

Daycare centres, region preparing for teacher strike

MIKE ADLER
Staff Reporter

The unions have stated child-care facilities in schools should not be affected by a strike. "There will be no attempt whatsoever to prevent people getting in an out of day cares," Johnston said.

York Region has a child care sup-

Strike flyers were printed and parents stewed yesterday as an illegal teachers' walkout came closer.

The classrooms will be locked and buses cancelled, but day cares should be open in local schools Monday if "information pickets" — the first illegal teachers' strike the region has seen since 1974 — gather around the buildings.

All that can stop it now is an unexpected compromise between the Ontario government and five provincial teachers' unions.

"The optimist always hangs in," Lynn Johnston, York Region president for public high school teachers said yesterday afternoon.

But as he spoke, he said, flyers detailing teachers' objections to Bill 160 — it would give the province control of their class sizes, preparation time, and more — were running off the press.

Area school boards offered hotlines with updates on the situation — the public board's is at 1-800-546-0709; the separate board's is 416-221-5051, ext. 7500 — but asked people to keep radios tuned to the latest news this weekend.

"Schools will be kept open, but parents are urged to keep their children at home if at all possible," said the public board's message yesterday.

EDUCATION

port line, at 1-888-703-5437, listing all available locations, inside school buildings or otherwise.

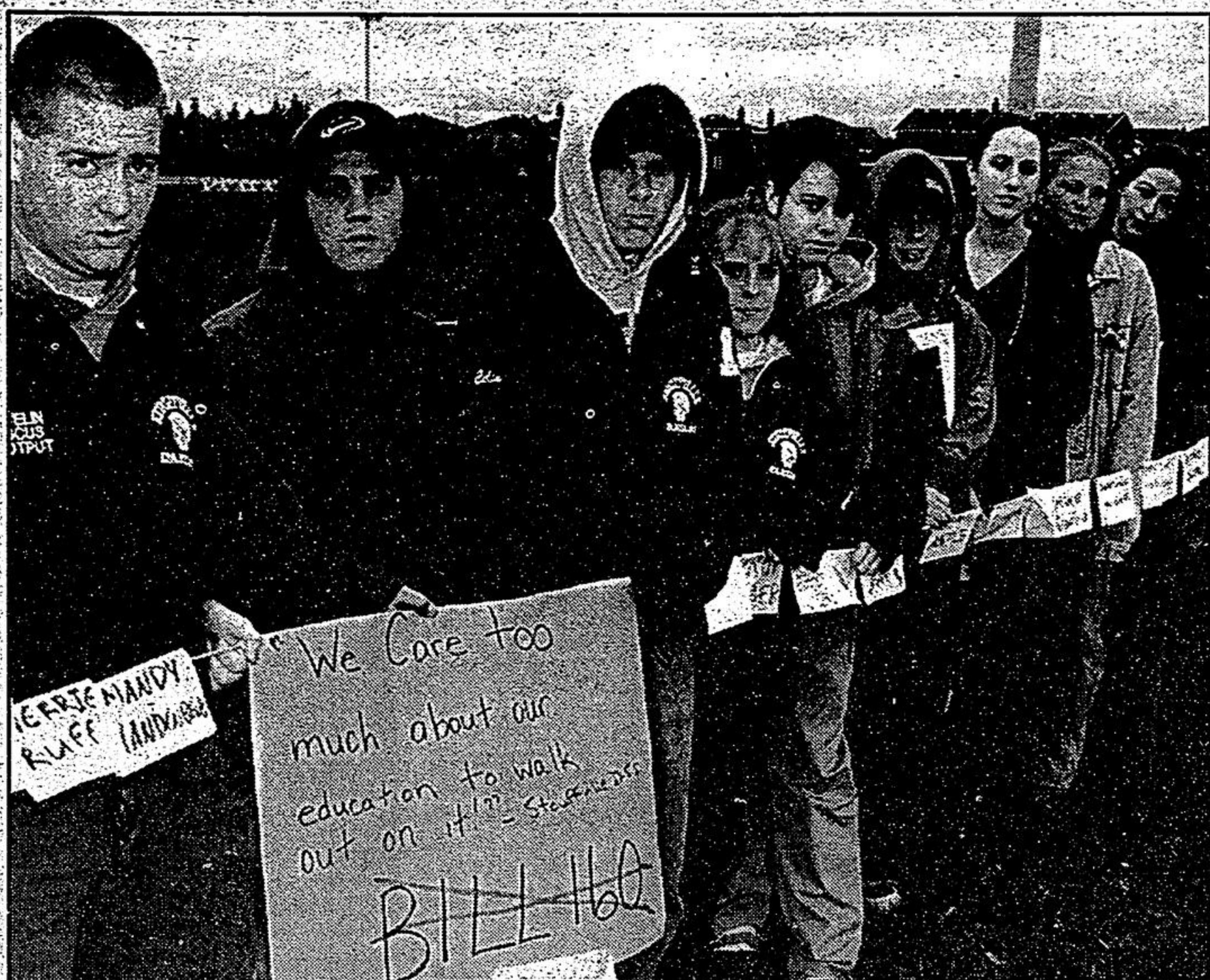
If child-care programs must temporarily move from school buildings, ministry of community and social services staff will help identify other suitable locations, said a spokesperson.

The ministry is giving licensed child care operators approval to increase capacity where space permits, Jane Greer added yesterday.

A spokesperson for the Catholic board said day cares in schools should not be affected, but said the board will make sure the school is open if there is a problem.

Some large local employers were already responding yesterday to Labour Minister Jim Flaherty's plea to help employees cope.

Markham Stouffville Hospital is having discussions with staff and identifying needs "based on individual situations," said a spokesperson yesterday.



SILENCE SPEAKS VOLUMES: More than 320 students names hung on string outside school. From left displaying the long line of names are Jason Comfort, Tony D'Amato, Colin Thompson, Katie Scorrar, Kathryn Easter, Tanis McKnight, Kathy Hunter, Amanda Leger and Sue Pritzker.

Photo by LORI EMMERSON

Meet ML candidates Oct. 29

Voters in Musselman Lake and Ballantrae will be able to put four political candidates on the hot seat on Oct. 29, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The election forum to be held at the Ballantrae Community Centre features mayoralty candidates incumbent Wayne Emmerson and Mike Watson (former Ward 2 councillors).

As well Ward 2 candidates Helene Johnson and Mark Carroll will square off.

The forum includes speeches from each of the

candidates and a question and answer period.

As well, mayoralty contenders and ward candidates in Ward 1 and 3 will take part in a similar forum on Nov. 4, beginning at 7 p.m. at the Vardorf Community Centre.

This forum will include Emmerson squaring off against Watson. Meanwhile, it includes candidates Steve Pliakes and Frank Martino in Ward 1 and Peter Dobrich and Sophie Angelis in Ward 3.

Smaller class sizes mean more schools, parent says

From Page 1

ers' needs?" On the other hand, Attaway does not support the government in its plan to decrease classroom size.

Smaller classrooms will just mean more schools will be built, said Attaway.

"New schools take money. It's never ending." Having children

cross picket lines is an experience best avoided, stressed Emmerson. "We don't want our kids to go through that."

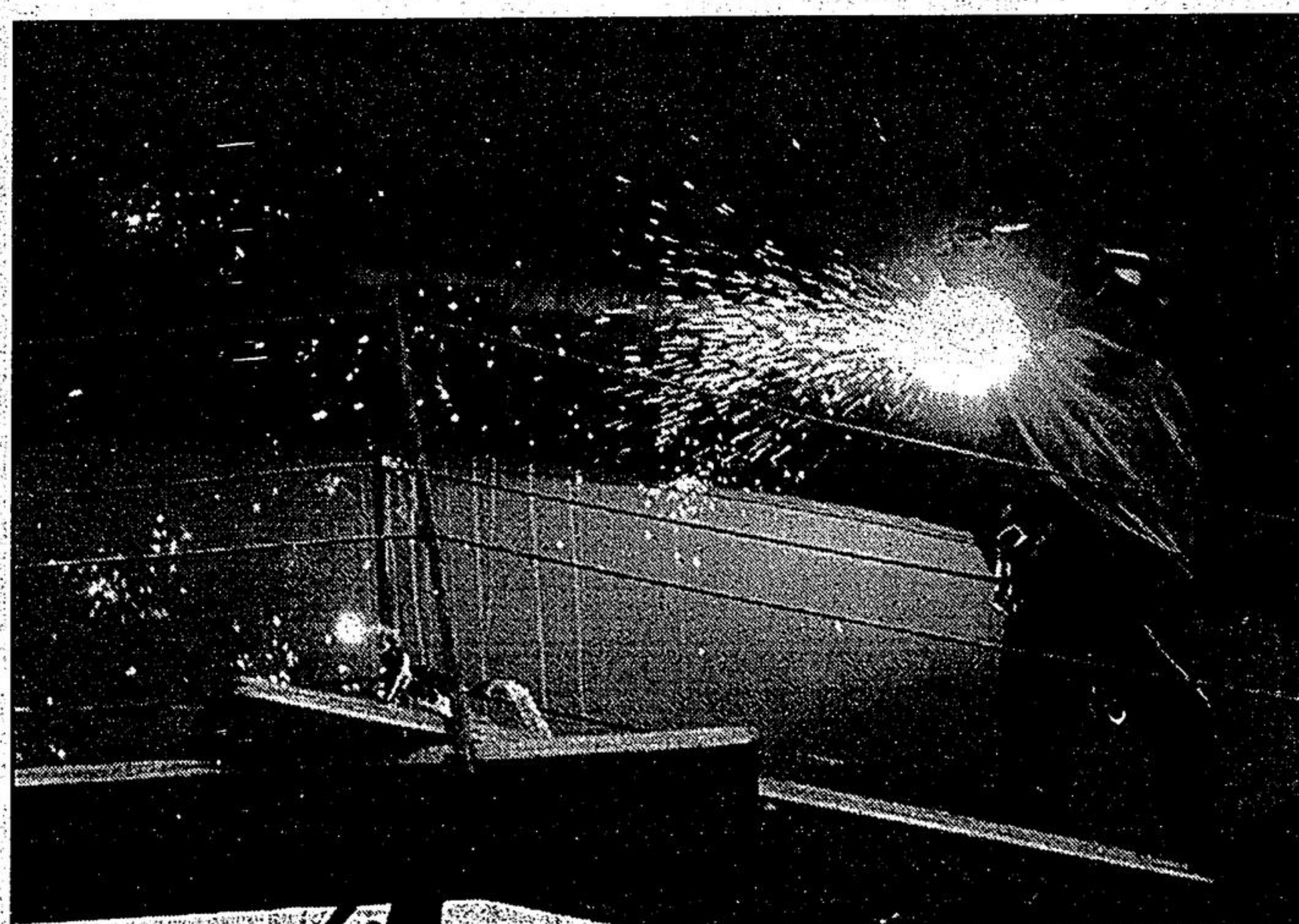
While the public is holding its breath until Monday, Emmerson doubts an all-out teachers' strike will actually take place.

"I just don't think it's to happen. They'll settle over the weekend,"

said Emmerson.

While regular programming at all high schools including Stouffville District Secondary School will be suspended, the doors to the schools will be open. SDSS principal Rod Leonard said, "The school will stay open. We'll do the best that we can. I just hope it isn't a long strike," said Leonard.

Don't miss our 'Debate '97' special section coming out November 4



SPARKS ARE FLYING: A welder works on a seam at the Musselman's Lake water tower near completion on the Ninth Line last Tuesday.

Photo by SJOERD WITTEVEEN

WE'RE FIRST IN DISTRIBUTION

We've delivered 40,356,666 flyers door-to-door, so far this year.

For further information on how we can deliver your flyers call:

Ruth or Melissa at 640-2100

The Tribune Stouffville

Watch for these Flyers on Saturday, October 25, 1997

- LOBLAWS/SUPERCENTRE*
- SEARS - SEARS TODAY*
- BIWAY*
- THE BAY - SUPER TUESDAY*
- THE BAY - HARDGOODS*

- A & P*
- MARKVILLE SEWING CENTRE*
- WESTON PRODUCE*
- REVLON CANADA INC.*
- CASHWAY*

- IGA - STOUFFVILLE*
- DOMINION*
- LOBLAWS - YONGE & BERNARD*
- CANADIAN TIRE - RICHMOND HILL*

*Selected areas only