

Grade 9 Reding students score better than average

Bishop Reding Secondary School is the champion of grade 9 math in Milton, according to Education Quality and Accountability Office test results released last week.

The local Catholic school fared much better than its public counterparts, surpassing the provincial averages in both the academic and applied testing.

Nineteen per cent of Bishop Reding grade 9 applied math students either met or exceeded the

desired test results — compared to the provincial average of 16 per cent.

The school fared similarly well in academic math, with 69 per cent of students recording desired or above marks.

The provincial average is 52 per cent.

But for the most part, Halton District School Board (HDSB) high schools — including Milton District and E.C. Drury — fell below the provincial averages.

E.C. Drury High School saw 15 per cent of grade 9 applied math students and 58 per cent of aca-

demical math students perform at the desired or above level.

Only 9 per cent of Milton District High School grade 9 applied math students and 40 per cent of academic math students achieved desirable or better results.

But drawing comparisons between schools is an inappropriate use for test results, urged HDSB Superintendent of Program Services Barry Finlay.

"The results of these tests should not be used for making comparisons, but rather for improving student learning," he said.

Weapons the major concern

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A fellow correctional officer, who didn't want to be identified, said prisoners devised a method of sneaking alcohol and drugs into the jail through the garbage system.

"The visitors would put it in the garbage can in the front (lobby). The inmates would know the drugs would come in. The garbage from the front would be taken inside and mixed with the rest of the garbage. They (inmates) would go through the garbage and find it (contraband)."

He said Maplehurst staff are

unaware how long contraband has been smuggled into the jail, or how much has been brought in.

"We still found (contraband) in the laundry today (Friday)," said the guard, adding the original tip of the security breach came from an inmate.

Mr. Yole said the guards were worried weapons might also have been smuggled in.

Julia Noonan, a spokesperson with the Ministry of Correctional Services, told The Champion yesterday the Ministry of Labour was contacted after correctional offi-

cers exercised their right to refuse work under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, but after a search found no contraband in the facility.

"The correctional officers went back to work Friday evening," she said, adding the lock down remained in effect until yesterday morning.

She said lock downs are common in correctional facilities when contraband is found or suspected on the grounds so proper searches can be executed.

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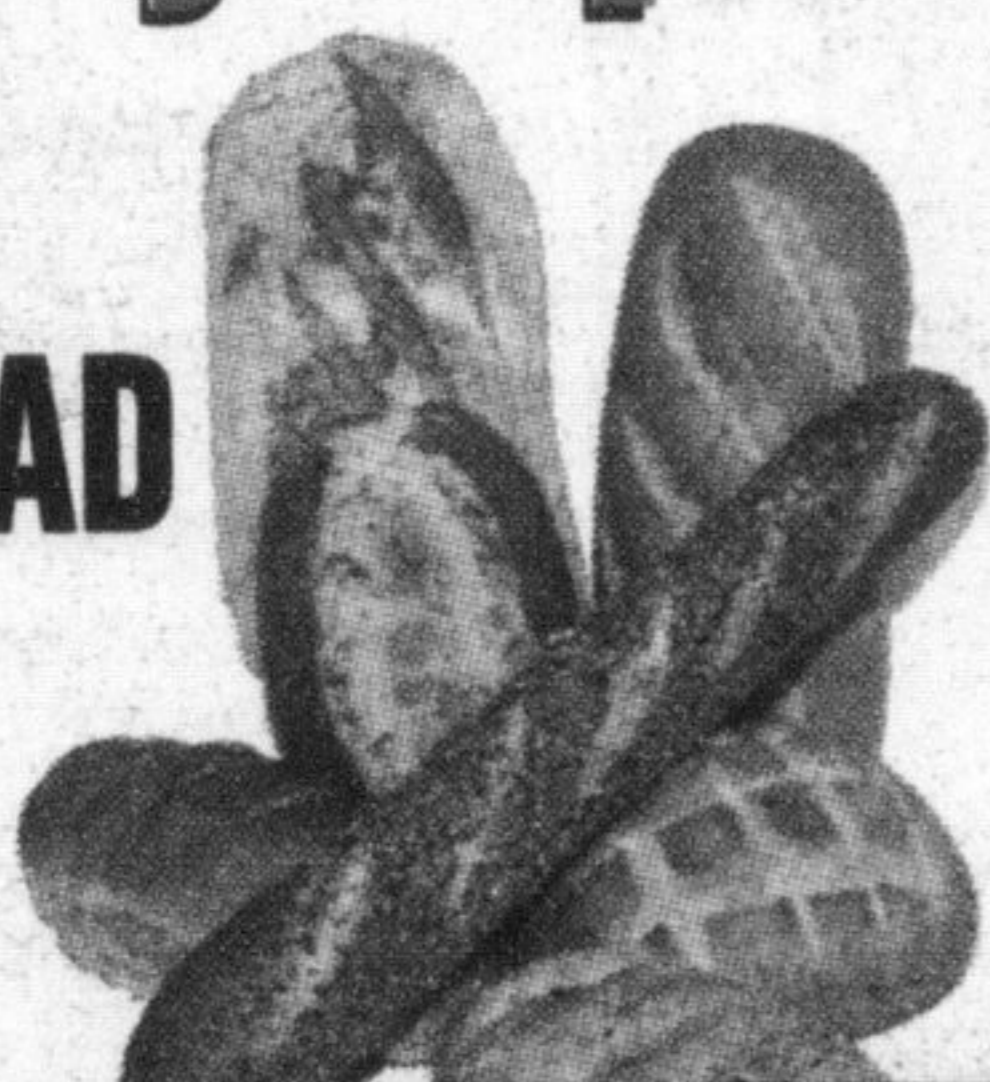
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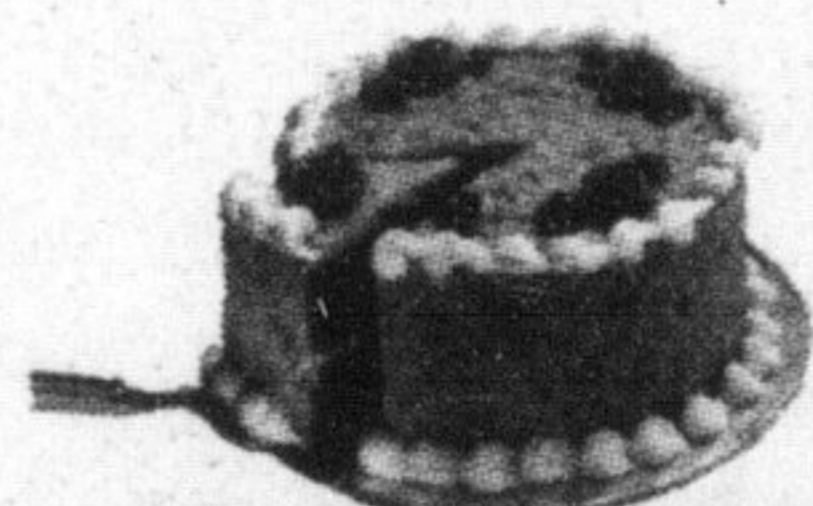
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