



Jim Sandlak

With his tremendous size (6'4" and 220 lbs), Jim was chosen 4th overall in the 1985 entry draft by the Vancouver Canucks. He was nicknamed "The House" because he was just about that big! He was one of the largest players in the league during the late 1980's and early 1990's. Jim really cemented his status as a top prospect in the 1986 World Junior Championships. Having 23 NHL games under his belt, the Canucks sent Sandlak overseas to help Canada in the tournament. Jim scored 5 goals and 7 points in 7 games and was named the best forward in the tournament.

Unfortunately, Jim fell victim to a number of injuries which kept him from completely fulfilling his potential. He played 8 years for the Canucks but only remained healthy enough to break the 20-goal plateau once, in 1988-89. He was traded to the Hartford Whalers where he played two seasons before returning to the Canucks for one final season.

Jim's imposing size may have been a part of the reason for his success, but oddly, may have also contributed to his injuries which held him back. Unfortunately for Jim, the points just didn't come in the NHL as was predicted.