Broncos trimmed 12-1

Estevan takes series four games straight

The Abbott Cup, emblematic of junior hockey supremacy in Western Canada, went to the Estevan Bruins Monday night after a 12-1 verdict over the Penticton Broncos.

Some 1,200 fans watched Estevan end 10 years of trying by taking the best-of-seven series in four straight games.

The Bruins were prodded by a single Penticton goal, the first of the game, scored by Adrian Blais at 2:45 of the first period. Then Estevan exploded, making it 3-1 at the end of the period, doubled their score by the end of the second and then doubled it again in the third.

Jim Harrison led the Bruins with four goals while Tommy Mitchell and Ernie Moser each scored twice. Brent Taylor, Danny Schock, Bob Piche and Dale Hoganson added singles.

The Bruins picked up four of the six minor penalties.

Estevan didn't wait long after Blais came up with the game opener. Tommy Mitchell tied the game at 9:03. A minute later Jim Harrison put the Bruins ahead for the first time in the game. Harrison came through again with just nine seconds left in the period with a power-play goal while Len Barrie was off for interference.

Mitchell added his second of the game at 6:39 of the second period when he snapped a quick shot past Penticton goalie Doug Thompson.

Ernie Moser scored two minutes later and then Harrison racked up number three when Dale Hoganson picked up a loose puck at centre ice. Hoganson gave a short lead pass to Dan Schock who relayed it to Harrison, who in turn sidestepped the lone Penticton defender in his way.

Thomson was given no rest in the final period as the Bruins stretched the margin.

Brent Taylor opened the floodgates at 5:38 and Harrison came three minutes after with his fourth goal. Then, in rapid succession, Piche, Hoganson and Moser added the string to the wrapping.

The win was the 20th for the Bruins in 23 playoff games this season. They have two ties — both with other Western Canada Junior Hockey League clubs—and one defeat at the hands of the Westfort Hurricanes.

Despite the one-sided scoring, the Broncos didn't relax during the game. Tom Serviss, who scored the only Penticton goal in the third game Sunday, turned in a tireless performance on the right wing.

The Bruins won the third game 6-1, the second game 5-4 and the opener 3-0.

"They've got a great hockey team," said Penticton coach Jack Taggart. "We tried and the guys worked their hearts out. It would have been a tremendous shot in the arm for hockey in the Okanagan if we could have won just one game."

Estevan now meets the winner of the Verdun-Niagara Falls series for the Memorial Cup.

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