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Exhibition play

The Vernon Lakers have a chance Saturday at 8 p.m. to avenge an exhibition loss to the Portland Winter Hawks. The Western Hockey League team clashed with the BCJHL champs in Osoyoos, but Vernon came out on the short end of the 10-6 score. *See the story on page 11.*

News Capsules

Hawks win round one in exhibition series

By AL PATERSON
Daily News Sports

OSOYOOS (Special) — We'll get 'em Saturday," said Mel Lis.

Lis, owner of the Vernon Lakers Junior 'A' Hockey Club, was referring to a rematch Saturday night in Vernon with the Portland Winter Hawks of the Western Hockey League. The Lakers gave the Winter Hawks all they could handle Thursday night but dropped a 10-6 game in Osoyoos.

The Hawks, playing their first exhibition game of the season, led 3-1 after the first period but Vernon made good use of a potent, powerplay to erase that deficit and claim a 6-5 lead after two periods of play.

Winter Hawks General Manager Brian Shaw was behind the bench, in Osoyoos, giving coach Ken Hodge a better view from the stands and Shaw said he wasn't at all happy with the way his charges performed, especially in the second period.

"I was disappointed the way our club lacked discipline," said Shaw, noted and well-respected around the WHL for giving straight answers to pointed questions.

"Last year we had the knock put on our team that we were easily intimidated and some of our players heard that all summer and wanted to show everybody that is not so," he said. "I think they just carried it a bit too far."

Shaw went on to praise the Lakers.

"The Lakers have a very good hockey club," he said. "I was impressed with the way they played — they worked hard all night and put in a good effort.

"We took the majority of the ridiculous penalties," he added. "In fact, we didn't play until the third period."

When the Winter Hawks came out for the third period trailing 6-5, they meant business and rattled the Lakers with four unanswered goals. The brightest star of the game was James Black of Portland. He was spectacular, scoring four goals and helping on four other goals for an eight-point game. Black also hit the post one time with the goaltender beaten.

Former Vernon Lakers gave good accounts of themselves for the Winter Hawks, especially feisty rightwinger Mark Greyeyes. Greyeyes scored one goal and assisted on three others.

Playing on a line with James Black didn't hurt Greyeyes. They fit together like ham and eggs.

Black scored twice in the first period for Portland while tough guy Kevin Jorgenson added the other Winter Hawk marker. Vernon's lone goal of the opening 20 minutes was potted by Bart Kuntz, shortly before being whacked in the face with a stick, suffering a possible broken nose.

Tony Szabo, arguably Vernon's best player on the night, set up Duane Dennis for the goal early in the second period that knotted the count but Greg Leahy restored the Portland lead with each team playing a couple of men short.

Dean Zayonce scored the next Vernon goal, a powerplay effort, as Portland took some silly penalties and had two men in the box when Zayonce uncorked a shot that found net. Unfortunately for him, the goal was officially credited to Jeff Adams.

Halfway through the game Vernon led 4-3 and Portland fell further behind when Bill Lindsay scored yet another powerplay goal for Vernon, an unassisted marker on a nifty wraparound play.

Duane Dennis and Szabo teamed up again for Vernon with Dennis cashing in with the teams playing four aside.

Portland regained a little equilibrium when Black clicked with 1:45 left in the period. That's the way the second period ended, Vernon ahead 6-5.

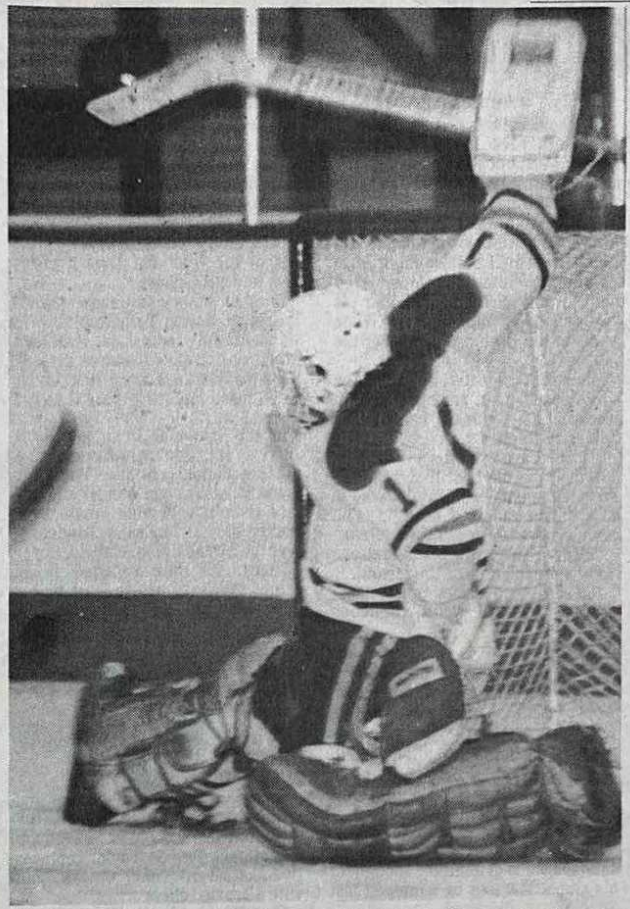
Mike Moors and Black, with his hat trick goal, quickly rubbed out the Vernon lead early in the third period and Gryees gave Portland an important insurance marker 10 minutes into the final period.

After that Vernon sagged, Calvin Thudium scored for Portland with Vernon playing two men short, followed by a goal from Black — his fourth of the contest.

It was a chippy affair, played under B.C. Junior Hockey League rules. That meant automatic expulsion from the game for fighting and four players from each team earned early showers for fistic activity.

The same two teams meet Saturday night, also under BCJHL rules, starting at 8 p.m. at Civic Arena and Shaw says people can forget about much fighting in that game.

"Saturday night, we'll be in Vernon to play three periods of hockey," said Shaw.



BRIAN LANGELOT saw a lot of rubber come his way in the second half of an exhibition game against the Portland Winter Hawks Thursday night in Osoyoos. Langelot was formerly with the Seattle Americans Junior "B" team. (Daily News photo)