

Lakers end trip with win in Delta

Vernon Lakers ironed out their discipline problems during their Coastal road swing on the weekend and they didn't need Head Coach Don Moores to read them the riot act.

Lakers put together one of their best performances of the young season Saturday night as they defeated hometown Delta Flyers 9-7 to earn bookend victories in their three-game trip through the B.C. Junior Hockey League Coastal Division.



WES GENTLES
... scored one

The victory gives Lakers an early season record of 3-2. All five games to date have been played in other club's arenas. The local squad will get their first taste of home-ice action Thursday night when they entertain the red-hot Kelowna Packers.

"I think a lot of our guys realized that we can't take anyone for granted," explained Moores who was less than thrilled at his club's 7-4 loss Friday night in Nanaimo. "It was a big win because Delta will be a big team in this league ... it proved to our team that we can be an excellent club if we play like we should."

Centre Doug Spooner was instrumental in providing Lakers with their margin of victory in Delta. Spooner scored three times as Vernon led 3-0 and 7-2 by periods. However, Spooner's third goal didn't come until late in the third frame when Flyers had closed the gap to 8-7.

"He (Spooner) has been very good since training camp," said Moores of his lanky centre. "His work ethic is incredible, he was all over the ice."

Another model of consistency for Vernon has been forward Troy Pohl, one of three brothers currently playing for Lakers. Pohl notched a single Saturday night, but has figured in the scoring in every game so far this season.

He (Pohl) has been a very consistent player," said Moores of his left-winger. "He has a high-intensity level."

Other Vernon goals came from Steve Humphrey, Greg Guest, Wes Gentles, Shannon Pohl, Mike Todd and Troy Pohl.

Brian Puhacsky scored twice for Flyers with singles from Stan Marple, Jim Butterworth, Joe Quinn, Sean Harder and former Vernon Laker Dan Baker.

While Moores is happy with the consistency of some of his players he isn't happy with the officiating. Saturday's game featured 84 minutes in minor penalties, which is almost the average during the early going as officials continue to clamp down on errant sticks in the league.

"We're having a real problem with the consistency in the penalty calling," explained Moores. "One night they (of-

ficials) called everything and the next night they called nothing."

In other BCJHL action Saturday night Kelowna Packers shelled Summerland Buckaroos 16-2, Nanaimo edged Abbotsford 5-4, and Penticton Knights made it five in a row with a 12-3 victory over hometown Merritt Warriors.

Knights got four goals from Peter DeGraff and two each from Chris Anderson and Aaron Scott as they led 2-1 and 9-2 by periods and outshot Merritt 62-31.

In Summerland, Kelowna scored 15 goals before the game was half over and coasted to the 16-2 win over Buckaroos. Wade Stubby had three goals for Kelowna while Shawn Harrison, Ward Carlson and Bruce Bianchini each contributed a pair.

In action Sunday night, Richmond Sockeyes blasted Sidney Capitals 12-3 while Kelowna bombed Salmon Arm 15-3.

Lakers are on the ice tonight at Civic arena practicing for their game against Packers, Thursday night, and giving the club an opportunity to lick their wounds after their campaign on the road.

"Considering the teams we beat I'm very happy," said Moores. "We set our goal at three for five and we met that goal."

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