

Also tie Penticton

Vernon drops first game in 11 starts

Vernon Essos 10 games without a loss, has come to an end and it took the sixth place Kelowna Buckaroos to do it.

The Essos, riding a nine-game winning streak just barely squeezed through a 1-1 tie with Penticton Broncos Tuesday night at the Peach City, then came home to drop a 5-4 decision to the lowly Buckaroos Wednesday night.

To viewers of both games, Essos left no doubt they were not up for either session as it seemed by the style of their play, their string had literally run out.

Some observers feel it was just as well as the odds were beginning to mount as to their continuing along the undefeated trail.

Now with the slate wiped clean, it is felt by both coach Odie Lowe and manager Vern Dye, the boys can get back on the victory wagon and continue up the ladder of the B.C. junior A hockey league standings.

As it is, they still hold a firm grip on third place and are only a single point back of Vancouver Centennials who took a 3-1 win away from league leading Victoria Cougars in another Wednesday night fixture.

Essos still have six games in hand over both the top clubs and have 44 points in 31 games played so far. Both Coast clubs have played 36 times this season with the Cougars holding 49 points while Vancouver have a 45 point tally.

At Penticton, Essos found themselves short handed for nearly 11 minutes in the first period as they racked up six penalties and on two occasions played with a pair of men sharing the sin bin at the same time.

As it was, they were fortunate they did not go behind by at least four goals in the initial stanza.

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The second period proved just as bad as the Vernon club continued to get behind the eight ball and again their luck held out as Penticton failed on several occasions to capitalize on the odd man advantage.

In all, Essos sat out a total of 35 minutes in the penalty box on nine infractions, one of them a 10 minute misconduct to Lawrence Quechuk who questioned a two minute minor handed him by referee Red Boscha in the opening period.

There was no doubt the refereeing did seem questionable on several plays and it was apparent the ineffectual officiating was bothering the Vernon club.

B.C. Jr. 'A' Hockey standings to Jan. 14-70.

	GP	P	L	T	GF	GA	Pts.
Victoria	36	23	10	3	154	120	49
Vancouver	36	20	11	5	155	122	45
Vernon	31	21	8	2	156	97	44
Kamloops	32	16	12	4	148	111	36
Penticton	31	13	15	3	122	122	29
Kelowna	32	14	19	0	150	175	28
New West.	34	1	32	1	103	221	3

But be it as it may, Vernon couldn't blame the referee for not finding the mark in the scoring department as Lawrence Quechuk alone, missed at least three sure goals as he swept in on the Penticton net unmolested. Even Gordon Merritt, a regular on the Essos third line missed on two breakaway efforts.

Essos salvaged the 1-1 tie in the final period on a nice effort by Gordon Osinchuk with Bob Craig setting him up, with the goal coming at 7:40 of the period.

At home Wednesday, Essos opened the scoring in the first period when Wayne Dye and Bob Mayer started things off in the Kelowna zone with a man advantage and Don Manson had the honor of putting the rubber past goalie Ken Johnson. Larry Scott had gone off at 8:31 for freezing the puck and 40 seconds later Vernon lit up the score board.

Holding the slim one goal lead until the mid-point of the second period, Essos went up one more with Bob Craig doing the honor this time with help from Don Manson.

Less than two minutes later, it was Kelowna's turn and Ken Philips did the job as he swooped up a loose puck in the Vernon zone to score unassisted.

With only 26 seconds remaining in the same period, it was the Buckaroos again as Chuck Carignan scored with help from Bruce Wick with the play indicating of what was to come.

Vernon took the lead once more early in the final frame as John Price scooped a rebound shot past Johnson with 1:43 showing on the clock. Jack Marsh and Lawrence Quechuk started this goal on it's way.

The lead was short lived however, as Kelowna bounced back on a power play effort with Jim Marsh out for a holding penalty.

Less than two minutes later pressure by Kelowna again paid off as they took the lead at 4:06 of the period.

With the goal, Gary Osborne found himself without a job between the posts of Essos net as Gordie Mackintosh was called to take over.

Vernon seemed to come back into their own from this point on and at 8:53, Wayne Dye notched 27th goal of the

year with help from Manson and Osinchuk.

Both clubs then moved into a see-saw pattern of end to end rushes with Vernon swarming around the Kelowna goalie who put on an excellent show of dexterity as he robbed several scoring chances the Essos tried.

As the game drew to a close it looked like Vernon were going to settle for a second tie in as many nights but, a charging penalty to Bob Craig changed all that as Kelowna took advantage of another power play to score the winner, this goal coming at 17:21.

With only 30 odd seconds left in the game Mackintosh came out of the game in favour of the extra man up front but time simply ran out for the Essos.

The Vernon squad now hit the trail for a three game stint at the Coast with a Friday night meeting with the Centennials, Saturday they will be in Victoria and Sunday afternoon take on the New Westminster Royals.

Hubby and wife bowling tourney planned Sunday

The Vernon Five Pin Bowling Association will stage a husband and wife championship tourney next Sunday at Lincoln Lanes starting at 1 p.m. sharp.

It will be a six game series with added handicap which consists of either the husband or wife being an association member in good standing. The memberships are still available at the Lanes.

For those bowlers without an established league handicap, a special system will be worked out to set the individual handicap.

Many good prizes are up for grabs at the tourney which has been a popular annual affair for some time.

To register or find out more about the tourney, phone 542-5830 or drop in to the Lanes as quickly as possible.



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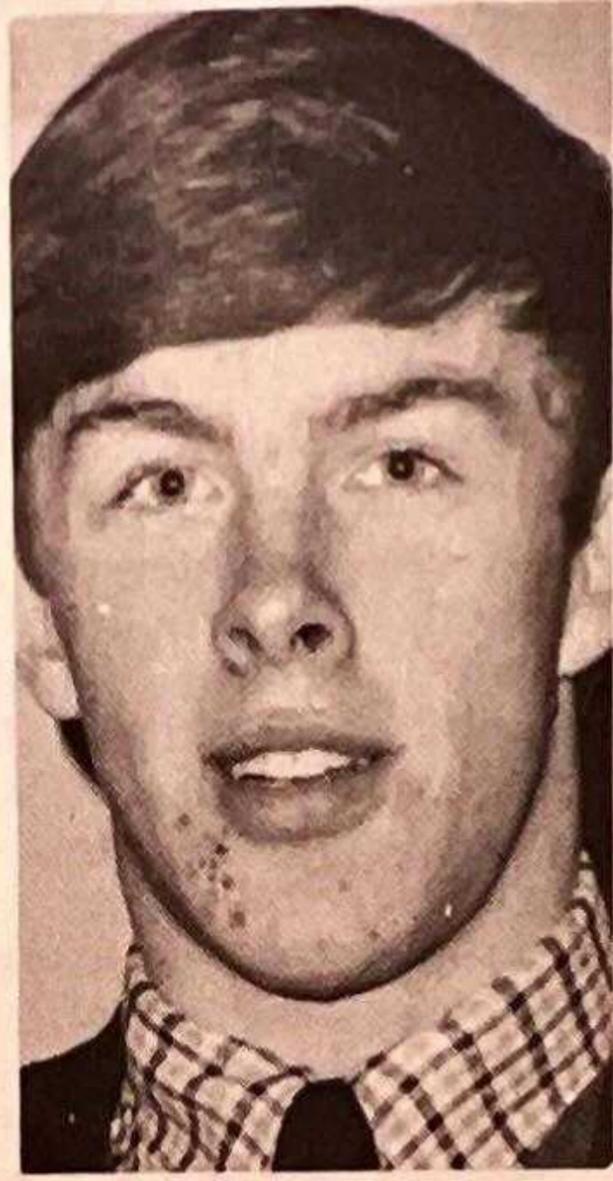
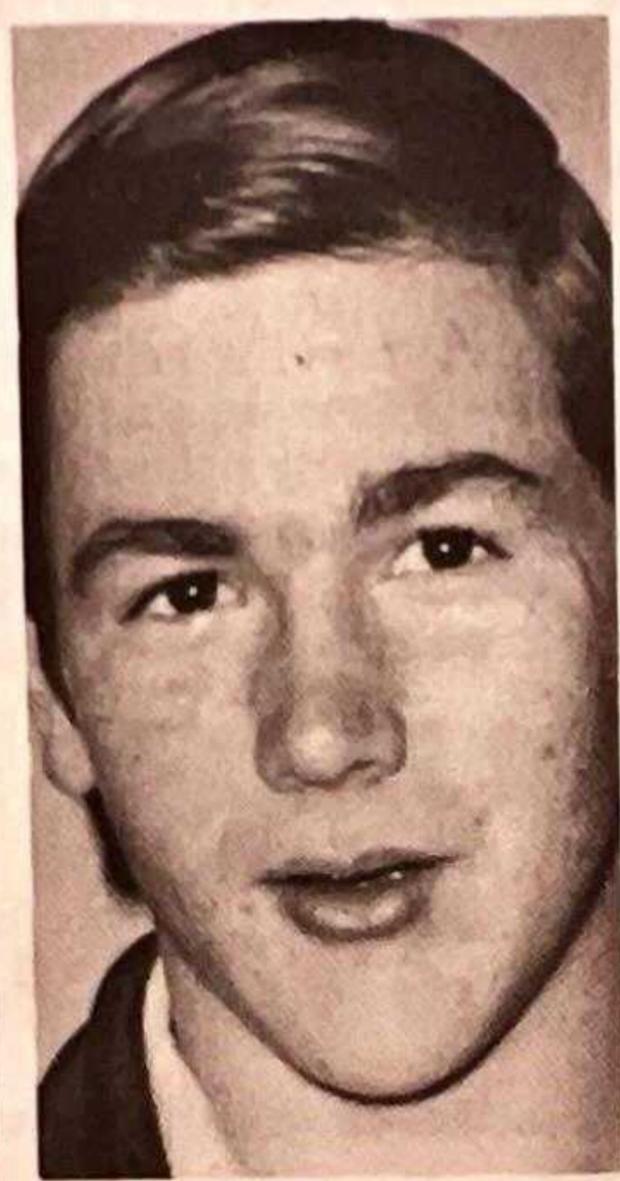
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STAN HUNT
... hat trick

TED ADAIR
... gets shutout

OK-Mainline Jr. B standings

Okanagan Mainline Junior "B" Hockey League
Statistics and standings to Dec. 31, 1969.

LEAGUE STANDINGS:

	W	T	L	GF	GA	Pts
Kamloops	11	0	1	65	12	22
Vernon	7	1	5	47	47	15
Kelowna	4	1	8	36	53	9
Penticton	3	2	6	36	54	8
Merritt	3	2	7	35	52	8

SCORING LEADERS:

	G	A	Pts
Aulin, Kamloops	10	12	22
Donaldson, Kamloops	11	11	18
Siebel, Kamloops	11	7	18
Boyle, Penticton	5	3	18
Anderson, Kamloops	5	8	13
Johnson, Kamloops	3	9	12
Hunt, Vernon	7	5	12
Bevan, W., Vernon	7	4	11
Reynoldson, Merritt	7	4	11
Nicholson, Penticton	10	1	11
Black, Kamloops	3	7	10
Bannantye, Merritt	6	4	10
Seddon, Penticton	5	5	10
Knoutson, Kelowna	3	7	10
Gordon Joe, Kelowna	7	3	10

GOALKEEPERS

	GP	GA	SO	Ave	PIM
Fedorak, Kamloops	6	8	1	1.33	2
Adair, Vernon	10	36	0	3.60	7
McCrimmon, Kel.	13	53	0	4.07	0
Rodgers, Mer.	10	47	0	4.70	5
Grover, Pen.	9	48	0	5.30	4

Bantam house league standings

Bantam House League standings up to Jan. 3:

	P	W	L	T	Pts
Pee Wee Reps	9	7	2	0	14
Vernon News	9	5	3	1	11
Nalley's	9	4	4	1	9
A & W	9	4	4	1	9
Ernie's Essos	9	3	6	0	6
Rennick Lumber	9	2	6	1	5