Lakers trounce Knights — continue road mastery

Vernon Lakers continued their mastery on the road Friday night as they trounced the hometown Penticton Knights 10-4 in B.C. Junior Hockey League action in the Peach City.

Lakers, who began the season with three consecutive road losses, haven't lost a game in anyone else's building since that time. In fact, in their past three outings, Lakers have outscored their opposition by a health 34-11 margin.

The victory leaves Lakers alone in first place in the BCJHL Interior Division one point ahead of second place Kelowna Packers who were 9-5 winners over visiting Abbotsford Flyers Friday night in Kelowna.

For Knights it was their fourth loss in a row, leaving them in fourth place in the division.

Lakers' Head Coach Ernie Gare felt that the key to Friday's victory was getting a good jump on Knights but the emergence of one particular line in recent games has helped to eleviate scoring problems and build confidence on the club as well.

"The key was getting off to a good start," explained Gare. "We began with a power-play goal, then we got a short-handed goal a couple of minutes later and we never looked back."

Lakers led 6-1 at the end of one period and held an 8-2 lead after 40 minutes.

Meanwhile, the newly formed line of Dallas Drake between wingers Ian Alger and Mike Barkley accounted for seven of the club's 10 goals and 15 scoring points on the night.

Alger paced the trio with three goals and added three assists. Barkley, currently being wooed by a number of NCAA universities who want his talents for the college hockey scene next year, scored three goals as well and added a pair of helpers. Drake scored once and set up three goals.

Mark Greyeyes, Shawn Hendry and Greg Parnell scored singles to round out the Vernon scoring.

"We really forechecked well and made them cough up the puck," added Gare. "Then when we had our chances we put the puck in the net."

The victory gives Lakers a modest three-game winning streak lately but there is no reason for the club to relax their work ethic, especially not tonight when Kelowna Packers will be in town.

The last time Packers were in Civic arena they skated off with a hard-fought 5-3 victory — one of the few occassions in which Lakers have lost on home-ice this season. As a result of that loss, and coupled with the fact that first place is once again on the line tonight, Gare will be looking for a full effort from each of his players.

"They (Packers) are playing better and we're playing better too," he suggested. "I think it will be a different story tonight than it was last time we met. We've got to get on them early and build up a lead."

Tonights' contest is the first of three in a row on home-ice for Lakers who get to play seven of their 10 games this month at Civic arena.

Vernon Daily News

sports

Editor — DON KENDALL

SPORTS BRIEFS

Women's drop-in basketball offered

The Greater Vernon Parks and Recreation District is offering a women's drop-in basketball program which is scheduled to get underway Nov. 9 and will continue each Monday night until Dec. 28. Fulton School will be the location of this drop-in program which is open to any women of any ability in the sport. Action takes place between 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. each night. For further information on this or any other GVPRD program please call 545-6035.

Slowpitch meeting

The Canadian Tire Mixed Slowpitch League will hold its annual general meeting Tuesday, at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Green Inn. TOpics on the agenda include election of officers. For further information phone Larry Heck at 549-1715.

Skiers meet

The North Okanagan Cross Country Ski Club will hold a general meeting Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., in the Schubert Centre. A presentation of

Goes to Baltimore

BALTIMORE (AP) — The Baltimore Orioles have acquired outfielder Joe Orsulak from the Pittsburgh Pirates in exchange for minor leaguers Terry Crowley Jr. and Rico Rossy, the Orioles said Friday. Orsulak spent most of last season recovering from foot injuries after playing two seasons with the Pirates. He has a .272 batting average with two home runs, 41 runs batted in and 50 stolen bases.