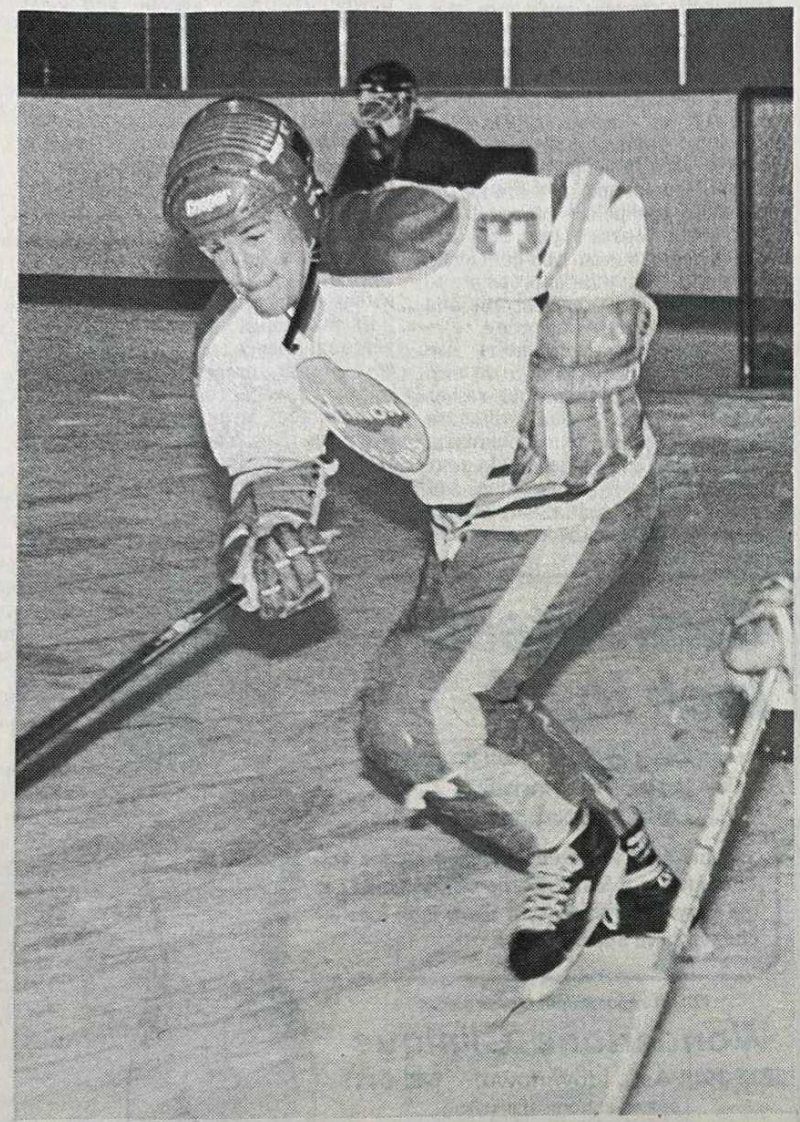
STREAK ON THE LINE

Lakers host Knights



CAMPBELL BLAIR, Lakers' veteran rearguard, will be looking to add to his already impressive scoring statistics tonight when Lakers host Penticton Knights at the Civic Arena. Blair has five goals and four assists in his first four games.
(Daily News Photo)

Vernon Lakers will be looking to lengthen their unbeaten streak tonight when they host the Centennial Cup champion Penticton Knights, at 8 p.m., in the Civic Arena.

The Vernon squad has a string of four consecutive wins going so far this season, but still trails league-leading Kelowna Packers by two points, with a game-in-hand. Packers have five consecutive wins so far this season and host Juan De Fuca Whalers tonight in another B.C. Junior Hockey League matchup.

Knights appear to be only a shadow of the team which took two consecutive trips to the Centennial Cup playoffs, including their successful bid for the emblem of Junior A hockey supremacy in Canada last year.

So far this season, Knights have managed to hover around the break-even point in regular season play with three wins and a pair of losses heading into tonight's encounter with Lakers. However, in two encounters with solid BCJHL teams, the Penticton squad came up losers. One of those losses was at the hands of Kelowna while visiting Langley Eagles upset Knights in their season debut a couple of weeks ago.

Naturally Knights, under new Head Coach Dwayne Pentland will be looking to improve their own record at the expense of Lakers' winning streak so no doubt the contest will be interesting. There is a lot of years of natural rivalry on the ice whenever these two teams meet as well. The clubs split their exhibition season games with Knights winning easily 7-1 in Penticton and losing 7-5 to Lakers at the Civic Arena.

Of the three wins Knights have accumulated to date, the club has needed overtime goals on two occasions, at home, to beat Merritt Warriors and Summerland Buckaroos. Both the latter clubs, in rebuilding process, are considered too weak to provide decent competitive opposition to either Lakers or Packers this season and neither team has managed to win a game yet this season.

Already an inter-team rivalry has begun to surface in Vernon with the team's defensive corps leading the scoring drive this campaign with 12 of the club's 31 goals so far this season. Veteran rearguard Campbell Blair has five of those goals in only four games and, combined with four assists, is tied for the lead in individual scoring statistics.

Lakers' Head Coach Ernie Gare will be taking a close look at the three goaltenders he has on the roster right now, hoping to make a decision soon as to which two will stay and who will be trimmed. Ryan Dennis is scheduled to start between the pipes tonight.

On Saturday night, Lakers host Juan de Fuca.

Struggling Riders look for continuity

CALGARY (CP) — The Ottawa Rough Riders plan to stop their seemingly endless personnel changes for the rest of the 1986 CFL season, says new head coach Tom Dimitroff.

The Riders, virtually eliminated

believe the Riders have sufficient talent to win. And Holtby said he's not looking for an experienced quarterback to challenge rookies Gilbert Renfroe and Tom Burgess and USFL