YOUNG SCORES WINNER

Lakers edge Buckaroos



Al Young scored with 34 seconds remaining to give Vernon Lakers a 4-3 win over Summerland Buckaroos in B.C. Junior Hockey League action, Tuesday night, in Summerland.

In other games Tuesday, first place Kelowna Packers downed Penticton Knights 4-1 and Langley Eagles doubled Nanaimo Clippers 4-2.



AL YOUNG

Lakers now trail the second place Knights by five points, with two games-in-hand.

In previous encounters this season, the high-scoring Lakers had fattened their scoring totals against the lowly Bucks. In four prior meetings, Vernon had outscored Summerland 52-12. But, the Bucks almost pulled off their biggest upset of the season, Tuesday.

Lakers' Head Coach said the main reason for the close score was Summerland netminder Guy Basaraba. "That goalie from Kelowna (Basaraba) had a great game," Gare said. "We might have been a bit flat, but we outshot them 51-28. He was stopping everything."

Mark Greyeyes, Campbell Blair, and Craig Bedard were the other Vernon scorers. Blair, the leading scorer in the BCJHL, was held to just one point.

Summerland snipers were Vince Bajer, Chris Hicks, and Kevin Hoey.

Lakers held period leads of 1-0 and 3-1.

Gare said, "We learned a valuable lesson tonight . . . you can't take anyone lightly. You have to play every game with intensity. We'll be better prepared next time we play Summerland."

The same two clubs clash Saturday night in Summerland.

Meanwhile, Lakers' General Manager Mel Lis said he is still negotiating a deal that would send high-scoring winger Stacey Hartnell to Penticton. Hartnell quit the Lakers last weekend and has requested a trade to the Knights.

"We might know something later today," Lis said. "I won't give him (Hartnell) away."

Eagles 4 Clippers 2

The Eagles scored three third-period goals to pick up the victory. Mike Dutton, Bob Brown, Rick Munro and Jim Butterworth scored for the Eagles who improved their second-place record in the Coast Division to 21-12-1.

Sean Stotts and Corky Parkes replied for the fourth-place Clippers who fell to 17-17-1.

Packers 4 Knights 1

Kelowna broke a 1-1 deadlock at 3:37 of the second period on an unassisted goal by Doug Gardiner and went on to post the victory on the road .

Other Kelowna goals came from Pat Mangold, Kelly Hurd and Jay Luknowsky while Todd Hilditch replied for Penticton.

Packers goalim Lucien Carignan stopped 27 shots while Jamie Loewen made 28 saves for the second-place Knights who fell nine points behind Interior Division-leading Kelowna.

ASK AL

Trade winds blowing



by
Al Paterson

Daily News
Sports Writer

This is one of my favorite times of the sporting year. They're getting down to the crunch in the NFL and the hockey trading deadline is just around the corner.

I expect the Vernon Lakers to be active in the next couple of days. I say that because I went and talked to Lakers' owner Mel Lis this week and he told me nothing. It was like talking to a politician. It sounded nice and it was enjoyable but an hour later I wanted to talk to him again. Sort of like eating Chinese food.

The Lakers lost an outstanding player in left winger Stacey Hartnell this week. Hartnell took off for Penticton so he could join his brother in the Peach City. Stacey is an Interior Division of the BCJHL all-star left winger. Replacing him at this late date isn't going to be easy.

However, it won't be impossible. I think Jackson Penney would be a suitable replacement from a Vernon point of view. Of course, Penticton will do everything in their power to hang onto Penney because he is a gifted player offensively.

Another guy I wouldn't mind seeing in a Laker uniform is defenceman Ken MacArthur. I thought he was the best Penticton had before he got hurt. He's still hurt and may not even be back for the playoffs. So there's a question mark surrounding him. If he's healthy, he's a guy who could really help push the Lakers over the top.

Another Knight I'd like to see in Vernon is Shawn Howard. I like his skills but I'm hearing some rumblings about him off the ice. My spies tell me Penticton is willing to part with him because nothing is ever his fault and everything is better in the United States, where he comes from. That's not the kind of guy to go all out to get but a good coach can sometimes straighten a guy out. And, maybe he isn't a whiner at all. Maybe the reports are lies. Let's face it, there are a lot of liars in hockey.

I'm sure that after talking with Mel Lis something's up. In fact, I bet he's got plenty up his sleeve, and he has long arms. If worst comes to worst Lis can be spiteful and just let Hartnell sit the rest of the year. If he doesn't give Hartnell his release, there is nothing Hartnell, or Penticton, can do about it.

To force Hartnell to sit won't do Vernon any good but it won't help Penticton any, either. The only team it would help is Kelowna. They have to beat Penticton and/or Vernon someplace along the line come playoff time and Kelowna's chances of winning are considerably brither if Hartnell doesn't suit up for either club. That's why I think something will develop before the trading deadline, Jan. 10.

On the NFL front, look for New York Giants and Denver Broncos to clash in the Super Bowl. The Giants are favored over the Washington Redskins and that's probably a good move by the bookies. At this point, I'd say the Giants should be favored over everybody to win the whole shebang. Especially after the way the Giants demolished San Francisco 49-3 the other day.

Cleveland was unbelievably lucky to get by the New York Jets and make it to this weekend's tilt against Denver. The Broncos, on the other hand, beat a team with Super Bowl potential in the New England Patriots. So I look for Denver, led by quarterback John Elway, to outgun the Browns right in Cleveland.

And then I can write a column on who's going to win the Super Bowl.

That will be followed by an Ask Al column asking himself why the teams he picks always end up losing.

I've already made my decision as to the most mystifying move in baseball this year and the season hasn't even started yet. My vote goes to Dave Stieb of the Toronto Blue Jays. This doughhead's dismal performance was one of the main reasons the Jays were also rans last season. So now we discover that Mr. Stieb will, sooner or later, require surgery for bone chips in his elbow. When that happens, he'll be out for about three months or so. The mystifying part of all this is why didn't he have this surgery done in the off-season when he would have had time to properly rehabilitate himself. He took $25 million in salary from the Jays a few seasons back and, to my way of thinking, should at least show up ready to play at the start of the season. This way he helps nobody.