

Vernon, Kelowna smash head-on

By WES RUSSELL

When the Vernon Essos and the Kelowna Buckaroos tangle, you can be sure that both teams mean business and get out there to kill or be killed.

Both teams have taken great enjoyment in roughing it up with each other during the season so far, and the two sessions Wednesday and Friday of last week were certainly no exception.

Wednesday night saw a lot of tough checking but not too many real nasty encounters by either side.

However Friday's 5-5 tie game in Kelowna was a "horse of a different color" completely.

Only two of the penalties handed out during the game were of what could be described as of minor nature. The rest were all high sticking, charging, roughing, and fighting penalties, which in themselves describe the nature of the game.

The Buckaroos took to the ice Friday obviously peeved about the fact that the Wednesday night game is now under dispute, due to the fact that Kelowna Coach Laval tried to get away with dressing more men than are allowed in the rule book.

Kelowna's Leonard Lenarduzzi was up to his usual form as he finally roughed his way into a fight with Esso's Bob Blanchette. The latter had just returned to the action in the third period of the game having spent the second period at the hospital getting seven stitches in his chin.

Local fans will recall that Lenarduzzi tried for several minutes during the Wednesday game to get into a fight with Blanchette, with no success.

The Essos had a three goal lead until the 4:10 mark of the second period when Kelowna finally managed to get by a rugged Esso defence and beat Alexander.

Essos tallies had come from Blanchette and Vachon in the first period, while Quechuck notched the third early in the second period.

The second frame was the big one for the Kelowna squad as they scored four times to leave the ice with a 4-3 lead.

Pat Becotte, who played a terrific game for the Essos, tied it up once again at 2:19 of the third on a pass play from Lawrence Quechuck and Bob Mayer.

Chuck Carigan put the Bucks ahead once again with a 5-4 lead at 10:28, but the combination of Vachon, Dye, and Craig moved in to tie the action up at 15:50, for the Essos.

The result of the tie officially puts the Essos well into second spot as the BCJHL governors are almost certain to give the Vernon boys credit for last Wednesday night's game even though they were overwhelmed by a 7-3 score.

The action in the Kelowna Arena Friday was so rough that team manager Vern Dye moved defenceman Dawson Waite up to the forward line so that the 200 pounder could "go" aggressively instead of defensively.

The strategy had good effects because there are some members of the Buckaroos who now have a healthy respect for the Essos strong-man.

Although reasonably gentle-natured, Waite will give everything he's got into a bodycheck if the other team wants to play rough. On Friday he bounced the Kelowna team from pillar to post, knocking holes in the line whenever he turned around.

The Essos will see action once again this weekend when they play host to

OVSL

"Replay" says soccer board

Ralph Irons, president of the Okanagan Valley Soccer League, has announced that an amendment to the league's constitution is pending regarding the cancellation and postponement of league games.

The announcement was made following a hearing conducted by the executive of the league Saturday night in Vernon.

The meeting was called to settle the matter of the

Vernon-Kamloops game, and it must be played this coming Sunday at 2 p.m. at MacDonald Park in Vernon. If either team does not show up it will be an automatic default of the points."

The Kamloops club claims that the game in question was postponed, rather than cancelled so they do not have to surrender the two points.

The present constitution

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the Kamloops Rockets, another team known for its rough-house strategy. For fans that like their hockey rugged, this will be a good one to see.

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Commission says:

No ice machine for arena—this year

An ice resurfacing machine for the Vernon Civic Arena would not appear to be possible for the current hockey season.

During the Thursday night meeting of the Vernon Recreation Commission at City Hall, commissioner Frank Williamson stated that the machine that the arena commission had in mind is no longer available, and that different type of ice-resurfacing machine must be sought out.

City engineer Dave MacKay, reported that the front spindle on the present ice-surfacing tractor had broken twice within recent weeks and that "the whole unit is in pretty sad shape."

Mr. MacKay also reported that the ice in the arena needs prompt attention as at the present it has become excessively thick which causes the ice to become an insulation and the plant must work almost constantly to keep the surface frozen. "It's like an unfrosted refrigerator," he explained.

Mr. MacKay went on to explain how the ice-shaver that is in the arena for paring down the surface of the ice is no longer serviceable for the lack of \$200 worth of blades. However,

he did add that arrangements had been made with Kelowna for the loan of the Orchard City's shaving unit.

Arena Manager John Bruce told the commission that the new sound system has been partially installed at the arena, and that some improvement can be noticed over the former system. He also announced that more speakers will be installed before the trial period begins on the unit.

Mr. MacKay clarified the arena manager's report with the statement that the sound system will undergo a six month trial period after complete installation. This will allow for tests under all conditions including packed and empty houses.

"Things are ship-shape in the Community Centre," reported assistant recreation director Gerry Goudge, "except for the matter of a few cancelled bookings due to the strike."

Mr. Goudge then went on to ask the Recreation Commission to make a decision on the season ticket holders for the Community Centre pool.

"These people have paid for a service that they are

not receiving," he said, "and we need a ruling that will make things fair to everyone concerned."

Mr. Goudge's reference was to the fact that the Community Centre pool has been closed for the duration of the strike.

It was the decision of the Commission to allow the validity of the season tickets to be extended the same period of time after their expiry date as the length of the strike.

Mayor William Halina, who represented the City Council at the meeting stated it was the feeling of the council that the Recreation Commission should get on with the business of selecting a new recreation director as soon as possible.

He added, "The situation would appear to have been neglected, since no one has communicated with any of the applicants for nearly two months."

In other Recreation Commission business, it

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