

# 'He broke loose...kicked me' — Leonard

By ERKKI POHJOLAINE

Charged with two counts of assault following an incident during a hockey game last November that left a Stouffville player bleeding on the ice, 18-year-old Rod Kammerer, of Pickering, has been ordered to stand trial.

After an hour of testimony from two witnesses during a preliminary hearing last week, Ajax District Court Judge Norman Edmondson concluded there was "sufficient evidence" to proceed with the trial.

Shawn Leonard, 18, of Loretta Crescent, Stouffville — the victim of the alleged assault — was first to take the stand last Tuesday. Leonard told the court that during a junior B home game between Uxbridge (Leonard's team) and Pickering (defendant's club), Kammerer kicked him, causing a "two-and-a-half inch gash under the chin."

The incident occurred late in the second period. Leonard's team

was leading 2-1. He testified that he chased the puck behind the opposition's net and bumped with the goal tender.

Still pursuing the puck, he and Kammerer collided near centre ice and a scuffle ensued. Two linesmen broke up the fight. Leonard said he was pinned to the ice by one official while the other removed Kammerer.

"He was being escorted off the ice. Ten to 15 feet away, he broke loose and returned to kick me," Leonard testified.

The plastic toe-cap of Kammerer's skate cut him under the chin, Leonard said. It took 40 stitches to close the gash.

Leonard's friend and amateur photographer, Neil Wideman, took several photographs of his throat area the day after the mishap. Four of the pictures were submitted as evidence by Crown Attorney Tom Fitzgerald.

NOT UNUSUAL

During a cross examination by Richard Stanwick, Kammerer's

counsel, Leonard testified that prior to the kicking infraction, "nothing unusual" happened during the game.

Referee Dale Catherwood was also called as a witness. He said he was "15 to 20 feet away from the two players when the altercation started near the face-off circle."

He said Kammerer "broke loose (from the linesman) and kicked (Leonard) with the right foot."

During cross-examination, the referee admitted he didn't "see" Kammerer break free, but he did witness the "kick."

It wasn't an "unusually rough" game, he added, although he couldn't remember the exact number of penalties. He estimated about six infractions.

After the altercation, a "six or seven inch" patch of ice was covered with blood, said Catherwood.

Kammerer has elected to be tried by judge and jury. The pre-trial hearing is scheduled for June at Whitby District Courthouse.

Girls' hockey elects some new faces/B2

## The Tribune

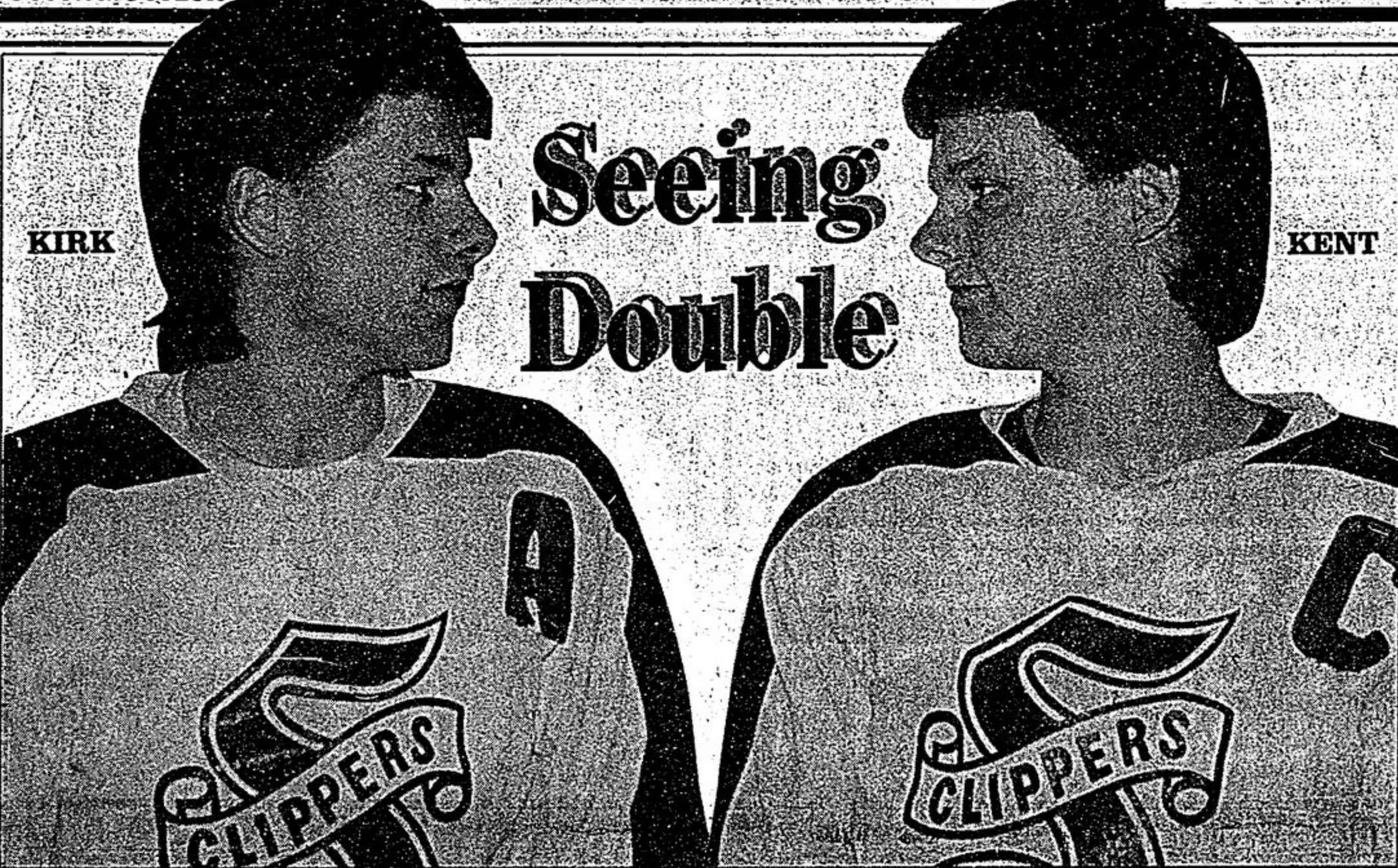
Sports & Classified

Skate Club says thanks for support/B2

Second Section

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### Seeing Double

KIRK

KENT

### Smythe brothers no joke on ice

By KELLY CONNELLY

They both wear identical hockey sweaters with the same name on the back. Every Stouffville Banham Clipper hockey fan knows them as the Smythe Brothers. Almost sounds like a comedy act, but when these twin brothers play hockey, it's no joke.

Kent was the captain of the Edwards Murphy Banham Clippers this past season. Kirk was the assistant. They were key players in the 84-85 Ontario Minor Hockey Association championship victory against Bramsville earlier this month.

They're both big and the extra muscle certainly came in handy against the burly Woodbridge Raiders in the semifinals.

They've always played on the same teams since they laced on a pair of skates 10 years ago. They're continually in the fray of things on the ice and have even shared the penalty box on occasion.

They play summer hockey, and just seasons they've won the "G" division in their sweaters. They like to score goals, too. "I'd like to know how you tell the two guys apart?"

"I've usually gets more goals than I do," says Kirk. "Kent has a better shot and is a little more aggressive in the corner. I like a more physical game and I've got more of a temper."

Kent finishes this brother with a grin and qualifies that evaluation.

"I'm more of a finesse player, but don't mind the aggressiveness. I just think I'm more cool-headed," he raps.

The brothers eye each other pensively, but shake their heads when the question of sibling rivalry is suggested. "We're always the same. No one's more outstanding than the other. We both have good games and bad games," notes Kent.

"Yeah, we get on each other's nerves now and then. If Kirk makes a mistake, I'll tell him."

Kent was the Clippers' top point getter this season, with 60 goals and 22 assists. Kirk was third in the sharpshooters ranking with 46 goals and 31 assists. In total, the brothers scored 106 goals for the Clippers and 61 up 53 others.

Accidentally, those kinds of numbers put the twins in the exclusive Clipper sniper club where teammate Dan Larmer, second in total points, resides.

Although this past season marked their third and final year in Banham, the brothers expect to play on the midget squad in September. Inevitably, the competition will get tougher and the physical intimidation that was prevalent in the Woodbridge series is something aspiring hockey players must learn to deal with.

"You'll lose one Smythe, you'll hit two," warns Kirk. "I'll see Kent get hit."

### Hockey league gets new boss

By KELLY CONNELLY

Joanne Steel is one of a rare breed of sports mothers.

The 48-year-old Stouffville resident not only shows a keen interest in the sporting escapades of her kids, but she takes an active role on the various executives.

On April 1, she became the first woman president of the Whitechurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association. She replaced Dave Bourne who stepped down after a two-year term.

Six years ago, she was the first female elected to sit on the hockey executive. She assumed the post of equipment convener, moved up through the ranks, finally to vice-president before her latest promotion.

"Very few people know I'm the new president," says Mrs. Steel. "I really think the guys (on the executive) wanted to see me in this position. They've all been very supportive and they know I can do the job."

And it's just her nature, she says, to role up her sleeves and get involved in the decision-making process. Although the sidelines and grandstands are as far as most parents will go to participate in their child's athletic endeavours, she has always gone one step further.

Mrs. Steel along with resident sportsman Cliff Dunkled founded the Whitechurch-Stouffville Girls Hockey League over 10 years ago. She was its president for six years during which time her daughter Brenda was playing.

She accompanies her youngest son, Blair, to his midget hockey

games in the winter. Her oldest son, Brad, used to play hockey in Stouffville, and husband Ray managed Stouffville's juvenile team when it last won the All-Ontario championship.

Her interest in sports ("I was al-



JOANNE STEEL

ways captain of my high school teams"), and previous experience as president of the girls' hockey league, no doubt illustrates her leadership qualities.

"You have to be willing to listen to people. If you can communicate with parents and their kids, that's half the battle," she remarks.

Although being president of the boys' minor hockey organization is a much bigger role than any previous sports post, the amicable Mrs. Steel shows little concern.

"I don't feel any pressure...but I won't be walked on either. If someone is supposed to do a job and it's not being done, I'll want to know why."

### Sideline Comment Off-Roading sport not 'off-the-wall'

By KELLY CONNELLY

As I pulled into the donut shop at the corner of McCowan and Hwy 7, a mud-splattered black Toyota 4x4 truck with a roll bar and two burly-looking characters in lumberjackets pulled up beside me.

It was 10 a.m. and I got a little nervous. I was supposed to meet Gary McArthur, Toyota salesman and chairman of the new York Region Off-Road Association, at the donut shop.

I had images of what off-road racing was all about and what the drivers would look like — images I figured were a little stereotyped — but these two guys in the black truck were too real.

Off-roaders must be rowdy drivers who party all night, scream across farmers' fields in their customized pick-ups and go for breakfast at the donut shop. Which one was McArthur, I wondered.

McArthur was waiting for me at a table near the window. He didn't know who the two guys in the black Toyota were either, but he wouldn't mind them joining his relatively young off-road association — now 44 members strong.

Hmmmm. Whatever it is McArthur does here, is it legal, I wondered.

The chairman sensed my ignorance of the sport that is big in the States and just starting to catch hold in Canada. He was quick to dispel the images of drinkers and drivers dragging on some road. Men, women, and teenagers (driving age, of course) are enthusiasts of off-roading.

He showed me pictures of four-wheel drive and automatic pick-up trucks, ATVs (three-wheel motorcycles), trail bikes, dunebuggies, snowmobiles and even remote control vehicles.

Anyone with any type of vehicle that is capable of going off-road qualifies to join the York Region Off-Road Association for a \$25 membership fee.

Once you join, you can participate in sanctioned off-road events like hill climbs, rallies, dragging, obstacle courses, even camping and fishing trips. If you don't own a vehicle, you are welcome to have some fun — be a passenger — with someone who does.

The York Region Off-Road Association wants to be an instrumental part of the community too. It hopes to link up with Child Find Organization and provide emergency transportation service to areas hit by natural or artificial disasters.

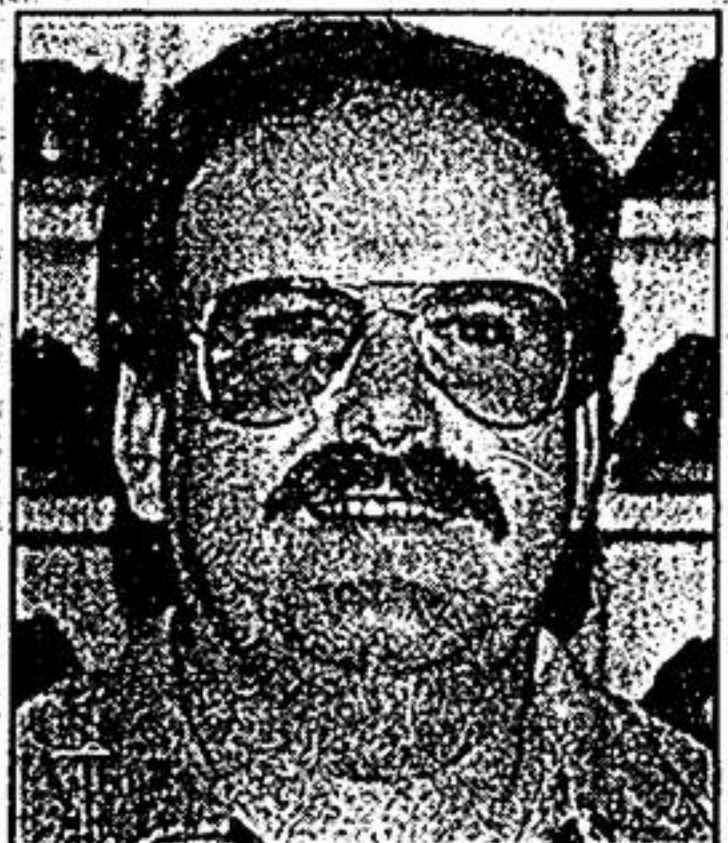
### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"When you go up there on a Saturday and see what goes on (during houseleague games), it's pretty sad. At least with rep teams, every kid on a pee-wee, bantam or midget team is represented by one parent." Joanne Steel, new president of the Whitechurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association, says houseleague hockey didn't draw enough parental support this winter.

### Bowling centre sold to Markham couple

The Stouffville Bowling Centre was sold to a Markham couple last week.

Gary Ringwood and his wife, Deborah, bought the business from



GARY RINGWOOD



SUE RINGWOOD sister-in-law

long-time proprietor John Wilson who was forced to sell because of health problems.

"You could tell he didn't really want to give it up," said Gary. "There was a quiet moment before he left the place."

The Ringwoods, who say they have no relation to the small community near Hwy 48 and Stouffville Rd, are well acquainted with running a bowling business. They helped run an alley centre in Colingwood for three years.

"We heard the one in Stouffville was up for sale by word of mouth," explains Gary, who is also a skill-technician for a power tools manufacturer.

"We did a lot of searching into it to see how lucrative it would be."

Gary, his wife, and sister-in-law Sue, will share the 7-day-a-week demands of running a bowling centre. They hope to start a summer league, and organize bowling birthday parties any day of the week. Gary even makes birthday cakes.

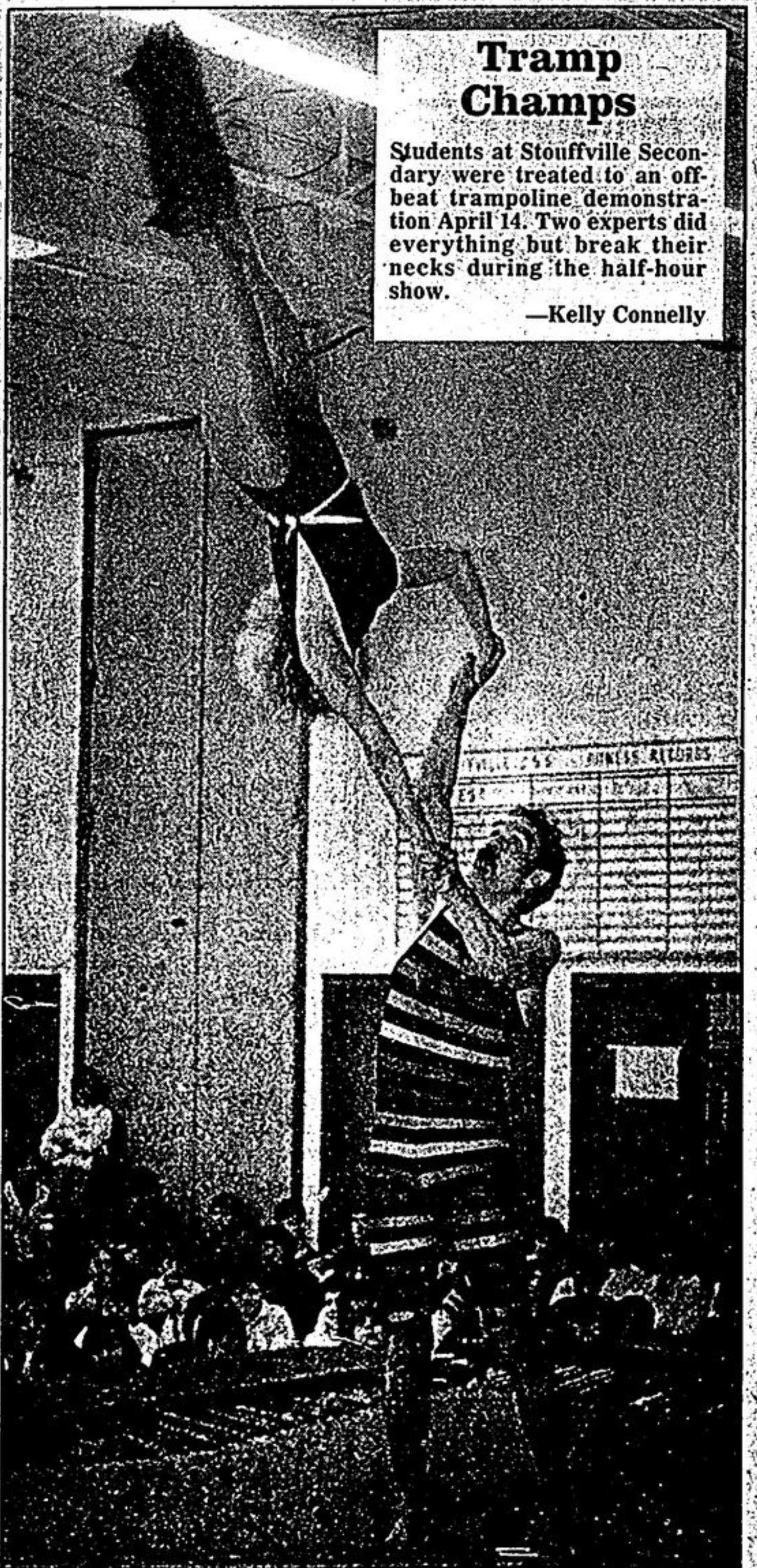
They plan to paint the old centre and keep it air-conditioned during the summer which is inevitably the slowest time of year for a bowling business.

Gary will continue the red-head pin attraction which allows bowlers, during Friday to Sunday, to win free games if they bowl a strike.

Open bowling runs any day of the week including Friday (noon to 11 p.m.), Saturday (1 p.m. to 11 p.m.) and Sunday (1 p.m. to 7 p.m., 9 p.m. on).

The price of a game will increase from \$1 to \$1.25 in the fall. Shoe rental will increase from 40 to 50 cents.

The Ringwoods don't know too many people in Stouffville yet, so drop by and say hi.



### Tramp Champs

Students at Stouffville Secondary were treated to an off-beat trampoline demonstration April 14. Two experts did everything but break their necks during the half-hour show.

—Kelly Connelly