

Major, Reimer return to Vernon

Richmond Sockeyes will make their first, and only, appearance at the Civic Arena, Friday night, when Vernon Lakers host the third place Coastal Division club.

Lakers, currently seven points in front of Summerland Buckaroos, will be hoping to solidify their hold on second place in the BCJHL Interior Division with a victory over Sockeyes.

Lakers will attempt to shut down the scoring prowess of Vernon natives Bruce Major and Henry Reimer, who lead Sockeyes in individual scoring.

Major is currently fourth in Coastal Division scoring with 52 points while Reimer, who missed a handful of games this season, is 10 points off Major's pace.

Students will pay a reduced admission charge Friday.

Lakers are healthy with the exception of defenceman Chris Saunders, who will be out of the lineup Friday. Saunders is recovering from a pair of broken wrists though he is currently practicing.

Fans will have a chance to see the local club's latest hero. Jason Phillips, recently acquired from Kamloops Blazers of the Western Hockey League,

has already shown his goal-scoring capabilities.

Phillips, a 17-year-old left winger, scored four goals against Merritt Centennials last Sunday night at Civic Arena, had a fifth goal disallowed, and hit the goal post on one other occasion.

Veteran centre Nick Kapicki, meanwhile, will be looking to climb a few rungs up the Interior Division scoring ladder. Kapicki currently leads the local club in individual scoring with 12 goals and 30 assists for 42 points. Greg Kowal, captain of the Vernon squad, leads the team in goal scoring with 21.

Meanwhile, in BCJHL action Thursday night, Merritt Centennials beat the visiting Revelstoke Rangers 8-5 and Burnaby Bluehawks doubled Richmond 10-5.

Scott Hagen scored the winner at 4:12 of the third period to move Merritt into a tie for fourth place in the Interior Division. Rangers and Centennials have identical 9-20 records.

In Burnaby, Bluehawks scored six goals in the third period to snap a 4-4 deadlock.

Paul Bifano and Mike O'Brien scored two goals apiece for Burnaby. Major replied with a goal and an assist for Sockeyes.