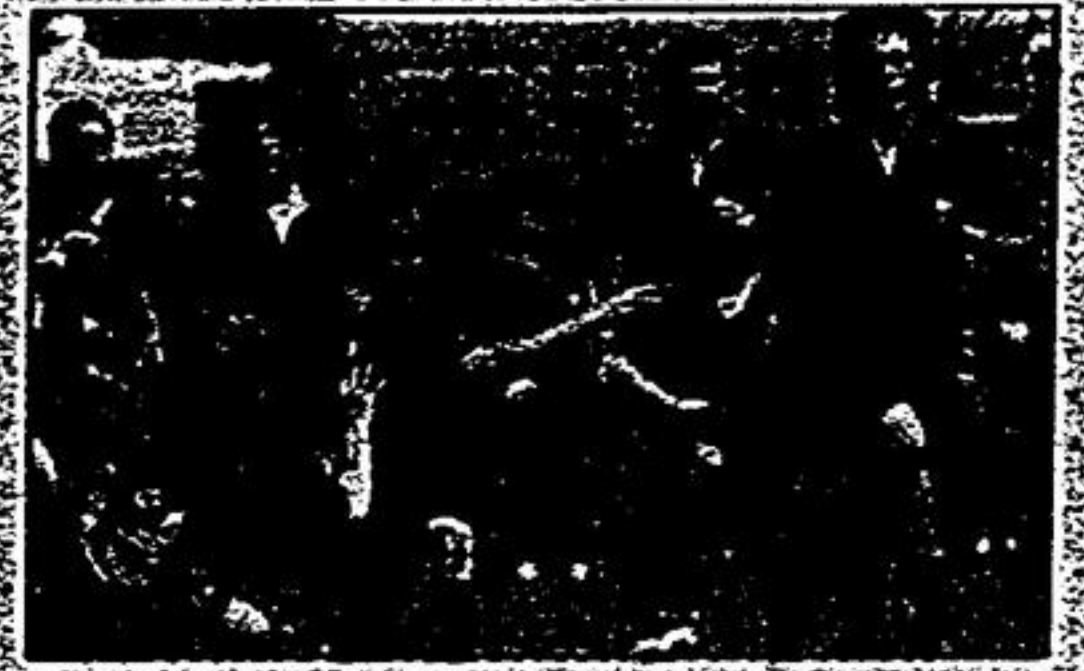


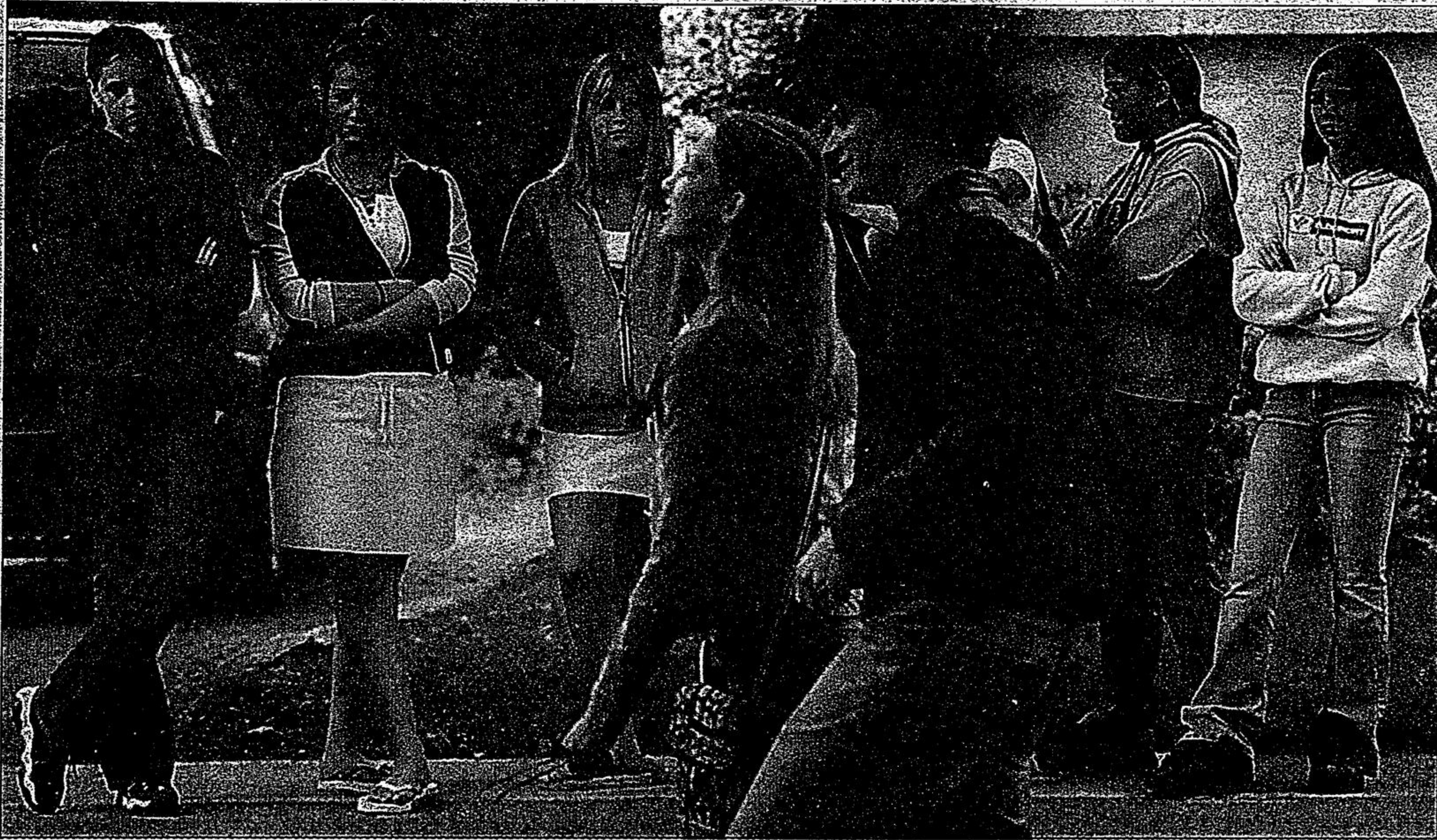
Stouffville Sun-Tribune

THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2003 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 36 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST



22 Stouffville Secondary juniors win York Region rugby championship.

Crime	4
Letters	6
Calendar	12
Classified	25



Degrassi meets Summitview

As *Degrassi: The Next Generation* stars Miniam McDonald, as Emma, and Jake Epstein, as Craig, walk along Church Street in Stouffville, Summitview Public School Grade 8 students (from left) Deanna Williams, Elise Feltis, Kelsey Ruhl, Bethany Chekay and Hayley Hughes watch the acting action yesterday. The first episode of the fall season of the CTV show was shot at three Stouffville locations. See the story on page 10.

SJOERD WITTEVEEN PHOTO

Veterans remember comrades at Juno Beach

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

Fifty-eight years after the guns were silenced and the smoke of the Second World War's battles had blown away, two veterans from the Stouffville Royal Canadian Legion will be in France to witness the opening of a centre commemorating the sacrifices made by Canadian troops.

Walter Maitland and Marg Ackroyd, who is also a member of the Markham Veterans Association, will be at the opening ceremonies tomorrow.

Canadians had to wait too long for such a centre, said Stouffville Legion Branch 459 president John McCracken.

He noted commemorative centres had already been built by the Americans, French and British. "We are just getting around to doing this for all the Canadian soldiers who died there," he said.

More than 21,000 Canadians waded onto Juno Beach in Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944. The fierce fighting left 340 Canadians dead, 574 injured and 473 taken prisoner.

The passage of time means many members who wanted to attend the opening will have to stay home.

"Because of the years that have intervened," said Markham Veterans Association president Bert Dawe, "a lot of them aren't able to make that long trip."

Ms Ackroyd, who travelled throughout Europe as an entertainer during the war, is the only member from the Markham association to attend the centre opening.

Over the past year or so, she

raised more than \$1,000 from merchants and individuals in both communities by selling "Support Juno Beach" buttons.

Mr. Maitland will take part in Friday's opening ceremonies as one of the drum majors of the Ontario Royal Canadian Legion Pipes, Drums and Colours.

Both residents received financial support for their trips from their legion and veterans association.

See JUNO, page 21

See RURAL, page 8.

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