

Will Acton making case to stick with Edmonton Oilers

Will Acton is making a case for earning employment this season with the National Hockey League's Edmonton Oilers.

The 26-year-old Stouffville resident and former Stouffville Spirit and Clipper forward scored the game-winning goal in the second period on a tip-in to propel the Oilers to a 2-1 win over the Winnipeg Jets in an exhibition tilt in Edmonton Monday.

For Acton, the goal marked the second straight game in which he's lit the red light.

The son of Oilers' associate coach Keith Acton, Will played the last two seasons with the Toronto Marlies of the American Hockey League — under new Oilers head coach Dallas Eakins.

Last season, he had eight goals and 11 assists in 67 regular season tilts.

As for trying to make the NHL club, Acton said he's just concentrating on trying to play to the best of his ability.

"I'm just trying to stick to the basics and execute our game plan," he said on the Oilers' website after Monday's contest.

"I'm trying to focus in on what I have to do to improve every day

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and focus in on my game."

The Oilers, who wrap up their preseason schedule tomorrow, open the regular season at home to the Winnipeg Jets Tuesday.

Will was less than a year old when his dad was on the 1988 Oilers Stanley Cup championship team.

He was bypassed in the NHL and Ontario Hockey League drafts.

Knee injury shelve Torres

Raffi Torres will be starting his 2013-14 National Hockey League season as a member of the San Jose Sharks in the stands.

For the 31-year-old Stouffville resident, it isn't by choice.

He incurred a knee injury that could put him on the shelf anywhere from six weeks to four months.

The incident took place when the Sharks played the Anaheim Ducks in a preseason game last Friday, resulting in a 3-2 overtime loss.

During the game, the veteran forward collided with Emerson

Etem and was diagnosed with an ACL injury.

If Torres does not have surgery, he could be out six weeks.

Should Torres go under the knife, he could be out three to four months.

Acquired from the Phoenix Coyotes part way through last season, Torres had two goals and four assists in 11 games with the Sharks.

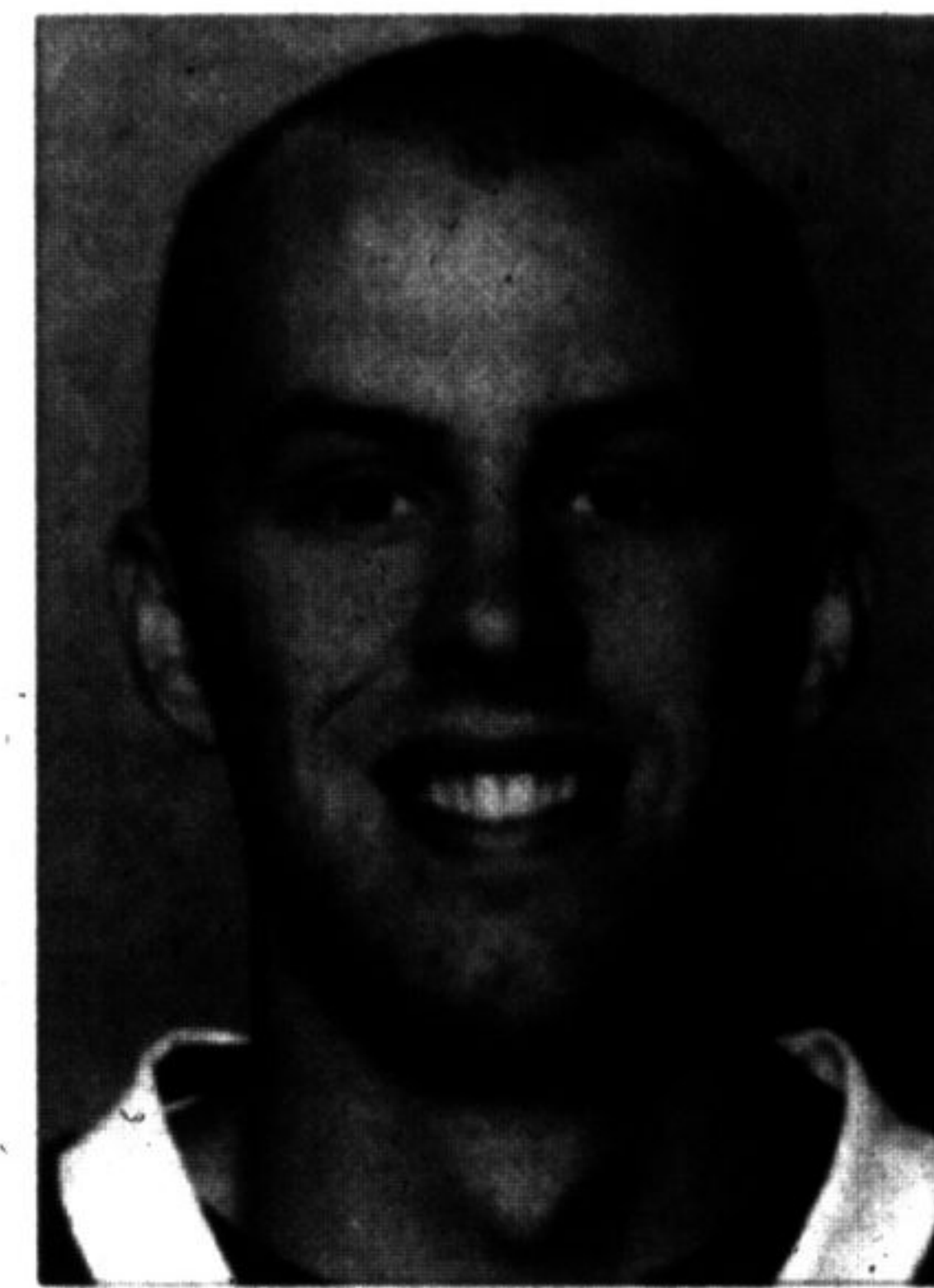
Signed to a three-year, \$6 million contract extension earlier this year, Torres was a former first-round pick of the New York Islanders during the 2000 NHL entry draft.

Atom A Stars shine

The Stouffville-Markham Atom A Stars captured the gold medal from the third annual Stouffville-Markham StarsFest Tournament with a 3-2 shootout win over Mississauga in the title tilt last Sunday.

Trailing 2-0 with nine minutes remaining in regulation time, the Stars rallied to tie the game before conclusion of the third period and set the stage for the dramatic shootout session.

In reaching the final, the Stars went undefeated in the tournament



WILL ACTON: Stouffville product is fighting for a spot on the Edmonton Oilers roster during preseason.

after battling Aurora to a 0-0 tie in their opener and then defeating Peterborough 2-0, tying Durham West 1-1 and edging Mississauga 1-0 before facing them again in the final.

Coached by Brad Morris, Andrew Arsenault, Stephanie MacRae and Doug Arsenault, team members included: Rachel Beach, Alexia Stratos, Olivia Pridham, Teghan MacRae, Emily

Redshaw, Megan Thompson, Caitlin Hollands, Martine Falzone, Katrina McBain, Meghan Arsenault, Karina Moffat, Emma Arsenault, Hannah Hembruff, Sarah Capodagli, Taya Leonard and Hannah Morris.

Phoenix demotes Werek

Ethan Werek was among 10 players assigned by the Phoenix Coyotes to start the 2013-14 hockey season with their American Hockey League affiliate Portland Pirates, the National Hockey League club announced Thursday.

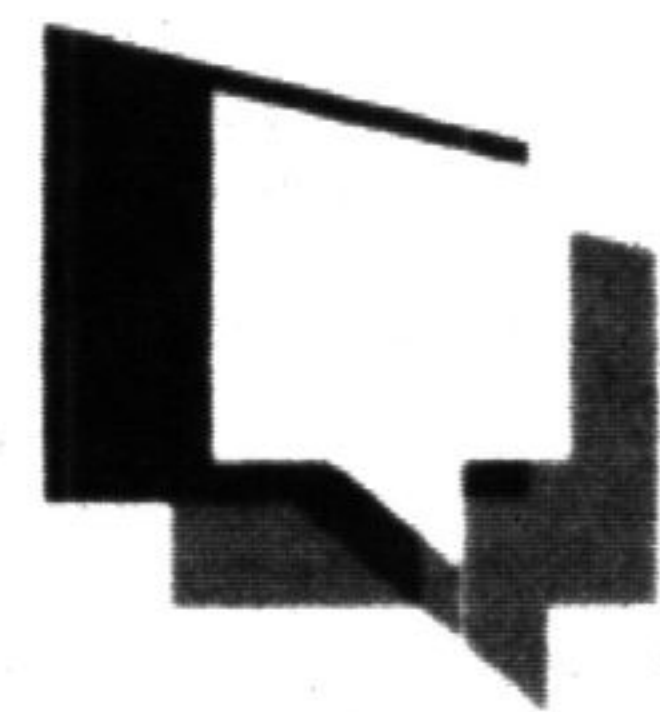
The 22-year-old Goodwood resident and former Stouffville Spirit forward played the last two seasons with the Pirates.

Last season, Werek had 11 goals and 14 assists in 67 regular season games.

The son of Spirit co-owner Zeev Werek, Ethan was a second round draft pick of the New York Rangers in the 2009 NHL entry draft.

He was dealt to Phoenix by the Rangers in 2011.

Werek played for the Spirit during the 2007-08 Ontario Junior Hockey League campaign.



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