

The Independent & Free Press

Weekend Edition

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Testing...testing...

The latest results from last spring's province-wide testing of Grade 3 students are in and the results for Halton students are promising.

Results released last week from the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) show students from both the Halton District School Board and Halton Catholic District School Board, scored above the provincial average in the tests which measured students' ability in reading, writing and mathematics.

That's great.

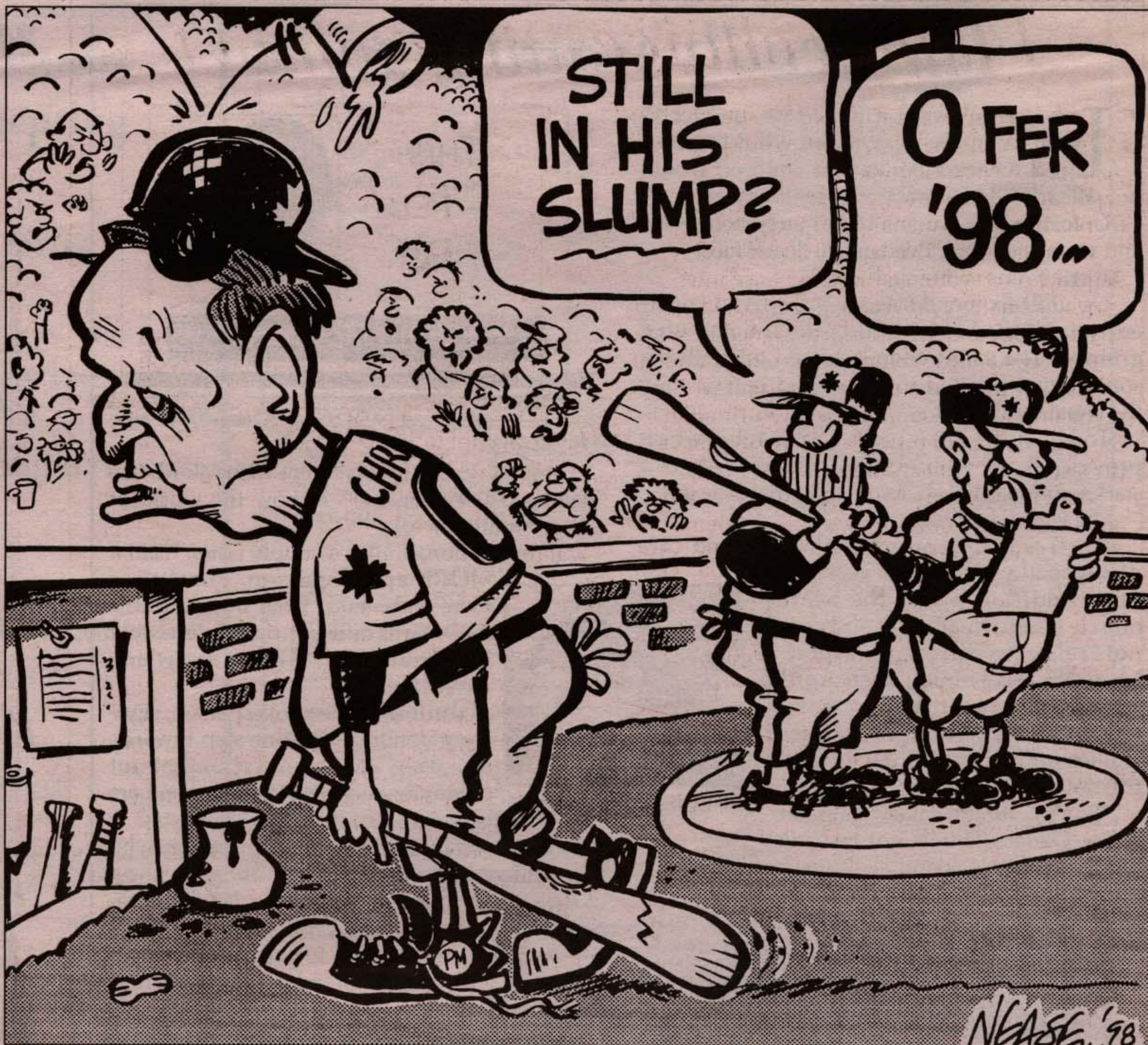
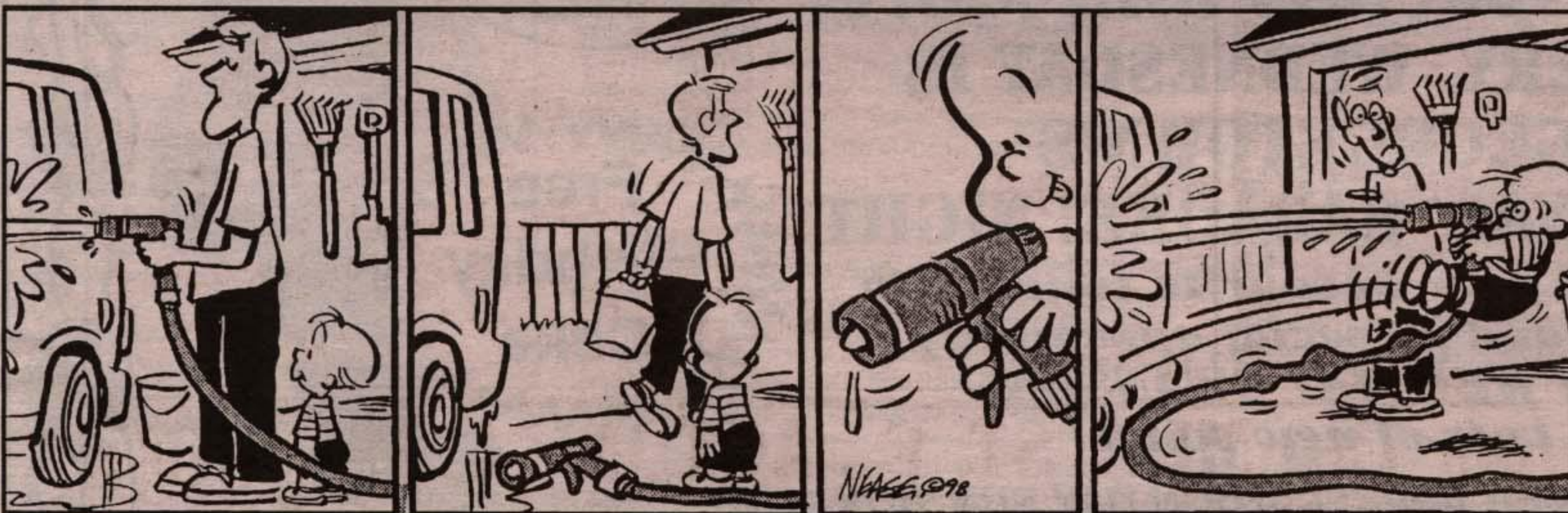
What's even better is that there is now a process of province-wide testing, courtesy of the provincial government, that gives students, teachers, parents and school board officials a clear indication of whether or not students are meeting the new higher standards.

Kit Rankin, a superintendent with the Halton District School Board says the testing is helpful because it suggests where a board should focus its attention and the fact the tests are independently assessed means they are graded objectively.

Next year testing will be expanded to include students in Grade 6 as well as Grade 3 and Grade 10 students will be given a written literacy test.

The end result of province-wide testing is quite simple: to ensure today's students are learning what they should learn and to make them well-prepared for the day they leave school.

PUD



Acton residents must now direct energy elsewhere

Dear editor,

I was in attendance Monday, Oct. 26 at Halton Hills council, along with many other Acton residents, to witness the final decision on the fate of Prospect Park arena. Although we did not succeed in saving the building, the strong show of support and community spirit of Acton citizens will not go unnoticed by council.

The motion by Councillor Rick Bonnette to allocate funds to assist in the construction of a new facility is a step in the right direction. We must now look to the future and direct our energies to fund-raising and meetings with council and town staff to ensure the construction of a new building for the Acton Agricultural Society and community becomes a reality.

Let's continue to show Halton Hills council the great community spirit Acton is known for.

Peter Zions, Acton

(Editor's note: The motion by Councillor Bonnette was withdrawn but will be brought forward later.)

Letter of the day

Bottle drive supporters thanked

Dear editor,

Thank you to the residents of Georgetown for their generosity to the bottle drive of the Georgetown Bantam AA Raiders during the weekend of October 17-18.

As a result of your substantial contributions we are much closer to our goal of attending tournaments in Thunder Bay and Quebec.

On behalf of my teammates, I would like to thank everyone who helped us in our fund-raiser. Our sincere thanks to: the entire coaching staff for their organization and diligent efforts; the GMHA for allowing us to hold this fund-raiser; The Independent & Free Press for promoting our bottle drive; Mrs. Van de Valk for her much-appreciated lunch for the team; The Beer Store for graciously handling the overwhelming amount of beer bottles, and also to our parents, families, and friends for their tireless help in driving and helping us handle all of the bottles.

But our biggest thanks of all goes to the citizens of Georgetown for their phenomenal support of our team with their donations of bottles and contributions. Our fund-raiser was extremely successful thanks to you.

Mark Fantegrossi,
Georgetown Bantam AA Raiders

Senior thanks leaf-raking teenagers

Dear editor,

On November 1, three great young people attended my residence. They are on the Mayor's Youth Committee, and had volunteered to rake leaves for seniors. The time scheduled was from 2-4 p.m.— they stayed an extra half hour.

How wonderful it is to know

there are special teenagers willing to assist a person who can no longer do some tasks.

When they were leaving, they left a phone number, telling me to call, should I need some assistance in the future.

A special thank you to Chantel, Stephanie and Julie.

Name withheld

Our Readers Write

The Independent & Free Press welcomes letters to the editor from our readers. All letters must be signed and include an address and a daytime telephone number. Letters may be edited for content and length and can be mailed, delivered to our office address at 211 Armstrong Ave., Georgetown, Ont., L7G 4X5, faxed to us at (905) 873-0398 or e-mailed to: independent.freepress@aztec-net.com