ROCKETS STAY IN BCJHL

Lakers host Merritt

Vernon Lakers host Merritt Centennials in B.C. Junior Hockey League action tonight, at 8 p.m., in the Civic Arena.

Lakers currently occupy first place in the league's Interior Division with 53 points, one more than Kelowna Buckaroos and Penticton Knights.

Centennials are stuck in the league cellar with just 12 points, in 43 games. Vernon Coach Murray Lawrence said he isn't taking Merritt lightly.

"We usually have trouble with them," he said. "This late in the season, we can't afford to lose any points to the last-place team."

Meanwhile, Revelstoke Rockets have decided against dropping out of the BCJHL, a move they had threatened to take following the suspension of seven players.

However, the team has chosen to forfeit three games it planned to play in a weekend trip to the West Coast, said Walt Harris, chairman of the league's Interior Division.

Seven match penalties wee assessed against Rocket players during a game in Kelowna Wednesday against the Buckaroos, leaving Revelstoke with only nine available players.

"I spoke with their (Revelstoke's) governor this morning and he says they wouldn't be leaving the league," Harris said Thursday. "But they felt it would be best not to go to the Coast with only nine players.

"It might turn out to be a bit of a disgrace."

Revelstoke will forfeit the three games against Langley Eagles, New Westminster Royals and Abbotsford Flyers.

Harris said the league will take disciplinary action in regard to the game next week after league chairman Fred Page reviews the referee's game report.

Canadians far back in two training runs

SARAJEVO, Yugoslavia (CP) — Laurie Graham of Inglewood, Ont.