

Lakers blast hapless Cents

Merritt Centennials suffered a merciless 12-1 pounding at the hands of Vernon Lakers, Saturday night, in Merritt.

"It was a four-point game for us," said Lakers' Coach Mike Enemark.

That fact came as a result of Revelstoke Rangers beating Summerland Buckaroos 7-2 Saturday while Shuswap Totems humbled division-leading Penticton 8-3.

Enemark still had high praise for his players.

"A lot of good things came out of that game," said Enemark. "We came out of our own end very well, the defence played well . . . everyone did a good job."

Lakers' scoring leader Dave Wensley paced Vernon's attack with three goals while Alan Young and Kevin Kobelka added two each as the local squad peppered Merritt goaltenders Noel Mann and Pat Palmer with 62 shots.

Ken MacKenzie, Gord Simpson, Scott Young, Gavin Shuya and Glen Kirk also scored for Lakers while Gerry Choiniki ruined Jim Young's shutout bid. Young faced 37 shots in Lakers' net.

"I felt sort of sorry for them (Merritt)," said Enemark. "But, if the situation was reversed I doubt if they'd feel the same for us."

Several players didn't dress for the game including captain Bob Wensley who, along with several others, were sidelined with the flu bug.

Another player, defenceman Regan Desroches, dropped a weight on his foot just prior to the game and is out indefinitely pending x-



KEVIN KOBELKA
... scored twice

rays and a diagnosis of his injury.

Other players stepped in to fill the voids left by Lakers' injuries however.

"Tony Christie had his best game as a junior," said Enemark. "He moved the puck well, challenged at the blue line . . . really played well."

Saturday night marked the 20th game of the season for Vernon, meaning one third of the campaign is now behind them. The local club is maintaining second place in the Interior Division, trailing Penticton by four points.

Meanwhile, in Salmon Arm Saturday night, Robbie Klenk scored three goals and goaltender Ralph Bechtold made 41 saves to lead Totems over the Knights.

Mike Robertson, Theo

Van Gerwen, Russ London, Vern Williams and Tim Coghlin also scored for Shuswap while Rod Poindexter, Brett Hull and Mark Verrigan replied for Penticton.

In Revelstoke, Ron Bonora scored three goals and added an assist for the Rangers who took control of the game with a five goal third period en route to their decision over Buckaroos.

In the only game Sunday, Nanaimo Clippers downed the hometown Cowichan Capitals 7-3.

Lakers have their hands full this week with a couple of important, albeit tough, games Tuesday and Thursday nights.

Tuesday, Vernon entertains Summerland while Thursday night the local crew is in Penticton in an attempt to halt Knights' domination this season and possibly secure first place in the Interior Division.

With defenceman Desroche temporarily out of the lineup, Lakers were fortunate enough to have received Dan Baker back into the fold.

Baker, who toiled with the club last season is back from Prince Albert, of the Western Hockey League, and is in good physical condition. Enemark is going to work him into the line-up at defence.

Meanwhile, forward Carlo Calfa quit Lakers and has returned to his hometown Prince George. Enemark will counter his absence by moving Ron Berezowski back to the forward position from defence.

