

## 86-30 goals difference

# Essos ride high on Buckaroos once more

Vernon 12, Kelowna 6

"Any team that can score six goals in a game should either win the game or at least tie it", was the glum comment of a Kelowna Buckaroo supporter following the Kelowna squads 12-6 defeat at the hands of the high flying Vernon Essos in B.C. junior A hockey action at Vernon Tuesday night.

The man's reasoning had some merit but he wasn't considering at that moment the team the Bucks came up against, who hold a firm 13 point lead over their nearest rivals of the six team league.

Essos have put together a total of 30 wins in 39 starts so far this season for 60 points and in their recent game winning surge have won five straight games.

Of those 39 games played, 20 of these have been played on home ice with 19 victories being recorded as against only one loss and that being back on Oct. 23 when Chilliwack Bruins narrowly edged them by a 3-2 difference.

Essos have 21 regular league games remaining to be played and all they will have to win of

these is 10 to be assured of a playoff spot. Meanwhile the second, third and fourth place clubs would have to win all of theirs which would mean 22 or 23 games each, which of course would be impossible.

Getting back to the Tuesday night action, while Essos were busy trouncing the hapless Bucks, second place Penticton Broncos just barely edged third place Kamloops Rockets by a 7-6 score to maintain their nine point lead over the sputtering Rockets.

In a third game of the evening, Chilliwack Bruins climbed within two points of the Rockets when they whaloped visiting Richmond Centennials by a 7-2 score.

With Essos out in front on 60 points, Penticton trail 13 points behind for a 47 total, next is Kamloops with 38 points followed by Chilliwack with 36 points.

Well behind Chilliwack, is fifty place Richmond who have only 24 points and not so far off that mark is Kelowna who have 21 points.

Playing before one of the

smallest crowds of the season, an estimated 175 adults and a sprinkling of youngsters, Essos literally allowed the Bucks to outscore them 3-2 in the first period, two of these goals coming from former Vernon player Gordon Neilson, before they got with it by scoring seven goals in the second period to the Kelowna boys single for a 9-4 lead going into the final period in which Essos added three more to a pair by the visitors.

Big gun for the Essos was Les Salo who popped in four goals

and added three assists with Wayne Dye, John Price and Ernie Gare adding pairs and singles coming from Bill Vernon and Jim Lawrence.

Salo added three assists to his big night with Price and Gare coming through with four assists each.

Along with a pair of goals by Neilson, Kelowna goals came from Phil Blake with two and Murray Hanson with two.

Essos take on Kamloops Rockets here this Saturday with game time set for 8 p.m.



## B.C. junior A standings

To and including Jan. 18, 1972.

Team	Gp	W	L	T	Gf	Ga	Pts
Vernon Essos	39	30	9	0	247	133	60
Penticton Broncos	39	22	14	3	175	147	47
Kamloops Rockets	37	16	15	6	156	144	38
Chilliwack Bruins	37	17	18	2	147	148	36
Richmond Cents.	38	11	25	2	133	204	24
Kelowna Buckarroos	36	8	23	5	134	216	21
Total goals					992	992	

### At Vernon

## Kamloops girls