

Merritt ties semi-final

MERRITT, B.C. (CP) — Merritt Centennials downed Nanaimo Clippers 5-3 Friday before 1,100 fans to tie up their eight-point British Columbia Junior Hockey League semi-final series 6-6.

Merritt led 2-0 at the end of the first period and 3-1 at the end of the second.

Kirk Aulin, Paul Chadwick, Greg Agar, Bob Wasson and Anthony Thomas scored for the Centennials while Terry Graff, Kim Hilkewich and George Fritz replied for the Clippers.

Nanaimo goalie Steve Amiss stopped 54 shots while Merritt's Randy Struch turned aside 50. Merritt took eight of 10 minor penalties.

The teams meet Sunday night in Victoria.