

INSIDE: Olympians... 3
 Election... 11
 Sports... 31
 Classifieds... 32

13 Deal to haul York Region's garbage to the Adams Mine in Kirkland Lake is dead.

ARTS & CULTURE CALENDAR

EVENT: Police office grand opening
WHEN: 1 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 28
WHERE: Stouffville Train Station



28 Teens meet Christ in the mosh pit, on trips and in a demolition derby.

SERVING WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE SINCE 1888

Stouffville Tribune

50 CENTS INCLUDING GST / 56 PAGES

SATURDAY, OCT. 21, 2000

TO REACH US: (905) 294-2200

A patch of trouble for this year's pumpkins

Rainfall, animals hurt the crop of 2000

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
 Staff Writer

Frost on the pumpkins is the least of Steve Hoult's worries.

Hoult and other York Region pumpkin growers are taking stock and there's no doubt: the first pumpkin yield of the millennium is very disappointing. Pumpkins born in the Year 2000 are greener, smaller and fewer in numbers.

To make matters worse, rabbits, raccoons and deer seem to be drawn to the pumpkin patch more this year. They come to nibble and leave their mark.

Record-setting rainfall during the spring and summer coupled with lower than usual temperatures did its damage in the patch. As well, a few frosty mornings further hurt the product.

Pumpkins need moderate conditions during their 120-day growing period. They didn't get it this year, so some crops died in the fields while others produced fewer, smaller and greener pumpkins.

Here's what happened in Hoult's field, located north of Ballantrae on Highway 48 north of Aurora Rd. "We brought in bees to pollinate the crop. The bees did their job well. The blossoms opened up and then the rain came. The blossoms filled with water and drowned. We had a lot aborted."

See PUMPKIN, page 7.

FEAR THE REAPER



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Stouffville's Ben Smith gets carried away by the Grim Reaper (Mauro Cavazzo) Friday at Brother Andre Catholic High School in Markham. Students marked drug and alcohol awareness week with a presentation on the dangers of drunk driving. See story on page 26.

Fuel-price protest closes business

Angry truckers stop work at area gravel operations

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
 Staff Writer

The province-wide truckers protest brought a Whitchurch-Stouffville gravel business to a grinding halt Thursday morning.

Before 7 a.m., independent truckers pulled up to Lee Sand and Gravel on the Ninth Line. Using their dump trucks, they blocked the entrance to the gravel business.

The blockade stopped all trucks or other vehicles from coming or going from the business, located south of Musselman's Lake. The truckers returned yesterday morning and repeated the blockade.

Truckers in other parts of Ontario beefed up their protest Thursday by surrounding an oil refinery in Toronto. Talks between the province and the truckers had broken down the night before.

The truckers are protesting the fact that in the past year, the cost of diesel fuel shot up 75 per cent.

Truckers, gathered in a huddle on the side of the Ninth Line, exchanged individual frustrations brought on by record-setting fuel costs. The truckers justified their actions.

"The rising costs of fuel and the low rates are crippling us. We've got to do something. We decided to get the message out to the public to see if it will help," said Joe Goris, a Nestleton trucker.

Goris and Uxbridge trucker Bruce Todd stressed that the truckers' argument is not with Lee Sand and Gravel. "We're not mad at

See TRUCKERS, page 8.

MERCEDES BENZ
 REPAIR SPECIALIST
 19051-56051
 Tuning
 Suspension
 Condition
 471-8660

Mazda
 Get in. Be moved.

THE DAY YOU GOT YOUR DRIVER'S LICENCE
 WANT TO FEEL THAT WAY AGAIN?
 STARTING FROM 4.9% PURCHASE FINANCING FOR UP TO 48 MONTHS ON 2001 MAZDAS
 See dealer for details

OR CASH PURCHASE FROM * \$22,660* \$299**	OR CASH PURCHASE FROM * \$23,195* \$299**	OR CASH PURCHASE FROM * \$24,995* \$299**	OR CASH PURCHASE FROM * \$16,195* \$199**
2001 MAZDA TRIBUTE DX-44	2001 MAZDA 626	2001 MAZDA MPV	2001 MAZDA B-SERIES

MARKHAM MAZDA 5396 HIGHWAY #7 294-1210
 Extended Hours Wed. until 9 p.m. Sat. until 1:00 p.m.

Sutton GROUP
 Town and Country Realty Ltd.
 640-0888