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# AHL sniper handles rapid-fire queries

• from HAYDAR on page A16

You've played in a number of all-star games at different levels, what's your favourite all-star game memory?

I'd probably have to say my rookie year (in the AHL), just being younger and not really knowing what to take out of it. It was with a lot of great players. Jason Spezza was in that game. I think I'm probably the only one who played in that game that's not playing in the NHL. There were a lot of great players and it's the future of the NHL.

Does that ever make you wonder whether you will get that opportunity?

Oh definitely. That's what I strive for. That's what keeps me pushing to be the best player I can be. My ultimate goal is to make it to the National Hockey League.

With your scoring streak this year, you now have a stick in the Hockey Hall of Fame. What's it like to have something in the Hall?

It's a team accomplishment. It just shows the great players I played with this year and our team, how good our team is.

What does it mean to you personally?

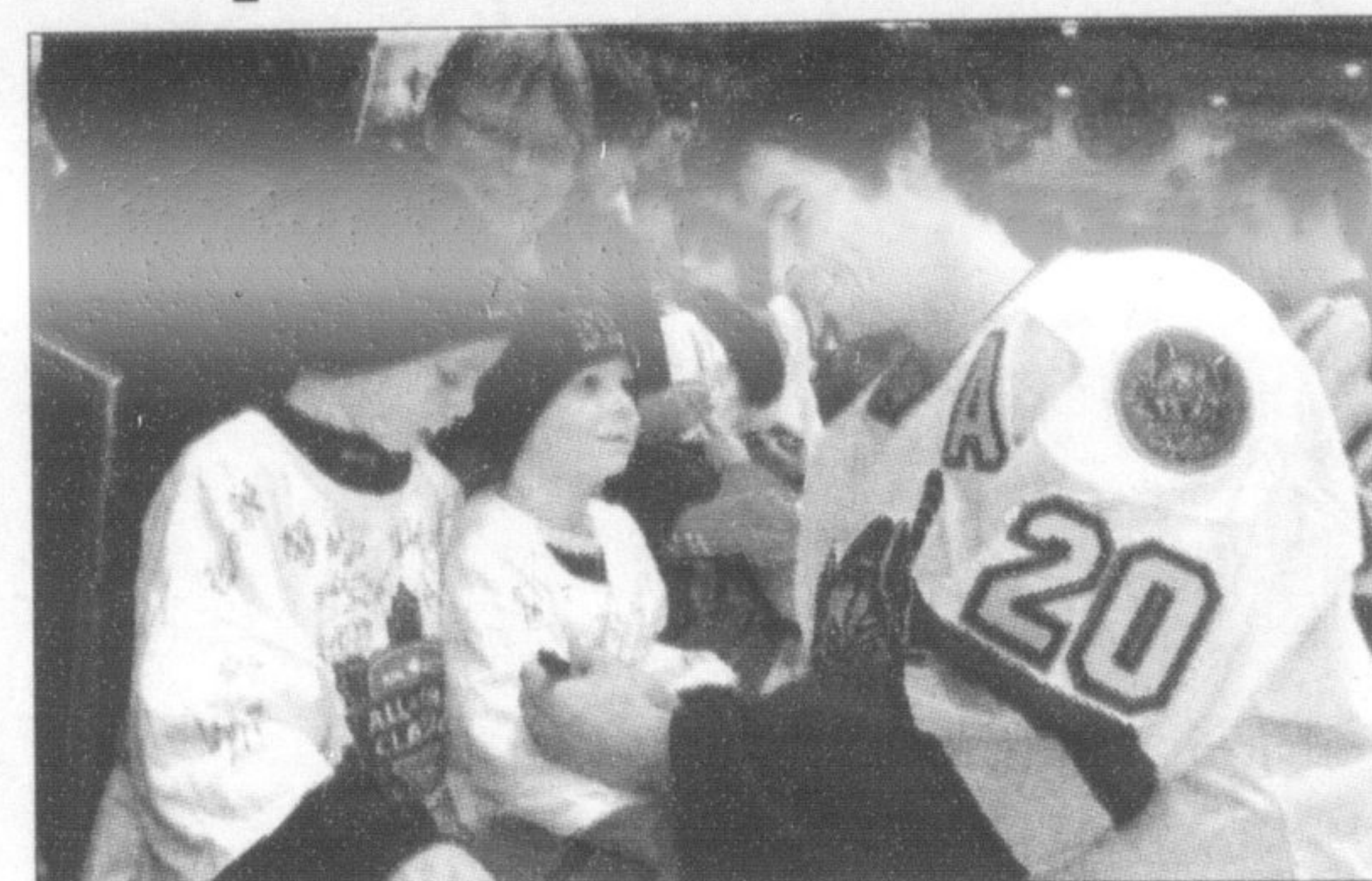
I think it's going to mean more as we go along and in the summer when I get a chance to sit back and think about it. Right now, it's one of those things, it's just part of the season and part of my job. What player do you see in the AHL that deserves a chance in the NHL?

At some point, if not now, I'd have to say Curtis Murphy. He's been the Eddie Shore winner — best defenceman in the league. He's a great player. It's just one of those things. He's battling the same thing I am — his size. It's just one of those things, I can't explain.

If you were to get called up tomorrow, what wouldn't you miss about the AHL?

Ah, just the long road trips, the type of travel. It's what everyone points to as being tougher in the American League.

What do you do on those trips to entertain yourself? Watch DVDs, read books and occasionally play



GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

**SIGNING IN:** Darren Haydar signs autographs for some young fans at the AHL skills competition in Toronto.

poker.

What's the best movie you've seen lately?

Best movie I seen. I liked Da Vinci Code.

What's the best city to visit?

Toronto.

What does Milton have that Chicago doesn't?

Friends and family.

What are the must-see, must-do things in Chicago?

I'd have to say Navy Pier. It's a great attraction. And just the overall nightlife.

Here are some Chicago either/ors: Deep dish or thin crust?

Deep dish.

Cubs or White Sox?

Oh, I'd say Cubs.

Oprah or Jerry Springer?

Neither. (laughs) I think America's choice is Oprah.

Bears or Colts?

I've gone with the Colts everywhere else so I'm going to stay with Colts.

Is that going to get you in trouble in Chicago?

No, no, no. I did it on a TV interview in Chicago. I think I'm already in trouble on that one. I like both teams. They're both great. Defence wins championships but I'd like to see Peyton Manning win a Super Bowl.



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