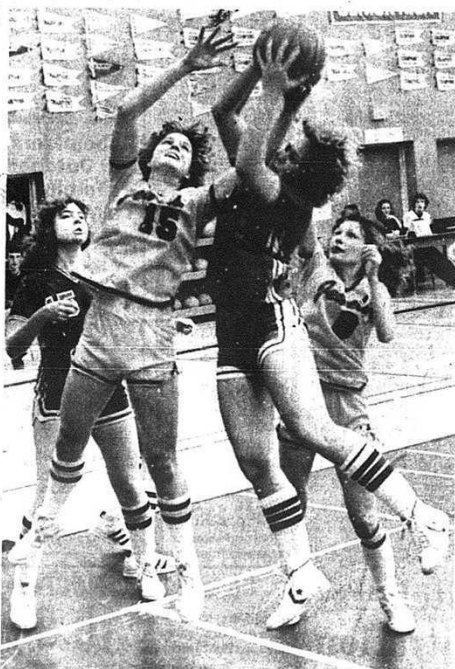


Bucks trounce Lakers



VERNON ROYALS' forward Lynn Zwyrach, right, does her job inside as she's successful in coming down with

the rebound in a 62-58 win over Salmon Arm Jewels in senior girls' basketball play Saturday night, at VSS.

Royals finished in second spot in the league with the win over Salmon Arm.

(Daily News Photo)

Royals place second in senior girls' loop

Vernon Royals won a 62-58 decision over Salmon Arm Jewels, Saturday night in Vernon, to finish in second-place in the Okanagan-Mainline Senior Girls' Basketball League.

Royals finished the year with an 82 record, their only two losses coming at the hands of first place and undefeated Penikese Lakes.

Royals have defeated Jewels twice this season, both by four-point margins. However, in the opening game of the best-of-five semi-final series, 31, Gerry Thoyson scored three times in the opening half, but Royals were able to win by a big margin and they just kept whittling it down," said Gilbert.

Royals were expected to get high scoring performances from Lori Elliott and Lynn Zwyrach, but the two finished with 12 and 10 points respectively. Leading scorer for Vernon was Sharon

Weitzel with a game high 22 points. "Both teams played real well defensively, especially inside, but the (Weitzel) couldn't turn it over," said Gilbert. "I don't know what we would have done without her. It's nice to know that when you big girls are stopped inside, that you still have someone that can score."

Andrea Young had 18 points for Salmon Arm.

Royals were leading 34-26 at half-time, and had built up an 11-point spread midway through the second-half.

"We were up by 11, but it was just like the last time. We were up by a big margin and they just kept whittling it down," said Gilbert.

Earlier in the year, Royals were blowing half-time leads, but lately have been hanging on for the win.

"I don't know whether the girls have more poise now, or what is happening, but it's to keep winning," said Gilbert.

Royals will now get ready for the valley championships, which get under way Thursday in Kamloops.

Penikese will await the winner of Kamloops and Kelowna, while Vernon will meet the winner of Salmon Arm and North Kamloops, Friday.

By GORD SMILEY
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

The only two things a person can depend on these days are rising prices and Vernon Lakers losing.

Lakers didn't disappoint the more than 200 fans in the Vernon Arena, as they were trounced 4-1 by Kelowna Buckaroos in B.C. Junior Hockey League action, Sunday.

Vernon is now riding an 18-game winless streak. The last time Lakers won a BCHL contest was Dec. 11 when they defeated Merritt Centennials, 5-2 in Merritt.

Merritt is three points ahead of Lakers for the fourth, and final, playoff spot in the Interior Division. Vernon has a chance to redeem itself when it travels to Merritt Wednesday, then has a return match-up, Thursday in Vernon. Prior to those games, Lakers have to do battle with Penikese Knights, Tuesday, in Penikese.

Lakers managed to play good hockey for two periods Sunday, but someone should tell Vernon that a hockey game consists of three periods. The locals led 4-3 after the first period and trailed 5-4 after 60 minutes.

In the third, Chris Jensen and Greg Adams scored with 1:19 gone to put a damper on any thoughts Lakers had of pulling an upset.

BIG GAME
Jensen scored three times and added four assists to lead Kelowna to the win. Adams also scored three goals for the Bucks, while Tom Martin added two and Rod Schuster and Don Barber had singles.

Derik Watts scored twice while Rob Kossan and Jeff Ar-

mitage added singles for the Lakers.

In the first two periods, Vernon, instead of Kelowna, looked like the second-place team in the Interior Division. Lakers outshot and outskated Bucks in the first two frames.

Dale Reimer and Bob Morden delivered some of the most punishing checks seen in the league in a long time. It was also Reimer and Morden who were chiefly responsible for keeping the score respectable for 40 minutes. The two rear-guard kept things sparkling clean in front of Lakers net, allowing Lakers forwards to grab the loose rebounds.

However, Reimer and Morden only hold off Buckaroos skaters for so long, and in the third, the floodgates opened.

Vernon Coach Gord MacEachie said after the game, his team just ran out of gas in the third period.

People wonder what's wrong, but we just don't have enough to go three periods, said MacEachie. "If we had super skills we could make up for it, but we don't have the depth."

Lakers were missing five players from their lineup and went into the game with 13 skaters compared to 18 for Kelowna. Missing from Lakers lineup were Dean Hascari,

Peter Oliphant and Heimo Brandstetter, all injured.

Rick Walters has left the team. MacEachie also ran into problems with his goaltenders. He replaced starter Shawn Oswald with Dale Woods after the first period.

But Oswald said he's sick, so what can we do?

But Oswald and Woods couldn't be held accountable for the lopsided score. On several occasions, Oswald and Woods stopped the initial shot and rebound, and were left at

the mercy of a Kelowna shooter parked on the doorstep.

If Lakers only play two periods against Penikese and a playoff spot could go directly down the drain.

"The way it makes me mad, because I know we're a better team than Merritt and we let them beat us."

In other BCHL action, Sunday, New Westminster Royals clinched the Coastal Division championship with a 5-2 victory over the visiting Cowichan Valley Capitals.

On Saturday, Penikese trounced the visiting Revelstoke Rockets.

Yamaoka. "I'm going to sit him out for a while and see what we're like. The game against NorKam doesn't mean that much and they're not a strong team."

Yamaoka is now concentrating on getting his team ready for the playoffs, March 14.

"We'll probably play Okanagan Mission or Rutland in the opening round of the playoffs, but neither team should give us much of a problem."

BALL CONTROL
Yamaoka said the only area he likes to see improvement in his team is in ball control.

"Against Kelowna we didn't do a bad job, but it was still our weakest point on the court," said Yamaoka. "We're still having some problems bringing the ball up the court under pressure."

Yamaoka has his forwards coming back to help the guards, which helps alleviate some of the pressure.

However, Panthers don't need too much improvement when it comes to rebounding.

"Everybody has been crashing the boards lately, people like Sotik and Dave Marshall are doing a good job for us."

HOSTS COLLEGE
Panthers final home game of the season will be March 2, when they host Okanagan College, from Kelowna, in an exhibition contest.

"They're (Okanagan College) in third or fourth place in their league, they're a little older, and play a little more physical, so it should help us prepare for the playoffs."

VERNON LAKERS' defenceman, Darcy Lepine, does his best to clear the vision for Lakers' goaltender, Shawn Oswald as Kelowna Buckaroos' captain Dan

Nugent parks in front of the net, for a rebound or a deflection. Lakers lost 10-4 to Kelowna, in B.C. Junior Hockey League action, Sunday in Vernon.

(Daily News Photo)

Olson leads Vernon attack

Vernon
Daily
News

sports

Editor—DON KENDALL

Kal captures zone hoop title

Kalamalka Lakers captured the Okanagan North Zone Junior boys' basketball title Saturday with a 86-46 victory over Fulton Maroons, in Salmon Arm.

Both finalists advance to the valley championships, next weekend, at Kamloops.

Lorne Babluk led the Kal attack with 15 points while Richard Johnson scored it and Ken Zubay added 12.

Rick Kaufmann was top sniper for Fulton with 11 points. Lakers held marauder leads of 16-26, 37-47, and 48-30.

BALANCED TEAM
Kal Coach Dave Jackson told the Daily News balance gave his club an edge over Maroons.

"We've got seven guys who have been named to all-star teams this season," Jackson said. "We don't have to rely on one or two players."

It was the first victory over Fulton in Kalamalka's five-year history. Jackson said, "We've lost to Maroons twice this year

... due to mistakes. We concentrated on reducing our mental errors."

Earlier in the tourney, Lakers defeated Revelstoke 67-45 and Shuswap, of Salmon Arm, 48-40.

NAMED MVP
Zubay was named as the tournament's most valuable player. Babluk and Kaufmann, along with Daryl Webster of Seaton Sonics, were selected to the first all-star team.

Eight teams will compete in the valley finals.

GIRLS' FINALS
Meanwhile, Revelstoke and Jackson captured the north zone's two berths in the girls' championships.

In grade 8 boys' play, Kalamalka Bruins won the zone title for the second consecutive year by defeating Fulton 38-22 in double-overtime.

Bruce Babin was leading scorer for Bruins with 14 points.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Cougars host opening game

Vernon Cougars host Oliver Bighorns, Wednesday, in the opening game of the best-of-five North Okanagan Hockey League championship series. Bighorns advanced to the finals with an 8-6 win over Kelowna Packers, Sunday, in Kelowna.

Holland shines
Vernon's Ken Holland made 32 saves to lead Binghamton Whalers to a 5-1 win over Adirondack Red Wings in American Hockey League action, Sunday. Whalers lead the league's Southern Division by five points.

Women's soccer
Army, Navy and Airforce Women's Soccer Team will hold a meeting tonight, at 7 p.m., at 306-100 Avenue. Any women 18 and over, are invited to attend. For further information phone 245-7722.

United practice
Vernon Village Green United, of the Okanagan Soccer League, will hold a practice tonight, at 5:15 p.m., in the VSSS arena. Anyone interested in trying out for the club is urged to attend.

Honeymooners
In Sunday Honeymooners' Volleyball League play, the scores were: Old Stylers 3, Animals 0; East Hillers 2, The Force 1; Pierodactyls 2, Gordie's Mini Motors 1; No Names 3, Counters 0; Dirty Devils 3, Sunday Smashers 0.

Final game
Sunset Spectacles take on Canadians tonight, at 8 p.m., in the Vernon Women's Broomball League championship game at Centennial Outdoor Rink, in the cougar cause. Cougars swept their series from Salmon Arm Aces.

Skiers meet

North Okanagan Cross-country Ski Club will hold a general meeting, Tuesday, at 7:30 p.m., in the Centennial A.C. Centre.

Ruggers start

Vernon Rugby Club will hold its first indoor workout of the year tonight, at 8 p.m., in Harwood Elementary School gymnasium.

Mixed curling

COMOX, B.C. (CP) — Steve Skilling of Victoria is one of eight B.C. zone winners who will head to Kelowna next weekend to participate in the Seagrave mixed curling championship.

Other rivals who will weekend playdowns across the province include Ken Neuman of Richmond, Lynn Mason of Burnaby and Glen Pierce of Vancouver.

Those winners will face four Interior rivals still in play. From Nelson, Robert Bird of Prince George, Eric Wiltzen of Kamloops and Brian Eden of Kamloops.

Big period

KAMLOOPS, B.C. (CP) — Kamloops Oilers scored six goals in the opening half of Western Hockey League play Sunday enroute to a 13-5 win over Billings Big Horns before 1,828 spectators.

Folk wins

PRINCE ALBERT, Sask. (CP) — Saskatchewan's Rick Folk captured his fourth Saskatchewan mixed curling championship Sunday with a 5-3 victory over Les Pederson of Prince Albert.

Goalie signs

VANCOUVER (CP) — Goaltender Frank Caprice has signed a contract with Vancouver, and an option with Vancouver Canucks of the National Hockey League.

Caprice was Vancouver's second round choice in the 1981 entry draft from London Knights.



LUMBY SPIEL WINNERS

Vernon's Gary Marsh rink, above, captured the 'A' event in the Lumby Spiel curling tournament, which ended Sunday. Marsh defeated clubmate Frank Bird in the final. From left are Marsh, Karen Marsh, and Ron Marsh. Art Malooske, right, of Kamloops, defeated Vernon's Joe Kubash in the 'B' final. From



left are: Malooske and Pete Lahucik; Maureen Malooske and the Valued Lahucik. 'C' event winner, far right, is the George McIntosh rink, of Vernon. From left are: McIntosh and Peter Viasev; Ann Goldhorpe and Linda Viasev. They defeated Doug Roush, also of Lumby, in the 'C' final. (Daily News Photos)