

# Sports & Leisure

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## Spirit not there in road loss to Aurora Tigers

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The Spirit of Stouffville were to spend Monday's practice trying to figure out how to install a 'Closed' sign on the freeway leading to their own net.

The Spirit were blasted 14-5 by the 1996-97

Metro Junior A Hockey League champion Aurora Tigers Friday night as the Stouffville squad simply couldn't contain the giant sized bengals in the small Aurora rink.

While the Spirit's five goals left them atop their Provincial Junior A Hockey League Phillips Division in offence, head coach Dan Larmer said it's time to seal the leaks in their own end.

"We were running around too much in our own end, each player was trying to help out the other guy rather than stick to a simple man-to-man cover-

age," said Larmer. "We definitely have to work on keeping the puck out of our net."

Larmer said the defeat, coming on the heels of a well-played, narrow loss to the defending Provincial league's east conference champion Newmarket 87's Hurricane at home Thursday, didn't sit well with him or the players.

"It was an empty feeling in the dressing room. We were so pumped up against Newmarket, but I think they forgot Aurora was the Metro league champion last year. But we're definitely not going to tolerate those kind of losses around here any more."

Larmer said he'll be quick to bring in some new faces if the team repeats Friday's performance.

On the bright side, Mike Micheff netted a pair for the Spirit, while Geoff Keillor scored his team-leading sixth goal of the young season.

Darcy King picked up his fourth marker, adding two assists. Kevin Edgar also scored.

The Spirit will try again to hold the Tigers Thursday night at the Rec Centre, then are idle until the Lindsay Muskies come to town the following Thursday evening.



SAVING THE DAY: Stouffville Clippers minor atom A goalkeeper Adam Davis and defenceman Devon McDougall try their best to stop this shot taken by Markham Islanders' forward Daniel Parcente during first-round action in the Markham Waxers' Early Bird Tournament at the Scarborough Ice Palace on Friday.

Photo by SJOERD WITTEVEEN

## Minor novices capture two of first five outings

Win two, lose three.

That's the early line as the Stouffville minor novice Clippers have looked competitive in pre-season and league play.

The Clippers received a goal from Kyle Miller as they fell 4-1 to Uxbridge in their first exhibition game.

They were then edged 4-3 by East Gwillimbury despite putting up a tight fight in the opener of the Markham Waxers Early Bird Tournament held over the weekend.

But the Clippers came back to bounce Ajax 7-0, before losing 7-3 to Vaughan in the quarter-finals.

Clippers MVP's in the tournament were Simon Kennedy, Jeff Gibson and Nathan James. Scoring for Stouffville were Kyle Miller (four goals, two assists), Mitchell Raithby (two goals, two assists), Evan Tsiopoulos and Simon Kennedy (one goal, three assists each), Jeff McGuckin (one goal, two assists), Jeff Gibson (one goal, one assist), Wes Wittebols (one goal), Nathan James (two goals), Ryne Parsons (one goal), Justin Lacey (two assists), Liam McNeely and Matthew Briggs (one assist each).

In their season opener against Ajax on Sunday, Tsiopoulos hit for three goals and two assists in a Clippers' 5-0 win.

Kennedy had a goal and two assists, with Wittebols adding the fifth marker. Raithby picked up two assists.

Michael Bigioni, Richard Downing and goal keepers Tyler Lorenzen and Tyler Neil round out the Clippers roster. Mike Briggs is head coach with Kevin McGuckin as assistant. Brad Raithby is trainer, and Richard Downing manager.

### Clippers put Georgina on Ice

Justin Cheshire had the shutout magic, and Tyler McMaster led the scoring with two goals and an assist as the Stouffville major peewee Clippers blanked the Georgina Ice 5-0 in their season opener Sunday night at the Rec Centre.

Cam Davis, Matt Wright and Andy Gibson also scored for the Clippers.

Other assists went to Wright, Marcus D'Annunzio, Gibson, Robert Hooper and Andrew McKay.

## Midget Clippers are on a roll in early going

The midget Clippers have jumped out to a quick start in the first two weeks of the new season, managing a win in their league opener, and two victories and a tie in four games in tournament play.

The Clippers were also on course for their two pre-season contests, hanging defeats of 7-3 and 5-2 on Port Perry and East Gwillimbury respectively.

The Stouffville squad kicked off the season with a 14-0 drubbing of Ajax.

At the Peterborough AA tournament over the weekend, the Clippers led off with a hard fought 2-2 tie with a strong Owen Sound team, before downing Markham 10-2 in game two.

The Clippers blanked the host team 5-0 to finish out the round robin, but were stopped 5-4 in double overtime

by Etobicoke in the first round of the playoffs.

Leading the points parade for the Clippers over the seven games was Tyler Markle with 11 goals and four assists. Brett Boyd had seven goals and six assists; Brad Clubine four goals and nine assists; Brent Jennings four goals and four assists; Kyle Harrison three goals and seven assists; Brad Johnson three goals and six assists; Andrew Korb five goals and two assists; Cory Turgeon four goals and two assists; Lawrence Bungaro one goal and six assists; Chad Kerswill one goal and five assists; Mark Meyers one goal and three assists; Mike Wood one goal and two assists; Tyler Armstrong one goal and three assists; Paul Bouchard and Chris Howland, four assists each; Ian McDougall three assists.

Jeremy Marshman and Carman Auciello have supplied solid goaltending to start the season.



## Juveniles set to debut Saturday

Stouffville fans will get the chance to check out Toronto Maple Leaf forward Tie Domi's cousin this Saturday night at the Rec Centre.

Dominek Domi will be in uniform for the Stouffville juvenile Clippers when they play their home opener this Saturday at 8 p.m.

The Clippers, who sport a strong Markham flavour, closed out the pre-season exhibition schedule last Thursday by defeating Brampton 8-3.

The game matched the two finalists in the 1996-

97 OMHA juvenile finals, which saw Brampton prevail in seven games.

The Clippers, who have transferred to Stouffville after playing out of Markham in previous years, got a solid effort from Stouffville's Andrew Hutchison, who managed a goal and an assist.

Joel Singleton netted the hat trick, with Domi chipping in with a pair. Joe Galluzzo and Pat Davies added singles.

The Clippers were scheduled to open this season in Pickering on Monday.