

Buckaroos take division title

KELOWNA, B.C. (CP) — Simon Wheeldon scored three goals Friday as Kelowna Buckaroos defeated Penticton Knights 10-6 to win their B.C. Junior Hockey League best-of-seven semifinal 4-1.

It was the first Interior Division championship in nine years for the Buckaroos, who now advance against the winner of the Coastal Division. Abbotsford Flyers lead that semifinal series 3-2 over New Westminster Royals.

"Over the last month, they (the Buckaroos) proved they're the best club in the Interior," said Kelowna coach Wayne Naka. "Our goal now is to go as far as we can."

"If we play steady, hard-hitting hockey, we'll be right in there."

The Buckaroos led 3-1 after one period and 5-3 after two before breaking the game open with five unanswered goals in the first 13 minutes of the final frame.

Shawn Harrison scored twice for the winners. Brent Harrison, Shawn Swail, Don Barber, Marcel Raby and Jeff Armitage completed the Kelowna scoring before a crowd of 2,000.