

TROY MICK



KEVIN POIRIER



DAVE WENSLEY



HENRY REIMER

KENDALL'S KORNER

Vernon produces talented players



by Don Kendall
Daily News Sports Editor

Don't be surprised if a lot of middle-aged men, in trench coats, are lurking around the Vernon Civic Arena this winter.

Pro, college, and major junior teams will be sending their scouts to the North Okanagan to discover the secret of the Vernon Hockey Factory. The scouts, who are conspicuous because of the dark trench coats, will be given the task of finding the next Vernon player who will go on to bigger and better things.

Teams, from coast to coast, are stocked with players who either played minor or junior hockey within the confines of the Civic Arena.

The best way to make our point is to choose a team of 18 players who have skated in Vernon within the past five years. These guys should bring back a lot of fond memories.

We'll have three forward lines and two extra forwards . . . in no particular order.

On the first line, Bruce Major is with Henry Reimer and Brent Gilchrist. Major starred in the Vernon minor hockey system before playing junior with Vernon Lakers and Richmond Sockeyes. He is now in his second season with the University of Maine Black Bears.

Reimer and Gilchrist also played minor hockey in Vernon. Reimer played junior 'A' with the now-defunct Shuswap Totems and Richmond before accepting a scholarship to the University of Chicago-Illinois last year.

Gilchrist jumped right from minor hockey into the Western Hockey League. He joined Kelowna Wings at the tender age of 15 and when the team moved to Spokane two years ago, he went with them. He was drafted last year by Montreal Canadiens and attended their training camp earlier this month.

The second line features centre Dave Wensley, with wingers Todd Ewen and Troy Mick.

Wensley led Lakers in scoring during the 1983-84 season and is now in his third year with the University of Maine. He was the second highest scorer on the Maine squad during the 1985-86 campaign.

Ewen started his junior career with Lakers before spending three years with New Westminster Bruins. The rugged winger was drafted by Edmonton Oilers in 1984 and was assigned to Oilers' American Hockey League affiliate last week.

Mick starred throughout his minor hockey career in Vernon. After a brief stint with Lakers, he went to Merritt Warriors last winter. He was called up by Portland Winter Hawks, of the Western League, late last season and has scored four goals in his first two games with the Hawks this year.

The third line has Dennis Holland between brothers Troy and Trevor Pohl. All three are currently playing with the Winter Hawks.

Holland, along with Mick, dominated Okanagan-Mainline minor hockey leagues for eight years. He led Lakers in scoring last season and has six points in his first two games with Portland.

The rugged Pohl brothers toiled with Lakers during the 1985-86 season. Trevor scored twice in his first WHL game last Friday, in Spokane.

Our extra forwards are Kevin Poirier and Stacy Wakabayashi.

Poirier played minor hockey in Vernon and spent one year with Lakers before helping Abbotsford Flyers reach the Centennial Cup final. Poirier spent the last three seasons at the University of San Diego, on a hockey scholarship. He is still attending university, but is not eligible to play hockey this year.

Wakabayashi came to Lakers for the 1982-83 season, from 100 Mile House, via Kamloops Blazers. Wakabayashi spent only one year here, but will be remembered as one of the most exciting players to lace up a pair of skates in Vernon. He played for Kamloops the following season before enrolling at the University of Alberta. Last winter, Wakabayashi helped Alberta earn the national college championship.

On defence, our first pair is comprised of Jeff Finley and Jay Stark, who patrol the blue line for Portland. Finley, drafted by New York Islanders, and Stark, selected by Detroit Red Wings, both played minor hockey in Vernon.

Finley played in the B.C. Junior Hockey League with Summerland Buckaroos before going south. Stark started his junior career with the defunct Revelstoke Rangers.

The second pair has Ken McKenzie with Rudy Poeschek.

McKenzie played minor hockey in Kelowna and didn't arrive in Vernon until he was cut by Kelowna. He played two seasons with Lakers before accepting a scholarship to the University of Wisconsin. McKenzie is now in his third year with the powerful Wisconsin squad.

After playing minor in Vernon, Poeschek teamed up with McKenzie on the 1982-83 Lakers. Poeschek joined Kamloops Blazers in 1983 and since then has earned a reputation as one of the toughest defencemen in the WHL. He was drafted by New York Rangers.

The third pairing has Shawn Lafroth with Murray Baron. Lafroth starred with Lakers for two years and was expected back this season, but instead went to the University of Alaska on a scholarship.

Baron, who was captain of the 1985-86 Lakers, is attending the University of North Dakota on a hockey scholarship.

Our goalie is Scott King. King was traded by Richmond to the Lakers last season. After some brilliant performances with Vernon, he was given a four-year scholarship by Maine and was drafted by Detroit.

By the way, scouts usually stand at the south end of the arena and have a rolled-up program in their pocket.

Vernon Daily News **sports**
Editor—DON KENDALL

SPORTS BRIEFS

Leagues need more curlers

Vernon Curling Club has openings for curlers in several leagues. There are spots available in the Sunday Evening Mixed League, from 8-10 p.m.; Afternoon Ladies League, which plays on Tuesdays and Thursdays; Men's Tuesday League, at 9 p.m.; and Ladies' Monday League, also at 9 p.m. For further information phone 542-6713.

Flag football

Following are the results of action Sunday in Vernon Coca Cola Men's Flag Football League at Grahame Park: Toros Shooters 25, Spring Brewers 0; Squires Four Hawks 56, Team Yamaha 0; Coldstream Raiders 27, Siddall 38ers 19; Cougars 45, Vernon Metal Decor Terminators 6; and Molson Manics 71, Pappy's Playboys 7.

Shutout win

Toros Shooters blanked Body Shop 49ers 36-0 in one of two games that took place Sunday in the Coca Cola Women's Flag Football League. In the only other game played at Grahame Park, Bulls defeated Winfield Wipers 54-12.

Tai Chi registration

Registration for beginner Tai Chi classes is held Mondays and Wednesdays, from 6:30-7:30 p.m., and Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 8-9 p.m., at the North Okanagan Tai Chi Centre, 2800-33rd St. in Vernon. For further information call 542-1822.

Players honored

NEW YORK (AP) — Pitcher Mike Scott of the Houston Astros was the National League's pick, and third baseman Brook Jacoby of the Cleveland Indians and pitcher Jack Morris of the Detroit Tigers the American League's choices in major league baseball's player-of-the-week awards Monday.

Scott struck out 13 San Francisco Giants, walking two, in a no-hitter Sept. 25 at the Astrodome. He leads the National League in strikeouts with 298.

Jacoby hit .571 in seven games through Sunday, with 16 hits in 28 times at bat. Morris, in winning 20 games for the second time with Detroit, was 2-0 for the week with an 0.47 earned run average in two complete games.

Cowboys win

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Thanks, in part, to the problems of a struggling opponent, the Dallas Cowboys remain close to the pace they'd like to maintain.

"I think we're on the verge of exploding offensively," quarterback Danny White said after exploiting the St. Louis Cardinals' defence with three touchdown passes in a 31-7 National Football League triumph Monday night. "We haven't come close to fulfilling our potential.

"It was a closer game than it seems. Our defence made some big plays. So far, we have done the things it takes to win."

Canucks cut four

VANCOUVER (CP) — The Vancouver Canucks re-assigned four players Monday to reduce their National Hockey League training camp roster to 27 players.

Dispatched to the Fredericton Express of the American Hockey League were defenceman Jim Agnew, centre Jeff Rohlicek and left winger Jean LeBlanc, while right winger Todd Hawkins was returned to the junior Belleville Bulls of the Ontario Hockey League.

Agnew, Rohlicek and Hawkins all played junior hockey last season, while LeBlanc was selected the Canadian university player of the year at the University of New Brunswick.

Lakers' centres quiet during opening games

By JIM JUDD
Daily News Sports

With a perfect 4-0 record so far in the young B.C. Junior Hockey League season things have been going so well for Vernon Lakers that you would hardly notice how relatively quiet things have been at centre ice.

While the club has had little difficulty in disposing with its first four opponents this year, outscoring them 31-9 in the process, just three of those goals have come from the club's centres.

By contrast, the defensive corps has provided the biggest offensive thrust on the team with 12 of the club's 31 markers scored by rearguards.

Left wingers have accounted for nearly as much production as Lakers' defencemen while even the right side has produced a half dozen tallies with only one bonafide right winger on that side of the ice.

Centres Kevin Scott, acquired from the now-defunct Shuswap Totems during the player dispersal draft this summer, sophomore Doug Spooner, and rookie Sandy Moger have managed just three goals between them in four games. Moger, in fact, has failed to score yet and Spooner's absence from the scoresheet is due, in part, to illness. Spooner missed the club's road trip to Merritt last Sunday because of the flu.

Still, Spooner has scored twice and has picked up a handful of assists in his first three appearances at Civic Arena. Scott, who showed flashes of pure brilliance in the exhibition season, especially when he scored four goals in one game against Summerland Buckaroos, has scored just once though he has eight assists.

Even though the difficulty is probably just temporary, Vernon Head Coach Ernie Gare is already thinking of taking steps to help solve the problem.

"I'm toying with the idea of putting (Sandy) Moger on the right side and moving (Steve) Humphrey to centre," suggested the Lakers coach.

Though Humphrey has more experience on the ice than Moger and has quickness going for him, he's not a proven goal-scorer and every good hockey club needs a trigger-man at centre ice.

However, if either Scott or Spooner can shake off their early season slumps it will make life a whole lot easier for Gare and the rest of the club.

The club is obviously lacking depth on the right side as well, even though they have had six goals scored from that wing in the first four games. Al Young was only transposed to the right side this season after spending most of his career as a centre and seems to be enjoying his new-found position with three goals already this season.

Ed Tuckwood is a bonafide right winger, but has a penchant for the penalty box and has already been turfed out of one game for picking up a fighting misconduct. The former Summerland winger has completed Lakers' top line with Craig Bedard on left, Scott at centre and himself at right wing.

Gare knows he needs at least one good trigger man on the right side for his second line. With Spooner up the middle and big veteran Stacy Hartnell on left side, the line needs a third with the same size, skills and gift for scoring. Two good scoring lines would give the club enough depth to compete with the high-flying Kelowna Packers. Packers lead the Interior Division and the league with a perfect 5-0 record, three of those wins coming on a recent road-trip to the Coast. packers also boast six of the top 10 scoring leaders in the Interior according to statistics released Monday.

Meanwhile, the club is enjoying a lot of production from its defensive unit in addition to the lack of goals they've allowed against.

Leading the way is overage defenceman Campbell Blair, who came to Lakers last November, purchased outright from the financially troubled Summerland club. Though he led Bucks in scoring statistics when he left, he assumed a much quieter role with Lakers.

This season Blair is off to his quickest start ever with five goals in his first four games. He currently leads the club in scoring with all of his goals coming in just two games. His scoring ability should help Lakers forget about the absence of rearguard Shawn Lofroth, who picked up a scholarship with University of Alaska this season.

Another defenceman, Sean Hartnell, has also shown an early ability to hit the scoreboard with a clip that is averaging more than a point a game.

LEADING SCORERS

PLAYERS	G	A	PTS
Blair	5	4	9
Scott	1	8	9
Stacy Hartnell	5	3	8
Spooner	2	5	7
Bedard	2	5	7
Sean Hartnell	2	4	6
Young	3	2	5
Greyeyes	1	3	4
Tuckwood	3	0	3
Humphrey	1	2	3
Bisaro	2	1	3
Fox	1	2	3
Olson	1	2	3

No words exchanged during mock weigh-in

EDMONTON (CP) — There were no serious words exchanged, no glares when they stepped on the scales Monday for a mock weigh-in, no nasty words in the interviews.

But Canadian heavyweight boxing champion Willie de Wit of Grande Prairie, Alta., and his opponent, Andrew Stokes of Anderson, Ind., assured everyone that tonight's 10-round, non-title bout here would not be boring.

Stokes, a former four-time Indiana Golden Gloves champion, set the tone for the meeting with his first words.

"Hello everybody, my name is Andrew Stokes," he said quietly. "You may be expecting a lot of shouting and putting down of the opposition but that's not going to happen."

Both fighters, de Wit with a 12-0-1 professional record and Stokes at 10-2-1, appeared in superb shape physically and said they were prepared mentally.

"This is the longest layoff I've had in my professional career," de Wit said of the three-month span since his last fight. "I've had a lot of time to train and I think I've made tremendous improvements and I hope to show that in the ring."

The de Wit-Stokes fight was originally scheduled for last month in Grande Prairie but was postponed when de Wit injured his arm.

Speaking in rapid-fire sentences, as is normal for him, de Wit, fighting for the first time since winning the Canadian title in June, said he's looking forward to the fight against Stokes.

"He's a good fighter, he's a very dangerous fighter and I'm certainly not taking him lightly. He's a good all-around fighter with good hand- and feet speed."



GREG LEAKY



LARRY ROMANCHYCH

Leaky traded to Nanaimo

Vernon Lakers' Head Coach Ernie Gare announced today that rookie forward Greg Leaky has been traded to Nanaimo Clippers, of the B.C. Junior Hockey League.

In exchange for Leaky, Lakers will receive future considerations . . . believed to be cash. Leaky spent the 1985-86 season with Notre Dame Midgets, at Wilcox, Sask. In four games with Lakers, he scored one goal.

Meanwhile, Gary Scott was named head coach of Delta Flyers after Larry Romanchych was fired Monday.

Larry Hayes, who was recently named as Delta's general manager, cited philosophical differences between Romanchych and the Flyer ownership for his dismissal.

"We felt we were not getting the development of the younger players as we expected," Hayes said. "We're definitely on a youth movement in Delta."

The Flyers have a 2-1 record in league play and Scott will be behind the bench tonight when Flyers host Richmond Sockeyes.

Spallumcheen ladies draw

Pin Round Number 1 for 1987.

NUMBER 1 TEE

9 a.m.; Joyce Jensen; Rita Guidi; Grace Hailland; Anne Pinsonault.

9:09 a.m.; Robin Scott; Ruth Adams; Bert Young; Colleen Schier.

9:14 a.m.; Lois Weixl; Diane Simms; Vera Jensen; Doreen Elliott.

9:21 a.m., Ev Zamis; Irene Ricketts; Barb Bailey; Alice Marshall.

9:28 a.m.; Pat Haigh; Jennifer Howe; Donna Speidel; Hazel Barker.

9:35 a.m.; Rosemarie VonPenta; Ethel Thompson; Peg Pitman; Wyn Oliver.

9:42 a.m.; Faye DeWilde; Marion Sheare; Sylvia French; Phyllis Rintoul.

9:49 a.m.; Mildred Good; Hilda Galambos; Kay Coleman.

9:56 a.m., 9 holes only, Lois Edmonds; Charlotte Frolke; Babs McKay.

Last week's trophy winners: Vibo Trophy, Lois Weixl; Guido Trophy, Marg Hamilton. Putting Trophy, Colleen Schier.

BCJHL

VAMCOUVER (CP) — Statistics released Monday by the British Columbia Junior Hockey League:

STANDINGS

Coastal Division

	W	L	Pts
Langley	4	1	8
Nanaimo	3	2	6
Richmond	2	1	4
Delta	2	1	4
Abbotsford	1	2	2
Juan De Fuca	0	4	0

Interior Division

Kelowna	5	0	10
Vernon	4	0	8
Penticton	2	2	4
Summerland	0	4	0
Merritt	0	6	0

SOCRING

Coastal Division

	G	A	Pts
Clarke, Lan	8	5	13
Miller, Lan	4	6	10
Eisenhut, Lan	6	3	9
Tomlinson, Rich	5	4	9
Douville, Del	4	5	9
Smiley, Abb	4	4	8
Knapton, Nan	4	4	8
Momotani, Del	3	5	8
Parkes, Man	4	2	6
Zulinick, JDF	3	3	6
Biggs, Nan	2	4	6

Interior Division

Tailifer, Kel	8	8	16
Russell, Kel	10	4	14
Manuel, Mer	5	5	10
Mowery, Kel	3	7	10
DePourco, Pen	6	3	9
Hurd, Kel	3	6	9
Hrold, Sum	5	3	8
Luknowsky, Kel	5	3	8

Goaltending

Coastal Division

	Min	GA	$Ave
Dafoe, JDF	40	2	3.00
Dickson, Del	120	7	3.50
Pencer, Rich	120	8	4.00
Fairlie, Nan	113	8	4.24
Bruni, Lan	225	16	4.26

Interior Division

Dennis, Ver	60	1	1.00
Tyszeka, Pen	60	2	2.00
King, Kel	120	4	2.00
Repole, Ver	60	3	3.00
Dickins, Vr	60	3	3.00