

Coach's scout report favours local squad

While Vernon Lakers went through their paces Friday, head coach Chuck Tapp was busy at work but a long way off from where his charges were practicing.

Tapp took the opportunity to scout the opposition by attending an exhibition match between Penticton Knights and Summerland Buckaroos in Penticton.

Penticton won the encounter easily by a lopsided 10-4 score although neither team particularly impressed Tapp with their ability.

"I think Penticton just had a team that was more ready for a game situation," said Tapp. "I think we're every bit as good as either of those teams . . . we're actually a little faster."

Because Tapp was busy with his scouting duties, he was able to prolong his unenviable task of trimming players from the roster. No cuts were made Friday but there will be a different story following this afternoon's practice scheduled to get under way at 3 p.m. "I know some people who will be going," said Tapp although he was reluctant to put the finger on anyone at press time.

"Any locals we'll keep around for a while," added Tapp. "We'll give them a real good look . . . it doesn't hurt us if they're in camp for a while and the experience certainly won't hurt them."

Meanwhile, the positions available to any rookie decreased

somewhat with news that at least one more veteran player and several experienced ones will be joining the Lakers' lineup very shortly.

One of these is Rob Kossan, a two-year veteran with the club who was about to forsake his junior hockey career for a college course but that was before things worked out in his favor.

"He's (Kossan) got his courses at Okanagan College in Vernon," said Tapp.

Also, a pair of defencemen, Clay Cody and Rick Sarrafin will be in the lineup soon. Cody played last season for Kelowna Wings while Sarrafin, a 20-year old, was formerly with Seattle Breakers.