vincent Massey, Jack Bryson of Kamloops, Steve McKean of Killarney, Kevin Reimer of

Salmon Arm and Korol were named to the second all-star team. Mark Johanson of Westwood, Richard Lamon of Cowichan,

Santo Saportis of St. Joseph's, Fred Poordad of Crescent Heights and Mike Kornak of St. Joseph's were named to the first team.



**VERNON PANTHERS'** guard Dave Chondon goes up to block a shot by Tony Falcone, of Killarney, during

the championship game of the Chimo Classic Basketball Tournament. Panthers defeated Killarney 72-65

Saturday night before a capacity crowd, at VSSS. (Daily News Photo)

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