

## Two games on weekend here

# Essos beginning to eye B.C. title

While Vernon Essos may have a 13 point bulge over their nearest rivals the Penticton Broncos, their practise sessions the past two times out this week indicate they want to extend their league leading points.

Coach Odie Lowe has put them through two fast-paced practises this week and with the loss of Ed Johnstone to Medicine Hat of the WCHL, has been trying out one or two others to fill his spot on right wing of the first line.

The Essos with their roster trimmed to 17 players at the moment, all want to play, and by the talk in the dressing room after each practise, have one major idea in their minds and that is to keep on winning and if possible move so far out in front of anyone else the next few weeks, they can coast into the playoffs with one of the strongest clubs to ever play in the B.C. Junior League.

They are not afraid to admit they want the B.C. title and are prepared to take it at any cost, mainly at the expense of every

team they meet the next little while.

This weekend they get a chance to wreak sweet revenge on both Richmond and Chilliwack as both teams come to Vernon for single games.

Friday night Richmond will take to the ice at 9 p.m. against the Essos and then Sunday afternoon at 2:30, clash with the Chilliwack Bruins who have won their last three games and were leading 3-0 in another before the game was called because of a power failure early in the third period.

Richmond will also be anxious as they have dropped their last three games with their most recent win against the Essos.

Meanwhile on the managerial side of things, Essos manager Vern Dye is slowly blowing up a head of steam over the Medicine Hat method of removing Ed Johnstone from the local scene.

Dye said he had been talking to the Alberta crew about Ed moving up but there had been nothing definite decided and the idea being that Johnstone did go, a replacement would be forthcoming immediately from the tier one club.

Dye said Tiger owner, Joe

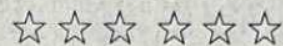
Fisher, and his coach Jack Shupe had really opened his eyes on how they do things and when another year rolls around someone else would get their turn at putting on the squeeze.

"We are beginning to get organized on the B.C. level to the point where it will be us and not them who do the dictating. More and more scouts are looking at our league and it won't be long before the B.C. league will be graduating boys

right into the professional league and by-passing the Prairie big shots who think they hold all the strings," said the irate Essos manager.

Ticket office and doors open at 8 p.m. Friday and 1 p.m. Sunday afternoon, with an expected influx of visiting

hockey fans joining local spectators to see the fast action of the best junior hockey in the west.



## B.C. junior A standings

To and including Jan. 12, 1972.

	Gp	W	L	T	GF	Ga	Pts.
Vernon Essos	36	27	9	0	222	120	54
Penticton Broncos	36	19	14	3	158	136	41
Kamloops Rockets	34	15	13	6	145	129	36
Chilliwack Bruins	33	16	15	2	133	132	34
Richmond Centennials	34	11	21	2	120	178	24
Kelowna Buckaroos	33	6	22	5	116	199	17
<b>Goal Totals</b>					<b>894</b>	<b>894</b>	

Team averages, goals for and against per game;

	Ave. for	Ave. against
Vernon Essos	6.16	3.33
Penticton Broncos	4.34	3.72
Kamloops Rockets	4.26	3.79
Chilliwack Bruins	4.03	4.00
Richmond Cents.	3.52	5.23
Kelowna Buckaroos	3.51	6.03



One of the main topics of conversation around home and outside are the Pheasants. Yes they are having it tough, but many hands are helping with their survival.

The local Fish and Game Club have purchased grain and set up feeding stations and are feeding up to 350 birds, and that is a conservative figure.

Grain is available from the Fish and Wildlife branch for those feeding their own flocks, which range in number from 10 to 150.

This grain may be picked up at Fisher's hardware, Viel's Sport Centre or the Frisby establishment out in the B.X.

The Fish and Wildlife branch are very anxious to keep some tally on the number of birds being fed and even more important the ratio of hens to cocks.

For the good old Branch I'll even go so far as to say phone me at 542-7979 with any information you might have. We would also like the number of Quail and Huns you might be feeding.

Don't waste the grain by over feeding, the birds must forage for themselves to help keep them warm and in condition.

Report from Bouleau Lake; 46 inches of settled snow, with 16 inches of water content and no sno-machine tracks. Do not venture into areas such as this alone, or without proper survival kits.

Never go off the beaten track on a sno-machine by yourself, make all your trips buddy trips.

There is to be a general meeting of the Lumby Wildlife Association on Saturday, January 22 in the Legion Hall in Lumby.

This is an extremely important meeting to all Sportsmen in the area, and that means you Sportsmen, not only

## CAHA rule . . .

# Essos trim team roster to nineteen

Vernon Essos along with the other five teams in the B.C. Junior A Hockey League have reduced their team roster to the 19 eligible players as per the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association junior regulations for the 1971-72 season.

Expiry date to have their lists of players trimmed was last Monday (Jan. 10) at which time the names of players remaining signed with the various teams had to be submitted to the B.C. branch of the CAHA with headquarters in Victoria.

Actually, the Vernon club has listed only 17 players with the option open to them to pick up two more players prior to the final registration date of February 10th.

Originally, Vernon like the rest of the league had been issued with 30 player cards and had in fact used a total of 26 players during the first half of their 60 game schedule. Some of these however were, and are, affiliated players brought up from Juvenile ranks for one of two game tryouts.

Those no longer with the Essos are Dave Neil who returned to play Junior 'B' hockey in his home town of Cranbrook, Ed Johnstone now with Medicine Hat Tigers of the Western Canada Junior League, Gordon Neilson released to Kelowna and Gary Stankevich who is a member of the RCMP.

Clay Anderson, Barry Dye and Will Gagnon are back with the Vernon Juvenile team while two other players who were given tryouts, Bill Austin and Ken Reid, were sent back to their home town teams sometime ago.

Those still with the Vernon Essos are listed as follows:

Goalies Mike Smithson and Earl Bowie. Defencemen Bill Vernon, Lyle Brewer, Cliff Lane, Dennis Bergeron, Bob Powell and Bob Marsh. Forwards Jim Lawrence, Wayne Dye, Glen Walton, John Price, Ernie Gare, Les Salo, Jeff Shirley, George Fargher and Vic Sloan.



## Essos team statistics

Vernon Essos — 36 games to Jan. 8, 1972.

	Gp.	G	A	Pts.	Pen.	PIM
1. John Price	35	30	54	84	23	68
2. Ernie Gare	33	30	46	76	22	73
3. Jim Lawrence	36	18	56	74	29	96
4. Ed Johnstone	36	29	36	65	24	99
5. Wayne Dye	32	37	27	64	23	102
6. Les Salo	34	24	17	41	9	26
7. Glen Walton	31	17	22	39	14	69
8. Bill Vernon	36	8	17	25	13	48
9. Jeff Shirley	32	12	8	20	13	42
10. Bob Powell	31	1	13	14	30	109
11. Dennis Bergeron	35	0	13	13	5	31
12. Dave Neil	24	5	7	12	10	28
13. Lyle Brewer	36	2	10	12	25	62
14. George Fargher	19	6	4	10	2	4
15. Cliff Lane	31	0	8	8	13	37
16. Gordon Neilson	22	3	4	7	8	19
17. Gary Stankievich	8	0	0	0	11	50
18. Bob Marsh	2	0	0	0	5	10
19. Vic Sloan	2	0	0	0	0	0
20. Clay Anderson	3	0	0	0	0	0
21. Barry Dye	1	0	0	0	0	0
22. Will Gagnon	1	0	0	0	0	0
23. Bill Austin	2	0	0	0	0	0
24. Ken Reid	1	0	0	0	0	0
Team BENCH					1	2
Mike Smithson	36				4	29
Earl Bowie	36				1	10
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>222</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>1,014</b>

Goalies	Gp.	Min.P.	Saves	Ga	So	Ave.
Mike Smithson	26	1,420	608	66	3	2.53
Earl Bowie	14	740	338	54	1	3.85