

Lakers suffer another setback

Summerland Buckaroos handed Vernon lakers their fourth consecutive loss Sunday afternoon, dropping visiting lakers 5-3.

The four-game losing streak leaves Lakers at .500 hockey with a record of seven wins, seven losses and a tie although the local club still holds down second place in the BCJHL Interior Division by a slim margin.

Meanwhile, Penticton Knights returned from a disastrous road swing through the Coast Division by closing out the trip with a 7-4 loss to Richmond Sockeyes. Knights continue to lead the Interior with 12 wins and three losses.

Despite the losing streak, Lakers' Coach Mike Enemark doesn't feel it's worth pushing the panic button, though he does admit it's some cause for concern.

"I'm worried but it's no reason to panic," Enemark said. "We played very well today (Sunday) but we lost."

"We have a lot of new faces in the lineup and it's



SHANNON POHL
... rejoins Lakers

going to take some time to get everyone accustomed to the new faces."

One of the new faces is familiar to Vernon hockey fans. Shannon Pohl is back in a Lakers' jersey following a trade made with Revelstoke Rangers that sent forward Randy Kaler to the

Rangers. Pohl was traded to Revelstoke last week, by Salmon Arm Totems, for defenceman Gary Ruff.

Pohl scored once Sunday while Greg Kowal notched his 14th tally, in 15 games. Camille Simard, just back on skates, scored his first of the season to complete the Vernon scoring.

Saturday night, Lakers were doubled 4-2 by the hometown Rangers. Centre Dave Milan had both Vernon goals while Jody Burk, Verne Kinley, Aaron Nosky and Kevin Horn counted for Rangers.

"Our biggest problem lately is that we've given up goals in the first five minutes of the game," explained Enemark. "That's been the only frustrating thing... you can't afford that sort of thing, especially against good clubs."

Although Lakers have a proven starter in Jim Young, the backup goaltending position has been somewhat suspect since the beginning of the season. Just released was backup Jeff Lord while Darrel Dickens, with a good showing in Revelstoke Saturday, will fill the void for the time being.

In addition to goaltending, defence has proven to be a problem area for Vernon. Enemark is reluctant to shoulder too much responsibility on his blueline corps though.

"We've got a young defence and we've got injuries too," he said. "Tony (Christie) is our only experienced man on the blueline."

Lakers have veteran Chris Saunders nursing a minor knee injury at the moment and on top of that the defenceman has a cast on his left wrist. Speedster Shaun Lofroth, whom Lakers count on to pack the puck out of their end in a hurry, is sidelined with a broken arm.

The remaining members of the corps, while big and tough, have been floundering, especially in Lakers defensive zone where they've played a major role in the 23 goals the club has given up in the last four losses.

Lakers' next game is at home, Friday night, when they host Summerland.



JOHN BOX, of Vernon Cougars, is jammed along the boards as he tries to maintain control of the puck during Sunday's game between Cougars and visiting Trail Smoke Eaters. There were

punishing checks thrown by both clubs in the weekend double bill that saw Smoke Eaters earn victories of 10-3, Saturday, and 6-3, Sunday. (Daily News Photo)

Juveniles undefeated

Vernon Coca-Cola Juvenile Reps earned their third victory, in as many starts, Sunday night in Kelowna as they trimmed the hometown Kelowna Juveniles 11-7.

Despite the win, Vernon Coach Al Noakes wasn't particularly pleased with the fact that his club allowed the opposition to score seven goals.

"We really shouldn't have allowed seven goals," said Noakes. "We made some mistakes in the second period and they popped three quick ones on us."

Vernon led 3-0 after 20 minutes and had a comfortable 5-1 lead late in the second frame. Three quick goals pulled the hometown juvenile squad to within a goal of Vernon after 40 minutes.

Brian Burns paced Vernon juveniles with three goals and four assists while Bill Baron also scored three times and set up one other. Dale Danallanko had two goals and two assists while Geoff Porter, Darren Silience and Ben Sudol, with singles, completed the scoring.

In three games Vernon has outscored their opposition by a healthy margin of 42-15.

The victory was not without its cost in manpower to the local club.

Second-year defenceman Alan Tomiak went down with a shoulder separation in the game and will be lost for an indefinite period of time while the injury heals.

"He (Tomiak) has been playing very steady for us," said the Vernon coach. "It always hurts when you lose someone who's doing the job for you."

The local juveniles will be idle through the week but will see action next Saturday when it travels to Penticton. Sunday, the Vernon club will host Salmon Arm, at Civic Arena.

Smoke Eaters dump Cougars

Vernon Cougars dropped a pair of home games to visiting Trail Smoke Eaters, losing 6-3 in a hard-fought contest Sunday afternoon and 10-3 Saturday night.

"I expected them to be good, I knew they were strong," said Cougars' Coach George Fargher. "Saturday night we were a little bit in awe of them."

The opening night loss stunned Cougars but never stopped them from playing a tough, physical contest Sunday. However, playing a physical game led to a few too many penalties.

"We played a little more physical Sunday, but we took a few too many penalties," said Fargher. "We can't afford them against the good teams."

"I was a little disappointed Saturday night," Fargher added. "We weren't skating at all and we had a real lack of intensity and desire."

Lack of intensity and desire never affected

veteran centre Terry Lowe however. Lowe scored twice in Sunday's game while collecting an assist on the third goal by Kelly Rosehill. Saturday night, Lowe scored once with Tom Ouchi and Rob York also getting singles. John Box had a pair of assists.

Cougars got excellent goaltending from Brian Fester, Sunday, and in the second half of the game Saturday night. Fester was especially sharp in the second period Sunday when he held the club in the game despite facing 17 shots, many at close range.

Starter Al Lidstone was replaced by Fester in the second period, Saturday, after being victimized for seven goals by the Smoke Eaters.

"Al (Lidstone) never played that bad," admitted Fargher. "A couple of goals he was screened... I just felt I should get him out before he had to face too many goals."

The pair of losses leaves Cougars' record at

three wins and five defeats for the season. The next games are scheduled to take place in Kamloops, but that is dependant on whether Kamloops can get ice-time.

"We could have the weekend off if they (Kamloops) can't get the ice," said Fargher.

Meanwhile, several Cougars' fans went home happy despite the losses by their team. I. Crerar, of Vernon, was the winner of a trip for two to Las Vegas while Colin Matejka won a pair of tickets to see Calgary Flames versus Montreal Canadiens, Nov. 11, in Calgary.

LOOK BACK FIVE YEARS

OCTOBER, 1979

Vernon Blues clinched a berth in the Okanagan senior soccer championships by battling to a 1-1 draw with Kamloops Red Devils on Thursday at VSSS.