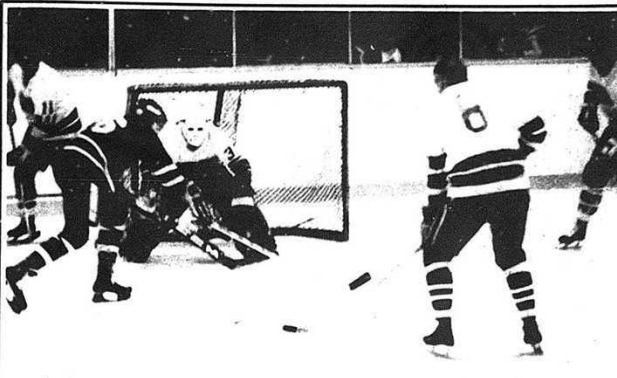


Former Canucks show their stuff



VERNON FORWARD Bob Hawkins, left, reaches for a loose puck in front of Van-

couver Canucks' netminder Cesare Maniago during oldtimers' hockey action

Saturday, at the Civic Arena, Maniago was a standout as Canucks blasted their hosts

93 Coming to the aid of his netminder is Milan Marcetia (8). (Daily News Photo)

By DON KENDALL
Daily News Sports Editor

Last year, Bobby Schmautz was thrilling 16,000 fans at the Pacific Coliseum, with his booming slap shot.

Just six seasons ago, Cesare Maniago was the most valuable player on Vancouver Canucks; Orland Kurtenbach was the first player acquired by Canucks when they joined the National Hockey League in 1970; and John Grisdale was

tormented by Canucks in 1974, from Toronto Maple Leafs, to give Vancouver an experienced, hard-hitting defenseman.

On Saturday, that foursome helped Canucks' Oldtimers entertain about 1,800 fans, at the Civic Arena, and defeat Vernon Canadians 9-3.

The score was secondary to the show of skills demonstrated by Vancouver. Schmautz, who said he would like to still be playing in the NHL, had only one assist, but could have netted three or four goals if he hadn't sacrificed his scoring opportunities for razzle dazzle and showmanship.

SCORED THREE
Grisdale, never known as an offensive threat during his pro career, scored three times and was given a Molson

Award, as Canucks' star of the game. Many fans forgot Kurtenbach was not only one of the toughest men in NHL history, but also a good hockey player.

The former Canuck captain and coach scored one goal and added four assists. His goal, late in the third period, was the most spectacular of the night. He stickhandled past three Vernon defenders and beat Canadian's netminder Don Bock-Phillips with a backhand.

GREAT STOPS
Maniago made several spectacular saves, particularly in the first period, when the score was tied 1-1. The rangy netminder stopped Tom Serviss, Bob Hawkins, and Ted McDermid from point-blank range.

Canadians' Coach Chris Nelson said he knew Canucks would be good, but was surprised how good they were. "They've got quite a club," Nelson said. "Guys like John Gould, Kurtenbach, and Grisdale were outstanding. And for Maniago... he made some fantastic stops."

For the record, Milan Marcetia tallied three goals for Canucks while Jack Michie, Garth Rizzuto, and Gould rounded out the scoring.

PLAYED HERE
Mickey McDowell, who played minor hockey in Vernon, collected an assist for Vancouver. McDowell played junior with Regina Pats, spent four seasons with UBC Thunderbirds, and was a member of Canada's 1960 Olympic team.

Don Jakes, Walt Trentini, and ex-Canuck Ron Hutchinson repaid for the Canucks. Hutchinson played seven seasons with Vancouver, of the Western Hockey League, in the 1960s.

Jakes received a Molson Award as Vernon's top player. Canucks led 4-1 at the end of the first period and 7-2 after 40 minutes.

Bock-Phillips shared the netminding duties with Vern Blaney. "They're not," Vancouver threw in a few extra-curricular activities to entertain the crowd. Rizzuto, dressed as Superman, was thwarted by Bock-Phillips on a penalty shot. Later, during a break in play when Maniago was shaking up Schmautz unleashed one of his slap shots from near centre ice, eluding the Vernon netminder.

Nelson said, "if (Canucks) came to entertain the people, and I think everyone went home happy."

sports

Editor—DON KENDALL

SPORTS BRIEFS

Cougars win snopitch event

Cougars defeated Molson Maniacs 7-0 and 6-1, Sunday, to capture the Winter Carnival Mixed Snopitch Tournament, at Kin Race Track Park. Eight teams competed in the two-day event. In the consolation final, Armstrong's Saxon Inn defeated Kai Tire 9-5. Saxon Inn was also named most sportsmanlike team. Vernon Motor Products was the best dressed club. Other teams were Muntz Old Stylers, Vernon Lodge Dinos, and Dan Chambers Big Wheelers.

Places third

Phil Wallenstén, of Salmon Arm, placed third in the annual 50 kilometre Cariboo Cross-country Ski Marathon, Saturday, near 100 Mile House. Gary Hartling, of Banff, crossed the finish line first, in two hours and 24 minutes, eclipsing the previous best time of 2:32 set in 1980. Hartling finished seven minutes ahead of Vancouver's Rene Murrmann, a former member of the Swiss national team. A record total of more than 1,300 skiers participated in the event.

Three games

Three games are scheduled tonight in the Carling O'Keefe Men's Basketball League. At Priest Valley Gymnasium, Armstrong meets National Express. At 7:15 p.m., and Sun Valley Athletics take on Express. Construction, at 8:30 p.m. Whitehouse Drywall plays Trophy Gallery, at 7:15 p.m., in the VSSS gymnasium.

Jopo bonspiel

The annual Jopo Bonspiel gets under way Tuesday, at 12 noon, in the Vernon Curling Club. Sixteen teams are entered in the three-day event. The rivals are skipped by Queen Silver Star candidates and Queen's committee members.

Hann wins

WHISTLER, B.C. (CP) — Kevin Hann of Banff, Alta., maintained first spot on the Pacific Western Airlines 10-event pro ski tour Sunday after finishing top of a list of 65 skiers in a two-day slalom event at Blackcomb Mountain.

In the head-to-head dual format, the skiers go through 31 gates on side-by-side 40-metre courses.

Race Track Park. Team members are from left, back row: Betty Doyle, Pam Jewell, Barb Steiner,

Panthers lose three straight

Steveston Packers took a 15-0 lead and went on to trounce Vernon Panthers 67-52, Saturday, at the Western Canada Invitational High School Basketball Tournament, in Kelowna.

Panthers finished the tourney with an 0-3 record. Vernon Coach Jack Yamaoka was upset with his team's performance.

"Our boys weren't ready to play (against Steveston)," Yamaoka said. "They didn't take the game seriously. We came out flat and next thing you know, we're down 15-0."

LEO PACKERS

Centre Rob Busse, who was named to the tourney's first all-star team, led the Packers with 21 points.

Kevin Cucheron and Dale Olson replied with 14 points each for Panthers. Olson finished the tourney with 77 points, in three games, and was given honorable mention to the all-star squad.

Cucheron came off the bench to do a good job at forward for Vernon.

"Other than Cucheron, Dave Aberker, and Lane Kamke, who hustled, our guys just weren't in the game," Yamaoka said.

Panthers were ranked seventh in the province last week. In Saturday's championship game, eighth-ranked Kelowna Owls edged second-ranked Gladstone Gladiators, of Vancouver, 66-67. Panthers have defeated Owls twice, in three outings this season.

Yamaoka said, "Maybe our poor performance in Kelowna will sharpen up our club. I'm sure here so. We're not working hard enough on defence and we're giving the ball away too much."

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HOT LAKERS
Panthers put their 5-0 league record on the line Tuesday, at 7 p.m., when they host Penitence Lakers.

Vernon leaves Wednesday for Abbotsford where it will compete in an eight-team tournament. Panthers' first game will be Thursday, against North Surrey Spartans.

"If we can show some character and bounce back this week, we'll be alright," the Vernon coach said. "I'm not... the Ver-

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VERNON LAKERS' goaltender Dale Woods makes a pad save, but gives the rebound up with two

players from Penitence Knights during BCHL action Sunday at the Civic Arena. Lakers' defenceman

Darcy Lepine managed to clear the puck from harm's way during Lakers' 5-3 loss to Knights. Vernon now leads

Merritt by only one point in the battle for the final playoff berth. (Daily News Photo)

Merritt moves closer to fourth-place Lakers

By GORD SMILEY
Daily News Sports Editor

Vernon Lakers' loss coupled with Merritt Centennials' win over the westerners has moved Merritt to within one point of Lakers in the battle for the fourth and final playoff spot in the Interior Division of the B.C. Junior Hockey League.

Lakers took a 3-2 loss to Kelowna Buckaroos 4-1, Sunday. Merritt and Vernon will have an opportunity to meet Thursday when they meet, Thursday night, for the first of three games remaining between the two clubs.

On Saturday, Vernon dropped another notch, this time to Revelstoke Rockets, 7-3 in Revelstoke.

MISSING SIX
Against Penitence, Lakers were short six players, but the ones who did play managed to keep the score respectable.

Missing from Lakers' lineup were: defencemen Rick Woods, Dale Reimer and Regan Desrochers; forwards Ron Ford, Jeff Armitage, and Dean Hascari, who were sidelined due to injuries or personal reasons.

Lakers stayed with Knights for the entire game trailing 3-0 after the first and 4-1 after the second. In the third Dennis O'Hell scored the second of two goals and Rob Kossan added another to narrow the score to 4-3.

Kossan had an opportunity to tie the game when he slid the puck just by the net. However, Ken Karpuk put the fire out when he scored with 2:54 remaining in the game to ensure Penitence of the win.

Lakers' Coach Gord MacBeth said his team played well enough to win the game, despite the loss.

PLAYED WELL

The kids played well, they really didn't make some injuries and some kids were sick, but the guys that were out there never quit, not once," he said. "Even with six kids left we were still diving at the puck."

Leading to Penitence by only two goals may be some sort of

consolation especially since the last time Penitence was in town they whipped Lakers 10-2. However, a two-goal spread or not, Lakers lost their 14th game in a row.

Ray Ferraro, Brad Beck, Kevin Trach and Bob Shaw also scored for Knights who had 39 shots on Lakers' goaltender Dale Woods. Lakers fired 33 shots on Norm Foster.

In Revelstoke, Lakers failed to capitalize on numerous power play opportunities in failing to break through the Rockets. Revelstoke was penalized 21 times to four for Vernon.

Barry Lacasse led Revelstoke to a 7-3 victory.

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attack with three goals while Darren Cota, Doug Knowler, Mike Stalton and Mike Lapointe added singles. Richie Oidorn scored twice and Desrochers once for Lakers.

Lakers trailed 4-0 and 5-3 and just couldn't manage a comeback.

TRAILED EARLY
"We had our problems in Revelstoke, we were down 4-0 before we knew what happened," said MacBeth. "It just wasn't our night, we had two breakaways that were whistled down."

Against Penitence, MacBeth said he gives his players full marks for their performance.

"I'm completely positive about tonight's (Sunday) game, the kids worked hard. We did make a few mistakes but these things happen."

It was unlikely right from the start that Lakers would beat Penitence, which has suffered only four losses all year. However, it is likely that Lakers can beat Merritt.

"They're (Merritt) playing in spirals right now, but we've never had too much problem with them in Merritt," said MacBeth. "It boils down to us and them, we have to win two out of three against them."

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COUGARS captured top honors in the Winter Carnival Snopitch Tournament over the weekend at Kin

Race Track Park. Team members are from left, back row: Betty Doyle, Pam Jewell, Barb Steiner,

Stephanie Sorok and Sue Corak. Front row: Bruce Green, Dave Calder, Les Salo, Rod Kashaba, Murray

Betty, John Box, and Dave Thorlakson. The tourney was organized by Gord Fletcher. (Jerry Walliser Photo)

LOOK BACK FIVE YEARS

FEBRUARY, 1977
Seattle rallied in the third period to edge Vernon 5-4 during opening round play in the annual Winter Carnival Ice Hockey tournament. More than 1,200 fans Friday night at the Civic Arena.

David Gladstein and his father, Sanford, placed one-two in the Winter Carnival

BOARD SAILING
Board Sailing event, Sunday, on Okanagan Lake. Martin Impey, Danny Malone, and

Dirk Sigalek also participated in the competition, sponsored by Polson Place Sports. (Daily News Photo)