Tuckwood scored once to help Lakers edge Knights

Packers battle back to edge Lakers 5-4

By AL PATTERSON
Daily News Sports

Somebody must have tilted the ice Sunday night at the Rutland Arena.

Vernon Lakers found the early going all downhill, jumping into a 4-0 first period lead, but Kelowna Packers came roaring back to claim a 5-4 victory in B.C. Junior Hockey League action before about 400 fans.

"It was a real gratifying win for us," said Packers' Head Coach Bill Hogaboam. "When the score was 3-0 I called a timeout, basically to get the guys to wake up. Then we got going. I thought we did a good job, especially in the third period, in the keeping the pressure on them. We kept dumping the puck in their end and sending two guys in after it."

Ed Tuckwood, Wes Gentles, and Craig Bedard staked Vernon to its big lead, Tuckwood finding the range twice.

Kelly Hurd started the Packers on the come back trail and Darren Schwartz narrowed the gap to 4-2 by the end of the second period. Brent Mowery scored to make it a one-goal game before Kevin Harder tied it up. Mowery teamed up with Kevin Taillefer, the game's first star, on the game-winning tally.

"We were trying to set up a low pick," said Taillefer, in describing the winning goal. "Manny (Pat Mangold) got nocked down behind the net so I yelled at him I'd get it. I just chipped it over and he (Mowery) one-timed it."

Lakers' Head Coach Ernie Gare said Vernon made the most of its chances in the first period and noted they played much of the second period short-handed.

"I think a goal for us when it was 4-2 might have turned it around," he said. "It would have given us a real lift. We have to learn to start playing with a lead."

Lakers did have their chances to salt it away. Wes Gentles went in alone twice on Packers' goalie Lucien Carrigan in the second period. He shot the puck right at the goalie, who had come out to challenge on both breakaways.

After that, it was downhill all the way for Vernon. Ironically, it was third straight 5-4 decision the Lakers were involved in during the weekend. Friday, they beat Merritt Warriors 5-4 and downed Penticton Knights by the same score Saturday night.

Vernon netminder Darryl Dickens made 40 saves while Dusty Imoo and Carrigan combined to block 36 shots.

On Saturday, at home, Lakers took a 5-1 lead and hung on for the victory.

Vernon got goals from Kevin Scott, Doug Spooner, Mark Greyeyes, Bedard, and Tuckwood.

John Depourq scored twice for Penticton while Mike Earsal and Tim Roux added singles for Knights, who scored three goals in the last nine minutes.

Vernon outshot Penticton 48-38.

In other weekend BCJHL action, Kelowna blasted Summerland Buckaroos 12-1, Richmond Sockeyes blanked Merritt Warriors 5-0, Langley Eagles doubled Juan De Fuca Whalers 6-3, and Abbotsford Flyers dumped Delta Flyers 6-2.

Lakers hit the road next weekend for a three-game Coast swing with stops in Delta, Abbotsford, and Langley. Vernon doesn't have another home game until Nov. 2 when the Buckaroos are in town.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Vernon teams qualify for spiel

Three Vernon teams earned berths in the annual Vernon Carling O'Keefe Car Spiel during a local qualification event, which ended Sunday. Randy Brown, Mark Longworth, and Guy Schmirler will lead their rinks into the prestigious event, which starts Friday morning. A total of 32 teams will compete for $54,000 in cash and cars. Two other Vernon rinks, skipped by Wayne Laface and Dave Simpson, are among the 29 invited teams.

Coke wins

Gary Field scored three goals to lead Coca-Cola to an 11-4 win over Bigelow's Hardware in Lumby Sportsman's Hockey League action, Saturday night. Brian Parker and Kenny Johnstone tallied twice for Coke while Jim Arthur, Don 'Legend' Sorochuk, Ad Ruesch, and Pat Field added singles. Pat Morgan and Bill Cawthorne replied with two goals each for Bigelows. In another game, Crosstown Cycle Scouts blanked Lumby Brewers 5-0. Todd Lewis, with two goals, Andy Vedan, Percy Burton, and Garnet Beninger were the marksmen for Scouts. Roger Lewis recorded the shutout.

Honeymooners

In Honeymooners 'B' Volleyball League play Sunday, the scores were: Zephyrs 4, Okapogo 0; Ball Busters 3, Tachikaros 1; and Weekenders 2, High Balls 2.

Snowmobile meeting

Vernon Snowmobile Association will hold a general meeting tonight, at 7 p.m., in the Sandman Inn. Main topic on the agenda is the upcoming provincial convention. All members are urged to attend.

Martina defeats Hana

But Floyd, who defeated Lon Hinkle and Mike Sullivan on the first hole of sudden death Sunday to take the $90,000 first prize, was wrong.

On the playoff hole, the 203-yard, par-3 15th, Floyd and Hinkle hit their tee shots into the bunker on the left side. Sullivan was wide to the right.

Sullivan chipped to within 10 feet. Floyd's bunker shot stopped about six feet from the hole and Hinkle's was three feet away. Sullivan missed, Floyd dropped his putt and Hinkle ran his past the hole.

Lendl ousted

SYDNEY (AP) — West German teenager Boris Becker, a two-time Wimbledon champion, beat top-seeded Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia 3-6, 7-6, 6-2, 6-0, in the final of the Australian Indoor tennis championships Sunday.

King re-injured

NEW YORK (AP) — Bernard King, who hasn't played for the New York Knicks since March 23, 1985 because of torn ligaments and cartilage in his right knee, re-injured the knee when he stepped in a hole while jogging Sunday.

King will be out for 3-to-6 weeks while undergoing rehabilitation.

King, who had not announced a