

Nine straight wins

Vernon shares second in B.C. Jr. A hockey

Vernon Essos continued their undaunted drive toward the B.C. Junior A Hockey League top position by taking their ninth straight victory and at the same time grabbing a share of second place with Vancouver Centennials Saturday night.

Essos picked up their 21st win of the season by drubbing Penticton Broncos 6-2 before 1,370 home town fans while at the same time, Vancouver were battling out a 5-5 tie with fourth place Kamloops Rockets at the Coast city.

Actually, Essos have the best chance of holding the coveted second spot firmly in their grip as they have six games in hand over the Centennials and show a better record in the win, loss, tie record with 21 - 7 - 1 for 43 points while the coast club has a 19-11-5 record for the same amount of points.

Although both clubs are close in the goals for department (Vancouver 152 and Vernon 151) the Essos look better on paper with only 91 goals scored against them for a 3.11 average in 29 games while Centennials have allowed 121 against for a 4.03 average in 35 games played.

In the third game of the B.C. Junior League Saturday night, Victoria Cougars just managed to edge Kelowna Buckaroos 8-7 at Kelowna.

This was Victoria's 22nd victory of the year and kept them three points ahead as

league leaders. Their record now stands at 22-9-2 for 46 points.

In Sunday afternoon action, Victoria moved two more points up the leadership ladder by taking a one-sided 4-1 win over Kelowna Buckaroos. The win gave them five points of a possible six in the three game series played in the Okanagan over the Weekend.

At New Westminster, the lowly Royals bowed once more to the superior strength of visiting Kamloops Rockets by a 6-4 score.

It was the Royals 32nd loss in 34 games played so far this season.

Meanwhile back at Vernon, Essos spotted the Broncos a single goal at the three-quarter mark of the initial period then came back with five of their own, one in the first period, three in the middle frame and another in the third period before Penticton could come up with their second and last goal of the night with Essos quickly nullifying that one 27 seconds later for the win.

Penticton's Kerry Moss started the scoring when he slipped a soft effort under the skates of Essos netminder Gary Osborne with Vic Mercredi assisting.

This goal came at the 15-minute mark of the opening round and was quickly evened off when John Price notched a beautiful rebound shot past Bronco goalie Fred Whitlow with Lawrence Quechuk and Jack Marsh setting the play in motion, the goal coming at 17:44.

In the second period, Lawrence Quechuk made it 2-1 for Essos when he and John Price teamed to go in on the opposition net at the 6:30 mark.

At exactly nine minutes into the same period, league leading pointman, Wayne Dye, started on his way to a second game in a row, hat trick, when he scored from a perfect playmaking effort on the part of Al Wahlstrom and Don Manson.

Bill Owens then came back 16 seconds later to put the Essos ahead 4-1. This time Don Manson and Wayne Dye worked the puck into the Bronco zone with Owens scoring from a scramble.

Moving into the final session, Dye wasted little time in lighting up the score board again, and as in his first goal, Manson and Wahlstrom were once more the playmakers, the goal coming at 1:11.

Going into the last two

minutes of the game, Penticton came through with their last effort when Tom Gawryletz banged in a shoulder high drive from 10 feet out in front of Osborne with Brian Barrett assisting from a scramble.

Dye then scored his third marker of the game just 27 seconds later, at 18:30 with Don Manson in on his fourth assist of the night.

For Wayne Dye his goal total now stands at 26 and along with 30 assists has a good lead in the league standings with 56 points, nine more than teammate Don Manson who has 18 goals and 27 assists for 47 points and second place in the standings.

Lawrence Quechuk also remains a very close third with 24 goals and 22 assists for 46 points.

Vernon also have the honor of placing two more men in the top 10 pointsmen list as John Price picked up two more points for a 42 total while team captain Bob Mayer, although going without a point in the last two games has a 40 tally on 12 goals and 28 assists. Price, by the way, has scored 15 goals and assisted 27 times so far this season.

Vernon midgets whallop rivals at Summerland

Vernon All-Star reps of the Inter-City Midget league travelled to Summerland Sunday and walked away with a 14-1 victory over their hapless counterparts.

Ed Johnstone led the onslaught with four goals and two assists, followed by a hat trick by Randy Marchand who also added a single assist.

Lyle Brewer also had a big day as he came through with a pair of goals and had one assist. Gordon Henscke also picked up five assists for a big point day.

Single goals came from John Kuly, Gary Brucks, Jeff Shirley Ron Fleming and Bob Simpson.

Summerlands' only goal came off the stick of Gary McDowell at the mid-point of the final period.

B.C. Jr. 'A' Standings to Jan 11-70

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts.
Victoria	35	23	9	3	153	117	49
Vancouver	35	19	11	5	152	121	43
Vernon	29	21	7	1	151	91	43
Kamloops	32	16	12	4	148	111	36
Penticton	30	13	15	2	121	121	28
Kelowna	32	13	19	0	145	171	26
New West.	34	1	32	1	103	221	3

Defending curling champion

Corsi of Merritt takes womens' zone finals

The Lela Corsi foursome has successfully defended the zone title she won last year in North Okanagan - Mainline womens' curling playdowns.

Mrs. Corsi took the final two rounds of the championship Sunday afternoon in the Vernon Curling Club after having to fight her way through a series of tough games with particular strong opposition coming from the Nancy Mann rink of Vernon.

In the fours of the A event of the two day, double knockout tourney, with a total of 11 rinks vying for honors, Mrs. Corsi found herself taking a 11-9 loss to Mrs. Mann but came back strong in the B event to sweep that series.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Mann went on to take the A event undefeated and the right to meet Mrs. Corsi once more in the final series of play.

point in the third end but found herself fighting an uphill battle going into the seventh frame as Mrs. Corsi scored a two count in the fourth end, added one in the fifth and two more in the sixth to take a commanding 8-1 lead.

The Vernon rink held fast in the seventh end as Mrs. Mann managed to come through with a three count to narrow the gap somewhat.

In the eighth end, Mrs. Corsi picked up her final point of the game but not before and unusual turn of events.

Both rinks were playing it close to the centre of the house with Mrs. Mann holding a slight advantage with four rocks in an advantage position with a pair of rocks of the Corsi rink also lying close to the counting area, when it was discovered after Mrs. Corsi had thrown

Zone playoff officials said after the weekend finals, competition in the women's curling championship play was the keenest ever witnessed with the pattern expected to continue throughout the remainder of the final rounds.

On the zone level, an increase of 120 curlers registered for the competition within the various clubs taking part with this year's total listed as 578.

Members of the Merritt rink consisted of Mrs. Lela Corsi as skip, Mrs. Bea Lecompte third, Mrs. Elaine O'Hata second and Mrs. Pat Paul lead.

The runner-up rink had Mrs. Nancy Mann as skip, Mrs. Marg Inglis third, Mrs. Edna Little second and Mrs. Phyllis Phare lead.