

Effort was there . . .

By JIM JUDD
Daily News Sports
Penticton Knights set the pace of the game and had things pretty much their own way as they scored early and often en route to a 9-4 romp over hometown Vernon Lakers Friday night at Civic arena.

Knights, unbeaten through the month of November, continue to

lead the BCJHL Interior Division while Lakers, despite the loss, kept their slim hold on second spot.

Rick Kozuback, coach of the Knights, in an uncharacteristic mood of compassion for Lakers following the game, admitted what the sparse crowd of about 500 had already seen . . . Lakers had played with guts and desire but lacked the

finesse and skill level of their high-flying counterparts.

"They (Lakers) are playing well and they try hard," Kozuback said. "They have got some kids who like to play and they're going to be alright."

Unfortunately, at this point Lakers still lack the experience necessary to carry them through

games against teams with such depth.

Knights exposed Lakers' inexperience early in the game and were able to capitalize on those weaknesses throughout the contest.

"Why they through us off the game is that they pressured us so well, especially our defence," said Lakers' coach Don Moores who was behind

the bench in only his third game as a junior hockey coach Friday night.

"They forced us to give the puck up and to make mistakes."

Mid-way through the contest Knights had little difficulty in killing a five-minute major penalty called late in the second period. A short-handed goal by Greg Cyr a minute and a half into the penalty demoralized Lakers.

A pair of quick goals in the final minute of play in the first period had given Knights a 4-1 lead after one frame and also helped to demoralize the young Vernon club.

MISTAKES

Penticton opened the scoring with a power-play marker at 3:05 while Lakers' Dave Milan was in the box for tripping. Vernon defence coughed up the puck behind their own net and Knights' Tim Comeau was waiting to pounce on just such a mistake.

Knights went ahead by two at 9:47 when Ian Kidd notched his first of two for the night. Kidd cruised into the face-off circle virtually uncontested and put a loose puck high over Jim Young's glove hand.

Young, showing typical brilliance, kicked out 35 of Knights' 44 shots for the night but was victimized for at least one or two soft ones as well.

A man-advantage goal put Lakers on the board at 16:05 with Shannon Pohl scoring from the slot area. Pohl made no mistake with his second rebound, waiting for Derek Pizzey to sprawl before using his hard wrist-shot.

Knights struck at 19:08 and again at 19:36 to virtually put the game out of reach before the first period had ended. The first came when Lakers lost a face-off in their end.

Kidd, receiving the puck at the point, one-timed it straight through Young's legs.

With no defencemen in sight, centre Ed Cristofoli unloaded with number four for Penticton, having Young at his mercy without defensive support.

6-2 LEAD

Three goals in the second frame, one by Vernon and two by Penticton, enabled the visitors to skate off with a 6-2 lead after two periods.

Todd Brost capitalized on an error at centre ice by a Vernon forward when he stole the puck, crossed the blueline, and unleashed a blistering drive that beat Young clean on the stick-side.

Greg Cyr's short-handed goal at 16:25 sandwiched a goal by Lakers' Wes Gentles at 8:48.

Veteran Greg Kowal scored once for Vernon in the third period while twin brothers Sean and Stacey hartnell combined to give Lakers their fourth tally with Stacey deflecting Sean's drive from the point.

Cristofoli and Brost, each with their second, and Aaron Scott rounded out the scoring for Penticton.

"The biggest thing to look at is that we were up against a very good, experienced hockey club," said Moores. "However, it's not the end of the world . . . we're not going to quit. The season is a long way from being over."



Vernon Lakers forwards, such as Frank Dutoff, above, spent most of the night chasing the high flying Penticton

Knights during Knights 9-4 romp over the local club. Penticton never lost a game during

November and lead the Interior Division by a healthy margin. (Daily News Photo)

Coach quits over death

MONTREAL (CP) — The death of 18-year-old junior hockey player Stephane Saint-Aubin has prompted his coach to quit and his teammates to consider following suit.

Larry Lapointe, the Repentigny Olympiques hockey coach who

watched in horror Wednesday as a skate blade sliced an artery in Saint-Aubin's neck in a game against Longueuil Sieurs, announced he's quitting the sport.

Lapointe has seen two of his players die from hockey-related injuries.

Several years ago, a player on a midget team Lapointe coached died after being struck behind the ear by a puck.

Raymond Legare, president of the Olympiques, called a team meeting Thursday to discuss whether the team

should finish the season.

"For the moment, none of the players is talking about quitting, but there are several who are still badly shaken," said Legare, who said one player was under sedation.

Saint-Aubin, who was selected among the top 15 midget players in the Montreal area two years ago, was playing his first game for Repentigny.

With 35 seconds left in the first period, Saint-Aubin and a Longueuil player collided. The player's skate cut Saint-Aubin's neck, severing the main artery.

Last December, 15-year-old James Lechman, a midget hockey player, died after suffering a similar injury. Five amateur hockey players have died in the last four years in Quebec, which has 300,000 athletes registered with the Quebec Hockey Federation.

Family twosome bowling tournament

A family twosome bowling tournament held under the auspices of the Youth Bowling Council, was held recently at Lincoln Lanes in Vernon.

In the mother/daughter category, the duo of Shelley Kupryk and Leanne Ingham topped the field with Kupryk recording 25 pins over average while Ingham was good for 23 pins over the average.

In the bantam category, Cindy Hutchinson, at 89 pins over average, and her partner Melanie Brown, at 35 pins, were tops. Juniors Sandi Beck, and Andrea Kelly, at 121 and 68 pins over average respectively, were the top team.

Senior competition saw April Dianocky, 71 pins over average, along with Heidi Mervyn, 36 pins over, beat out the rest of the field.

Among the father/son duo, Dennis Lewis and Ryan Ingham combined to beat the field in the pee wee category. Lewis was 37 pins over while Ingham was good for 17.

Bantam competition saw Darren Coutts, 95

pins over average, and Matthew Wilson, 81 pins over, win the event. In junior competition among the men, Richard Orton was supreme with 179 pins over average while his partner Chris Jones was no slouch either with 52 pins over.

Senior bowlers Chris Benn and Greg Monk won that portion of the competition with Benn's 77

pins over carrying Monk's 17 under.

The tournament drew 107 bowlers. This was the first of a two-part tournament in which fathers teamed with sons and mothers with daughters. However, this weekend mothers will bowl with sons while fathers and daughters will team up in the second portion of the tournament.

Daily bus service to Silver Star

Night skiing and daily bus service start Friday at Silver Star Mountain.

Night skiing is scheduled Tuesdays to Saturdays, from 4:30 to 10 p.m. Runs off the Poma Lift and Summit Chair, as well as a four km cross-country trail, will be in operation after dark.

The Silver Star Express bus service makes two trips daily up the mountain. The bus leaves the Vernon Lodge Hotel at 8:25 and 9:55 a.m.; and the Village Green Inn at 8:30 and 10 a.m.

Meanwhile, Silver Star spokesman Mike Duggan said the mountain has en-

joyed the most successful November in history.

"We're really excited about how many local skiers are on the mountain this early in the season," Duggan said. "We've had great crowds and excellent skiing conditions."

Most of the new facilities in Silver Star's village including a day lodge, ski shop, Vance Creek Saloon, and restaurant are now in operation. Two new hotels, the Bunkhouse Inn and Prospector Inn, are scheduled to open in mid-December.

Silver Star reports a base of 118 cm.