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Perani in final days as goalie?

By LEN HOYES

Bob Perani may be in his final days as a goalie for the Flint Generals.

The five-season veteran confirmed Wednesday that he is part of a group of investors interested in buying Genesee Iceland, a two-year-old arena on Elms Rd. near Calkins Rd.

Perani confirmed that he and Carl Lamb, president of Lamb Realty, are leaders of the group which has obtained an option to buy from Mr. and Mrs. Dale DeWitt.

"It looks real good but you never can be completely sure until the entire financing is obtained. We can be 99 per cent sure and the whole thing may fall through if we don't get the last one per cent," Perani said.

Rumors of the possible sale of Iceland have been prominent for more than six months. One report said the arena, which has one regulation ice surface and another "studio" ice sheet, had an assessed value of \$1.2 million but that the asking price was \$900,000.

Lamb did not reveal the purchase amount which was contained in an agreement signed last Thursday.

He said, "We have a 90-day option. We have six interested parties but we hope to have eight others in our group.

"We are encouraged by the growth of hockey in the Flint area and are convinced that Genesee Iceland can be a money-making endeavor. We hope to make a major contribution to recreation in this area and feel there is a definite need for more ice facilities."

Lamb said the DeWitts will be part of the new group but he did not name any others.

He said, "One of the first things we did was talk to Frank Gallagher (general manager of the Flint Generals) and to the IMA people. We wanted Frank to understand Perani's position in our group and we wanted the IMA people to understand that we are interested in cooperation for the benefit of the overall hockey program in this area."

Perani said he will be involved in managing the arena. "I don't know what my title will be but that doesn't make any difference. I'll be involved in most of the details," he said.

That means the 31-year-old net-

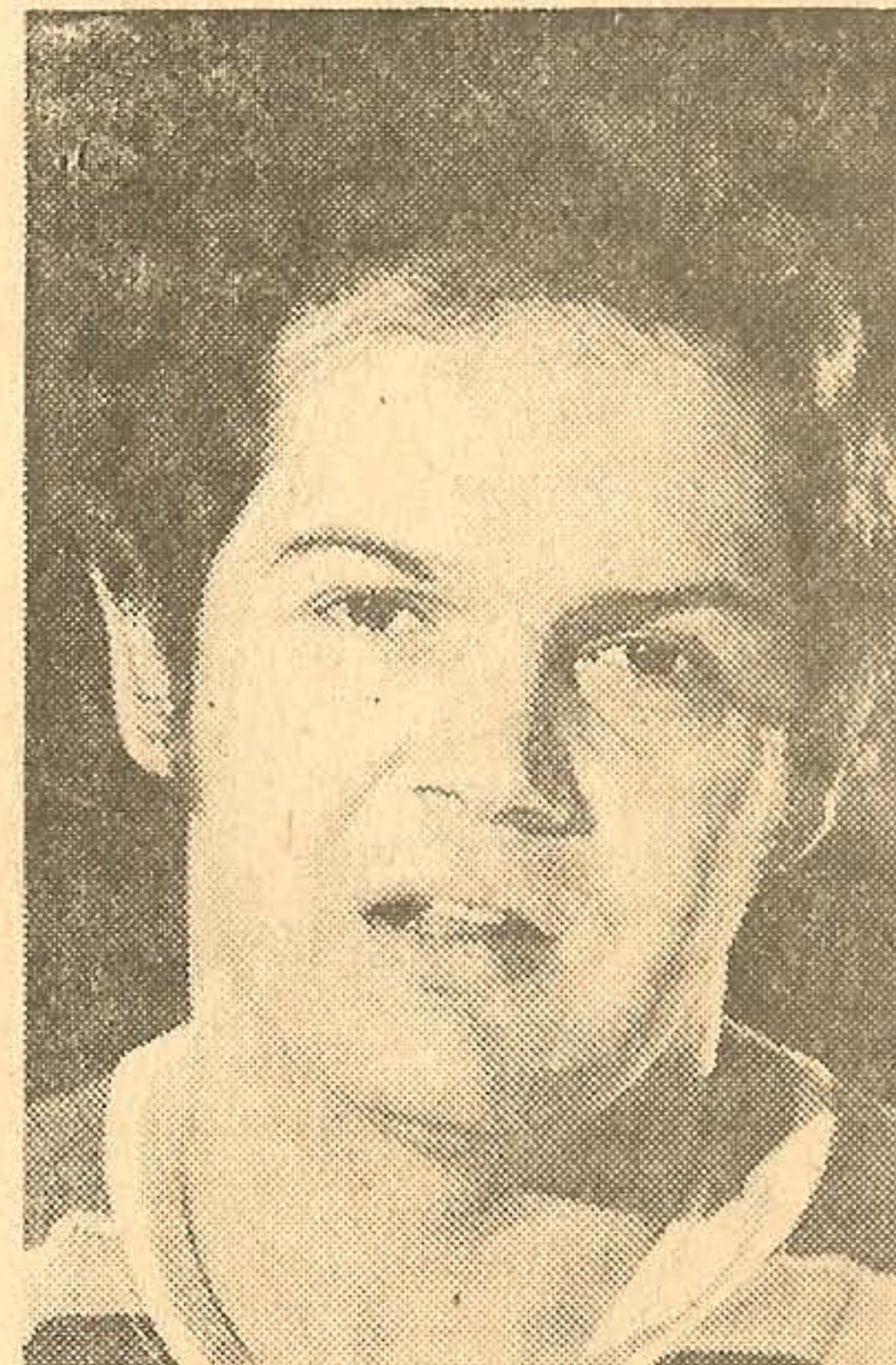
minder may be ending a seven-season career in the International Hockey League if the purchase is completed.

He has been with the Generals for five seasons and ranks No. 2 in seniority behind defenseman Gary Gilbert.

In addition to playing for the Generals, he owns three pizza restaurants in the Flint area. He is a permanent resident of Flint.

The Generals have only 10 games left in the regular season in which to get a playoff position and extend the season. They host Columbus at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the Owls' first appearance since Feb. 8 when goalie Merlin Jenner of the Generals and defenseman Blake Hall of Columbus were participants in a stick-swinging duel which led to suspensions for both.

The Generals go to Dayton on Saturday and are at home Sunday against Toledo in a game which has vital bearing on the North Division playoff positions.



Bob Perani
Final fling for Generals?

HORSE RACING

NEW YORK — Dundee Marmalade, \$8.40, galloped to a 5¹/₂-length victory over Dwan Flight in the \$15,000 Battlefield Purse at Aqueduct.

PAWTUCKET, R.I. — Teddy B Good, \$6.20, raced to a four-length victory over Oceans Ahead in the feature at Narragansett Race Track.