

RESIDENTS OF Whitby got a scare yesterday, when police reported spotting a funnel cloud over the area.

SOURCE: www.citynews.ca



ENVIRONMENT CANADA issued a bulletin around 1 p.m. yesterday advising residents of the sighting, but added it wasn't likely to develop into anything further.

SOURCE: www.citynews.ca



More work on Moraine plan needed: report

Four years after introducing a conservation plan for the Oak Ridges Moraine, the province has yet to approve zoning bylaws in most municipalities responsible for protecting this important source of the region's drinking water, an environmental watchdog group says.

Queen's Park has also been slow to release technical studies, definitions and maps that would help citizens and municipalities better understand what's happening on and beneath the sand and gravel moraine landscape, says the Monitoring the Moraine project in a report card to be released today.

Carpooling expands in Peel Region

Faced with the spectre of millions more cars appearing on already congested Greater Toronto Area roads over the next two decades, Brampton and Caledon have become the latest municipalities to jump on board the carpooling bandwagon.

They've joined forces with local boards of trade and major employers to promote carpooling through www.smartcommute.ca.

The Smart Commute Association launched the Internet service Carpool Zone last November to help commuters in the GTA and Hamilton find others to share rides. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Chaos erupts at Creba hearing

Accused images tarnished by media, friends say

Some of the two dozen supporters of Tyshaun Barnett, one of three people charged with the murder of Jane Creba on Boxing Day, waved and mouthed words to the 19-year-old when he entered the prisoner's box at Old City Hall yesterday.

His court appearance was brief, as was that of co-accused Louis Woodcock, also 19 and charged with second-degree murder, and both were remanded in custody and ordered to appear again next week via video link from jail. The third person charged with second-degree murder is a 17-year-old boy whose identity is protected by the Youth Criminal Justice Act. He returns to youth court next week.

Five others charged with manslaughter were ordered held in custody yesterday. A 17-year-old also charged with manslaughter surrendered to police Tuesday night.

One lawyer asked the judge for an early return date because his client — charged with manslaughter and con-



Samiyah Dawson, left, and Wonzah Campbell speak to the media regarding charges against Campbell's boyfriend, Lionel Williams, who was arrested on lesser charges, while eight suspects in the Boxing Day shootings were in court at Old City Hall yesterday.

NATHAN DENEITTE/CANADIAN PRESS

publication ban

► Few new details emerged about the massive police investigation due to a publication ban.

spiracy to traffic in firearms — is in high school and has an exam on Monday. The judge agreed to allow An-

drew Smith, 20, to return to court tomorrow.

A chaotic scene preceded their appearances as family and friends clamoured to get inside tiny courtroom 103 after the lineup dissolved into a pushing and shoving match and a reporter was slapped.

Several family and friends complained that many of those arrested Tuesday are not facing charges connected in any way to the homicide — yet had their images broadcast and published, leaving the indelible impression they were linked to the notorious case. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Governor General emotional attending school play

There weren't many dry eyes in the house yesterday as Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean watched a group of inner-city school children perform a play inspired by her life — an experience she said took her breath away.

"You made me cry, you made me laugh," Jean told the group. "Words cannot convey how moved I am with this wonderful, wonderful gift."

During a one-day trip to Toronto, Jean gave an emotional speech after a group of

Grade 7 and 8 students from Lawrence Heights Middle School performed the play, written by the school's drama teacher, Terrance Saunders.

The play, called An Ode to Madame G.G., was performed by 36 students as their class-

mates watched from the back of the gymnasium.

Saunders said he began working on the project last August after Jean was appointed as the 27th Governor General of Canada. **CANADIAN PRESS**

Street racing to be made an offence

LAW The federal government is set to introduce a bill today to make street racing a specific Criminal Code offence, The Canadian Press reports. Under the proposed legislation, those convicted of street racing would face driving bans and stiffer sentences than under existing crimes involving vehicles. Many people have been killed or injured in recent years by young people racing on city streets.

Boy shut in closet for talking in class

SCHOOLS A Burlington teacher alleged to have confined an eight-year-old student in a closet has been sent home, with pay, for the rest of the school year. The boy's parents say they are still waiting for an apology and a public declaration from Halton school officials that their son was telling the truth about being shut in an art supply cupboard for talking in his Grade 2 class. They're furious their son was repeatedly called a liar by other parents and students after it was announced the teacher had left the school.

no firings

► The parents, who don't want to be identified, say they're not seeking to have anyone fired.

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