

MIKE PALLER, captain of the Vernon Lakers, displays the Interior Division banner presented to the club prior to game four of the B.C. Junior Hockey League Championship series Wednesday night in Richmond. The banner, along with another for being the regular season champions, will be hung above the ice-surface at Civic Arena.

(Daily News Photo)

GAME FIVE TONIGHT

Bus ride home affords time to reflect on team's failure

What began as a quiet bus ride home from Richmond Wednesday night eventually lapsed into a normal atmosphere of conversation for the Vernon Lakers with the result being that the club will head into tonight's encounter with forceful determination.

The Lakers entertain the Richmond Sockeyes in game five of their best-of-seven B.C. Junior Hockey League championship series. Vernon won the first three games but squandered a late three-goal lead to lose the fourth contest Wednesday night in the Lower Mainland community.

"It was fairly quiet for a while but then things got back to normal," suggested Lakers' Head Coach Ernie Gare. "They (Lakers) were disappointed that we had let it slip through our fingers."

The Sockeyes, trailing 9-6 with less than 10 minutes remaining, scored four unanswered goals to rally for a 10-9 victory and so stave off elimination from the championship series. The Richmond club is the defending Centennial Cup champs.

"We did some things that were silly," said Gare, referring to the final minutes of game four in which the local club froze up and watched their opposition literally skate around them and score at will to win. "We went to sleep out there but we learned a lesson.

"The objective tonight is to play 60 minutes of hockey regardless of the score," added Gare.

Meanwhile, the Sockeyes, under coach Orland Kurtenbach, will be desperately trying to stave off elimination once again and a taste of victory in game four might be just what the doctor ordered. However, aside from the final minutes of game four, the Richmond squad has been badly outplayed and outmatched at every position. Gare plans to keep that upper hand again tonight.

"The fact that they've won a game might encourage them but we're going to go after them right off the bat — we want to set the tone and the pace," suggested Gare who has the best winning percentage of any coach in BCJHL history after two full seasons with the Vernon team.

"They scored some strange goals on us so we want to play better behind our own blue line," he added.

In game four, Richmond's top line of Barry Kress, Rob Clarke and Dwayne Wills stung the Lakers for seven goals — a fact which will warrant the Sockeyes' top trio an added measure of attention tonight.

"We'll probably pay some attention to Kress's line," concurred Gare. "We'll start Paller's line against them."

In the first three games, the Lakers' captain and his linemates covered Kress's line like a blanket and held them off the scoresheet.

Game time tonight at the Civic Arena is 8 p.m.

Commerce bank team wins bowling tourney

The Bank of Commerce team, captained by Irene Walker, captured top honors recently in the Second Annual Bankers Bowling Tournament.

The four-game format event featured 16 competing teams representing banking establishments in Vernon and Lumby.

The winning team also included Connie Hearty, Roger Birch, Bob McArthur, and Blair Hamilton. Two members of the team, Walker and Hamilton, also took the high singles honors for the evening, Walker scored a 245 while Hamilton had a sparkling 320.

Vi Collins accepted the trophy as the last place team in the tournament while Diane Baker, of the same team, received an award for recording the lowest score in the event.

Reigning champion finishes O'Sullivan

TORONTO (CP) — Donovan Boucher retained a title and Shawn O'Sullivan gave up a career.

It all happened in three minutes, 46 seconds Friday night at Varsity

Olympic silver medal at Los Angeles, losing a disputed decision to American gold-medallist Frank Tate.

TURNED PRO

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Editor — DON KENDALL

Stewart rink wins overall curling award

Pat Stewart and her rink captured the Grand Aggregate Award as the overall winners of the Vernon Ladies Afternoon Curling League.

Stewart, along with her teammates Connie Hipkiss, Gloria Trierweiler, and Doris Smithson were presented with the award during the wind-up banquet and awards dinner held by the ladies curling loop recently.

Meanwhile, the A-event trophy winners were Shirley White and her rink who received the Granny Morris Trophy for their efforts. Curling with White were Karen Kindrachuk, Sybil Higgenson and Gay Phare.

Fester were Terry White, Mary Field, Marg Saunders, and Edith Myler.

The Nolan Drug Trophy for the B-event went to a rink skipped by Joyce Hartman which also included Ethel Dunn, Mary Towers, and Amelia Reid.

B-event runners-up were the rink of Thelma Trickett, Mary Edwards, Anne Hlina, and Irene Erixon.

C-event winners, recipients of the Bert Morgan Trophy were the Mary Wilkinson foursome with Lona Schultz, Peggy Bebeau, and Wendy Smith rounding out the roster.

And, C-event runners-up were the Jo Fish rink with Fish, Mary Pog-