

Lakers blow lead but earn single point

Vernon Lakers came within a hair's length of winning their second straight hockey game Sunday night in Salmon Arm but came away with a 4-4 draw against the hometown Totems.

The single point keeps Lakers undefeated string intact and vaults the local club into second place, one point back of front-running Penticton Knights who defeated Summerland Buckaroos 6-5 and have two wins and no losses so far this season.

Lakers' coach Mike Enemark had mixed emotions about the outcome of the contest.

"We should have won the game," said Enemark. "We outplayed them badly in overtime."

However, Enemark added, in the same breath that he was happy

to have gotten three points for a weekend's work.

"We got three of four possible points against two teams we weren't suppose to do well against," explained Enemark. "We're pretty pleased right now."

Lakers emerged from the first period with a 2-1 lead based on what Enemark described as a lot of luck but in the second period Lakers outplayed the host team and retired to the dressing room with a 3-1 lead. Trouble quickly developed for the young club in the third frame though.

"We were outplayed in the third period but we were short-handed so much it didn't surprise me," Enemark said. "Being a young team we sat back and let them come at us when we had a lead . . . it frustrated me in a way but we

got a single point and playing .500 hockey on the road is good."

Local player Duane Jackson led the Vernon squad with a pair of goals while newcomers Brad Boulton and Shawn Lofroth accounted for the other two tallies. Terry Head scored twice for Totems.

Meanwhile, the outstanding display of goaltending by veteran netminder Jim Young aided the Lakers in maintaining their tie. Lakers were outshot 37-28 by the Salmon Arm team.

In other BCJHL action on the weekend, Burnaby downed Abbotsford 7-4 and Merritt defeated Revelstoke 5-3. Sunday it was Richmond Sockeyes over Sidney Capitals 8-4 with local players Henry Reimer and Bruce Major each scoring twice for Sockeyes.