## SPORTS BRIEFS

# Mick is hot

Vernon native Troy Mick scored a natural hat-trick to lead the struggling Portland Winter Hawks to a 7-3 home-ice victory over the Kamloops Blazers, Saturday night. Teammate Dennis Holland added a pair of assists while Troy Pohl had a goal and an assist and defenceman Jay Stark contributed an assist as well. Mick scored twice in the first period and again in the second frame, getting three consecutive goals for the Winter Hawks. Portland led 2-1 and 4-2 by periods.

### To arbitration

NEW YORK (AP) — Dave Righetti, unable to get the three-year contract he wanted, is still with the New York Yankees, while free agents Dave Smith and Atlee Hammaker are on the market after rejecting salary arbitration.

Righetti agreed to seek arbitration Saturday, shortly before the mid-

## VERNON UNBEATABLE ON THE ROAD

# Lakers hammer Chilliwack

The Chilliwack Eagles found out that the Vernon Lakers get mean when they get tired. The Vernon squad pounded the hometown Eagles 11-2, Sunday afternoon, to complete a three-game sweep of Coastal Division teams on the weekend.

Lakers posted a 5-4 decision over the Juan De Fuca Whalers, Saturday night, and opened their road trip with an 8-3 laugher against the Nanaimo Clippers, Friday night.

The Vernon team now has 52 points, including 14 consecutive victories on the road. They lead Kelowna Packers by a whopping 16-point margin in the race for first place in the B.C. Junior Hockey League's Interior Division.

The convincing victory in Chilliwack almost caught Vernon Coach Ernie Gare off guard as he felt the club was getting tired from the wear and tear of three games, in three days, along with the travel.

"I was really surprised that we came out so strong because a lot of guys felt sick and we had a lot of bruises to nurse," said Gare.

The Lakers had to play the last two games of the trip without the services of forward Mark Greyeyes and defenceman Chad Biafore. Both were lost to the club in the first period of the game against Nanaimo.

"We missed Chad, especially in Juan De Fuca with that big ice-surface but the rest of the guys came up big," explained Gare whose lifetime record over the past two seasons has improved to 59-25-2. "We had good balanced scoring and defensive play from all the lines."

Jamie Steer, chasing the BCJHL scoring title, scored three times and added a pair of assists against the Eagles while Dallas Drake scored twice and assisted on two others as well. Dane Jackson also came through with a pair of goals while singles went to defencemen Wes Elliott and Phil Soukoroff, along with forwards Kevin Harder and Mike Paller.

Vernon led 4-0 and 8-1 by periods.

Barry Rysz picked up the win between the pipes while the league's leading goaltender Glen Fry was in net in both Nanaimo and Juan De Fuca.

The Lakers led throughout the game in Juan De Fuca with the Whalers scoring a late goal to make the score close. Mike Barkley, Soukoroff, with two assists as well, Paller, Darcy Martini and Greg Parnell, with the game-winner, had singles for the local club.

In one other Sunday game, the Richmond Sockeyes duplicated Vernon's weekend feat by sweeping three games from Interior Division rivals including a 7-4 victory against Merritt Centennials.

Rick Herbert and Rick Rozecki each scored twice to lead the Sockeyes while Jason Talo, Dwayne Wills and Rob Clarke also scored for the visitors.

Willi Popp, acquired recently from the Ontario Hockey League, was outstanding in Richmond's goal with 39 stops.

Al Suzuki scored twice for Merritt which led 2-1 after the first period but trailed 5-3 after 40 minutes. Stu Henderson and Doneau Menard also scored for te Centennials.

*In other action Saturday night, the Sockeyes hammered the Summerland Buckaroos 8-1, the Eagles got by the Nanaimo Clippers 6-5, the Delta Flyers beat the Abbotsford Falcons 6-3 and the Penticton Knights trimmed the Kelowna Packers 7-3.*

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# Canadian team