



17 Storm weathers battles, heads for Newfoundland

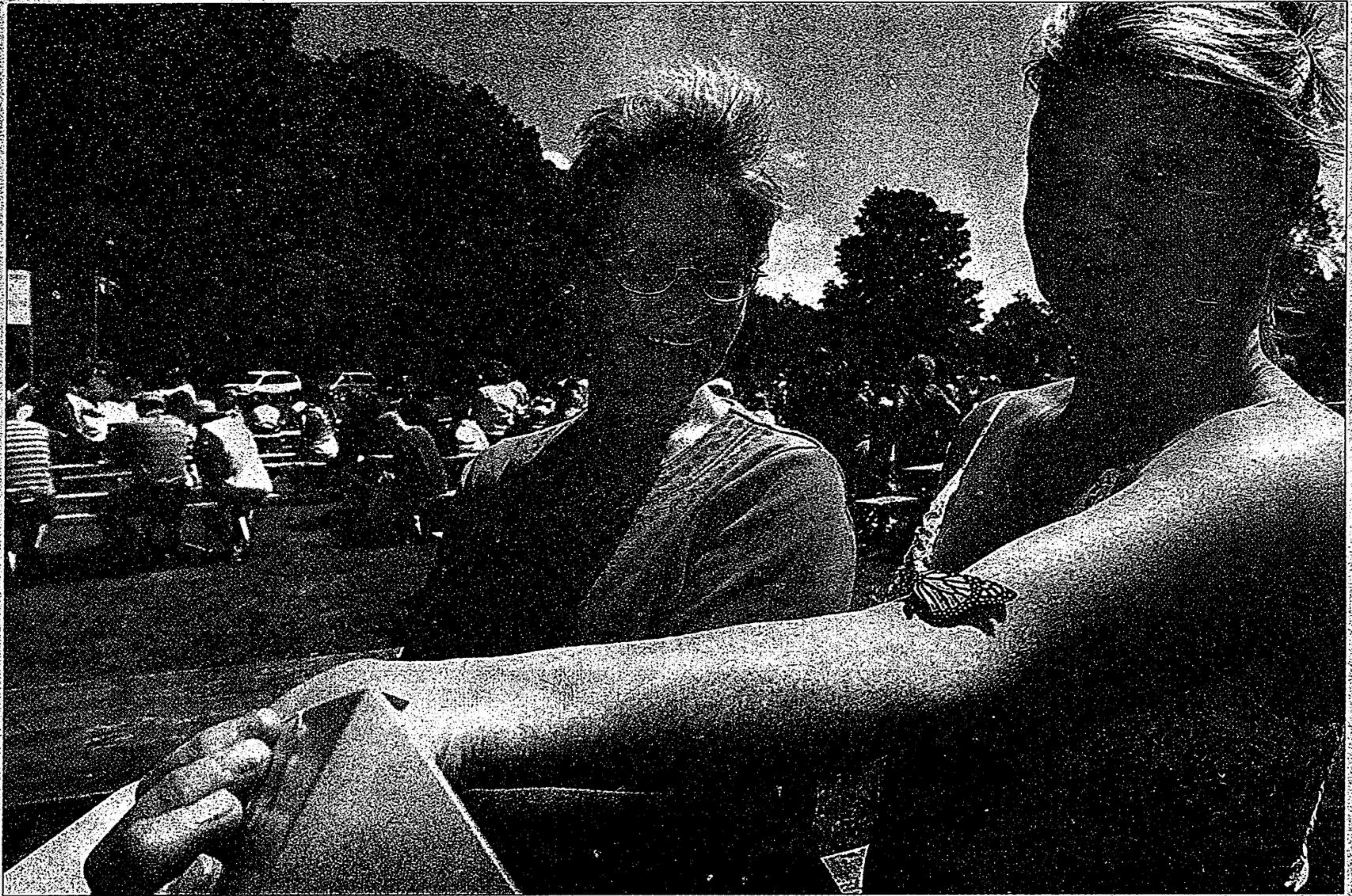
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Stouffville Sun-Tribune

THURSDAY, JULY 12, 2007 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 24 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST

MEMORIES ABOUT TO TAKE FLIGHT

Kim Kalil, right, of Stouffville watches a butterfly on her arm while her sister, Wendy Robb, watches in amusement at a memorial butterfly release at Bruce's Mill Conservation Area Saturday. The butterfly was in honour of their mother, Fern Stone, and their bother, Richard Bernier. More than 600 butterflies were released. The event was a fundraiser for Evergreen Hospice, Bereaved Families of Ontario and St. Patrick's Church in Markham. For additional photos, see page 14.



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

COUNCIL HOPES TO PURCHASE OLD HIGH SCHOOL, TOO

Town buying SDSS track, soccer fields

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

A sporting centrepiece of Stouffville will be under town ownership for you to enjoy for years to come.

Whitchurch-Stouffville council decided to buy the track, three tennis courts and two illuminated soccer fields between Stouffville District Secondary School and the

Stouffville Arena Tuesday.

The decision laid to rest fears about what would happen to this recreational land if Stouffville District Secondary School is sold. The high school closed last month and has been deemed surplus. It is expected to be on the market with the Ontario Realty Corporation later this year.

A new school will open on Weldon Road in September, with-

out a track.

Mayor Wayne Emmerson has been eyeing the old school building as a possible site for municipal offices, a theatre, seniors centre, emergency services centre and police station among other uses.

"I am hoping we still are able to get the high school site," he said in an interview.

An assessment will have to be made first, including a busi-

ness plan and feasibility study, he said.

The 8.5 acre playing fields and track are "an important part of the recreational inventory (of the town)," CAO Dave Cash said, describing the site as the town's "centrepiece."

The purchase price was \$125,000 per acre.

If the town had lost ownership of the lands, it would cost an

estimated \$1 million to replace all the facilities — and that's without buying the land.

The recreational lands have been well-used in the more than 30 years they have been shared by the York Region District School Board and the town.

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Soccer Club uses the fields at least

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