

Victory 31

Rockets another of the Essos' victims

Vernon 6, Kamloops 1

Like a well oiled and smooth running piece of machinery, this is the way Vernon Essos put together another great team effort to record their 31st victory of the season in B.C. junior 'A' hockey Saturday night before an estimated 900 home town fans.

For the Essos it was also victory number 20 on home ice in 21 games played here and also brought their win total over the visiting Kamloops Rockets to six of seven games they have played against each other so far this season. They have also outscored Kamloops 35-18 in seven meetings.

Another interesting highlight of the Saturday game for the Essos, was they have now run their current win streak to six games with their last recorded loss back on Jan. 3 at Vancouver.

Essos jumped into a 3-1 first period lead then banged in two goals in the second period with another added in the final stanza to rack up a convincing 6-1 win over the somewhat lacklustre style of play the Rockets staged.

Paced by the league's leading pointman, John Price, who scored a pair of markers, his 34th and 35th of the season and added a single assist to his previous 62 assist tally to give him a total of 98 points, Essos literally ran away with the game.

Remainder of the Vernon scoring were singles with Wayne Dye adding to his league leading goal scoring to make it number 44, followed by Bob Powell, Glen Walton and Les Salo.

Only marker by the Rockets came off the stick of defenceman, turned forward, Ken Gassoff.

Dye's goal by the way, was another of the perfect examples of timing he and his teammates have shown so many times this season.

The goal, which proved to be the winner, came at the midpoint of the first period with Glen Walton and Bill Vernon setting the stage of what was about to happen. Walton had carried the puck deep into Rocket territory and then made a rink wide pass back to the left side of the Rocket blueline where Vernon let drive with a hard slap shot, which seemed purposely aimed about five feet to the right of the Kamloops net with the obvious idea to have the puck bounce back in front. With Dye and Jim Lawrence

both roving in front of the net, it was Dye who very quickly intercepted the fast moving piece of black rubber, tipping it past a somewhat startled goalie Garth Malarchuk in the Rockets net.

In another BCJHL game played the same night, visiting Penticton Broncos scored their 23rd victory of the season over the host club Chilliwack Bruins on a 3-1 scoreboard reading and maintained their second place standing, 13 points behind the Essos, however, in a Sunday game at Richmond, the host Centennials upset Broncos chances to narrow the 13 point gap by barely edging Broncos 4-

3 in the only junior game played Sunday.

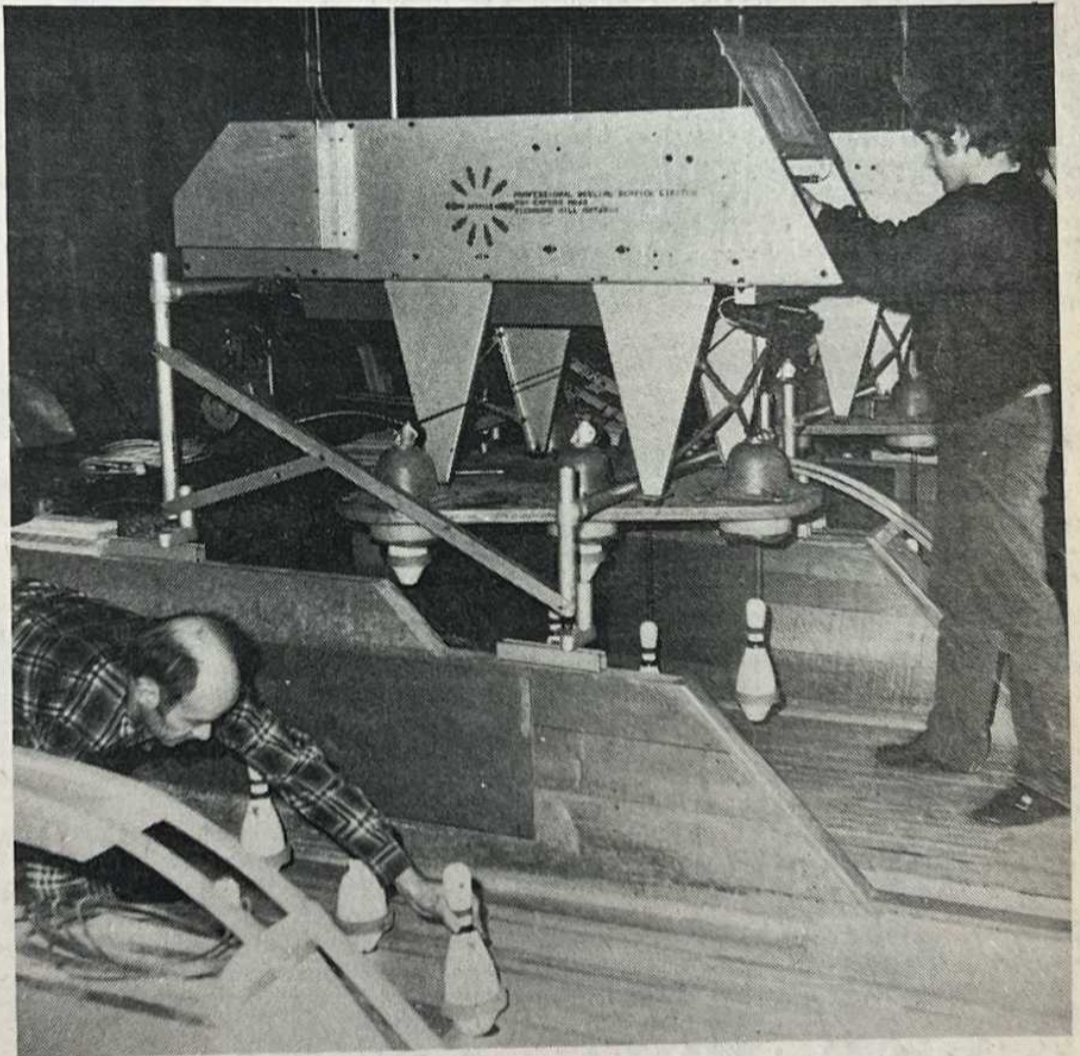
Another game scheduled to be played Sunday between Kelowna and Kamloops was postponed for an unexplained reason and will be staged Feb. 2.

Next action for the Essos takes place on Friday of this week when they travel to Kamloops for a return match with the Rockets, then Sunday at home take on Penticton in an evening game set for a 7:30 start.

B.C. junior A standings

To and including Jan. 23, 1972.

	Gp	W	L	T	Gf	Ga	Pts.
Vernon	40	31	9	0	253	134	62
Penticton	41	23	15	3	181	152	49
Kamloops	38	16	16	6	157	150	38
Chilliwack	38	17	19	2	148	151	36
Richmond	39	12	25	2	137	207	26
Kelowna	36	8	23	5	134	216	21



End of an era

What could be aptly called an end of an era took place here in Vernon last week when the 14 lane local bowling alley installed the last three automatic pin setting machines to make the change over complete for automation. For several years the lanes have had partial use of these machines but did keep several people busy as pin setters in the remaining alleys, now with the change-over complete, there is no longer a need for human pin setters. In the above photo, a look at the old and the new shows 25 year veteran of pin setting, Dave Bueckert, setting pins on the last alley, while in the next alley, Doug Wiffen makes last minute adjustments to the electronic controlled modern machine. Owner-operator of the Lincoln Lane bowling centre, Al Wiffen, said the Lanes will now operate on a full daily schedule and with all the alleys in operation, more room for morning and afternoon leagues such as the Wednesday womens matinee, Thursday morning and afternoon womens leagues can take on more teams and individual bowlers.

WHOLESALE!