

# Belle jeune fille joins school's Class of '88

By JIM THOMAS  
STOUFFVILLE — The presence of eighteen-year-old Claire Chedoi at Stouffville High says more than any story can tell about the school.

Claire is not your usual elementary graduate who automatically advances into grade 9. She is a native of Orange, France, who came to Stouffville in 1986 as part of a student exchange. She liked it so well, she returned in 1987 to complete her final year.

A career as a translator is her goal — in Canada.

season's program in particular.

As for differences in Jean customs, she says Stouffville girls dress more like women. They also have more fun.

Yes, Claire has a boyfriend back home.

It is to him, she smiles, adding, "the boy, there are pretty nice too."

Since coming back, Claire had an opportunity to visit many historic sites around Toronto as well as Cleveland,

London and Niagara Falls.

Extra-curricular activities include music, cycling, cooking, sewing and shopping.

Although Claire will be returning to France in June, she definitely plans on coming back, even to stay to share the best of both worlds. She may take up residence in Quebec.

But her heart will stay in Stouffville.

She won Stouffville's heart too.

Claire's appreciation of Stouffville High is returned a hundred fold by staff and student friends. She's very much a part of the graduating class. Unfortunately, Claire admits, she won't be around in November to receive her diploma.

"I'll come back if someone will pay my way," she jokes.

She speaks English beautifully. Maureen Cunningham, Head of Moderns, told The Tribune, "Claire is also fluent in German and, of course, French. She also knows some Greek."

"I miss my family," Claire admits, "but I'm not as homesick as I thought." She writes often and phones occasionally.

"I love English," she says, "it's an easy language."

Claire describes her total academic involvement at Stouffville High as a "wonderful experience."

"I only wish everyone could do it," she says.

The distance factor is one Canada's outstanding features, Claire claims. "Everything is so big," she says. "She enjoys the changing



Eighteen-year-old Claire Chedoi, an exchange student to Stouffville High from Orange, France, in 1986, enjoyed it here so much, she's returned for her graduating year. Claire hopes to become a translator — in Canada.

—Jim Thomas

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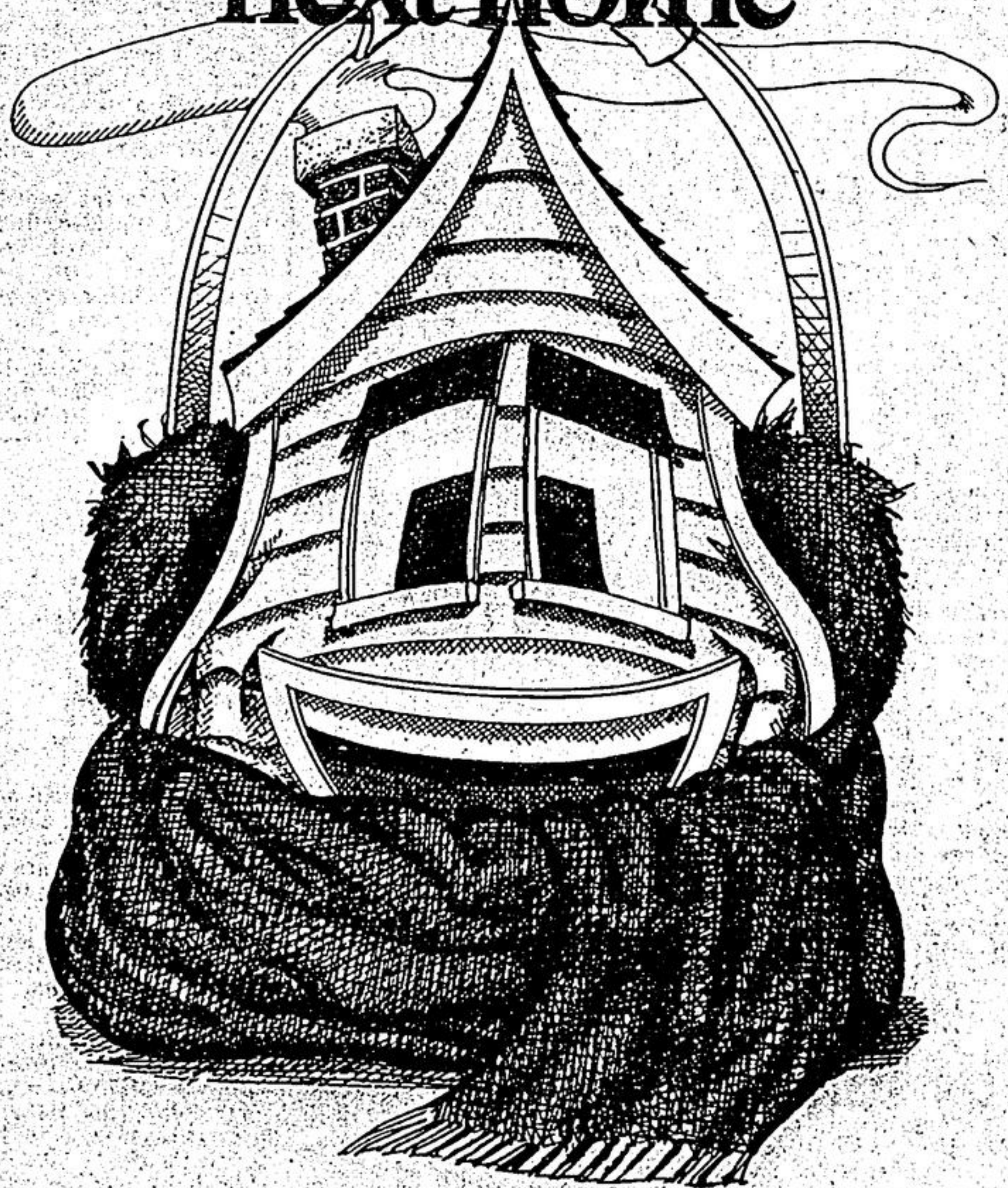
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