

LAKERS TIED FOR FIRST

Wensley leads league in first five games

Before hockey season began, Bob Wensley wanted nothing more than to have a good year with Vernon Lakers. His wish was to lead Lakers to a BCJHL championship and in doing so collect as many statistics as possible in order to aid his future in the sport.

So far Wensley has maintained his direction as the first league statistics show the fast-skating winger and Lakers' captain leads all others in the BCJHL in individual scoring.

Wensley has clicked for seven goals and six assists for 13 points in Lakers' first five games this season.

Three other players in the Interior division are tied for second place, each with four goals and six assists. They are Shawn Harrison, of Summerland Buckaroos, Rod Poindexter, of Penticton Knights, and Pat Ryan, of Merritt Centennials.

FIRST PLACE

Stats also show Lakers are presently tied for first place in the Interior with four wins and one loss for eight points.

On top of this division, along with the local club, are Penticton Knights who also have eight points based on four wins and no losses.

Lakers have an opportunity to take over sole possession of first place in the BCJHL Interior division tonight when they travel to Penticton to meet the Knights for their first time this season.



BOB WENSLEY
... scoring leader

MINOR CHANGES

Lakers' have made a few minor changes in the lineup going into tonight's game. Gone is winger Kevin Thorsen who was cut following Monday night's practice.

Back in the lineup are centres Nick Kapicki and Gord Simpson which will add quite a bit of speed up the centre for Lakers.

Still missing, however, are veteran blueline Gavin Shuya and winger Greg Kowal. Shuya broke his little finger last week while Kowal suffered a separated shoulder.

"From what I gather Gavin will be out for another week," said general manager Carl Enemark. "We thought

he'd be in the lineup tonight but he says he's in too much pain.

"As far as Kowal goes, it could be another two weeks yet . . . we're just going to give it time," he added.

POWER PLAY

Lakers have also done some much-needed work on their power-play in practice. The local squad had fallen short on quite a number of attempts earlier this season and have just now gotten around to working in that area. However, without the services of Shuya on the blueline with his ability to set up the play and fire bullets from the point the Lakers' man-advantage situations have faltered.

"It's just a matter of getting a few guys together," said Lakers' coach Mike Enemark. "We've been practicing and we're moving the puck well."

IMPORTANT

Though this is the most important game Lakers have had to face so far this season, the younger Enemark is confident his team will meet with success if they can stick to their guns.

"We just want to play our game . . . skating and positional play," said Enemark.

The only preliminary reports that have come his way, indicate that the Knights are the antithesis of former Penticton teams in that they are smaller and faster rather than big and tough.