

Redmond: Finley Reneged on Pact

By Phil Finch

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That \$80,000 annual contract to which Dick Redmond was signed without Charlie Finley's knowledge apparently hasn't begun to hurt the Golden Seals' owner — at least, not yet.

Redmond, traded by the Seals to the Chicago Black Hawks more than a month ago, says he hasn't cashed any of the checks that the Seals made out in his name while he was with the club.

The reason, says Redmond, is that the checks over a full season don't begin to total the \$80,000 for which he was signed by Garry Young, then the Seals' general manager.

Finley charged last week that Young, now a scout with the Boston Bruins, was given a free hand with contracts to keep the Seals from jumping to the rival World Hockey Association but then deceived him about the amounts he had to

give up to keep some of the promising younger players.

Redmond, for example, was a \$15,000 - a - year rookie last season. Finley claims that Young told him that Redmond was re-signed for \$30,000 this year, while Redmond actually had signed a two-year contract calling for \$80,000 this year and \$100,000 the next.

However, Redmond claims that Finley and the Seals failed to honor what Redmond says is a valid NHL contract.

"Alan Eagleson, my lawyer, gave me strict orders not to cash the checks," Redmond said from his home in Chicago. "I wasn't getting paid what I was supposed to be making. The checks were sent back to the Seals, eventually."

Eagleson is the director of the NHL Players' Association.

"He (Eagleson) called the club and demanded that I either be paid, get traded or be declared a free agent," Redmond said. "I can't

disclose how much the Seals were paying me at this time."

Redmond told KNEW radio reporter Mike Forrest in a taped interview that the Black Hawks are paying according to the contract.

"I signed an official contract," Redmond said. "It has to be upheld no matter where they trade me."

Asked how he had managed to subsist during the three months he played with the Seals, Redmond said that he had "enough money to get by, saved from previous seasons. If I hadn't, I'd have been in a lot of trouble."

Redmond added that he expected no trouble in being paid a corrected salary, which almost certainly makes him the highest - paid second-year defenseman in NHL history, with the possible exception of Bobby Orr.

"Mr. Finley," Redmond insists, "has got to pay me."