Haydar back with Milwaukee

Starts new season tomorrow

By STEVE LeBLANC

The Champion

Darren Haydar begins his fourth pro hockey season tomorrow night, but unfortunately it won't be at the level he had hoped.

While not exactly surprised to have been sent back to the AHL Milwaukee Admirals late last month, the 25-year-old right winger said it would have been nice. to have gotten a closer look by Nashville.

"Oh definitely it's disappointing," said the 5'9", 160-pounder, who has three 50plus point seasons in the AHL under his belt. 'I was hoping for more of an opportunity (with the Predators)."

But Haydar remains cautiously optimistic about the chances of at least seeing some spot duty with Nashville this season, especially if the NHL's commitment to obstruction-free hockey is maintained. "Supposedly there won't be as much contact this year, and obviously that's to my benefit."

The establishment of shoot-outs certainly works in Haydar's favour as well, since he's about as offensively gifted as any Predators hopeful out there and fared well when the AHL introduced the shoot-out last season.

"There's going to be some old critics that don't like it (shoot-out), but hey, it gives the fans a winner each night instead of just a defensive battle,"

> remarked the Milwaukee sniper, a shootout scorer in one of two pre-season games he played with Nashville. "The AHL fans warmed up to it pretty quick last year."

Scoring in back-to-back exhibition tilts with the Admirals last weekend, Haydar will no doubt be looked upon to carry a bigger offensive load this season with Nashville sporting a younger team and not quite as much depth.

The Admirals also seem to be without a defenceman capable of quarterbacking the powerplay - something that'll have to be addressed if they hope to return to Calder Cup contention.

"There's still a lot of ability here, but we've got some work ahead of us," said Haydar, who led Milwaukee to the AHL title in Haydar 2004 with a 26-point playoff drive.

The Admirals kick off 2005/06 play tomorrow evening at home versus the Grand Rapids Griffins.

IceHawks dump Bramalea

for the IceHawks.

Continuing its early-season tear at Bramalea's Victoria Park Arena Tuesday, Milton weathered a slow start en route to toppling the offensively-challenged Blues 6-1.

The victory marked the eighth time this year that the IceHawks — who at 8-0-1-1 are the only team in the Provincial Jr. A League that hasn't lost in regulation time yet — surrendered two goals or less.

Scored against just 17 times overall so far, Milton sits in excellent position to break the club record for fewest goals allowed in a season — set by the 1997/98 All-Ontario championship squad that gave up 127. Last year's contingent surrendered

Milton didn't get on the board until the midway point of the game, but put any hopes for a suspenseful finish to rest with a four-goal third period.

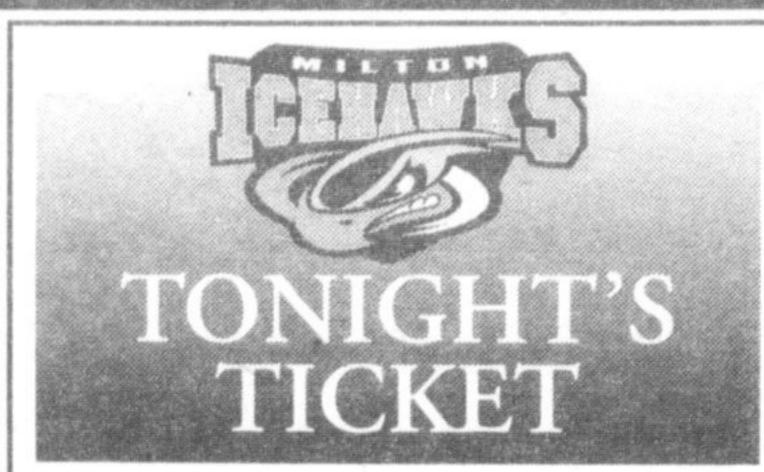
Zach Kleiman continued an impressive season start with an 18-save performance, while Matt Price and Jeff Caister kept themselves deadlocked for the team scoring lead with a goal and two assists apiece.

Aaron Lewicki helped fuel the latest triumph with three helpers and Kevin Morrison also stood out with a goal and an

Another night, another convincing win assist. Rounding out the scoring were Brandon DeFazio, Dan Falbo and Matt

> In a far more chippy affair compared to last Friday's 11-1 dismantling of the Buffalo Jr. Sabres — who share occupancy of the Western Conference basement with Bramalea — Tuesday's win included two dozen penalties.

> The IceHawks begin what promises to be a more competitive stretch tonight at home against the second-place Georgetown Raiders.



Milton IceHawks (8-0-1-1) vs. Georgetown Raiders (6-2-1-1)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. at Memorial Who to watch: Veteran defenceman Jeff Caister has been piling up the points so far this year and is on pace to join a select group of Milton blueliners to record 50 or more points in a season. The skinny: The IceHawks have been playing with lots of intensity these days and will need more of the same to turn back a Georgetown team that's faced stiffer competition in recent weeks. Champion's pick: Milton by two

Milton Lacrosse Association Annual General Meeting

is being held on Thursday, October 13th, 2005, at 7:30 pm in the Meeting Room at the Tonelli Community Room, 217 Laurier Ave., Milton, for the purposes of Electing 2006 Board of Directors and amendments to the M.L.A. Constitution and By-Laws.



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