

Playoff series resumes tonight

When Philadelphia Flyers won back-to-back Stanley Cups in the mid-1970's, the key to their success was aggressive checking. It was known throughout the National Hockey League that if you touched the puck when playing the Flyers, you were going to get hit.

For Vernon Lakers to advance to the B.C. Junior Hockey League's Interior Division finals, they'll have to play that same hard-hitting style against Kelowna Packers.

Packers and Lakers resume their best-of-seven series tonight, at 8 p.m., in Kelowna. After losing the opening game 3-2 Tuesday, in Kelowna, Lakers bounced back to win an 8-4 decision, Wednesday, on home ice.

After both games, Vernon Coach Mike Enemark said his club had to hit the smaller Kelowna forwards to slow them down. And Lakers' General Manager Vern Dye feels that will be the key factor again tonight.

Vernon skier tops field

A number of Vernon skiers made excellent showings for the North Okanagan Cross-Country Ski Club during the Kelowna Loppet, held recently, near the Orchard City.

More than 95 competitors took part

"We won Wednesday because we outhit them," Dye said. "We have to keep up our intensity. It is important that we put pressure on their defencemen . . . in their end of the rink."

Scott King, who was outstanding in Wednesday's victory, will start in goal again tonight for Lakers.

Dye said, "We're lucky . . . we don't have any injuries and everybody is raring to go. Our guys can't wait to get back on the ice."

Fourth game in the series is scheduled Saturday, at 8 p.m., in Vernon.

Meanwhile, Penticton Knights scored three goals on the power play and one short-handed in a 5-3 victory over Merritt Warriors in Thursday's only BCJHL playoff game.

The Knights, who finished the regular season in first place 32 points ahead of fourth-place Merritt, lead the best-of-seven semi-final 2-0, with the next game tonight at Penticton.

"They've got a lot of price and they don't quit," Penticton Coach Rick Kozuback said of the Warriors. "They've got a good system and work hard on it, and we can't take them lightly."

The Knights, who led 3-1 and 3-2 by periods and outshot the Warriors 39-26, got two goals from Scott Rawson, including an empty-net marker with 18 seconds left.

The other Penticton scorers were Kevan Melrose, Laine Jeannotte and Greg Cyr — all on the power play in the first period.

The Merritt goals were by Tim Roux, Kevin Thorlakson and Kevin Cheveldave.

or-seven quarter-final 3-1)

B.C. Junior

Penticton 5 Merritt 3

(Penticton leads best-of-seven
division semifinal 2-0)

Peace-Cariboo

Prince George 10 Grande
Prairie 5

leads best