

Penticton bragging

“Essos are pushovers” says Bronco manager

Coach Odie Lowe of the Vernon Essos is feeling very optimistic these days and has gone on record to say he feels the Essos will take the Penticton Broncos to task this Saturday on home ice.

“With the club back to full strength with the return of Bob Craig, I feel the team will begin to show a little more aggressiveness up front.

After all its about time, and after that fiasco at the end of the last meeting with Penticton, our boys will be out to start showing a little more muscle”, said the veteran coach.

Members of the team have also indicated they intend to begin to re-vamp their record with the Broncos. So far Broncos have taken all three meetings todate by scores of 6-1, 6-3 and 4-1.

Lowe's reference to the last game at Penticton stems from the out-burst of fighting that started as the final whistle blew when several Penticton players

literally jumped on Vernon players and a mass free-for-all ensued, that took nearly ten minutes to clear up.

Almost to a man, Essos have vowed they will not let the front running Broncos intimidate them any longer.

Craig, who has not seen action for several weeks because of an appendicitis operation, watched the last game between the two clubs from the stands and vowed then and there he will not let that sort of thing happen when he is on the ice.

There is no doubt Craig means what he says, as his record last year, as being the club policeman is well proven.

Several officials close to the Essos also feel this is what the club needs is a key player like Craig to light up a little fire within the club.

“They certainly are not nearly as aggressive as the club was last year and with Craig once more feeling fit, should begin to take some pointers from the husky veteran,” said

one club director Wednesday.

Bronco manager George Stoll, is also feeling his oats these days and is braying loud and clear his Broncos can take anyone, most of all the Essos.

Stoll is delighted with his clubs performance, especially against Vernon and is not abashed in claiming his greatest desire is to see his beloved team defeat the hated Vernon club.

It is well known Stoll is not a good loser, which was proven last season when he tried his best to belittle the Essos even after they won the B.C. championship.

In conversation Sunday with Stoll, this reporter was told a large caravan of Penticton fans will be on hand to cheer the current interior leaders on to another victory over the mouse-like Vernon team.

Vernon fans can expect to see some fast exciting hockey if word out of both camps can be taken seriously.

Vern Dye, Essos manager also agrees the game could be a hot one and is also keeping his fingers crossed that maybe the Essos will begin to show a little fire to go along with their proven ability.

“I feel Vernon has one of the best clubs in years, ability-wise, but there is no doubt they need to show a little more fighting spirit, and I think they will come out of their shells this Saturday against the smart-alec Broncos”, said the veteran club mentor.

Game time is 8:30 with preticket sales available at Ernie's Esso station all day Friday and Saturday with rush seats going on sale one hour before game time at the arena box office.

New system

Voting starts