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35 Graduating
 Stouffville figure
 skaters ready for their final
 ice show this weekend.

SPORTS CALENDAR

EVENT: Stouffville Raiders 20th slo-pitch tourney
WHEN: May 18 and 19 (enter by calling 640-6975)
WHERE: Stouffville Memorial Park

Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library



33 Hitting the target:
 The game of darts
 has a loyal following
 across York Region.

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THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2002

TO REACH US: (905) 640-2612

Ward system remains unchanged — for now

Large growth will force
 change in '06 or '09

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
 Staff Writer

Whitchurch-Stouffville's ward system won't be changed for next year's municipal election, town council decided Tuesday night.

It will be the voters of the future — either in 2006 or 2009 — who will find themselves voting in either a six-ward system, with altered boundaries, or a four-ward system. Other alternatives are voting for either four or six councillors at large, who would all represent the entire municipality. This "at large" system is in place in Aurora, which has eight councillors and a mayor, in East Gwillimbury and in Newmarket. The latter municipality is in the process of changing to the ward system for the 2003 election.

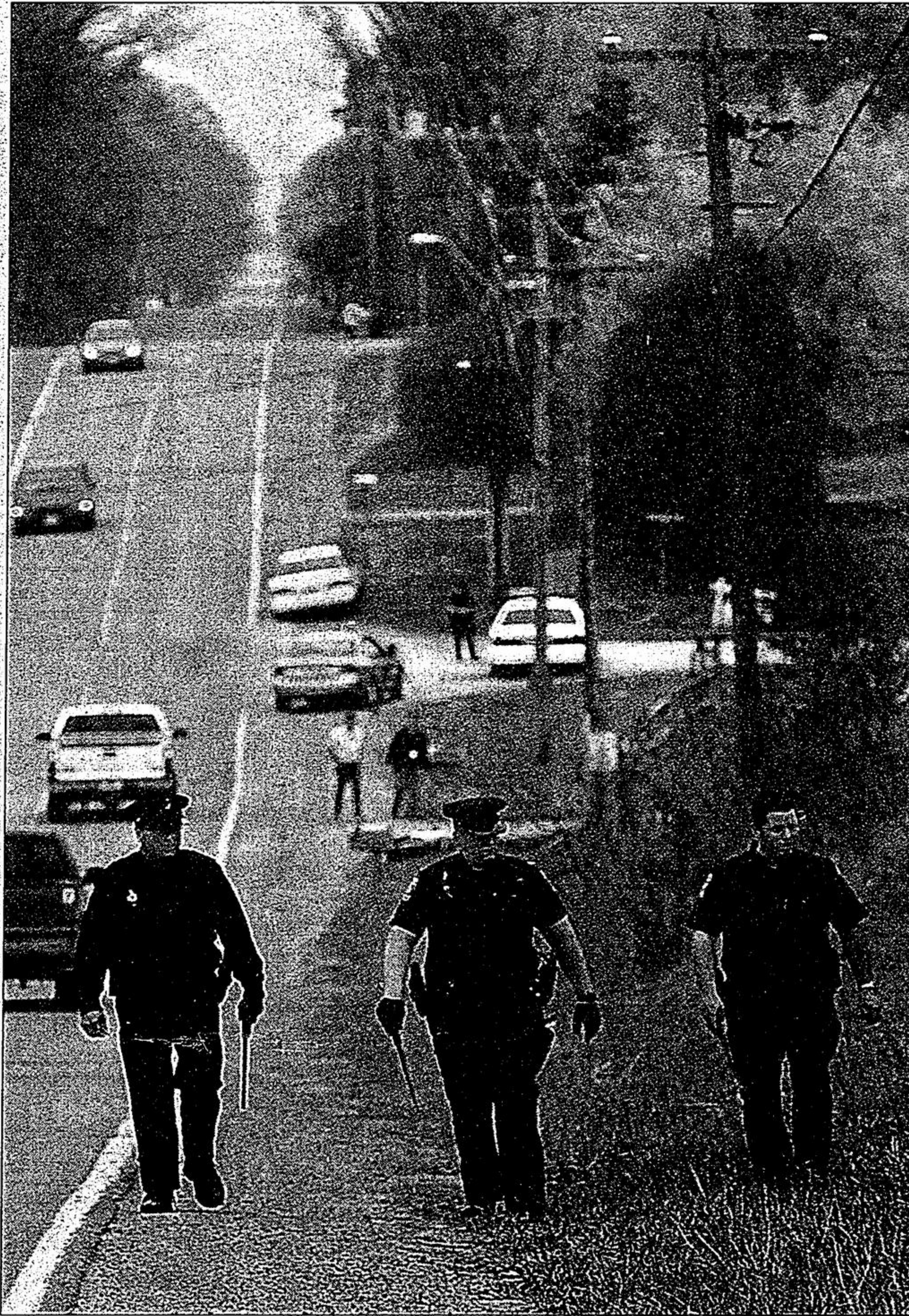
These were the options presented to the approximately 16 people in the audience at a public hearing Tuesday. Mayor Wayne Emmerson called the meeting so that residents could give their views on which system they'd prefer. As it turned out there was no support for change.

Bloomington resident Bob Lewis noted that although he doesn't think the ward system works very well, "it is the best we have." Having a local councillor is important, he added. "Preston Lake would not get attention except for the councillors in their area."

See RESIDENTS, page 5.

THURSDAY FOCUS

Murder victim found shot in up-scale Musselman's Lake neighbourhood



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

York Regional Police officers search the Ninth Line north of Musselman's Lake Tuesday after a body was found on Forfardale Road. The victim was a 21-year-old Aurora man. The homicide squad is investigating.

SEARCHING FOR KILLERS OF A RAP SINGER

BY KATHLEEN GRIFFIN
 Staff Writer

A 21-year-old Aurora man, whose traumatized body was found in a small grove of pine trees on an up-scale Whitchurch-Stouffville cul-de-sac Tuesday morning, died of gunshot wounds, the lead investigator said yesterday.

The body of Luke Ronald Charles Marson was discovered by a neighbour walking a dog about 7:30 a.m. on Forfardale Road, a quiet dead-end street of luxury homes north of Musselman's Lake.

Det-Sgt. Les Young said an autopsy performed Wednesday determined Mr. Marson died of multiple gunshot wounds, but he refused to say how many or where on his body Mr. Marson was hit.

"The body was found in a wooded area in a prone position on his back," said Det-Sgt. Young, adding the victim was not bound in any way and was casually dressed. "We still haven't determined if the murder took place at that place or if the body was dumped there."

He said Mr. Marson was killed sometime in the 24 hours before his body was found in the neighbourhood just south of the intersection of the Ninth Line and Aurora Road.

Mr. Marson, who had not been reported missing, was a part-time rap singer.

"We haven't determined if he worked in any York Region clubs; there was a loose group of people he performed with," Det-Sgt. Young said, adding Mr. Marson had completed some studio

See VICTIM, page 30.

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