

Bucks hand Lakers season's first loss

By JIM JUDD
Daily News Sports

Losing your first hockey game of the season is bad enough. Having to endure the loss on top of a slow, dull game augmented by dismal officiating was too much for Vernon Lakers coach Mike Enemark to takt Friday night in Summerland.

Enemark, ejected from the game following a confrontation with referee Paul Cochrane in the walkway between the first and second periods, watched helplessly from the sidelines as the hometown Buckaroos defeated his team 6-1.

SECOND PLACE

Lakers are not in second place in the BCJHL Interior division, one point back of Penticton Knights who downed visiting Revelstoke Rangers 7-3 Friday night. Lakers lead Summerland, in third place, by a single point.

"I've seen better officiating in Pee Wee hockey," said Enemark who remained composed despite the ejection. "Fans don't want to come out and see that garbage."

73 MINUTES

Cochrane assessed 73 minutes in penalties in the first period alone with a similar number coming in each of the two periods that followed. Besides Enemark, Lakers' centre Kyle Johnson was ejected as well while Summerland seized the numerous opportunities to score a pair of power-play tallies en route to a 3-0 first period lead.

Enemark wasn't alone in his vindication of Cochrane's officiating, however.

"It's the worst reffed junior hockey game I've been involved in in my life," said Bucks' coach Joe Beggs, who, along with Enemark expressed disbelief at the way the game was slowed to a standstill by poor quality officiating. "He (Cochrane) lost control right from the start... it's a shame people had to sit through it."

The Summerland crowd didn't go home disappointed mind you. Craig Bedard scored twice to lead Bucks to their third win in five starts while team-mates Campbell Blair, Ed Tuckwood, Shawn Pettyjohn, and Brent Mowery added singles to hand high-flying Lakers their only loss so far this season.

HAD CHANCES

"We had our chances," added Enemark following his verbal disenchantment with the games' refereeing. "It's not all the referee's fault, we didn't play well. Inconsistency has been one of our biggest problems this season."

After falling behind 3-0 in the first period, Vernon's Mark legare put the club back in the game at the 9:12 mark of the second period when he was all alone at the side of the net and simply redirected centre Dave Millan's pass.

However, a pair of goals by Bedard and Mowery to close the period gave Bucks a 5-1 lead after two stanzas.

Lakers failed to capitalize on a five-minute power-play opportunity starting the third period, setting the

scene for Bedard's second goal and the icing on the cake for Bucks.

In Penticton Knights got two-goal performances from Shawn Harrison, Erron Scott, and Murray Winnicki while John De Pourcq added a single. Bryant Perrior scored all three Revelstoke goals. It was his second consecutive three-goal night in a losing cause.

In other BCJHL action Friday night, Langley Eagles defeated Nanaimo Clippers 3-1 on the hot goaltending of Tyler Findlater. John Basco, Rod Ware, and Keith Fair scored for the defending League champion Eagles who led 1-0 and 3-1 by periods.

Lakers are at home tonight to face the slumping Revelstoke Rangers. Naturally Enemark would like to forget his club's first loss and concentrate on getting back into the win column.

"We have to get a fresh mind and get back to basics," said Enemark. "It'll be nice to play at home again, usually after a bad game you get a good clean contest the next night."

Game time is 8 p.m. at Vernon Civic arena.

Basketball refs schedule clinic

A nine-hour basketball officiating course will take place on three evenings, between Oct. 9 and 23.

Successful participants will receive their community Level 1 officiating certificates.

The topics to be covered include philosophy of officiating; organization of officials; technical terms; scoring and timing; mechanics and signals; floor positioning and court coverage; contact situation, fouls and penalties; and rule changes.

The course is open to males and females and will be held at Vernon Recreation Complex, on consecutive Tuesdays, Oct. 9, 16, and 23.

Mel Briggeman, a senior basketball official with Vernon Basketball Referees Association, will be chief instructor for the course. Briggeman has won both the B.C. Basketball and Basketball Canada awards for officiating development.

Included in the cost of the course is a case book, rule book, handouts and the level 1 officiating certificate.

Anyone wishing to attend one of the sessions may pay a drop-in fee on arrival.

Register at Vernon Recreation Complex until Oct. 5.