

Royals go two games up

PENTICTON—New Westminster Royals took a two-game lead in their best of seven 1966-67 provincial finals at the weekend by dumping host Penticton Broncos 6-5 and 3-2.

Instrumental in both games for the Royals was George Watson, the 19-year-old graduate of the Vernon Minor Hockey system, who scored a goal Saturday evening and assisted on four others.

The bigger and harder skating team fell back in both games. They trailed 1-0 after the first period Saturday and were behind by the same margin going into the third period.

Larry Palanio shoved in Broncos goal in the first period and the Pentictons stuck with the Royals, B.C. champions for the last three years, until Ray Allegretto, Wayne Goss and Ray Wallis scored in the third session. Wayne Schaab authored Broncos other marker.

"That's the one we need-

ed," the eager Royals cried as they filed back to their dressing room Saturday night. They weren't the poised B.C. champs of last year. Either that or they were travel weary from the trip from the Royal City Saturday. Because it took them two periods before they finally found their skating legs.

Penticton served up 1-0 and 2-1 first and second period leads, and until George Watson's goal at 4:56 of the finale, appeared to have the visitors on the run.

Broncos outshot New Westminster 49-36 on the evening as penalty killers Watson and Barry Leswick were kept busy as Royals weathered nine sentences to the sin bin to Penticton's five.

Bob Mowat fired two goals for Broncos while singles came from Wayne Schaab, Gene Peacosh and Ray Picco. Ron Pepper got two for Royals, and other single counters were stuck by

Ray Allegretto, Wayne Goss, Jim Honeysett and Watson.

Penticton appeared just one step ahead of Royals as they swung into the final two minutes clinging to a one goal lead. But at 18:01 of the session a Bronco winger missed a back checking assignment and Allegretto scooted in front of the net to bang home a perfect pass from Pepper.

Mowat's second goal could have been the winner. Working with Schaab and Peacosh he jockeyed himself to the front of the Royal City net at 18:41 to strike paydirt.

New Westminster then turned to a six man attack and it payed off with Goss crowding the Penticton crease to shove the puck under goaler Doug Thompson. It wasn't hard to tell that the jig was up for Penticton.

After only 37 seconds of

the 10 minute overtime period Watson set-up Honeysett for a 40-foot slap shot that ended it all.

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