

First place on the line

Penticton Knights host Vernon Lakers in B.C. Junior Hockey League action tonight.

As usual when Knights meet Lakers, first place is on the line. The two teams are tied to top spot in the Interior Division, however, Vernon has one game-in-hand.

Knights have won six of nine outings against the Lakers, including all four clashes in Penticton.

Meanwhile, statistics released this week by Vernon show the team could have up to 11, 20-goal scorers this season.

Vernon has five players already past the 20-goal plateau while five others were within three goals of that mark.

The 11th player, Greg Kowal, is presently sitting with 13 tallies and at his present goal-scoring clip could conceivably reach 20, or better, having 17 games remaining in which to attempt the feat.

David Wensley still leads the Vernon club in individual scoring stats with 37 goals and 49 assists for 86 points, in just 41 games. Meanwhile defenceman Ken MacKenzie, who will reach the 20 goal plateau himself this season, has 76 points, based on 17 goals and 59 assists and occupies second spot on the team and fifth overall in the league.

MacKenzie's 59 assists makes him the top playmaker on the club and if he continues at his present pace may approach the BCJHL seasonal record for a defenceman.

The stocky blueliner also checks in, along with veteran Rob Kossan, as the two Ironmen on the Lakers' club, having been the only players to dress and play in all 43 games this season.

Kossan, by the way, is third place in team scoring and remains in the division's top 10 with 27 goals and 41 assists for 68 points.

Bob Wensley, despite playing only 30 games so far this season, has an impressive 35 goals and 62 points. If the team captain continues his impressive clip, he along with brother Dave, would also reach the 50-goal plateau for the regular season.

Here's how the Lakers' individual stats look:

PLAYER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Dave Wensley	41	37	49	86	64	+52
Ken MacKenzie	43	17	59	76	60	+53
Rob Kossan	43	27	41	68	36	+49
Bob Wensley	30	35	27	62	172	+41
Nick Kapicki	37	20	35	55	121	+33
Gavin Shuya	38	17	38	55	129	+50
Scott Young	30	22	31	53	87	+28
Glen Kirk	42	18	28	46	45	+31
Bruce Major	42	17	25	42	42	+17
Greg Kowal	36	13	26	39	35	+27
Alan Young	42	17	20	37	126	+23
Ron Berezowski	30	11	22	33	92	+24
Jeff Doerr	34	10	27	37	100	+5
Kevin Kobelka	33	10	17	27	29	+11
Tony Christie	32	4	9	13	67	+27
Shannon Pohl	14	4	7	11	36	+15
Chris Sauners	31	1	3	4	67	+15
Jim Young	20	0	1	1	8	
Peter Martin	8	0	0	0	2	