

Lakers even season record

By DON KENDALL
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Ian Walters scored at 4:21 of sudden-death overtime to give Vernon Lakers an 8-7 victory over Burnaby Bluehawks in a thrilling B.C. Junior Hockey League game, Friday night, at the Civic Arena.

Defenceman Gavin Shuya spotted Walters in the clear, near the Burnaby blue line, with Bluehawks caught on a line change. Walters took the pass, deked goalie Randy Beres, and put the puck in off the post.

Walters said he knew when he accepted the puck that he was going to deke the goalie. "I knew I was going to put a move on him," he said, "but I didn't plan on hitting the post."

BEST GAME

Walters, a graduate of the Salmon Arm Minor Hockey Association, said it was the best game Lakers have played in the two seasons he has been with the club. "We're improving every game," he said. "The coaches are doing a great job."

Bluehawks led 3-1 at the end of the first period and increased that margin to 4-1 early in the second. However, Lakers caught fire and led 5-4 after 40 minutes.

Vernon led 6-4 early in the third period, but needed a goal in the final minute of regulation time to tie the game. Shuya's wicked slap shot, from the point, went through a maze of players and beat Beres with just 51 seconds remaining.

SCORED TWO

Glen Doucette led the Vernon attack with two goals while Kevin Thorlakson, Ron Berezowski, Nick Kapicki, Craig Iseke, Shuya, and Walters added singles. Shuya also collected three assists.

Earl Graham was top sniper for Burnaby with a third period hat trick, including two on powerplays. Dave Nonis fired two goals for Bluehawks while Derek Sheers and Jim Hochstet-

ter notched solos.

After Shuya tied the game in the third period, he had an excellent chance to get the winner. The big defenceman picked up Mike Enemark's rebound off the glass and blasted a shot that Beres was able to handle.

MISSED PASS

In the overtime session, Lakers' captain Gord Simpson could have ended the game two minutes earlier, but a pass skipped over his stick in front of the net.

Vernon Coach Murray Lawrence said he is proud of his club. "They worked hard for this one," he said. "It has been a long time since there has been a more exciting game played in this arena. We letdown, I think because of our long layoff, for a while in the first and third periods. But in between,

we played one heckuva game."

Lakers, who had been idle for 12 days, now have a 4-4 record. Burnaby, which occupies second place in the Coast Division, has an 8-5 record.

Lawrence said, "Bluehawks have a good club... they gave us all we could handle."

46 SAVES

Burnaby netminders Peter Saunders and Beres combined to make 46 saves. Saunders was ejected after a second period fight with Berezowski, immediately after the Vernon winger had scored.

At the other end, Rob Imbeau kicked out 44 shots for Lakers, including three in overtime.

Vernon was assessed 10 of 19 minor penalties and one of two fighting majors.

Lakers now have a five-

day break before entering one of the most hectic parts of the season. They are on the road for games Thursday in Revelstoke, Friday in Kelowna, and Saturday in Salmon Arm. Next home game will be Oct. 31, against Merritt Centennials.

In another overtime game, Friday, Penticton Knights downed Esquimalt Buccaneers 5-4 while Cowichan Capitals defeated Langley Eagles 8-5 in regulation play.

In Penticton, Ally Cook scored at 4:09 of an overtime period to give Penticton Knights a 5-4 hometown win over Esquimalt Buccaneers.

The win puts Penticton, the league's defending champion, in first place.

Also scoring for Penticton, which led all through the game with period scores of 2-0 and 3-2,

were Kelly Para, Brett Hull, Steve Charboneau and Murray Winnicki.

The Buccaneers got singles from Chris Crosman, Randy Taylor, Rob Kivell and Darrel Peterson.

Norm Foster stopped 28 shots for the Knights while Karl Landry made the same number of saves for Esquimalt.

In Langley Cowichan Capitals dominated the hometown Eagles 8-5 and led all the way through the game.

Cowichan was ahead five goals before Langley managed to get on the board late in the second period.

Cowichan got two-goal performances from Shawn Nagurney, who scored the first and last goals of the game, Dean Hayes and Rene Command.

Frustrating career for veteran receiver

VANCOUVER (CP) — Terry Bailey doesn't play a position for B.C. Lions. He plays a role.

And it's not a role that will bring accolades to a player who was once a football sensation at Simon Fraser University.

Nine seasons in the Canadian Football League and his statistics read like a falling stock market. Breaking in as a running back, he reached his zenith as a receiver in 1977 when he led the club in pass receptions with 50, good for a Western all-star selection.

Since then he's played less and less, and he now describes himself as a glorified guard. Lining up as a slot-back, he blocks on first downs. He is replaced on passing downs by the quicker and younger John Pankratz.

Last season Bailey had only 11 catches. So far this season he's caught nine balls.

Now 31, Bailey looks back on his career with frustration. It isn't what he pictured when he was a territorial protection of the Lions in 1974. A run-

ning back at Simon Fraser, he held 10 school records upon graduation.

"If I had to do it all over again," says Bailey, "I'd gladly trade in that college career just to have two or three great seasons in the CFL."

His discontent peaks when he looks at other clubs — Hamilton, for instance, where the Lions play Sunday. The Tiger-Cats start two slot-backs — Steve Kearns, who was traded in mid-season by B.C. for future considerations, and Rocky DiPietro, who has 68 receptions.

LACKS CONFIDENCE

"There's a lot of guys back east I know I can play as well as," Bailey says. "I look at a guy like DiPietro. I think he's a good receiver, but I can't believe the number of catches he has. To think of him as an all-star, or a Schenley nominee, I think, God, if I'd gone back there what would have happened?"

"It's a little disheartening."

Bailey didn't catch his first pass until the sixth game this season. The most passes he's had in a game this

year is two.

"It can be a real non-confidence type deal," Bailey adds. "You get the feeling when you're in there that nobody has any confidence in you."

"It's hard to, sort of, get up for the games, especially when I'm not starting. And then when I do go in there, I think, geez, I know the ball's not going to come to me."

Lions' head coach Vic Rapp has no complaints with Bailey.

"He does everything we ask him to do," Rapp says. "He's just lost so much speed."

"To be honest, Terry's on the down side of his career and it's getting harder and harder to play him."

Bailey derives his satisfaction from trying to be a solid team man.

"I've always tried to give 100 per cent all the time, even knowing in the back of my mind I'm not going to get the ball."

"The only thing that keeps me happy now is wanting to contribute, contribute something positive to the game, even if it's just one play."