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16 Spirit's habit of giving up goals in the first period finally catches up with the team.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EVENT: Country Decorating Show and Sale
WHEN: Friday to Sunday
WHERE: Markham Fairgrounds



3 Glass highrises pose a deadly problem for birds that crash into lighted windows.

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Tests for teachers a political ploy union says

Province pushing for uniform standards

BY GIANNI COLAVECCHIA
Staff Writer

The province's plan to have high school teachers take regular tests of their skills is nothing more than a redundant political ploy, according to a local union leader.

Gerry Harrison, president of the York Region branch of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation, criticized the Ministry of Education's plan for regular competency tests for teachers.

"They are caught up in this testing rhetoric from the election," Harrison said, referring to a promise Tory candidates made during the last election campaign.

"We do not need another test imposed."

Speaking from the federation's annual general meeting in Toronto yesterday afternoon, Harrison noted teachers already undergo evaluations with their boards and could be removed from their jobs if they do not meet standards.

Provincial officials want all teachers across the province to be judged by the same standards.

The Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association has already called on its members to resist the idea of recertifying instructors through written tests.

The Ontario College of

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Home, Jane!



Four-year-old twins Cameron and Melissa Nowikow take a good look at where they've been during an outdoor jaunt along Main Street yesterday, courtesy of mom Jane O'Brien.

STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Murder and mayhem at bars

Man loses life during epidemic of violence

BY KATHLEEN GRIFFIN
Staff Writer

It was a dangerous weekend for patrons of York Region bars.

One man is dead, three others are in hospital and several were treated for stab wounds and cuts from beer bottles in three unrelated incidents this weekend.

"It's March break," said Const. Doug Conley.

Diep Vy Dang, 26, of Toronto, was dead on arrival at York Finch Hospital about 4 a.m. Sunday. He suffered a severe stab wound to the back after a fight at the Colours Karaoke Bar on Leslie Street in Richmond Hill.

Police responded to a fight call about 2:30 a.m. only to be told by the bar's management that the dispute was over.

No one mentioned a stabbing or that anyone was injured.

It wasn't until police were notified by three different hospitals that stabbing victims were coming in for treatment that they realized the extent of the incident.

Det. Sgt. Denis Mulholland said, had Dang waited at the club for medical attention, he might be alive today.

"He was transported by friends who went straight to the hospital — only, they didn't know where they were going and it took them close to an hour," he said.

Dang was at the club with friends when an argument erupted with another group. Someone pulled a knife and at least four men, including Dang, were slashed and stabbed.

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