# Vernon coach 'embarassed' over loss to Summerland

There's a general impression in Summerland today that Christmas must have come early this season — for the city's junior hockey club at least.



ERNIE GARE

Tuesday night visiting Vernon Lakers had a 5-3 lead late in the third period against the Bucks who were winless in their first five starts of the season at that point. However, a late surge produced a 6-5 Summerland victory over Lakers, with Darren McFarland's goal, his third of the game, the winner with 1:59 remaining.

In the final two minutes, Buckaroos, a team that had allowed more than 11 goals against per game in their first five outings, managed to keep Lakers from notching an equalizer.

"I'm embarrassed," said Lakers' Head Coach Ernie Gare. "There's no way our team should ever lose to them."

The loss drops Lakers to fifth place in the B.C. Junior Hockey League Interior Division with a record of two wins and three losses. They are just one win ahead of Summerland with supposedly weak sister teams like Merritt, Salmon Arm and Penticton all ahead of them in the standings.

"We looked like two different teams — the one that played Saturday night and the one that played last night (Tuesday)," Gare continued. "We were really disorganized in our own end."

Vernon received two-goal efforts from Mark Greyeyes and veteran forward Ian Alger who is one of the few players on the local club who is playing anywhere near his potential in the early going this season. Greyeyes, who just missed the 50-goal margin last season after a slow start, is only beginning to come around.

"He (Greyeyes) had a couple of chances and he capitalized on them which he hasn't been doing," Gare said. "I can't say anybody played well for us though."

Meanwhile, it was a different story for Summerland which got an outstanding performance in net from second year netminder Guy Basaraba. The Bucks' goalie made 52 saves during the night and faced 27 shots in the third period alone.

Vernon goaltenders Tim Whaley and Barry Ryzs combined to make 25 saves.

Eric Sanford, Howie Sinch and Don Burke each scored single goals for Summerland while Adrian Markin, with a single, completed Vernon's scoring.

With the loss representing their third straight on the road this season, Gare has lost his sense of humor regarding the situation. He's vowed to get his club right back into basic training this week in preparation for their next home game Saturday night against visiting Richmond Sockeyes.

"We'll go back to basics and get ready for Saturday night," he said. "We'll go right back to training camp."

In other BCJHL action Tuesday night L.D. McNab scored at 4:11 of overtime to give the Nanaimo Clippers a 4-3 win over the Chilliwack Eagles, Delta Flyers blanked Merritt Centennials 7-0 and Abbotsford Falcons edged Juan De Fuca Whalers 5-4.