

'Hawks will be more than just a development team: Anderson

By Steve LeBlanc CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Worried that the IceHawks' competitiveness may fall by the way with their affiliation with the OHL's Mississauga IceDogs?

Well don't go hitting the panic button just yet.

That's the message Jay Anderson delivered this past weekend, following the local Tier 2 Jr. A club's annual prospects evaluation camp at Etobicoke's Westwood Arena.

The recently-hired head coach said that while he'll be grooming players for the par-MILTON ent club and that Milton

won't be stacked with overage OHLers this coming season, it'll be more than just a development team.

"Our two 1990s will no doubt be Mississauga draft picks, but not

everyone will be from the IceDogs," explained Anderson. "We've been aggressively recruiting and are in the process of acquiring some impact Jr. B players. We're going to surprise some people."

Among the local prospects he was particularly impressed with at last week's camp were Halton Hurricane minor midgets Scott Stover and Jeremy Price — who was taken in the 11th round by the Oshawa Generals in last month's OHL Entry Draft.

Noted Anderson, "I would have liked to have had more local guys out, but the ones that were there put themselves in position to get invited to our main camp in August. We had a smaller (rookie) camp, with 18 forwards, 12 defencemen and nine goalies. That gave us a chance to give everyone a real look, and that's what we heard from the players."

Anderson and IceDogs' Dave Brown — who's assuming general manager duties for both teams right now - are in the midst of finalizing two trades with other Tier 2 clubs, and are close to hiring an assistant coach, one who's said to have a fair amount of experience in the Provincial Jr. A League's Western Conference.

"We'll need one more assistant, and would like have a former player type like a Jeff Seeds or John Nadalin," said Anderson.

The IceHawks will hold their main camp for the 2006/07 season starting in mid-August.

Haydar, Admirals even in AHL finals

Win or lose the Calder Cup this week, Darren Haydar and his Milwaukee Admirals will wrap up their season on home

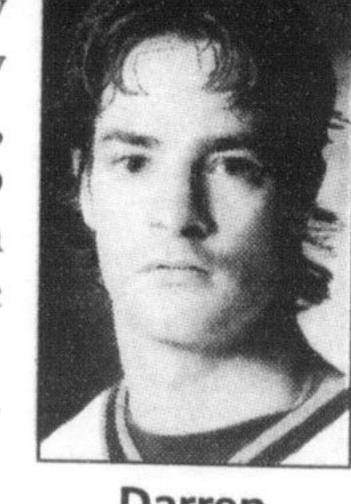
A 7-2 loss to the Hershey Bears Sunday evening knotted the American Hockey League championship at two games apiece, and means the series will be going back to Milwaukee for at least one game - with tonight's winner able to clinch the title at the Bradley Centre Thursday.

If necessary, a seventh and deciding contest will be played in Milwaukee Saturday.

While the Admirals are two wins away from capturing their second Calder Cup in three years, Haydar is two games away from equaling an AHL playoff record.

With a second-period goal Sunday, he extended his pointscoring streak to 14 games — two shy of the league's postseason benchmark.

Haydar delivered his sixth game winner of the playoffs the night before and added an assist to defeat Hershey 2-0 in game three. The three-point weekend lifted him to 17 goals and 17 assists in 19 games — keeping him atop the post-season scoring race.



Darren Haydar