

Weekender

# Comment

## New high school welcome

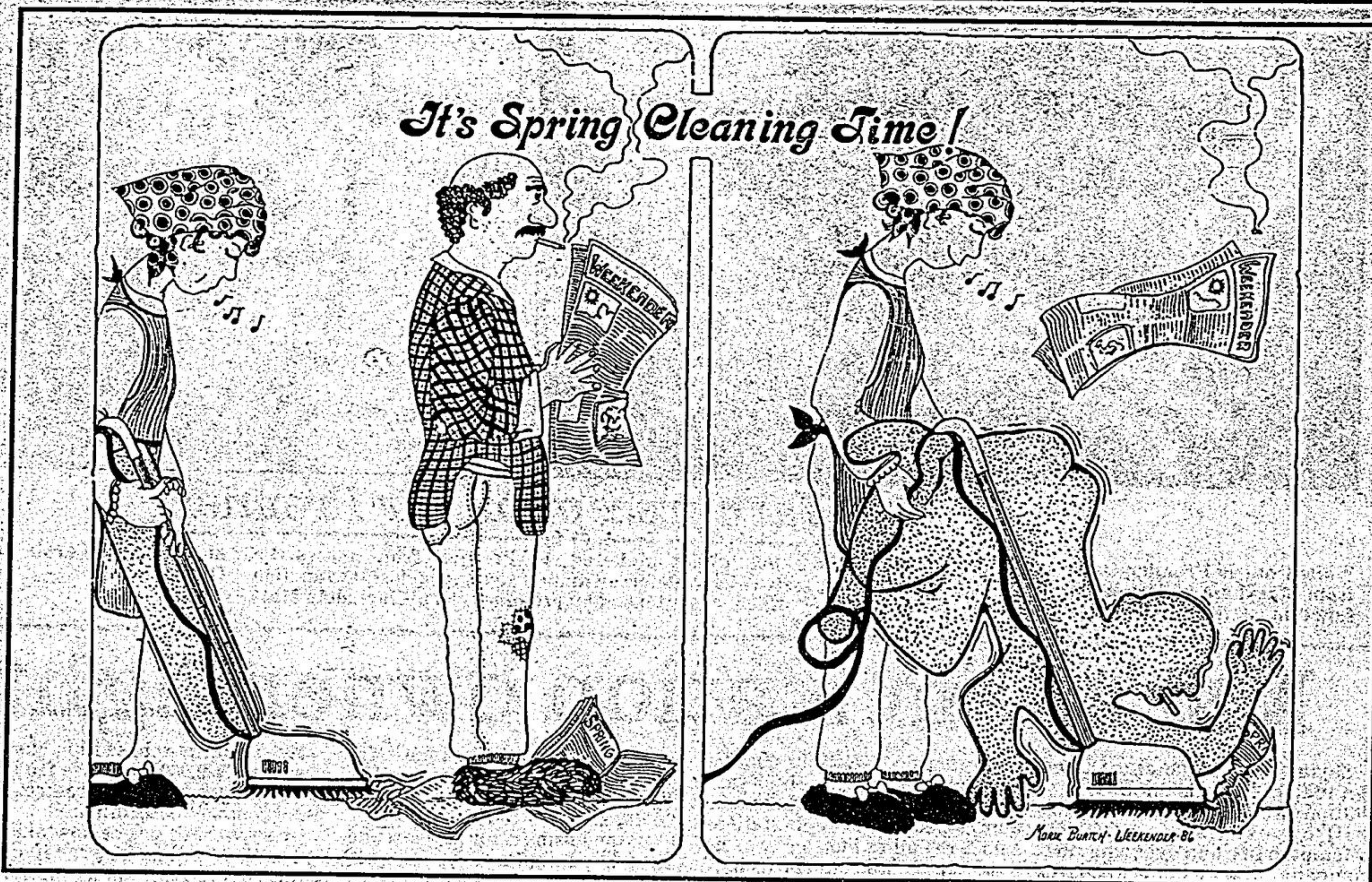
Although the school crisis is far from over in the Markham area, the approval this week of two new schools in Milliken will help relieve the overcrowding problem currently facing the York Region Board of Education in this area.

The situation which was approaching a crisis point has now suddenly become more manageable — especially in regards to high school accommodation. A new high school in Milliken will several positive benefits.

It will mean that youngsters from Milliken won't have to leave that community to attend high school. Currently, Milliken students attend a number of high schools — some being bused as far as Richmond Hill.

A Milliken high school will also be a focal point for community activities there. It will be a unifying element in a community that needs something to help foster a community identity.

In every way, the new school — slated for opening in 1988 — is very welcome. We are anxiously awaiting its opening.



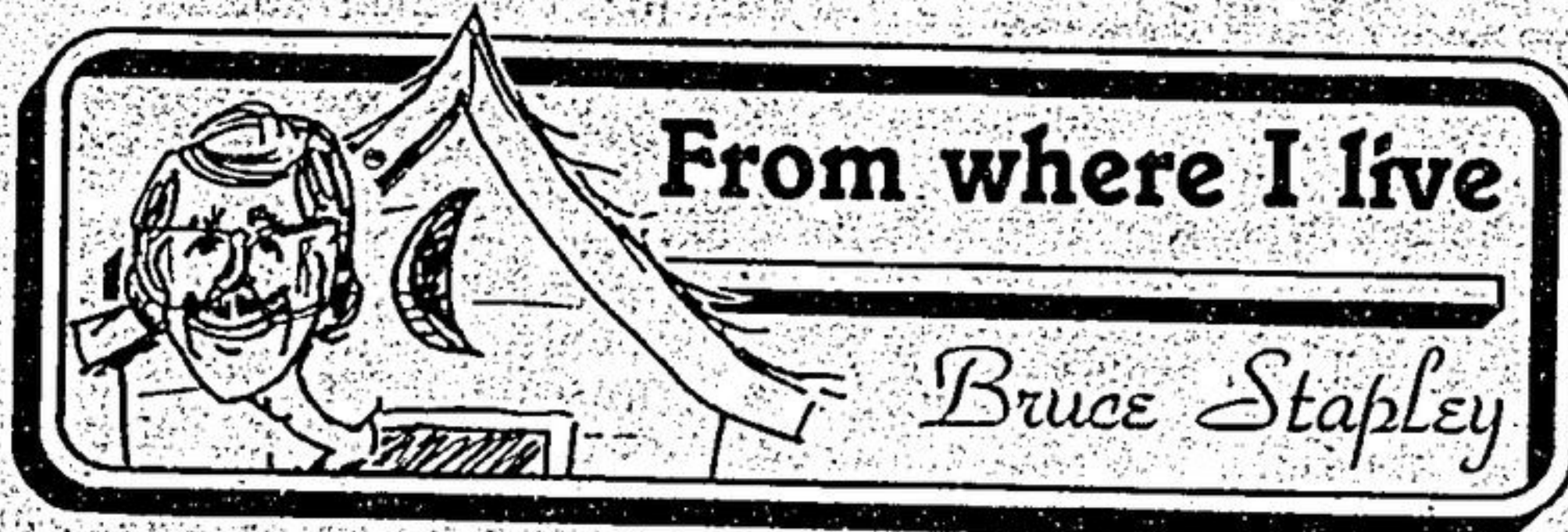
## Baseball fever strikes fans again

Baseball, as anyone who has even been in love will testify, has a way of bringing out that illogical-emotional side of a person that is usually dominant when a member of the opposite sex really rings your bell.

Look at the 45,000 slightly crazed souls who will endure hopeless traffic snarls, weather conditions that are sure to be abysmal, and two inning-long washroom lineups just so they can be a part of the Blue Jays home opener on Monday.

Normally well balanced accountants and salt-of-the-earth factory workers tend to exhibit somewhat strange behavior as they show their glee at having the millionaires of summer back for another season. Much of their behavior is not fit for reporting in a family newspaper.

Team owners, pillars of maturity like George Steinbrenner of the Yankees, sometimes get in on the act as well. George was said to be considering an elephant from Florida as his choice for thrower of the ceremonial first pitch of the



season at the zoo that is Yankee Stadium.

And in what has to be the biggest put-on since the Second City SCTV record commercial, the Blue Jay brass has asked Gordon Lightfoot to attempt the singing of the national anthems at Monday's game. Now that's kind of like asking Dr. Joyce Brothers to perform root canal surgery.

For the betting man, it is best to avoid home openers all together. For even the players seem to succumb to the inanity of this early spring phenomena, often performing in a manner totally foreign to what has come to be expected of them.

In last year's initial match at 'Exasperation' Stadium in Toronto, the "girls" from Texas

shocked the hometown faithful by soundly thumping the mighty Blue Jays.

Not only that, but, as was reported in the Star the next day, "lightning struck three times" as the Jays' Damaso Garcia walked twice, (he never walks) and Garth Iorg hit a three run homer into a 250 mile per hour wind (he never hits homers).

The victim of these miraculous irregularities? You guessed it. Yours truly, the "baseball doctor" who so boldly stood up prior to all three occurrences, proclaiming to all within earshot that the chances of such absurdities happening were slim to nil, with Slim being out of town.

Seldom have I seen the Reverend and the Smoke Eater

laugh like they did as they promised they would never let me forget my erroneous prognostications. They've been true to their word. I don't talk baseball with them anymore.

Perhaps, the best example of the unique logic exemplified by the game of baseball can be found in the words of the old catcher turned coach, Yogi Berra.

Yogi is forever shattering conventional wisdom with such offerings as "Hey youse guys, I want you to pair up in threes." When asked to comment on the cerebral aspect of slugging a baseball, old

Yogi suggested that "half of hitting is 90 per cent mental."

Once he was heard remarking about a trendy New York restaurant: "No one goes there anymore. It's too crowded."

But when any seasoned student of the game is asked for his favorite slice of bent baseball logic, he will most assuredly quote Casey Stengel's timeless maxim: "It ain't over" the old philosopher bellowed after his team pulled one out of the fire, "until it's over."

For you see, baseball, above all else, is a game that respects its traditions.

### Weekender Mailbag

#### Limit speed: reader

Dear Sir:  
Re: Truck Ban in Markham.

The solution to the dangers caused by heavy trucks using the Markham Main St. is perfectly simple. Impose a speed limit of 35 km per hour and see that it is strictly enforced by the police.

If enough fines for exceeding the speed limit are handed out, with appropriate loss of points, the problem will soon be under control.

Or, is this imposing upon someone's wretched rights again?

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