

Vikings one-for-three on coast road swing

Vernon Vikings won one and lost two over the weekend as the 1975-76 B.C. Junior Hockey League season opened.

After losing to Langley Lords 5-4 Friday, Vikings bounced back to beat Chilliwack Bruins 7-4 on Saturday, but lost 5-4 to Maple Ridge Blazers Sunday.

Saturday in Chilliwack, ex-Bruin Gary Huth came back to haunt his ex-teammates.

Huth, who was the Chilliwack captain last season, scored two goals to lead the Vikings' attack while Darrell Billsten, Brent Bucyk, Terry Anaka, Peter Poeschek, and Drew Stroud added singles.

Chilliwack marksmen were Jim Chesser, Randy Takamaka, Rich Fournier, and Kevin Krieger.

BIG LEAD

Vikings led 5-1 after the first period and 7-2 after the second. They outshot the Bruins 42-36.

On Sunday, the teams were tied 1-1 after the first period but Blazers led 3-2 after the second.

The effect of three games on the road, in three days, showed on the Vikings as their skating lacked zip.

Roy Wheaton scored two power play goals for Maple Ridge with singles from Louie Clarke, John Paul Kelly, and Rob Anderson.

Huth, Jack Lefley, Calvin Halasz, and Rick Simpson scored for the Vikings, who were outshot 45-39.

For Huth, the goal gave him four in three games.

In other weekend BCJHL

action, Nanaimo Clippers lost two, 6-3 to Merritt Centennials on Saturday, and 8-7 to Kelowna Buckaroos Sunday. On the coast, Langley and Maple Ridge battled to a 3-3 tie Saturday.

Perry Schnarr's goal, for

Kelowna, at 33 seconds of sudden-death overtime, was the kiss of death for the Clippers.

Vikings travel to Merritt on Thursday before playing their home opener next Saturday against Langley.

Lapointe scores three as Habs thump Chicago

By THE CANADIAN PRESS
Coach Scotty Bowman of Montreal Canadiens promised this season he would impress upon his club the need for a tighter defence in an attempt to cut down on their goals against.

Bowman noted that his Canadiens didn't need to be reminded how to score goals and Sunday night, they proved it in a 5-1 exhibition victory over Chicago Black Hawks with defenceman Guy Lapointe scoring three of the goals from long range.

It was Montreal's third win in seven National Hockey League pre-season games in which they have managed to outscore the opposition by a 29-23 margin.

In other NHL exhibitions Sunday, Pittsburgh Penguins defeated Buffalo Sabres 4-3

exhibition saw Cincinnati beat Quebec Nordiques 3-1.

At Chicago, the Black Hawks took a 1-0 lead on Stan Mikita's first-period goal but the Canadiens quickly recovered with a goal by Bob Gainey.

In the third period, Lapointe got all his three goals on powerplay shots from beyond 50 feet and Pete Mahovlich chipped in with a goal from short range.

Buffalo took a 2-0 first-period lead on goals by Danny Gare and Gil Perreault but

Pittsburgh got second-period goals from Harvey Bennett, Vic Hadfield, Pierre Larouche and Jean Pronovost. Perreault added his second goal on a third-period power play.

Vancouver extending its preseason record to 3-1 with the win over California, got goals from Andre Boudrias, Greg Boddy and defenceman John Grisdale.

Bill Lochead's power-play goal late in the third period gave Detroit its win over Atlanta.

Sports