

# Vees hoping to move in on first-place Vikings

Penticton Vees moved to within five points of the first-place Vernon Vikings by dumping Merritt Centennials 5-1 in B.C. Junior Hockey League action Friday in Penticton. On the coast, Langley Lords thumped Chilliwack Bruins 8-4.

Vees are in Vernon tonight, hoping to close in on the high-flying Vikings. Vikings have lost only twice in their last 16 games, however, one of those losses was a 4-2 decision in Penticton last week.

In addition to the five-point lead on the Vees, Vernon also has five games-in-hand. Game time is 8 p.m.

Five hundred fans watched the Lords score five goals in a second period shortened by one minute and 49 seconds when a power failure left the Langley arena in darkness. Power was restored 20 minutes later.

Langley took a 2-1 lead after the first period from Rob Jones and Grant Wells. Jones, Larry Playfair, Russ Wilderman, Mark Taylor and Gary Plamondon gave Langley a 7-2 lead after two periods and Leonard Dies added the third-period goal.

Chilliwack goals came from

Randy Takenaka and Warren Terry with two for Randy Irving.

Al Wiebe stopped 20 shots for the Lords and Rick Nitchke handled 31 for the Bruins.

Lords took four of seven major penalties and five of 12 minors.

Penticton Vees and Merritt Centennials each picked up four fighting majors, a 10-minute misconduct and a

game misconduct in a hard-hitting game before 550 fans.

Brian PeLeeuw, brought up from the minor hockey association, played his first game for the Vees and turned aside 23 shots. Merritt's Brad Earp stopped 39.

Rod Zabaduk scored twice for Penticton while Blair Chapman, Ryan Hatfield and John Uvegas had singles. Kirk Aulin had the only Merritt goal.

## Williams leaves Hamilton Ti-Cats

HAMILTON (CP) — Head coach Jerry Williams and Hamilton Tiger-Cats have parted company by mutual consent.

The Canadian Football League club also announced Friday that Ralph Sazio has stepped down as general manager and that the board of directors had rejected unanimously a takeover bid by Harold Ballard, owner of Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto.

Sazio, a part owner, will remain as club president and will continue to handle many administrative duties and represent the club in league matters.

Sazio, staying on as president, said he, the new general manager and possibly DeGroot together will find a new coach.

It was announced at a news conference following the directors' meeting that Williams had resigned but majority owner Michael DeGroot said the coach didn't decide to quit on his own.

"I think we all had a part in the decision and so did Jerry," DeGroot told reporters. "He's a sensible guy, he knows we didn't have a good year.

"When it's mutual it's a lot better for everyone."

### WON GREY CUP

The Ticats won the Grey Cup in 1972, Williams's first year as head coach, after winning 11 of 14 games during the regular season. They have not had a winning season since.

They finished third in the Eastern Football Conference

this year, then were eliminated by Montreal Alouettes in a sudden-death semi-final.

Williams was criticized for using an offence that was too complicated for an inexperienced team and a city used to a tough, basic approach to the game.

"I don't know much about these things, but I understand that when his system works to perfection, it can't be beat," said DeGroot.

### COACHED IN NFL

Williams, a native of Spokane, Wash., coached Calgary Stampeders in the CFL for four seasons beginning in 1965 and was head coach of Philadelphia Eagles of the National Football League from 1969 to 1971.

## Selects dump Sudbury 11-4

SUDBURY, Ont. (CP) — Moscow Selects scored the most impressive victory of their North American hockey tour with an 11-4 triumph Friday night over Sudbury Wolves.

The Wolves, Leyden Division leaders in the Ontario Hockey Association Major Junior A series, fell flat in the third period as the Selects fired six unanswered goals before 6,666 spectators.

The Moscow win follows earlier decisions over Nova Scotia Voyageurs of the American Hockey League and Ottawa '67s of the OHA junior league.

## Merritt coach suspended

KELOWNA, B.C. (CP) — Merritt Centennials coach Gary Swanson has been handed an indefinite suspension by Bryan Couling, British Columbia Junior Hockey League president, following a game in Vernon Wednesday.

Couling said the suspension was assessed because Swanson "had been sending players off the bench to deliberately start fights."

Couling also has fined the Merritt club \$500 for failing to control their players. He said Swanson's suspension was to be re-assessed at a league meeting in the near future, but until the meeting is held, Swanson will not be allowed to coach the club.

Couling has also assessed a five-game suspension to Merritt player Bill Weidman.