

SUMMERLAND WINS SERIES 4-2

Bucks eliminate Lakers

By JIM JUDD

Daily News Sports

The end of the B.C. Junior Hockey League season came about for Vernon Lakers, Thursday, in Summerland. But instead of a swift merciful demise, Lakers suffered long and painfully at the hands of the Buckaroos.

Bucks scored on their first shot on net and never looked back as they trounced Lakers 7-1 to win their best-of-seven BCJHL quarter final series four games to two.

Bucks, considered underdogs in their series with Vernon, now face Penticton Knights for the Interior Championship while Lakers have an extra long vacation to reminisce on the promising season that never came about.

The whole story unfolded in the statistics, much as it did in the three



GAVIN SHUYA
... only goal

previous losses to the Bucks during this series. Vernon failed to score on six power-play opportunities while their penalty-killing unit, only

slightly more effective, allowed the Bucks to capitalize on three of five opportunities.

Vernon's only goal of the game, just 16 seconds into the second period, was a gift as an errant shot off the boards deflected into the net off the skate of Summerland goaltender Mark Taylor.

Taylor, who rightly deserves to be named the series most valuable player for his outstanding service between the pipes for the Bucks, hardly needed his lightning-like reflexes or unbeatable glove-hand in guiding Summerland to their most convincing victory of the series. Lakers mustered only a handful of good scoring opportunities and none of those in the third period.

Bucks opened the scoring, for the fifth time in six games when Lakers'

defence gave up the puck in their zone and Brent Mowery was afforded a clear shot on starting goaltender Peter Martin. A quick-release slapshot sent the puck between Martin's legs and the game was all but over only moments after it began.

A power-play marker at 17:40 gave Summerland a two-goal lead at the end of one period... almost an insurmountable lead by the way this series had been played.

Lakers got on the board with the fluke goal early in the second period but Bucks, determined not to let Lakers mount any kind of offence, put three successive goals past Martin before the period ended to salt the game and series away.

Kelly Evin tallied at 10:08 while Brent Harrison and Dan Woodley notched goals on man-

advantage situations to give Summerland a 5-1 lead after two periods.

Period number saw a ho-hum Lakers squad go through the motions while the Bucks, equally at ease, drifted in another pair of goals to add insult to injury.

"I can't believe it," said Summerland coach Wayne Naka. "They just went through the motions... I never thought they'd just lay down like that."

While Naka may have been surprised at his team's easy victory and well-deserved series win, Lakers' coach Mike Enemark was willing to concede his inexperience behind the bench may have been one of the key factors.

"We got rattled, there's no doubt about it," suggested Enemark. "We also got out-coached... if there was a series edge it



MIKE ENEMARK
... rattled

was probably that.

"It's a tough way to lose. The toughest part is we won't get a chance to get at Penticton now."

The Summerland-

Penticton series will get under way Saturday night, in Penticton, with game two scheduled Monday.

Meanwhile, in other BCJHL playoff action Thursday night, Nanaimo Clippers evened their best-of-seven series 3-3 by downing Richmond Sockeyes 7-4.

In Richmond, Ken Clement, Gord Simpson and Carey Coroy scored two apiece to lead Nanaimo and Dale Brisco added a single.

Don Rintala, Richard Novak, Eric Catchpole and David Phipps scored for Richmond, which trailed 2-0 after the first period and 5-3 after two periods.

Chris Dickson made 22 saves in Richmond net while Ken Trousdell stopped 34 in Nanaimo's goal.

The teams meet tonight in Penticton for the deciding game.