



THE ACTION went end-to-end Tuesday night as Vernon Lakers dropped a 7-3 game to the hometown Penticton Knights. At left, captain Greg Kowal moves in alone on



Knights' goaltender Grant McPhail while in the photo at right, Lakers' defenceman Chris Saunders struggles against a persistent Penticton forward in the Vernon goal

crease. Knights victimized starting goaltender Darrel Dickens for three quick goals in the opening minutes of the game. (Daily News Photos)

STREAKS CONTINUE

Knights dump Lakers

By JIM JUDD
Daily News Sports
Two streaks remain intact following Vernon Lakers' first regular season encounter with Penticton Knights, in the Peach City, Tuesday night.

Knights' consecutive win streak stands at 10 games while Vernon's streak of ineptitude in Penticton continues into its third season.

Knights scored three times, on their first three shots, in the first three minutes of the opening

period, en route to a 7-3 victory over visiting Lakers. The win leaves Penticton in first place in the BCJHL Interior Division with 10 wins, no losses and no ties. Vernon remains in second place with seven wins, four losses and a tie.

The blame for Tuesday night's ordeal lies in the hands of Vernon Coach Mike Enemark whose inability to cope with the present led him to make a severe tactical error based on his shortcomings of the past.

Enemark chose to go with Darrel Dickens, a recent cut from Nanaimo Clippers and an unproven starter, in goal. Although the young netminder had only a slim chance on any of the first three quick goals, his nervousness and inexperience stood out like a sore thumb.

Dickens was replaced with veteran Jim Young at the 2:59 mark whereupon Young set to astonish the 600 fans and impress Knights' Coach Rick Kozuback with his outstanding

goaltending ability. "Jim Young did a really good job," offered Kozuback. "He showed a lot of composure."

Enemark, meanwhile, defended his actions by delving into hockey superstitions.

"Jim (Young) has never won a game here (Penticton) and Darrell (Dickens) has looked good in practice so I used him," explained the Vernon coach. "It was my decision."

Lakers, after inserting Young, held Knights off the scoreboard for almost 30 minutes of end-to-end hockey before the high-flying Penticton squad struck for a pair of unanswered second period tallies.

Down 5-0 going into the third frame, Lakers made a game of it with three consecutive goals in the final period only to have Knights salt the game away with two more of their own in the final half of the stanza.

Veteran captain Greg Kowal broke the silence for the Vernon guys when he scored a power-play marker at 5:18 of the third period. Less than a minute later, defenceman Brian Burlingame fired a long rebound from the point into an open net. Centre Dave Milan converted a passing play from Kowal and Wes Gentles to close the gap to 5-3 at the 10:48 mark.

For Knights, John Depurque scored twice in a span of 22 seconds in the first period. Aaron Scott, also with a goal in the first three minutes, scored twice as did Scott Rawson. Former Summerland forward Shawn Harrison completed the scoring for Penticton.

Young was called on to make 44 saves while Lakers directed 29 shots at Penticton's Grant McPhail.

JUDD'S JOURNAL

Skills taught



A couple of items coming your way today, one from the learn-to-crawl-before-you-can-walk department and the other from the continuing saga of brotherly love on the local junior hockey scene.

They say you just can't improve on a good thing and that message is clearly outlined in a new program initiated by directors and volunteers working with the novice house league in the Vernon Minor Hockey Association.

The story appears just a turn of the page away on the Daily News Minor Sports page. Anyone who's gone through years of frustration trying to get their kids to get something out of the minor hockey system should take a look.

It seems that a lot of people were noticing that boys at all levels of minor hockey just didn't seem to have a grasp of the basic fundamentals. Many haven't even acquired basic skating skills in spite of years spent in the minor hockey system.

NO SECRET

While a lot of attention is afforded youngsters in the rep team system, and rightly so, it was no secret that the house league boys were running second fiddle in many areas. However, it was mostly in the areas of ice time and the availability of quality coaching that the real crunch was felt.

It's been a bone of contention everywhere that the house league players weren't receiving the same attention as rep team players. It's only been recently that people in the Vernon minor system decided it was time to do something about the situation, rather than just lament about it.

The idea, implemented by Ken Fraser, director of the novice division, was to begin a "grassroots" training program. They would start with the idea that youngsters know absolutely nothing about the game of hockey and take it from there.

FUNDAMENTALS

Since the minor hockey season began this year novice players have spent every moment of their ice time receiving instruction in skating, passing, and shooting fundamentals. Meanwhile, the basic aspects of the game are also being incorporated into the program a little at a time.

There are presently no games being played, other than brief mini-games involving two-on-tuos. These are to be stepped up gradually until the kids will be playing five-on-five game situations using the entire ice surface rather than just a small portion as is currently the case.

So far the program has been met with very little skepticism. There's already a noticeable improvement in the skills exhibited by the youngsters and more parents are getting actively involved. Also, the kids are enjoying themselves, having more fun and participating far more than they would be if they were simply getting two-minute shifts during a game situation, once per week.

The net result should be a significant improvement in the quantity of quality players graduating through the minor hockey ranks. And, if you know how to play the game it makes it a lot more fun.

The best part of it is that while the system seems somewhat radical to patrons of the sport, it was made available to the local directors by the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association in response to a request from local board members. It was there all the time, but nobody had asked for it.

Gradually, as the youngsters become more familiar with the fundamentals, they'll be able to attack the sport at a more competitive level. For now, the competition has been removed and replaced with a lot of good old-fashioned fun.

BROTHER ACTS

In the brotherly love department, news comes our way that Vernon Lakers will be receiving, as a result of a trade made previously with Richmond Raiders, a player by the name of Stacey Hartnell. Although it doesn't ring a familiar bell at this point, Lakers fans may be interested to know that Hartnell is the twin brother of Sean Hartnell, who is already a playing member of the Vernon junior team.

In previous seasons a number of brother acts have performed for the Vernon hockey club. Two seasons ago it was the brothers Doucette, Brent and Glen. Last season there were two brother acts with the club, Bob and David Wensley, and Scott and Alan Young.

FOUR POHLS

However, the largest single family in junior hockey in western Canada, is in Salmon Arm where there are four Pohls playing for the Totems. Three are triplets, Trevor, Terry, and Troy, who joined older brother Shannon, formerly with Vernon.

The Pohl brothers hail from Grande Prairies, Alta. which was also home of the Young brothers, before their family moved to Vernon. The Pohls could almost give the Sutter brothers, of Viking, Alta., a run for their money . . . in numbers anyway.

And, just as a cautious reminder, don't forget to buy at least one Big Mac today and help a worthy cause involving children with cancer and their families.

After all this, you really do deserve a break!

Penston rink makes trip west

By DON KENDALL
Daily News Sports Editor

Brian Penston is not a well-known curler around British Columbia clubs, but he might be after this weekend.

Penston, from Winnipeg, is bringing his team to Vernon for the 11th annual Carling O'Keefe Car Spiel, which gets under way Friday morning. Thirty-two rinks will compete for \$50,000 in cash and cars.

Penston has been one of the top curlers in Manitoba for several years, but until he won the recent PWA Cash Bonspiel, at Winnipeg, he was virtually unknown west of the Red River.

He is looking forward to his trip to Vernon. "All I've heard is good things about Vernon," Penston said. "The only reason more Manitoba teams don't come to the Car Spiel is the time involved. We have to leave home on Thursday and we can't fly home until the following Tuesday. That means we have to take four days off work."

The 32-year-old skip is cautiously optimistic. "With the level of competition, I'd be crazy to predict we're going to win," he said, "but I do expect us to be competitive in every game we play. Our goal is to qualify for the playoffs . . . that will cover our expenses."

Penston won several small cash bonspiels before placing third in the

Manitoba playdowns last year. His first major victory was the PWA event, which paid his team \$12,000 prize money.

He said, "I expect the Car Spiel to be as tough as any bonspiel we've played in . . . probably about the same as the PWA event. We'll be up against a lot of teams from Alberta and B.C. that we've never played before."

Penston's trip to B.C. will be brief. The Winnipeg foursome will go directly from Vernon to Thunder Bay, Ont. for a cash bonspiel.

Other members of Penston's rink are third Dale Duguid, second Marc Montanti, and lead Scott Mundie. Duguid's father, Don, won the Canadian championship in 1970 and 1971. The elder Duguid is now a curling commentator for CBC-TV.

"This is the first season we've been together," Penston said, "but we certainly aren't strangers. We've curled at the same club for several years and Dale played a few games for me last season."

Three former Canadian champions are among the 31 rinks that will be battling Penston for the first prize of four new automobiles. Orest Meleschuk of Winnipeg (1972), Rick Folk of Saskatoon (1978), and Ed Lukowich of Calgary (1980) are among the pre-spiel favorites.

PLAYOFF ATMOSPHERE

Lions playing with intensity

VANCOUVER (CP) — British Columbia Lions have performed in a playoff-like atmosphere the past four weeks in their attempt to repeat as champions of the Western Division of the Canadian Football League, head coach Don Matthews said Tuesday.

The Lions have won three times and tied another to keep pace with Winnipeg Blue Bombers. The teams meet Saturday at B.C. Place Stadium to determine the regular-season champion and the host for the western final Nov. 11.

"We've been playing what we consider playoff football for four games," Matthews said. "After we lost two in a row, we said to ourselves, 'From now on, it's playoff time for us.'"

"We're playing at a

good, intense level in trying to achieve our goal of first place. I'm delighted with our road to this last game because we've won three of four games away from home."

B.C. suffered two humiliating defeats — 33-17 to Montreal Concordes and 37-28 to Saskatchewan Roughriders — before putting together their current four-game undefeated streak.

The Lions edged the Eskimos 34-32 in Edmonton when Roy Dewalt (now injured) threw four touchdown passes; tied Toronto Argonauts 21-21 on a late touchdown by Ron Robinson; swamped the Rough Riders 33-17 in Ottawa when quarterback Tim Cowan hooked up with Merv Fernandez on four touchdown passes; clobbered the Stampeders 41-13 in

Calgary when Cowan threw four more scoring passes, including three to Fernandez.

DEFENCE TOUGH
The stingy B.C. defence, which leads the CFL in allowing just 18.5 points a game, also has not yielded a touchdown in two games.

"It's great to be back home and play the most important game of the season in front of a sold-out house," said Matthews. "The crowd gets involved in the game and certainly will help us."

B.C. Place Stadium has been sold out (59,409 tickets) and the league blackout restrictions will not be lifted for the game, said general manager Bob Ackles.

The Lions have received a huge lift from Cowan, the second-year pro who became the star-

ting pivot when Dewalt suffered a broken collarbone Oct. 6 against Toronto.

Cowan completed 47 of 72 passes for 739 yards against Ottawa and Calgary for eight touchdowns. Each of Cowan's three starting assignments this year have come on the road.

Dewalt, finished for the season, was the B.C. quarterback July 22 when the Blue Bombers won 25-3 in Winnipeg. The Bombers used a blitzing defence, led by linebacker Tyrone Jones, which often confused Dewalt.

"I think we can make the necessary adjustments this time against Winnipeg," Dewalt said. "Tim can do some things to counter the blitzes."

"Tim is playing well, real smart, not letting the pressure get to him. He's taking what the defences give him and that's what a good quarterback should do."

BRILLIANT RECORD

The Lions are 6-1 at home this season, losing only to Saskatchewan and have a 17-3-1 record since moving into the domed stadium in 1983.

Fernandez, who broke his own club record last week when his reception total rose to 82, also has tied the CFL record with 17 touchdown receptions



DON MATTHEWS
... crowd helps

in one season, set by Hugh Campbell of Saskatchewan in 1966 and equalled by Terry Evansen of Calgary the next season.

Matthews said he will not announce his lineup changes until Friday. Running back David Toloumu suffered a knee injury against Calgary and is out two weeks.

The Lions would insert another rookie running back, Keyvan Jenkins, or return defensive back Ed Jones to the active roster.

Jones sat out the Calgary game with a knee problem and Darnell Clash was inserted to return kicks.

Nowel takes top spot in handicap tourney

Ed Nowel bowled a five-game total of 1402 to win the Rosman Bros. Singles Handicap Bowling Tournament, held recently, at Vernon's Lincoln Lanes.

Just slightly off the pace set by Nowel was Stak Skidmore who sewed up second place by bowling a total of 1380 pins. Diane Falconer was just five pins out of second place with 1375.

Fourth place in the category went to

Nashir Kassam with 1353.

Helen Franklin topped the ladies' high single game competition with a superlative 291 and was the recipient of a bouquet of roses, donated by Rosman Bros. Auto.

Gary Gallagher was tops in the men's high single category with a 321. Gallagher received a gift certificate for his effort.

LOOK BACK FIVE YEARS

OCTOBER, 1979
Vernon Motor Products edged Coldstream Hotel 3-2, in double overtime, to capture the inaugural Vernon City Soccer

League playoff championship. Randall Krause scored the winning goal for VMP, just three minutes before the end of the second overtime.