

## AYSC player commits to Division 1 school



**By Jake Courtepatte**

One of Aurora's homegrown athletic stars is taking her talents to pitches south of the border.

17-year old Deanna Persico signed her Letter-of-Intent with Fairleigh Dickinson University at the Aurora Youth Soccer Club offices last week.

A part of the organization since the age of four, Persico has grown up keeping goal competitively for the Stinglers. Among her other accomplishments are stints in the Ontario Youth Soccer League, as well as with the Vaughan Soccer Club.

Her next step is joining the New Jersey-based FDU, earning an athletic scholarship to play for the Knights in the NCAA's Division 1, the highest intercollegiate sporting level in the United States.

"As soon as I got on campus, it just felt right," said Deanna at the signing. "The school is in a great location, the soccer facilities are really nice, and the academic programs that are being offered are a perfect fit for me to study in chemistry."

The Knights posted a 14-5-1 record last season, playing in the Northeast Conference.