

Jennifer Tosney

A skilled gymnast

STOUFFVILLE — If she fell, she'd bounce.

That's the feeling one gets, watching 11 year old Jennifer Tosney of 307 North Street, Stouffville, go through her gymnastics routine. It's like she's made of rubber.

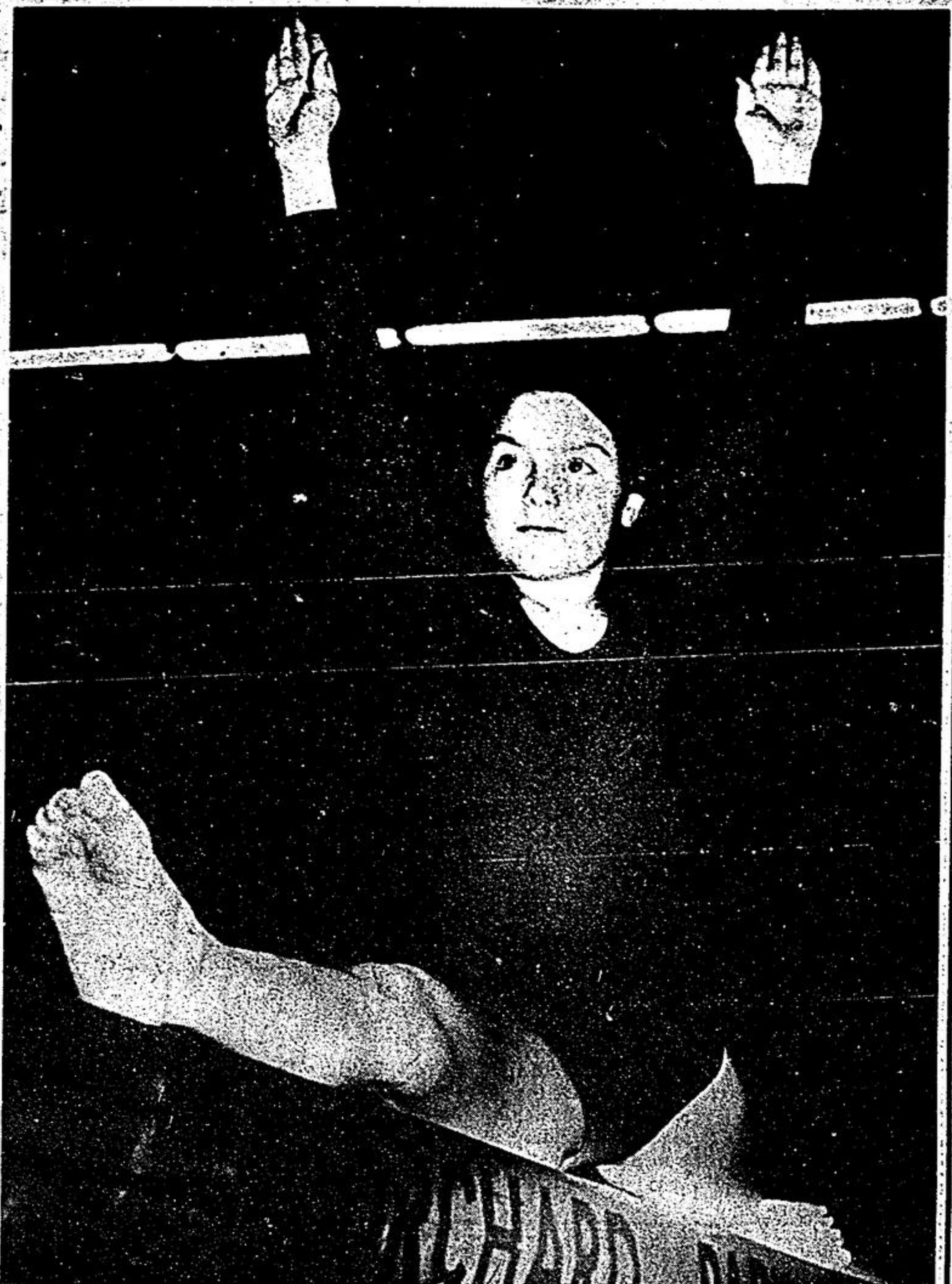
The pretty St. Mark's student recalls how she could do nothing more than a cart-wheel and a somersault, until 1976. That's when she started watching the Olympics on T.V. and was intrigued by the performances of the gymnastics' stars.

Recognizing this interest, her mother enrolled her in a class at the high school. Later, she attended an after-school workout at Orchard Park. Her instructor, Ron Robbins of the Orchard Park staff recognized her enthusiasm (and ability) and asked her back. Last spring, in competition at Seneca College, she scored a 1st on the balance beam, a 1st on the floor and a 3rd on the vault.

"The beam's my favorite," Jennifer says. She has high praise for Mr. Robbins and the personal attention he provided each of the girls. She hopes to resume regular workouts there this fall.

Mr. Zivic, a gentleman Jennifer regards as "Canada's best gymnastics' coach", could be setting up a club in Stouffville. If so, she wants to join. A five year old brother, Roger, may join also. Jennifer admits she'd dearly like to test her skills at a national level.

During the holidays, this bouncy (and pretty) pre-teenager, has been taking it easy. But come September, she'll be back at it again, endeavoring to improve with age.



Eleven year old Jennifer Tosney, North Street, Stouffville, is one of this area's most skilled pre-teen gymnasts. Jennifer began taking the sport seriously after watching the '76 Olympics on T.V. She's a student at St. Mark's Separate School but attends afternoon work-outs at Orchard Park. Jim Thomas

Board and the teachers strike

The chairman reports

By DONALD COUSENS
Chairman,
York County Board
of Education

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE REGION OF YORK:
The Board is very concerned about the strike of our secondary school teachers which was initiated on June 27 in a "work-to-rule" form. The Board's objective is to reach an agreement with the teachers on terms that are fair to them and acceptable to the community. Firm and decisive action by the Board may be required to minimize the long term adverse effect on the students and teachers in the system.

Background
The local teachers have handed over their negotiations to the Provincial Secondary School Federation making their role one of advising the provincial group. A mediator was appointed by the Education Relations Commission and on five separate occasions he called the Board and Federation negotiators together in an attempt to reach an agreement. In May, 67 per cent of the teachers rejected the Board's final offer. At the same time the teachers authorized strike action.

The Issues
The Board's two year salary package is estimated to cost 16.9 per

cent while the teachers' demand is estimated at 23.2 per cent. In addition the teachers are demanding that the Board pay 100 per cent of OHIP and existing dental plan and life insurance coverage. The Board believes its offer is fair in a time of restraint. The Board was reluctant to accept arbitration because the pre-strike vote of all teachers, required by law, forces the Board to make its offer responsible, and reasonable while there is no corresponding pressure on the teachers to make their demands reasonable. In spite of this unequal situation and in the interests of getting a settlement, the Board finally agreed to send all money related items to arbitration. Mediation was terminated when the two sides failed to agree on the inclusion of "unassigned time" in the arbitration package.

Unassigned Time
Unassigned time for a teacher consists of spare periods during which no duties whatsoever are scheduled. If the requested twenty percent of the day were unassigned then all supervisory and administrative duties necessary for the effective conduct of the school would have to be included along with all teaching in the remaining eighty percent of the day. To write in an unassigned

time clause—even one which approximates the present situation in most schools—takes organizational decisions away from the principal and forces them to be made at the Board level. They will then inevitably become a part of the future negotiations. It is worth noting that the unassigned time demand was not introduced until after the Provincial Federation took over negotiations.

Work-to-Rule
"Work-to-rule" is defined as a strike and is within the legal rights of the teachers. During a work-to-rule situation teachers may deliberately not carry out

some of their duties under The Education Act (e.g. recording attendance, attending staff meetings, reporting student progress). During such a strike the teachers must be paid. The Board's only recourse is to lock the teachers out.

Ultimately a solution will be found. If the strike or lockout is continued so long that the Education Relations Commission considers the successful accomplishment of the year's work by the students to be in jeopardy then arbitration will be imposed by provincial authority. In other jurisdictions third action has been taken after the strike or lockout has been

in effect for about seven to eight weeks.

Conclusion
Long negotiations and confrontation are a disservice to students, teachers, and to the entire system. The Board is trying to bring this situation to a conclusion in a way that will enable all of us to work together afterwards, unhindered by bitterness, on the important educational projects where team work is so necessary. The trustees have some difficult decisions to make; so also do the teachers. Your opinion is important. Why not make it known both to some teachers and to your local trustee.

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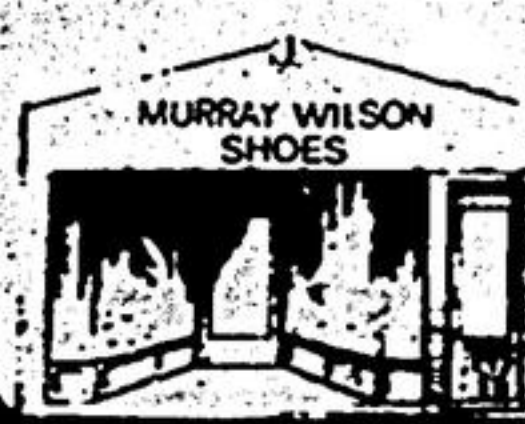
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Appreciation

Dear Staff:
On behalf of the Whitechurch - Stouffville Chamber of Commerce and myself, I wish to take this opportunity to express our thanks for your tremendous help over the Sella celebration weekend. You did a wonderful job in making the event a great success. Special notes of appreciation go to you Jim and your editorial staff for giving us more support and coverage than we ever imagined. Thanks to you Barea and your advertising

people for help in promoting the Sella celebration. Thank you Lois for all your work in so many areas—the sandwich board, the dial-a-bus and others too numerous to mention. Thank you Marie and husband Blair for looking after the well-run Bicycle Rodeo. And thanks to everyone else on The Tribune staff. We appreciated your support. GED STONEHOUSE, Whitechurch-Stouffville, Chamber of Commerce.