

Junior squad boasts impressive statistics

By JIM JUDD
Daily News Sports

Some interesting facts become relevant if Vernon Lakers' statistics to this point are projected through to the end of the regular league schedule. Some are good, some not.

Lakers lead the league with their scoring prowess, having put 148 in the net in their first 20 games for an average of 7.5 goals per game.

If that figure sounds impressive, its only half the story. Projected to the end of the season at their present rate, Vernon scorers could theoretically score more than 450 goals this year . . . almost double what the team managed last season.

"It's different from last year," said Mike Enemark, coach of the local club. "Then there were more defensive teams in the league . . . there were also fewer games. It would be nice to see it happen though."

However, some slightly more disturbing facts rear their ugly head in another department . . . penalty minutes.

So far Lakers have spent a total of 741 minutes in the penalty box and if that figure is tripled it indicates the Vernon squad would spend well over 2,000 minutes there this season . . . an average of 37 minutes per game. This would put the team well ahead of its last place finish in this department last season.

This particular fact is disturbing to Enemark, but at the same time he feels it is a poor representation of how the team has played to date.

"When you get these high-scoring games you're bound to get the fights because the other team is frustrated," said Enemark. "The games have generally been out of reach when it happens."

However, the projected figure means no less than nine players on the Lakers' squad would have more than 100 penalty minutes at season's end.

Four players, if they proceed to score at their present pace, would reach the 100 point plateau and some much further than that.

Chief among these is Dave Wensley, who presently has 22 goals and 29 assists for 51 points. Wensley's projected totals would include a healthy 66 goals and better than 150 points.

Figures like this would place Wensley in a league with former BCJHL greats such as Cliff Ronning and Bill Shibicky, who dazzled the league last season.

However, Lakers' captain Bob Wensley has also notched 21 goals at this point and has amassed 39 points. His total would also be more than 100 points as would the projected totals for veteran forward Rob Kossan and defenceman Ken MacKenzie.

Lakers face Summerland Buckaroos tonight, at Civic Arena, and as with most games Vernon will play this season, the game is important. Lakers must win all their games to catch the high-flying Penticton Knights who presently lead Vernon by four points, with a game-in-hand.

Enemark doesn't want

to spoil his first-place chances by dropping a game to the Bucks at this crucial point.

"We know we can beat them (Summerland)," said Enemark. "It's a big game for us but, we're just going to stick to our regular game. Power-play goals will probably determine the winner so we have to stay out of the penalty box."

Enemark will insert Dan Baker into his line-up tonight with the speedy

youngster stepping in at a defensive position.

Baker was with the local club last year and has spent most of this season with Prince Albert, of the Western Hockey League.

With this additional experience and another year of confidence under his belt Baker could be a boost for the club and his great speed will give Lakers more mobility behind the blue line.

Game time tonight is 8 p.m.



DEFENCEMAN Dan Baker has rejoined Vernon Lakers after a stint with Prince Albert, of the Western Hockey League. Baker will be in the line-up tonight when Lakers host Summerland Buckaroos, at 8 p.m., in the Civic Arena.

(Daily News Photo)

Wins match

ANTWERP, Belgium (AP) — Sandy Mayer of the U.S. and Pablo Arrayo of Argentina won first-round matches in the \$750,000 European Champions' tennis tournament Monday. Mayer beat Hubert van Boeckel of the Netherlands, 6-3, 6-4, and Arrayo ousted Bernard Boileau of Belgium, 6-3, 6-2. Mayer will play Johan Kriek and Arrayo will face Andres Gomez of Ecuador in the second round.

CLUB BUILDS A HOME

Vernon Horseshoe Club recently completed its clubhouse, adjacent to the pitches, in Alexis Park.

The clubhouse, which cost about \$35,000 to build, includes meeting room, kitchen area, washrooms, and storage facilities.

Funding was supplied by: provincial lotteries branch, \$10,200; New Horizons Grant, \$6,000; debenture sales, \$5,000; and Royal Canadian Legion \$500.

Club Director Booney Sammartino spearheaded the project with the assistance of about 35 other members.

Sammartino said, "Now that we have the facility, we hope to attract new leagues. We would like to host the B.C. finals, or perhaps Western Canada championships, which would bring more tourist dollars into Vernon."

The club, which was formed in 1981, has 78 members.



VERNON HORSESHOE CLUB executive members are proud of their new clubhouse at Alexis Park. From left are: director Stan Pachota, director Booney Sammartino, secretary-treasurer Frances Fraess, and vice-president Ray Crozman. (Daily News Photo)