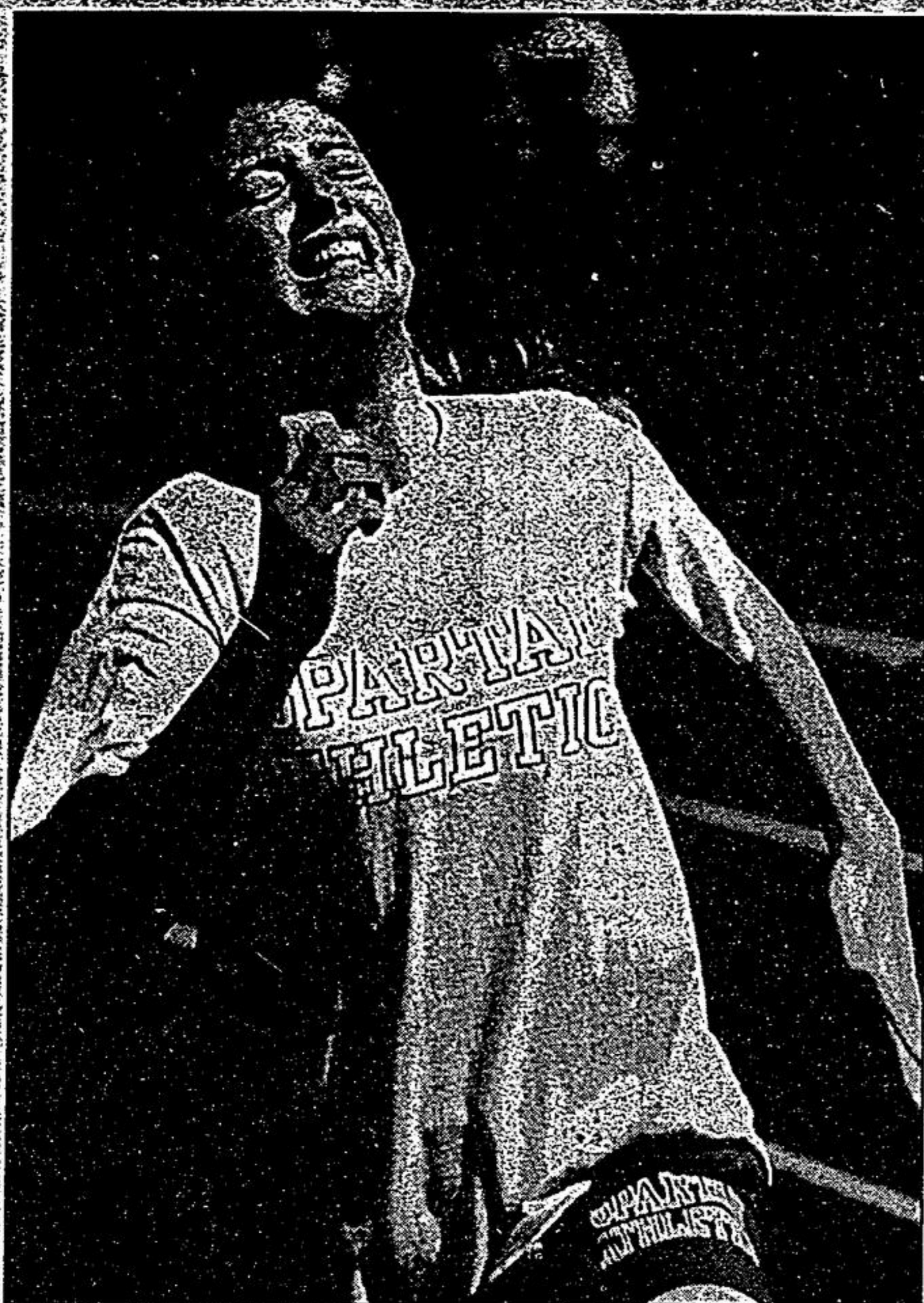


AROUND THE TRACK



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEN

Heather McDowell of Stouffville District Secondary School gives it her all as she heads toward the finish line in the 400 metre race at a York Region midget track meet. The races took place last Tuesday at SDSS. McDowell finished with a time of 1:17.10.

Children's CD marks 25 years entertaining

Sandy Offenheim is celebrating 25 years of entertaining children.

And her soon-to-be released CD, entitled *Let's Play A Statue Game Again! 31 Of Sandy Offenheim and Family's Most Requested Songs*, gives a new generation a chance to enjoy her songs.

"I think it's perfect for pre-schoolers," the songwriter/performer said. "I started writing songs about my kids and I didn't have a lot of background. When I talked to them, it came out in songs. With *Statue Game*, I was watching my daughter and her friends playing freeze and I thought, it must be weird to be a statue, you can't scratch anywhere. That gave me the idea."

"When I first started, I didn't know what I was doing," she said. "I didn't think too much about how I would use the songs. When I got into the business a little more, I became more aware of how the songs could be used. The song *What Is Your Name?* works well in a classroom situation. The kids use their own names."

Offenheim, along with husband Harold and children Nadine and Stephen, released her first album, *If Snowflakes Fell In Flavours*, in 1975. She has since released three other albums: *Honey On Toast*, *Are We There Yet?* and *Nicknames*.

"I think people were surprised to learn that I am Canadian," she said. "People didn't know where the songs came from."

Using instruments such as drums, banjos, trumpets, spoons and bassoons, she creates a universe of joy and delight for young children to enjoy.

Her songs *It's So Nice To Have A Cuddle*, *When I Get Mad I Beat My Drum* and *Peanut Butter* have been featured on television shows in Australia. Ten of her songs have also been on *Music Builder*, an educational series.

"The children's favourites are *Statue Game*, *When I Get Mad I Beat My Drum*, *Couldn't Sleep Last Night At The Barnball Farm* and *What Is Your Name?*," she said.

Ten-year-old Corrina Brake from Newmarket was full of energy when she acted out the actions to *Statue Game*.

"I like *Statue Game* the best because it makes you want to move more than the other songs," she said.

Offenheim said she was reluctant to perform in the beginning, because she was a songwriter, not a performer.

"I used the *Nickname* song to introduce us at concerts," she said, who instead of performing, now teaches English as a second language to adults.

To contact Sandy Offenheim, e-mail her at snowflakes@sympatico.ca

Councillor puts name in ring for municipal election

Whitchurch-Stouffville's municipal election campaign has been launched.

While voters won't go to the polls until Nov. 13, the first local candidate has filed papers signaling an intent to run. Ward 3 Councillor Peter Dobrich is seeking a second term on

Whitchurch-Stouffville council.

During his term in office, Dobrich has served on the Whitchurch-Stouffville Hydro Committee. As well, he co-chaired the Secondary Plan committee for Vandoir and Preston Lake and served on the Rouge Park

Alliance North, the Greenland Study and the Pool Library committees.

Dobrich, 62, is a retired chief operating engineer with Ontario Hydro. He lives in Preston Lake with his wife, Ann. The couple has three grown children and three grandchildren.

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- A low risk tax shelter (only applicable to those who have maximized their RRSPs, do not have personal debt and can leave investments compounding for 15 years)
- How to take advantage of the positive changes from the federal budget
- Understanding the effect of tax on various investments
- Borrowing to invest (tax ramifications, how to do it responsibly, who should do it?)
- Why we use labour sponsored funds to reduce tax

Dates of Seminar

Tuesday, May 16th

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Money Concepts Boardroom
6165 Main Street, Stouffville

(Note: Seating is limited to 15 people)

or

Thursday, May 18th

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Mill Run Golf & Country Club
269 Durham Road 8

To register for Tuesday's or Thursday's seminars, please call Maryanne at (905) 642-4540 by **May 12th**.

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(Front Row) - Signy Lawson, Carol Clements

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