



# News Release

For Immediate Release

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## Valley Jr.A Wildcats select players in MHL Draft

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Berwick, Nova Scotia

The Valley Wildcats, proud member of the MHL, are pleased to announce the following selections at the 2019 Entry Draft held recently in Edmunston, NB.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> round, the Wildcats were excited to select 16 year old Keegan Hunt from the Moncton Flyers Triple A Midget program. The 6 foot, 170 pound Hunt, is described as an effective two way defenseman who plays with an edge and can be relied on in all situations. "We really like his skating, and we think in the future, he'll be a guy who will be relied on heavily", says New Wildcats head coach and general manager, Brandon Benedict.

In the 4<sup>th</sup> round, the Wildcats were pleased to find that Hammonds Plains native Keigan Casey, from the Cole Harbour Wolfpack, was still available. Benedict says, "Keigan had a tough year as he missed a lot of time due to injury. However, he has the character and work ethic that we will be looking to build around."

The Wildcats had a second pick in the fourth round, and with it, they chose Cape Breton West Islanders defenseman Dylan Chisholm from Antigonish. While Chisholm only stands 5 foot 7, Benedict likes his compete level and engagement. "He's the type of d-man our opposition will not look forward to going up against because of his tenacious, in your face style of play", says the new coach and general manager.

The Wildcats 5<sup>th</sup> round selection was a name Wildcats fans will know right away. From the Wildcats major midget program, they chose goalie Grant Sanford. "Grant had a great year last year" Benedict says. "We really like his size. We see a lot of potential in Grant and we didn't want to miss out on him later in the draft."

Also in the 5<sup>th</sup> round, the Wildcats chose another Cape Breton West Islander. Namely, Lewis Taylor from Antigonish. According to Benedict, "Lewis has a lot of upside with his creativity and offensive abilities up front. In the offensive zone, Lewis can make plays due to his playmaking ability and puck handling skills".

In the 7<sup>th</sup> round, the Wildcats chose another local product in Ethan Kearney from their major midget program. Of Kearney, Benedict says, "In terms of two way/ 200 foot complete forwards, Ethan is exactly that. He's doesn't take a shift off and is all over the puck in all three zones. What we really like are the intangibles he brings off the ice and in the dressing room."

In the 8<sup>th</sup> round, the Wildcats were pleased to welcome Ethan Black of the Cole Harbour Wolfpack major midget program. "Ethan is a very offensive minded, puck moving d-man and we see major upside to his game. He likes to be creative and active on plays in the neutral zone and he really generates offence from the back end" says Benedict of the 15 year old native of Lower Sackville.

In closing, the Wildcats would like to congratulate and wish the best of luck to Wildcats Major Midget products Colin Parker and Dylan Schofield. Parker was selected in the second round and Schofield was taken in the fourth round both by the Weeks Crushers from Pictou County.

Thanks

Valley Wildcats Media Department