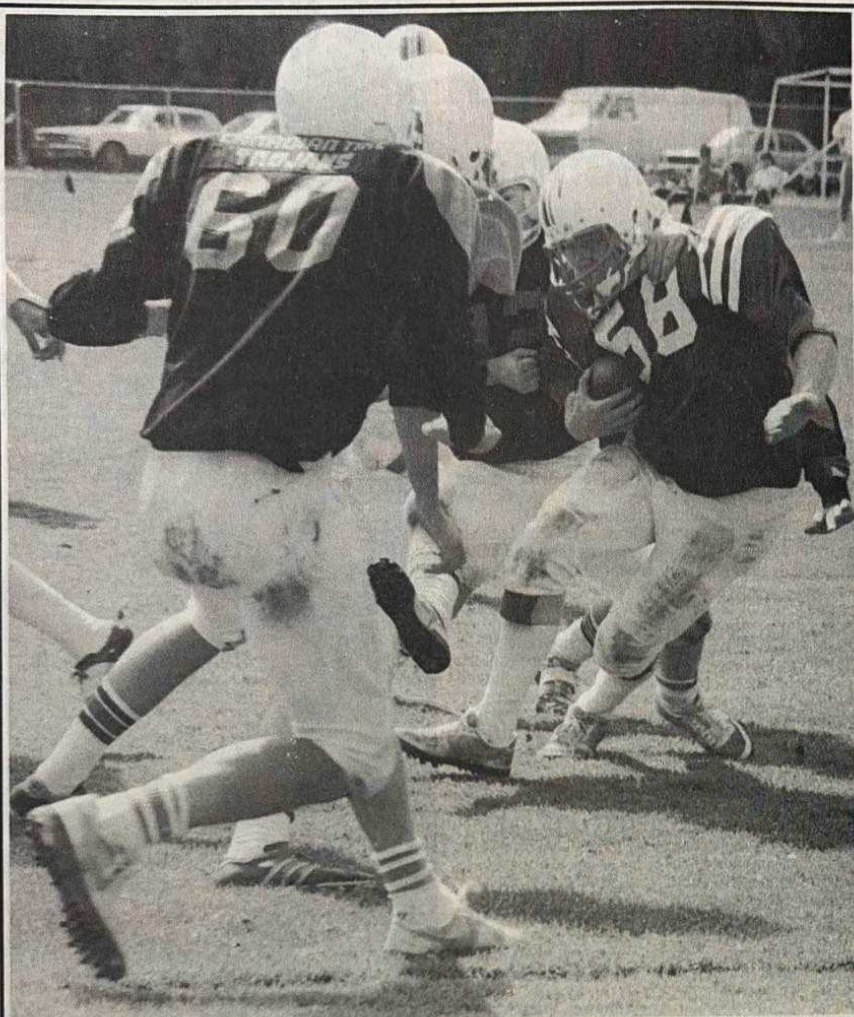


Lakers blast Blazers 10-2



CHARGERS WIN OPENER

(Daily News Photo)

Vernon Star Auto Body Chargers' fullback Blaine Cantolope bursts through the middle of the line, to the Kelowna Trojans' one-yard

line, during the Okanagan Senior Bantam Football League season opener, Sunday, at Polson Park. Chargers scored three unconverted

touchdowns on route to an 18-6 win over Kelowna. Details and photos will be published on the Minor Sports Page, Wednesday.

Running quarterback leads Esks to victory

By The Canadian Press Hamilton swelling his the ball game," barked Saskatchewan fell to 4-5

Vernon Lakers got off on the right foot Saturday night as they posted an easy 10-2 pre-season win over Salmon Arm Blazers, in Enderby.

The two clubs will meet again Wednesday night, in Enderby, as Lakers' BCJHL exhibition season continues. The local club will play five pre-season matchups.

The score was clearly an indication of the play, according to Lakers' Head Coach Don Moores as the rookie-laden Blazers struggled with youth and inexperience throughout the evening. Lakers, meanwhile, had a handful of sophomore players in the lineup in addition to their newcomers since the club doesn't have more than a dozen rookie hopefuls still on its roster.

"They (Blazers) played all rookies but we didn't have that many ourselves," admitted Moores, who watched the game from the stands while assistant coach Murray Batty was behind the bench with the Vernon club. "It was hard to tell how well we actually played because the guys got to do whatever they wanted."

Four of the veteran players were on the defensive lineup... an area Lakers show stability in this season. However, few of the regulars saw much action until the third period when the clubs began to have their numbers decimated because of fisticuff encounters.

"The veterans hardly got a shift until the third period when we actually need-

ed them," Moores said.

Among those suited up were Jim Scott, Murray Baron and Seaton Hartnell on defence.

The game left much to be desired as far as basic hockey was concerned and Moores is looking forward to better pre-season games in the near future.

"It was a little scramble in the first period," he said. "We'll have a really good indication of how we look after this weekend."

Mike Van Sickle, who saw action with the local club for half the season last year, along with rookie Brian Lofroth, brother of veteran defenceman Shawn Lofroth, each had two goals for Lakers as did newcomers Remi Rizzo and Tim Heighton. Troy Mick and Al Hayter added one apiece.

Lakers play back-to-back games with Penticton Knights, Friday and Saturday nights. The local club is in the Penticton Memorial Arena, Friday, while it will entertain the Centennial Cup finalists Saturday night, at Vernon Civic Arena.

Next Wednesday, the Vernon squad hosts Merritt Centennials at Civic arena. Centennials have former Vernon coach Chuck Tapp at the helm. Cents ousted Lakers from the BCJHL playoffs last spring in the seventh and deciding game of the quarter-final round.

Lakers are on ice practicing each night this week.

Vernon judoka is number one

Vernon's Brad Kirschner is now officially the top ranked junior judoka, in the 78 kg class, in Canada.

Kirschner won the Canadian junior title in July and placed first in the recent Canadian Open Tournament, at Toronto. He then attended a week-long camp at the University of Toronto and after a series of tests, was ranked number one.

Kirschner, 17, hopes to travel to Germany next month with the Canadian Junior Team. "But we haven't heard anything yet," he said. "We thought they'd name the team before we left Toronto last week, but they didn't tell us anything. I hope they let us know soon."



BRAD KIRSCHNER
... top ranked

Kirschner won five consecutive bouts at the Open, on the Canadian

National Exhibition grounds. "The calibre was similar to the national championships," he said. "Most of the best buys from Ontario, Quebec, and the U.S. were competing."

The training camp, in Toronto, was designed to give junior judokas experience and prepare the national senior team for the world championships, later this month, at Kobe, South Korea.

"We received a lot of good training," Kirschner said. "They gave us fitness tests to find out what kind of shape we're in."

Kirschner plans to train with the Vernon and Kelowna Judo Clubs until he is notified of his next event with the national junior team.