

# Student travel work?

AURORA — York County board of education wouldn't say yes last week to seven requests to approve "student educational trips" to London, Paris and Rome—plus a few others—but it didn't completely say no either.

Instead the board gave, what Education Director Sam Chapman termed "tacit" approval to the trips by voting to receive a report from staff.

The report recommended trips to

the aforementioned, and Vail, Colorado and the Canary Islands during the March break, be approved in principle.

**Questions idea**  
First to question the whole idea was Trustee Dorothy Zajac of King.

"How can three and four (proposed trips to Colorado from Markham District and Woodbridge High Schools) be student educational trips, when they're obviously just going skiing?" she

asked.

John Kippen, associate director of education, said a section of the school board act had been revised to allow for a holiday package tour for the students.

He said the matter now came under "student extended travel."

**Students pay**  
In reply to a question from Bob McMonagle of Markham, as to what category the trips fell under: educational or holiday, Kippen said

the students paid for the entire cost; there was no cost to the board.

Trustee McMonagle said that one of the teachers was using his school number to get people for the trip.

Said Trustee Steven Taylor of Markham: "It's better to be skiing, than to be lying around the plazas."

A motion to approve the trips in principle was lost. However the agreed to receive the report on the trips. The report included the recommendation.

# Weekend snowstorm jams roads, phones

OAK RIDGES — The Oak Ridges detachment of the OPP has termed Friday's storm the worst of the year.

While traffic jammed the highways, with 60 collisions reported, telephone calls jammed the switchboard.

Dispatchers had difficulty receiving reports of accidents and dispatching ambulances and other emergency vehicles to handle them.

Police said the tie-up was caused by

people inquiring about road conditions.

The public is asked to call the ministry of transportation and communication in the future at 248-3561.

Also, most information of that kind is available through local radio stations, police said.

During the peak of the storm, the Oak Ridges' branch received traffic help from York Regional Police, and OPP units from Downsview and Port Credit.

## Baker wins count

AURORA — A recount at the York County Board of Education offices Monday has re-affirmed the election of Eric Baker, of Gormley, as one of three Richmond Hill members on the board.

Baker was challenged by Cathy MacDiarmid, of Richmond Hill, following the Dec. 6 election after he beat her by 13 votes.

The recount was based on two ballots that were said to be in question. The latter were set to one side during Monday's recount and were not used in the final tally, which gave Baker 3,483 to 3,472.

At the time of the election, first returns showed Mrs. MacDiarmid the winner, but these were changed the next day after it was found that the telephoned results didn't match the district officer's tabulations.

## Welfare defrauded

NEWMARKET — Bryan George, 29, of Keswick, who was convicted of obtaining \$1,930.50 in welfare from York Region and \$1,491.70 from Scarborough, between March and July, 1976, was sentenced to 19 months in prison last week.

George used a fictitious name and address in Scarborough to collect the money, and his own name in York.

George, who is already serving a year for assault occasioning bodily harm, received another month for driving while suspended.

## Fatal crash

WOODBIDGE — A two-car collision on Clarence St., just south of Rutherford Rd., Jan. 27 resulted in the death of one of the drivers, Barry LaChapelle, 17, of 75 Irwin Rd., Rexdale.

Police said the accident occurred when the LaChapelle vehicle came over the crest of the road. It was in collision with a car driven by Janet Middleton, 18, of 9000 Kipling Ave., Woodbridge.

The first car then hit a bank and rolled over.

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