

### Benign Bikers To Raise Funds For Heart And Stroke



Gentlemen and women, pump your pedals. The Heart and Stroke Foundation's Big Bike comes to town on May 10, with the first team leaving the Boston Pizza parking lot at 4 p.m. Stouffville Lions Club, seen here at a previous event, is one of nine teams participating in the event. For more information and to sponsor a team or individual, visit [www.bigbike.ca](http://www.bigbike.ca) and click on Register Now.

### LIONS SCREENING PROGRAM BENEFITS STUDENTS



In April, the Stouffville Lions Club conducted its annual vision screening program at local schools, including Oscar Peterson Public School. The tests are designed to detect potential problems and students can then be referred to their eye care specialist for treatment. Seen here on April 24 are students from senior kindergarten with volunteers from the Lions Club. Kinjal Dagli-Shah photo

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Ken attributed the championship run to the experience gained by so many of his players in last year's playoffs, and to the abilities of the team's head coach Craig Donovan and assistant coach Jeff Perrin. "We learned a lot last year. The experience they had was huge. And the coaches have to take a lot of the credit."

The bubble finally burst when the Spirit lost its bid to compete for the Royal Bank Cup, which exemplifies Canadian Junior hockey supremacy. They fell 5-3 to the Soo Thunderbirds in the title tilt of the Central Canadian Junior A Championship Dudley-Hewitt Cup tournament in Thunder Bay April 21. It was a game Ken thinks his team should have won.

"I still don't know if they were the best team," Ken said of the Soo squad, which his team handily whipped 10-2 in round robin play just two days earlier. "We didn't take advantage of our opportunities. It was a hard pill to swallow."

But he felt that time would take the sting out of that setback as he and the Spirit players

look back on their history-making OJHL championship run. "I'm sure in a few weeks they'll appreciate what they did."



Spirit co-owner Ken Burrows, who assembled the championship team, proudly displays the Buckland Cup at a post game celebration at Boston Pizza. Bruce Stapley Photo

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