

a DAB on Sports ... by D. A. Bulwer

Time is running out and still not all the playoff positions in the B.C. junior "A" hockey league have been decided.

With only two weeks remaining in regular play, anything could happen in the final standings of the six team league.

Penticton Broncos have first place wrapped up but have five games remaining to play. They could be the giant killers as far as the rest of the teams are concerned in the fight for the remaining three playoff spots.

Vernon, Kamloops and Victoria also have five games each to go. New Westminster and Kelowna have six games to be decided.

Vernon is currently fighting for a second place finish over Kamloops and it looks as if Essos could take the spot providing they continue their excellent play.

Essos have three games at home and they should take these easily if their record to date tells anything. They have beaten New Westminster twice at home in three games. Essos have won all three games against Victoria and have edged Kelowna twice and tied them once at civic arena.

In the final five games, Essos take on Kelowna and Victoria twice and play a single match with the Royals.

The two game series with Kelowna should prove most interesting. They have identical win, loss, tie records in their previous matches. Essos beat Kelowna twice by the same 5-3 scores and then played to a 5-5 tie at home. Then in games at Kelowna, Essos lost twice by 9-5 scores and tied once 4-4.

Kamloops Rockets have a much harder final five games to play in the run for a playoff position and second place.

Only two of these games will be played on home ice and both against the stronger teams in the league, Penticton and Kelowna. They meet with the powerful Broncos twice and go against Kelowna, New Westminster and Victoria in single encounters.

The fourth and last playoff spot is still a question, but either Kelowna or New Westminster should take it. Victoria, however, cannot be completely washed out. Cougars could still make fourth place providing they take their five remaining games while Royals and Buckaroos drop five games each and tie when they meet this weekend.

Here's how we see the final standings and playoff positions from here:

Penticton will win all five games for a league total of 31 wins, seven losses and two ties for 64 points. Vernon will win four of the next five games, losing only to Kelowna at Kelowna for a grand total of 20 wins, 16 losses and four ties for 44 points and second place.

Kamloops will place third in standings, winning three of the next five games for a grand total of 21 wins, 19 losses and no ties for 42 points.

Fourth and final playoff spot will go to New Westminster providing they win two of their next six games for a total of 16 wins, 22 losses and two ties for 34 points.

Out of the playoffs, but in fifth place, will be Kelowna who should win two of their last six games for a total of 14 wins, 21 losses and five ties for 33 points, only one point behind New Westminster.

Last place has been relegated to Victoria who won't win any of their final five games and will finish with a nine win, 26 loss and five tie record for 23 points.

In the semi-final series, providing my prediction is correct, Penticton should have little trouble taking Kamloops in straight games; Vernon could have some problems with New Westminster. However, Essos will take the "B" series four games to two.

As for the finals, let's wait and see.

Baseball buffs to meet here tonight

As far as the directors of the Vernon Luckies baseball team are concerned, spring is just around the corner.

Their annual meeting set for tonight in the Allison Hotel will get the ball rolling for the 1968 season in the Okanagan - Mainline senior loop.

George Nuysen, president of the club and long time mentor of baseball in this area, has called the meeting for the purpose of electing a new directorship and to review last year's operations.

Mr. Nuysen will also make a report on the plans of the league to join the National Baseball Congress of America and will bring forth plans for the club's operation this season.

All interested persons are urged to turn out for the meeting, in particular all those interested in playing this season.

Meeting time is set for 8 p.m. and Mr. Nuysen said he wants the session to start promptly because of the large agenda to be dealt with.

B.C. jr. standings

League standings to Feb. 12-	GP	W	L	T	Pts
Penticton	35	26	7	2	54
Vernon	35	16	15	4	36
Kamloops	35	18	17	0	36
New Westminster	34	14	18	2	30
Kelowna	35	17	17	1	29
Victoria	35	9	21	5	23

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Quesnel trio bolsters Vernon playoff drive

Three reasons why Vernon Essos should make the B.C. junior hockey playoffs this season are pictured above, from the left, defenceman Dick Marsh, centreman Lawrence Quechuk and versatile wing or centreman Ivan Malinoski. Dick, a first year man, has been a stalwart blueline patroler and his key defensive plays have made the difference in several of Vernon's important wins. Both Lawrence and Ivan are second year veterans of the local roster and each has contributed immeasurably to the Essos' success thus far.

Series resume Sunday

NOHL playoffs prove exciting

With the first games of the "A" and "B" semi-final series of the North Okanagan Hockey League under their belts, the next set of double-header action this Sunday night promises to be hot and heavy for teams.

Two Sundays ago pennant-winning Head of the Lake Stampede and Grandview Warriors battled to a 2-2 tie in the "A" series and the "B" series.

With no scoring in the second frame, Stampede found themselves fighting an uphill battle going into the final stanza. And it wasn't until a minute and 10 seconds to go in the game that they could find the mark.

At 18:50, league top point getter, Willy Wilson teamed with Rod Lafond and Pete Saskamoose to go in and break the goose egg. Then with only one second remaining he Coulter banged a screened shot past in.

Gerry Allen from a scramble in front to end the game in a tie.

The Lumby win over Armstrong has one interesting aspect to it. Saturday night, the Frenchmen travelled to Golden for an exhibition series with the senior team there, playing Saturday night and again Sunday afternoon, the Lumbyites made a quick return to Vernon to meet the Cougars for their series.

Three first period goals by Gerry Altwasser, Ted Koski and Pete Kowalchuk with a single reply by Cougars' Don Ramsay ended that period with Lumby leading 3-1.

Neither team managed to find the mark in the second period, but early in the third stanza, Cougars came back to tie the game on goals by Andre Blainell and Ron Castonguay.

Ted Koski's second goal and Lumby's fourth of the night, proved to be the winner. Koski teamed with Pete Balkwell and Dave Pattie to beat goalie George Beck at 14:20 for the win.

This weekend, second games of the series resumes with Lumby and Armstrong meeting in the first encounter and Head of the Lake and Grandview tangle in the second match.

Thursday, Feb. 15, the Bay meets Capital with game time set for 5 p.m. and at 6 p.m. Archie Fleming takes on Kiwanis. Nalays and Toppers round the play when they meet at 7 p.m.

A TRIP OF THE TONGUE Any student in Grade 13 French classes in Burlington, Ontario who lapses into English must pay a fine. The proceeds are sent to the Unitarian Service Committee, 56 Sparks Street, Ottawa, to benefit hungry children.

NORTH SPORTS OKANAGAN

The following are a complete list of statistics for the regular schedule as listed by league statistician Roy Surkan.

Games times are 7 and 8:45 p.m. with a silver collect in the door.	Won	Lost	Tied	GF	GA	Pts	Pim
Head of Lake	8	3	1	44	43	17	95
Armstrong	6	5	1	45	41	13	148
Grandview	5	5	2	41	35	12	145
Lumby	5	5	2	36	30	12	81
Grindrod	2	8	2	30	48	6	125

Final Statistics	GP	GA	LW	SO	SS
Norm Schiman, Lumby	9	21	2.33	2	187
Jerry Allen, Grandview	12	35	2.92	0	331
George Beck, Arms.	12	41	3.42	0	326
Don Back-Phillips, H. Lake	12	43	3.58	0	320
Tony Prall, Grindrod	12	48	4.00	0	331

Goalies Averages	Goals	Assists	Pts.
Willy Wilson, (H.L.)	16	6	22
Ron Micuk, (H.L.)	12	5	17
Herb Schley, (G'view)	9	8	17
Gerald Altwasser, (Lum)	4	7	11
Clayton Sahly, (G'view)	4	7	11
Ron Lafond, (H.L.)	2	9	11
Pete Saskamoose, (H.L.)	1	10	11
Ron Castonguay, (Arms.)	5	5	10
Bill Nimmo, (Arms.)	5	5	10
Harold Norris, (G'view)	4	6	10

Most Goals—Willy Wilson, H.L.—16.
Most Assists—Pete Saskamoose, H.L.—10.
Most Game Winning Goals—Willy Wilson, H.L.—3.

Most Game Winning Assists—Ron Lafond, H.L.—3.
Most first Goals of Games—Ron Micuk, H.L.—3.
Most total Points Scored in one game—Herb Schley, G'view—5.

Most Hat tricks—Herb Schley, G'view—1; Willie Wilson, H.L.—1; Merv Koski, Lum.—1; Larry Fisher, G'view—1.

Most Shut Outs, Norm Schiman, Lum.—2.
Best of three Semi-finals starts this Sunday, Feb. 4.

1st Head of the Lake Stampede vs. 3rd Grandview Warriors at 7 p.m.
2nd Armstrong Cougars vs. 4th Lumby Flying Frenchmen at 8:45 p.m.

Friday and Saturday

Vernon to play crucial games

This weekend could be the turning point for Vernon Essos in their current drive for second place in the final standings in the B.C. junior "A" hockey league.

Friday night they travel to Kelowna in the first of two remaining games with the Buckaroos and then return home for their final meeting of the year with New Westminster Royals.

Wins in both games this weekend could virtually assure the Essos of at least a playoff spot in one of the three remaining places. Penticton have taken the pennant and are out of reach of the remaining clubs.

Essos will be aiming for the second place finish and could move out with four points over Kamloops Rockets who have a tough back-to-back two game series with Penticton Friday and Saturday night.

Without exception, all the players along with coach Odie Lowe are optimistic of their winning chances with a full roster on hand for both games. Only Tom Williamson will not play. He is still out with a broken left arm.

Essos Team captain, Tom Serviss, still leads the league with 25 goals and 52 assists for 77 points and he, along with Jeff Wilson, Keith Rolston and Lawrence Quechuk, will be out to pad their placings in the top 10 spots of the scoring ladder.

Arrangements for the

Essos scoring statistics to Feb. 8, 1968.

	G	A	Pts.
Serviss	25	52	77
Wilson	35	34	69
Rolston	26	39	65
Quechuk	22	21	43
Hackman	11	21	32
Vachon	11	18	29
Williamson	13	15	28
Mayer	12	9	21
Dye	7	12	19
Perepolkin	5	10	15
Blanchette	6	6	12
Marsh	3	7	10
Malinoski	5	3	8
Pollon	2	4	6
Reilly	0	2	2
Nelson	1	0	1

playing of the cancelled game between Essos and Victoria Cougars, slated for civic arena last Sunday afternoon have not been finalized. However, they should be settled in the near future.

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PIN POINTS

Vernon Lanes, Tuesday

Men's, Feb. 6:

Men's high single—Bcb

Painchaud, 279; high triple

—Ron Trask, 659; high

average—Ron Trask, 244.

Team high single—Step-

outs, 1296; high triple—

Coldstream Hotel, 3698.

Team standings—Step-

outs 208; Stepsins 190; Odd-

balls 176; Coldstream Hotel

173; Mistakes 145;

Coachesmen 133.

Hold first and second

Serviss-Wilson pace Jr. league

Although somewhat sketchy, statistics released from Penticton yesterday on the B.C. junior hockey league scoring race and updated by the scoring official in Vernon show Vernon Essos with players holding the first two and fourth places in the top 10 leaders race.

Tom Serviss holds a 10 point lead over teammate Jeff Wilson who is two points ahead of Randy Rota of Kamloops for the number two spot.

Keith Rolston is two points back of Rota and holds fourth place.

According to the league statistician based at Penticton, results of the Feb. 4, Vernon-New Westminster contest and the Kelowna-Kamloops games are not included.

Points by Vernon players in the Feb. 4 game have been added to make the required changes.
SCORING:

	G	A	P
Tom Serviss, Vernon	25	52	77
Jeff Wilson, Vernon	35	34	69
Randy Rota, Kamloops	45	22	67
Keith Rolston, Vernon	26	39	65
Bob Mowat, Penticton	32	31	63
Ray Wallis, New West.	27	33	60
Rick Beauchamp, Kamloops	17	40	57
George Watson, New West.	23	30	53
Wayne Schaab, Penticton	22	30	52
Jack Taggart, Penticton	17	30	47
Jim Robertson, Kelowna	14	33	47

PENALTIES (Individual):

Butch Deadmarsh, Kelowna	115 mins.
George Morneau, New West.	110 mins.

(Team):

New Westminster	584 mins.
Kelowna	538 mins.

GOALIES' AVERAGES:

	Gm	Gl	Av
Doug Thompson, Penticton	13	37	2.8
Bob Belbin, Penticton	17	56	3.3
Bruce Johnson, Penticton	5	17	3.4
Murray Finlay, Victoria	24	101	4.2
Brett Kneen, Kelowna	32	144	4.5
Al Lang, New Westminster	6	31	5.1
Wally Denault, Kamloops	30	159	5.3
Lionel Trudel, New West.	11	59	5.4
Jack Gilroy, Vernon.	31	168	5.4
Bruce Dowad, New West.	10	55	5.5
Ron Grahame, Victoria	11	61	5.5
Fred Boyer, New West.	6	39	6.5

GOALIES' AVERAGES (By Teams):

Penticton	35	110	3.1
Kelowna	33	149	4.5
Victoria	35	173	4.9
Kamloops	34	184	5.4
New Westminster	33	184	5.5
Vernon	34	189	5.6