

Lakers blast Centennials 8-1

Vernon Lakers jumped to an 8-1 lead after two periods and let that figure stand as they cruised through the third period without scoring during their match with hometown Merritt Centennials, Sunday night.

"We didn't blow them out once we got a good lead," said Lakers' General manager Carl Enemark. "It came off pretty good . . . we had no injuries. We played the whole game in the first two periods."

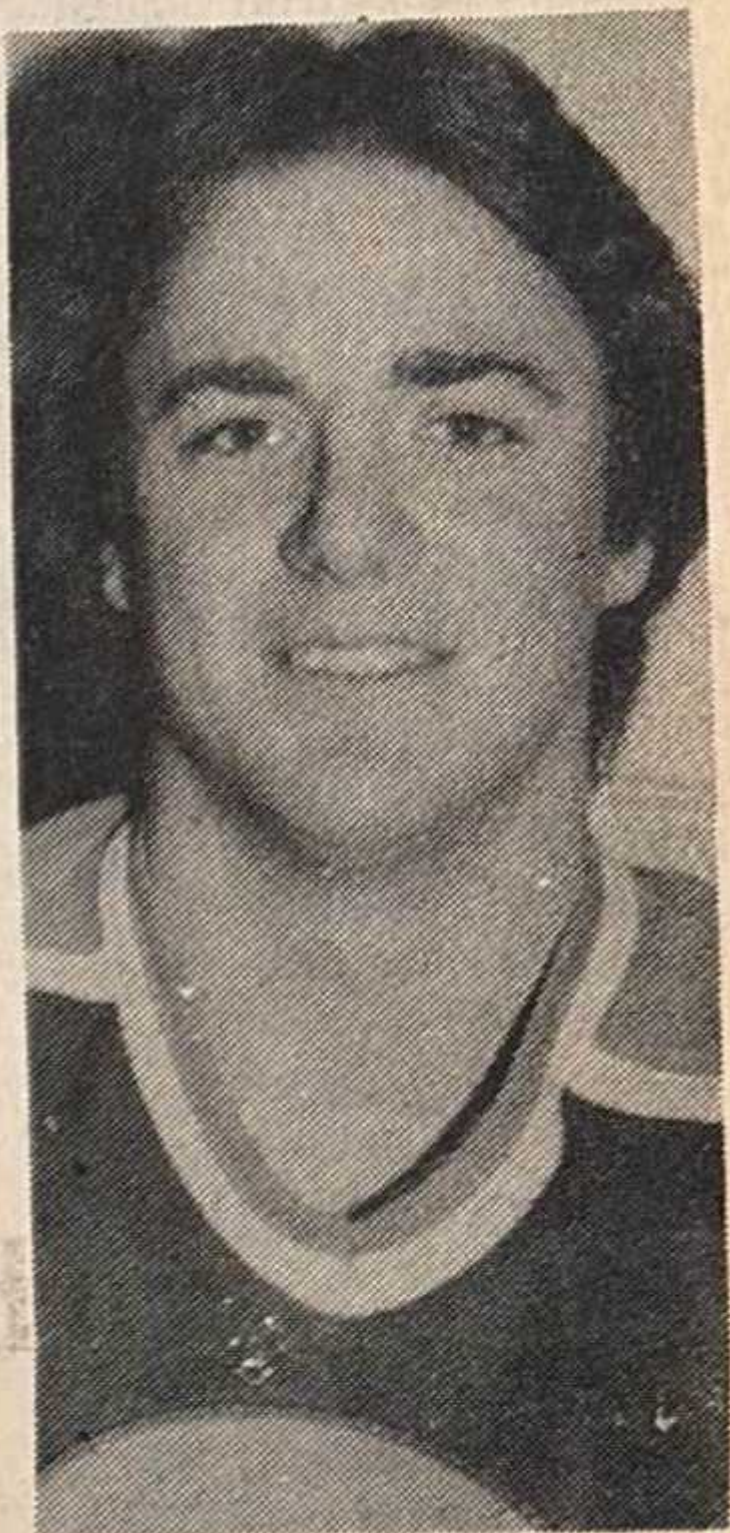
The win leaves Vernon two points back of Penticton Knights setting up the all-important contest between the two teams, Tuesday night, in Penticton. Lakers must win that game and their last regular season game against Salmon Arm while Knights must lose their final game against the hometown Revelstoke Rangers for Vernon to finish first.

The Revelstoke-Penticton contest may be a pre-playoff game as Knights will face Rangers in the first playoff round if they finish in first place.

If lakers place second, they'll face Summerland Buckaroos in the first playoff round. Rucks, reigning Interior Division champions, recently dealt Penticton a 6-4 loss in Penticton.

Vernon, meanwhile, is in good condition and spirits heading into the final week of the regular season.

Dave Wensley and Scott Young scored twice for lakers. It was numbers 47 and 48 for Wensley who leads the local club with 113 points. Young's two tallies give him 42 on the season and he is the fourth local player to surpass the 40-goal mark this season.



SCOTT YOUNG
. . . 42 goals

Other Vernon goal scorers included Rob Kossan, who notched his 44th goal on the season and his 100th point. Greg Kowal, with his 24th tally, Kevin Kobelka and Ken MacKenzie rounded out lakers' scoring.

Goal-scoring wizard Brent Demerais was the only Centennial to put one of 32 shots past Lakers' netminder Peter Martin.

Lakers peppered Merritt's Norm Schwing with 61 shots and led 3-0 at the end of the first period.

In BCJHL action Saturday night, Salmon Arm Totems skated to an easy 11-5 win over Merritt as Paul Tory scored three goals. Theo Van Gerwen and Kevin Traillifer added two each for the winners while Kevin Cheveldave had two for Centennials. The teams were tied 4-4 after one period but Totems went out front 8-5 in the middle frame.