Blades Face Tough Opener With Bisons

Fast hardchecking hockey is on tap for the Vernon Civic Arena Friday night when the Vernon Blades play host to Calgary Buffaloes.

"We don't know much about the Calgary club except that they are rated as one of the top Junior "A" hockey teams in the country, head coach of the Blades Hap Schaffer said.

"Our boys have been looking red hot in workouts this week and should be able to go full tilt for the whole 60 minutes." We are counting on a fast hardchecking contest."

As for the result, Schaffer said he couldn't hazzard a guess as to what the final score would be. "We'll give it all we've got," he stated.

"We've got power on defence in the person of a blue line squad that has weight and knows how to use it," the coach said.

He listed three defensive units and four offensive lines for the Friday game. Some of the lines are not yet stabilized he revealed.

High scoring newcomer Paddy Phillips will center veteran Vernon players, Marvin Mayer and Dale Sorochuk. The smooth Phillips was a star last year with the Williams Lake entry into the Northern Intermediate League. He is expected to add scoring punch to the Blades attack.

A second Vernon line centered by Bob Stein is also expected to produce a basket of goals for the Vernon team this year. Stein annually finishes well up in the Okanagan League scoring race. With improving Vern Colley and Chuck Riley from last year's B.C. Champion Juvenile team in his line, Stein is looking for a big year.

Both Colley and Riley are skating well and tough forecheckers according to scouting reports.

A third line will se Kas Inouye at centre with Bob Conn and "King" Cam on the wings. The fourth offensive unit has yet to be made up, coach Schaffer reported.

On defence, Blades will start Henrik Nyland of Salmon Arm who played with the Salmon Arm Aces in the North Okanagan League last year and Gordie Clark. Clark is just back from Lethbridge where only trouble in arranging school timetables kept him off the roster of the Lethbridge Native Sons, a highly rated Junior "A" club.

Lee Phillips, brother to the starry center Paddy Phillips will join with Rick Smith in a second defensive pair.

Maurice Wernicke will see defensive action with the club and will probably get a turn or two on offence, Schaffer said.

Last year's goaltender, Norm Shiman will start in the nets for Vernon but coach Schaffer announced that Brian Woodward, last year's alternate tender, will see action for half the game.

Blades are hoping a large turnout will take advantage of the chance to see one of Canada's top Junior Hockey teams in action.

With most of the side seats in the Civic Arena now heated, nobody need stay away because of the cold.

A good crowd would show the boys that the Vernon people are behind them right from the start of the season, club officials said.

"It's a good chance to come out and yell," Schaffer said. "The action will be fast and furious and not all one-sided."

Junior 'A' Hockey Schedule Released

Vernon Blades will have predominately Saturday evening games in the Vernon Civic Arena according to the new schedule for the 1965-66 season released by the Okanagan Mainline Junior "A" Hockey League this week.

Blades will have eight of 17 home games slated for Saturdays.

The Vernon squad will play four games on Fridays and one on a Thursday. Three games on Sunday afternoons and one on a Monday holiday will round out their home season.

The home teams are mentioned last.

October
15—Kam. vs Penticton
16—Penticton vs Vernon
Kelowna vs Kamloops
22—Vernon vs Penticton
Kamloops vs Kelowna
23—Kelowna vs Vernon
Pen. vs Kamloops
29—Kelowna vs Penticton
30—Vernon vs Kamloops
Penticton vs Kelowna
31—Kamloops vs Vernon
2:00 p.m.

November
5—Vernon vs Kelowna
Kamloops vs Pen.
6—Kelowna vs Kamloops
11—Pen. vs Ver. 2 p.m.
Kam. vs Kel. 2 p.m.
12—Vernon vs Penticton
13—Pen. vs Kamloops
14—Kel. vs Ver. 2 p.m.
19—Kamloops vs Vernon
Penticton vs Kelowna
20—Vernon vs Kamloops
Kelowna vs Penticton
26—Vernon vs Kelowna
Kamloops vs Pen.
27—Penticton vs Vernon
Kelowna vs Kamloops

December
3—Vernon vs Penticton
Kamloops vs Kelowna
4—Kelowna vs Vernon
10—Kelowna vs Penticton
11—Vernon vs Kamloops
Penticton vs Kelowna
12—Kam. vs Ver. 2 p.m.
17—Vernon vs Kelowna
Kamloops vs Pen.
18—Vernon vs Kamloops
26—Ver. vs Pen. 2 p.m.
Kam. vs Kel. 2 p.m.
27—Kel. vs Ver. 2 p.m.
Pen. vs Kam. 2 p.m.

January
1—Pen. vs Ver. 2 p.m.
Kel. vs Kam. 2 p.m.
2—Pen. vs Kel. 2 p.m.
5—Pen. vs Kamloops
7—Vernon vs Kelowna
Kamloops vs Pen.
8—Penticton vs Vernon
Kelowna vs Kamloops
14—Vernon vs Penticton
Kamloops vs Kelowna
15—Kelowna vs Vernon
Pen. vs Kamloops
21—Kamloops vs Vernon
Kelowna vs Penticton
22—Vernon vs Kamloops
Penticton vs Kelowna
28—Vernon vs Kelowna
29—Kamloops vs Vernon

Midget Boys Hockey Loop Organizes

All midget hockey players in Vernon are asked to be at the Civic Arena at nine o'clock Thursday evening to organize the house league in that division.

All boys should turn out, whether registered or not. Those not signed up as yet will have the opportunity to do so at the meeting.

At least two teams and possibly three will be made up in the midget division this year, the Vernon Minor Hockey Association announced on the weekend. If enough registrations come in to fill out the third team a four team league will be organized.

The fourth team would be the Bantam All-Stars, who will contest the midget league following a new practice instituted by the VMHA this year in an effort to up the calibre of the rep teams in each divisions.

It is important that all boys turn out who wish to play as teams will be made up at this time.

Saturday Flag Grid