

Johnstone drafted by N.Y. Rangers

Vernon's Eddie Johnstone was reportedly drafted in the sixth round of the NHL's amateur draft held this week.

Johnstone, who told the Daily News this morning that he has not heard from the NHL or his agent, was apparently drafted by the New York Rangers.

Eddie a forward, played his

minor and junior hockey in Vernon before joining the Medicine Hat Tigers of the Western Canada Hockey League three years ago. Last season with Medicine Hat he picked up 118 points.

An official of the Vancouver Canucks told the Daily News Monday he felt that Johnstone would go by the end of the second round.



EDDIE JOHNSTONE
... to New York

Draft is over, money talks now

MONTREAL (CP) — Now that their three-day marathon draft of amateur players is complete, National Hockey League clubs can get down to the business of signing the record 247 players selected.

And today, the NHL clubs will learn who in the rival World Hockey Association will be trying to sign the same players.

The WHA holds its draft today in Toronto and, unlike the NHL, will release its lists for publication.

The NHL, in an attempt at keeping the WHA from using its list as a concise scouting report, conducted its draft by

a secret telephone conference, monitored by league officials at their head office here.

The attempt at secrecy was not entirely successful. The first two rounds leaked out and were published Wednesday and a few other names became known from later rounds.

WENT 25 ROUNDS

NHL officials announced that a total of 247 players, well above the previous record of 168 last year, were selected in 25 rounds, but declined to say how many each team drafted.

League officials would not say when they would release the full draft list but it is expected to be made available some time in the next two weeks.

Among the NHL picks already safe from the WHA is Greg Joly of Regina Pats in the Western Canada Hockey League.

Washington Capitals, who made Joly the first choice in the NHL selections, an-

When asked if he was disappointed at going so late in the draft, Eddie said, "Yes, a bit, but that is the way the draft is going this year."

Although an excellent scorer, Johnstone is relatively small and the NHL clubs drafted for size this season.

He said, "It does not really matter to me who I got drafted by. I imagine if I go to New York I will get as good a chance there as anywhere else."

The World Hockey Association holds its amateur draft today and there is a good chance Johnstone will be picked fairly high.

He said, "There is a team in the WHA interested in me but we will just have to wait and see. I am not sure what I will do but I hope I make the right decision."

Pat Price goes first

TORONTO (CP) — Vancouver Blazers selected defenceman Pat Price as the No. 1 choice today in the World Hockey