

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

SATURDAY, JULY 5, 2008 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 36 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST



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Chief wants tougher grow-op sentences

Gormley man charged in probe of T.O. cops

BY JOE FANTAUZZI
Staff Writer

Marijuana grow operations will continue to be a problem until they are no longer profitable or sentences are so severe that people will not want to get involved, York Regional Police Armand La Barge said.

While the government has introduced strong penalties for

► For more on this story and the names of those who face charges, go to yorkregion.com

impaired driving, such as immediate 90-day licence suspensions, the same "teeth" have not been used in sentencing those convicted of growing and distributing marijuana, Chief La Barge said.

Right now, the sentences many people receive are viewed as a "cost of doing business", he added.

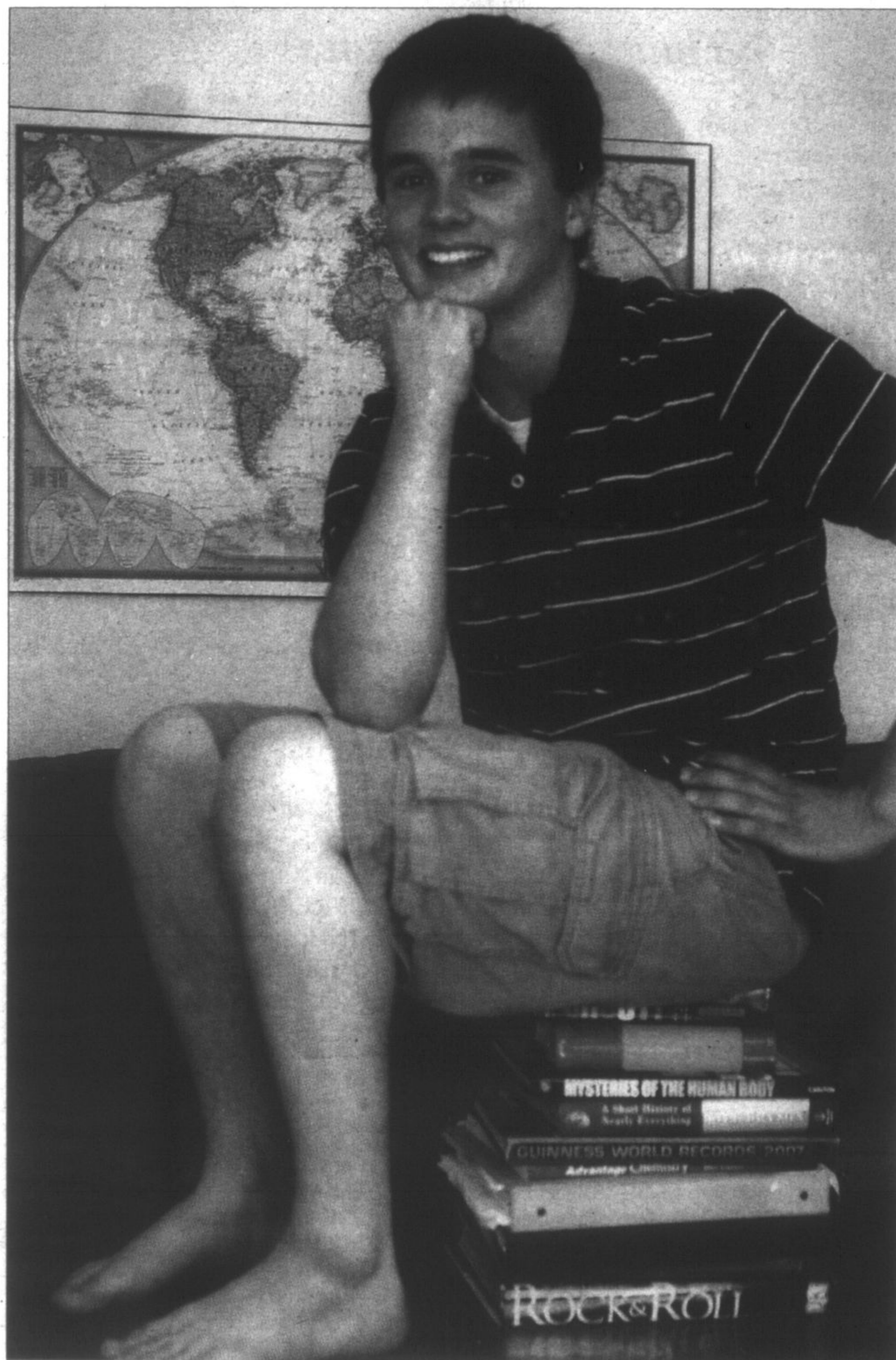
"Quite frankly, there is so much profit to be made in these types of illegal operations that what we're finding is we'll knock off 20 or 30 in a major project only to find we have a whole new group actively involved in them," Chief La Barge said.

"Where there is profit opportunities and also, too, where the sentences are not really reflective of the severity of these type of

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WEEKEND FOCUS

Once a future farmer, super scholar Jeremy Reesor now eyes career in medicine



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Jeremy Reesor and his 95-per-cent average topped a large graduating class of Ontario scholars at Stouffville District Secondary School. See the full list on page 10.

95% tops class of 2008 at SDSS

BY JIM MASON
Staff Writer

Jeremy Reesor always thought he would take up the family business and become a farmer.

Now 17 and this year's highest-ranking graduate of Stouffville District Secondary School, he's set to take a different path.

He'll take his 95-per-cent average to the University of Waterloo in September and study science, with a specialty in biology. Longer term, he's thinking medicine.

His dad, Richard, runs a farm on Warden Avenue with properties in southern Ontario, Georgia and Florida.

This week, Jeremy, his brother, Ben, and others were picking sweet corn, part of his annual summer job since age 13.

He'll take a bank account full of scholarships to Waterloo, including a \$4,000 Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation excellence award.

At the SDSS commencement, he pocketed the geography, English and Governor General awards, plus the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and York Region District School Board prizes as top grad in the school.

With the Reesor family home less than a block from the new SDSS, he didn't have far to lug them.

His marks from the first term include 95 in biology, 94 in English and 92 in functions. The second-term numbers have yet to be released.

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