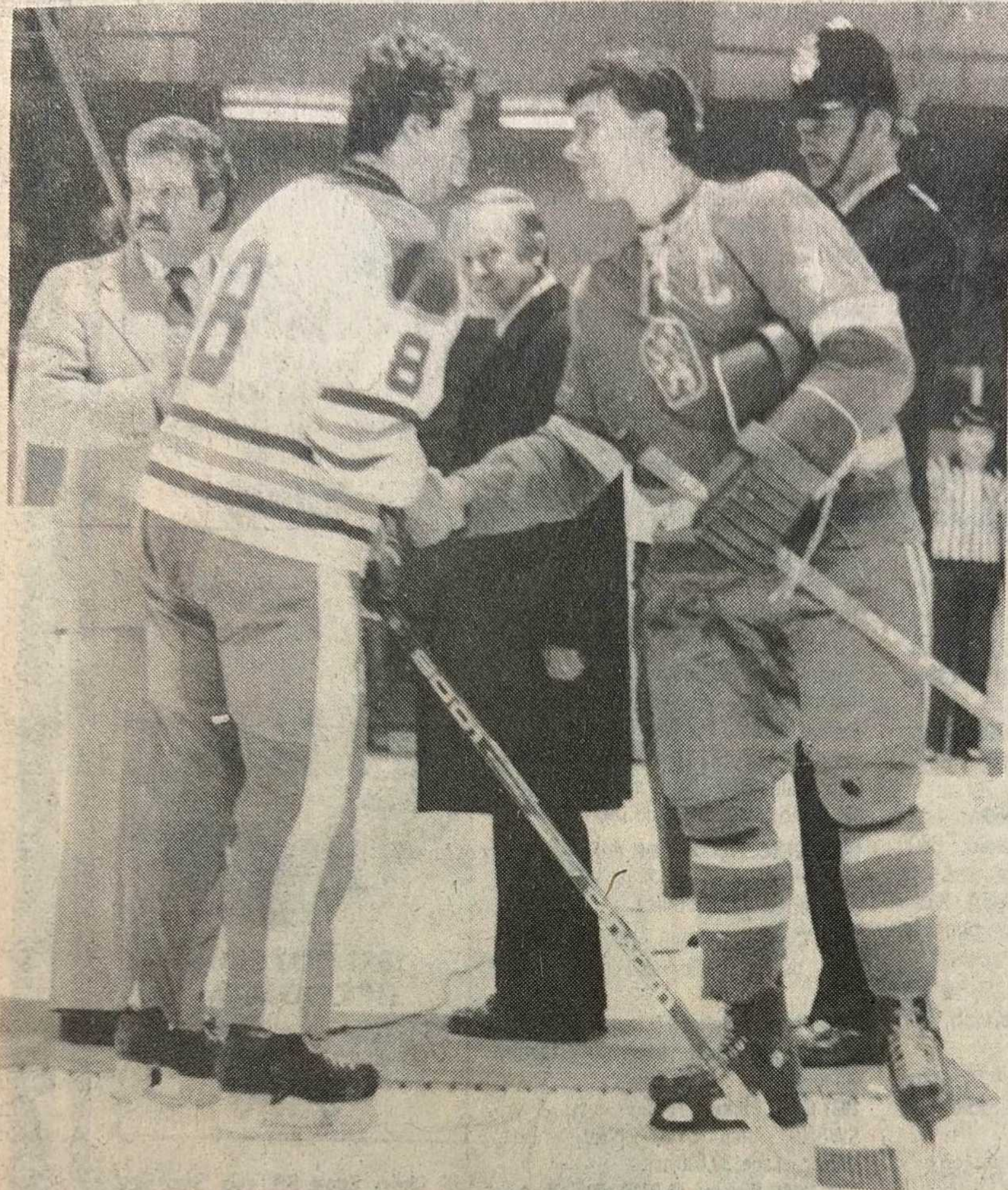




INTERNATIONAL FACE-OFF

Scott Young, left, captain of Vernon Lakers shakes hand with Radim Radevic, captain of the visiting Czechoslovakian under 18 team during opening ceremonies prior to the exhibition game bet-

ween the two clubs, Thursday night, at Vernon Civic Arena. In the background is Mayor Lyle Hanson, who dropped the puck at the opening face-off. See story and pictures pg. 6. (Daily News Photo)

Junior star sets his goals

PENTICTON, B.C. (CP) — Brett Hull speeds down the right side of ice and gets just inside the blue line before releasing a bullet-like shot that beats the opposition goaltender high on the glove side for another Penticton Knights' goal.

It is a scene occurring with amazing frequency this year in the B.C. Junior Hockey League, and if the name and shot sound familiar, they should. Hull is the son of Bobby, who starred for the Chicago Black Hawks in the National Hockey League and the Winnipeg Jets of the short-lived World Hockey Association.

The 19-year-old even wears his father's number nine, which was recently retired by the Black Hawks during a pre-game ceremony in Chicago.

The similarities don't end there. Brett, at five feet, 11 inches and 190 pounds is solid, just like his father. And he's using his strength to score goals. As of Monday, he had 52 goals and 39 assists for 91 points to lead the league.

There's no doubt in the younger Hull's mind about what he is striving to achieve.

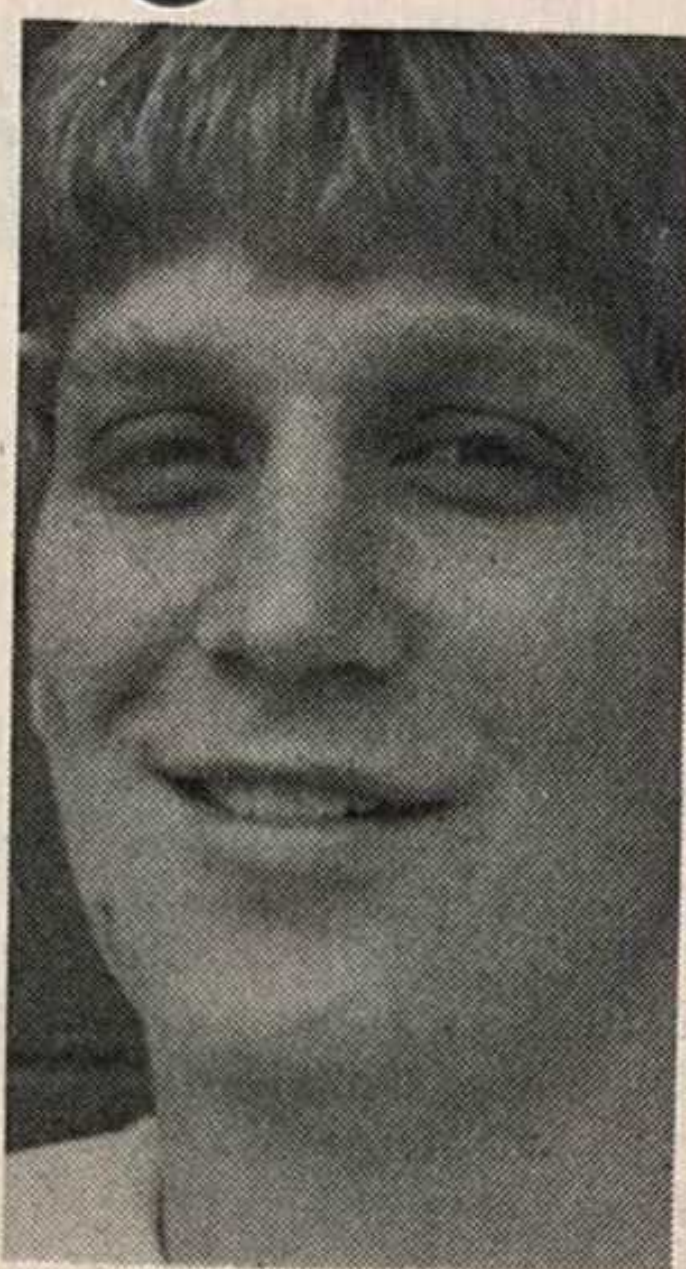
WANTS NHL

"I either want to make it to the NHL or play on the Olympic team," said Hull. "I don't care what team I play for although it would just make my day to make it there (NHL)."

And what does Brett's father think about his son playing in the NHL?

"I really have mixed emotions about it," said Bobby Hull, in a telephone interview from his home outside of Belleville, Ont. "If he wants to play there and play well I'd be all for it. But I would hate to see him get up there and struggle. It would be hard on him and hard on me."

"Nowadays, the average lifespan of a pro hockey player, unless he's exceptional, is about five or six years. So that's why it's important to have something else, like a good education, to fall back on."



BRETT HULL

... solid

Although Brett Hull's blistering shot has been responsible for a great number of his goals this year, it's been his ability to be consistently on target with his shots that has led to his scoring prowess.

"I'm getting a lot of breaks and capitalizing on them," he said.

COLLEGE NEXT

Hull is currently being courted by as many as 10 United States colleges offering scholarships to the husky forward. He sees college as the ideal route to his ultimate goal. His brothers, Bobby Jr., 22, and Blake, 21, are both playing college hockey.

"I'm definitely going to college, I just don't know which one," he said. "I've narrowed it down to two ... Minnesota-Deluth and North Michigan."

However, right now Hull has more immediate goals, like leading the Knights, which are currently in first place in the league's Interior Division, to a league championship and eventually to the Centennial Cup, symbolic of supremacy in Tier Two junior hockey in Canada.

Hull says he has only one regret, though, and that is that he and his father couldn't have played together in the NHL.

"That is too bad," said Hull. "But now I want to make it all the more."



Vernon Lakers' Kevin Kolbeika struggles to break free from defencemen Stanislav Medrik of the Czechoslovakian under 18 national team during third period action between the two clubs, Thursday night, at Civic Arena. At right, Lakers' Glen Kirk and Dusan Kraik fight for possession of the puck in the centre-ice area. Lakers battled back from a three-goal deficit in the

third period, but couldn't get the equalizer in the last minute of play and suffered a 7-6 loss to the European visitors. About 1,800 fans were on hand. (Daily News Photo)



SPORTS BRIEFS

Schoenberger named all-star

Vernon's Heide Schoenberger, who plays for Simon Fraser University, has been named to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics all-star women's volleyball team for the second consecutive year. Schoenberger, a senior, led the Clan women to an 8-4 record and the Coast Division championship of the NAIA's district one. She attended Pleasant Valley Secondary, in Armstrong.

Blues win squeaker

Blues edged Club 2929 2-1 in Winfield Men's Commercial Hockey League action Thursday. Dan Hikichi and Gord Naka scored for Blues. Wayne Bodnaruk replied for Club 2929. All the scoring was done in the second period. Club 2929 took seven of 13 minor penalties and a misconduct.

Cougars blast Toros

Cougars thumped Toros Pub 10-2 in Pleasant Valley Hockey League action, Thursday. Wayne Marrees, Fred Johnston, Les Salo, and Ernie Gare scored two goals apiece for Cougars while Jan Henson and John Donnelly added assists. Tony Kopp and Willy Bevan replied for Toros.

Ferraro ties record

BRANDON, Man. (CP) — Ray Ferraro tied a Western Hockey League record with seven goals Thursday night as Brandon Wheat Kings demolished Prince Albert Raiders 15-4 in a fight-marred game before 2,368 fans.

Ferraro, who now has 64 goals in 40 games, took over the league scoring lead with his outburst. He collected two goals in the first period, four in the second and one in the third.

Riley joins Eskimos

EDMONTON (CP) — Bud Riley, fired as Hamilton Tiger-Cats' head coach midway through the 1983 season, has been hired as the defensive co-ordinator for the Edmonton Eskimos, the Canadian Football League team said Thursday.

Riley will replace Herb Pattera, who is leaving the Eskimos after one season to join the coaching staff of the National Football League's Green Bay Packers.

Following seven years coaching at Oregon State, Riley joined Saskatchewan Roughriders of the CFL. Before signing with the Ticks, he served as a head coach in Winnipeg and Toronto.

Kurri sidelined

EDMONTON (CP) — Right winger Jari Kurri, second only to Wayne Gretzky in the National Hockey League individual scoring race, has been lost to Edmonton Oilers for an indefinite period.

Kurri, who scored three goals in Edmonton's 12-8 victory over Minnesota North Stars on Wednesday night, suffered a pulled groin muscle during the second period.

Kurri said Thursday the injury is extremely painful and he doesn't expect to play Saturday night against Hartford Whalers.

Oilers' coach Glen Sather said he's called up veterans Dean Clark of Kamloops Oilers and Steve Graves of Sault Ste. Marie.

Replaces Rozier

INDOOR, Calif. (AP) — Nebraska running

Vernon
Daily
News

sports

Editor — DON KENDALL

Snowarama total grows

The pledge total for Snowarama '84, in aid of British Columbia's crippled children, is growing day by day.

Snowarama, a 100-kilometre snowmobile ride, will be held Jan. 29 on Silver Star Mountain. The event is co-sponsored by the Lions Club and Vernon Snowmobile Association.

Daily News Sports Editor Don Kendall is taking part ... and so far has collected pledges totalling \$887. Vernon Curling Club, for the fifth consecutive year, is donating \$1 per kilometre ... a total of \$100.

Other pledges include: M AND K Ready Mix 25¢ per km., Ernie's Self-serve Esso 20¢ Valley Fruit Stand 25¢, Don Weixl 5¢, Centurion Fitness Centre 10¢, John Ross 5¢, and Nolan's Drugs 20¢.

Anyone wishing to make a pledge on Kendall is asked to phone 545-0671 between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Cougars host college squad

Vernon Cougars may be forgotten, but they are not gone!

"We'll probably be a little rusty," said Cougars' General Manager Gary Swanson. "But, we had two good practices this week and I know our guys are looking forward to these games."

Lethbridge, which has several players with Western Hockey League experience on its roster, has played some of the top university teams in Canada this season including UBC and the University of Saskatchewan.

Key members of the college squad include Rod ... After a five-week layoff, Cougars return to the ice this weekend for a pair of exhibition games against the University of Lethbridge, in the Civic Arena.

Vernon is playing a ...

... and Dave Snopce, Harvey Pocza, John Jacobsen, Gilles and Guy Gervais.

Swanson said, "We know Lethbridge has good size and one excellent line. Because they play college hockey, you can bet they've got some good skaters too."

Cougars hope to have forward Gerry Thygeson in their line-up this weekend. Thygeson led the now-defunct Oliver Bighorns in scoring last season before joining Cougars, however, he has played in only two games due to personal commitments.

"Gerry was at practice Tuesday and indicated he will be available for at least one of the weekend games," Swanson said. "We could sure use him. He fits in well on a line with (Terry) Lowe and (Gary) Gilchrist."

The Vernon GM feels

EXHIBITION HOCKEY

Czechs nip Lakers

By JIM JUDD

Daily News Sports With a performance that ranged from lacklustre to sparkling, Vernon Lakers battled back from a three-goal second period deficit, but ended up on the short end of a 7-6 decision at the hands of the Czechoslovakian under-18 junior team in an exhibition game, at the Civic Arena, Thursday.

The Czech youngsters, tired after playing eight games in 10 nights, preyed on sporadic bursts of bad goaltending and defensive lapses by Vernon to earn their seventh victory since their tour of Alberta and B.C. began.

However, only an untimely penalty called on Vernon in the final minute of play saved the Czechs from having to settle for a tie. Lakers continually buzzed around the visitor's goal area, in the dying minutes of the game, but couldn't score the equalizer against the hot-handed Jaroslav Landsman.

Landsman is destined for the Czech national squad and it wasn't hard to see why as he blocked 36 of Lakers' 42 shots including 15 in the second period when Vernon was held scoreless.

Despite the loss, Lakers' coaching staff enjoyed the

opportunity to play hockey against a select group and plans to implement lessons they learned into their own system.

"Beautiful hockey to watch," said Mike Enemark, coach of the Lakers. "They hit the open man with their passes all the time. We learned a lot and there's a few things we can work in to our system."

"I thought we let down in the second period. We showed a lot of class and a lot of pride coming back though ... a couple of breaks and we could have won it."

Lakers didn't get any breaks in the first period other than a power-play goal to open the scoring at the 3:43 mark. Bruce Major, with his first of two on the night, took a pass from Allan Young, skated around the flopped goaltender and deposited the puck high in the corner.

Czechs responded with a pair of goals by captain Radim Rejcek, both on weak shots along the ice that eluded starting goaltender Jim Young.

At 4:22 Radevic slid a rebound past Young while at 16:42, taking advantage of a sloppy defensive play, managed to slide the puck between Young's pads once again.

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Lakers managed a tying goal at 19:17, but the Czechs roared back with the go-ahead marker just 22 seconds later.

Rob Kossan notched the Vernon goal, converting Dave Wensley's breaking pass in one motion. Petr Rucka scored the third Czech goal on a breakaway using a weak shot that got through Young's pads.

David Volek and Radek Toupal scored in the second period to pad the Czech lead to 5-2. Volek scored on a shot from the point at 11:18 while Toupal's goal, a short-handed effort, came at 12:22 when he stole the puck from Lakers' defenceman Jeff Doerr and walked in all alone.

BULLET BLAST

Gavin Shuya narrowed the lead to two goals at 2:17 of the third period with one of his patented

bullet shots from the point. Major then pulled the local club to within a goal just 47 seconds later. Major walked in unmolested from the face-off and picked the bottom corner with a wrist-shot.

Jiri Kucera restored the two-goal lead for the Czechs at 4:18, skating around the sprawled Peter Martin and putting the puck upstairs.

Martin had replaced Young at the midway point of the second period.

Shannon Pohl made it a one-goal game once again at 9:34 when he tipped in a rebound off Greg Kowal's breakaway attempt.

The teams trades goals before the game ended with the Czechs notching their only power play marker of the game at 14:37 by Robert Sebek, and Glen Kirk scoring for Vernon, on a rebound, at 17:19.

If the Czechs were at

any disadvantage during the contest it was the small ice surface that hindered them most, but Lakers never found a way to turn the Czechs' disadvantage into their advantage.

Fenitcon Knights will host the Czech juniors tonight in the final exhibition match before the team returns to its native homeland.

Meanwhile, Vernon hosts Revelstoke Rangers in a BCJHL game tonight, at 8 p.m.

CENTS WIN In games Thursday, Merritt Centennials ended their record-setting losing streak with a 9-6 victory over Revelstoke. Merritt had not won a game since October.

Former Vernon player Kevin Thorlakson scored twice for the Centennials.

On the Coast, Richmond Sockeyes doubled Burnaby Bluehawks 6-3.

Europeans stress total team effort

The major difference between European and Canadian hockey style is generally thought by Europeans to be the individual effort as opposed to the team effort they strive to achieve at all times.

However, European teams, such as the Czechoslovakian under 18 national squad which faced Vernon Lakers Thursday night, doesn't totally disbelieve in the individual efforts of Canadians. In fact, they hope to duplicate the style, to some degree, in order to better their own game.

"It's very different," said Czech head coach Sinder Zdenek when asked to compare their style with the style of the teams they have played on this tour.

"Here they play individually, but in Czechoslovakia we play combination hockey ... it doesn't matter who scores

as long as you score."

"Definitely we can use many things from the Canadian style, especially the intensity," said assistant coach Guryca Briteslav, who besides playing for the Czech first division all-stars most of his career, also coached the three Stastny brothers during his tenure.

"That (intensity) is very typical of Canadian hockey players and it's something we want our boys to learn," added Briteslav.

There are other lessons the Czechs plan to implement in their own style and one of those is the rougher style used by Canadian teams. However, that doesn't include penalty-related plays, nor fighting.

"We want to learn to play our maximum without the roughness or chippy hockey," said Zdenek.