

Lakers host Bucks tonight

By JIM JUDD
Daily News Sports

Vernon Lakers lay their current seven-game win streak on the line tonight when they host Summerland Buckaroos, at 8 p.m., at Vernon Civic Arena.

Buckaroos, who have been struggling all season, are sporting a record of 7-11-1. Their seven wins are four more than Langley Eagles had when they nearly upset Lakers last Friday night, at the Civic Arena, and they have been toughened considerably more than Eagles by playing a good portion of their games this season against Kelowna Packers and Penticton Knights.

In fact, Lakers and Buckaroos have met just once prior to tonight's contest ... an unusual occurrence this late in the season for two teams that share the same division in the British Columbia Junior Hockey League.

Buckaroos' exploits on the ice haven't been aided lately by the financial difficulty the team is experiencing. It was that financial trouble which brought defenceman Campbell Blair to Lakers, in early-November, in exchange for cash when Bucks were clearing off players in a garage sale-like exchange for money.

It was Blair's appearance on the blueline that helped to initiate Lakers' win streak, playing his first game Nov. 7 when the club headed for a three-game swing through the BCJHL Coastal Division.

Since then Lakers have proven, at times, to be contenders for the BCJHL championship but at other times they have shown themselves to be something of a group of loafers.

Unfortunately it's always been against the weaker teams that the local club lets down and a situation such as this could prove disastrous tonight against Summerland.

However, Head Coach Don Moores feels confident the club has worked out its inconsistency problems and the proof, according to Moores, is in the pudding. Last weekend, Lakers handed the tough Merritt Warriors a sound 8-3 thrashing and the following night walked out of Salmon Arm with a 6-4 victory.

Meanwhile, goaltender Mike Sutherland who was recently acquired from Kelowna Packers in a trade that saw defenceman Kevin Horn go to Kelowna, has left the team. According to General Manager Vern Dye, Sutherland decided he didn't want to play in Vernon and left without playing a game for the local club.

Tonight there will be an added feature to the game. Immediately prior to the contest, two Vernon Atom House League teams will play a period of hockey. The game, between Canadian Tire and BCGEU teams, will begin at 7:40 p.m.

The two teams will also play briefly between the first and second periods of the Lakers' game.

BCJHL

VANCOUVER (CP) —
Statistics released Monday by
the British Columbia Junior
Hockey League:

STANDINGS

Coastal Division

	W	L	T	Pts
Richmond	16	3	0	32
Nanaimo	10	10	0	20
Delta	8	10	0	16
Sidney	7	15	0	14
Langley	3	19	0	6
Abbotsford	1	15	0	2

Interior Division

Penticton	18	2	0	36
Kelowna	17	3	0	34
Vernon	15	7	0	30
Merritt	10	9	1	21
Summerland	7	11	1	15
Shuswap	6	14	0	12

SCORING

Coastal

	G	A	Pts
Jennings, Nan	13	28	41
Austin, Rich	22	18	40
Lewis, Nan	16	23	39
Sloan, Lan	15	24	39
Kujala, Lan	14	21	35
Decker, Del	12	23	35
Cayford, Nan	13	21	34
Crossley, Rich	19	14	33
Hardy, Nan	14	16	30
Bifano, Rich	11	18	29

Interior

Carlson, Kel	30	22	52
Shields, Pen	21	30	51
Harrison, Kel	23	23	46
Davidson, Pen	14	30	44
Stubbley, Kel	24	19	43
Holland, Ver	18	24	42
Taillifer, Shu	12	30	42
Tomlinson, Sum	19	20	39
Fisher, Kel	7	31	38
Mangold, Kel	10	27	37

GOALTENDING

Coastal

M i n G	A	A	v	e
Woodley, Rich	611	29	2.65	
King, Rich	509	30	3.53	
Palmer, Del	272	20	4.41	
Fry, Sid	643	50	4.66	
Dickson, Del	628	49	4.68	

Interior

Sharples, Pen	483	25	3.10	
Colvin, Kel	342	19	3.33	
Loewen, Pen	520	29	3.34	
Sutherland, Kel	240	14	3.50	
Romeo, Kel	438	31	4.24	