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RUNNING WITH THE PACK

Duncan Allen (right) heads for the finish line in the York Region elementary public school cross-country meet at Bruce's Mill Conservation Area in Whitchurch-Stouffville last week. The Grade 4 Ballantrae Public School student finished second in a field of 174 in the male tyke division. It was only the second race ever for Duncan, who trains twice daily with his dog. For more, see page 22.



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

THREE OF FIVE CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR AGREE TO TALK

Mole dares rivals to debate

BY JIM MASON
 Staff Writer

The last three and a half weeks of the municipal election will be devoid of live debates involving Whitchurch-Stouffville's mayor candidates.

But not if one of the five hopefuls gets his way.

Randy Mole, who also ran for mayor in 2003, is "appalled" by the lack of debates before the Nov. 13 election.

The Stouffville resident is proposing more be scheduled, especially in the rural area, for all candidates.

Two debates were held last week, one for all 23 candidates for mayor and council and the other for the five mayoral hopefuls.

"The apathy level in this town destroys the moral fabric of the community and ensures that bad decisions are made and bad management results," Mr. Mole said in a challenge sent to other candidates Tuesday.

"Apathy kills commerce as well. If you want a town that you can be proud of than you'd better be prepared to stir the pot and get the people involved."

"A vibrant community requires energy and involvement. You don't

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