

Plans for BMX park start to take shape

By ANN KORNUA

Freestyle BMX riders along with parents and Town of Milton Parks and Recreation officials met on April 21st at the Lions Club Hall on Thompson Road to discuss plans for a new BMX bike park. This meeting followed a public outcry for a facility for local bike enthusiasts after BMX riders were discouraged from using the skate park built at Lion's Gate Park. Since the construction of the new skate park last summer, the old wooden ramps shared by both skaters and bikers for over five years were demolished, leaving the BMX riders to find somewhere else to ride. This was a concern for most parents since most of the locations used were behind loading docks and on private property.

The meeting co-ordinated by Jeff Frasier, the Town of Milton's Park and Project Coordinator, reflected the strong desire by the Town to have a facility for the BMX-ers. Jeff noted that Free Style BMX is a growing sport in the Milton area and said that a park area has been designated for BMX at the south end of Lion's Sports Park, which opened

last summer on Thompson Road. Still in the design process, the Town of Milton has several design concepts to consider for the Free Style BMX Park. Ideas include durable, full season ramps that will be maintenance friendly and the possibility of moveable ramps to keep the park fresh and exciting over time. Five firms specializing in skate and BMX ramps were given the town's budget figure of \$80,000 and responded with different concepts as to how the park will look. Riders were shown these designs and asked for their feedback. Overall, the total cost of the park (after drainpipes and maintenance fees) will total \$150,000.

There were mixed reactions from both riders and parents on seeing the plans for the park. On one side, parents and local townspeople were happy the park was finally on its way but many of the young riders were "disappointed" at the proposed plans. Kevin Duggan, a 20-year-old rider who attended the meeting told the Compass "Many of the designs I do not like, there are

some of them that do not have many ramps leaving you with not a lot of options. Then there are some that look like a skate park, which I think is only going to bring skaters over to the park. I want something that has lots of options, bigger ramps and maybe a half pipe. Currently I bike at Vaughan, but I would like something closer in my own town."

Matt Burger, owner of Spokes and Slopes, also spoke out for the need for a Free Style BMX park in town. "The kids deserve this park and in this room has some good riders. I know some of the kids have been using the skate park and have been asked not to use it out of safety concerns and then the riders are left with no place to go. Kids are still using loading docks and stairways and that is just not safe. These kids are our future and we have to keep them safe. You will see this park well used by the bikers in the community and it is nice to see the town free up the funds for the park."

The plans for Milton's BMX skate park are still very much at the design stage.

Halton - McMaster lecture series

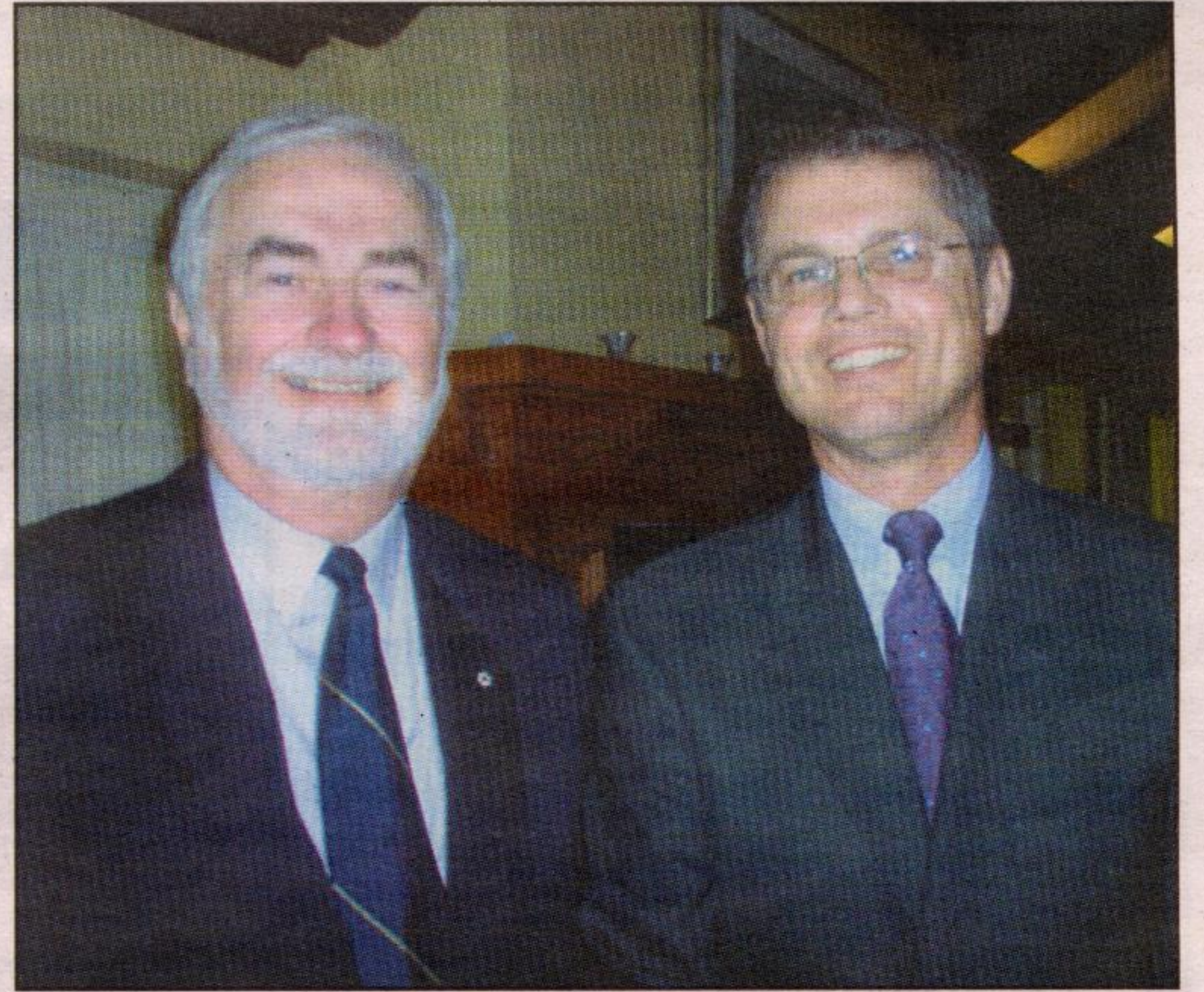


PHOTO BY STEPHEN BAKER

The Region of Halton and McMaster University hosted the second Halton-McMaster Learning Series luncheon at the Oakville Club on April 21st. The lecture titled "Leadership, Communications and the Crisis Mindset: Critical Organizational Steps to Managing the Crisis Preparedness Paradox" was given by Dr Terry Flynn of the De Groote School of Business at McMaster University. Pictured here are at left, Peter George, President and Vice Chancellor of McMaster University and Dr Terry Flynn.

Georgetown Hosts Dudley Hewitt Cup

By ELAINE THOMAS

The Georgetown Raiders are the hosts of this year's prestigious Dudley Hewitt Cup. This tournament is the culmination of the Ontario Junior A Hockey playoffs and the victors will be off to represent Ontario in the Canadian Championship, Royal Bank Cup, in May.

Participants in this event are the Ontario Provincial Junior A winners, the St. Michael's

Buzzers, the Superior International junior Hockey League representatives, Fort William North Stars, the Northern Ontario winners the North Bay Skyhawks, and of course the host team, our own Georgetown Junior A Raiders. As the hosts, the Raiders earned an automatic entrance into the tourney. They were the Ontario Provincial Junior A runners-up as they lost a heart-breaking game 6 to the St. Michael's Buzzers in double overtime. They hope to get their revenge by winning this tournament. The tournament is taking place from April 26th through 30th. Tickets are selling out, but you can try your luck by logging onto to dudleyhewittcup2005.com



The Georgetown Raiders pause to discuss strategy during Tuesday morning's practice at Mold Master Sportsplex. The Raider's won their first game 7-2 over North Bay. Raider goals came from Sprague with 2, plus DeAngelis, Friday, Gurtler, Wheaton and Sweazy with one each.



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"Spring"
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in d minor ~ J. S. Bach

TWO PERFORMANCES

Sunday, May 1, 7:30 p.m. St. James Anglican Church Caledon East Tickets: \$25.00	Saturday, May 7, 8:00 p.m. St. John's United Church Georgetown Tickets: \$25.00
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Tickets may be purchased at two locations in Georgetown
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 both located on Main Street in Downtown Georgetown or by calling 905-877-8321
 For further information about concerts in the Spring Festival Series please check
 your local paper or visit us at www.georgetownbachchorale.com