

Biggest training camp ever

The ice went into Vernon civic arena last week and by Friday everything was ready for the start of the Vernon Essos training camp. Boys from almost every point in Western Canada were on hand to try for at least 20 openings in the junior A roster. By Sunday 40 hopefuls had entered the camp and for those not already in shape the torrid

pace set by coach Odie Lowe, it was a m.s.c.e. straining bit of exercising. An example of those in training here is pictured above from widely separated points. From the left, Don Adair, 18, of Standard, Alberta, Kelly Knight, 16, Cranbrook; Peter Olsen, 18, of Whitehorse U.T. and Dave Andrichiw, 17, of Spirit River, Alberta.



Two of five to sign

Vernon Essos junior hockey management are going to have a real tough decision to make in the next few days and that is to decide on what two goalies of the five trying out at the local camp at the present time will be signed. Murmurs that they are all good can be heard from those in the stands watching and this seems to be verified by the serious way in which each boy takes his job. In the above photo the goalies pose for the camera while taking a breather from the rigorous training sessions. They are from the left: Gary Osborn, 19, of Kamloops; Leo Karchie, 17, of Vancouver; Gordon Mackintosh, 19, of Salmon Arm and Tom Dixon, 18, from Burnaby.

Junior club signs Whitehorse star

Redbeard is back... or at least the face behind it is. Blue-line patrolman Barry Bleackley, 19, of Whitehorse has been signed to take up where he left off last year in the lineup for the Vernon Junior Essos.

The personable, flaming red-haired character from the far North arrived back in Vernon last week and declared himself 10 pounds heavier and anxious to get back into the swing of things for the upcoming B.C. Junior A hockey season.

Bleackley won the hearts of many Vernon fans last season with his aggressive style of play as a defenseman and easily won highest marks for being the dressing room clown while sporting a fuzzy red beard throughout the 68/69 season.

This season however, the beard is gone on orders from the club management and if preliminary training sessions are any indication, Bleackley could have one of his best years to date in hockey.



BARRY BLEACKLEY
... Yukon returnee



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Midgets to practise Tuesday

All midgets whether registered or not, are asked to turn out Tuesday night for their first practise of the year.

Boys 17 and under as of Dec. 31 of this year are eligible to try out for the teams in the division and are requested to be ready for a light workout starting at 9:30 p.m. sharp.

For those interested in registering, they can do so prior to practise time and all that is required is to bring along their birth certificates and the \$5 registration fee.

Coach for the Midgets this season will be well known former Vernon Canadian senior star, Wally Trentini.

Hunters and fishermen—Remember, it is illegal to build a campfire within 10 feet of any stump, snag, log or standing tree. Clear all inflammable material away for a distance of three feet in every direction from the edge of your campfire and make sure the fire is totally extinguished before leaving it. Pour water over the fire several times, then cover it with gravel or earth.

England has towns named New York, Philadelphia and Washington.

Could be the year

Prospects look good in junior 'A' camp

The 1969/70 Junior hockey season was heralded with a rush Friday as a mass of 40 young hopefuls stormed onto the ice at Vernon civic arena to begin a two week training session.

Boys from almost every place in B.C., along with several good looking prospects from Prairie points were on hand early Friday evening to begin a strenuous 14 day series of practices beamed mainly at getting the eventual 20 man squad in shape for the 48 game schedule ahead of them in the six team B.C. league and to pick out the best on hand to form the nucleus of that 20 man squad.

Both coach Odie Lowe and manager Vern Dye are optimistic of the team being one of the best to come out of Vernon in several years.

"We have several good looking prospects in camp at the present time and with a fairly good nucleus of seven returning forwards and three defence-men back in the fold, our real needs lay in being able

to select two of the better goalies of the five trying out," said Lowe.

"It certainly is a pleasant site to see so many young men wanting to make a place on our team and it is really going to be hard to make the final decision on who will stay and who will have to return home," said Dye.

By late Sunday night, both Lowe and Dye had begun to make their selections and by press time today some of these from out of town had been told they would not make it this year.

The real test is still to come however, as the tempo of practices increased with twice daily sessions planned for the remainder of this week and well into the next week.

Also taking advantage of the ice at Vernon is the Kelowna Buckaroo Junior club who have been forced to travel to Vernon because the ice at Kelowna has been taken out for the next several days in favour of a religious group taking over the facilities.

Unconfirmed reports also indicate the newest en-

try into the professional Western hockey league, the Salt Lake City Eagles will be here to train for several days starting Wednesday. They were previously due to arrive here to begin training today.

Hockey fans are cordially invited to come down to the arena for a free peek at the Essos training camp and get an inside look of the calibre of boys going to represent Vernon this season in the province wide 'A' league.

The midnight sun can be seen from Norway's North Cape between May 14 and July 30 each year.

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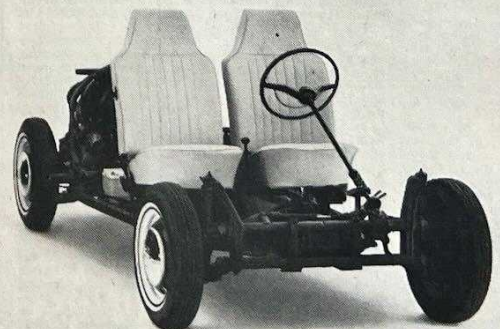
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