



MERRITT CENTENNIALS goalie Jerry Price covers up on a shot from the point as Vernon Vikings' Bill Ranson, left, looks for a rebound. Centennials scored four unanswered goals midway through the third period

Thursday as they edged the Vikings 9-8 before 825 fans in Merritt. Dale Weatherell (3), plans on making sure

Ranson does not get the rebound. (Daily News photo by Don Kendall)

blowing an 8-5 lead, which they held early in the third period.

# Vikings fold in third period

Three players can't win a hockey game, but they can sure try.

Merritt Centennials came from behind to edge Vernon Vikings 9-8 in B.C. Junior Hockey League action Thursday in Merritt.

Only one forward unit for Vernon looked like they were in the game as back-checking was almost non-existent.

The W.A.G. line, Greg Walmsley, Ron Areshneko, and Gary Gilchrist continued their torrid pace collecting a total of 16 points. Areshneko scored four times and added two assists, Gilchrist had two goals and two assists, and Walmsley added one goal and five assists.

Walmsley actually scored another goal midway through the third period which referee Eric Reimer said did not enter the net. That would have put Vikings in the lead 9-8.

## SCORED THREE

Only other Vernon marksman was Grant Sidnick.

Greg Agar scored three times for the Cents with two goals from line mate Daryl Zelinski and Perry Stensland. Singles went to Bob Wasson and Scott Koleaski.

Vernon coach Joe Tennant was furious with his team for

blowing an 8-5 lead, which they held early in the third period.

But Tennant said, "What more can you say about that W.A.G. line. They are carrying the club right now." In the last six games, the unit has accounted for 42 points.

Merritt led 3-2 at the end of the first period but trailed 7-5 after 40 minutes.

**VERNON OUTSHOT**  
Cents outshot the Vikings 47-33.

Tennant promised that after a game like that, he is not going to stand pat. Vikings do

not play again until Nov. 29 when they host Kelowna Buckaroos.

Before then, Tennant will be looking at defenceman Don Patzer, from Coquitlam, forward Rene Tremblay, from Lac La Biche, and forward Floyd Thompson, currently playing in Grand Forks.

In other BCJHL games Thursday, Kelowna stretched their first place lead over the Vikings to five points with a 10-9 victory over Chilliwack Bruins. In Bellingham, Langley Lords came from behind to edge the Blazers 6-5.

# Munro praises high-flying WAGs

Vernon Vikings' W.A.G. line put on a good exhibition of scoring Thursday in Merritt and they could not have picked a better night to do it.

Among the spectators in the stands Thursday were Scotty Munro, general manager of Calgary Centennials and two members of the Kamloops Chiefs' executive.

Munro had nothing but praise for Greg Walmsley, Ron Areshneko, and Gary Gilchrist. After the game, it is believed Munro tried to make a deal with Vernon coach Joe Tennant for any, or all, of the line.

However, at this point, Tennant would want an arm and a leg to part with any of that unit, Munro said. "They play just like a Western Canada Hockey League line, dumping the puck in and using their size to recover the puck in the offensive end."

Munro was in Merritt to talk to Tennant about acquiring the club's leading goal scorer Dwight Bailey. However, Bailey was less than impressive Thursday and all Munro could do was rave about the W.A.G. line.

Talks were expected to resume today and a report, out of Vancouver, has the New Westminster Bruins also interested in Walmsley.



SCOTTY MUNRO ... impressed

# Giles still undefeated

WEST VANCOUVER, B.C. (CP) — Former champion Brent Giles of North Vancouver led eight rinks with 3-0 records in the Pacific Coast Curling Association annual Totem Bonselip Thursday.

The eight rinks led a total of 16 unbeaten rinks into today's third day of play in the five-day, 128-rink event.

Giles had a 6-4 win over John Fowlif of Edmonton in Thursday's final draw.

# Wilkinson wins Schenley Award

VANCOUVER (CP) — God and John Bassett, in that order, are given credit for Tom Wilkinson's award as the outstanding player in the Canadian Football League for 1974.

The gutty little quarterback, rejected by two CFL clubs before finding success and happiness with Edmonton Eskimos, wasn't quite joking in his brief acceptance speech although he did get a big laugh.

Accepting the winner's \$2,000 savings bond and Schenley Trophy after learning he had edged Johnny Rodgers of Montreal Alouettes in the player-of-the-year balloting, Wilkinson said:

"The first person I'd like to thank is God—for life. The second, John Bassett."

The reference, as everyone in the audience knew, was to the former owner of Toronto Argonauts who shipped Wilkinson and his other quarterback, Don Jonas, out of town after the 1970 season.

Jonas went to Winnipeg Blue Bombers and promptly won the 1971 player-of-the-year award. Wilkinson spent a year with B.C. Lions, was released before the start of the 1972 season, hopped in a car and drove straight to Edmonton where he offered his services to the Eskimos.



TOM WILKINSON ... thanks God

with 61 for 795 yards, picked over Calgary Stampeders' Rudy Linterman, another ace pass-catcher, as outstanding Canadian player.

—Ed George, six-foot-five, 265-pound Montreal Alouettes tackle, as top offensive lineman, over Curtis Wester, B.C. Lions guard-tackle. It was George who, as runner-up to Ray Nettles of the Lions as lineman of the year in 1973, suggested the award be split into offensive and defensive categories to give the offence a better chance.

—John Helton, Calgary

# Sports

DON KENDALL, Sports Editor  
VERNON, B.C., FRIDAY, NOV. 22, 1974

## CANUCKS WIN

# Rookie winger leads Minnesota

By THE CANADIAN PRESS  
It seems that rookie Richard Nantais needs a good old-fashioned fight to get him warmed up to scoring goals.

The Minnesota North Stars left winger scored his first two National Hockey League goals Thursday night after warming up with a slugging match with Ace Bailey of St. Louis Blues.

The result was a 3-2 victory for the North Stars.

"I feel like I'm in the game after a fight," said the Frenchspeaking Nantais through interpreter and teammate J.P. Parise, who scored the other Minnesota goal. "It was the best thrill of my life."

In other NHL games Thursday, Vancouver Canucks edged Philadelphia Flyers 4-3 and Boston Bruins beat California Seals 4-2.

Nantais, 20, spent five min-

utes in the penalty box after his bout with Bailey late in the second period.

Then in the third period, he deflected a shot from rookie team-mate Doug Hicks past St. Louis goalie Eddie Johnston to give the North Stars a 2-1 advantage with 7:33 left in the game. Four minutes later he scored again for a 3-1 lead.

St. Louis tied the game at 1-1 late in the second period on a power-play goal by Bob Plager. Craig Patrick scored his third goal of the year with 1:52 left in the game.

At Boston, right winger Dave Forbes scored twice and assisted on another goal to lead the Bruins over California.

Forbes, a left-handed shooter seems to have improved since moving to the right side to replace injured Bobby Schmautz on a line with centre Gregg Sheppard and Johnny Bucyk.

"I love it on the right side,"

# Whalers blank Indy