



**Star Wars**

Some of the sights were weird on the streets of Richvale Saturday during the third annual Richvale Youth Parade. Among them was "Star Wars on Wheels", and entry from the Villa Hospital. Doug Hamilton is pushed by Elizabeth Wustefeld of Richmond Hill, who is a member of the Villa staff. (Liberal photo by Jeff Bells)

## Sing the one about the dinosaur, sir

Until now, children have never had much to sing about when they lose a tooth.

Or when was the last time you heard a good tune about a dinosaur.

These are just two of the themes of songs written by music master teacher Gordon Fleming of Richmond Hill.

The melodies were published by Leslie Music Supply of Oakville, and Mr. Fleming hopes schools throughout the province and eventually the country will be able to get hold of his music.

He said each song was written to meet specific needs of students in elementary schools.

"You just can't find a good maple syrup song in the country, and ask any of the kids and you'll find they're crazy about dinosaurs," said Mr. Fleming.

The titles of the pieces are: Maple Syrup, Pussy Willow, the Robin, Cha

Cha Cha, Dinosaurs and Loose Tooth. It's easy to see how youngsters can relate to music about a tooth ready to fall out or even to songs about nature.

The music is supposed to be used in accompaniment with ORFF instruments - the type of mallet-bell system now popular in elementary education. Mr. Fleming added they can also be sung with the Kodaly

(pronounced Ko-di-ee) method of music instruction.

It is an experiential approach employed at the primary level, where children move to the music, read it tonally and rhythmically.

Mr. Fleming lives in Richmond Hill and spends the teaching portion of his time at Franklin Public School in Markham. He is also the director of music at Thornhill United Church.

## Policy approved

# Moral, social values to be taught in York

After a year-and-a-half of committee work, a policy has been devised that will give students in York County a full measure of moral and social values education.

The board feels it is at least partially responsible for teaching students values that reflect respect for the individual and show deep concern for the needs and rights of others in society. When the committee was struck in November, 1976, it was felt that teaching methods involving the group discussion of personal family matters, values decisions by group consensus or moral dilemma be omitted until the board could develop a proper guideline for that type of instruction.

It now has that guideline so it has rescinded the stipulation, allowing the more controversial aspect of values instruction to be taught.

However, the board has made clear that in class discussions a teacher should be sensitive to pupils' feelings and disallow the introduction of personal problems which might infringe on the student's or his family's right to privacy.

The major point of contention was how individual teachers could handle such an analysis and which views he or she is supposed to adopt. This may have been one of the objections Wilhelmine Hurley, representing the York County Elementary Teachers' Association of Federations (YCETAF) in the committee, had raised after the last draft of the document was ready.

She, and the executive of YCETAF, sub-

sequently withdrew from the committee over some of the policies.

Craig Cribar, trustee for Newmarket, pointed out one paragraph in the policy that made reference to the rights of the individual three times, but failed to mention what he felt are the responsibilities that go along with those rights.

The phrase says "teachers should persist in the acceptance of the concept that all individuals have equal rights - therefore moral autonomy is a right to be exercised in a way that does not infringe on the rights of others."

The group consensus portion of the guideline produced another incongruity. Here, teachers are supposed to encourage student analysis of values, but he or she must be prepared to take a position which reflects the views of society as a whole. The teacher must also show respect for differing opinions and the values taught in the home.

"Should the teachers reflect the views of the majority of society or all the views of society?" asked Mr. Cribar.

An amendment to that paragraph, to include the varying views of society and the values taught in students' homes, was rejected.

The policy as a whole, was finally accepted and several trustees thought it would be a positive step for that kind of teaching.

"It meets the requirements of teachers and parents without restricting teaching methods," said Vaughan Trustee Don Cameron. "The draft policy meets

the criteria as established in the formative years (a guideline for education set up by the ministry) . . . in every way, it responds to the questions of parents and teachers in the region for this kind of instruction," he said.

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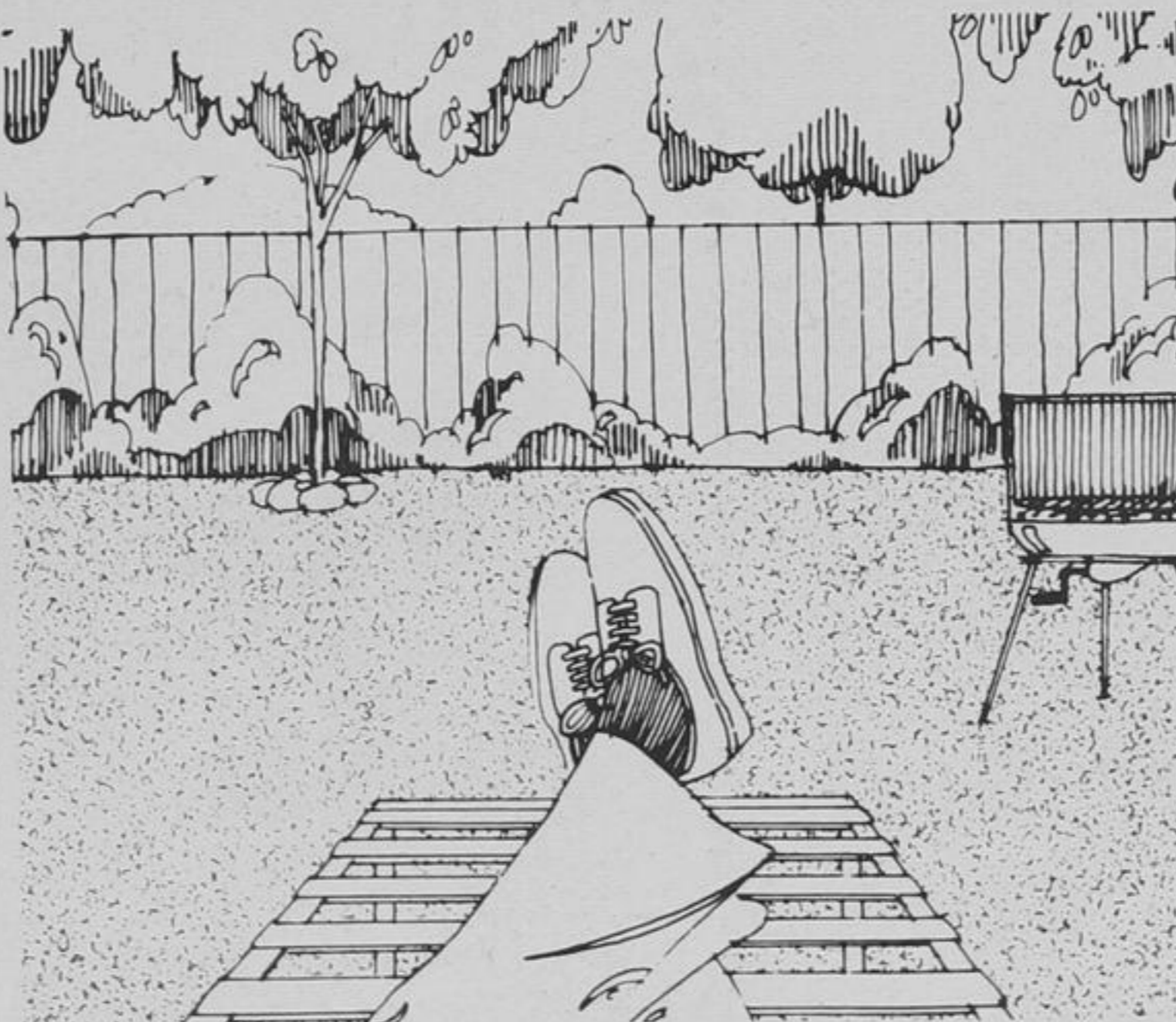
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