

SLOW START COSTLY

Flyers edge Lakers

There are two essential ingredients necessary to be a contending hockey club, you must win and you must play well on the road.

Vernon Lakers have the latter half of these qualifications sewed right up. Now, if they could just apply a bit of the first, there'd be no problem.

RALLIED

In Abbotsford Tuesday night, the Lakers came from behind a 3-0 first period deficit but fell just short of a total rally when they dropped a 6-5 decision to the league-leading Flyers, in the Coastal city.

"We had a couple of bad goals in the first period," quipped a tired Murray Lawrence this morning. "We didn't play well at all in the first period."

It wasn't until well past the 18-minute mark of the opening frame, in fact, before the Lakers managed to put some points on the scoreboard with a goal by Mike Enemark.

TIED 4-4

By the midway mark of the second stanza, however, Lakers had found their guns and roared back to even the score at 4-4. Flyers burned the Lakers for a last minute tally in the second period and went to the dressing room nursing a 5-4 lead after 40 minutes.

Flyers lengthened their lead to 6-4 early in the third period. The Lakers bounced back with goal number five but despite a flurry of opportunities late in the game, couldn't find the tying marker. With 35 seconds remaining and their goaltender pulled in

favor of an extra attacker, Lakers did everything but score.

"We were buzzing around their net until the last second of the game," said Lawrence.

HAT-TRICK

Lakers' hard-working Stacy Wakabayashi tripped the red light three times while Nick Kapicki and Enemark's tallies accounted for the balance of the Lakers' scoring attack.

Ralph Vos notched a pair of goals for the Flyers while Peter McCornack, Dwight Mathiasen, Tom Weiss and Bill Shibicky rounded out the winner's scoring.

Aside from a slow start, Lawrence was very happy with the play of his young charges.

NEVER QUIT

"Our guys never gave up, they kept digging all the time," said Lawrence.

The loss leaves the Lakers with a record of 15 wins and 11 losses, though it doesn't change their status in the Interior Division of the BCJHL. The Flyers opened up some breathing space between themselves and the New Westminster Royals who dropped a surprising 7-3 decision to the Richmond Sockeyes. The win gives Abbotsford a 24-3-1 record, still tops in the league.

Without bothering to ponder their loss, Lakers will have to come up with a winning solution tonight when they face New Westminster. Coach Lawrence feels he knows where they went wrong against the Flyers and

hopes to correct that against the Royals.

"We finitely have to have a better start tonight then we did last night."

The Royals are a very similar club to the Flyers in their style of play which means a maximum of hockey coupled with a minimum of physical stuff.

"Our skating, speed and forechecking is obviously our forte," said Lawrence.

"When we went to our game last night it really made a difference."

Lakers used three juvenile players in their lineup in Tuesday's game and Lawrence was pleased enough with their attitude and play that he'll use them again tonight. The three are Shane Koski, Keith Major, and Kelly Rosehill. According to Lawrence, "they really

held their own out there."

The Lakers will have to put their best forechecker as a shadow on the Royals' Cliff Ronning who leads the Coastal team in scoring and is third in the league.

In other action Tuesday night, the Richmond Sockeyes upended New Westminster Royals 7-3 and Langley Eagles doubled Cowichan Capitals 8-4.

CLOUD SLOWS CANADIANS

Sun shines through for French ski racer

SAN SICARIO, Italy (Reuter) — Caroline Attia of France won a woman's world ski cup downhill in a time of one minute 24.57 seconds today, unofficial results showed.

Her compatriot Claudine Emonet was second in 1:24.86 with Heidi Wiesler of West Germany third in 1:25.16.

Laurie Graham of Inglewood, Ont., at one point appeared to have won the event — but then came a break in the clouds.

Graham was the fastest of the first 15 racers. Then organizers called a 10-minute break to move back a controversial finish-line fence.

During the pause, the sun broke through, dramatically improving



LAURIE GRAHAM
... 11th place

visibility and the times of later skiers. Graham

finished 11th in 1:26.11.

"It is a frustrating sport when you see that happen," Graham said, "but I'm happy I beat all the favorites. There is nothing you can do about a change of light."

Gerry Sorensen of Kimberley, B.C., suffered a similar fate, finishing 20th. Dianne Lehodey of Calgary was 38th.

Catherine Quittet of France was fourth in 1:25.55 followed by Francoise Bozon, France, 1:25.68; Jana Ganterova-Soltysova, Czechoslovakia, 1:25.74; Debbie Armstrong, United States, 1:25.83; Ariane Ehrat, Switzerland, 1:25.84; Brigitte Oertli, Switzerland, 1:25.89; and Sieglinde Winkler, Austria, 1:25.91.