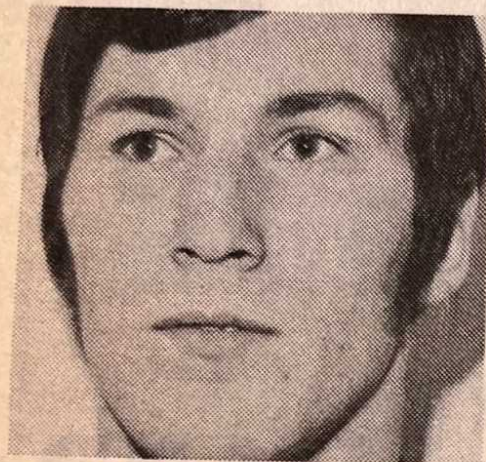


Jim Lawrence

Leading scorer signs with Jr's.



JIM LAWRENCE
... second year

Vernon Essos announced today they have signed 19-year-old Jim Lawrence of Vancouver for his second year on the B.C. Junior A team.

A first string centre-man and rookie with the Essos last year, Lawrence won distinction in the league by taking the scoring championship on a 41 goal, 86 assist performance for a total of 127 points.

Both manager Vern Dye and coach Odie Lowe expect big

things from Lawrence and feel he could be the key man in how the Essos will finish in the six-team league this season.

With the initial training camp now being rounded out and the main camp due to start Saturday, more of last year's roster are expected to be back in the line-up along with at least four graduates of Vernon Minor Hockey ranks and one or two players from the Medicine Hat Tigers of the Western Canada, tier one league.