

A bad start but .

Vernon takes Kamloops 8-5

Vernon Essos are once more holding down second place in B.C. Junior A hockey standings and they did it by edging Kamloops Rockets 8-5 before a record crowd of over 2,300 home town fans Wednesday night.

For the Essos it was their 27th win in 41 games played, having only lost 11 times and tying three others for 57 points, one more than Vancouver and two less than Victoria the league leaders.

Vernon also have two games in hand over the Island club and three over Vancouver who have played 43 and 44 games respectively.

A pair of back to back wins over Kelowna this weekend when Vernon travels to the Regatta city Saturday night then host the Buckaroos on home ice Sunday night could easily see them move into a first place tie with the Cougars who are scheduled to play at least one game this weekend also.

Toughest part of their seven remaining games is when Essos round out the regular schedule by playing five games in six days starting Feb. 24 when they host Penticton for the last home game of the schedule, then travel the next night to Kamloops then have a day off before playing at Vancouver Feb. 27, Victoria Feb. 28 and then windup the season playing against New Westminster Mar. 1.

Wednesday night, Essos got off to a bad start as Kamloops ran up a 4-1 lead by the three quarter mark of the initial period the first one coming with only 17 seconds gone in the game.

Vernon came back with one of their own seven minutes later on a power play but from then on until the 16:34 mark it was all Kamloops as the Rockets were able to score at will with at least three of the goals soft efforts when starting goalie Gary Osborne did not seem to be up for the plays.

Prior to the start of the game, coach Odie Lowe had intended on using Gordon Mackintosh to start but the diminutive Salmon Arm ace complained his eye, which he injured several weeks ago, was bothering him so at the last moment Osborne was selected to start the game.

However it was Mackintosh between the posts at the start of the middle session much to the delight of the local fans.

Don Oulton started things off for Kamloops then Vernon's Lawrence Quechuk came back with the equalizer at 7:37 on a powerplay with Wayne Gibb sitting out a kneeling infraction. John Price was the playmaker on the Vernon goal.

Oliver Steward scored unassisted at 8:11 for the visitors when he went around the Vernon defence to beat Osborne quite handily.

Just over 30 seconds later

Don Senkpiel made it number three then came back at the 13:53 mark to put the Rockets ahead 4-1.

Essos fought back and Wayne Dye eased the pressure on his unassisted effort at 16:34 with Jack Marsh also coming through with a power play goal at 19:13 to end the period with Kamloops having their lead whittled to 4-3.

In the second period, goals by Gordon Merritt, Bob Craig and Wayne Dye's second marker with a single tally from the Rockets Bernie Doan put Essos ahead to stay.

In the final frame, Vernon really came out strong and managed to keep the visitors off balance while they added two unanswered markers to take the game by three goals,

with Bob Craig adding his second and John Price picking up the other.

Between period entertainment saw hi jinks of a broom ball game between the Press - Radio and local Police force which ran it's course with no goals being scored by either of the two zany teams.

Both teams were dressed appropriately in the usual funny outfits made to disguise familiar faces.

Because of the tie both teams were awarded a special hospital trophy in the form of a mounted chamber pot.

Another presentation of a more serious nature was also presented at the conclusion of the game when Queen Silver Star X, Debby Schaefer and her Princesses Jill and

B.C. Junior "A" Hockey League

Games played up to and including Feb. 11, 1970

SCORING STATISTICS

	G	A	Pts.	Pen.
Wayne Dye, Ver.	36	38	74	71
Don Manson, Ver.	22	42	64	38
L. Quechuck, Ver.	28	30	58	97
Bob Mayer, Ver.	18	38	56	39
Ted Plowe, Vic.	25	31	56	50
Bruce Cowick, Vic.	22	34	56	75
Marv Ferg, Kam.	25	30	55	13
Cliff McKay, Kel.	23	32	55	25
John Senkpiel, Kam.	26	26	52	25
Alex Dick, Van.	21	31	52	26

GOAL AVERAGES — Team

	G	GA	Ave.
Vernon	41	130	3.17
Vancouver	44	141	3.20
Victoria	43	146	3.45
Kamloops	42	156	3.71
Penticton	41	165	4.02
Kelowna	44	236	5.36
New West.	43	287	6.70

LEAGUE STANDING

	P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts.
Vic.	43	27	11	5	205	146	59
Ver.	41	27	11	3	209	130	57
Van.	44	25	13	6	190	141	56
Kam.	42	21	17	4	172	156	46
Pen.	41	17	19	5	164	165	39
Kel.	44	17	26	1	184	236	35
New West.	43	2	39	2	136	287	6

Sunday shoot planned by Trap club

The North Okanagan Trap Club will stage its annual 'Winter Carnival Shoot' Sunday and officials extend a welcome to visitors and competitors.

There will be 150 birds per event with cash prizes going to the finalists.

The program starts sharp at 9 a.m. at the trap club grounds which is located off Highway 97, 10 miles north of Vernon. The turnoff is located at Fort Spallumcheen museum where signs are posted.

The new club house has facilities for the comfort of everyone and refreshments will be available throughout the day.



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DOUG BULWER
Editor

OKANAGAN

Debbie gave Vernon team captain Bob Mayer the special Vernon Winter Carnival trophy which is given to the winning team of a hockey game played in Vernon during Carnival week.

This was the fourth straight

time the Essos have won the trophy said carnival organizer and director, Chuck Reilly after the game Wednesday.

Game time here in Vernon for the Sunday match between the Essos and Kelowna has been set for 8 p.m.

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