

Lakers move closer to first place Knights

Vernon Lakers moved to within two points of first place Penticton Knights in the B.C. Junior Hockey League's Interior Division with a 5-3 victory, Friday, over Revelstoke Rockets.

More than 700 fans, one of the largest crowds this season in the Civic Arena, were on hand to watch the final game of 1983.

Rangers, who trail Lakers by 18 points, left their dressing room in the first period with upset on their minds. Ian Alger put Revelstoke in front at 1:03 and Mike Dickerman made the score 2-0 less than two minutes later.

DIVING SAVES

Rangers threatened to extend their lead moments later when Vernon forward Nick Kapicki was sent to the penalty box for tripping. However, Lakers' netminder Peter Martin made two diving saves to keep his club within striking distance.

Former Revelstoke captain Jeff Doerr got Lakers on the scoreboard, at 8:55, when he deflected Greg Kowal's shot on a power play.

Vernon applied sustained pressure late in the first period and early in the second, but was constantly thwarted by Rangers' netminder Mike Fitzpatrick. He robbed Scott Young, Dave Wensley, and Kowal from point blank range. Bruce Major and Kapicki then missed the net on partial breakaways.

TOOK LEAD

Finally, when it appeared Lakers may be frustrated by Fitzpatrick's heroics, Kapicki got the equalizer, on a power play, at 10:35 of the second period. Five minutes later, Glen Kirk banged in Kapicki's rebound to put Vernon in front.

In the third period, Ron Berezowski, playing for the first time since serving a six-game suspension, got the eventual winner at 5:45. Berezowski jammed in a rebound after a long shot by Doerr.

Bruce Major added an insurance goal at 10:35 after a great play by Al Young. Young picked up



NICK KAPICKI
... equalizer

the puck at centre ice, beat a defender, and slid the puck to Major who was unmolested in the slot.

Keith Maydin got Revelstoke's third goal with less than three minutes remaining.

54 SAVES

Fitzpatrick finished the night with 54 saves, including 20 in the second period. Martin kicked out 34 shots.

Doerr, who quit Rangers four weeks ago after a disagreement with Coach Murray Lawrence, said it felt good to beat his former team mates.

"They came out fast and we started slowly," said the burly defenceman. "Once we got our first goal, we settled down."

Lakers' second goal, midway through the second period, appeared to



BRUCE MAJOR
... final goal

take the spark out of Rangers. Doerr said, "They've got a young team and they tend to get down on themselves if they blow a lead."

Lakers' Coach Mike Enemark agreed with Doerr that the tempo of the game changed in the latter stages. "We were just flying in the second period and Revelstoke was kind of flat," Enemark said. "In the third period, both teams were a little sluggish."

Vernon took seven of 12 minor penalties and one of two, 10-minute misconducts.

Lakers are idle until next Thursday when they host the Czechoslovakian under 18 team. Vernon's next league game is Friday, at home, against Revelstoke.

In other BCJHL games Friday, Langley Eagles shutout Richmond Sockeyes 4-0 and Nanaimo Clippers doubled Cowichan Capitals 8-4.

In Langley, the Eagles, leaders of the Coastal Division, had an edge going into the game because Richmond was missing six players due to injury. But it was a hot goaltender who could be credited with the win. Scott Bradley stopped only 22 shots but he was named first star of the game. Richmond's netminder Randy Beres stopped 29 shots.

Neil Reimer scored the first and winning goal at 9:18 of the game while other singles came from Mike Browne, Pat Barnes and Lorne Gavinchuk.

The Eagles are in first place in the Coastal Division of the league with a 25-4-1 record while Richmond is in second spot with a record of 19-11-1.

In Duncan, Ken Clement scored four goals to lead Nanaimo to victory over their bitter rivals Cowichan.

The two teams, which racked up more than 300 minutes in penalties last time they played, were each required by the league to post \$500 bonds before the game to ensure they refrained from fighting.

Nanaimo, which is in third place in the league's Coastal Division, led throughout the game with period scores of 3-2 and 5-3.

Czechs win opener in Alberta tournament

Advance tickets are now on sale for the exhibition hockey game next Thursday, in the Civic Arena, between Vernon Lakers and the Czechoslovakian Junior Selects.

The Czech squad started its tour of Canada, Friday, with a 9-6 victory over Camrose Vikings during opening day play at the Viking Cup International Junior Tournament, in Camrose, Alta.

Tomas Kapusta scored twice to lead the Czech attack. The European squad

led 2-0 at the end of the first period, built its lead to 8-0 after the second, and withstood a Camrose rally which saw Vikings scored six goals in the third.

Lakers' General Manager Carl Enemark said his club is looking forward to playing the Czechs. "It should be a good experience for our players and fans," he said.

Advance tickets are available at Al Kowal's Esso, Sun Valley Sports, and Dye's Family Recreation.