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Arena plans tangled with development

Continued from Front Page
Committee, on Thursday. "We (the group) didn't want the arena issue getting caught in other development issues.

"I don't know if it's possible to proceed with the Acton arena plans in the absence of the development issues being resolved, which is a serious problem."

By all accounts, the answer is "No."

"We don't know what the OMB is going to say about development for any piece of land that we would like to build on," says Tom Shepard, director of Halton Hills Recreation and Parks. "We can't apply to the Ministry for grants because we don't have a site."

He says the \$4.1 million price tag could rise or fall depending on the servicing costs.

The Town, though, may buy land where there's no development. "You can only put it on hold for so long."

An ongoing concern seems to be whether Provincial money will be used to construct the proposed 37,500-foot facility, which will house an ice surface and general banquet hall.

"We're waiting for news on the jobsOntario program to see if we can tie it in with the arena project," says Paul Stover, superintendent of facilities with Recreation and Parks. "However, the program seems to be focusing towards minority and disadvantaged sectors of the province as well as handicapped and ethnic groups."

Chapman and his group sent a report to council early in the summer requesting that Acton North, specifically an industrial site on Wallace Street, be considered as an alternative spot for the arena. Nothing came from this proposal so the group supported the Acton East site.

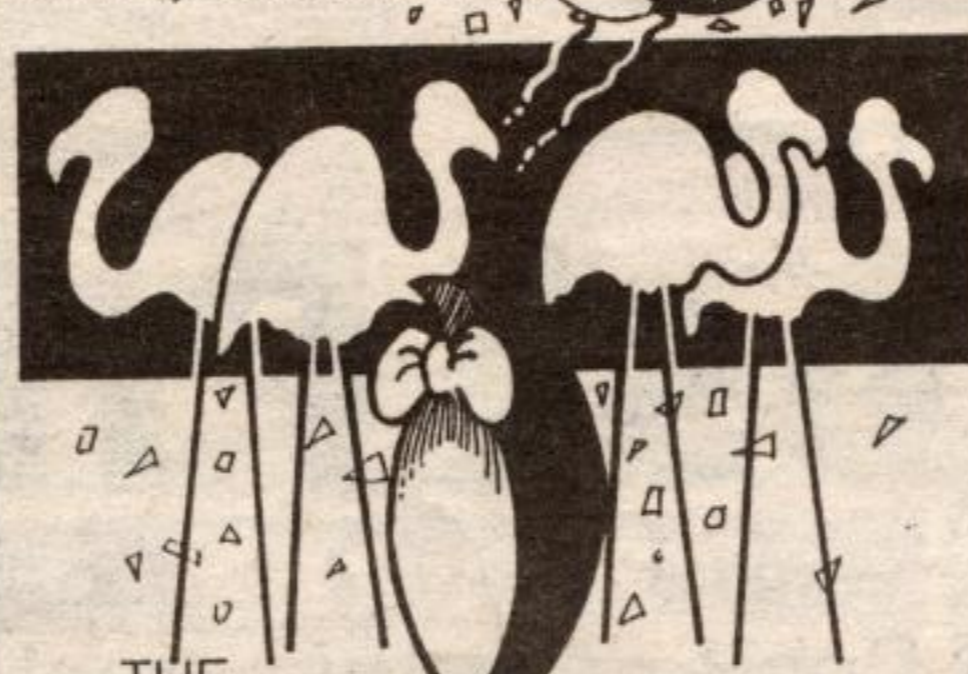
"We had the expectation that the OMB hearings would resolve issues, but they have cast more doubt," Chapman says. "We might have to look elsewhere for a site."



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NEWS SHORTS

Church burglary

A few pieces of valued church property have been stolen from Eden Mills Presbyterian Church, according to a Guelph OPP report.

Police received the complaint on Sept. 12, though the crime is suspected to have occurred between Sept. 9 and 12.

Thieves gained entry while damaging the front door.

The losses include an antique electric lamp that has four claw feet at its base and a shade decorated with pink and white flowers.

Bike stolen

A 26-year-old Wallace Street man reported to police that someone stole his black bicycle, valued at \$160, from where he had parked it, unlocked, beside the Meeting Place last week. He later found it on his own.

Plate goes missing

The rear licence plate from a vehicle parked in front of a Ransom Street address was reported to have been stolen during the night of Sept. 9 and 10. The plate belongs to a Campbell Court man.

Good eye at the plate

A Georgetown man has been charged with possession of marijuana for the purpose of trafficking after an off-duty Halton police officer noticed him trying to conceal plants near Limehouse on Sept. 9.

The police officer, who had been playing baseball nearby, observed the man walking from the bush. The suspicious officer approached the man and discovered that the man was carrying five marijuana plants. They weighed almost a kilogram (two pounds)

The plants had been pulled up a little while before the 21-year-old was caught. Police say the plants were grown in the woods, but not on the Bruce Trail.

The accused is to appear in court on Nov. 19.

Unsafe turn

A 45-year-old R.R. 2 Acton woman has been charged with making an unsafe turn following a Sept. 18 collision with a rural Georgetown man's vehicle on Main Street in Georgetown.

Reverse collision

There was a collision involving a couple of Acton-owned vehicles on Mill Street near Main Street on Sept. 7 in the afternoon.

According to police, the vehicle driven by a 32-year-old Mill Street West man was stopped at the traffic lights. Another vehicle, driven by a 33-year-old Danville Avenue man was westbound on Mill Street pulled out from the parked position, behind the first vehicle. The first vehicle reversed a couple of feet, and collided with the other vehicle, to make room for a transport truck and trailer that was turning.

Mail box bashing

Residences along Sideroad 25 recently were the victims of pranksters in a light green pick-up truck. On Sept. 4 one \$15 mail box was damaged and a \$50 one was knocked off its stand and damaged the same night.

Planters pinched

A red and a green plastic planter-set was stolen, along with its plants, from a Roseford Terrace home last week. They were valued at \$70.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I'm proud of the town. Being the 16th highest in Ontario for a town of 7,000 is a testament to the community spirit in Acton."

— Jon Hurst, Terry Fox Run co-ordinator, Page 4

DID YOU KNOW?

Pablo Diego José Francisco do Paula Juan Nepomuceno Cipriano de la Santissima Trinidad painted under his mother's name — Picasso.