



Award winning photographers Bert Hoferrichter and Ron Pozniak of Port Credit have joined forces in one business. The Lakeshore Road location will have two complete studios with one handling only portraits and weddings and the other to do product and commercial photography.

Ontario Scholarship winners announced

One hundred and fifty-five Mississauga area high school students have achieved Ontario Scholar honours in their Grade 13 studies. The scholarship, worth \$150, is being awarded by the province for the last time this year.

STREETSVILLE

Top student — Penny Walker, Bernadette de Clercq, Joe DaCosta, Carol Clarke, Stan Feenstra, Paul Marques, Dan Sawyer, Marolyn Cowie, Iole Fabbro, and Ed Dickey.

PORT CREDIT

Top student — Lorne MacDonald, David Alexander, Katherine Boaretti, John Bodner, David Brayley, Raymond Chen, Mary Crawford, Mary Fairs, Mark Fields, Jim Georgas, Christine Halstead, William Hare. Paul Hosick, Paul Howes, Candace Jenkins, Emily

Jezersek, Louis Mather, Robert McCrea, William McCrea, Peg McPhedran, Cameron Murch, Angie Piergiolanni, Elizabeth Rinaldo, Grant Simpson.

Carolyn Smith, Monica Stegman, John Steven, David Tarasick, Greg Thomson, Ross Underhill, Fran Scott, Martha Hendricks, Terry Mozeika, Vivien Anderson, Richard Kropp, and Antonio Paradiso.

LORNE PARK

Top student — Bill Francis, Donald Mims, Glenna McClelland, Vikki Tillotson, Jim Hudson, Allan Beach, David Tanner, Lee Ramsay, Clint Culic, Catherine Pointing, Gregory Wilkins, Mary Jean Duncan, Pamela Millar, Rhonda Gerhart, Brian Edwards, Karen Skala, Robert Ward, Laura Jeffrey, Joy Leslie, Richard Lester, Patricia Irwin, Leslie Evans, Mark Gluck.

Robert Steele, Iain

Mackie, David Porter, Frank Ranlett, Bill Rogers, Paul Bourbonniere, Patricia Munroe, Kerry Barber, Glenn Dudman and Michael Nicholas.

T.L. KENNEDY

Top student — Gordon Stabley, Jackie Claxton, Sally Gualtieri, Claudio Piccolotto, Linda Wright, Colleen Cover, Jim Felton, Lynda Hausman, Angie Lydoroff, Tom Wheal, Barbara Bognar, Tatania Chyphchar, Kathy Hayes, Patsy Leonard and Paul Scale.

GORDON GRAYDON

Top student — Clair Smith, Bill Nesbitt, Susan Barclay, Suzanne Stobie, Douglas Corkum, Janice McKenzie, Bruce Holmes, Lynn Cuthrie, Frank Schaedlich, Herbert Smith, Stephanie Smith, Bill Blight, Linda Wilson, Heather Henderson, Shawn Gosnell, and Michael Fedy.

WESTWOOD

Top student — David Golla, David Cowper-Smith, Gordon MacLeod and Manuel Rodenkirchen.

APPLEWOOD HEIGHTS

Top student — Charles McClung, John Viney, Colleen Black, Caroline Aral, Meriel Smith, Peter Slade, Therese Holland, Margot Brown, Paul Poidevin, Norah McAlpine, Gerald Lang and Susan Kohy.

CLARKSON

Top student — Judy McMullan, John Skelton, Douglas Brooks, Robert Rizzuto, Jocelyn Clements, Mary Beth Convery, Robin Hauer, Marian Ihle, Michael

Keast, Andrew Keillerman and Jennifer Laidman.

ERINDALE

Top student — Bradley MacMaster, Robert Daniel, Teresa Skakun, Joyce Oehr, Marilyn McCormack, Jack Nolan, Mary Southcott, Kenneth Ramsay, Walter Cringan, Christopher Lodwick, Paul Smith, Michael Johnson, Raymond Szeo, Douglas Gowland, Bruce Johnstone, Judy Lomas, Gordon Lorimer, Larry West, Paul Williams, Susan Baird, Susan Berecz, John Flanagan, Gail Hulnick, Alison Jackson, Elizabeth Lowry and Michael Southcott.

Math, reading problems exist: trustees

BY SID RODAWAY

Is there a crisis in Peel's classrooms? Have your child's elementary school reading skills fallen so low that he rates below three quarters of the rest of Canada.

If taken at face value the recently-released results of grade 4 and 7 basic skills and intelligence testing would indicate that despite the best efforts of our high priced educational system, little Johnny has never done worse.

The testing procedure conducted last year cost the Peel County Board of Education the better part of \$20,000 and was designed to measure I.Q. and the level of achievement in the basic skills of reading and mathematics. But when the results were first released in closed committee all but a few trustees were ready to declare the test was obviously a failure.

An interim report on the nation wide testing program was released last month with fuller reports promised for the fall. If the experts finally agree with the figures residents can expect some rapid changes in style of teaching reading and math in county elementary schools.

RED HERRINGS

For a while it seemed only trustee John Hart, a freelance educational specialist, was willing to speak out in protest. The interim report was accompanied by a flood of explanations and what Hart called "red herring" excuses.

In point of fact most of the critical trustees now wish the administration had cancelled efforts at explaining away the test results and instead left such attempts until a final analysis had been made.

The two programs used are amongst the most highly regarded tests available. The Canadian Test of Basic Skills is regularly used by boards of education across Canada.

The board's administration has claimed Peel youngsters are unaccustomed to testing and that when the Lorge Thorndyke Intelligence Test was readministered their scores climbed by as much as nine points.

In other words with practice Peel's students do almost as well as the rest of their Canadian counterparts. This conclusion was attacked by Hart who claimed that children from this affluent area should do far better than "normal."

The board further reasoned the children's unfamiliarity with the test operator may have falsely lowered their performance. In addition the academics

reasoned that with Peel growing so quickly "it is questionable as to whether we are testing the results of Peel programs."

Hart felt the explanations were the "red herring" variety. He further criticized the report because it dealt only with the I.Q. results rather than the children's low basic skill performance. T.V. TO BLAME

Even if the test results prove to be inaccurate the board's former chairman, Ted Conover, admits that a serious problem does exist. "Reading skills have gone all the way to hell and I place the blame partly on T.V. and parents," he says.

"We have forgotten to teach the basics and in areas like math we've gone into the wild blue yonder with a pure math that is of no use in today's practical world."

The long term member of the board is convinced that the "doing your own thing" philosophy of education has gotten out of hand. He lays much of the blame at the feet of the provincial department of education.

Both Conover and trustee David Currey agree that efforts in the last few years to constantly innovate in the classroom have resulted in "tossing the baby out with the bath water."

"I am not satisfied with the administration's answers — we should be better than 80 per cent of Canada if the test was properly done," says Currey, a placement officer with the University of Toronto.

He explains that the results will only take on real significance when compared with the performance results of neighbouring boards of equal sophistication. In this way Peel can determine if the problem is localized or Ontario-wide.

Unfortunately the other Toronto area boards that participated in the basic skills testing have not shown any signs of co-operating with Peel and in fact Peel has become the only board in the province to release their results.

CAUSE PANIC

"If we found that our kids were reading poorly we wouldn't release it to the public," says one official with a Metro borough board. "That kind of news can cause a panic."

If the poor reading and mathematics performance is localized in Peel, Currey insists a remedial program for the kids already in the system will have to be started and the system itself will have to be changed from Grade I upwards.

"I think it is an educational philosophy problem — we have moved away from repetition," Currey says. "In our innovating we cannot lose

sight of the basic skills needed for all other learning."

The young trustee was so disappointed with the administration's efforts at denouncing the results that they simply reinforced his own opinions that there is a serious problem.

And a problem there is. The board for the first time has started a summer school program in 22 schools across the county to help students in grades 1 through 6 improve themselves in reading, language arts and mathematics.

The classes have already enrolled 1,000 children with basic skills problems and most regard the innovation as a reflection of concern for the system.

CONSULTANTS

In addition the board recently appointed mathematics and English consultants to supervise the development of these programs starting in September.

John Hart has earned the begrudging respect of several of his fellow trustees. Their main criticism stems from his ceaseless and sometimes offensive hammering on the subject. And last week was no exception. Director of

education J. A. Turner "doesn't want committees of elected trustees to investigate the matter," Hart charges.

Hart feels that by nature the administration distrusts the ability of "laymen" to deal with academic subjects and resents their efforts become involved.

He has called for the reformation of the now defunct Evaluation Committee with a new set of criteria. Hart even went so far as to claim the committee failed originally because the administration deliberately led it into areas irrelevant to the curriculum.

He warned that interim reports have a habit of becoming final reports unless the rest of the board picks up the ball and continues to demand answers.

"The big step right now is to get the other trustees to admit there is a problem. I was just one member crying in the wilderness but the situation is changing now."

Trustee Bob Skipper, a high school vice-principal himself, agreed with Hart's analysis. "I am a teacher and a parent with three kids in this system and I openly congratulate Hart on the incisiveness of his stand and his courage in speaking out."

Despite the criticism many trustees fear a witch hunt type of approach they think Hart may be suggesting. Most trustees along with the administration do admit there is a reading and math problem in Peel schools and they intend to do something about it.

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