

VERNON 3 SUMMERLAND 3

Lakers tie—unbeaten streak begins

By JIM JUDD
Daily News Sports

An angry Vernon Lakers' Head Coach Don Moores paced the corridors outside his team dressing room Tuesday

night trying to relieve his frustration after Summerland Buckaroos had somehow emerged with a 3-3 tie in a B.C. Junior Hockey League game at Vernon Civic arena.

The single point halted Lakers' winning streak at seven games although the streak is still alive as an unbeaten string now. Lakers remain in third place in the BCJHL Interior Division with a

16-7-1 record while Buckaroos are in fifth place with a 7-11-2 record.

"We gave them the tying goal," hissed Moores whose club outshot the visiting Summerland squad 63-33 but couldn't earn a decision. "It was a clearing error, that's all... we played a well-disciplined period and they got the goal."

Summerland's tying goal came at 12:54 of the third period. Lakers had the game in hand and were carrying the play but a mental error proved to be their undoing.

Centre Doug Spooner was guilty of giving up the tying marker. Spooner, attempting to clear the puck, decided to stick handle around his own net instead of clearing the puck into the corner of the rink where his defencemen could handle it. Bucks' Dave Tomlinson, one of two forechecking Summerland players, swatted at Spooner's stick, making contact and the puck flew into Lakers' net. Goaltender Darryl Dickens had momentarily let up thinking his team had control of the puck.

Vernon dominated the game from start to finish, especially in the overtime period when they outshot the visitors 14-3 but couldn't buy a goal. On the night the local club enjoyed a wide margin in goal-scoring opportunities but the general consensus was that it was merely quantity and not quality.

"I don't know how many were good shots," suggested Moores. "Most of the time the guys just had their heads down and weren't taking a look."

The teams played through a scoreless first period, a rarity in the BCJHL these days. Buckaroos opened and closed the second frame with power-play goals while Vernon unleashed a three-goal flurry inbet-

ween when they momentarily solved the riddle of Buckaroos' goaltender Tyler Findlater.

The two power-play goals didn't sit well with Moores either.

"It's a good lesson for us because it was our lack of discipline again that hurt us," Moores explained. "We took bad penalties and they stung us for two power-play goals."

Spooner put the first Laker goal on the scoreboard when he scored his 20th of the season. Less than two and half minutes had elapsed when Troy Pohl registered his 21st of the season... a knuckleball style shot that fooled Findlater. Just 50 seconds after that Greg Guest made it a 3-1 hockey game in Lakers' favor.

Andy Pokupek opened the scoring for Bucks in the period while Randy Olson closed the second frame with his single at 19:27.

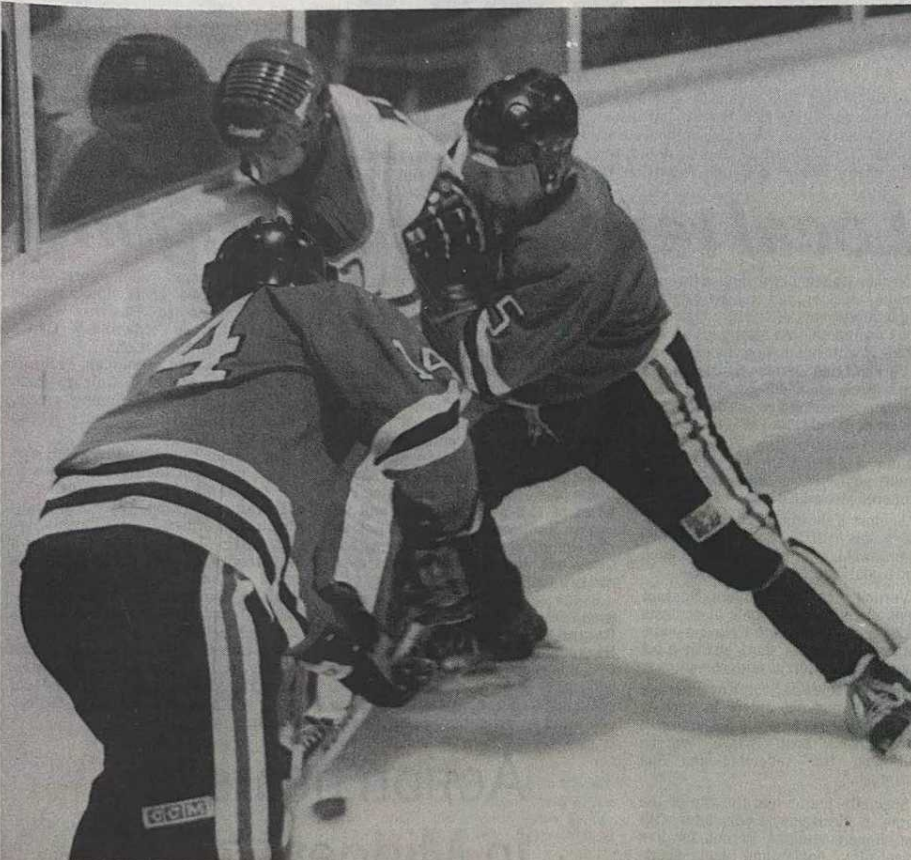
Tomlinson's tally was the only goal of the third period.

Lakers' are in action again Friday night when they'll entertain Salmon Arm Blazers who currently occupy last place in the Interior Division. Vernon has an excellent opportunity to stretch their unbeaten streak to nine games.

In other BCJHL action Tuesday night Richmond record their 17 victory of the season, all against teams within their own division, when they downed Langley Eagles 9-5 on home ice.

Sockeyes, now 17-3 and in first place in the Coastal Division, got two goals apiece from Sean Harder, Ron Popoff and Jim Butterworth. Kevin Weremy, David Homes and Brian Silversen got the other Sockeyes goals.

Elliot Kagna, Doug MacDonald, Rob Kujala, Wayne Stripe and Ron Moree counted for the Eagles who led 4-2 at the end of the first period but trailed 5-4 after 40 minutes.



Lakers' star centre Dennis Holland got into a bit of rough going along the boards with Summerlands' Troy Goebel during the first period of the BCJHL game between Vernon and Buckaroos Tuesday night at Civic Arena. Holland failed to get on the

scoreboard during a 3-3 tie between the two teams. The draw halted Lakers' winning streak at seven games but the team's unbeaten string is now eight games with a chance to extend that Friday night when they host Salmon Arm Blazers. (Daily News Photo)

Vernon
Daily
News

sports

Editor—DON KENDALL

Dolcetti leads hoop squad