Lakers and Knights tied for first place

Vernon Lakers moved into a tie for first place in the B.C. Junior Hockey League's Interior Division with a 10-2 victory over the Salmon Arm Tigers, Saturday night, in Salmon Arm.

Penticton Knights and Vernon share top spot in the division with 14 points, one more than the Kelowna Packers. Merritt occupies fourth place with 12 points and the slumping Tigers have 11 points.

"That was one of our best efforts of the season," said Lakers' General Manager Mel Lis. "It ranks right up there with that game in Penticton (a 5-1 victory)."

Jamie Steer led the Vernon attack with three goals and three assists. Linemate Greg Parnell added a pair of goals while singles came from Mark Greyeyes, Mike Paller, Ian Alger, Dane Jackson, and Kevin Harder.

Jim Figliomeni and Terrence Head replied for the Tigers, who trailed 3-1 at the end of the first period and 7-2 after 40 minutes.

Vernon ran into a series of penalties in the first period, including two stints when it was two-men short. Some excellent penalty killing and several key saves by netminder Glen Fry sparked the Lakers, who got stronger as the game progressed.

Lis said, "It seems like we were short-handed the entire first period. Fry made some big saves for us."

It was the second straight start between the pipes for the 20-year-old netminder, who was acquired in a trade last week that sent goalie Jason Palmer to the Richmond Sockeyes. He also looked sharp in his debut with the Lakers, a 7-3 win over the Summerland Buckaroos, Friday night.

"Everybody played well, but Fry and Steer were exceptional," Lis said. "Fry is going to win some games for us."

The Lakers are idle until next weekend when they visit Summerland, Friday night, and Salmon Arm, Saturday. Vernon doesn't return to the friendly confines of the Civic Arena until Oct. 30 when the Centennials are in town.

Lis said, "We've turned things around now. Hopefully, we're not going to lose another game this month. I want to put some distance between us and the other teams."

On Sunday, the Kelowna Packers spread the scoring among six different players to edge Merritt 6-4. In the only other game, Delta Flyers stretched their winning streak to 12 games with a 5-3 victory over the Tigers, in Salmon Arm.

In other games Saturday, Penticton nipped Merritt 7-6, Richmond hammered the Chilliwack Eagles 12-4, and the Juan de Fuca Whalers blasted the Abbotsford Flyers 12-4, and Delta humbled the lowly Buckaroos 11-5.

Vernon players impress Johnson

An American college hockey scout left the Vernon Civic Arena last week with a smile on his face.

Peter Johnson, an assistant coach with the University of Wisconsin Badgers, was impressed with the performance of several Vernon Lakers during a 7-3 win over the Summerland Buckaroos, Friday night.

"They have several forwards with potential," Johnson said. "(Jamie) Steer is a good hockey player and (Dane) Jackson looked good."

But, the player who caught Johnson's eye was defenceman Phil Soukoroff. Soukoroff, who picked up two assists, was chosen as the game's outstanding player by Johnson.

"Soukoroff has good speed, moves the puck well, and has the ability to go end-to-end with the puck," Johnson said.

However, the 19-year-old defenceman may not fit into Wisconsin's plans for next season. "We have five forwards and two goalies who graduate next year, but we don't lose any defencemen," Johnson said.

"A lot can change in the next few months . . . a defenceman could drop out, transfer, or turn pro next year. But right now, I'm basically looking for forwards and goaltenders."

Johnson played for the Badgers before accepting assistant coaching positions at Bowling Green and Cornell. He returned to Wisconsin this year, where his father, 'Badger' Bob Johnson was formerly head coach. The elder Johnson later coached Calgary Flames of the National Hockey League. Peter's brother, Mark, played for the U.S. Olympic Team that won a gold medal in 1980 and went on to star in the NHL.

NFL regulars show their talent

By The Associated Press

If there were ever any doubts about the difference between a real National Football League player and a strike irregular, Steve Largent, Joe Montana and a bunch of backup quarterbacks have dashed them forever.

As replacement games mercifully dwindled down to one — tonight's Redskins-Cowboys game at Texas Stadium — many of the regulars who reported this week had an immediate impact Sunday.

But there was no rush back by the fans to see them on the third week of strike football.

who spent the day playing catch with Kemp, who was 20 of 27 for 344 yards and four touchdowns.

Most of the Sunday's heroes took the same attitude.

"I don't take any personal joy in this day at all," said Danielson, Cleveland's 36-year-old backup quarterback, who completed 25 of 31 for 281 yards and four touchdowns as the Browns beat the Cincinnati 'B' team. "It's just a team victory."

Vernon