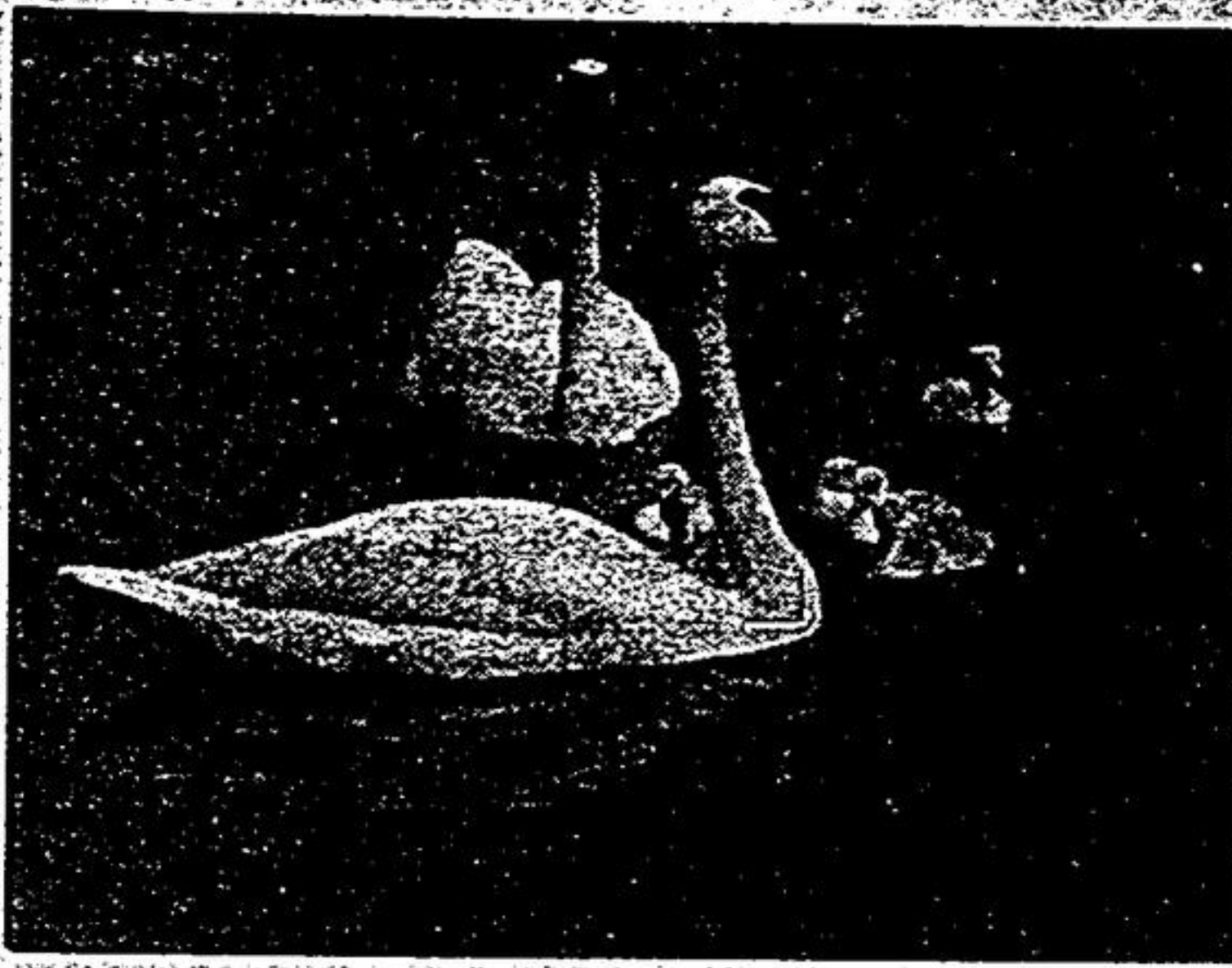


Swans to be reintroduced



The trumpeter swan may be seen in local ponds.

(From page 1) said Lumsden, "to try and get them to the point where we can take them off the vulnerable list." While there are some swans in western Canada, Lumsden said they are by no means secure. In the east, the last record of a trumpeter swan was in 1886.

In 1992, the MNR and the Canadian Wildlife Service joined forces to restore the trumpeter to Ontario and control the spread of Mute Swans, native to Europe and Asia.

The two programs were to be integrated with the objective of placing trumpeter eggs under adult mutes and ensuring that no mute eggs hatched.

Eggs for the program were collected from the wild population breeding in the Grand Prairie region of Alberta.

Building a population of trumpeters in Ontario has been difficult. Until 1990, only 14 eggs per year were available for use in restoration. At present, 100 eggs per year are available and 30 two-year old birds can be released.

Which brings us to cooperators. A cooperator

is someone with a pond who is willing to allow a breeding pair to take up residence. Currently, 19 breeding pairs are being looked after by cooperators. And Lumsden has nine more pairs to place.

The right individual(s) will have a pond, preferably spring-fed, which they are willing to fence in. An aerator is also necessary to ensure a healthy supply of oxygen in the pond. And then for about \$50 dollars per year to feed the birds, you can enjoy the beauty of these splendid creatures on your own property.

Asked if the birds might become dependent on humans for food, Lumsden said trumpeters are hearty enough to find a food supply on their own, generally consisting of pond weeds and other aquatic plants.

"Our policy is, by all means feed the birds. At this stage of the program, the name of the game is survival," said Lumsden. "As long as we can get good survival rates in these critical years, gradually they'll look after themselves."

Lumsden and others in the project have as a goal 15 breeding pairs in the wilds of Ontario by the end of the century. He thinks it's within sight.

"If survival rates don't change...and we are able to release 30 two-year-old birds, we'll reach the goal by 1999" he predicted.

If you are interested in becoming a cooperator contact Harry Lumsden at (905) 727-6492, preferably after 7 p.m.

Correction

In the Wednesday Tribune, a story on Lynda Norman incorrectly stated she is the co-owner and administrator of a limousine company.

She has not owned the company for 11 years.

The Tribune regrets the error.



It's a whopper

Kyle Peters, 7, is all excited as he nets a trout with help from dad Gary and his brother Jason at Burd's Trout Farm Thursday.

Photo/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Cop cards carries message to students

Cop cards are coming to a school near you.

York Regional Police are putting their faces on trading cards, a community service

program geared toward students. A series of 34 cards will be released one by one each week during the school year, featuring Police Chief Bryan

Cousineau and officers from every branch of the department including the emergency response, marine, detective, canine and streetbeat units.

The cards will include a drug awareness message, and are similar to those released in previous years featuring members of the Toronto Maple Leafs and the former Junior A Newmarket Royals.

"The idea originated in Portland, Oregon and we got wind of it and decided it would be a good way to get involved with youth in the community," explained Inspector Doug Davies. Officers who appear on the cards volunteered to do so, he said, and each card has an anti-drug message.

"It was completely voluntary and everyone is pretty excited about it," Davies said.

Funding for the project came from Consumers Gas and the proceeds from the annual Chief's Dinner. The cards will be available at the 5 District police station on McCowan Rd.

Crime Power tools stolen

Power tools valued at \$6,200 were stolen from a the garage of a home on 10th Line this week.

Sometime between 10 p.m. Monday and 9:50 a.m. Tuesday, the side window of the garage was removed by thieves.

York Region police said the stolen power tools all have the initials MJD engraved on them.

Home broken into
A Jasmine Cr. home was broken into this week.

A basement window was smashed in by the thieves sometime between midnight on Monday and 7:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Huff appearing at local church

The Toronto Blue Jays may be sidelined by the current major league baseball players strike, but Stouffville will still get a taste of Blue Jay fever tomorrow (Sunday).

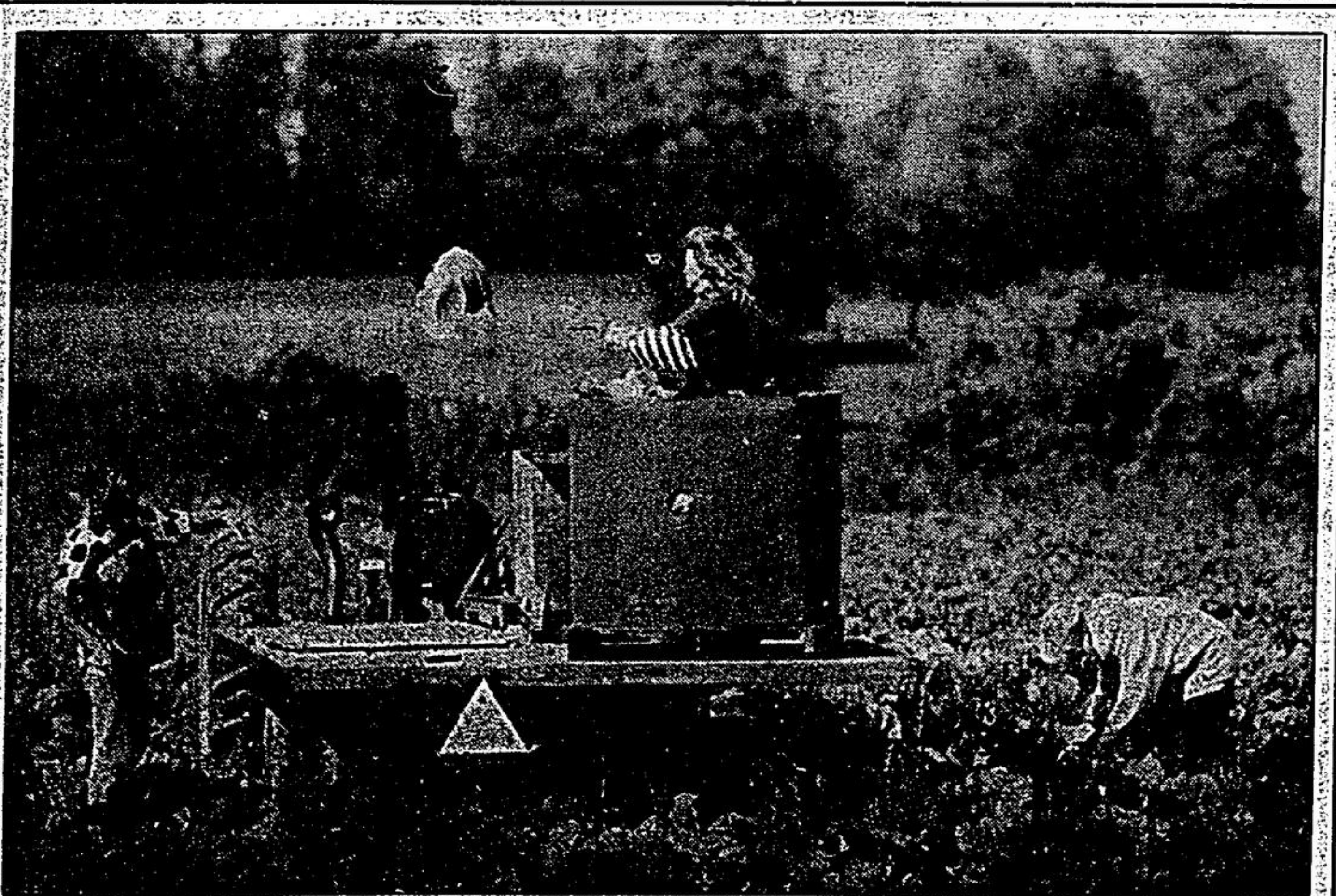
Blue Jays outfielder Mike Huff will be speaking at the

Stouffville Missionary Church to help that church kick off its fall theme, "Explore and Discover".

Huff, who belongs to the Peterborough-based Epistle Ministries, will speak to the congregation and guests at the

church's 10:30 a.m. service.

Visitors are welcome, with the program to include live music by the church band and short drama presentations. Refreshments will be served in the church basement following the program.



Harvest time

Farm workers on the Lehman farm on Ninth Line harvest cabbages the old fashioned way, cut them with a knife, and lob them to a catcher who places them into a bin.

Photo/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

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