Lakers hammer struggling Tigers

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Salmon Arm Tigers bared their fangs early in the game but Vernon Lakers declawed the visitors with an 11-2 victory, Tuesday night, at the Civic Arena.

The victory improves Lakers' record to 11-5 and gives them sole possession of first place in the B.C. Junior Hockey League's interior Division, one point ahead of Kelowna Packers. Tigers, 3-14-1, remain in fifth place.

In the opening minutes of the game it looked as though Tigers were going to roar as they set the early pace with hustle and hard-hitting. A power-play goal at 5:32 by Vernon defenceman Wes Elliott broke the pace and before the period had ended, Lakers were in total control of the game.

"It's like the games in Salmon Arm," suggested Lakers' Head Coach Ernie Gare. "They (Tigers) are with us for the first 10 minutes but we just wear them down with our hitting and skating."

Three goals in 21 seconds put the game out of reach before the game was 10 minutes old. Duane Dennis scored at 8:26 showing a burst of speed down the left wing. Greg Parnell tallied just six seconds later while Dallas Drake notched another Vernon goal at 8:55.

Tigers did all their scoring in the first period with a power-play goal by Sean Crowther and a gift from Barry Rysz, for Tigers' Andy Faulkner. Rysz booted a rebound directly on to the stick of Faulkner.

Howeever, speedy rearguard Phil Soukoroff, with his first of two on the night, and Ian Alger, the game's outstanding player, notched singles between Salmon Arm goals to give Vernon a 6-2 lead after 20 minutes.

Lakers had complete control of the second frame as well and if not for some solid goaltending from Tigers' Ryan Dennis, the score might have ballooned into double figures during the frame.

Mike Barkley and Soukoroff, with his second, both scored with the man advantage to give Lakers an 8-2 lead after 40 minutes.

Lakers managed three more goals in the third frame, but the period belonged to Dennis who made 28 saves in spite of the lopsided score.

Mike Paller put one on the board while Mark Greyeyes scored the last two goals and assisted on Paller's marker as well.

Rysz had an easy time in the Vernon net making 22 saves while Dennis blocked 44 shots for Salmon Arm.

Naturally Gare was pleased with the performance of his team and not just because of the scoring difference.

"There was a lot of hard hitting going on out there," he said. "A lot of guys had good games."

Lakers' next game will be Friday night when they travel to Penticton. On Saturday night, they host the Kelowna Packers.

In other BCJHL action Tuesday night, the Delta Flyers kept rolling right along as they trounced the Chilliwack Eagles 14-1 and improved their record to 16-1. Also, the Nanaimo Clippers scored a 5-4 victory over the Abbotsford Falcons.

Jeff Nottingham scored three goals while Doug MacDonald, Richard Stentiford and John Spencer scored two each for the Flyers.



VERNON LAKERS' defenceman Keith Chase introduces a Salmon Arm forward to the Vernon Civic Arena boards during B.C. Junior Hockey League action, Tuesday. Chase and his teammates thumped the struggling Tigers 11-2. (Daily News Photo)

Players face bribery charge

OTTAWA (CP) — Four former national soccer players have had their worlds turned upside today, facing charges by the RCMP of accepting bribes during an exhibition tournament in Singapore last year.

Charged are David Norman, 25, of Coquitlam, B.C., Igor Vrablic, 22, of Waterloo, Ont., Hector Marinaro, 23, of Mississauga, Ont., and Chris Chueden, 26, of Surrey, B.C., Kevin Pipe, director general of the Canadian Soccer Association, announced Tuesday.



DAVID NORMAN

Norman and Vrablic were members of Canada's 1986 World Cup team, while Marinaro and Chueden were making their international debut in Singapore at the Merlion Cup tournament.

Norman, Marinaro and Vrablic also are charged with bringing into Canada material illegally obtained outside the country — money alleged to have been part of a bribe — and with having it in their possession.

The Toronto Star reported in September that about $100,000 was involved in the alleged bribes.

The first charge carries a maximum jail sentence of five years, while the second charge carries a maximum sentence of 10 years.

All are scheduled to appear Dec. 16 in provincial court in Ottawa.

None has played with the national team since the Merlion Cup event in Singapore. Canada finished third after winning the first four games and losing one. Two games were tied.

Pipe said the association became aware of the bribery accusations last Dec. 6 and informed the RCMP two days later.

REFUSES COMMENT

"I can't make any comments because it's before the court ... appropriate action will be taken if necessary," Sports Minister Otto Jelinek said.

Jelinek said in September he had not ruled out lifetime bans from competitive soccer if the players being investigated by the RCMP were charged. He would not comment Tuesday on whether he planned to go ahead with a ban now that charges have been laid.

Association president Fred Stambrook told the Toronto Star he will wait until the four men appear in court before making any plans.

"Of course, we will be very disappointed if the allegations are true and, if they are true, it will create a very serious situation for us in the CSA," Stambrook said. "But we are not going to work on the assumption that these players are guilty; that's for the courts to decide."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Vernon Lodge defeats Scouts

Wes Gentles scored his second goal of the night, early in the third period, to give the Vernon Lodge Hotel a 5-4 win over the Beer Factory Scouts in Pleasant Valley Hockey League action, Thursday, at the Vernon Civic Arena. Curt Petersen also tallied twice for the winners while Derek Webb added a single.

Hansen leads offence