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Vol. 10 No. 43 A Metroland Community Newspaper Saturday, October 22, 1994 48 Pages 50¢ (47¢ plus 3¢ GST)

Students score well

By JULIE CASPERSEN
Staff Reporter

The York Region Board of Education announced Monday its students did well on a national math and language test, but a school-by-school ranking won't be released until next month.

Director of Education Bill Hogarth said he "is extremely pleased" with the results earned by Grade 3 and 6 students on the Canadian Achievement Test, compared to a national sample of students.

The tests are graded in relation to the average score earned by a sampling of stu-

dents across Canada. The average Grade 6 student in York Region did better on the math test than 71 per cent of the students in the sample, and performed better than 64 per cent of students across the country.

The average Grade 3 student did better on the reading test than 56 per cent of the sample group while in math the Grade 3 children did better than 60 per cent of students nationally.

Superintendent of Schools Art Holden said he is "satisfied that the teachers are performing well and that the children are performing well."

The board will release an

action plan aimed at improving student learning next month, and Evaluation Officer Daria Lindsey said all schools are now preparing school improvement plans to be included in the regional plan aimed at improving learning.

Individually, parents know how their child performed on the test administered last

April, and schools know how they rate with others in York Region, but an actual ranking won't be released until Nov. 21, one week after the municipal election. (The Freedom of Information commissioner ruled in July 1992 that the Carleton Board of Education must release school-by-school

(Please see page 3)

Hundred home plan goes to next level

The first stage of the West Hill subdivision, which would see 100 homes built at Lori Avenue and the 10th concession, moved a step forward at the Oct. 11 council meeting, against the requests of two residents who asked that any decision be deferred. Once the draft plan is revised and returned to the town for review and approval, the subdivision plan will be recommended to the region for draft approval.

Flint Crescent resident Steve Kerlie said the owner's full development plans are for 700 to 800 lots, and that traffic would increase substantially. "We're looking at a Millard Avenue in southern Stouffville," he said, adding that "an unofficial bypass" would be created in the subdivision. Kerlie said the development is too important to the future of the town for any decisions to be made by the outgoing council. "What I don't want to see happen is any radical changes between now and voting by the next council," he said. "This development is the future of this town, and we have a responsibility to ourselves and future councils."

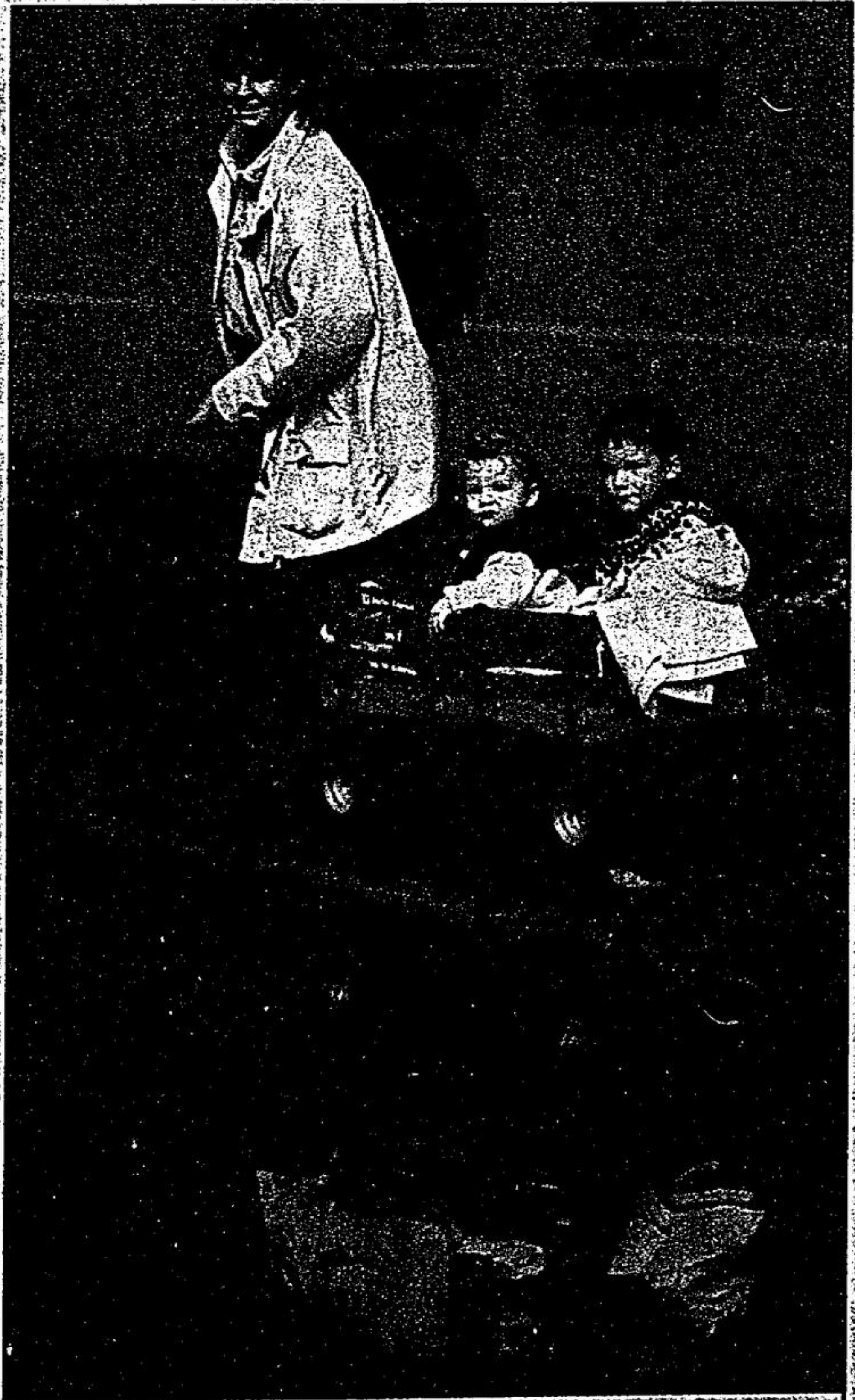
Another resident said council shouldn't proceed without looking at the entire future development of the area, noting that "missing an official plan is a bad place to begin."

Mayor Fran Sainsbury said there is an official plan, and that a secondary plan for urban Stouffville is in the works.

"We will have arterial roads and bypass roads, but we won't know this until studies are done," she said. The resident said the matter should wait for the next council.

Town planner Bill Moyer said the first stage is the only one being proposed, adding that "the (sewage) capacity for the town has been allocated." In other words, at present there is no capacity for any more than the 100 lots in the first stage.

There are three ways for the sewage capacity to increase, said Moyer. Stouffville could hook up to "the big pipe" sewage system, an upstream plant for additional flow could be built, or capacity could be found in the existing system. "None of these things would happen very quickly," he said.



Wagons, ho!
 From left, Michelle Steele, pulls sons Connery, 1, and Mattington, 4, in a wagon along Edward Street, Wednesday.
 Photo/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Opinion Three years is too long

Three years. That is how long the young people of Whitchurch-Stouffville have waited for a youth centre in this town. Those young people that could have most benefitted from such a facility, 14, 15 and 16 year olds, are now at college or university.

They have no use for a youth centre now. It is too late.

One complete term of municipal council has gone by, and there still isn't so much as a pinball game for young people to use in this town.

That means your children are still travelling to the malls, the city or who knows where to amuse themselves. It also means the lure of more nefarious diversions are quick to become more appealing.

On Dec. 17, 1991, The Tribune sponsored a forum on the topic of a youth centre. From this, a study of the teens in town was conducted by the Parks and Recreation Dept., where all aspects of a youth centre were scrutinized. Once the findings of the study were presented, a steering committee was established with council's blessing, whose mandate it was to find a location, develop a budget and put the results of the teen survey into action.

In February of 1993, more than a year after the initial meeting, council approved the youth centre and its location in the basement of the Silver Jubilee Club by a vote of 5-2. The sole condition was that the basement be

(Please see page 3)

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