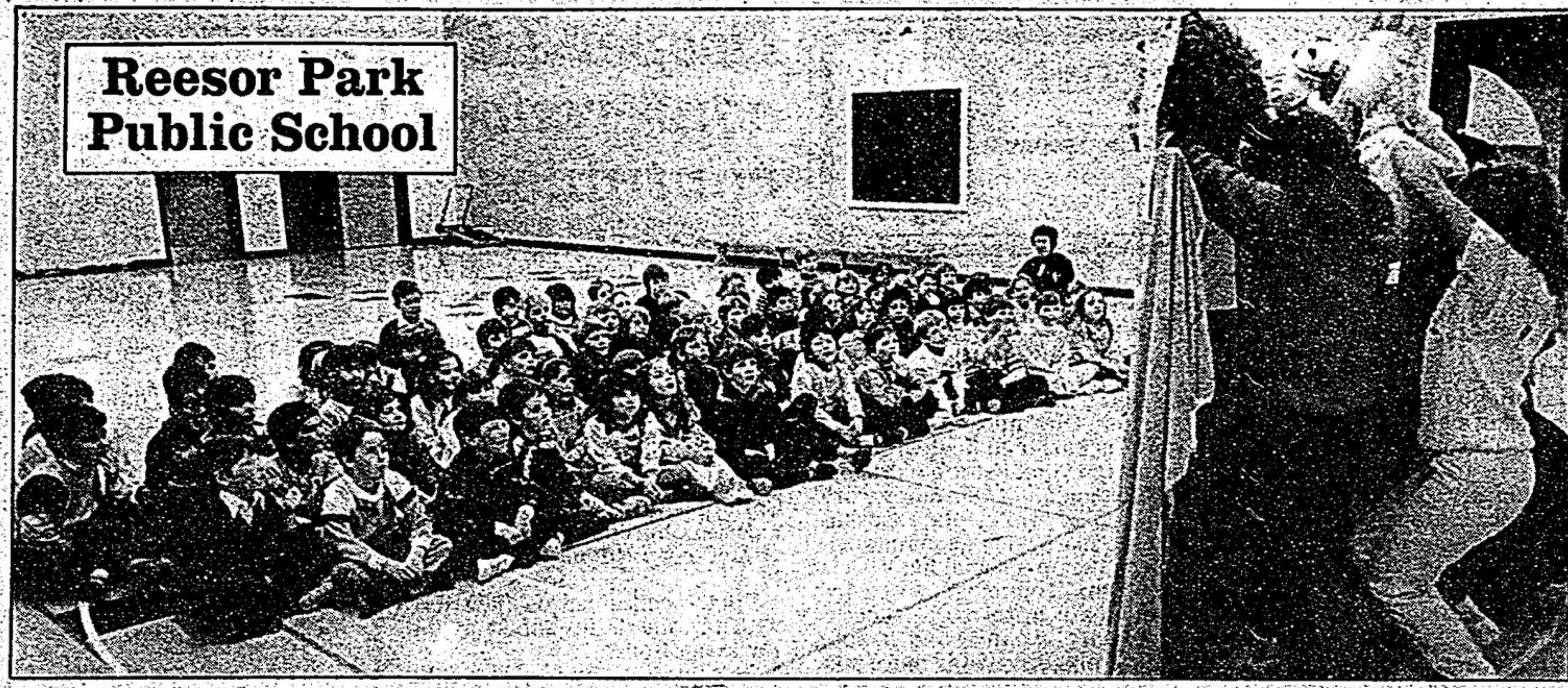


**Weekender****Children's Page****The netminder**

He stands between the posts,  
Watching the play go by,  
As it moves toward him,  
His concentration builds.  
He replaces his fears,  
With extreme courage,  
His eyes are glued,  
And the enemies attack.  
He's under pressure,  
Constantly,  
His feelings are hard,  
Solid and secure.  
The opposition is,  
In complete control,  
His defense is weak,  
As he is aware.  
The puck is now,  
On the opposition's stick,  
The puck is shot,  
With extreme velocity.  
It is now his chance,  
To show off his trade,  
He's in the limelight,  
And he must earn his praise.

Joe Harty  
Grade 8

**Friendship**

First you like me,  
Then you don't,  
First you're happy,  
Then you mope,  
What did I do,  
To bring your hopes down,  
Cause I hate it when you frown.

I hear you have another friend,  
I wish our friendship would mend,  
You hurt me don't you know,  
And it's hard not to let it show.  
I feel like your puppet,  
On a string,  
And when you want a friend,  
You just ring.

I can't go on living this way,  
But then there's nothing I can say.

By Cheryl Lines  
Grade 8

Grade 2 students at Reesor Park Public School enjoy a puppet show, *Leroy and the Dragon*, performed by Grade 12 students from Markham District High School Monday.

— Sjoerd Witteveen

**A trip to the family cottage**

Oh no not another trip where these things (people) call a cottage.

I always wonder why I have to come. It's so bumpy it makes me feel sick.

Even worse when we're there, a thing the kids call 'Grandfather' kicks me around in my fun ball, do I ever feel sick then! But I really like him when he puts an apple on my cage — but it's hard to get at since I'm so small.

I get held a lot by adults, it's O.K. But when four year olds hold me, well it makes me feel like my eyes are about to pop by being squished so much. Worst

of all, they let a BIG live animal come in (they call it a dog).

It looks like it's going to attack. Lucky I was in my cage, even though I was frozen solid for about ten minutes after.

Even if the kids tried to pick me up I wouldn't move a muscle.

At night the adventure begins. Hoot! Hoot! Hoot! Oh what's that sound? Phew it's only an owl.

I think I want to go out. — WHAT LUCK the kids left the cage door open. I will go to the blue house and change into 'Superhamster'.

Swish, swish, up, up and away. Everything looks good

down there. Ah what's that I see, it's a wolf, oh no there's a hawk — better get back to my cage and fast!!

CRASH !% !% (12:00 p.m.) U'mm let's see now, I think it's about time those humans woke up. I'll distract them by running on my wheel. Boy I'm tired. Oh I

almost forgot today is the day that we go home. YEA!!

"O.K time to go home Whiskers." Bump, Bump, Bump.

We're home! Thank goodness, maybe now I'll get fed — BYE.

Jessica Idnurm

**My pet hamster**

He's funny,  
I love him all.

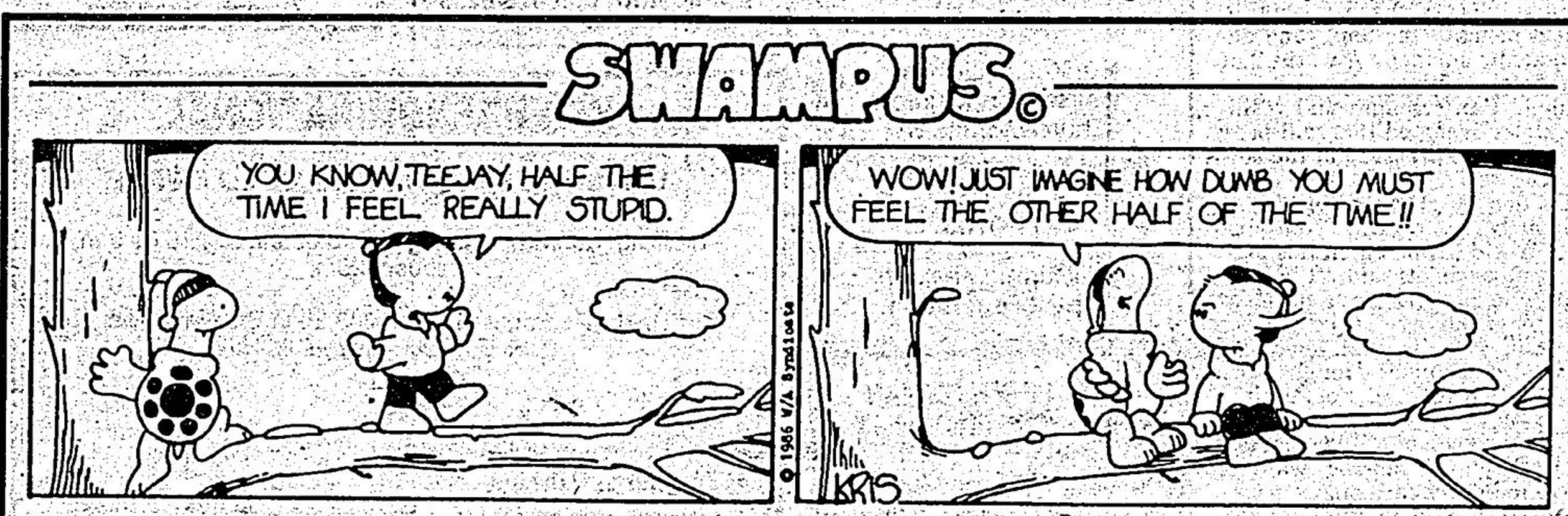
Amy Bagshaw  
Grade 1

Big Michael,  
Likes to play,  
Transformers,  
Every day,  
Grade Five,  
He does math,  
Reads books,  
Down the path.

Emily Albrekton  
Lauren Flynn  
Grade 1

Good dog,  
Black & white,  
Running feet,  
What a sight.  
Big dog,  
Come and play,  
Right now,  
What a day!

Gillian Yealand  
Colleen Lynch  
Grade 1

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