

BCJHL

fines

Merritt

KELOWNA, B.C. (CP) — Arnold Lowden, B.C. Junior Hockey League president, Tuesday fined Merritt Centennials \$200 for an incident during a Merritt-Kelowna playoff game in Kelowna Friday night.

The game was officially halted with three minutes remaining when Merritt trainer Jim Agar went into the crowd joined by several Merritt players. A series of fights broke out before order was restored by the RCMP.

Lowden said he is not going to suspend any of the Merritt players because he feels the Centennial roster has been depleted enough following the ousting of two players by the B.C. Amateur Hockey Association.

Bucks take

series lead

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

When you're hot, you're hot, but Kelowna Couriers were so warm Tuesday night, they were crisping at the edges.

They whipped Merritt Centennials 7-4 in their British Columbia Junior Hockey League quarter-final series, but also won another battle off the ice that resulted in the Buckaroos taking a 3-2 lead in the best-of-seven series.

The Buckaroos were awarded Friday's game in Kelowna, called with less than four minutes remaining with Kelowna ahead 9-2 when several fights broke out in the stands.

League president Arnold Lowden gave Kelowna that game and assessed the Centennials a \$200 fine for their actions.

In the other BCJHL game, Nanaimo Clippers narrowed Langley Lords' lead in that quarter-final to 3-2 with a 4-2 victory largely forged by goalie Dan Rogers.

Rogers faced 44 shots in that game in Langley, 35 in the first two periods, but allowed only goals by Ryan Walters and Glen Krestanovich.

Meanwhile, the Clippers managed a total of 15 shots on Mark Earp, in goal for Langley, but made the most of their opportunities. Brian Day got two goals, including one into an empty net, with Jeff Frketch and Howard Beamish getting the others.

In Kelowna, Mark Lofthouse and Curt Fraser scored two goals each to lead the Buckaroos past the Centennials, with Les Strachan, Duane Monteith and Murray Hanson adding single goals.

Gary Criss, Paul Mulvey, Darrell Zelinski and Don Festerling scored for the Centennials.

Both series resume tonight.