



Denis Herron

Denis Herron was drafted by Pittsburgh in 1972. He played his first NHL game in a Penguins sweater, making his debut with a team that would sign him three different times in the course of his career.

He split his first season between Pittsburgh and Hershey of the AHL. The 1973-74 schedule was even busier as Herron played for three different teams--the Pens, the Hershey Bears, and the Salt Lake Golden Eagles. Herron spent the first half of the following season with Pittsburgh and Hershey before being traded to the Kansas City Scouts. He played 22 games for the NHL club that spring and returned for a full season in 1975-76. He entered free agency at the end of the season, and was again signed by Pittsburgh in August.

Denis had a full time job with the Pens for the next three years and also made an appearance with Team Canada at the World Championships in 1978. In August 1979 one of Herron's childhood dreams came true: he was traded to Montreal and had the chance to tend goal for the Canadiens. He shared goaltending duties for three years with the Habs, and in 1981 he also shared the Vezina Trophy with fellow netminders Richard Sevigny and Michel Larocque.

In 1982, he shared another honour by winning the William Jennings Trophy with Rick Walmsley. He had finished the season with three shutouts and an average of 2.64, league leading numbers as well as Herron's NHL best. In September 1982, Herron returned to Pittsburgh for the last time. He remained there until 1986 when he finished his 462 game NHL career where he had started it - in a Penguins sweater.

In all, Denis was a very good goaltender who briefly got to shine on a very good team, but spent much of his career on teams that weren't worthy of his great skills between the pipes.

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