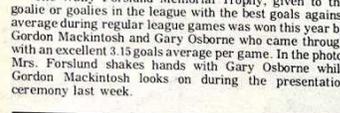


President presents trophy
B.C. Junior A League president Howard Hamilton (right) of Penticton, presented Vernon team captain Bob Mayer (left) with the Kamloops Elks trophy, emblematic of the league pennant title won by the Essos this season. The brief ceremony took place at the Civic Arena last week.



Forslund trophy
The Wally Forslund Memorial Trophy, given to the goalie or goalies in the league with the best goals against average during regular league games was won this year by Gordon Mackintosh and Gary Osborne who came through with an excellent 3.15 goals average per game. In the photo, Mrs. Forslund shakes hands with Gary Osborne while Gordon Mackintosh looks on during the presentation ceremony last week.



A pat on the back from coach
Coach Odie Lowe gave personal congratulations to Essos netminder Gary Osborne following the teams semifinal series victory over the Vancouver Centennials which was concluded last Wednesday on home ice with the Essos taking four of the seven games played in the B.C. Junior A hockey league.



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Weary Vernon club suffers 3-2 setback

By DOUG BULWER
Vernon 5, Vancouver 4
Vernon 10, Victoria 5

Victoria, 3, Vernon 2 (overtime)
What has to be one of the toughest playoffs series on record in B.C. Junior A hockey is currently being played out by a bone-weary Vernon Esso team.

In the past 20 straight days the Essos have played 15 games and now the strain is beginning to show, with several players suffering from badly strained muscles.

With three games now played in the B.C. Jr. A finals with Victoria Cougars, Essos lead the series two games to one.

Essos took the first two games on home ice, last Friday and Saturday, then dropped a heart-breaker in Victoria Sunday night in the second overtime period by a 3-2 score.

Friday night the Essos barely skinned their opponent, 4-1, to open the best of seven series with the Cougars on home ice while playing before 1,744 fans.

Wayne Dye led the Vernon attack coming up with a pair of markers while singles came off the sticks of Ken Warner, Jack Marsh and Lawrence Quechuk.

All four of the Cougar goals were single efforts as Dale Pennock, John Kwasney, Chris Riddell and Pat Askew did the honors for a losing cause.

Dye opened the scoring at the 11:30 initial period when Gordon Osinchuk and Al Wahlstrom started the play rolling.

Victoria came back with the equalizer two minutes later on a power-play after Dale Craig was sent off for elbowing. Pennock did the scoring with assists from Randy Bock and Murray Kennett.

Victoria then took a short lived lead as Kwasney came through with a go-ahead goal just 29 seconds later with Alex Shibisky and Ted Plowe helping on this one.

At 16:58, Wayne Dye came through with his second marker with help from Jim Marsh and Bob Craig in end the period scoring at two goals each.

The second frame was all Vernon as Ken Warner scored his first marker of the series with Dale Craig and Bill Owens setting him up.

Warner's goal came at 16:14 and 23 seconds later Vernon took a two goal lead to stay as Jack Marsh scored a single handed after stealing the puck from a Cougar defenceman.

Going into the final period, Victoria came to life quickly to come back within a single goal of the high flying Essos with the clock showing only 54 seconds gone.

Exactly 17 minutes later the Essos scored what was to prove to be the winner as Lawrence Quechuk slammed in a low shot after his linemates, John Price and Jack Marsh set up a beautiful pattern play.

This was the big goal for Vernon as Victoria really put on the pressure in the dying moments of the game and with Ed Forslund out of the nets in favour of a sixth attacker, made it pay off as Pat Askew came through from a scramble with Chris Fiddell assisting to score at 19:24 for the Cougars fourth and final goal.

Both Gary Osborne in the nets for Vernon and Ed Forslund holding down the Cougar net minding chores came up with excellent saves with Forslund stopping 20 shots that came his way and Osborne being called upon to stop 28.

Saturday night, playing before a larger crowd than of the night before, (2,432) Essos really showed their championship style as they completely whitewashed the Cougars who seemed to be off balance for most of the game.

Final score in this, the second game of the series, was 10-5 in favour of the Vernon squad and gave them a 2-0 lead in the series.

Jack Marsh was the hero of the game as he came up with a big hat trick and added a pair of assists for a five point night.

Lawrence Quechuk was also doing his best as he came through with a pair of markers and was in on four assists for six points.

Taking nothing away from these two flashy forwards, was the centre man for the line in the form of John 'Wire' Price who scored a single goal then proceeded to assist on four others.

Without any doubt, the winds and currents of the Gulf of St. Lawrence carried a barrel containing mail and requests for assistance from Magdalen Islanders to the mainland in 1910. Severe storms had disrupted communication with the Islands. Help was sent immediately and soon mail and supply lines were reestablished.

sparkling display of all three of these first line boys made the Vernon win possible although all others on the team did their best too.

Other Vernon scorers were singles from Gordon Osinchuk who is also flying high in the series as is Wayne Dye who added a single and assisted twice.

This proved to be all the scoring in the third period, forcing a 10-minute overtime period.

Both teams at this point were showing extreme weariness and in the first 10-minute overtime missed several scoring chances, and ended the period with neither team finding the mark. In the second overtime it was

Victoria's first goal which from a bystanders point of view was scored on an offside play.

Ballance, as the chief official in the game, seemed to let the near capacity crowd get to him. One example of this was when he ruled in favour of the boys two games straight in the best of three Okanagan Kootenay zone finals.

Friday night at Kelowna, Trail came on strong to overwhelm the local boys by an 8-4 score then found themselves facing a much tougher team Saturday afternoon as the Vernon boys put up a strong fight before a small home town crowd.

In the second game, Trail opened the scoring early in the first period when Gary Johnson scored from Gordon Redding at 1:32.

Trail moved up one more goal at 9:28 of the same period when Steve Sander scored with help from Terry McDougal.

Taking the 2-0 lead into the second period, Trail suddenly found themselves fighting hard to retain the lead as Vernon's Pat Murphy touched the only marker of the middle period with Willy Bevan in on the assist. This goal coming at 4:12.

Trail then moved one more goal ahead and scored what proved to be the winner at 3:12 of the final session with Terry McDougal doing the honors.



JACK MARSH
... hat trick



JOHN PRICE
... real digger



LAWRENCE QUECHUK
... scores winner

again close-playing and here again Vernon missed at least three excellent chances to pull the game out of the bag but were unable to finish around the Cougars' net.

At 7:19 from the start of the game the winning goal for Victoria was scored by Scott Munro after taking a pass from Murray Kennett and Laurie Moore with Hamro finding the hole down the middle and slipping the puck over a sprawling Gary Osborne.

Fourth game of the series goes tonight (Monday) and the fifth game for sure back on Vernon ice Wednesday night.

ICE CHIPS
There's no doubt the Vernon Essos are beginning to show a physical strain from the 15 games they've played in the last 20 days. At least four of the top players are having problems with badly strained muscles.

In the past three games team captain Bob Mayer has been playing with a badly pulled groin muscle and speedy utility man Bob Craig has been playing with a badly bruised right shoulder, and in the Sunday game was taken out of the play in the second over-time period suffering from a painful leg muscle.

Both players are, of course, receiving close attention to these injuries and are expected to continue playing.

Other players suffering from injuries are goalie Gary Osborne, with pulled back muscles, and defenceman Al Wahlstrom, with a painfully bruised right hand.

The Sunday night game, as far as the officiating was concerned, left much to be desired as referee Barry Ballance of Vancouver and linesman Dale Frost and Eric Rossiter of Victoria missed several key plays.

The linesmen in particular probably were the cause of

Oyama sets badminton tournament

A badminton tournament sponsored by the Oyama Badminton Club takes place in that communities club hall Sunday.

Officials of the club are hoping for a large turnout of interested badminton players from all parts of the Okanagan and have beamed a special invitation to Vernon and district residents to join in the afternoon of fun.

The tourney is open to all youngsters 16 years and under with the first sets of players taking to the floor at 1 p.m. with the windup planned for 5 p.m.

Admission to all non-members will only be 10 cents a person and there will be lots of prizes. Refreshments will also be served throughout the afternoon.

A further note from the Oyama group indicates the club director, Richard Young would like to see more adults participate in the Thursday night games, which are held regularly in the Oyama Community Hall.

NORTH SPORTS
DOLG BULWER Editor
OKANAGAN

Lose two straight Legion Junior B's bow to Trail squad

Vernon Legion Junior B squad took 8-4 and 3-2 losses over the weekend to drop out of the provincial finals when visiting Trail Junior Smoke Eaters edged the home town boys two games straight in the best of three Okanagan Kootenay zone finals.

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