

Third place and 33 points

Perfect three game weekend for Vernon

Vernon Essos skated off the ice Sunday night, weary but very happy as they copped a perfect three game weekend by trimming league leading Victoria Cougars 4-1 before one of the largest Junior A hockey crowds, just under 1,300, at Vernon Civic Arena.

The Essos went into the game fresh from a Friday night 3-1 win over Penticton at Penticton and a 5-4 victory over second place Vancouver Centennials here in Vernon Saturday night.

Adding to their self given Christmas present of six points and sole possession of third place, Essos were also awarded two points over Kamloops Rockets in a game played Nov. 4 when the Rockets outscored the locals 4-3 but were using three ineligible players while doing so.

The Junior A league decided the issue Saturday in a league meeting in Penticton which had three other teams also lodge protests for the same reason.

Vernon, Victoria, Vancouver and Kelowna all picked up points while Kamloops lost seven points and found themselves relegated to fourth place with 23 points.

Friday night, Essos allowed the Broncs to open the scoring very quickly when Kerry Moss beat Gary Osborne at the 1:10 mark of the initial period.

Community pool closed for next four days

As of today, the Community Centre swimming pool will be closed for the next four days for repairs.

Next Friday the pool will reopen for public swimming featuring morning dips from 7 to 8 p.m. and public swimming from 1 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m.

tars to day

champion is now attending Spokane Community College.

This year's Alumni roster will be bolstered by a few of the older Panthers who are familiar to many of the local sports fans, they are:

Bill Roth — 1952. A local businessman who plays lacrosse for the Labatts, Bill is a forward with a smooth shot from anywhere on the floor.

Norm Ogasawara — 1954. Norm was a teammate of Bill on the Vernon Labatts this year. He is short but has lots of trick shots and moves to entertain the fans with this year.

Game time is at 8 p.m., Dec. 23 in the Clarence Fulton Junior Secondary gymnasium with the girls game at 7 p.m.

This proved to be it for Penticton as Vernon came back with a single goal in the middle period, an unassisted effort by Gordon Osinchuk, then scored a pair more in the final session on goals by Don Manson and John Price.

At home Saturday night, both Vancouver and the Essos battled out a scoreless first period, with Vernon erupting in a four goal splurge in the second frame, all of them, by-the-way, power play efforts while the Centennials were sitting men in the penalty box.

Team captain Bob Mayer was the big hero of this period and game as he used his powerful slap shot to good advantage scoring a three goal hat trick. Don Manson opened the period scoring with help from both Mayer and Wayne Dye.

Going into the final frame with the four goal cushion, Essos eased up on the pressure and found themselves equalled in the scoring as the Coast club came back with four of their own, three of them within a space of a minute and nine seconds.

All this took place near the mid-point of the final stanza and it looked like the Essos were going to have to settle for at least a tie until Bill Owens shoved in a goal mouth pass that Don Manson and Wayne Dye set up perfectly, this game winning goal coming at 15:09 of the period.

Other highlights of the Saturday game was the long string of penalties called by Kamloops referee George Papp.

He pointed his finger 14 times in the second frame beside the initial four in the opening period and a mere one in the final stanza.

Obviously keyed up for their final game before the Christmas holidays (no games until next Saturday) the Essos skated onto the ice Sunday night for what they themselves considered the most important game of all, the desire to win over the league winners.

Victoria gave the locals momentary concern very early in the opening round of play as Shane Webster teamed with Ted Plowe and Scott Munro to beat Osborne at the 1:12 mark of the period. This proved to be the best the Cougars could do however, as the Essos kept skating with the Coast club and thwarting every effort the Cougars could try and muster.

Several good tries on the part of the Vernon boys proved fruitless in the first period as former Vernon goalie Ed Forslund effectively blocked the door.

The second period proved much different however, as John Price pulled off one of the prettiest goal scoring efforts ever witnessed in these parts.

Price swept in on a Cougar puck carrier near the centre ice line, swiped the puck off his stick and then deked two defencemen and a back checking forward to go in alone and beat Forslund with a sharp back hand drive

for the tying goal at 4:24.

Fired up, Essos really put on the pressure there-after and Bill Owens took advantage of a Victoria bench penalty when he, Wayne Dye and Lawrence Quechuk swarmed in on the Victoria net with Owens scoring at 13:11.

Just under a minute later, it was the Essos again as Ken Warner scored from a scramble with Gordon Merritt and Barry Bleakley setting up the play.

Going into the final period with the 3-1 lead, Essos never letting up for a moment, again came on strong with Wayne Dye taking advantage

of another Victoria bench penalty.

This goal came at 2:19 and Don Manson along with Bob Mayer were there to get the play started.

Vernon never looked better as they were on top of the play throughout the game outshooting the Cougars 33-17.

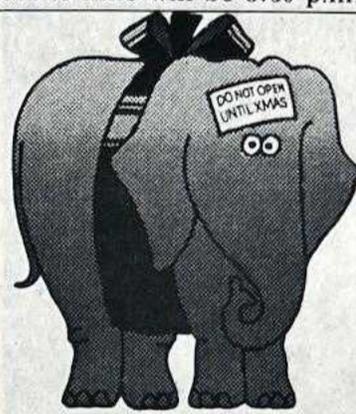
Next home game for the Essos and their next game, will see the Vernon boys play host to the Penticton Broncs for the first time this season at Vernon Civic Arena, Saturday, December 27. Game time will be 8:30 p.m.

MERRY
Christmas

To all our loyal patrons, warm thanks.

from
Norm
and
Staff
at

HARLEY'S



History records the world's largest Christmas gift — a live elephant. Sent to England's Henry III by the King of France back in 1236. History fails to record Henry's reply. But can you imagine the trouble trying to gift wrap it? For more modest budgets, how about a live reindeer for someone with an old sleigh? Some zoos do have them. For a mere \$850 to \$1000 too. These and more are just part of an intriguing compendium of Festive Facts. All in this week's **Canadian Star Weekly**.

HONG KONG VILLAGE

2810 33rd St. 542-8338

Serving the very finest Chinese Cuisine and American Foods

Special "Family Dinner" Rates
Lots of Free Parking

Open Daily—12 noon 'til 2 a.m.
Sundays 'til Midnight

Your host—John Low

GLASSES
for people who
HATE
glasses . . .



Though one may "HATE" glasses, if you need them you should wear them.

Our prescription Optical staff are well trained to help select the style of glasses that is most becoming to you. There are now so many different styles, shapes and colors.

Becoming glasses add glamour and distinction to one's personality.

Your Optical prescription is SAFE in our hands.

Prescription Optical

3107 32nd Avenue Phone 542-4028
Still located next to the Post Office

MARSHALL WELLS