LEAD CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES 2-0

Lakers Fry up some Sockeyes



GREG PARNELL jostles with Richmond Sockeyes' centre Kirk Phare (14) during action Sunday night at the Vernon Civic Arena. The Lakers blew an early 3-0 lead but recovered to post a 6-4 victory over the visitors giving them a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven BCJHL championship series. Games three and four take place Tuesday and Wednesday in Richmond. (Daily News Photo)

By JIM JUDD
Daily News Sports

The Richmond Sockeyes outshot and outplayed the hometown Vernon Lakers but they didn't count on the outstanding goaltending of Glen Fry in the scheme of things.

Fry made 41 saves to backstop the Lakers to a 6-4 victory against the Sockeyes, giving the local club a two-game lead in their best-of-seven B.C. Junior Hockey League championship series.

After one period Sunday it looked as though the Lakers might enjoy another victory like their 7-2 win Saturday night against Richmond. They led 3-0 despite being outshot 18-8 by the visitors.

However, three successive goals by Richmond in the second frame erased that early Vernon lead before Mike Barkley's goal at 19:45 of the middle stanza put the Lakers ahead to stay.

"We stopped skating in the second period and when we don't skate we're just an average team," said Vernon Head Coach Ernie Gare. "After winning the first game by a score like that I was expecting a letdown."

The club extended their lead to 5-3 early in the third period but the Sockeyes stayed close with another goal less than a minute later. However, it was as close as the visitors could get.

Dane Jackson pumped in an insurance marker with 10 seconds remaining. In the dying minutes the Sockeyes couldn't get out of their own end because of the Vernon forechecking.

"We had them hemmed in during the last two minutes," said Gare. "They never even got a smell — the guys played it smart."

Meanwhile, Richmond coach Orland Kurtenbach was quietly disappointed with the pair of losses, especially Sunday's since he had hoped for a split with the Lakers in the two-game series.

"We couldn't put the puck in the net when we had to and they did it with ease," Kurtenbach said. "We outshot them and outworked them but we have to get our intensity level up.

"They're well-balanced and they have a good skating club," added the Richmond coach.

The Lakers capitalized heavily on their power-play opportunities in the first period. Dallas Drake got the ball rolling at 1:22 with Darcy Martini and Phil Soukoroff drawing assists. Greg Parnell made it 2-0 with another man-advantage marker at the midway mark of the period while Chad Biafore gave Vernon a 3-0 lead late in the stanza on another power-play situation.

A quick goal less than a minute into the second period ignited the Richmond comeback though. Veteran Western Hockey League defenceman Rick Herbert closed the gap by one more with a power-play goal and finally Wayne Stripp knotted the score at 3-3 by the midway point of the period.

However, Fry kept the visitors from taking the lead and kept the Lakers in the game until they found their legs once again. Barkley's late goal provided the Vernon team with the lift they needed.

Jamie Steer eventually scored the game-winner at 6:31 of the third period when he blasted his own rebound past Richmond goaltender Mike Doyle.

"Barkley's goal in the second period was a big one and Jamie's goal was a key goal," said Gare.

Marty Comeau, Herbert, Wayne Stripp and Tony Bobbit replied for the Sockeyes who held a 45-35 edge in shots on goal.

The series resumes Tuesday night in Richmond with game four scheduled for Wednesday.

Though the Sockeyes will be playing on their home-ice, the huge ice surface of the Richmond arena could work to the Lakers' advantage according to Gare.

"Our game is skating and we'll be alright in that big ice-surface," he said. "We'll use it to our advantage."

Game five, if necessary, will be in Vernon on Saturday night.

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

Cameron scores four goals to give Juveniles victory

Scott Cameron scored four goals to pace the Vernon Coca Cola Juvenile reps to a tough 7-3 victory against the visiting Kelowna Juveniles Friday night at the Civic Arena.

Thhe victory gives the Vernon squad the Okanagan-Mainline Juvenile Hockey League Championship and allows them to advance to the B.C. semi-final series against the Richmond Juveniles. That series begins Friday night in Richmond with game two Saturday and game three, if

had more than two lines after six players, including starting goaltenders, were ejected following the incident.

Luckily, Cameron was among the players left for Vernon. The local club led 3-1 when the brawl broke out but Kelowna never got any closer than that in spite of their player advantage.

"He (Cameron) has been simply outstanding in the

B.C. Junior

Vernon 7 Richmond 2

Peace-Cariboo Junior

Wms Lake 9 Grande Prairie 2

B.C. Junior

Vernon 6 Richmond 4

(Vernon leads best-of-seven final 2-0)

Peace-Cariboo Junior

Grande Prairie 5 Wms Lake 2

(Grande Prairie wins best-of-seven final 4-1)