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NOW TIED FOR SECOND

Lakers face Merritt with record on the line

Ordinarily a team wouldn't think twice about playing a team they'd beaten 13-5 in their previous encounter.

However, with Vernon Lakers presently in a two-way tie for second place in the BCJHL Interior Division, and the memory of a 4-3 loss to Centennials in Merritt last time around, the local club will have their work cut out for them when they travel to Merritt tonight.

TIED FOR SECOND

"Summerland is now tied with us and they have games in hand so we have to keep winning now," said Lakers' General Manager Carl Enemark. "Merritt will be hungry too. Their arena is tough to play in so I don't think we can blow them out, we'll just play to win."

Winning is something that's getting less and less commonplace for Lakers who have managed to win only twice in their last five games... including a pair of losses at home.

CLOSE GAMES

Despite the recent losses, Enemark feels there's no cause for alarm. In fact the Lakers' felt his team never played better than in their last two losses to Summerland and Penticton. Both losses were decided by a single goal which more or less in-



CARL ENEMARK
... have to win

dicates the decision could have gone either way.

"We lost two close games out of our last three losses. We don't want a losing record so we're not going to take Merritt lightly at this point," said Enemark.

"They (Centennials) had some problems but they've gotten over them and they'll be tougher now," he added.

Lakers meanwhile, have some minor problems themselves one of

which is an excess of players still hoping to make the permanent roster of the club. Enemark, for one, knows they have too many and also feels it's contributing toward the team's recent letdown.

"We want to get our team down to 19 players as soon as possible so we're going to look at some players we haven't paid much attention to yet," Enemark said. "One of the reasons why we've lost games lately is that the players haven't played enough with the same guys."

NEW COMERS

For this season, Lakers will insert newcomers Kevin Kabalka and Rob Revell, a pair of Revelstoke prospects, into tonight's lineup.

Kabalka came to Vernon through the trade with Revelstoke Rangers for defenceman Rudy Poescheck while Revell is just looking for a place to play. In his only other outing with the local club Revell scored twice in a victory over Rangers in Revelstoke.

BCJHL ACTION

To make room for the newcomers, Ron Berezowski and Scott Young will not dress for tonight's contest.

In BCJHL action

Wednesday night, Summerland Buckaroos gave Shuswap Totems a rude welcome to the Summerland arena by trouncing Totems 12-2.

Greg Cyr scored three goals as the Bucks handed Shuswap their tenth loss of the season.

Kelly Evan added two goals for the Bucks who led 3-1 and 7-2 by periods. Singles went to Greg Barber, Shawn Pettyjohn, Jamie Nichols, Dale Reimer, Shawn Harrison, Marcel Raby and Gord Paulsen.

Harvey Bougerelle and Mike Robertson had the Totem markers.

Summerland netminder Dean Garnett made 24 saves, while Shuswap's Greg Hubert and Ralph Bechtold combined to stop 37 shots.

In other league games, Oscar Pozzolo scored three times and added an assist as Langley Eagles defeated Nanaimo Clippers 7-5 in Langley.

Singles for the winners went to Harvey Biluk, Neil Reimer, Pat Barnes and Rod Ware.

Carey Coroy scored three times for Nanaimo, while Rod Summers and Rod Jamieson rounded out the scoring.

In the only other contest tonight, Penticton travels to Revelstoke.