

Werek staying put with Spirit

BY JIM MASON
Staff Writer

Kingston, you can have The Tragically Hip, Don Cherry and your numerous correctional facilities.

But you're not getting Ethan Werek. The first round pick of the Kingston Frontenacs in the 2007 Ontario Hockey League draft is staying with the Stouffville Spirit of the Provincial Jr. A Hockey League.

His father and the co-owner of the Spirit, Zeev Werek, reiterated the family's decision this week, in the face of speculation Ethan may jump to Kingston.

He was ready to "attend" Kingston's camp for a look-see last month, but still keep his NCAA eligibility. That's a long way from "reporting" to the Frontenacs as some had written.

A knee injury during the Spirit pre-season cancelled that excursion and kept the 16-year-old out of action until last week.

Ethan, who is in Grade 11 at private Pickering College in Newmarket, has committed to attend Boston University on a scholarship starting in 2009. The Wereks say they told all OHL teams that asked of their plans last spring.

"I'm tired of having tell people (of our plans) over and over again," Zeev said Thursday.

This week, he was a first-round pick again, this time by Indiana Ice of the

United States Hockey League. He could play in the USHL, which, like the Provincial league, is considered amateur by U.S. colleges, while the OHL is deemed professional because players receive weekly financial allowances.

But, he's sticking with his hometown

Spirit (4-3-2), the team his dad bought into nine years ago.

Ethan played in his third game of the season Thursday, a 7-4 loss to the Orangeville Crushers (3-5-0).

Orangeville scored four times in the last 1:36, including two empty-netters.

Spartan juniors remain unbeaten


The Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans junior girls' basketball team won its second game in as many outings Thursday 35-30 over host Sir William Mulock Secondary School (Newmarket).

Brooke Kiatipis had 11 points for the Spartans, who tipped off their regular season Sept. 24 with a 39-38 win over Newmarket High School.

The senior Spartans lost their opener, 36-34 loss to the St. Elizabeth Catholic High School Panthers (Thornhill).

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