

# Lakers keep trading

By JIM JUDD  
Daily News Sports

Forward Kevin Kobelka, 17, became the third player off Vernon Lakers' 1983-84 roster to be traded in the off-season when Lakers' management sent the speedy winger in to Nanaimo Clippers, of the BCJHL Coastal Division, Monday.

Lakers dealt forwards Alan Young and Shannon Pohl to Salmon Arm Totems last week.

Kobelka had his playing rights dealt to Clippers for a player to be named at a later date and it is uncertain at this time whether that player will be a forward or a defenceman.

"It's one of two players," said coach Mike Enemark. "Neither wants to return to Nanaimo. One of them is a first all-star defenceman though. They both played for Clippers last year so they're experienced."

Lakers have had at least one previous encounter with Nanaimo involving players. Former Lakers' captain Gord Simpson was released last year and became a starting player with Clippers.

"Simpson was released to Nanaimo last year outright and we never asked for anyone," Enemark said.



KEVIN KOBELKA  
... to Nanaimo

Meanwhile, with training camp opening Wednesday, Enemark and father Carl, general manager of the club, have been busy securing potential players for the upcoming season. As it turns out, a good number will be former members of the Quesnel Millionaires, a Peace-Cariboo Junior Hockey League Club which was forced to disband earlier this summer due to financial problems.

"We're getting four or five players from Quesnel," said Enemark.

One of these players is Gerald Gagnon, a four-year veteran of the PCJHL who was chosen the most valuable player in that league last season.

"He (Gagnon) appears to be the one who'll replace Dave Wensley up front," said an enthusiastic Enemark. "He's a real goal-scorer."

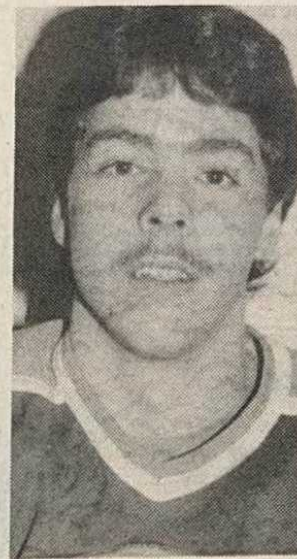
Wensley, one of two brothers who toiled for the club last season, is attending university in Maine this season. He led the club's individual scoring leaders last year with more than 100 points.

Other players mentioned by Enemark, coming from Quesnel include Kelly Rosehill, Greg Guest, West Gentles, and defenceman Jim Scott.

Defence, incidentally, is one aspect of Lakers' club that Enemark feels he'll have no problem filling for the upcoming season.

"I think goal and defence will anchor our club because it looks right now like we've got at least six defencemen that can make our club," Enemark offered.

Included in Enemark's



CHRIS SAUNDERS  
... anchors defence

assumption is that local defenceman Chris Saunders will make the transition from rookie to journeyman this year on the local club's blue line. Saunders, who missed most of last season due to a head injury, will be in camp.

"We're sure he could bloom into an all-star defenceman," said Enemark.

Goaltender Jim Young will also be back on the roster this year while Enemark expects a handful of hopefuls to be in camp looking for a position at back-up.

Among the veteran players who will be in camp are forwards Nick Kapicki and Greg Kowal. However, Enemark is also hoping that veteran forward Rob Kossan will return for his final year of junior eligibility.

"He (Kossan) can play forward, defence, score goals, back-check... he's just an all-round good player," said Enemark. "We'd sure like to have him."

Kossan, meanwhile, has spent two seasons attending Okanagan College and has indicated that he will continue his secondary education this season.

