

Vernon regains share of second place

Vernon Essos picked up a win and a tie during their three game B.C. junior A hockey stint at the Coast last Weekend and managed to regain a share of second place with Vancouver Centennials.

Vernon entered the weekend series one point back of the Vancouver club but came up with a thrilling 4-4 tie against the league leading Victoria Cougars Saturday night and then took on New Westminster Royals with a resulting 7-2 win over the hapless cellar dwelling crew from the lower Mainland in a Sunday afternoon fixture at New Westminster.

Although the Essos came away on a winning note, they found themselves holding a

tiger by the tail in a Friday night game with the Vancouver crew.

Vancouver eventually emerged a 1-0 winner in the contest but they had to hold on to everything they had as Vernon gave them one of the hardest earned two points recorded in B.C. junior hockey this season.

Pat Russell did the job for Vancouver as he beat goalie Gord Mackintosh with a power-play goal at 10:35 of the second period.

Bob Craig had gone off for a two minute minor charging penalty shortly before.

Russell picked up the puck at centre from Bill Gaston and worked in close with Mackintosh appearing to have the shot stopped only to have it trickle off his pads

B.C. Junior "A" Standings to Jan. 19:

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Victoria	37	23	10	4	158	124	50
Vernon	34	22	9	3	167	103	47
Vancouver	37	21	11	5	156	122	47
Kamloops	34	18	12	4	162	119	40
Penticton	33	14	16	3	133	129	31
Kelowna	34	14	21	0	157	189	28
New Westminster	35	1	33	1	105	228	3

into the corner.

In all, the game left much to be desired as far as the penalties were concerned as each club picked up 12 infractions handed out by referee Barry Wilson.

From the early minutes of the opening period, Wilson made it obvious that he was not going to be able to hold control over the game as he allowed rough play to go by the boards in several instances then calling other so called infractions which were more than a little questionable.

An unconfirmed report Sunday said that Junior league officials would not have Wilson referee another game because of his Friday night officiating.

By the end of the game, the players were so worked up and enraged they poured onto the ice enmasse and jostled each other for nearly ten minutes venting the pentup anger.

At Victoria Saturday night, Essos took a first period lead of 2-1 on goals by Gordon Merritt and Gordon Osinchuk with Ted Plowe answering for the Cougars.

In the middle frame, Cougars came back with a pair of their own while Vernon answered with a single by defenceman Jim Marsh. Cougar goals came off the stick of Plowe once more to give him a hat trick for the nights work.

The final period saw both clubs battle it out with matching single goals for the eventual 4-4 tie ending the game.

Victoria took the lead early in the final period on a goal by Shayne Webster only to have Wayne Dye come back with a nice slapshot effort just under

four minutes later to end the scoring.

For the 3,032 Victoria fans on hand to watch the game, the largest in regular league play for B.C. junior A clubs, it was hockey at it's best with both clubs performing like they had never done before.

As in the Friday game, Gordon Mackintosh in the nets for the Essos played brilliantly as he stopped 37 shots that came his way with most of them ear-marked to light up the score boards.

In the nets for Victoria, Ed Forslund was also up for the game as he too stopped several excellent plays put on by the Essos.

Sunday afternoon at New Westminster, Vernon looked like world beaters as they skated, passed and set up excellent defensive moves that had even the most staunch Royal supporter gasping with admiration.

Essos took a 5-0 lead in the opening period, added a single in the second, then let Royals outscore them 2-1 in the final period to walk away with the 7-2 win.

All of the Vernon goals

were single efforts as the club worked as a solid unit throughout the 60 minute encounter.

Wayne Dye, Jack Marsh, Bob Mayer, Al Wahlstrom, Dale Craig, Bill Owens and Gordon Osinchuk scored for Vernon in that order with Jim Dalzell and Grant Williams scoring for the Royals.

Essos take on Kamloops this Saturday here at Vernon and it could be another big game for the Essos as Kamloops of late have come to life with a pair of weekend games over both Penticton and Kelowna.

Rockets beat Penticton 7-4 at Penticton Friday night then came back with an identical score Sunday at home when they hosted the Kelowna Buckaroos.

Game time Saturday at Vernon Civic Arena is 8:30 p.m. and promises to be a thriller all the way.

Vernon hold a seven point bulge over the fourth place Hub city crew and will be out to widen that margin and at the same time gain on Victoria Cougars.

NORTH

SPORTS

DOUG BULWER
Editor

OKANAGAN

Ski meet Sunday termed successful

A large group of 110 ski racing enthusiasts gathered at Silver Star mountain Sunday for a B and C giant slalom racing meet.

This was the first qualifying meeting of this type for skiers throughout the province this season with the second turney planned for Apex mountain near Penticton next weekend.

The following are the results by divisions:

B BOYS: 1. Greg Athans,

Ski racers to hold clinic here this week

Butch Boutry, Western Alpine Development ski coach will be in Vernon this week to conduct a special skiing clinic for prospective

Kelowna Ski Club, 2:04.7; 2. John Stubbs, Silver Star Ski Club, 2:05.8; 3. Daryl, Kincaid, Grouse Mtn. Tyee Ski Club, Vancouver, 2:06.5.

C BOYS: 1. Stan Gatin, Tod Mtn. Ski Club-Kamloops, 2:15.1; 2. Ladd Snowsell, Kelowna Ski Club, 2:15.5; 3. Thomas Keller, Grouse Mtn. Tyee Ski Club, Vancouver, 2:18.6.

5. Doug Fleming, Silver Star Ski Club; 8. Reid Goldie, Silver Star Ski Club.

B GIRLS: 1. Kathy Parton, Kelowna Ski Club, 2:18.0; 2. Alison Pugh, Apex Ski Club-Penticton, 2:21.4; 3. Julie Moynes, Red Mtn. Ski Club-Rossland, 2:26.8.

5. Shelley Paulson, Silver Star Ski Club; 6. Susan Keckalo, Silver Star Ski Club.

C GIRLS: 1. Marlies Joseph, Red Mtn. Ski Club-

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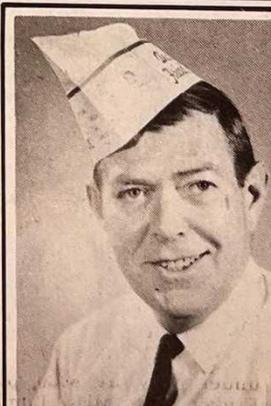
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