

IMPORTANT GAME

First place is on the line as Shuswap visits Lakers

Salmon Arm-Shuswap Totems make their first visit to Vernon Civic Arena tonight since early October and it couldn't have been a worse time for the Totems.

Lakers are anxious to keep their hold on first place in the BCJHL Interior Division and don't plan to let Shuswap earn their first win against them tonight.

"We're in first place and we've worked hard to get here so we want to stay here," said Lakers' coach Mike Enemark. "Also we don't want to take our Christmas break with a loss in our last game."

Enemark feels Totems are only tough in their own rink and doesn't see any major problems in defeating the Shuswap crew.

"They (Totems) really come at you in the first ten minutes but if you can hold the fort against them they fall off pretty quick," said Enemark.

Meanwhile Lakers will be without the services of veteran forward and team captain Bob Wensley who will sit out a minimum of six games with a suspension which arose from a match penalty he received Tuesday night in Penticton.

Rugged winger/defenceman Ron Berezowski will not dress tonight either as he is on the tail end of a six-game suspension also.

Another doubtful starter is winger Scott Young who is still being hampered by a shoulder injury.

"I may bring up one juvenile or even two if Scott doesn't dress," said Enemark.

In BCJHL action Thursday night, Revelstoke Rangers edged the stubborn Merritt Centennials 6-5 while on the coast it was Abbotsford Flyers over Burnaby Bluehawks by a score of 3-2.

Rangers got goals from Todd Torrens, Ritchie Dusevic, Ron Bonora, Vern Cota, Ian Alger and Guy Phillips.

Brent Demerais scored three times for Centennials in a losing cause.

In BCJHL action tonight, Summerland travels to Penticton in the first game of a home-and-home series with Knights, the outcome of which will be very important to Lakers.