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Stouffville Sun-Tribune

SATURDAY, SEPT. 13, 2003 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 44 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST



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Graduates return to Stouffville high school

More credits, better marks lure students

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

Instead of saying goodbye to high school forever last June, a significant number of senior students are back at Stouffville District Secondary School.

To principal Tony Lewis' surprise, 69 of the school's current 271 Grade 12 students are there for the second time. "That's about 40 more than I thought," he said.

The phenomenon is across York Region, where close to 25 per cent of the region's approximately 8,000 Grade 12 students are in their final year — again.

There's no proof the double cohort, which saw both Grade 12 and OAC classes graduating last June, is the prime factor for the large number of students returning, according to Ross Virgo, spokesperson for the York Region District School Board.

"We have heard reports from our students that they want to improve their marks to increase their chances of gaining a place at university," he said.

He believes this is a trend that will continue for the next several years.

At SDSS, most of the students are back because they didn't have enough credits or they want to raise their marks. Others have opted for co-op placements to help them find their future career.

See RECORD, page 15.

GARBAGE-EATING BUGS POSSIBLE SOLUTION

Landfill alternatives tested

BY SIMONE JOSEPH
Staff Writer

In the next few weeks, York Region hopes to find an \$86,000 alternative to shipping garbage to Michigan.

York, Peel, Durham and Toronto are working together to evaluate 51 companies with potential solutions that include shredding the garbage, having bugs eat it, adding heat and

pressure to it or adding chemicals and processing the liquid results. Each region will launch a pilot project to test different technology.

York Region's solid waste committee agreed Wednesday to set aside \$86,000 to introduce its pilot project but the final decision will be made this week at the regional council meeting.

The region sends about 160,000

tonnes of garbage a year to two sites in Michigan, while Toronto sends 1.1 million tonnes annually.

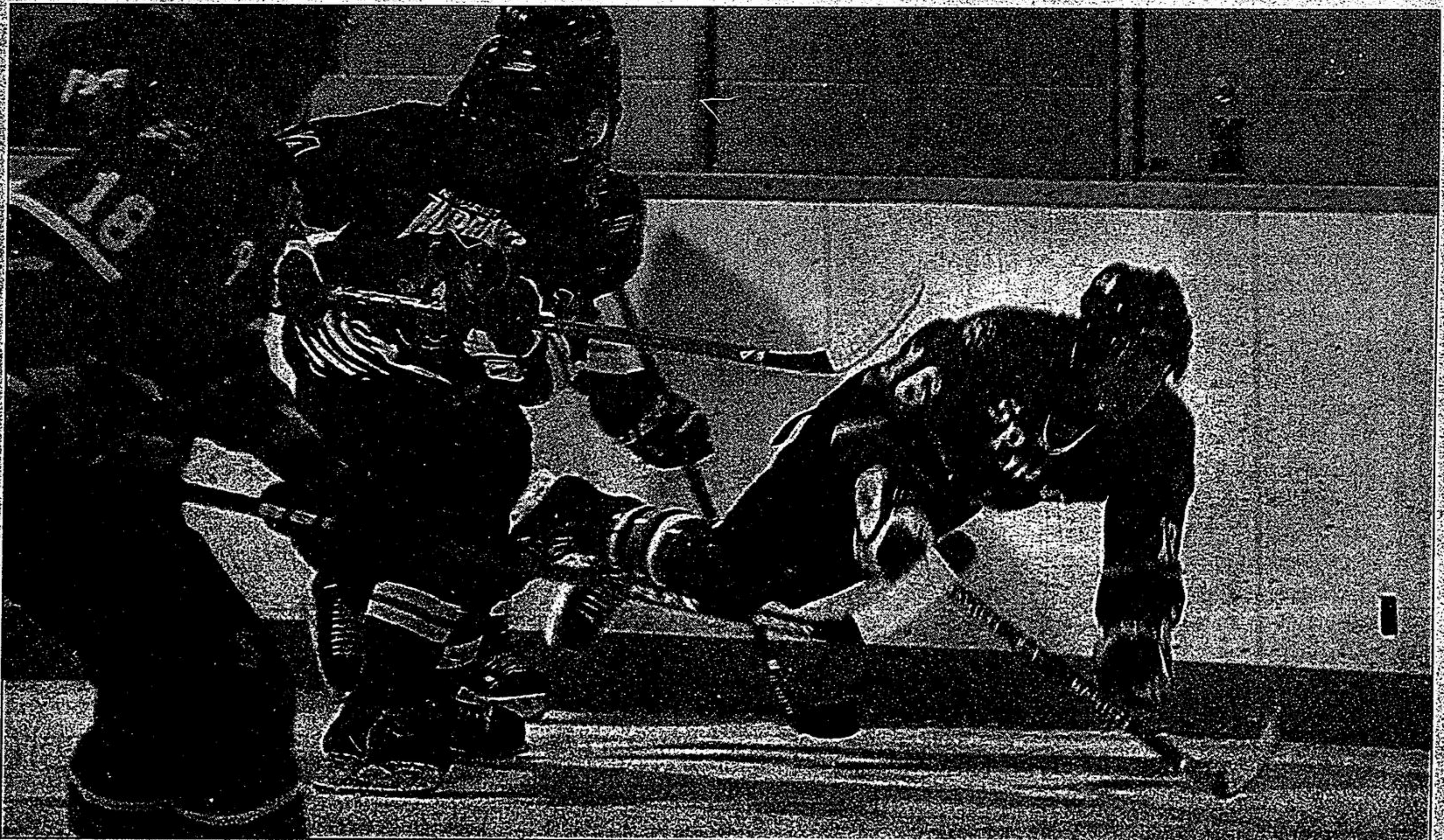
The closing of the Keele Valley dump increased the amount of garbage being shipped to Michigan. In recent months, Michigan politicians and environmentalists have spoken out against Ontario garbage being shipped to area dumps, increasing fears York

Region's garbage will be prevented from crossing the border.

In response to this, Peel, Durham, York and Toronto banded together to find alternatives to sending trash to Michigan.

Now, York Region must forge ahead with its pilot project and try to introduce it in the next year, York Region chairperson Bill Fisch said.

See MICHIGAN, page 12.



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

LORD, SPIRIT TUMBLE

Stouffville Spirit forward Kevin Lord is tripped up by Newmarket Hurricane Joel Sheppard in Provincial Junior A Hockey League opening game at the Stouffville Arena Thursday. Newmarket won 6-5. Spirit forward Mike Kropman (18) looks on. The Spirit hosts its Terry Fox car wash today at Houston Ford. See story on page 25.

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