

Lakers blank hapless Totems

Frank Romeo, back-up goaltender for Vernon Lakers, earned his first shutout Saturday night at Civic Arena as Lakers blanked visiting Salmon Arm Totems 6-0.

Romeo, however, hardly had to break sweat in earning the shutout, having to make just 15 saves against the demoralized Totems who suffered a humiliating 20-2 beating at the hands of Penticton Knights, Friday night.

While Romeo had a relatively easy time between the pipes for Lakers, his counterpart, Randy Bekuisan, only recently called up from the midget ranks, had a busy night facing 53 shots.

Despite the obvious difference in play, Lakers never ran away with the game at any time, playing to a 0-0 draw in the first period and going ahead 3-0 after 40 minutes. The game ended uncommonly early due to the absence of penalties. Lakers picked up four of just six minors called.

Lakers got single goals from six players in recording their 18th win of the



MIKE VANSICKLE
... winning goal

season. Vernon is undefeated in their last eight games.

Mike Van Sickle, Frank Dutoff, Shawn Lofroth, Nick Kapicki, Shannon Pohl, and Wes Gentles were the Vernon marksmen.

In other BCJHL action

Saturday night, Merritt Centennials doubled Revelstoke Rangers 4-2, Sidney Capitals downed Langley Eagles 7-5, and Nanaimo Clippers handed Coastal Division leading Burnaby Bluehawks their second straight loss with a 10-7 victory.

Sunday night Summerland Buckaroos downed Totems 9-6 in Salmon Arm, Burnaby defeated Sidney 8-5, and Richmond Sockeyes beat Nanaimo 5-4 in sudden-death overtime.

Lakers travel to Revelstoke, Thursday night, while Friday night the local juniors host Nanaimo Clippers, at Civic Arena. Clippers' appearance in Vernon will also include Alan Chatlain who returned to the Nanaimo fold Saturday night for the first time since he was imprisoned in a Czechoslovakian jail for attacking a 78-year-old usher.

All BCJHL teams will take a break next week as Vernon hosts the annual BCJHL All-star game, Jan. 17.

Tough weekend for local squad

Vernon Coca-Cola Juvenile Reps dropped two of three games in Okanagan-Mainline Hockey League action over the weekend.

The previously-unbeaten Vernon squad lost 5-4 to Kelowna, blanked Kamloops 10-0, and dropped an 8-7 decision to Penticton.

Vernon still leads the league with 23 points, three more than Kelowna.

Coke Coach Al Noakes said everybody has to lose sooner or later. "It was a combination of the other teams playing well and we weren't sharp," Noakes said.

In Kelowna, Les Olsen, Ben Sudol, Dale Danallanko, and Alan Young were the marksmen for Vernon.

In the lopsided victory over Kamloops, Todd Wold led the attack with two goals and three assists. Curt

Petersen and Olsen also blinked the red light twice while Bryan Burns, Tony Toth, Darien Silence, and Dean Freayh added singles.

Goaltender Richard Potter recorded the shutout and picked up one assist.

On Sunday, at home, Vernon took a 5-2 lead before Penticton scored five unanswered goals in the second period.

Noakes said, "We didn't deserve to win Sunday. Anytime you blow a 5-2 lead, you can't expect to win."

Petersen was top sniper for Vernon with three goals while Alan Tomiak, Sudol, Baron, Olsen, and Danallanko added one apiece. Burns was top playmaker with five assists while Danallanko set up three goals.

Bob Kollman was the leading scorer for Penticton with two goals and three assists.