

Vernon post 6-0 win over Blazers

Kelowna 7, Vernon 3
Vernon 6, Bellingham 0

It was another tremendous series of hockey action in the B.C. Junior League the past four days with nine games being played throughout the eight team league.

Big news on the local scene was the 6-0 shut-out the Essos posted over visiting Bellingham Blazers Saturday night and in particular for goalie Charlie Briskham who has only seen duty in the Vernon nets the past three games.

While the Essos were jubilant in one of their better games played this season, the win did little to change their fourth place standing in the Interior loop, as a matter of fact they lost ground to third place Kelowna.

Friday night against the Buckaroos on their home ice, the host club nearly ran away in the scoring department with a 7-3 victory and then topped off a perfect weekend by walloping the hapless Bellingham Blazers 9-1 Sunday night.

At the top end of the Interior standings, Penticton Broncos are beginning to cast anxious glances at the surging Kamloops Rockets who are now a mere two points back of the league leading Broncos.

In a four game stint at the coast, the Rockets won all encounters in a convincing manner, edging Chilliwack Bruins 6-5 Thursday night, walloping Vancouver Villas 7-2 Friday night, squeezed by Nanaimo Clippers 4-3 on Saturday, then edged the same Island club 5-2 Sunday night.

Rockets started the weekend action nine points back of Penticton and by Sunday night had gained seven points on the league leaders.

Meanwhile, the same Broncos had only one game on tap during the past week and in this game the hot and cold Bellingham Blazers upset the Broncos apple cart in a Friday night encounter as both teams battled to a 2-2 tie.

As for the Blazers, they started their three game Interior swing on an encouraging note with the 2-2 tie only to drop their next two games by wide margins, to give them a disastrous goals against tally of 17 while only scoring a mere three goals themselves.

For Nanaimo, the two losses

suffered at the hands of Kamloops kept them from putting distance over Chilliwack Bruins in the coast league. As a matter of fact second place Chilliwack find themselves within three points of the front running Clippers after posting a 5-3 win over Vancouver Villas Saturday night.

Getting back to the Essos two game weekend series, game 35 of the season played at Kelowna Friday night, saw them spot the Buckaroos with three goals by the mid point of the opening period before they came up with a pair of their own with the Buckaroos answering with one more to end the opening round with the Kelowna squad leading 4-2.

Kelowna's two unanswered goals in the second period put the game out of reach for the Essos although they did match single goals in the final frame with the host club, with the final score showing the Bucks picking up two points on the 7-3 victory.

Biggest problem noted in this game as far as the Essos were concerned was their inability to hit the mark when they did get a shot on goal with a big percentage of their drives either too high or too wide to be effective.

Only spark was the effort put forth by the first string line of Tad Campbell, Ken Price and Greg Howe.

Campbell scored the first Essos goal, his fourth in two games played with Vernon while Price and Howe each tallied two assists. Other goals for the Essos came from Bob Marsh and Don Murdock.

Leading the Kelowna attackers was newcomer Jack Simpson who scored a hat trick (3 goals). Simpson came to the Buckaroos via the Bellingham Blazers after spending two seasons with the Swift Current Broncos. Apparently Simpson has been accident prone and being 19 years old both Swift Current and Bellinghams' Bing Jukes felt he would be of little use to them.

Saturday, home ice was to be more suited to the Essos as they came on strong with three unanswered goals in the first period then salted the game away with three more similar markers in the final period and completely barred the door to

the Blazer sharpshooters, posting a well earned 6-0 victory.

As a matter of interest the shutout is only the third recorded so far in 153 games played by the eight team B.C. Junior League.

Earlier this month Penticton blanked Kamloops 2-0 and Kelowna made it 3-0 over Vancouver.

Although the Essos looked a bit shaky for the first 10 minutes of the game allowing the Blazers to outshoot them 7-1 during this period of time but a brilliant two man effort on the part of Dave Caldwell and Bob Bergoyne with Bergoyne scoring at 10:09 after Caldwell had set him up.

Then 47 seconds later Tad Campbell led the mark, his 21st of the season, followed three minutes later by Bill Danshen's goal put the Blazers off balance for the rest of the night.

While neither team was able to score in the second stanza, the action swung constantly to both ends of the ice where net minders Charlie Briskham and Kevin Erickson played brilliantly in making key saves time and again.

In the third period defenceman Bob Marsh made it 4-0 for the Essos at 3:40 then at 15:28 Tad Campbell came through with his second goal of the night which was somewhat of a fluke as Tony Bouchard turned the puck into his own net off the blade of his skate during a goal mouth scramble.

Essos sixth and final marker came at 17:39 when Bob Bergoyne broke over the Blazers blue line alone and back-handed a quick shot past netminder Larry Brunt who had replaced Kevin Erickson after Vernon had scored goal number five.

Outside of the 16 of 29 penalties picked up by Vernon it had to be one of the Essos finest efforts this year with one of the few times fans have been given a chance to see a real team effort.

As far as the penalties were concerned there were four, five minute majors assessed to each club by Kamloops referee Dale Cassell who also added a misconduct to the Bellingham list after John Stone had been caught in his second fight of the night.

Next action for the Essos will see them travel tomorrow night (Tuesday) then host Vancouver Villas in a Saturday fixture at Vernon Civic arena with game time here set for 8 p.m.



Goal number three coming up

Team captain Murray Hanson of the Kelowna Buckaroos (white uniform centre-foreground) slips the puck past Vernon netminder Charlie Briskham for goal three in the Essos, Buckaroo, B.C. Junior hockey encounter at Kelowna on Friday night. Kelowna went on to win by a decisive 7-3. Others in the photo: Essos defenceman Bob Marsh making a stab at holding Hanson back while Cliff Lane, Brian Wortley and Lyle Brewer of the Essos look on. Behind the net, ready to carry the play if need be, is former Essos player Gordon Neilson now the leading scorer for the Buckaroos.

B.C. Junior hockey standings

Interior	To and including Jan. 14, 1973					
	GP	W	L	T	GF	Pts
Penticton	34	28	5	1	187	114
Kamloops	38	27	10	1	211	151
Kelowna	39	20	18	1	222	171
Vernon	36	14	22	0	172	170
Coast						
Nanaimo	36	19	17	0	205	185
Chilliwack	38	17	20	1	160	191
Vancouver	36	12	24	0	130	190
Bellingham	29	4	23	2	105	191

WEEKEND SCOREBOARD

Thursday, Jan. 11—Kamloops 6, Chilliwack 5.
Friday, Jan. 12—Kamloops 7, Vancouver 2;
Bellingham 2, Penticton 2 (tie); Kelowna 7, Vernon 3.
Saturday, Jan. 13—Kamloops 4, Nanaimo 3; Vernon 6, Bellingham 0; Chilliwack 5, Vancouver 3.
Sunday, Jan. 14—Kamloops 5, Nanaimo 2; Kelowna 9, Bellingham 1.

Skiers meeting planned

Attention skiers... The Silver Star Ski Club is holding a meeting for all those interested in Cross-Country Skiing and Ski Touring at the National hotel banquet room at 8 p.m. Tuesday Jan. 23.
Guest speakers will be Siggi Bjorklund from Vancouver who is the Touring Chairman for the Canadian Ski Association, Western Division and Soren Sorenson from Revelstoke who is the Okanagan Zone Cross Country Chairman.



Sportlights

By DOUG BULWER, Sports Editor

Great town for what?

Great game playing town is Vernon, with literally hundreds of people of every age, taking part in sport activities of one thing or another.

Vernon has so many people playing games, there is no one left over to act the part of spectator or show interest in other forms such as a pat on the back once in awhile.

Proud proclamations by officials from many local sporting groups hail the large registration of members, but when it comes down to lending support by way of a large cheering gallery for those champions of their individual cause, then the halls or fields echo silence.

One could easily go into detail of poor fan attendance at hockey, basketball, bowling, curling and many other team sports.

While there is constantly too few people on the sidelines watching, yet for some strange reason one hears far too often criticism from many so-called experts of the ills of sport or the lack of prowess of one kind or the other.

What the people of Vernon do lack is the ability to express the good points of those competitors who are doing their thing on the field of sportsmanship and athletics.

organizing such an event is being wasted.

It should be pointed out the Legion is merely the vehicle in staging the sportsman and athlete of the year awards, many on the selection committee come from outside the Legion membership and it is this panel who judge and select the eventual winners.

At the moment this committee have far too few names submitted and it is imperative many more are needed in order to make a final and proper selection.

Surely, there are those in many local sport groups who have among them at least one or more persons deserving at least to have their names submitted, if for nothing more than to give them honorable mention for a job well done.

The easiest part of all is for people to take a few minutes time and submit names with a brief resume of why they feel such a person should be given honors.

Make the submission in writing and take it by hand or mail it to the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 25, Vernon, B.C.

Come on, sportsmen and athletes and your supporters, start thinking of someone who should be honored for his work and effort of the past.



Player standings

Vernon Essos team points for 36 games to and including January 13, 1973.

Player	G	A	Pts
Dan Kuntz	23	27	50
Tad Campbell	22	21	43
Greg Howe	15	20	35
Tim Sanche	13	23	36
Don Murdock	18	12	30
Ken Price	6	22	28
Bob Marsh	12	15	27
Bob Bergoyne	10	16	24
Dennis Bergeron	10	14	24
Dave Caldwell	10	11	21
Cliff Lane	2	12	14
Dave Dorris	5	8	13
Dallas Chappal	5	7	12
Brian Wortley	7	3	10
Doug Davis	3	7	10
Ken King	4	4	8
Barry Dye	6	1	7
Lyle Brewer	4	3	7
Cal Bassard	3	3	6
Ken Reid	2	3	5
Bill Danshen	2	3	5
Fred Perepolkin	3	0	3
Grant Sidnick	2	0	2
L. Plonfikoff	1	1	2
John Kokotelo	0	2	2
Brian Griese	0	2	2
Gord Lidstone	1	0	1
Clay Anderson	0	1	1
Martin Stein	0	1	1
Bob Bachynski	0	1	1
Joe Raymond	0	1	1



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