

The art of



Toller Cranston



Canada's top male skater thrilled a capacity crowd in Georgetown on Saturday night during the Central Ontario Sectionals. A full report on Page 13

Town offers \$35,000 for Norval schools

An offer of \$35,000 for both the old and new Norval schools plus a small section of the property adjacent to them will be made by the town of Halton Hills to the Halton Board of Education.

Town council, following an extended in-camera session Monday night, decided to drop its previous "token" offer of \$1 for the entire 4.3-acre site in favor of a \$35,000 conditional deal for a small portion of the property.

Conditions outlined in a resolution passed by council state that the closing date for negotiations would be December 31, 1976. The town, in the intervening year would rent

the property "to ascertain the need of the facility."

Although they were excluded from the in-camera discussions on the matter three representatives from the Norval Ratepayers Association, president Hugh MacFarlane, vice-president Pat Patterson and secretary Norma Guthrie, were on hand earlier in the meeting to present the group's requests.

Mr. MacFarlane told council that his group felt that only a small portion of the entire area owned by the school board was really needed by the residents of Norval. The two buildings plus a small strip of land between the buildings and the street line, he

stated, could serve the community's needs.

The real need, he said, was for some form of recreational facility "where the people of Norval can meet, dance, carry on their arts and crafts programs and, generally, foster community spirit."

"The buildings," he said, "would be put to good use."

During a meeting last Tuesday at which Mayor Tom Hill, board of education and Norval Ratepayers Association representatives were present the school board's stand was fairly well outlined, noted Mayor Tom Hill.

"I think they're going to stick to the appraised value," Mayor Hill commented. The range of two valuations of the residential property varied from approximately \$140,000 to \$193,000 for the entire 4.3 acres.

Councillor Roy Booth voiced strong support for acquisition of the two schools "to provide the Norval community with a centre with which to identify, not some grandiose scheme in which we set up a huge sports complex—the people of Norval have never asked for that—but just a place to which they can identify with."

He pointed to schools, small halls or ball parks in almost every other small centre in

Halton Hills as examples of the types of facilities Norval was in need of. Hornby's park, Stewart's school and small town hall, the Glen Williams ball park, the Limehouse school were all examples, Councillor Booth said, of how "each community has some place the people of that community can equate to for use as a community area."

However, Councillor Ern Hyde objected to the town making anything more than a \$1 offer. "The board shouldn't dispose of this property. They should turn it over to the town until such time as it is needed for further education needs. It's wrong and it's rotten!"

Mr. MacFarlane explained that "we'd like to have the whole property but because of the board's high demands plus their probable ability to recover the whole value of the property from the revenue gained from the sale of the rest of the land we feel it would be a wiser offer to request only part of the property."

The offer will now be sent to the board of education for its comments on a possible one year rental arrangement of the schools and property. The rent would have to be decided upon by both board and council.

Town opposes drive-in

Halton Hills subsidiary planning board has restated its opposition to a drive-in theatre in Ashgrove.

After hearing further plans from the developer of the three-screen, 1,000-car drive-in theatre, planning board members Tuesday night endorsed a resolution put by Councillor Mike Armstrong that the board objects to the location of the theatre on prime agricultural land.

The board's decision was greeted with applause from a large delegation of Ashgrove area residents present for the meeting.

Ontario Municipal Board hearings on the theatre are scheduled to resume on December 9.

"I'm not opposed to drive-in theatres," commented Councillor Armstrong, "what I am opposed to, and quite

violently, is its location in a rural section of this town. That is prime farm land."

People living adjacent to the 100-acre site at the corner of Trafalgar Road and 10 Sideroad are in the cattle business, he explained, and a theatre could possibly affect their stock.

"They don't deserve this kind of situation being brought upon them."

Traffic and garbage disposal were two other problems Councillor Armstrong and other councillors felt could pose problems.

A traffic study is being carried out of the roads in that area. Monty Hyde, solicitor for the theatre's developer, explained, "Those reports will say that the roads in that area can handle the traffic generated by the theatre," he said.

Of the 100 acres owned by the

developer 25 would be used for the actual theatre operation.

The remainder, said Mr. Hyde, would be used for agricultural purposes, likely orchards.

Presently two screens are planned with another scheduled to be added later. The first two theatres would hold 700 cars and the third, an extra 300 for an eventual total of 1,000 cars.

The majority of those cars would enter and leave the theatre by Trafalgar Road, Mr. Hyde said. Up-grading of the 10 Sideroad from Trafalgar would be needed and the theatre owner would be willing to pay for it.

The idea is to develop a regional drive-in, said Mr. Hyde, serving Streetsville, Brampton (once the Brampton drive-in closes), Georgetown and Acton.

"The money is just not in sex

films anymore," commented Mr. Hyde. "Family and action films, that's where the profits are derived."

He added that the profits from such operations come from the concession stands, and the more families at a movie, the higher the profits.

Clint Eastwood and Walt Disney would be typical of the types of movies being shown, he said.

With staggered starting and finishing times for the three movies the traffic problems, said Mr. Hyde, would not be

great. "The traffic would be the same as that leaving the fairgrounds or any other municipal event."

Councillor Ric Morrow suggested that even if Halton "Even if this council decided to region would turn them down."

"Even if this council decided to support it, I believe there's sufficient support at the region for their interim planning policies that they would refuse to approve it."

Those policies prohibit further development of any Class 1 or agricultural lands.

The lone councillor supporting the theatre was Councillor Ern Hyde who explained that "The only feasible location for a drive-in is in a rural area."

The area needs a theatre, commented Councillor Hyde. "We've had to almost get down on our knees and beg persons to bring a theatre into the town for our young people, but we haven't been able to interest anyone."

"It would be a service to this area and to the people of this area."

Driver bashes cop car, barely misses constable

Sometime during the early hours of Sunday an Oakville resident used his car to re-landscape the grounds of the Georgetown District Christian School, RRI Georgetown. In the brief escapade he damaged the lawn and 12 evergreens on the school property.

Later that same night the 18-year-old offender proceeded to Waterfalls Playground and drove erratically around the abandoned park damaging 40 stacked picnic tables and striking a pursuing police cruiser three times. The driver at one time made a run at

the officer who had left the car to apprehend the man. Total damage to the cars was \$1,600. The youth is awaiting bail hearing in Milton jail.

Earlier that night Halton Regional Police operating from Milton were called to investigate the theft of furniture from Milton hospital after a man entered the building and walked out with two chairs, two end tables, one coffee table and four chairs from the cafeteria and one milk shake blender.

Police later recovered the goods and charged an area youth.

Bus study in budget

"The Levy Line is rolling," quipped one member of town council Monday night as Councillor Harry Levy finally received some satisfaction in his one-man drive to obtain a bus system for Halton Hills.

Under Councillor Levy's prodding council will consider a request for funds in the 1976 budget for a study of the need and costs of a town transit system, something Councillor Harry Levy has been actively campaigning for.

He told council that Halton Region, in a letter to him, had informed him this past week that funds were available from the province's ministry of transportation and communications for an urban transit needs study. The province would pay 75 percent and the local municipality 25 percent of the total cost.

"This doesn't commit us to any operational transit system operating in town but at least the whole matter will be finally studied," he said.

Councillor Levy didn't know what the costs of such a study might be. Costs of a similar study proposed for Georgetown a few years ago were then in the range of \$10,000.

Mayor Tom Hill cautioned Councillor Levy, "Before doing anything I hope you talk to Oakville. They're losing their shirts on

their bus system."

"That last study for Georgetown," added Councillor Ern Hyde, "clearly indicated that town would have to subsidize the system." Councillor Levy pointed out that subsidies were available from the province for municipal bus systems.

The whole matter will now be referred to up-coming 1976 budget meetings.

Town's wolf problem getting worse

A male wolf, estimated at about two-years-old, was shot early last Tuesday morning by an employee of Scotsdale Farm, RRI Georgetown, after being seen on numerous occasions prowling the rural property.

"This was no wild dog. You could tell by the coat, the face and the paws that it was a full-fledged wolf," stated Clare Wilson, one of Halton Hills three livestock valuers.

Mr. Wilson also stated that there have been over 30 lambs and sheep killed by



NO WILD DOG. Clare Wilson, one of Halton Hills' three livestock valuers examines a male wolf which was shot on the Scotsdale Farm, RRI Georgetown. The employee of the

farm who shot the wolf stated that on numerous occasions, wolves have been spotted on the property.

wolves over the past few months and that "the situation is just going to get worse."

Mr. Wilson estimated that there are three or four wolf dens in Halton Hills, centering in the Sixth Line area. "About two weeks ago, behind the fifth and Sixth Lines, at about five in the morning, there were five wolves spotted on the road, all together with their heads up, singing away."

With the wolf problem increasing, Mr. Wilson stated that a number of sheep breeders in the area are going out of business

and that in fact, one operation which boasted over 1,500 sheep two years ago has no less than 150 sheep at present.

"When there was hunting in the area, there would be about one hundred up to one hundred and fifty hunters out every weekend. With all these people out, the wolves would be scared off. Now there's no hunters and the wolves are coming in closer," explained Mr. Wilson.

"If they are around this year, you know there's going to be more next year. Things are looking worse instead of better."

Smith and Stone workers sign contract

Workers at Smith and Stone—members of Local 1421 UAW—have ratified an agreement giving day-rate workers at the Georgetown plant an immediate 30 cents per hour average increase in wages, plus an additional minimum increase of 34 cents per hour over the next two years.

The settlement was reached on November 13, the deadline of the old contract. Bargaining had begun on September 23 and was reached without a work stoppage at 3 a.m. on the expiry date. It was ratified by the Union membership on November 16.

The new contract is a three-year agreement extending to November 13, 1978. Under terms of the new agreement, day-rate workers will receive immediate wage increases averaging 30 cents per hour, ex-

clusive of the cost-of-living allowance. The agreement also provides for additional increases in 1976 and 1977 averaging about 7 cents per hour each year, exclusive of COL.

The increase will provide labour rates ranging from \$4.03 to \$6.42 per hour including expected COL additions by the end of the agreement in 1978.

In addition to wages, improvement were made in the cost-of-living allowance, pensions, sickness and accident insurance, shift premiums, holidays and in other contract provisions.

Under the new contract Smith and Stone's wage and benefit levels will be among the highest in the electrical wiring device manufacturing industry in North America.

Lights on again at Campbell Gate

There will be no further delays in the installation of traffic lights at the Campbell Gate, Mountainview Road intersection.

Council Monday night approved a works committee recommendation that the town engineer proceed immediately to have the signals installed.

Council had, during an earlier meeting, recommended that the lights be

postponed until a full study of the traffic pattern, both present and future, of the area around the Market Place plaza be carried out.

"There's an acute need for those lights now," commented Councillor Ern Hyde.

"Although we may say in 30 days or so the lights would be better placed elsewhere, the need for them at that particular location is here today."

"Those lights do not only service the people who enter the plaza," countered Councillor Mike Armstrong, "they will also service the pedestrians who live in that area, including the residents from the senior citizens complex."

Council endorsed the resolution giving town engineer Bob Austin permission to proceed.