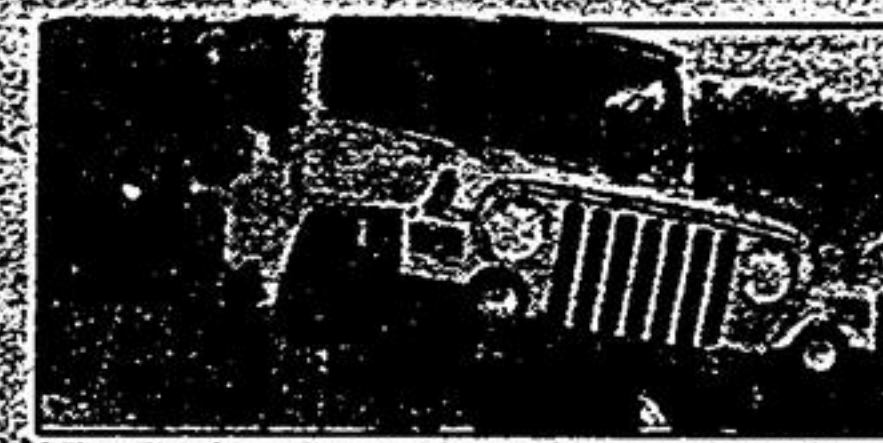


INSIDE: Letters . . . 6
 Calendar . . . 23
 Sports . . . 26
 Classified . . . 27

10 About 1,000
 Stouffville-area
 students will perform in
 concert tomorrow at SDSS.

**Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library
 COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

EVENT: Remembrance Day services
WHEN: Sunday, Nov. 11, 10:30 a.m.
WHERE: Stouffville Br. 459, Royal Canadian Legion



30 There are no
 textbooks, frat
 houses or grades at this
 off-beat college.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2001

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York Region economy 'weathering' the storm

*New residents, more
 jobs already in 2001*

BY JEFF MITCHELL
 Staff Writer

York Region continued to show signs of growth in the first half of 2001, despite an economic slowdown that has stalled markets in Canada and the United States.

A report to the region's planning and economic development committee yesterday said the region attracted more than 17,000 new residents in the first six months of this year and 10,000 new jobs were created here.

The study results, along with other factors, have region economic development commissioner Don Eastwood hopeful for the future as well.

"I'm pretty confident about how well York Region will weather the current economic softness," Eastwood said. "Part of my optimism stems from the momentum in the economy."

But a politician who sits on the committee cautions against the assumption York Region will ride out tough times relatively unscathed.

"I think we may be the last to feel the effects (of the slowdown) because of that momentum," said Richmond Hill Councillor Dave Barrow.

The primary conclusion of the report is the strong performance of York Region's economy in the

See **ECONOMY**, page 11.

FIVE-WEEK TRIAL INTO ELIZABETH HADER'S DEATH ENDS

RANCH WORKERS NOT GUILTY

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
 Staff Writer

Two Musselman's Lake riding stable workers have been found not guilty in the death of a 10-year-old girl killed while riding a horse in 1999.

The outcome of the case has left Elizabeth Hader's parents devastated.

"This is an absolute travesty of

justice," said Paul Hader, whose daughter, Elizabeth, was killed at Wagon Wheel Ranch in Whitchurch-Stouffville on April 18, 1999. "The real facts of this case were not allowed to be heard."

After listening to testimony from about 20 witnesses during the five-week trial a 12-member jury spent close to three days deliberating the fate of James Coultice and Scott

Tarpey, both of whom were charged with criminal negligence causing death.

Paul and Laurie Hader have filed a \$2-million lawsuit against Coultice and Tarpey. "We are now going to pursue the civil suit to the fullest letter of the law," said Paul Hader.

Following a two-month investigation, York Regional Police

Detective David Trach charged Coultice, the owner of Wagon Wheel Ranch, and Tarpey, the ranch manager.

Elizabeth, a novice rider, fell from a four-year old gelding while on a family outing at the Ninth Line ranch.

The court was told the child lost control of the horse, slipped from

See **JUDGE**, page 21.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

WARMING UP TO THE AUCTION

Stouffville's (from left) Norma Brillinger, Marguerite Murphy and Ruth Wagg show off four of the many quilts which will be auctioned at Stouffville United Church's annual bazaar on Saturday. The bazaar takes place between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. with the auction of quilted items starting at 11:30 a.m.

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