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**3** Stouffville readers, last chance to win by completing our 2002 readership survey.

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**EVENT:** Stouffville United's 149th anniversary dinner  
**WHEN:** Tonight (905-640-1163)  
**WHERE:** Stouffville United Church, 34 Church St.



**24** Region's teacher of the month ended the nightmare for Stouffville student.

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TO REACH US: (905) 640-2612

## Centralized fire service money saver for region

Job losses worry York firefighter unions

BY JEFF MITCHELL  
 Staff Writer

Centralizing York Region's fire dispatch services in one location will cut down on personnel and equipment costs significantly, a consultant's report suggests.

But in the short term, those savings will come at the cost of jobs for members of professional firefighters' unions here, the region's fire service committee heard Wednesday.

"It would appear operating efficiencies are available through centralizing of fire dispatch services," consultant Maureen McCauley said.

She added service improvements are more difficult to predict, but recommended continuing with an exercise that has been on York Region's agenda for several years now.

"These (service improvements) are not quantifiable ... but there is the potential they could see improvement with implementation of this approach," Ms McCauley said.

Of three scenarios examined — including continuing with the status quo of three dispatch centres or amalgamating the service into a single centre — the centralized option represented the greatest cost efficiencies, Ms McCauley said.

The centralized model could

See AMALGAMATION, page 8.

STUDENTS, PRINCIPAL WELCOME CHANGE TO DISCUSS EDWARD STREET TROUBLE

## SDSS wants to 'talk trash'

BY JOAN RANSBERRY  
 Staff Writer

Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS) students and their parents should have a place at the table during an emergency meeting being held to discuss youth crime, including littering on Edward Street, said school principal Tony Lewis.

Mr. Lewis is not only welcoming

the invitation from Mayor Wayne Emmerson to join York Region District School Board Chairperson Bill Crothers and York Regional Police officials to the meeting, he's reminding the mayor that SDSS has a 50-member student council and that parents play a major role in the behaviour of their children.

As well, students using Edward Street, located next to SDSS, are

offering a number of suggestions to combat the littering problem.

On Tuesday, an angry Edward Street resident turned up at a town council meeting and dumped a bag of garbage on the floor of the council chamber. The resident said students have turned his street into a dump.

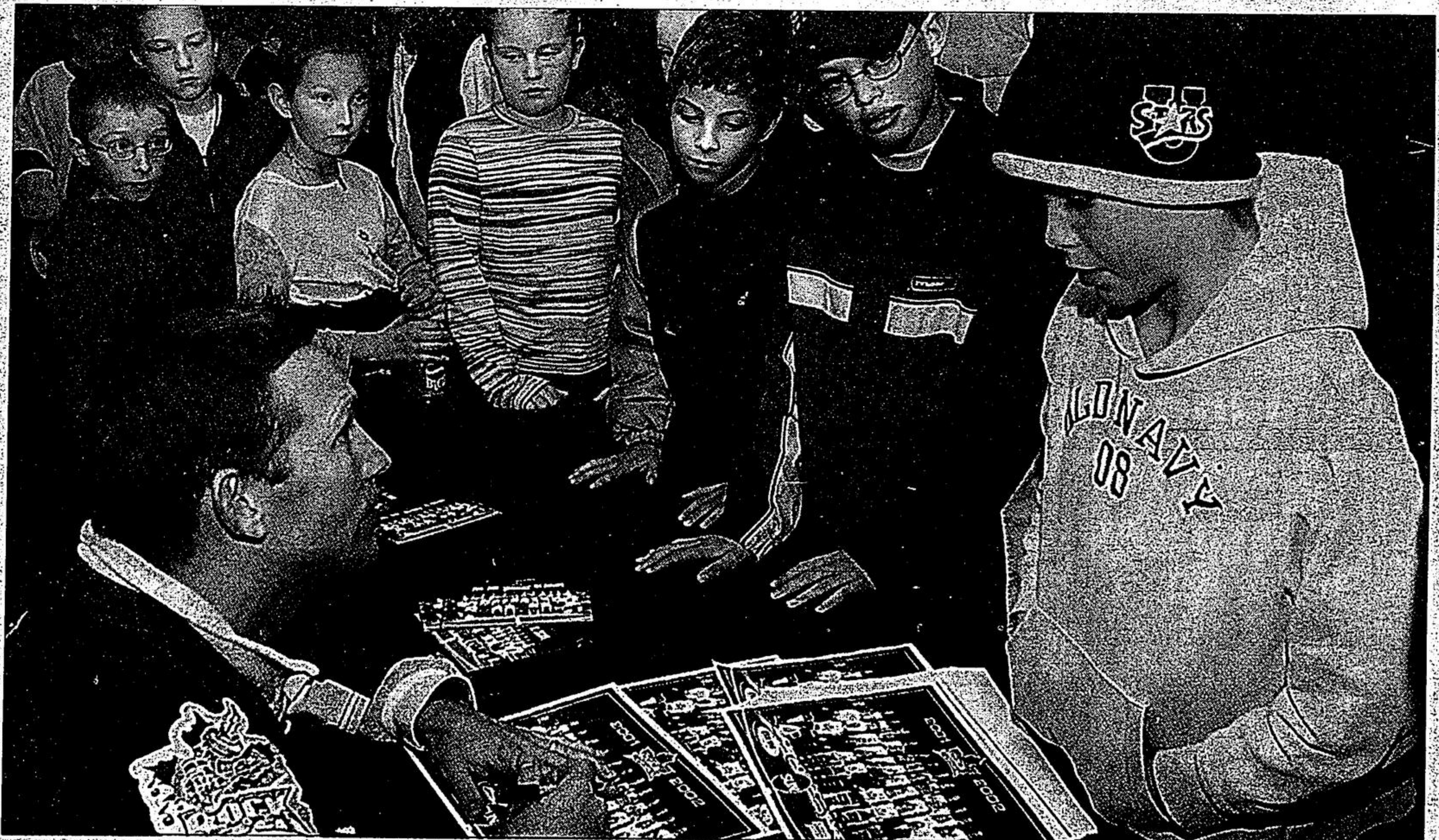
Ward 3 Councillor Peter Dobrich suggested police try to find finger-

prints on the garbage as a way to identify who's responsible for the littering. Mr. Lewis said Councillor Dobrich's suggestions will not work from a logical standpoint.

Meanwhile, Ward 6 Councillor Sue Sherban said the school board has neglected SDSS for more than two years.

SDSS is in a "deplorable state"

See COUNCILLORS, page 10.



STAFF PHOTOS/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

### LIKE A ROCK

Wes Huggins, 12, gets a free picture and signature from Stouffvillite Glenn Clark, assistant captain with the Toronto Rock lacrosse team, at the Stouffville Arena during the Stouffville Spirit-Couchiching Terriers junior A hockey game on Thursday evening. The Spirit won 7-4. See story on page 26.

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