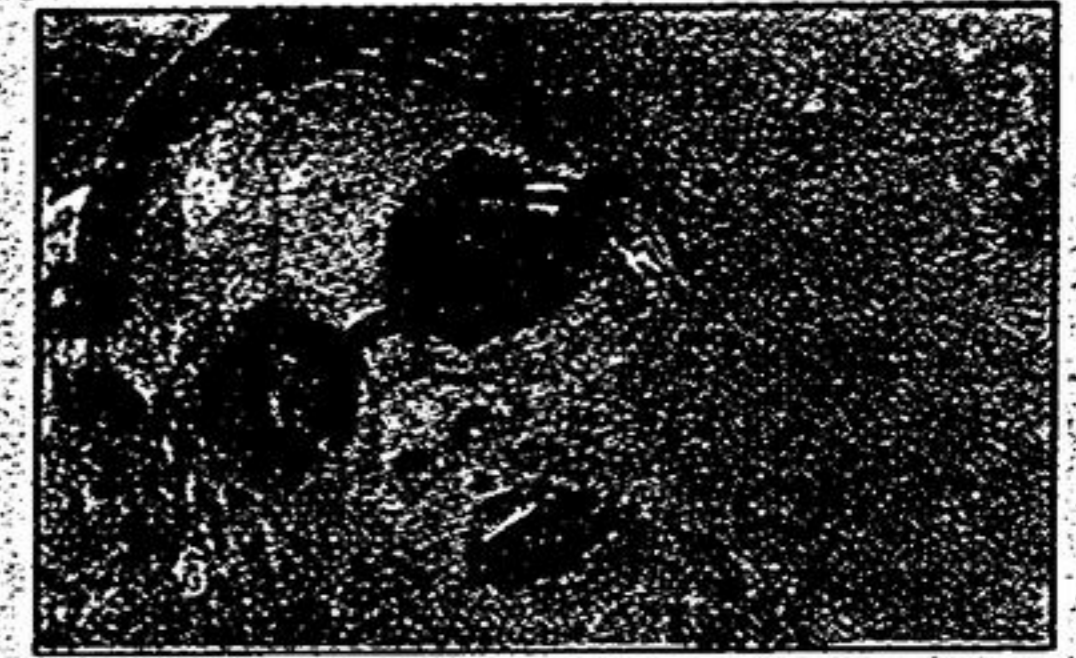


# Stouffville Sun-Tribune

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2005 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 32 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST



**25** Fledgling Stouffville swim club shoots for first at provincials

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## Minor hockey associations benefit from migration

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA  
 Staff Writer

U.S. journalist John B.L. Soule wrote an editorial encouraging young easterners to go west and grow up with the country.

If Soule was a writer for a Toronto newspaper today, he may have told young families with aspiring minor hockey players to go north and grow up with the national winter pastime.

In recent years, a growing number of families with young players in have done just that.

Many have pulled up stakes in Toronto and migrated northwards into various the communities of York Region.

### DECLINE IN TORONTO

As a result, some minor hockey organizations in Toronto have witnessed a decline in registration. The storied Wexford house league system in Scarborough is shutting down.

Minor hockey associations in York Region have been the benefactors.

However, the growth has taken place in varying degrees and with problems of its own.

Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association president Joe Cornacchia said his organization is thriving.

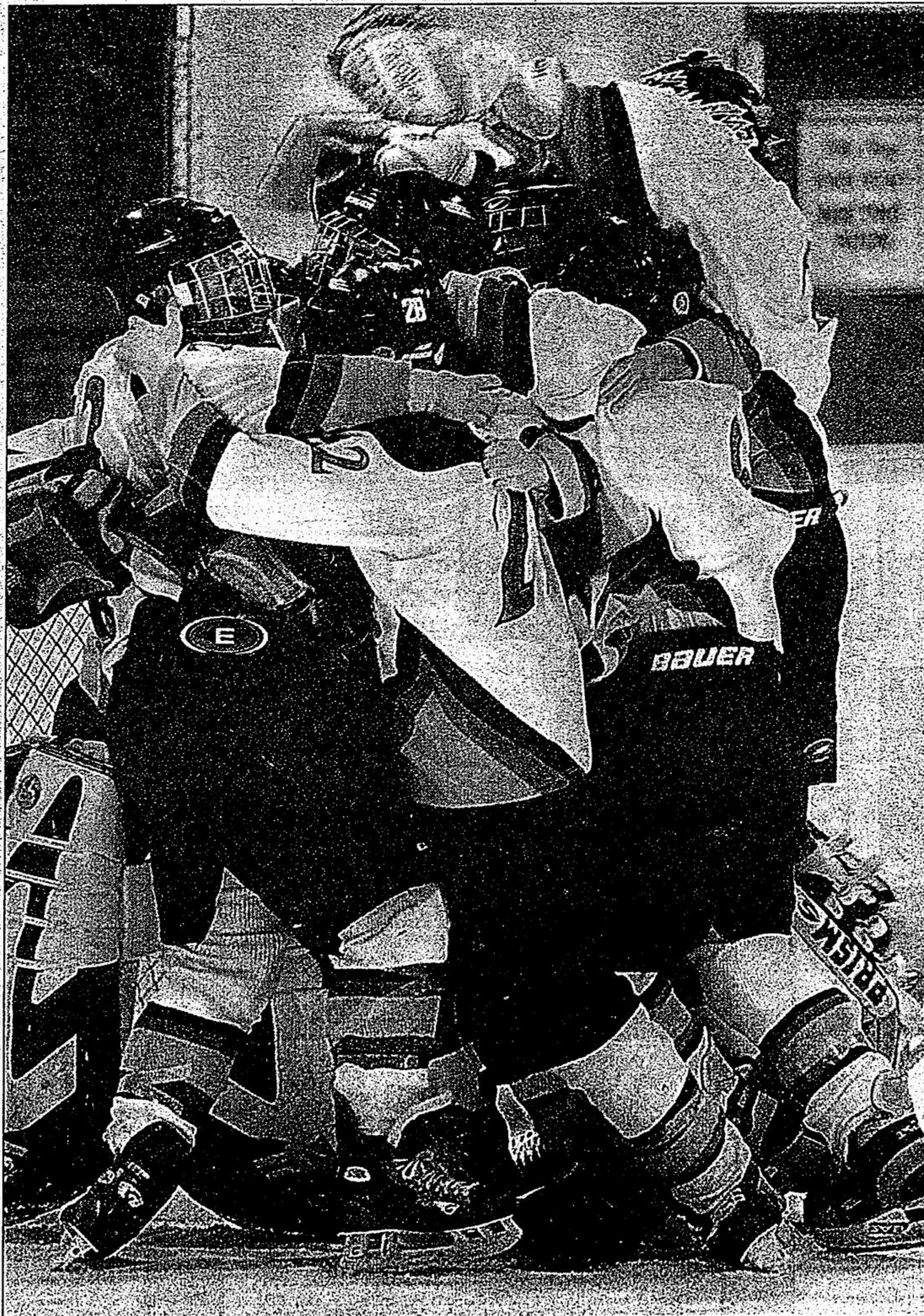
"It's going through the roof," he said.

With 825 youngsters enrolled this year to play at the house league and rep levels, Mr. Cornacchia said the numbers are up by at least 50 youngsters from a year ago.

Mr. Cornacchia, who also coaches the Markham Waxers AAA midgets, attributed the growth primarily to a shift in demographics.

"A lot of people are moving

See HERITAGE, page 20.



STAFF PHOTO/BILL ROBERTS

## Pile on, boys!

The Stouffville juvenile Clippers celebrate after winning an Ontario Minor Hockey Association championship Sunday at the Stouffville Arena. The Clippers defeated Harrow 3-1 in front of 600 fans. For more on the win, see Jim Mason's column on page 6 and story and photo on page 26.

## COUNCIL WON'T BAN STUDIO DESPITE PETITIONS

# Tattoo parlour scares residents

BY HANNELORE VOLPE  
 Staff Writer

The prospect of a tattoo and body piercing studio opening in the heart of downtown Stouffville tomorrow had town officials scrambling to put together a bylaw to regulate such businesses.

Several town councillors and the owners of the Freak Inn Tattoo business on Main Street were notified late Thursday a meeting would be held Tuesday to discuss the issue.

In the end, council voted to hold off on a bylaw and allow the business to go ahead. However, council requested staff write a report on licensing such businesses.

The proposed bylaw included stipulations that would ban tattoo parlours near schools and in the downtown core.

### PETITIONS FROM RESIDENTS

Tuesday's meeting was prompted by more than 30 e-mails, phone calls and petitions from residents directed to Councillor Rob Hargrave and Mayor Sue Sherban.

Principals of two local schools contacted the town to say they were against having such a business on Stouffville's downtown Main Street. Eight merchants signed a petition against the business.

Mrs. Sherban told residents a bylaw does not exist to restrict businesses on Main Street.

But there were "enough residents with enough concerns about this operation," she said, that it should be brought before council.

Many parents are worried about health regulations and underage

See HIGH, page 10.

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