

# Wensley brothers glad to be in Vernon

By JIM JUDD  
Daily News Sports

It took almost until the end of their junior hockey careers but the brotherly duo of Bob and David Wensley are finally playing together in their hometown, Vernon.

Between them, the Wensleys have a wealth of junior hockey experience. The older of the two, Bob, is a veteran of both junior A and major junior hockey leagues and it won't be any surprise to the big winger that a lot of weight will settle on his shoulders this season.

"Experience-wise, Chuck (Coach Tapp) will be depending on me on and off the ice," said the older Wensley. "On ice it will be the same as last year . . . I tried to play a supporting role as a leader and I feel I'd like to do the same this year."

Now 20 years of age, Wensley is looking forward to a productive season for several reasons. One will be to help the Lakers in their quest for a BCJHL championship while the other reasons are more personal.

"I want to do something for myself this year," he said. "It's my last year so I need some good statistics if I expect to get a pro tryout."

A pro hockey career has been at the front of

Wensley's mind for several years and it doesn't matter to him whether he gets his shot on this continent, or any other.

"I've been thinking of going to Europe if I have the chance," Wensley said. "It's been my lifetime goal to be a pro hockey player . . . ever since I first strapped on a set of blades."

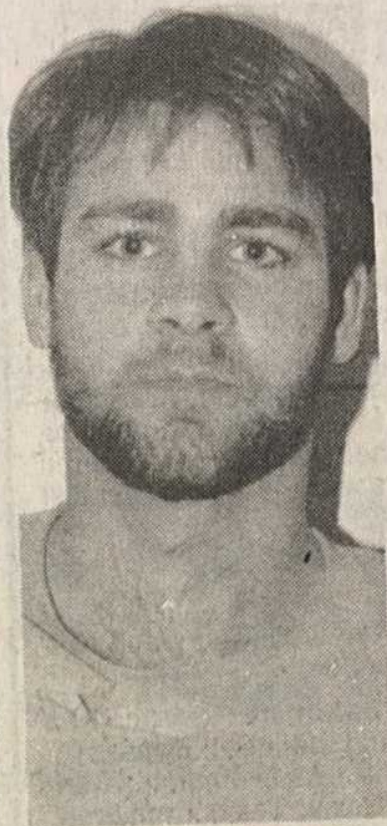
Wensley is carrying a very positive attitude in general heading into the new season and hopefully he can share that optimism with his teammates.

"The team has to get along well on and off the ice . . . that's why we did so well last year," he said. "We're definitely a better team though . . . better calibre, more depth, size and speed."

Wensley will also look forward to enjoying a full season with his younger brother.

"I didn't play much with him (David) in Richmond (Sockeyes) but were really close . . . I feel like I should watch out for him and since he's part of the team, if I feel I've let him down I'll be letting the whole team down," said Wensley.

David Wensley, at 19, is also an experienced junior A player, but like his older brother, is glad to be playing in his hometown and is also pleased to be with



BOBBY WENSLEY  
... a leader

Bobby once again.

"I like playing with Bob," said the younger Wensley. "He works hard

and a lot of guys look up to him so it means I have to work that much harder.

"I feel really good about being here. They're a great bunch of guys and I feel like I fit right in."

Unlike his older brother, however, David plans to go the college hockey route and get a university degree in the process.

"I'm going for a scholarship this year," said David. "Dan (Galbraith) knows some coaches in colleges so he's working for me."

Though he too will provide leadership and experience for the Lakers' younger players, David plans to also contribute in a big way as far as goal production goes.

"I think I can get 50, but really I just don't want to let the team down," he said. "I'm not all offense though . . . I don't like getting goals scored against my line so I backcheck and forecheck as well."

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