

Penticton takes lead in junior playoff series

By The Canadian Press

The main course in the Kelowna Packers-Penticton Knights British Columbia Junior Hockey League semifinal series could come tonight in Kelowna.

But the two clubs were busy setting the table in the third period Sunday night in Penticton as the Knights pounded out an 8-3 victory in a game marred by 227 minutes in penalties.

Most of the penalties — 177 minutes — came during a series of fights in the final five minutes that took half an hour to play. Four players from each team were ejected.

The victory gave the defending champion Knights a 2-1 edge in the best-of-seven series that will determine the Interior Division champion.

"I think they (Kelowna) were probably told what they should do," said Penticton coach Rick Kozuback who hasn't won at Kelowna Memorial Arena in two years of trying. "That's simple strategy.

"They've got to build for (tonight) now so you've got to get some success and I think he (Kelowna coach Wayne Naka) probably felt if he jumps a few guys he may get some emotion built up and some of the kids may be a little more hyped coming into (tonight's) game."

EXPECTS HITTING

Kozuback promised another physical contest tonight and Naka is aware of his club's record against the Knights at home.

"Penticton plays well at home and they get some momentum going for them when they score goals and they like playing in (Penticton Memorial Arena)," said Naka. "But our club plays well at home and we'll play well again (tonight).

"We've just got to regroup and get back in the series, tie it up 2-2 and get back down here and try again."

Richmond Sockeyes also took a 2-1 lead in their best-of-seven semifinal Sunday night by grounding Delta Flyers 6-1 in Delta. On Saturday night, the Packers continued their home-ice jinx over the Knights by besting them 5-3.

KNIGHTS 8 PACKERS 3

Three-year-veteran Greg Cyr scored three goals and added an assist to lead the Knights Sunday night.

Kevin Therrien scored twice for Penticton which also got goals from Kevan Melrose, Lee Davidson and Chris Anderson.

Shawn Swail, Kevin Taillefer and Greg Moberg tallied for the Packers who trailed 3-1 after the first period and fell behind 6-2 after 40 minutes.

Jamie Loewen stopped 29 shots for the Knights while Frank Romeo and John Colvin combined to make 44 saves for the losers.

SOCKEYES 6 FLYERS 1

The Sockeyes scored five goals in the first 35 minutes to rout Delta which will play host to tonight's fourth game of the series that will decide the Coastal Division champion.

Jeff Crossley, Darren Maties, Darren Servatius, Pat Austin, Sean Harder and Kevin Weremy shared the Sockeyes' scoring.

Flyer Steve Rennie ended goalie Glenn Pencer's shutout bid with 3½ minutes left in the game.

PACKERS 5 KNIGHTS 3

The Packers used three power-play goals and one short-handed marker to defeat the Knights on Saturday.

Kokanee Masters complete perfect year

Kokanee Masters captured the Carl-ing O'Keefe Men's Basketball League championship last Thursday with a 95-78 victory over Okanagan College Lakers.

Masters were undefeated during league and playoff action.

Tony Wolcott led Kokanee with 35 points while Bill Pitcher sunk 24 and Lance McGregor dropped in 14.

Lorne Babiuk and Rob Zimmerman were the top snipers for Okanagan College with 29 and 25 points, respectively.

In consolation games, High Flyers nipped Golden Crown Restaurant 68-67, Lumby upset Spallumcheen Golf Club 70-64, and National Hotel trounced Sun Valley Sports 100-77.

Rick Wilson led High Flyers with 15 points. Wilf Haak replied with 30 points in a losing cause for Golden Crown.

Brad McArthur sparked National Hotel with 28 points while Wally Fisher sunk 18.

Ken Gatzke, with 24 points, and Lee Hesketh, with 22, were the top snipers for Lumby.

North final 3-1)

B.C. Junior

Richmond 6 Delta 1

(Richmond leads best-of-seven
semifinal 2-1)

Penticton 8 Kelowna 3

(Penticton leads best-of-seven
semifinal 2-1)

Peace Cariboo Junior