



Action preview

This picture taken during the last hockey contest between the Vernon Essos and Kelowna Buckaroos could very well be a preview of what's up-coming Saturday night. Here, Wayne Dye blazes home a shot from 12 feet out in the game which

ended in a 4-4 tie. Both Dye and Lawrence Quechuck will be going all out to take over sole possession of third spot in the individual scoring race. The pair are currently tied with 52 points each.

Essos need a full house

"The adults of Vernon are sadly lacking in their support of the Junior Essos."

This was one of the comments made by Essos manager Vern Dye following last Saturday's 5-3 victory by Vernon over New Westminster.

The adult population at the games has sadly dwindled this year in comparison with last year's attendance. "The student attendance is tops," said Dye, "but we need more adults to help swell the gate receipts."

One observer commented, "Some of the people act as if the Arena was

still surrounded by the picket line . . . like it was at the beginning of the season."

This Saturday night, Esso fans will get a preview of what could very well turn out to be one of the rounds in the playoffs. With just four games remaining in the regular schedule, the Essos take to the ice at 8:30 to do battle with the Kelowna Buckaroos.

The long-smouldering feud between the two teams could very well erupt into open antagonism as Kelowna desperately needs every win available to hang on to the fourth and final

playoff spot.

Last Saturday, fans were agreed on the fact that the action provided was some of the best they had seen all season as the Essos staved off numerous attacks by the fired up New Westminster Royals.

"The brand of hockey has undergone a change," commented one fan. "There's less of the chippiness that was displayed earlier in the season, and more good solid down-to-earth hockey."

Coach Odie Lowe has commented several times this season on the fact that two or three good full houses for the junior games could set the club financially on its feet.

Vernon Dye added, "The residents of Vernon are extremely lucky in the respect that our arena is heated. The Penticton arena has no heat at all."

The gates and concessions open at 7:30 with face-off time set for 8:30. The Essos as usual promise plenty of action, and when they go against the Kelowna Buckaroos, the promise invariably comes true.

Sunday night

Two shutouts in NOHL play

Fans at the NOHL action Sunday night in the Vernon Civic Arena saw Gerry Allen of the Grandview Warriors and Don Bock Phillips of the Head of the Lake Stampeders each

in the first period, added three more in the second and coasted in on Sharples in the Grindrod goal to send home four more in the third. In gaining the vic-

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