

GOALIE SEARCH

Lakers looking for experience

Vernon Lakers are shopping for an experienced goaltender.

Lakers' General Manager Carl Enemark admitted today he is trying to locate a netminder with at least two years of junior experience.

"We'd like to find a 19 or 20 year old goalie," Enemark said. "I'm not saying we're not happy with the goaltenders we have in camp, but we'd feel a lot more comfortable if we had an experienced goalie pushing them for the number one spot."

Lakers are still carrying five netminders on their training camp roster and Frank Romeo arrived in Vernon on Tuesday. Romeo played the 1983-84 season with Revelstoke, of the B.C. Junior Hockey League, and split the 1984-85 campaign between Revelstoke and Vernon.

Romeo had been in Revelstoke recovering from an injury he suffered at work.

"I don't know what Don (head coach Moores) plans to do with Romeo,"

Enemark said. "I don't think they've talked to each other yet."

Lakers open their pre-season schedule with games Saturday and next Wednesday, in Enderby, against Salmon Arm. Vernon plays a home-and-home series with defending champion Penticton Knights, Sept. 13 and 14, before ending their exhibition schedule Sept. 17 against Merritt Centennials.

Three veterans will miss part, or all, of the pre-season competition. Forward Al Young has a broken finger and will not be available until October, defenceman Shawn Lofroth is recovering from a broken wrist and is expected to be ready in about two weeks, and defenceman Chris Saunders will start skating in one or two weeks. Saunders had a bone graft from his hip to forearm after suffering a broken wrist last season.

"We're not going to rush Chris," Enemark said. "We know what he can do and he figures in our plans. He is a team leader and we want him healthy."