



**Bankers retain title**

Royal Bank women's volleyball squad have taken the women's city league title for the second year in a row. The Bankers came on strong last Wednesday to easily out distance the Coldstream club three games to one in the final series. They are pictured above with trophy donor, Art Hutt moments after they won the championship. From the left: Eleanor McPherson, Vivian Zwarych, Barb Murdoch, Donna Gingell, Brenda Howard, Karen Doyle and team captain Phyl Hanson receiving the trophy from Mr. Hutt.

**Playoff structure for Junior A league**

By DOUG BULWER  
With Junior A hockey playoffs just one day away from its quarter-final start, many requests for information on the playoff procedure have come to the sports desk.  
Although the first series schedule between Vernon Essos and Kamloops Rockets is now listed, other team playoff games are not presently known.  
Contrary to any reports emanating from the lower mainland, the following information is understood to be correct.  
All eight teams will play a best of seven quarter final series, divided into two divisions. In the Interior, first place league finishers Pentiction Broncos take on fourth place Kelowna Buckaroos and second place Vernon Essos meet third place Kamloops Rockets.  
At the coast, pennant winning Victoria Cougars meet fourth place Chilliwack Bruins and second place Vancouver Centennials meet third place New Westminster Royals.  
Winners in each instance then play a semi-final series, still a best of seven set within each division.

Once single winners are declared in each loop, then a best of seven series for the league championship and the right to the Mowat Cup, emblematic to B.C. Junior A hockey supremacy is played out.  
Meanwhile to complete the agreement with the BCAHA and parent body CAHA, a B.C. junior representative for inter-branch competition must be declared by April 3.  
This team in accordance with the national rules on amateur hockey will compete for honors with other western provinces, with eventual winners meeting Eastern champions for the national junior championship one level below the Memorial Cup level.  
In previous years all junior hockey competed for the grand championship and the Memorial cup, but with a change in the system, a tier level has been introduced to enable lower graded teams to compete on a better level of competition.  
Thusly, the B.C. league is on the lower level of this national competition, and will compete against other provinces also on what is known as tier two.

If what has been said in the above explanation is now understood, let's go a step further.  
The B.C. league, with its extended regular schedule from 48 games to 60 games this season and its own playoff program extended as long as possible to include all eight teams, obviously to make more money, decided quite some time ago to play every playoff encounter in a best of seven series.  
The B.C. Junior body, aware they must also send a representative into inter-branch competition, also decided they could do this best and still run their own hockey time to the limit of the season, decreed that one team losing the quarter-final series, but with the best standing in league play than that of other losers would then carry on with other provincial winners.  
This system then would free the remaining winners still vying for the grand B.C. title and Mowat cup and permit all series to run to the hilt and have no worry about meeting out of province competition.  
Big problems almost immediately cropped up with the B.C. Junior League because at the start of the season, teams who chose to, were granted over-age players with three teams electing to place up to four older players on each of their rosters. These teams are Vancouver, New Westminster and Victoria Cougars.  
Another rule also dictates that no team can pick up players from teams prior to going into inter-branch playdowns.  
This automatically left the three major coast teams out with Chilliwack Bruins sitting with a bye to meet the first loser in the Interior for the chance to go out of province, providing they lose the first round.  
In a recent league meeting, directors then decided by mutual consent that better yet, bypass both Chilliwack Bruins and Kelowna Buckaroos because of the poor quality in regular action and declare a winner from one of the three other Interior teams, namely, Vernon, Kamloops and Pentiction as soon as one of these was knocked out of the quarter-finals which will be completed by the deadline of April 3.  
After this, the remaining teams could then carry on unmolested in the B.C. series which could run until the end of April or early May.

**Over Revelstoke Lumby wins hockey title**

Lumby Flying Frenchmen have won the Monashee Hockey League championship by taking Revelstoke Selkirks four games to two in the best of seven final round.  
Lumby wound up the series over the weekend by taking back to back games Saturday and Sunday on scores of 7-5 and 5-1.  
Revelstoke opened the series by taking the first two games and supposedly vowed they would take the series in straight games.  
However, Lumby came back and it was the Frenchmen that took the series in four straight, with team captain Gerald Altwasser describing the turn of events by saying:  
"They said they would take us in four straight games but we really hosed it to them and handed it out the way they said it would be done to us."  
Jubilation reigned supreme in the jam-packed Lumby Centennial rink Sunday afternoon as the Frenchmen took a second period 2-1 lead then scored three unanswered markers in the final frame to salt the title away.  
In the opening period, neither team were able to find the mark with excellent goal keeping by Lumby's Al Alexander and the

Selkirk's Clem Gadbois effectively blocking the scoring door.  
Early in the second period, a power-play started the Frenchmen off with their first goal coming at the 5:50 mark on a good effort by Mike Irmen, his fourth goal in two nights. He scored a hat trick in Revelstoke Saturday to pace Lumby's victory there.  
At the three-quarter mark of the same period, Cam Hanna unloaded goal number two with the time showing 14:10. Rich Hawkins and Peter Vlasveld assisted on this one.  
With less than three minutes remaining in the period, Revelstoke finally got one by Al Alexander on a goal by Rod Chivers with Terry Burkitt and Doug Chapot aiding the assist tally.  
In the final session, it was a Lumby show as Gerald Altwasser, then Mike Irmen and Jim Inglis following, going in to score the three insurance markers.  
Gerry McLeod also had a big day, assisting on both of Irmen's goals and Altwasser's single.  
Mike Irmen, the 16-year-old quiz, was by far the outstanding player on the ice and should do well in future years.

**Playoffs Tuesday Essos continue winning streak**

Vernon 9—Kelowna 2  
Vernon's one-sided 9-2 victory over Kelowna Buckaroos Friday night has successfully closed out the 60-game Junior A hockey league schedule with the Essos coming on well in the latter stages of the action for a strong second place finish in the Interior standings.  
Their final tally for the year saw them without a loss in the last seven outings, with six of them solid wins while tying the other, to give them a 34-20-6 win, loss and tie record for 74 points.  
Hopefully, with everything now going for them, they will make short work of their quarter-final series with the Kamloops Rockets which starts tomorrow night here in Vernon.  
The schedule of this best of seven series appears elsewhere on today's sports pages.  
While the Essos finished the schedule the way they started, by taking Kelowna in the first game played then hosting them for the final session, the encounters these two teams played against each other in between, were of the same result.  
The Essos won them all with the exception of one and that ended in a tie.  
While the Essos took them all against Kelowna, most interesting point of these games was the fact that Essos also doubled the goals scored in their favor as opposed to those they allowed Kelowna to tuck into the Vernon net. Essos tallied 85 while the best Buckaroos could do was to score 42.  
Friday night Essos jumped quickly into the scoring with Bryan Smeland providing one of the better goals of the game.  
His backhand shot at the 3:05 mark with help from Dave Neil and Doug Wiffen was a smart

piece of maneuvering as he picked up the puck to the right of Kelowna netman Ian McCrimmon and skated around two defenders before letting go on the short side with a hard drive that escaped McCrimmon completely.  
Kelowna came back 23 seconds later for their first marker and it looked at this

Smeland and Glen Walton again featuring on the assist column.  
Greg Fox had gone off at 15:51 because of hooking. This penalty proved to be the last of the game as both teams kept the business at hand of playing clean hockey. As a matter of interest, only five were called throughout the game, two to Vernon in the first period and

**Jr. playoff schedule**

B.C. Junior A hockey quarter-final schedule:  
"B" section Interior division best of seven series between second place Vernon Essos and third place Kamloops Rockets.  
Game 1—Kamloops at Vernon, 8 p.m., Tues., March 23.  
Game 2—Vernon at Kamloops 8:30 p.m., Thurs., March 25.  
Game 3—Kamloops at Vernon, 9 p.m., Friday, March 26.  
Game 4—Vernon at Kamloops, 2:30 p.m., Sunday, March 28.  
Game 5—Kamloops at Vernon, 8 p.m., Tues., March 30.  
Game 6—Vernon at Kamloops, 8:30 p.m., Thurs., April 1.  
Game 7—Kamloops at Vernon, 8 p.m., Sat., April 3.  
Pre-playoff tickets sales now on at Ernie's Esso Service or at ticket office at game time.  
Season ticket holders have first chance at reserve seats but must be picked up by noon of game day.  
Vernon fans can obtain reserve seats at Kamloops games on game two (March 28) and on game four (Sunday afternoon), 100 seats reserved for game two and 200 seats for game four.  
These tickets can also be obtained from Ernie's Esso.

point they would hold their own against the high flying Essos.  
However, Essos moved out in front to stay at the halfway point of the initial period with Glen Walton scoring his first of two goals in the night's action.  
Dave Neil again provided the scoring punch with Stan Hunt also assisting.  
The second period was strictly a Vernon show as they blanked the Bucks from the scoreboard and coming through with three more of their own.  
Walton started the show at 5:33 with aid from Stan Hunt and Bob Craig. Just one minute later Ed Johnstone got in on the act with John Price and Jim Marsh setting the play in motion.  
Rod Cox topped off the period scoring with a power-play goal at the 17:31 mark with Bryan

Kelowna picking up three in the second frame.  
Within five minutes of the third period each team swapped one goal with Doug Wiffen scoring for Vernon at 4:06 with Cox and Smeland assisting.  
Kelowna's final goal of the game at the 5:26 mark came when Brad Robson scored from Craig Einfeld and Brian Matlock. Earlier Kelowna goal came off the stick of Larry Patenaude.  
Jim Marsh, playing in his 69th consecutive game of the season which included all 60 regular league fixtures plus nine exhibitions, made it 7-2 for Vernon at the 9:50 mark. Rookie Stan Hunt scored his second goal of the season at 11:37 unassisted then Ernie Gare wrapped up the scoring at 13:55 with John Price and Bob Craig assisting. It was Bryan Smeland aiding in the Jim Marsh goal.  
Vernon outshot Kelowna by a wide margin of 56-26. Spare goalie Harley Love came into net duty for the Essos at the start of the second period and played well throughout, stopping eight and nine shots respectively.

**ESSOS STATISTICS**  
Final list of 60 games played:

	GP	G	A	Pts	PIA
1 Jim Lawrence	59	41	85	126	116
2 Ed Johnstone	58	45	46	91	83
3 Wayne Dye	59	38	45	83	163
4 John Price	52	23	47	70	78
5 Ernie Gare	58	33	31	64	82
6 Rod Cox	58	20	33	53	116
7 Jim Marsh	40	12	34	46	103
8 Bob Craig	38	8	35	43	257
9 Dave Neil	57	12	19	31	28
10 Glen Walton	54	12	13	25	21
11 Doug Wiffen	49	8	13	21	30
12 Bob Gassoff	51	2	16	18	259
13 Bryan Smeland	7	4	5	9	2
14 Stan Hunt	7	2	2	4	2
15 Don Dirk	23	2	4	4	102
16 Jim Inglis	16	0	4	0	14
17 Bob Powell	24	1	1	2	58

  

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18 Wayne Price	60	0	1	1	24
19 Harley Love	29	0	0	0	0
Coch Odie Lowe					10
Team Bench penalty					2
Total goals scored					285
Total Assists					455
Penalties in mins.					1,675
Total players used during season — 34					
Team record	GP	W	L	T	Pts
	60	34	20	6	74

**GOALIES**

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