

PENTICTON 7 VERNON 4

Lakers lose one

By JIM JUDD
Daily News Sports

Vernon Lakers had the rug pulled out from under their feet by division-leading Penticton Knights in B.C. Junior Hockey League action Friday night at Civic arena.

Knights overcame a 3-1 first period deficit to post a 7-4 decision over Lakers who are third in the Interior division of the BCJHL. It was the second consecutive loss in as many nights for the Vernon squad who host Coastal-division leading Richmond Sockeyes tonight in the third game of a busy weekend schedule.

Four goals in the second period, include three on three consecutive shots, and a pair of unanswered tallies in the third frame were all Knights needed to post the victory. Despite the win, Penticton was outshot 36-33 by Lakers and were badly outplayed through much of the contest.

"The boys worked hard, it was a tough loss," concurred Vernon Head Coach Don Moores. "I really think we should have won."

Had Lakers maintained the level of play they set in the first period, the outcome would never have been in doubt. The local club used an effective combination of hustle, muscle, and strong positional play to etch out a 3-1 lead. Lakers were impressive with their forechecking and back-checking and took the slot away from Knights with strong defensive play in their own zone.

However, Knights caught the Vernon squad off guard in the second frame, erasing their lead with three straight

goals in just slightly more than two minutes. Two of the three went between goaltender Scott King's legs as he was screened on the play.

Had Lakers been using the body like they were in the opening frame the goals would never have materialized for Knights.

"We stopped skating and they (Knights) caught us flat-footed," Moores said.

Knights also solved the riddle of Lakers' most offensive line, Dennis Holland, Troy and Trevor Pohl, who combined for eight points in the first period, failed to get on the board in the final 40 minutes.

"We had opportunities to make the score 4-1 or 5-1 in the second period but we couldn't capitalize," explained Moores.

Knights carried the play in the third frame getting a pair of goals from Scott Rawson to put the icing on the cake. The last goal was an empty net effort at 19:33.

Greg Cyr also had a pair for Penticton while singles came off the sticks of Rod Summers, David Shields, and Chris Anderson.

Lakers' goals came from defenceman Shawn Lofroth, Trevor Pohl, Holland, and newcomer Mark McLeary.

Meanwhile in other BCJHL action Friday night Kelowna Packers defeated Richmond Sockeyes 7-4, Abbotsford beat Nanaimo 7-5 and Summerland downed Langley 7-3.

Ward Carlson scored three goals, including his league-leading 50th of the season, for Packers.



Lakers' defenceman Shawn Lofroth got by this stick check to score the first goal of the game during first period action Friday night at Vernon Civic arena. Despite a 3-1 lead after the first period, Lakers drop-

ped a 7-4 decision to the division-leading Penticton Knights. Lakers entertain the Coastal division leading Richmond Sockeyes tonight at Civic arena.

(Daily News Photo)

Laface loses heart-breaker in B.C. men's championship