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School portable cleaning moving slowly

By DENNIS SMITH

Special to The Champion

Cleaning up mould from portables continues to be an uphill climb for the Halton District School Board.

Superintendent Gerry Cullen recently estimated the portable cleanups, commonly referred to as remediation, were about

two weeks behind schedule.

"They've all been checked, but the process is taking longer," said Oakville Trustee Debbie Marklew. "It has been very much a learning experience."

Remediation is going slowly because it is being done very thoroughly said the trustee, who co-chairs the ad-hoc commit-

tee on mould in portables.

Workers are checking all walls, including the exterior wall and drywall, right down to the stud frames, said Ms Marklew. She added work on vapour barriers and adjustments to external flashings are also involved.

"Parents are anxious to have the kids out of portables and they've been there since early spring," said Ms Marklew. "But we've been explaining the process and parents are happy we're going to this extent so this doesn't happen again."

The stachybotrys atra mould, part of the fungus family, was first discovered last fall

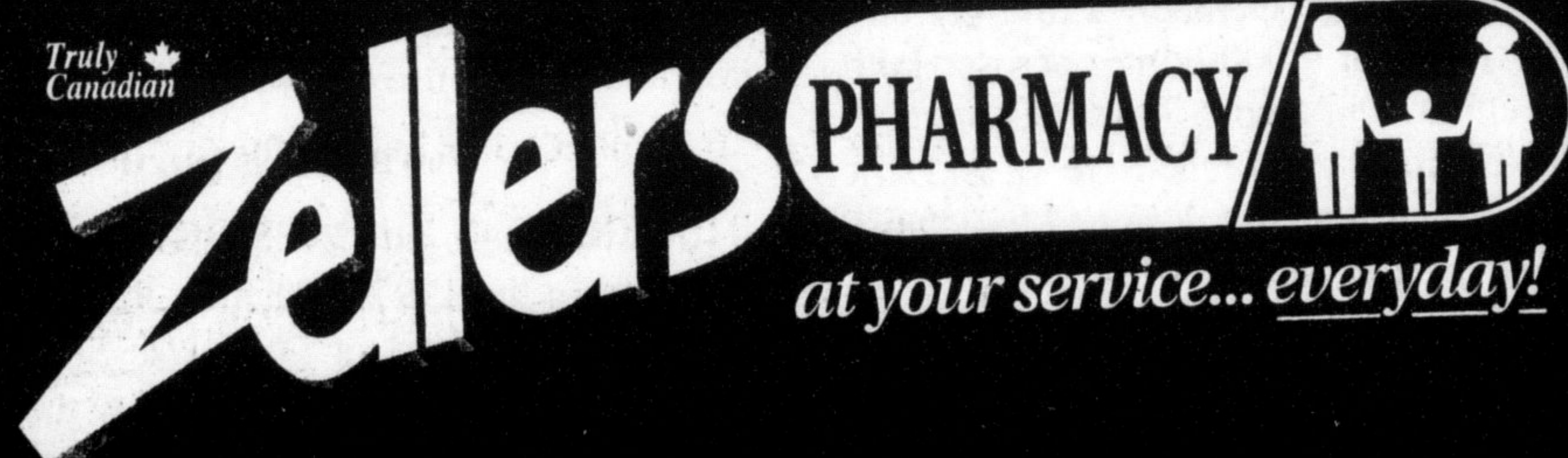
in Halton public school portables.

The potentially toxic fungus may cause or amplify allergic reactions or asthma in some children and possibly induce flu-like symptoms like nausea and headaches.

She said about 54 portables were ready when the school year started. The trustee said more than 180 portables have been checked and 40 or 50, especially those with mould in all four walls, will be disposed of altogether.

Site plan and building permits are also needed, said the trustee. She said it's hoped all the portables will be cleaned up by Christmas.

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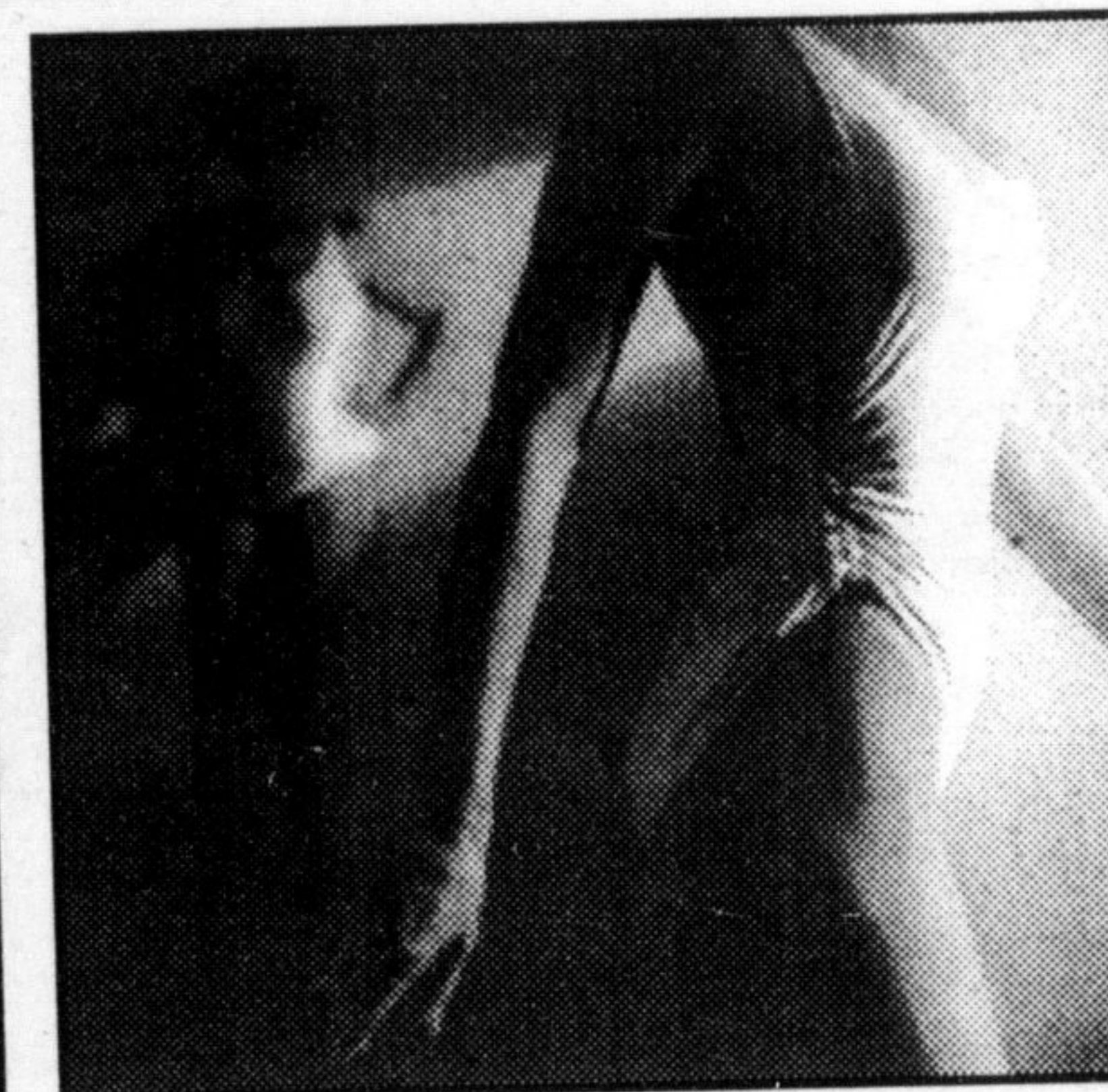
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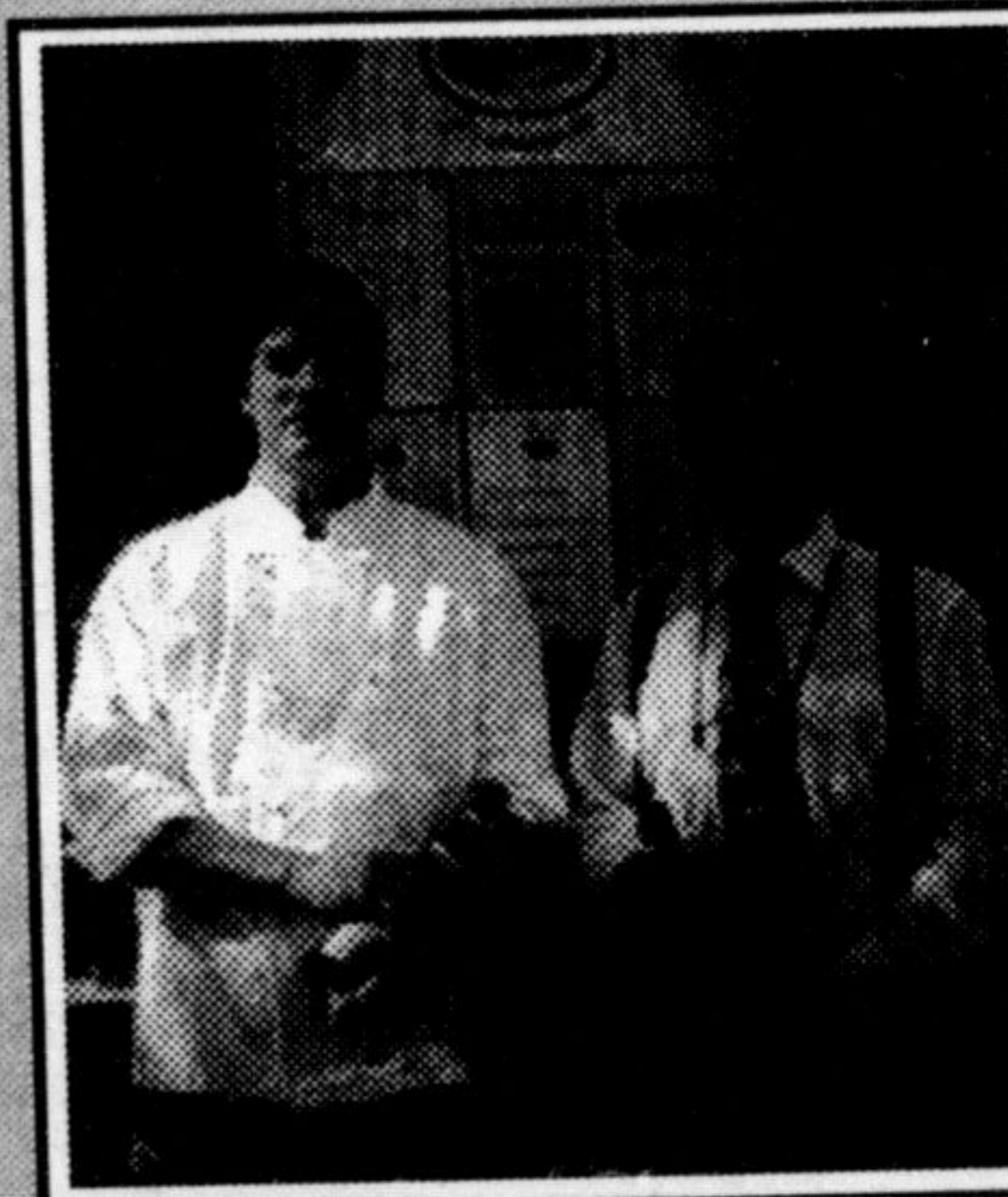
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been excellent... slightly better than our expectations," Tony says. This quaint little restaurant has even had the pleasure of serving Michael Burgess, when he was in town last weekend. The Milton com-

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munity has also been supportive to Tony and Michael. "One of our most regular comments from our customers is 'Thanks Tony for doing this for Milton' it makes us happy to know our customers are satisfied," Tony adds. Tony recently moved to Milton. "I love this town. I feel in love with the people and I want to be part of the community," Tony says. La Toscana serves fresh fish every day, and changes the specials twice a day. "We have a great selection of wines from different regions of the world," Tony says. Join Tony and Michael for lunch and/or dinner in the Old Thompson House, La Toscana, at 165 Main St. E., Milton.

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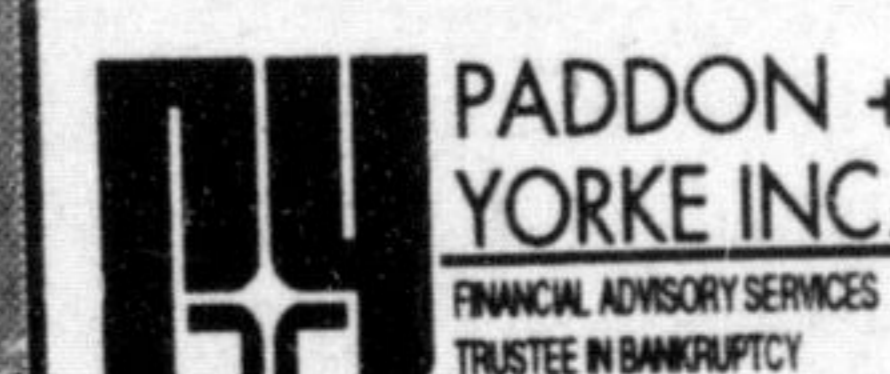
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