

The

SPORTS

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Vikings host Bruins tonight

A whole new season gets under way tonight for Vernon Vikings.

Vernon opens its B.C. Junior Hockey League playoff season tonight at 8 p.m. against Chilliwack Bruins. From now on, all the records first-place Vikings set this season, don't mean a thing.

In six meetings with Chilliwack, Vernon captured all 12 points.

However, Vikings' Coach Joe Tennant is not taking the last-place Bruins lightly. Vernon has been going through gruelling workouts all week in preparation for the series.

Tennant said, "One little letdown in playoffs, and you're out of the game."

Meanwhile, Merritt Centennials kicked off their quarter-final series in fine fashion Thursday by ham-

mering Langley Lords 7-2 in Merritt.

Anthony Thomas and Pat Dupuis scored two goals each for the Cents while Paul Chadwick, Darrell Zelinski, and Kirk Aulin added singles.

Mark Taylor scored both Langley goals.

Centennials led 1-0 after the first period and 4-1 after the second.

Brad Earp was brilliant in the Merritt net with 34 saves while Al Weibe and Dale Neilson combined to block 31 shots for Lords.

Langley took six of 11 minor penalties and the teams split four majors. Cents' Greg Agar was handed a game misconduct.

The series resumes Sunday in Langley. Kelowna Buckaroos host Penticton Vees tonight in the first game of their series while Maple Ridge travels to Nanaimo to take on the Clippers.