

NORTH

SPORTS

OKANAGAN

New Year's day

Essos blast
Kamloops 5-2

Down 2-1 at the beginning of the second period, the Vernon Essos outskated and outshot the Kamloops Rockets during the final 40 minutes to win 5-2 in British Columbia Junior Hockey League action in Vernon on Wednesday afternoon.

Nearly 800 fans watched with glee as the Essos barnstormed the Rockets zone repeatedly to score two in the second period and an additional pair in the final.

Marv Ferg opened the scoring in the first period to give the Rockets a 1-0 edge at 11:50.

At 13:14, Jack Marsh came back with one of the prettiest goals of the season to tie the score. Marsh took a pass from Jim Inglis and worked his way through the Kamloops defensive unit. Cutting sharply to the right, he managed to draw out the Rockets goal tender which left the complete left-hand side of the net wide open.

Not to be outdone, the Rockets came back strong to beat Gilroy once again at 17:20 of the first, on a goal by Don Stanley to close out the period.

The second period saw the Essos take the offensive, but it wasn't until 17:21 that Wayne Dye managed to hit the top corner of the net on a blazing shot from about 15 feet out. Jeff Wilson and Jerry Vachon picked the assists on the tying goal.

At 19:32, Gordie Merritt put the Essos in the lead for the first time in the game as he made no mistake during a wild scramble in front of Lorne Hudson in the Kamloops net. Jack Marsh and Don Manson picked up the assists on Merritt's tally.

In the third period, the Essos had things much their own way as they outshot the Rockets 15-5. Had it not been for the outstanding performance of Hudson in the Kamloops' nets, the score would have become extremely lopsided during the third period.

Bob Mayer smashed the Essos fourth goal home at 1:42 of the third when Jerry Vachon passed the puck back out to the point. Hudson had no chance whatsoever on the line-drive screen shot.

At 6:35, Jerry Vachon capitalized on the fact that Hudson was sprawled out flat on the ice when he belted home Quechuck's rebound to make the final score of 5-2.

Between the second and third periods, Joe Keenan of the Allison Hotel made presentations to the Essos 'hat-trick' men. Free steak dinners were awarded to Jack Marsh, Wayne Dye, Jerry Vachon and Lawrence Quechuck.

The Essos see action tonight in the Vernon Civic arena when they take on the diversified talents of the BC Thunderbirds in an exhibition contest.

Tomorrow night, the Essos travel to Kamloops for action against the Rockets. Sunday afternoon, the Essos will once again tie on the blades and take to the ice at 2 p.m. to tangle with the Penticton Broncos.

A win Sunday will give the Essos undisputed possession of second place and will push the Broncos back into third.

Wednesday's loss for Kamloops pushes them further back into fifth place and makes the possibility of a representation from Kamloops in the playoffs seem highly unlikely.

The New Year's Day game also showed the Vernon fans that the Essos have what it takes to hang on through three fast periods of hockey, a factor which seems to be missing in the other teams of the league who appear to tire in the third stanza.

Essos number one goaltender Jack Gilroy announced his intention the other day of becoming the first goalie in the league to score a goal. He already has two assists to his credit this season and hopes to score the goal in a contest that features an open net at the other end during the last minute of play.

He could get his chance Sunday afternoon as the Broncos and the Essos have proven to be extremely even competition throughout the season although Penticton has only won once against the Vernon team.

Fish derby
deadline
Sunday

Sunday, Jan. 5 is the last day of the Viel's Sport Shop Annual Christmas Holiday Fishing Derby.

Although the boat launch at the Yacht Club is frozen over, attempts are being made to clear another launch in the area so that fishermen can get out on the lake for the last two days of the derby.

Fishermen are advised to check with Alec Krebs at Viel's before setting out, for information as to which launch has been opened up.

The current leader in the derby is Jaik Miller with a 16 pound, 8 ounce trout which was hooked on a blue squid.

It is also strongly recommended that, due to adverse weather conditions, fishermen do not attempt to go out on the lake in car-top type boats.

Per capita income in Nevada is \$3,626 a year.



44 - 28 - 38

Miss Jane Case will be one of the feature attractions at the Professional wrestling card at the Vernon Community Centre tomorrow night starting at 8:30. She'll tangle with Miss Terry LaChance of Montreal. Four other matches are included on the card which will also feature the return of Terrible Ted the wrestling bear.

Legionaires 4
Penticton 3

Terry Burkart scored the winning goal with less than two minutes remaining as the Vernon Junior "B" Legionaires dumped the Penticton Junior "B" squad 4-3 in action last Sunday at the Vernon Civic Arena.

Earlier goals had been scored by Rick Munk, Willy Bevan and Mike Perepolkin.

The Legionaires will be out for revenge tomorrow night at the Vernon Civic Arena when they host the Kamloops Teamsters.

Last Saturday, Kamloops edged Vernon 7-6 on Kamloops ice in Junior "B" action.

The Legionaires are well up in second spot in the league and hope to overtake the leaders by winning the two final games left in the schedule.

The final game will be played Sunday January 12th in the Vernon Civic Arena against Penticton.

The league leaders in the 5 team loop get a "by" right into the playoffs as the second and fourth, and third and fifth teams play-off in the best two out of three series.

Coach Gordie Nuyens of the Legionaires urges hockey fans to drop into the arena tomorrow night at 8:30 and take in the game as the Legionaires go against Kamloops.

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Additional

SPORT

Essos meet

Birds tonight Broncs Sunday

Tonight's exhibition hockey contest at the Vernon Civic Arena is shaping up as a real crowdpleaser.

The UBC Thunderbirds have won six and lost two in their inter-collegiate schedule so far this season. They are presently in second place in the Western Canadian Intercollegiate Conference.

Former Vernonite and captain of the 'Birds, Mickey McDowell is the leading scorer in the Conference with eight goals and 15 assists. Wayne Schaab, who hails from Penticton has 10 goals and 12 assists, while Jack Moores of Kamloops was the Western Intercollegiate All-star last season.

The Essos on the other hand are currently in third sport of the BCJHL and are in top form for tonight's encounter.

Earlier this week, goalie Jack Gilroy said, "I think we'll give the 'Birds a real good run for their money . . . even if we don't win."

Other members of the team are also confident of a top-calibre game and some are even hopeful of a win.

What the end result will be remains to be seen tonight at the Vernon Civic Arena.

This is the first opportunity for many Vernon Hockey fans to see a University Hockey Club in action. It's also the first of two big exhibition games for the Essos. At the end of the month, the locals will host the rough-tough Regina Pats . . . a junior team that needs little or no introduction in the hockey circles.

Tonight the Thunderbirds will be playing without the aid of their team captain Mickey McDowell, and a couple of the other regulars who did not make the trip to the interior centres.

With this in mind the Es-

sos will be watching closely for the weakspots in the UBC lineup and waiting to capitalize on any mistakes or signs of over-confidence that could present an opening.

Tomorrow night, the Essos travel to Kamloops for a return engagement against the Rockets and return home to host the Penticton Bronco's Sunday.

Saturday's game should be a relatively easy win as the Kamloops Rockets have been faltering steadily on their own home ice.

The Sunday game will be a piece of action that no hockey fan should miss as the opponents are evenly matched. In five games, the Penticton Broncos have only defeated the Essos once. The Essos on the other hand, have won three and tied one with the Peach City crew.

Sunday's game will commence at 2 p.m. with the game time tonight set for 8:30.

Clinic set for biddy basketball

The Community Centre gymnasium will be the scene of a Biddy Basketball clinic at 10 a.m. Jan. 11.

This clinic is for all boys 13 years of age and under as well as for prospective coaches.

The fee is 25 cents for the clinic and a swim afterwards.

The object of Biddy Basketball is to teach the basic fundamentals and techniques to the youngsters who will be playing basketball in the future.

No basketball experience is necessary to join, and all boys are assured of plenty of time on the floor when the league is organized.