



Mayor Halina speaks at hockey opener

Mayor William Halina brought special greetings from the city of Vernon to the B.C. Junior Hockey League when the new season was officially heralded in at the Civic Arena last Saturday night. Standing on either side of the mayor is Vernon captain Jim Lawrence, in white jersey,

and Kelowna assistant captain Greg Fox who later faced off when the game was started by Miss Junior Hockey, Heather Holmes, who is observed standing in the background waiting her turn to take part in the ceremony

Three games

Essos head to Coast tomorrow

Vernon Essos head out for their first road trip of the season tomorrow as they take on Vancouver Centennials twice and meet Chilliwack Bruins in a single game of a B.C. Junior A hockey league series at the coast this weekend.

Vernon will put their first two wins on the line as they hope to continue with the fine performances already shown here on home ice and come home with an undefeated streak to their credit.

Actually, they go into the lower mainland to meet a pair of unknown teams, both strength and ability wise.

Vancouver will have played four times before meeting Vernon Friday night (they play in Chilliwack tonight) and according to their play so far should be a real contender.

Chilliwack too will be a tough team and if they continue where they left off last year of being a group of fighters, will give everyone a real run for their money, including Vernon.

Vernon Essos are still the best rated team in the league and with their strong veterans of Ernie Gare, John Price, Jim Lawrence, Wayne Dye, Ed Johnstone, Dave Neil, Glen Walton and Bob Powell heading the lists of players, coupled with newcomers Bill Vernon, Gordon Neilson, Cliff Lane and Dennis Bergeron to name but a few, will be quite strong.

Vernon also has a strong defensive netminding corps with Mike Smithson and Earl Bowie taking on this tough chore by turns and they should give a very good account of themselves.

So far Vernon have the best

goals for list of 15 scored in two games and with the least scored against them of only four, something that is sure to impress several of the other teams as they meet for the first time.

The Vernon road trip schedule shows them in Richmond Friday night to meet the Cents, in Chilliwack for a Saturday encounter, then meet

Vancouver for the second time at Richmond in a Monday night encounter.

Next home game will see the Essos clash with Chilliwack Bruins, Saturday, Oct. 23 in a 8 p.m. encounter. However before that game comes about will be in Kelowna Tuesday night and Penticton Friday.



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