STEER SCORES WINNER

Lakers edge Centennials

Jamie Steer scored with a little over a minute remaining in the third period to give the Vernon Lakers a 3-2 win over the Merritt Centennials in B.C. Junior Hockey League action, Thursday, in Merritt.

The victory moves the Lakers four points ahead of the Kelowna Packers in the battle for first place in the Interior Division. Vernon also has two games-in-hand on the Packers.

Goaltender Barry Rysz was a standout between the pipes for the Lakers. The rookie netminder kicked out 43 shots, including 17 in the first period when the clubs battled to a scoreless draw.

"Rysz kept us in the game until we got untracked in the second period," said Vernon Head Coach Ernie Gare. "He made some real big saves . . . particularly in the first period."

Steer's goal capped a tight game in which the teams were tied 2-2 after 40 minutes.

Dane Jackson and Shawn Hendry were the other marksmen for Vernon.

Al Suzuki and Al Rushton replied for the Centennials, who occupy third spot in the division.

Merritt netminder Randy Beekhuizen, who starred in the Vernon Pro-Am Summer League, made 27 saves.

Gare said, "Beekhuizen was sharp too. Dallas (Drake) walked in alone on him two or three times."

The Lakers have little time to savor their victory before they return to the ice. Vernon hosts the Summerland Buckaroos, tonight, and the Juan de Fuca Whalers, Saturday.

Summerland occupies the league cellar, but Gare said his club can't take them lightly. The Buckaroos tied the Penticton Knights and defeated Kelowna last week. "There won't be any more easy games in our division," Gare said. "The weaker teams have picked up some good hockey players."

The Lakers are healthy with the exception of defenceman Greg Olson, who is recovering from ankle surgery, and centre Greg Parnell, who has a shoulder injury. Parnell may return to the lineup next week, but Olson will be out of action until after Christmas.

Both weekend games get under way at 8 p.m.

Meanwhile, the Lakers will host their third annual Christmas Pancake Breakfast, Saturday, from 8 to 11 a.m. in the Civic Arena concession area. The Lakers and Santa Claus will be on hand.



GOALTENDER Barry Rysz stopped 43 shots to lead the Vernon Lakers to a 3-2 win over the Merritt Centennials in B.C. Junior Hockey League action, Thursday, in Merritt. (Daily News Photo)

Vernon Daily News | **sports** Editor — DON KENDALL

Tough day for Panthers

SURREY (Special)—The Vernon Panthers suffered back-to-back losses, Thursday, during opening day action at the British Columbia Senior Boys' AA Volleyball Championships.

The Panthers lost 5-15, 5-15 to Nanaimo and 10-15, 13-15 to Windermere, of Vancouver.

"We didn't play very well," said Panthers' Coach Jack Yamaoka. "Our passes to the setters haven't been very good. And we're putting too many free balls over the net . . . we're not attacking enough."

Vernon must win two of its three round-robin matches today to advance to the playoff round. The Panthers were scheduled to face Quesnle; MEI, of Clearbrook; and the host team, Queen Elizabeth of Surrey.

Yamaoka said, "We have to beat Quesnel and MEI," Yamaoka said. "We can't count on beating Queen Elizabeth in our final match. Nanaimo and Queen Elizabeth are probably the best two teams in the tournament."

Four of the six teams, from both round-robin sections, advance to Saturday's playoff round.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Pohl traded to Medicine Hat

The Portland Winter Hawks have sent Trevor Pohl, 20, to Medicine Hat Tigers for future considerations, the Western Hockey League club announced Thursday. Pohl, who played the 1985-86 season with the Vernon Lakers, was in his second season with the Winter Hawks. The move was necessitated by the recent acquisition of goaltender Mark Reimer, from Saskatoon Blades. With Reimer, the Winter Hawks had five 20-year-olds, one over the WHL limit. Pohl will not play tonight when the Tigers visit Portland.

Konar in Vernon

B.C. Lions' corner linebacker Kevin Konar will be in Vernon for an autograph session tonight, from 7-9 p.m., at The Bay. Konar was recently named to the Canadian Football League's all-star team.

Ski meeting

The North Okanagan Cross-country Ski Club will hold a general meeting Tuesday, at 7:30 p.m., in the Schubert Centre. A cross-country ski video, filmed on Silver Star last spring, will be shown.

Help wanted

A group of women hockey players is looking for one or more, people interested in giving them pointers on the game. The women are on the ice Fridays, at 5 p.m. Anyone interested is asked to phone 545-6035.

Turkey shoot

The Vernon Fish and Game Club will hold aturkey shoot Sunday, at its range on Commonage Road. There will be events for target, sporting, and hunting rifles at 100 to 300 metres. Shooting starts at 10 a.m. For further information phone 542-7392.

Frawley sidelined

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pittsburgh Penguins captain Dan Frawley is expected to miss the rest of the season because of a knee injury, the team said Thursday.

Frawley, 25, was injured in a fight with New York Islander Alan Kerr during the team's 7-1 victory over the Penguins on Wednesday.

Frawley, who played every game this season, had one goal and four assists in 25 games. Creamer said Troy Loney will replace Frawley as the right wing on the checking line.

The Penguins have recalled defenceman Dave Goertz, 22, from their Muskegon farm team to substitute for Doug Bodger, who is expected to miss three weeks after spraining his left knee during the

Kelly Gruber and veteran Rance Mulliniks split the job for the Jays last season, but Gaetti would bring a powerful bat to the Jays.

Runners cheat

NEW YORK (AP) — Six runners have been disqualified from the New York Marathon for cheating, race director Fred Lebow said Thursday.

A year ago, 25 runners were disqualified including second-place finisher Antoni Niemczak of Poland, who tested positive for anabolic steroids.

Sues agent

HATTIESBURG, Miss. (AP) — Marcus Dupree, who led a much-publicized but short-lived college and professional football career, has filed a $3-million lawsuit against his agent, claiming he was cheated out of millions of dollars. In the lawsuit filed Wednesday in Forrest County chancery court, Dupree alleges Ken Fairley, his agent and business manager since 1984, of co-mingling Dupree's money with Fairley's without the athlete's knowledge.

Top juniors

CALGARY (CP) — Centre Terry Yake of the Brandon Wheat Kings has been named player of the month for November in the East Division of the Western Hockey League.

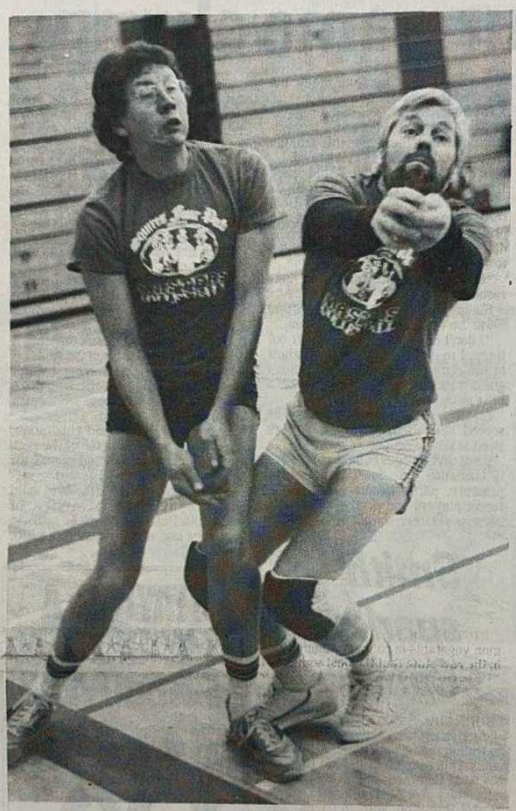
Yake had 15 goals and 12 assists in 12 games.

The player of the month in the West Division is left winger Darcy Norton of the Kamloops Blazers, who had 20 goals and 12 assists in 14 November games.

Arbitration offer

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Yankees offered salary arbitration Thursday to three of their free-agent pitchers Dave Righetti, Tommy John and Bill Gullickson.

If the Yankees had not made the offers by Dec. 7, it would have lost negotiating rights with the three until May 1. The players have until Dec. 19 to accept arbitration. If they accept the offer, they are effectively



HEADS UP

Doug Wakefield, left, and George Galbraith avoid a collision as they prepare to set a ball during Squires Four Pub Masters Volleyball League play, at W.L. Seaton Secondary School. The Masters loop, in its second season, is comprised of four teams. (Daily News Photo)

Volleyball loops now registering

The Greater Vernon Parks and Recreation District is offering the Women's Intermediate Volleyball League again this winter, with three levels of competition available for players.

The intermediate level is Vernon's secondary level of play among women's volleyball leagues in the city. The "A" level is offered to players who want a less competitive program than the Major Women's League, but want

The "B" division is also moderately competitive, but the calibre of play is lower than the intermediate "A" division. A maximum of 12 teams will be accepted into this division as well.

The "C" level is the lowest calibre of competition with the onus on having fun and participating in the sport. A maximum of 12 teams will be accepted.

Teams are comprised of females

Masters stretch winning streak

The Kokanee Masters stretched their winning streak to five games with a 76-58 win over Spallumcheen Golf Club in Fosters Lager Basketball League play, Thursday, at the Priest Valley Gymnasium.

The first place Masters hold a two-point lead over Squires Four Pub and Golden Crown Restaurant.

In other games, Golden Crown dumped Apple Lane Restaurant 80-72, Squires Four Pub blasted Squires Four B's 71-41, and National Hotel whipped Okanagan College 80-63.

Tony Wolcott led the Masters with 32 points while Lance McGregor dropped in 15.

Randy Ahl, with 18 points, and Ted Kornelson, with 13, were the top marksmen for Spallumcheen.

Squires Four snapped a 9-9 deadlock with 13 consecutive points against the B's.

Rob Gardner was the leading scorer for Squires Four with 14 points while Rick Wilson added 12.

Mike Enemark, with 13 points, was the only B's player who hit double figures.

Golden Crown and Apple Lane exchanged leads five times late in the second half before the Crown emerged victorious.

Wilf Haak was the offensive star for Golden Crown with 28 points while Ray Wolsey sunk 14.

Morris Vardabasso and Sandy Steinley handled most of the scoring for Apple Lane with 25 and 24 points, respectively.

National Hotel and Okanagan College were locked in a see-saw battle until the College ran into foul trouble in the second half.

Pat Clemens led the National Hotel attack with 21 points while Mark Boppre scored 17 and Gary Charles added 16.

Stacey Smith replied with 18 points for the College crew.

Four of the College's eight players, including Smith, fouled out.

LOOK BACK FIVE YEARS

DECEMBER 1982

Thirteen local judo pupils took part in the Steveston invitational Judo tournament. Four of the group returned with trophies in their individual weight categories. Brian Yakura took second in 46 kg.; Maryon Flynnvandraat, second, girls' 59 kg.; Brad Kirschner, second 74 kg.; and Shaun Bidulka, third 43 kg.

A maximum of five athletes, sportsmen or teams will be inducted into the Okanagan Sports Hall of Fame next year. There were 15 initial inductees when the hall opened in Vernon's Cenotaph Park last August. The Hall of Fame met to discuss selections, the induction ceremony and funding. Chairman Chris Nelson said the committee has received nothing but positive feedback from the community about the facility.

Gentles enjoys big night

Wes Gentles scored one goal and added seven assists to lead the Vernon Lodge Hotel to an 11-4 win over Kal Tire in Pleasant Valley Hockey League action, Wednesday night, at the Priest Valley Arena.

Keith Sheffield and Curt Petersen scored three goals each for the Vernon Lodge while Rodger Schmidt, Greg Kowal, Mike Dionne, and Ken Johnstone added singles.



WES GENTLES

Ted Sophonow, with two goals, Pat Balfour, and Kelly Mulzet countered for Kal Tire.

In another game, Club 2929 defeated the Cidel Raiders 8-6.

Jim Sparrow led the Club 2929 attack with three goals while Kevin Balfour added a pair. Singles went to Wayne Brown, Casey Hoy, and Glen Fester. Marty Stein and Fester picked up three assists.

Rick Zoethout, Rex Slizak, Rick Rysz, Guy Davison, Brian Hunt, and Colin Fleming scored for the Raiders.

The teams were deadlocked 2-2 at the end of the first period and Club 2929 held a 5-4 edge after 40 minutes.