

Vernon
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sports

Editor—DON KENDALL

Lakers show improvements

Vernon Lakers have made significant advances in all areas since the release of the last statistics for the B.C. Junior Hockey League.

The latest release shows the fiery hockey club has battled their way into first spot in the Interior Division and currently hold down third spot, overall, in the league behind Abbotsford and New Westminster.

As anticipated, it will be a close, hard-fought battle for supremacy in the Interior division with both Penticton Knights and Kelowna Buckaroos hot on the tail of the front-running Lakers. Both trail the Lakers by three points with the Bucks having one game in hand on the local crew and the Lakers having one game in hand on the Knights.

In the individual statistics department, Laker goaltender Rex Grant has exceeded most people's predictions by claiming top spot in the goaltending area.

Grant's 3.129 average is spread over a 14 game expanse during which the lanky goaltender allowed just 41 goals while making 424 saves . . . an average of just over 30 per game.

It comes as no surprise to the Lakers that Grant has made such progress since their goals-against record is second only to the Buckaroos, but with one more game to play, the Bucks could easily fall behind the Lakers' pace.

In the individual scoring department, Abbotsford's duo of Bill Shibicky and Ralph Vos still lead by long strides. Shibicky's total is 134, including a league-leading 60 goals. Vos leads in the assist department with 81.

The Lakers' defensive duo of Gavin Shuya and Mike Enemark are among the league's top 15 scorers with Shuya at the number 13 position and Enemark, just two points back of his partner, at number 15 spot.

The Lakers face a three-game weekend coming up with a pair of games at home and one on the road. Friday the local squad entertains Merritt while the last two games and a home-and-home two game series with Kelowna . . . a pair of very important games at this point in the season.

BCJHL STATISTICS

Team	GP	W	L	T	For	Agn	Pts
Coastal Division							
Abbotsford Flyers	46	40	5	1	337	172	81
New Westminster Royals	41	31	10	0	260	176	62
Burnaby Bluehawks	45	25	19	1	269	242	51
Esquimalt Buccaneers	46	25	20	1	260	265	51
Langley Eagles	42	16	25	1	209	243	33
Richmond Sockeyes	45	14	29	2	190	260	30
Cowichan Capitals	44	14	29	1	200	249	29
Interior Division							
Vernon Lakers	42	26	15	1	208	171	53
Kelowna Buckaroos	41	24	15	2	245	168	50
Penticton Knights	43	25	18	0	256	196	50
Salmon Arm Shuswap Totems	45	21	23	1	188	207	43
Revelstoke Rockets	43	11	32	0	167	274	22
Merritt Centennials	43	6	37	0	126	292	12

TOP SCORERS

Player, Team	GP	G	A	Pts	Pen	Min
Bill Shibicky, Abbotsford	47	60	74	134	22	52
Ralph Vos, Abbotsford	43	29	81	110	20	62
Cliff Ronning, New Westminster	38	54	50	104	6	20
Dwight Mathiasen, Abbotsford	39	44	52	96	31	95
Earl Graham, Burnaby	40	36	44	80	16	35
Mike Nottingham, New Westminster	40	34	42	76	21	53
Brett Hull, Penticton	37	36	39	75	8	19
Len Evans, Esquimalt	40	24	51	75	25	58
Derik Sheers, Burnaby	35	26	47	73	18	39
Bobby Ginnetti, Burnaby	42	20	45	65	42	134
Dave Moree, Abbotsford	44	21	43	64	39	100
Derek Ruppel (AP), Penticton	42	25	38	63	45	145
Gavin Shuya, Vernon	39	17	42	59	47	119
Paul Bifano, Burnaby	45	30	27	57	18	44
Mike Enemark, Vernon	39	24	33	57	13	34
Rod Schluter, Kelowna	37	24	33	57	16	51
Richard Hofeld, Abbotsford	37	24	32	56	22	66
Dave Phipps, New Westminster	41	18	38	56	16	43
Robert Longfellow, Abbotsford	43	17	39	56	50	155

TOP GOALTENDERS

Player, Team	G	Min	Sav	G	Ave
Rex Grant, Vernon	14	786	424	41	3.1298
Ken Buker, Abbotsford	13	701	335	38	3.2525
Dave Roach, New Westminster	25	1306	694	78	3.5835
Randy Kirby, Kelowna	14	816	412	49	3.6029
Scott Bradley, Abbotsford	28	1608	633	97	3.6194
Mike Jeffrey, Penticton	20	1100	574	69	3.7636
Troy Hankin, Salmon Arm	24	1347	858	89	3.9644