

TODD DEMCHUK
. . . to Whalers

EIGHT PLAYERS TRADED

By DON KENDALL
Daily News Sports Editor

Vernon Lakers and Juan de Fuca Whalers, of the B.C. Junior Hockey League, completed a blockbustre eight-player trade over the weekend.

Lakers sent wingers Todd Demchuk and Jan Zeidel along with defencemen Mike Conrad and Brian Main to the Whalers. In return, Vernon obtained centres Mike Barkley and Darren Naylor, defenceman Phil Soukaroff, and winger Jeff Dobish.

Vernon Head Coach Ernie Gare is ecstatic about the deal. "We acquired four players who we feel will help us next season," he said. "Barkley was the real key as far as we are concerned."

Barkley, 17, is a member of the B.C. Under-18 Team that will tour Czechoslovakia next month. As a 16-year-old, the slick centre scored 29 goals in 43 games with the Whalers.

"Barkley is one of the best young hockey players in the province," Gare said. "New Westminster Bruins (Western Hockey League) really wanted him. He was in Vernon over the weekend . . . and we received a commitment from him."

Naylor, also 17, picked up 20 goals and added 20 assists with Juan de Fuca during the 1986-87 season. Soukaroff, who spent the last two years with the Whalers, is considered an excellent offensive defenceman.

However, the sleeper in the deal could be Dobish. Dobish stands 6'4" and weighs 220 pounds.

Gare said, "We didn't have an opportunity to watch Dobish last season because he quit the Whalers in January. We've heard he has an attitude problem, but that doesn't concern us. If he comes to our camp in the right frame of mind, he can play hockey for us . . . and help us. He is known as one of the toughest guys in the league and for a big man, he has good hands around the net."

Demchuk is probably the only player going to Vancouver Island who figured in Vernon's plans for the 1987-88 season. The likeable winger scored only 13 goals last season, but his hard work and aggressive play often sparked his teammates.

"We hated to give up Demchuk, but there is a good chance we wouldn't have gotten him back anyway," Gare said. "He has a tryout with Portland Winter Hawks (WHL) and I think he has a good shot at making their team. He is a coach's type of player . . . he'll do anything to help the team."

Zeidel and Conrad were obtained in trades last winter with Penticton Knights and Abbotsford Flyers, respectively. Both players saw only limited duty late in the season and in the playoffs.

Main spent last season with Quesnel Kangaroos of the Peace Cariboo Junior Hockey League and would have been hard pressed to earn a spot on the Lakers' blue line corps this year.

Gare said, "This trade took us a long way towards our goal of being a contender for the BCJHL championship."

VERNON RACING DAYS

Shirley enjoys gre

Jockey Sam Shirley likes riding at Kin Race Track Park.

Shirley booted home five winners during the second weekend of Vernon Racing days, Saturday and Sunday. After four days of racing, Shirley has nine victories, including two, three-win days.

In Sunday's feature face, Shirley guided favorite Golden Edition to the winner's circle in the Andy Burstyk Memorial Race. Golden Edition covered the seven furlong event in one minute, 26.4 seconds.

Then in the ninth, and final, race of the day, Shirley missed his hat trick by a nose when Lal Bagh, with Dave Burns in the irons, edged Expo Eighty Six in a photo finish.

Sunday's fifth race produced a rare result when Earl Blain's entry of Rezitate and Kelly's Do In finished first and second. The quinella of 1-1A paid $32.70.

In Saturday's feature race, the Kal Tire Thoroughbred Speed Stakes, Regal Chocolate was the first horse across the finish line. The seven-year-old gelding completed the five furlong race in 1:02.4. Hot favorite Lindy's Machine settled for second place.

Good weather and large fields are attracting near-record crowds to the track. The two-day weekend handle was $110,373. Sunday's total of $58,819 was the third largest single day handle in Vernon Racing Days history.

Racing days resumes next Saturday and Sunday, with parade to the post at 1:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

First race: Kootenay Bay (Burns) $3.90, $2.80; Honey Don't (T. Schmidt) $2.70, $2.70; Playing Safe (Bilodeau) $3; quin

Second race: Bobs High Hopes (Shirley) $11.10, $6 Merger (Bilodeau) $3.40, $3.40; Green Magic (Lemaus actor $58.70; consolation daily double $4.20.

Third race: Tars First (Pakootas) $8.10, $5, $3.3(Schmidt) $3.10, $3; Brandy's Fleeter (Supernant) $ $8.40.

Fourth race: Coldstream Breeze (Gilmore) $7.30, Faster (Supernant) $2.60, $2.20; Master Kohli (Shirley tor $9.50.

Fifth race: New Lucky League (Supernant) $2.90 Funny Philatelist (Shirley) $3.40, $3.30; Largo (H quinella $7.90.

Sixth race: Bound To Fire (Shirley) $8.80, $3.80, $2 (T. Schmidt) $3.90, $2.30; Bez's Smokey Joe (Superna actor $40.10.

Seventh race: Mr. Bold Note (Bilodeau) $3.10, $2.10, Top (Supernant) $2.30, $2.40; Bench Breeze (Friesen) $ $3; Win Four $107.75.

Eighth race: Regal Chocolate (Bilodeau) $7.40, $4, $ Machine (Burns) $4.10, $3.30; General Kirk (Gilmore) $ $32.80.

Ninth race: Iroo de Aqua (Shirley) $3.20, $3.10, $3.10; (Pakootas) $8, $4; Goal To Goal (Supernant) $2.90; quin

SUNDAY

First race: Miss Irish Pebbles (T. Schmidt) $13.40.



ACTION was fast and furous in the first Charity Ball Hockey Game played Saturday night at the Vernon Civic Arena. Team NHL scored four goals in the final two minutes to earn a 10-8 victory against the Junior All-stars. Players shown here are, left to right; Al Young, Team NHL; Dennis Holland, Junior All-stars; Jay Stark, Team NHL; and Troy Mick (8) Junior All-stars. (Daily News Photo)

Team NHL rallies to edge junior squad

Eddie Johnstone scored three goals to help Team NHL to a 10-8 come-from-behind victory over the Junior All-stars in the first Charity Ball Hockey Game, Saturday night, in the Vernon Civic Arena.

However, the big winners were the Vernon Special Olympics Association and the Vernon Lakers Junior Hockey Scholarship Fund, both of which will end up with a sizeable donation as a direct result of the fund-raising campaign.

Most of the money raised came from a celebrity souvenir auction held Friday night at Vernon Golf Club, prior to the Ball Hockey Golf Tournament, Saturday. More than $1200 was raised at that function while recipets from the game itself have yet to be determined and will be added to the total.

"The golf went really well as far as fund-raising goes and the game was about what we thought it would be," explained Lakers Coach and Tournament Organizer Ernie Gare. "For the first year, it went as well as we hoped."

Saturday night, Team NHL scored four times with less than two minutes remaining to erase an 8-6 Junior All-Stars lead and earn their victory. Brent Gilchrist provided the tying goal with goaltender Pat Price out of the net in favor of an extra attacker. Jay Stark scored the winner just moments later.

Steve Tambellini chipped in with a pair of tallies for the winners while other singles came off the sticks of Danny Gare, Ray Ferraro, and Greg Adams.

Dallas Drake paced the Junior All-stars with a pair of goals while singles came from Mark Greyeyes, Todd Demchuck, Martin Jensen, Dennis Holland, Dane Jackson, and Keith Chase.

The teams were tied 4-4 at the end of the first of two 20-minute periods.

Paul Muir and Randy Zemlack provided the goaltending duties for the Junior All-Stars.

"I was surprised at the intensity of the game," continued Gare. "It's a good format actually, the pros have the experience and the juniors have the legs so it's about equal.

"I thought it was very entertaining," he added.

Before the game began Saturday, a Media All-star Team and Special Olympics Floor Hockey Team battled to a 4-4 tie in a warm-up contest.

With the success achieved this season, Gare was adamant that the event would continue into future years and that it would become an even bigger hit.

"This will definitely be an annual event now," suggested Gare. "Just about every player, to a man, said that he'd come back next year and they felt it was a tremendous workout.

"Hopefully it will be bigger and better next year."

LOOK BACK FIVE YEARS

JULY 1982

More than 800 people have signed a petition calling for B.C. Summer Games directors to allocate money for lights at Kin Race Track Park. Organizer Don Simpson said the hopes to have 2,000 signatures before presenting it to Games Chairman Harold McDonald next month.

JULY 1982

Maureen McDonald of the Spallumcheen Golf Club, has been named as an alternate to the B.C. team that will compete in the Canadian Junior Women's Golf Championship in Charlottetown. She carded a 36-hole total of 167 to place fifth at the recent provincial junior tournament.

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