

1,100 fans watch

Essos slip to third after 8-4 trouncing



GERRY VACHON
... scores two



BOB CRAIG
... on forward line

A battle to a 3-3 tie Friday night with the Penticton Broncos did nothing for the Victoria Cougars except warm them up for an 8-4 victory over the Vernon Essos Saturday night.

The win also moved the Cougars up into sole possession of first place and pushed the Essos back into third.

Big gun for Cougars was Doug Gibson who picked up three of the visitors goals, while Dave Williams scored a pair.

The Victoria crew wasted little time in hitting the scoreboard as Gibson beat Gilroy in the Vernon nets at the 59 second mark of the opening period.

The Essos quickly formed their ranks however, and held off the repeated attacks until 15:46 of the first when the Cougars scored again. This time from the stick of Tom Reilly.

Following a 10 minute misconduct assessed on him by referee Ernie Poggemiller, Pat Becotte scored the first Vernon encounter at 18:56 of the first period with assists going to Don Manson and Gerry Vachon.

The first period ended with Victoria leading 2-1.

The Cougars came on stronger than ever in the second period as they scored four goals in the first 7½ minutes of play.

At 1:59 Doug Gibson picked up his second goal

NORTH SPORTS OKANAGAN

of the evening then at 6:03 Dave Williams beat Gilroy unassisted.

At 6:40, Williams made another bombing run along with teammates Blais and Evans. The result was a 5-1 lead for the Cougars.

At this point of the game, Essos Coach Odie Lowe pulled Gilroy from the nets and replaced him with Al Alexander. However, the Cougars were not to be denied as they roared in again to score at 7:20 from the stick of Scott Munro.

Then the Essos caught hold and began to play some heads-up hockey. Defencemen Dick Marsh, Barry Bleakely and Dawson Waite did an exceptional job of breaking up repeated attacks by the Island crew and preventing any further scoring in the second period.

Gordie Merritt along with defenceman turned right winger Bob Craig moved in on Forslund in the Victoria nets and in the ensuing scramble Merritt slammed the rubber home.

The score at the end of the second period: Victoria 6, Vernon 2.

At the opening face-off of the third period, the Essos put on the pressure and began bombarding the Victoria zone repeatedly.

Gerry Vachon finally beat the remarkable performance of Ed Forslund at 6:04 with Bob Blanchette and Barry Bleakely picking up the assists. At 12:01 Vachon hit the net again on a pass from Bob Mayer to narrow the score to 6-4.

However, all hopes of a come-back victory for the Essos were dashed when at 14:45 the Cougars took the edge in play and scored from Scott Munro. At 18:10 Doug Gibson notched his third tally of the night and wrapped up the scoring.

Coach Odie Lowe made some noticeable line-up changes for Saturday's game, moving defenceman Bob Craig up to the right wing position and making more use of the revitalized talents of Dawson "freight-train" Waite.

Defenceman Barry Bleakely, playing his first game on Vernonice, turned in a sturdy performance in front of the nets.

Goalie Jack Gilroy had a

bad night in the nets but can't be solely blamed for letting Victoria get an unsurpassable lead. The general defensive crew for the home-town team was sadly lacking during the first and second periods as they were consistently caught way out of position allowing the Cougars to mount three men attacks with only one back to break them up.

Many of the spectators at the game expressed their view in no uncertain terms about the quality of the of-

ficiating throughout. This coming weekend, the Essos play a home-and-home brace with the Kelowna Buckaroos. The locals travel to Kelowna Friday, and return to play on home ice Saturday night at 8:30 p.m.

An additional highlight to Saturday's game was the winning of the \$110 shot on goal jackpot by John Kersey of Vernon.



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The Vernon Civic Arena has plenty of action almost any time of the day or night. Arena Manager John Bruce released the following schedule of activities for this week.

Monday, Dec. 16—

6:30-8:30 a.m. — Figure Skating

1-2—Recreation Class—

4, 5 and 6 year olds

2-3 p.m. — Pre-school Figure Skating

3-5 p.m. — Junior Figure Skating

5:10-6:50 p.m. — Pups hockey

7-8 p.m. — Junior A practice

8:20-10 p.m. — Hit Parade Skating

10:30-11:30—Commercial Hockey

Tuesday, Dec. 17—

6:30-8 a.m. — Lumby Midgets practice

11-12—St. James School Skating Party

3-5:30 p.m. — Intermediate Figure Skating

5:45-10:45 p.m.—Minor Hockey

Wednesday, Dec. 18—

6:30-8:30 a.m. — Figure Skating

3:30-5 p.m. — Public Skating

5:20-7:20 p.m. — Figure Skating

7:30-9 p.m. — Midget Hockey

9:20-10:50 p.m.—Junior A. Practice

Thursday, Dec. 19—

7-8 a.m. — Junior Secondary Girls' Hockey

10-11 a.m. — My School

1:30-2:30 p.m. — Beairst School Skating Party

3-11—Minor Hockey

Friday, Dec. 20—

6:30-8:30 a.m. — Figure Skating

12:45-2:10 p.m.—Junior High Skating Party

2:20-3:30 p.m. — Pre-School Figure Skating

3:30-10 p.m. — Figure Skating

Saturday, Dec. 21—

6-11:45 a.m. — Minor Hockey

12:10-1:30 p.m.—Tebos Toddlers

1:30-3:30 p.m. — Public Skating

4-7:30 p.m. — Pee Wee hockey

8:30 p.m.—Jr. A Game Kelowna vs Vernon

Hockey Canada acquires Nats

OTTAWA — The future of Canada's National Team has been the subject of several meetings in the past few weeks between officials of the federal government and the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association.

As a result of these discussions a meeting was held between the Hon. John Munro, minister responsible for the development of amateur sports activity, and Earl Dawson, president of the CAHA.

At that meeting it was agreed that the federal government would make available to the CAHA the funds necessary to operate the National Team during the 1968-69 season. In turn Mr. Dawson agreed to recommend to the executive board of the CAHA that control and operation of the National Team be turned over to a new corporation tentatively titled "Hockey Canada." Hockey Canada would begin operations of the Na-

tional Team with the 1969-70 season and its board would be composed of representatives of the CAHA, the public and Canada's professional hockey teams. Mr. Munro noted that the CAHA would continue to hold the International Affiliation that entitles Canada to participate in International Tournaments, while the new corporation Hockey Canada would provide the team that participates in the tournaments requiring National representation.

Both Mr. Munro and Mr. Dawson expressed satisfaction with this agreement and its potential for improving Canada's performance in International Hockey.

Lacrosse meeting Tuesday

The Vernon Labatts Senior Lacrosse Club will hold a meeting Tuesday night for all players and executives.

The meeting is slated for the Allison Hotel meeting room and gets under way at 8 p.m. sharp.

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3. Westley vs W. French
4. Farynyuk vs Desnoyer
5. Jones vs Beairstos