

VERNON 5 RANGERS 4

Lakers win game but lose GM

By JIM JUDD
Daily News Sports

Vernon Lakers overcame a 2-0 second period deficit to earn a 5-4 victory over visiting Revelstoke Rangers Friday night at Civic arena but the win came too late to alter General manager Wayne Sorci's decision to resign his post with the club.

Sorci, convinced the local junior club's chances for improvement are being hindered by the inexperience of the coaching staff, resigned his position when Team President Carl Enemark refused to make any changes in his coaching.

Sorci, who joined the club mid-way through the 1983-84 campaign, officially left his position Friday morning.

"I resigned because of our coaching," said Sorci,

making no attempt to disguise his feelings. "I do not feel our coaching staff is doing a good job and President Carl Enemark refused to make a move so I quit."

Mike Enemark, meanwhile, felt Sorci's actions may have been a bit premature. "We've totally rebuilt the club and we've played three quarters of our games on the road at this point," he said. "I feel we've had a lot of personnel problems lately, we've made a lot of player changes and moves and we need some time."

Lakers' win Friday evening their record to nine wins, nine losses and a tie, good enough for third place and leaves them with a .500 winning percentage.

They have played 12 of their first 19 games on the



WAYNE SORCI
... resigns post

road at this point. The total includes a five and two record in home games and a 4-7-1 record in away contests.

"We have some good

players with good potential on the Lakers, but they aren't getting proper direction and leadership from our coaches," added Sorci. There are several good people, with experience, interested in taking over as head coach but I'm afraid that until a change is made there will be little, or no improvement in the Lakers."

Rangers' Troy Kaye almost single-handedly proved Sorci's point as he scored three times and set up a fourth goal by Verne Kinley. Kaye's first two goals gave Revelstoke a 2-0 lead with the first in the opening frame and the second coming just 2:45 into the second period.

However, veteran Nick Kapicki found the puck sitting on the goal crease just half a minute after Rangers' second goal and



SHANNON POHL
... winning goal

scooped it in to narrow the score to 2-1.

Centre Dave Milan evened the score before the period ended when he let go a blistering drive

off his opposite foot. The goal was set up by diminutive Kyle Johnson who drew off the defence before finding Milan clear at the top of the face-off circle.

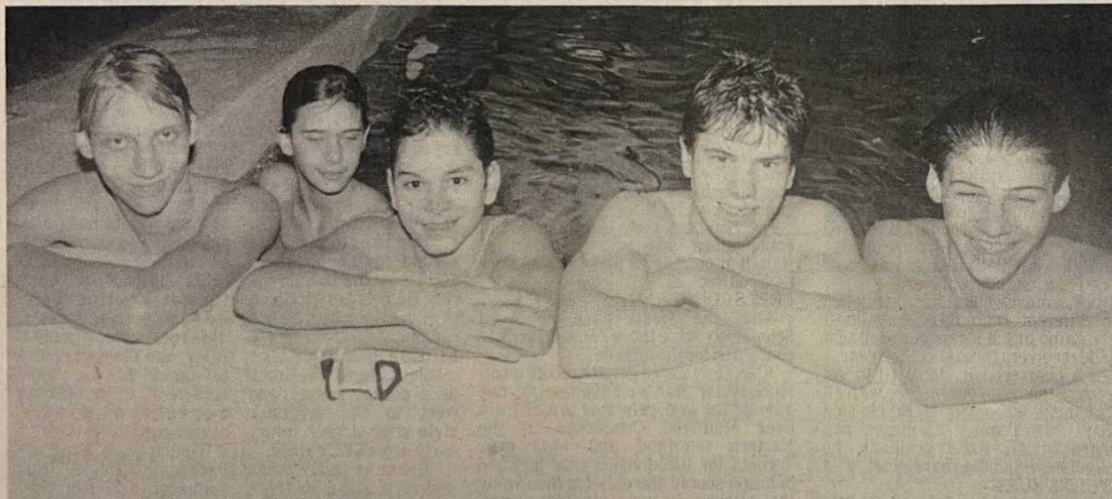
Goals by Kaye and Vernon's Greg Guest came early in the third period while Kinley's goal put Rangers up 4-3.

A short-handed goal by Johnson, however, changed the complexion of the game late in the final frame. Johnson, who missed two previous breakaway attempts during short-handed situations, finally connected on number three evening the score at 4-4 for Lakers.

Johnson's goal inspired Lakers' offense to dominate the final minutes of the game with sophomore forward Shannon Pohl notching the winner at 16:32. Pohl, alone in the slot, one-timed Kapicki's centering pass.

In other BCJHL action Friday night Penticton Knights got a seven-point performance from rookie centre Joe Murphy as they humbled visiting Merritt Centennials 13-3. In Summerland, Neil Diddcott scored three times to pace Buckaroos to a 10-3 win over Salmon Arm Totems while on the Coast Langley Eagles edged Abbotsford Flyers 9-7.

Lakers' next action is tonight when they entertain Penticton at Vernon Civic arena. Enemark feels that sticking to a simple plan in their own zone will go a long way towards keeping them in the game. "They've got a super club," Enemark said of Penticton. "They're better than last year when they won 46 games ... but they're in our arena now ... we have to play well in our own zone and stay out of the penalty box."



VERNON SWIMMERS IN MEET

Members of the Vernon Kokanee Swim Club did well this week at the

secondary schools in the valley competed in the meet. Taking a break at the

Hubbard, third in the free style event; Steven VanderMeulen, first in the 100

SPORTS BRIEFS

Thorlakson helps Nanaimo

Vernon minor hockey graduate Kevin Thorlakson scored one goal and added an assist to help Nanaimo Clippers, of the B.C. Junior Hockey League, defeat Dusty of Czechoslovakia, in an exhibition game Thursday in Prague, Czechoslovakia. It was Nanaimo's second win in five games against Czech teams. Jamie Cayford scored twice for Clippers.

Gilchrist leads Wings

Statistics released this week by Kelowna Wings show Vernon's Brent Gilchrist leads the Western Hockey League club in scoring. Gilchrist has 17 goals and 11 assists, for 28 points, in 16 games. The 17-year-old forward is one point ahead of Darren Cota.