



MIKE SMITHSON

Gare-Smithson win honors

Ernie Gare and Mike Smithson were both honored Thursday night during intermission of the Essos-Red Deer hockey playoff series as Gare was the big choice by teammates to win the coveted Pat Reilly Memorial trophy as the teams most valuable player this season. Along with the trophy, Gare was also given a sports jacket and slacks compliments of the Vernon Hudsons Bay department store. Honors to Mike Smithson came from the Essos fans as they chose him as the teams most popular player this

season from ballots collected from the game programs and sponsored by the T. Eaton Company. Mike will take home a suit valued at \$90 compliments of the department store here in Vernon. In the above photo, George Sourby (left) gave the HBC award while Mike Reilly, son of the late Pat Reilly presented Ernie Gare with the big memorial trophy. Mike Smithson (insert) is one of the stand out goalies on the Essos roster this year.

In golfing . . .

Johnston-Lefroy series now on

In Mens golfing news, reports of the Johnston-Lefroy inter-club competition between Vernon and Kelowna saw the first round action take to the

Kelowna golf and country club course over the weekend with Kelowna team members taking a 37% score and the lead in the series.

Next weekend the com-

have to make up 18 points which they feel they can do. A total of 72 golfers were on hand at Kelowna Sunday for the popular event.

Best single scores turned in

Jr. hockey playoffs

Pair of wins give Vernon new life

By DOUG BULWER
Vernon 2—Red Deer 1
Vernon 5—Red Deer 3
Determination and pride plus a lot of desire is the best way to describe the efforts of most of the Vernon Essos roster in the last two games with the Red Deer Rustlers.

For the Essos, faced with elimination in the Western section of the Centennial Cup series of Junior A Hockey, it was "do or die" after taking losses in the opening two games at Red Deer last weekend, plus a third straight loss here at Vernon Wednesday night.

Obviously it was "do," as Essos came up with a pleasing if not exciting second period over-time victory in Thursdays game and then played a convincing game Friday night and won by a 5-3 difference to come within one game of tying the series at three games each.

Sixth game of the best of seven quarter final series goes on in Red Deer with game seven, if necessary, also due for the Red Deer rink Tuesday night.

Thursday in game four, John Price's tip-in goal off a Wayne Dye shot at 7:33 of the second overtime period gave the Essos the much needed 2-1 victory.

Essos started well with a big opening goal coming with only 3:08 showing in the first period of play as Bill Vernon drove a slapshot, well screened past a startled Graham Parsons in the Red Deer net.

At the time of the goal, the third line of Jeff Shirley, George Fargher and Vic Sloan were on the ice and showing a lot of desire in forechecking and keeping Red Deer bottled in their own end of the rink.

New swim



WAYNE DYE
... big hat trick

Shirley and Fargher, by the way, were in on the assists to the Bill Vernon effort.

Although the Essos lead was short lived, Red Deer came back with a power-play goal five minutes later, the early action seemed to give the Vernon boys a much needed lift and they really put on an excellent show with pickup netman Glen Buechert of the Penicton Broncos paving the way with fantastic goal saves with his quick glove hand and brilliant angle cutoffs.

With the game tied at 1-1 it was to be three more scoreless periods before the game was decided with Price's goal with help from Wayne Dye and Bill Vernon coming in the second

overtime period. At the time Red Deer were sitting two men in the penalty box.

Friday night, Essos again knew they faced elimination in the series and went about doing something about it early in the first period as Wayne Dye banded in a blistering wrist shot at the 12:15 mark of the first period with Red Deer sitting a man short.

Then early in the second period, Dye came through with his second and third goals in order at 3:05 and 11:05 followed by John Price's goal at 12:54 to give the Essos a big 4-0 lead only to have Red Deer come back with a single effort at 14:43 to round out the second period of action.

Goals two and three by Red



JOHN PRICE
... scores two winners

Deer at 3:44 and 12:53 plus a lot more continuing pressure put the game at fever-pitch for nearly 3,000 fans in the third period as the Rustlers came close enough at least twice to bounce pucks off the Vernon goal posts and with a sixth attacker in place of goalie Graham Parsons for the last minute of the third period came very close with Essos big team captain Jim Lawrence salting the game away as he placed a well aimed shot into an empty net with just 30 seconds remaining in the game to give the Essos a 5-3 margin.

Tonight Essos must again maintain the win streak in order to stay in contention and if they do, as many expect, will have a good chance of winning game seven of the series tomorrow night (Tuesday) also to be played at Red Deer.

Winner of this series will take on Humbolt, Sask in a best of seven set with the winner of that action taking on the Eastern champs for the Centennial Cup and the Canadian Junior A championship.

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