

Late rally gives Lakers win

By JIM JUDD
Daily News Sports

Brad Boulton's short-handed goal at 6:52 of the third period, tied the game at 5-5, inspiring Vernon Lakers to score four more times in the final stanza and defeat visiting Sidney Capitals 9-6 Friday night at Vernon Civic arena.

The win leaves Lakers undefeated after their first three games of the BC-JHL regular season and in second place in the Interior Division, one point back of Penticton Knights who defeated visiting Nanaimo Clippers 8-7 Friday.

Vernon coach Mike Enemark whistled through his teeth after his club earned the two points Friday. Considering the fashion in which Lakers played the first two periods, he could have just as easily been lamenting over a loss however.

"We came out playing a lot better in the third period," offered Enemark in an understated tone. "That's the first third period we've won this year."

On the other hand, Capitals, who haven't won a game in three starts and have allowed 32 goals against in those games, have a coach who isn't panicking.

"It's a brand new team, 20 guys that never played together before," said Ron Clarke, Capitals' coach. "I haven't got a defenceman over 18 but I'm not panicking... we'll be competitive."

Clarke formerly coached Scarborough Sabres of the Ontario Hockey Association.

While Clarke faulted his defensive corps, Enemark felt the entire team had improvements to be made.

"They're tough to play because they don't play their positions," explained Enemark.

Veteran centre Nick Kapicki made his on-ice debut against Capitals and didn't disappoint either fans or Lakers' coaching staff as he scored twice and set up two others. Kapicki's second goal, sandwiched between tallies by Kyle Johnson and Greg Kowal, was the game winner. The three goals were scored in a span of a minute and 25 seconds in the third period.

Kowal, wearing the captaincy for the local club this season, also had two goals and missed numerous opportunities to complete his hat-trick for the evening.

Sophomore defensive standout Tony Christie also turned in a two-goal performance while Johnson, Boulton, and Frank Dutoff, into the empty net with five seconds remaining, rounded out Lakers' scoring.

Third-year veteran and all-star Rene Command had two goals for the Capitals while former Summerland Buckaroos' star Brent Harrison also turned in a pair of markers. Tony Allison and Brian Sweeney, with singles, completed the Sidney scoring.

The clubs traded two goals each in the first period while Capitals led 5-4 after 40 minutes.

Lakers outshot the Coastal Division Capitals by a healthy margin of 59-29.

Despite the disparity in shots on goal, Enemark still felt compelled to pull starter Glen Mitchell at 6:32 on the second frame following Harrison's second goal that gave Sidney a 4-2 lead. Enemark's decision to go with a rookie goaltender reflected some of the basic lethargic attitude on the team towards the lowly Capitals.

"We had the attitude that we just had to go through the motions to beat these guys," admitted Enemark who was almost victimized by the stories of ineptitude which preceded Capitals' trip to Vernon.

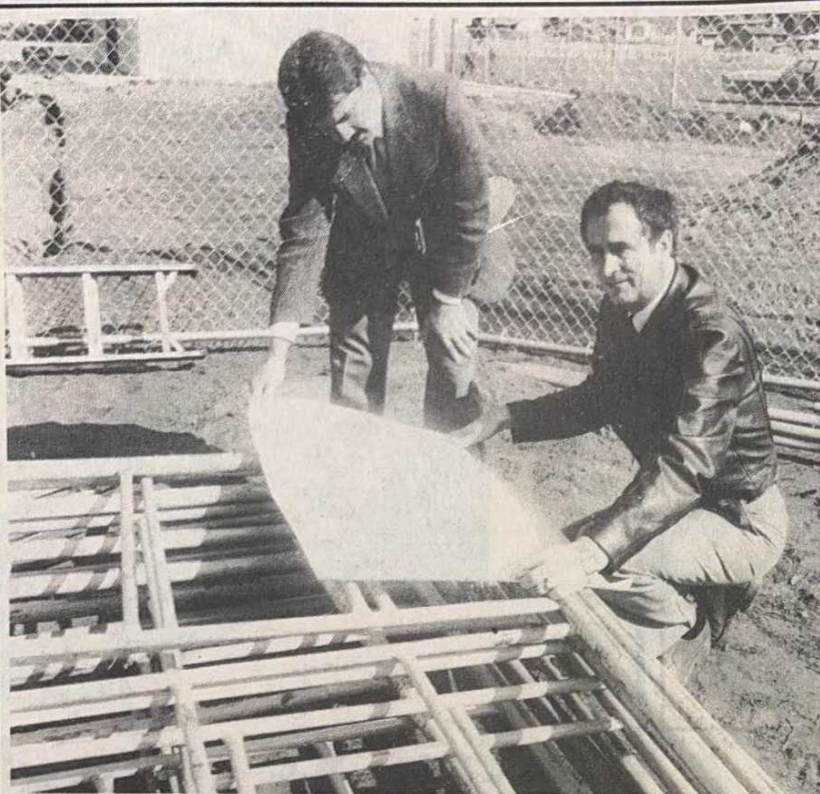
Meanwhile, Lakers are in action this evening at 8 pm at Civic arena as they play host to St. Paul Junior Vulcans in an exhibition contest. Vulcans belong to the United States Hockey League, an equivalent junior league to the BCJHL. Enemark is expecting a high-flying affair.

"I'm expecting a fast, exciting hockey game," he said. "We hope to give the Vernon fans a good variety of hockey... and any game situation is good for your club."

In other BCJHL action Friday night Todd Brost scored three goals to lead Penticton over Nanaimo. Ed Christofoli had two goals for the winners, including the winning marker.

Mitch Poulin had three goals for Clippers who played to period draws of 3-3 and 5-5 with Penticton.

In the only other game played Friday, Langley Eagles defeated Burnaby Bluehawks 8-3 in a Coastal Division contest.



GVPRD Committee Chairman Eric Reich, right, and Vernon Parks and Recreation Supervisor Gary Holte look over the

plans for a new park on the Graham property, in Southwest Vernon. The park includes four softball fields,

soccer field, playground area, and washrooms. It is expected to be operational next year. (Daily News Photo)

South Vernon park may be ready in 1985

Help is on the way for the ever... ing in 1985, like we did this year... then originally planned to open...

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