

Haydar's professional career off to solid start

Just keep scoring.

In the early days of his quest to find a home in the NHL, Darren (Mini) Haydar's task can be put more plainly than that.

Nashville brought him onboard for one simple reason — to put the puck in the net, or at least assist others in the process. So Haydar obliged them at the first available opportunity last weekend, during the Predators' two-game homestand for rookies and first year pros against the Columbus Blue Jackets.

Amidst a field of hopefuls that including 2002 top draft pick Rick Nash, Milton's top sniper lit the lamp in both games to help Nashville earn a weekend sweep at the Gaylord Entertainment Center.

He notched a game-winning power-play marker in Saturday's 7-2 pasting of Columbus and then posted a goal and two assists the following morning to sink the Blue Jackets 6-3.

"There was some great competition there," said Haydar from his Nashville hotel room Wednesday afternoon. "Saturday I didn't think I played my best game. Sunday I was better, with each shift I seem to adapt and feel more comfortable."

The Hobey Baker finalist was still in the Predators' camp at press time yesterday.

Although not expected to dress for last night's exhibition game in Chicago, Haydar could still see pre-season play within the next several days.

Under-14 Magic boys finish season with blowout victory

By STEVE LeBLANC

The Champion

Milton's Under-14 boys soccer squad battled to a stalemate during its initial regular-season clash with Brantford.

But there was absolutely no debating who was better in a year-ending rematch Monday night.

The PAO Horticultural Magic jumped out to a commanding lead, weathered a couple of storms early in the second half and then bolstered their advantage to hammer host Brantford 7-0.

The lopsided victory - which represented the local lads' second highest output of the year - allowed them to finish on a remarkable nine-game undefeated streak that dates all the way back to mid-July.

It also secured second-place honours for Milton within the South

Region Soccer League's First Division, as North Mississauga fell two points shy after losing to top-seated Malton Tuesday evening.

The Magic nabbed the number two spot with a 10-4-2 record - splitting their wins equally between road trips and showdowns at Lions Sports Park.

Their top-two finish puts them in line for a promotion to the SRSL's Premier Division next summer.

While Monday's seven-goal differential suggests a relatively easy night, coach Andrew Bowman stressed that was far from the case.

He added, "They (Brantford) came on like gangbusters in the second half and our defense really had to play strong to hold them off."

Offensively, Jeremy Brown was a one-man wrecking crew - scoring

half-a-dozen times to match Ben Clifford's season-high six goals against St. Catharines July 18.

Brown sank the game-winner at about the 10-minute mark and finished each half with three markers. The other deposit was made by Justin Mota.

Netminder Connor Mitchell made a couple of key saves in the second half to preserve the shutout and enjoyed exceptional defensive support from Alex Marshall, Graham Offierski, Justin Pereira and Andrew Walls.

Making up the rest of this year's team were Scott Bowman, Chris Cenedese, Thomas Collins-Pallett, Trevor Cupples, Devon Isnor, Mark Murray and Mathew Price. Assisting Andrew Bowman were Michael Cupples and John Mota.

EC juniors finish third at tourney

The E.C. Drury junior girls field hockey team will be extremely hard pressed to match last season's near perfect record.

But Alisha Turner appears ready to give it a serious shot — at least if last Friday's Spartan tournament results are any indication. The second-year junior — part of the 2001 Drury squad which lost to Notre Dame 3-0 in the finals after an unbeaten regular season and playoff run — amassed all five goals for the hosts during the day-long indoor/outdoor event.

Her scoring exploits allowed the locals to finish with a 3-1-2 record for third place among nine teams.

The Spartans were blanked 3-0 by St. Thomas Aquinas in game one, but from there staved off defeat at every turn. They beat North Toronto 2-0 and delivered one-goal shutout wins over Holy Trinity and Nelson. E.C. also battled to a 1-1 tie with Assumption and a scoreless stalemate with Georgetown.

The juniors begin the season in Georgetown Monday afternoon.

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Milton Youth Soccer Club Winter Indoor Soccer 2002 / 2003 Registration

Age Group	Year of Birth	Places	Friday	Saturday
Under 6	1996 to 1997	24	18:30-19:30	
Under 8	1994 to 1995	60	18:30-19:30	alternating 13:00-14:00
Under 11	1991 to 1993	48	19:30-20:30	alternating 14:00-15:00
Under 14	1988 to 1990	48	20:30-21:30	alternating 15:00-16:00

Dates: Nov. 1, 2002 to Mar. 14, 2003
Location: Bishop Reding Secondary School

Fee: \$75.00 per player

Registration Dates:
Saturday, September 28, 2002
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Time: 10:00 to 16:00
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