

Rangers prove unfriendly hosts

Revelstoke Rangers proved a bit too tough in their own corral as they upset Vernon Lakers 8-5, Saturday night.

The loss all but eliminates Lakers' hopes of overtaking Penticton Knights for first place in the BCJHL Interior Division.

"It was a combination of things," said Lakers' Coach Mike Enemark, referring to the reasons for his team's defeat. "Our guys were a little overconfident. They (Rangers) deserved to win though, we sat back and let them come at us and you can't do that against anybody in this league."

Ron Bonora scored twice for hometown Rangers while Bryant Perrier, Greg Pulliam, Guy Phillips, Ritchie Dusevic, Todd Torrens and Mike Bafaro added singles.

Bob Wensley scored a pair for Lakers, giving the Vernon captain 40 goals on the season. Nick Kapicki, Shannon Pohl and Glen Kirk rounded out the scoring with singles.

With six games remaining in their regular season schedule, Vernon will find themselves on the road for five of those six outings. They entertain Salmon Arm Totems in their last home game, Friday night.

In other BCJHL action on the weekend, Penticton Knights got four goals from soring sensation Brett Hull as they doubled Merritt Centennials 8-4. Salmon Arm also downed Summerland 8-5.

In other games Saturday, Summerland trimmed Merritt 6-2.

With his four goals and an assist, Hull is just 11 points shy of John Newberry's BCJHL points record of 182. Hull has four games remaining.

In Salmon Arm, Paul Torrey scored three goals and assisted on another to lead the Totems. Theo Van Gerwen and Kevin Taillefer each scored twice for the winners as well.

Greg Barber and Shawn Pettyjohn had two each for the Bucks.

In Summerland Saturday night, six players shared in Bucks' scoring in their win over the Cents. Jim Perrich, Brent Harrison, Dan Woodley, Tom Benson, Ward Carlson and Albert Anthony each scored once. Kevin Cheveldave scored both goals for Merritt.

Meanwhile, Enemark wants to shake things up a bit in Lakers' lineup before heading into the playoffs.

"This isn't the kind of hockey you want to play going into the playoffs," Enemark said. "We're going to change things a bit ... maybe rest a few days."

Lakers still have to win as many games as possible before the season ends

since it could make a monumental difference should they meet the Coastal Division winner for the BCJHL championship.

The team with the greatest winning percentage will get the home-ice advantage in that series.

Read enters slalom race

About 100 Canadian skiers, including Ken Read of Calgary, registered to compete in the Canadian Men's Slalom Championships today at Silver Star Mountain.

Read skied through fog and light snowfall to win the Export A Cup national super giant slalom championship, Saturday, at Rossland.

Today's race, also sponsored by Export A, has attracted 12 racers from the United States and one from England. However, due to three major events in the United States and one from England. However, due to three major events in the United States, many top skiers will not compete in the national finals.

Organizers said Saturday that none of the top 10 finishers last year, including defending champion Francois Jodoin of Quebec, had signed up for today's event.

Canada has a contingent of eight men at the world junior championship in Maine; top American racers are at the U.S. finals at Copper Mountain, Colo.; and Canada's top downhill racers, who have competed at the national slalom finals previously, are training for a World Cup event at Aspen, Colo.

Most of the top seeds are members of the national training team that competed in the Europa Cup series.

In Rossland, Read became the second skier in three days who refused to accept a trophy from the RJR MacDonald Tobacco Company, owners of Export A.

Steve Podborski had declined to take home an Export A Trophy for winning the downhill title, Thursday.

Read, 21, is the younger brother of former national team member Ken Read, the first prominent skier to speak out against tobacco company sponsorship of ski events.

Their father is a physician active against smoking, and their mother resigned from the alpine committee of the Canadian Ski Association over the sponsorship issue.

North Kamloops upsets Panthers

Vernon Panthers learned the pitfall of overconfidence Saturday night when they dropped a 70-62 decision to North Kamloops Saints.

Friday night Panthers secured first place in the South Zone of the Okanagan-Mainline Basketball League with a 101-76 romp over Kelowna. That win gave Panthers a record of 9-2. Saturday's loss dropped their record to 9-3, but didn't alter the standings.

"That's what happens when you have first place sewn up," said Panthers' Coach Jack Yamaoka. "The guys got cocky ... I think it was a good lesson for them, we've been talking all along about weaker teams knocking off the stronger ones."

Friday night, Panthers got 22 points from Rick Kaufmann and 21 from Lorne Babiuk as they rolled to an easy victory.

"We really hit the boards," said Yamaoka referring to Panthers' prowess in the rebounding department. Kaufmann grabbed 15 rebounds in that contest while Ken Zubyk had 12.

Against NorKam, Babiuk hit for 19 while Zubyk netted 14 points.

"We know now that anything can happen in high school basketball," said Yamaoka as his team heads into the Okanagan-Mainline playoff scheduled for Thursday, Friday and Saturday in Penticton.

Panthers get an opportunity to gain a measure of revenge for their loss Saturday, when they face Saints in the opening playoff round.

Four teams from each zone will compete in the playoffs.

"There are about five teams which can win the valleys," Yamaoka said. "I feel confident we can win it though."

Meanwhile, Vernon Royals finished their regular season on a winning note, bombing last place North

LOOK BACK FIVE YEARS

FEBRUARY, 1979

Kamloops Rockets thumped Vernon Cana-