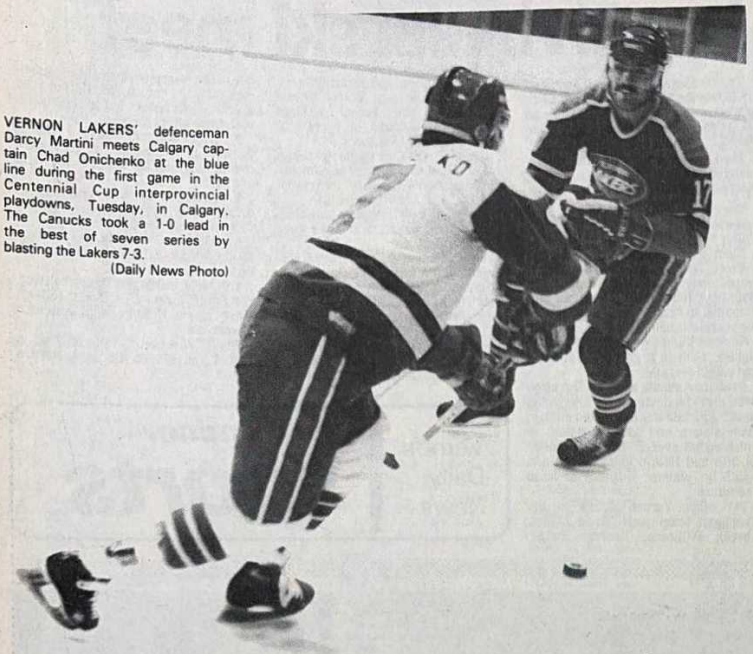


Playoff loss

High-scoring Vernon Lakers right winger Jamie Steer (9) found it tough going against Tuesday night in his hometown of Calgary. The Lakers, B.C. Junior Hockey League champs, were thumped 7-3 by the Alberta junior A league champions, Calgary Canucks. Game two of the best of seven goes tonight. For more on the first game, see page 13.

CALGARY 7, VERNON 3

Canucks thump Lakers in opener



VERNON LAKERS' defenceman Darcy Martini meets Calgary captain Chad Onichenko at the blue line during the first game in the Centennial Cup interprovincial playdowns, Tuesday, in Calgary. The Canucks took a 1-0 lead in the best of seven series by blasting the Lakers 7-3.
(Daily News Photo)

By JIM JUDD
Daily News Sports

CALGARY (Special) — The Vernon Lakers received a little of what they've been dishing out lately as the Calgary Canucks scored three unanswered third period goals to break open a close game and skate off with a 7-3 victory, Tuesday night, at the Max Bell Arena.

The win gives the Alberta Junior Hockey League champs a 1-0 lead in their best-of-seven Western Canada Junior A semi-final series. Game two takes place tonight, beginning at 6:30 p.m. (PDT).

The Canucks used their incredible speed, discipline and patience to defeat the Lakers . . . waiting for mistakes by the Vernon club and then seizing their opportunities to put the puck in the net.

In all fairness to the Lakers, though, they weren't outplayed by the host club until the late stages of the game. The teams were tied 1-1 at the end of one period and the Canucks held a slim 4-3 margin heading into the third frame.

"The biggest difference was that we scored on our chances and they didn't" explained Canucks' Coach Don Phelps. "I can see why they (Lakers) won (B.C.) though, they have a good work ethic and they certainly grind it out. We really had our hands full."

Though Phelps might have been impressed with the Lakers' efforts, the best they rated for the night was a B-plus on the effort scale. Some players offered 100 per cent effort while others were simply going through the motions. As usual, goalie Glen Fry turned in a full 60-minutes of good hockey but fell victim to several soft goals in the second period. The other second period marker by the Canucks was a short-handed effort in which the lanky Vernon netminder had no chance.

Brady Semchuk led the Calgary squad with a pair of third-period goals while singles came off the sticks of Dave Loewen, Dean Larson, Tim Kollman, Mike Bertamini, and Dennis Fleming.

Newcomer Farrell Goodwin provided the Lakers with their first period goal, scoring on a scramble, while Mark Greyeyes and Wes Elliott provided the club with the other two markers.

In spite of his early goal, Goodwin, who came up from the Columbia Valley Rockies, didn't have the wheels to be effective with Vernon but still received an equal share of icetime from Coach Ernie Gare.

Elliott's goal on a blast from the point was also a short-handed effort and countered the Canucks' short-handed tally just previously scored.

Gare, meanwhile, was impressed by the talent on the Calgary club but suggested, as did Phelps, that the series has a long way to go yet.

"I thought we played well," said Gare. "The score wasn't indicative of the play.

"We made some mistakes in the third period and they capitalized. It'll be a long series and we just want to win one here.

"We can't afford to give them three goals and especially not those weak goals in the second period," Gare continued. "We learned a lot tonight and we'll be a lot better in game two."

Phelps attributed the Canucks' success to the huge ice-surface at the Max Bell Arena where the Canucks play all their home games. They used every inch of the huge surface to their advantage Tuesday night.

"I think the big ice surface caught them by surprise but we'll have to deal with a smaller rink in Vernon so it'll even itself out," Phelps explained. "We don't want to go back there (Vernon) in the hole either because once we leave here it's all in Vernon's rink after this so we'd like to win both of these games."

Officiating was hardly a catalyst in the game as referee Dale Bennett of Calgary handed out just seven minor penalties all night, including four of them to the Lakers. The Canucks were 0-for-4 on the power-play, however, while the Lakers captalized on one of their three power-play opportunities.

The Lakers outshot Calgary by a narrow 30-28 margin but didn't seriously threaten Calgary's Buddy Brazier with many of those shots.

Three teams advance to next playoff round

By The Canadian Press

It's often been said that all good things come to those who wait.

But the Edmonton Oilers, Calgary Flames and St. Louis Blues have discovered that a lot of waiting comes to those who do good.

These three teams earned a week's rest after wrapping up theiseven National Hockey League first-round series 4-1 Tuesday night.

Philadelphia in a Patrick Division semifinal with the Flyers leading 3-2.

And the Hartford Whalers surprised the Canadiens 3-1 at Montreal in an Adams Division semifinal, trailing 3-2.

Meanwhile, the New Jersey Devils beat New York Islanders 4-2 to take a 3-2 lead in their Patrick Division semifinal while Boston Bruins edged Buffalo Sabres 5-4 to go ahead 3-2 in the

with his sixth goal of the series.

Chicago's Rick Vaive scored twice in the second period, the second goal coming on a power play — his fifth while the Blackhawks were at a player advantage to tie an NHL single-series playoff record. Denis Savard added a shorthanded goal for Chicago.

St. Louis got some help from rulings by referee Don Koharski, who

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

SPORTS BRIEFS

Aces sweep doubleheader

The National Hotel Aces blasted their opponents in two Molson Men's Slowpitch League games Tuesday night. The Aces blanked the Kokanees 19-0 and dumped the Armstrong Whalers 16-5. In other games, Club 2929 edged the H and R Cyclones 5-4, the National Roos blasted Toros 9-1, the Kal Hotel Lakers aced Sun Valley Sports 6-5, the Kokanees doubled Longhorn 8-4, the Dunbar Diggers whipped Squires Four 21-10, the Whalers hammered Longhorn 22-8, and the Village Green Brewers trounced the Mooseheads 12-2.

Lacrosse meeting

The Vernon Senior 'B' Lacrosse Team will hold an organizational meeting Thursday, at 8:30 p.m., in the Village Green Inn. Anyone interested in playing is asked to attend.

Golf social

Mulliniks sidelined

TORONTO (CP) — The Toronto Blue Jays placed third baseman Rance Mulliniks on the 15-day disabled list Tuesday and activated infielder Manny Lee from the disabled list.

The Jays said Mulliniks suffered a