Lakers even their record with triumph over Knights

By JIM JUDD
Daily News Sports

Vernon Lakers evened their exhibition season record to 1-1 Saturday night with a convincing 7-5 victory over visiting Penticton Knights at Civic arena.

Lakers had dropped a 7-1 decision to the defending Centennial Cup champs the previous night in Penticton. They rallied from a 2-1 first period deficit and a 3-2 deficit early in the second period to take a commanding 6-3 lead after 40 minutes.

Knights' pre-season record, meanwhile, fell to 2-2 with the loss. Lakers will end their pre-season schedule Tuesday night when they entertain Summerland Buckaroos at Civic arena.

The win boosted the confidence of Head Coach Ernie Gare who was particularly impressed with the efforts of some of his veteran players.

"I was fairly happy with the way some guys played," suggested Gare.

Knights, on the other hand, certainly aren't exhibiting the kind of play that has made them the class of the B.C. Junior Hockey League in the past seasons but Gare expects them to be tough just the same.

"They (Knights) will get stronger as the year goes by," he said. "Once we put our regular defencemen back in the lineup we'll be okay too."

Lakers outplayed Knights in general, especially when the teams played at full strength and during power-play opportunities. However, Vernon picked up the majority of minor penalties which allowed Knights to hold the advantage on the scoreboard during the first half of the contest.

Mark Greyeyes, who toiled for Merritt Warriors last season, had a pair of goals for Vernon while singles came off the sticks of Stacy Hartnell, Doug Spooner, Keith Chase, Craig Bedard, and Sandy Moger who put a shorthanded goal by the Penticton netminder.

Meanwhile, the axe fell following Saturday's game but so far Gare has only trimmed four players from the training camp roster. He has suggested that there may be as many let go after tonight's practice which takes place at 9:15 p.m. at Civic arena.

Gone from camp are Brad Lepitich, a 16-year old defenceman from Williams Lake while 16-year old Sam Hamilton will return for another year of seasoning with Vernon Midget reps before he is ready for the junior circuit. Two other players, Warren Wurzer and Al Hayter will go to Quesnel Millionaires of the Peace-Cariboo Junior Hockey League.

"We're going to send a few guys up there (Quesnel)," suggested Gare. "There will be a couple more cuts tonight as well."





STACY HARTNELL, above, takes a hit from a Penticton defender Saturday night during an exhibition match between Vernon ahd the defending Centennial Cup champs. Below, rookie Greg Leaky, who played with Notre Dame Hounds midget squad last season, was foiled on a break away attempt late in the second period. (Daily News photos)

Pre-season volleyball clinics

Greater Vernon Parks and Recreation District is offering two pre-season volleyball clinics Sept. 30 and Oct. 2 from 7-9 p.m.

These clinics are designed to improve skills and knowledge of the sport. Skills to be covered include bumping, setting, and serving.

The clinics will be held in a gymnasium in the Greater Vernon Parks and Recreation District and participants can find out the location when registering.

The course is open to males and females, 17 years or older and not attending junior or senior secondary school.

Instructors will be Vicki Nelson and Chris Bennett. Nelson is a former player and coach at Eastern Washington University and has been a referee for 15 years. She surrently holds a provincial rating for refereeing. She has instructed both skills and rules clinics on the sport in the past.

Bennett is a former member of the Vernon Panthers volleyball team and recently played with the Pacific Rim and B.C. Canada Games teams.

Registration, on a first-come, first-served basis, is open to 36 applicants only.

Registration begins Sept. 11 and runs until Sept. 29.

For further information on this or any other GVPRD program call 545-6035.