

## TROUBLE WITH BCAHA

# Vikings become Tigers number one farm club

Vernon Vikings Junior A Hockey Club announced Tuesday it has completed an agreement with the Medicine Hat Tigers, of the Western Canada Hockey League, making Vernon, Medicine Hat's number one farm club.

At the same time, Medicine Hat announced it has cancelled its working agreement with the tier two junior A club in Drumheller, Alta., making Vernon the only tier two club in the Tigers' organization.

Vernon Coach Joe Tennant

said he is pleased that the agreement has been completed. He said, "It will mean that the best players available, who cannot quite make Medicine Hat, will be in Vernon."

Vernon will have two junior B clubs acting as farm teams, one in Red Cliff, Alta., and the other probably in northern B.C.

## CFL and players fail to settle

OTTAWA (CP) — The future of more than 270 veterans of the Canadian Football League and the CFL itself hung in the balance today after the league and the players' association failed to settle their contract differences Tuesday.

"We have nothing further to offer the players," said Norm Kimball, head of the CFL management committee, after a full day of talks here.

"The management offer is totally unacceptable," George Reed, president of the players' association, told a news conference.

Both management and players made public figures showing that the contract dispute centred mainly on pay for league playoff games and the Grey Cup as well as compensation for training camp and exhibition games.

Also in dispute are pension payments.

Kimball said both sides are

decrease their demands by \$185,000.

The owners declined the offer, arguing that four of the nine CFL clubs suffered losses in 1973 while a fifth managed only to break even.

Kimball reiterated team contentions that the league would operate this season with rookies rather than submit to the demands of the veterans.

He said it would be up to the individual teams to decide whether prices would be lowered to compensate for the watered-down product.

## Argonauts may recruit

TORONTO (CP) — Toronto Argonauts may go on a massive recruiting campaign "within a few weeks" unless retired veterans and their Canadian Football League PLAYERS' Association colleagues come to terms with

### BATTLE BREWING

Tennant also said Tuesday he can see a real battle brewing between the B.C. Junior Hockey League and the B.C. Amateur Hockey Association.

He said, "The announcement by the BCAHA this week making the Pacific Coast Hockey League a junior A loop, has set junior A hockey back 10 years.

"Our league now must play the PCHL champ to determine which team will represent B.C. in the Centennial Cup playdowns. By adding that extra playoff series, our league will be forced to reduce its schedule and I do not feel the teams in the league can really afford that loss of revenue.

"If this is the way the BC-JHL is going to be treated, we might as well operate as an independent league, separate from the BCAHA. That way, we could operate under the umbrella of the WCHL and deal directly with the pro teams."