

Kossan leads Lakers past lowly Centennials

It is not surprising Vernon Lakers downed Merritt Centennials 3-1 Sunday night in Merritt.

What is surprising is the fact that Vernon, with just four minor penalties in the entire contest, was the most penalized team in the game.

The Centennials, not previously noted for their clean style of play, picked up just one minor penalty in 60 minutes of hockey.

"That Pat Rabbitt has them playing pretty good hockey over there," said Lakers' Coach Murray Lawrence of the Centennials' new coach.

The two teams played to a scoreless draw after 20 minutes and Lakers led 2-0 after two periods on a pair of goals by Rob Kossan.

"Those two goals should help him (Kossan) out of his slump," said Lawrence.

WENSLEY SCORES

Newcomer Bob Wensley added a third goal in the final 20 minutes.

Bob (Wensley) is coming along really well," said Lawrence in praise of his latest winger. "Another game or two and he'll be in the swing of things again."

Allan Wall spoiled Rex Grant's shutout bid at 14:38 of the third period.

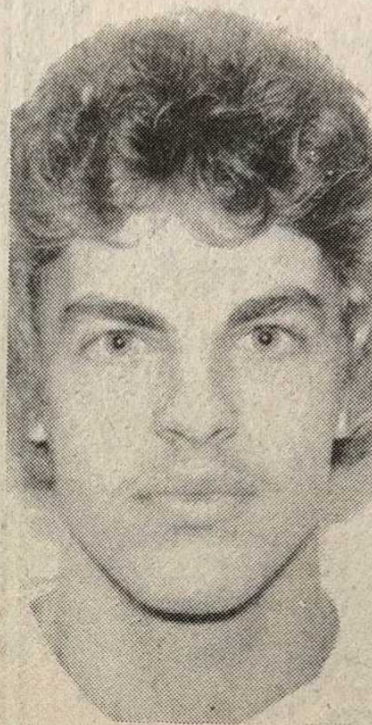
"Rex (Grant) played a good, solid game," said Lawrence.

In addition to their two points this weekend, the Lakers learned they had picked up an extra point they hadn't been counting on. A decision was made concerning the Dec. 23 game, between Revelstoke and Vernon, in which Lakers lost 4-3. Lakers officially protested the outcome on poor officiating and lack of security.

The league governors decided the game would be a tie and fined Revelstoke \$300.

THIRD SPOT

The three points leave Lakers just one point back of second place Penticton Knights and three points



ROB KOSSAN

... scored twice

behind the first place Kelowna Buckaroos.

The Lakers' record stands at 21-14-1, with two games in hand on the Knights, whose record is currently 22-16-0. Lakers

have no games in hand on the Buckaroos.

In other BCJHL action over the weekend, it was a good old fashioned shootout in New Westminster Sunday as the Royals, led by a four-goal performance by Len Myer, outgunned the Abbotsford Flyers 11-9.

ROCKETS WIN

Elsewhere, Revelstoke dumped Shuswap Totems 7-5, and Penticton downed Esquimalt Buccaneers 8-5.

Saturday, Shuswap doubled Merritt 6-3, Penticton trounced Cowichan 10-2, Kelowna creamed Revelstoke 8-1, and New Westminster edged Abbotsford 5-4 for a two-game sweep over the league leading Flyers.

Previous to their two losses to New Westminster, the Flyers had enjoyed a 17-game winning streak.

Lakers next home game will take place Friday night when they take on the Richmond Sockeyes.