

Munroe perfect in net in back-to-back shutouts for Tigers



By Jake Courtepatte

Aurora's Junior A Tigers were back in action in Lindsay last Tuesday looking for their first win of the New Year, facing the divisional rival Muskies.

Looking to bounce back from a mediocre December, the Tigers' offence came out pressing, putting up eighteen shots in the first period alone.

Only one beat Muskie goaltender Boyd Diclemente, as Mack Lemmon notched a goal from Drake Board and Daniel Mantenuto for the 1 ? 0 lead at first intermission.

Board doubled the lead in the dying seconds of the second period, scoring his fifteenth of the year in an impressive sophomore season.

Meanwhile, at the other end, Tigers goaltender Andy Munroe was strong between the pipes stopping all thirteen shots in the period.

After solid goaltending on both sides for most of the third, Lemmon and forward Johnny Curran each found the back of the net in the final two minutes to run up the score to a 4 ? 0 win.

Munroe made a total of 37 saves in the shutout.

His stellar performance had him back between the pipes for a back-to-back the next day, as the Tigers headed East to take on the Wellington Dukes.

This first period was a much more defensive affair, as the Tigers put up only eight shots to Wellington's six in a scoreless frame.

Neither goaltender was beaten until the final five minutes of the second, when Shane Beaulieu gave the Tigers a 1 ? 0 lead with assists from Neuman and Sam Quaranta.

That score would remain until the Dukes were forced to pull their goaltender for the extra man in the dying minutes of the game, allowing Cameron Morrison to bury one into the empty net for Munroe's second shutout in two nights.

Returning home to the Aurora Community Centre two nights later, Munroe may have happened to show his first signs of fatigue, giving up two power play goals to the Stouffville Spirit in the first period.

Eric Williams would put the Tigers on the board with his own power play marker in the second, but that was as close as the Tigers would come, giving up two more in the third in a 4 ? 1 loss.

The Tigers more than doubled the Spirit in shots on goal, totalling 44 in the losing effort.

With the loss, the Tigers give up their OJHL crown for the first time in over two months, handing it over to the Trenton Golden Hawks of the East Division.

The Golden Hawks have won eight straight games, their last loss coming at the hands of the Tigers over a month ago.

Aurora remains dominant in the North Division, fifteen points up on second-place Stouffville.

The Tigers return to action at home on Friday to face the Cobourg Cougars in only their second meeting all year.

Cobourg will be looking to avenge an 8 ? 2 loss at their home rink earlier this season.

Puck drop is at 7.30 p.m. at the Aurora Community Centre.

For stats, schedules, and more information, visit www.auroratigers.pointstreaksites.com.