

## Crucial game Wednesday

## Vernon fall back to third place

Two teams wound-up their 40 game regular schedule; two others have single games to go and an additional two teams have two games remaining and still the play-off picture is yet to be decided in the B.C. Junior "A" Hockey league.

One would have estimated that in the six games played over the weekend, some sort of play-off pattern would have emerged.

One thing is certain, lea-

gue leading Penticton Broncos are in as are Kamloops Rockets and Vernon Essos.

Penticton sewed up first place some time ago; both Kamloops and Vernon have played a see-saw battle for second spot with Kelowna Buckaroos and New Westminster Royals fighting for fourth and last position.

Sixth and last place team, Victoria Cougars, although well out of the play-off picture have been acting as

spoilers. They beat New Westminster 7-2 earlier in the week and tied Kelowna 3-3 a week ago Sunday.

In weekend games, Kamloops Rockets moved ahead once more over the Essos with an 8-5 victory over Victoria Cougars Saturday night and a 5-3 win against New Westminster Sunday.

Both these games were played in the coast cities.

At the same time the

|           | GP | W  | L  | T | P  |
|-----------|----|----|----|---|----|
| Penticton | 39 | 29 | 8  | 2 | 60 |
| Kamloops  | 40 | 21 | 19 | 0 | 42 |
| Vernon    | 38 | 18 | 16 | 4 | 40 |
| Kelowna   | 40 | 14 | 20 | 6 | 34 |
| New West  | 39 | 15 | 22 | 2 | 32 |
| Victoria  | 38 | 10 | 22 | 6 | 26 |

Vernon Essos narrowly won out over Kelowna by a score of 5-4 and New Westminster were upsetting

Penticton Broncos in the Peach city to a tune of 7-3.

Both Kamloops and Kelowna wound up their regular schedule on the weekend with Penticton due to meet New Westminster Rockets for their final encounter of the season next Saturday.

Vernon and Victoria have a pair of games to go against each other. The first game is here in Vernon on Wednesday Feb. 28, and then they go back to Victoria on Saturday.

Kamloops' dual win over the weekend vaulted them two points ahead of Vernon to end their season with a total of 42 points.

Kelowna's 5-4 loss to Vernon, at Vernon Saturday night also completed Buckaroos regular schedule and left them with 34 points — two points ahead of the present fifth place New Westminster squad.

Vernon, now in third place must win at least one of their remaining games and pick-up at least a tie in the remaining match to place them in undisputed second place. They have, however, been assured of one of the play-off positions.

New Westminster on the other hand, must pick-up a win and two points in their final game against Penticton next Saturday to tie Kelowna Buckaroos who have now 34 points for the last playoff spot.

In the Saturday, Vernon-Kelowna match, Essos took a 2-0 lead in the first period, led 5-2 in the second

and then allowed Kelowna to blank them with two goals in the final twenty minutes of play for a narrow 5-4 victory for Essos.

A fine three goal effort by Jeff Wilson, with single markers by Dick Marsh and Wayne Dye sparked a five goal spurge up to the midway point of the game before Kelowna were able to hit the score sheet.

Kelowna came back into contention on one of the finest individual efforts every displayed by a young hockey player.

Son of a former great in professional hockey, "Red" Carr, now living in Nanaimo, Gene Carr scored all four of the Buckaroo markers and almost tied the game with his drives and near misses on several more attempts.

Jack Gilroy in the nets for Vernon, played his usual high standard game, particularly in the final minutes of the match when Vernon eased off on their drives to let Kelowna come in on him almost at will. His key saves most likely saved the day for Essos.

Next, and final home game of the regular season for Essos will be this Wednesday when they play Victoria Cougars in the first game of a home and home series to wrap up the regular schedule for both clubs.

A win for Vernon in both games is all-important if they wish to take over second place from Kamloops Rockets who now hold that spot, two points ahead of Essos. Game time is 8:30 p.m.

Essos scoring to Feb. 26:

|            | G  | A  | P  |
|------------|----|----|----|
| Serviss    | 26 | 57 | 83 |
| Wilson     | 41 | 35 | 76 |
| Robinson   | 27 | 41 | 68 |
| Quechuk    | 25 | 23 | 48 |
| Hackman    | 11 | 22 | 33 |
| Vachon     | 11 | 22 | 33 |
| Williams   | 13 | 15 | 28 |
| Dye        | 8  | 15 | 23 |
| Mayer      | 12 | 9  | 21 |
| Blanchette | 8  | 7  | 15 |
| Perepolkin | 5  | 10 | 15 |
| Marsh      | 4  | 9  | 13 |
| Malinosky  | 5  | 8  | 13 |
| Pollon     | 2  | 4  | 6  |
| Reilly     | 0  | 2  | 2  |

|           |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|
| Southward | 0 | 2 |
| Nelson    | 1 | 0 |



IT'S  
A  
FACT

People Who  
KNOW Safety  
Choose  
NATURAL  
GAS



EXPORT

PLAIN  
or FILTER TIP  
CIGARETTES

REGULAR and KINGS



A Checking  
Account Makes  
My Homemaking  
Bookkeeping  
Easy

... It gives me a permanent record and receipt for every bill I pay. Lots of convenience ... prestige, too ... and with my low-cost Special Checking Account, there's no minimum balance required.

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## Additional

## SPORT

## Events on at recreation centre

A press release dated Feb. 22 from the Vernon Recreation Commission has listed the following points of interest:

Minor Baseball—There will be a minor baseball meeting in the Community Centre on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

All parents of children involved in minor baseball are urged to attend as much more adult interest and support is needed for this sport if it is to continue in Vernon.

Lacrosse plans—The Vernon lacrosse executive hosted a meeting a week ago Sunday which was attended by Kamloops, Kelowna and Armstrong. The meeting resulted in formation of The Interior Lacrosse Association.

A commission to handle

the four-team league's affairs will be elected at their next meeting to be held in the Hotel Allison on March 10.

The Vernon Recreation Commission plans to support the promotion of lacrosse by sponsoring a coaches and referees clinic on April 7 in the Vernon Community Centre Gymnasium.

The executive will pay \$1 for any lacrosse sticks in reasonable condition. Please bring them to the Community Centre anytime.

Swimming lessons—Next session of swim lessons will start on March 5. The lessons will run every Tuesday and Thursday from 4 to 5 p.m. All calibres will be offered. Register now.

## Well-known constable is posted

An RCMP constable, well-known in hockey circles, has been posted to Quesnel detachment, effective next month.

Const. Louis C. Turcotte has been transferred to Quesnel, effective March 4.

Const. Turcotte, who is from Melfort, Sask., joined the force in July 1956. Following training he was posted at Cranbrook, Nelson and Cloverdale. He was transferred to Vernon March 2, 1966.

During the 1966-67 season, he played on defense for the Vernon Luckies in the Intermediate Hockey League. This past winter he has been busy coaching the Junior "B" team. A local sports official said the constable has given generously of his free time refereeing in various hockey leagues in the Vernon area and is highly respected by young athletes involved in all phases of sports.

## Volleyball playoffs underway

Tex BA had little trouble in dumping Safeway from the play-off flight. Tex won four straight games 15-7; 15-2; 15-7 and 15-1 in men's league volleyball.

Teachers "A" took a 3-0 lead over Okanagan Telephone before the Phones served notice that they were far from finished. They came back with wins of 15-11; 15-11 and 15-3 to force a final game.

Phones took an early lead but Teachers fought back to take the deciding game 15-7 and win the best of seven sets four games to three.

In series B, Lumby forced Kal Terrace to go seven games. Kal took the first game 15-8 but Lumby fought back to win the second 15-12. Kal came back with two victories and led 3-1 in the best of seven sets.

With some fine serving and floor play by John Lewicky, Lumby fought