B.C.J.H.L. ROUNDUP

Rockets Nip Essos In Series Preview

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kamloops Rockets edged Vernon Essos 4-3, Vancouver Villas nudged Chilliwack Bruins 7-6 in overtime and Nanaimo Clippers smothered Bellingham Blazers 9-4 in British Columbia Junior Hockey League games Wednesday.

Nanaimo's win and Chilliwack's loss assures the Clippers of a first-place finish in the BCJHL coast division.

Playing in Abbotsford, Vancouver led 4-1 after one period, but Chilliwack narrowed the gap to 5-4 by the end of the second.

Steve Bausche's second goal of the game at 5:45 of a sudden-death overtime period gave Vancouver the victory.

Brian McCloskey and Terry Johnson each scored twice and Jim Watson added a single for Vancouver.

Rod Shillings and Brad Bateman each scored twice for Chilliwack. Brian Shmyr and Al Cameron added the others.

Vancouver outshot Chilliwack 46-37.

In Kamloops, the Rockets scored three times in the first period then held off Vernon, who got two second period goals.

Ken Dodd led Kamloops with two goals. Don Hay and Marc Severyn added the others.

Ken Price, Greg Howe and Dan Kuntz scored for Vernon.

Vernon outshot Kamloops 35-33.

At Bellingham, 3,500 fans, watched Nanaimo break a 2-2 tie in the second period when Lindsay Thompson scored twice in 15 seconds while Bellingham was shorthanded with a five-minute major.

Nanaimo never looked back and cruised to the 9-4 victory.

Brian Day also scored twice for Nanaimo. Dave Delich, Terry Puska, Dave Martens, Ron Opheim and Bruce Van Camp added singles.

Doug Davis scored twice for Bellingham. Dave Robinson and Neil Robinson added the others.

Nanaimo outshot Bellingham 52-25.