



Dear Hockey Community:

Here is an update to Derek Zike's condition as of February 2, 2009.

Derek's surgery to complete the fusion was successful and he is recovering nicely. One drawback to the surgery is that it set his recovery back about a week or so but surgery was necessary to complete the repair to the fracture sight.

Today was a positive day for Derek. His lungs are getting clearer from the recent bout with pneumonia and he is participating in a "respiratory boot camp" to strengthen his lungs. He is off the ventilator and while he still has an oxygen cannula in place, he is breathing on his own.

Derek sat upright today for an hour or so while performing extensive physical therapy and the therapy for his upper body is going well.

The swelling was substantial at the injury site and it could take quite some time for the swelling to subside but every day Derek maintains his positive attitude and his "can do" approach to the therapy is a step in the right direction.

Tomorrow Derek will receive a swallow test and if all goes according to plan, he may be moved from ICU to another room.

The Fury and Arctic benefit for Derek and his family is Friday, February 13, 2009, at Arctic Ice Arena in Orland Park, Illinois. The Fury website has a link to the evening's events so please take a look at the website and plan on attending the event as a show of support for the Zikes!

Any items which you wish to donate to the silent auction may be sent to:

Arctic Ice Arena
c/o John Stevens
Zike Benefit
10700 West 160th Street
Orland Park, IL 60467

Received items will be stored in a secure location until the auction and benefit commence on the 13th.

The information discussing how families may contribute to the fund is located on the Fury website (www.chicagofury.com) and click the link entitled, "Contribution Information for Derek Zike".

Please return frequently to the Chicago Fury website for updates on Derek's condition and information regarding the benefit on February 13, 2009.

Thank you for your thoughts and concerns and please keep your prayers coming.

The Chicago Fury