

THIRD EXHIBITION LOSS

Green Lakers bow to Bucks



An attitude problem and inexperience on the blue line led to the 5-2 Vernon Lakers defeat at the hands of the Kelowna Buckaroos in B.C. junior hockey exhibition action, Friday night in Kelowna.

"We've got some damn good hockey players," Lakers assistant coach Ken Brown-John said. "But right now what we've got is 20 guys who are quitting after the second period."

The Lakers were able to keep up with the Bucks in the early going and the first period ended in a scoreless tie. Vernon got two goals in the second from Kevin Balfour and Dave Fish but Kelowna

answered with markers by Gary Leask, Mike Corrae and Mike Rousseau to carry a 3-2 edge into the final frame. Leask beat Vernon netminder, Rex Blunk, two more times in third period to sew it up for Kelowna.

"They've got seven veterans back this year and it shows."

Brown-John said Kelowna's experience gave them a definite edge.

"The Lakers also have heard from former Merritt Centennial, Earl Smith, who recently arrived in Vernon and wants to play. Smith was an all-star 40 goal scorer with Merritt last season.

Brown-John said Smith will be joining the team shortly but won't be dressed for tonight's match against Kelowna.

Action starts at 7:30 p.m. at the Civic Arena.

mistakes of the inexperienced blue line squad.

Meanwhile, the Lakers coaching staff is getting ready to make the final cuts. Two forwards, a defenseman and a goalie will go.

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YANKIFFS MAKE MOVES EASTON (AP) - New York Yankees moved to bolster their roster in their drive for the American League East baseball championship Friday, recalling right-hander Mike Griffin from Columbus of the International League. The Yankees also announced the purchase of first baseman Marshall Brant and the recall of catcher Bruce Robinson and left-handed pitcher Tim Lollar, all with Columbus.

DEATH TOLL DID IT The Liberty Bell cracked on July 3, 1888, while tolling the death of Chief Justice John Marshall.

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Top four teams only play in NOHL finals

League playoffs in the North Okanagan Hockey League this year will involve the top four teams.

At a recent meeting of the league's directors, it was decided that semi-finals will be a best of five series, and the finals will be best of seven.

The first team to play the fourth and the second and third team will battle in the other semi-final round.

Accurate goaltending statistics will be kept this year in the league. League statistics will also be compiled and sent out on a weekly basis.

Before regular season play begins this year, each team must have at least 12 players carded and all players must be carded by Jan. 10, 1981.

Players not carded by this date will not be eligible to play.

Only players who have played 10 league games or more are eligible to be in playoffs.

Also, any team vying for the Coy Cup Intermediate championship of British Columbia has to declare their intention by Dec. 1.

Daily News SPORTS PAGE DON KENDALL - Sports Editor Phone 542-0671

The Provincial now has Doubled THE NUMBER OF PRIZES WE DRAW

Vernon Mixed Curling Club OPEN REGISTRATION Wednesday, September 17th 7 p.m. at the Curling Club EVERYONE WELCOME

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MINOR HOCKEY REGISTRATION Wednesday, September 17 - 7-9 p.m. at Recreation Centre

Eye'll buy it Zimmerman shows some of the eye wear designed for the game. Eye protection for both racquetball and squash is recommended in both Vernon racquet centers

Eye protection recommended here

Local racquet sports centres concur with Canadian eye surgeons that eye protection should be worn on the courts. Following a number of eye injuries across the country from racquetball and squash, a special committee has been formed under the Canadian Standards Association to study and seek approved standards for protective eye shields.

Gregg Caulfield, of the Village Racquet Centre, says there is a movement in Canada towards wearing eye protection.

"In tournaments now, it is pretty well mandatory that eye wear be worn. We strongly advise the use of eye protection."

Caulfield said that with rentals, eye protection is always handed out.

"I think that proper eye protection is an important part of this game," he said.

Standardization of quality is a good idea, says Caulfield.

"The same eye wear is better than others," he said. "When a ball travelling at more than 100 miles per hour hits you, some definitely offer better protection."

The Vernon Racquet Club also suggest that its players use protection, although it is not mandatory. Signs are posted within the facility to tell players of the need to wear it.

Eye surgeons have just started keeping score, but they already report at least 20 squash and racquetball players who were socked in the eyes by smacking balls even though they were wearing eye guards.

And racquet sport balls, smaller than tennis balls, whirl at speeds of up to 240 kilometres an hour in a fast game, the Canadian Racquetball Association says.

The 20 players mentioned were wearing an open type of eye guard that looks like a light fitting pair of glasses without lenses, says Easterbrook.

"Until an approved eye guard standard is agreed upon, some type of thick industrial plastic lens, about 3 millimetres thick, should be worn by racquet players."

HEALTH IN SIKIRSKY He says racquet sports are low-dangerous than hockey which has resulted in eye surgery for hundreds of adults and children.

In an 18-month study of

squash and racquetball accidents starting in mid-1978, eye surgeons encountered 67 eye injuries, most of them serious. Seven players were left with serious loss of vision. The most common injury is hyphema - hemorrhaging in the back of the eye.

Even more tragic, says Easterbrook, is that heavy bleeding may recur and the injury significantly increases the risk of early glaucoma, an eye disease commonly seen in older persons that results in partial or complete loss of vision.

"All of these injuries are preventable, and these are not just little injuries. We've had several cases of blindness and a lot of players are young."

In squash and racquetball, the latest fitness rage of the middle-classes, game experience is no guarantee against injury, Easterbrook says.

SPORTS BRIEFS

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) - George Brett had his sore right hand re-examined in Los Angeles on Thursday but his availability continues to be on a day-to-day basis in his quest to hit 400 this season.

California Angels team physician Dr. Lewis Yocum x-rayed Brett's right hand, which was injured while he was batting Saturday in Cleveland. His average dropped to .396 that day and since then he has missed five games.

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (AP) - John Harrington and Eric Johnson, former members of the United States Olympic hockey team, have decided to end their brief careers with the American Hockey League Rochester Americans, the National Hockey League Buffalo Sabres' farm club.

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