

Men's Fashions

Fashions for men from Jack Fraser were featured in the Mountainview Mall's fashion show Friday night and Saturday morning. Here, the look is sporty and

relaxed, with corduroy and flannel slacks, models show the new look with sweaters and jackets.

Playground

Parents from Ecole St. Louis had dreams of an expanded playground at their school when they went to the Arena, Parks and Recreation Board last week.

However, the committee turned the parents' request for assistance down, because of timing reasons. The Leisure Master Plan is being examined and modified to meet prioritized needs, and according to Ron Marchildon, the playground at Ecole St. Louis and Marchildon park is not a high priority.

The parents presented a drawing of the improved park/playground area to the committee, which included a basketball court, a tennis court, a track and a cross country ski area. The committee voiced concern that the area would be too cluttered and the parents were asking too much.

"They're looking for too much in a small area," said Marchildon.

The parents haven't determined how much their dream will cost and haven't approached the school board yet. The town committee wanted figures to work with and, at one point in the meeting, discussion went in a circle.

The parents at the meeting felt the town should assist them with their children's physical education program, because the school has no gym.

Negotiations compromise

Penetanguishene's Recreation Director Ron Marchildon says too often the town is compromising soft services such as parks in favour of hard services such as roads and sewers when negotiating with developers.

Marchildon says too often the town negotiators use parks as trade-offs as they discuss subdivisions, and it's the people who are losing out.

Marchildon says a beautifully landscaped park in each subdivision would be a real drawing card for home buyers and it could boost the value of properties near it.

Marchildon says when a park is planned, often the developer does little to make it more than a strip of green.

"We can recommend a completed park with all the amenities which should be found in a subdivision with the high prestige that is supposed to be afforded it," he said. "But instead we end up with a parcel of land which is in effect a green area with little else."

Marchildon says this is unfair to taxpayers who have to pay for park development, rather than the subdivider.

Marchildon added home buyers expect a completed park when they pay for their new lot and home. He added they come to his committee for money for park development, and he says there often isn't enough.

He finished by saying any developer who doesn't care about parks "isn't worth his salt and isn't needed in the town".

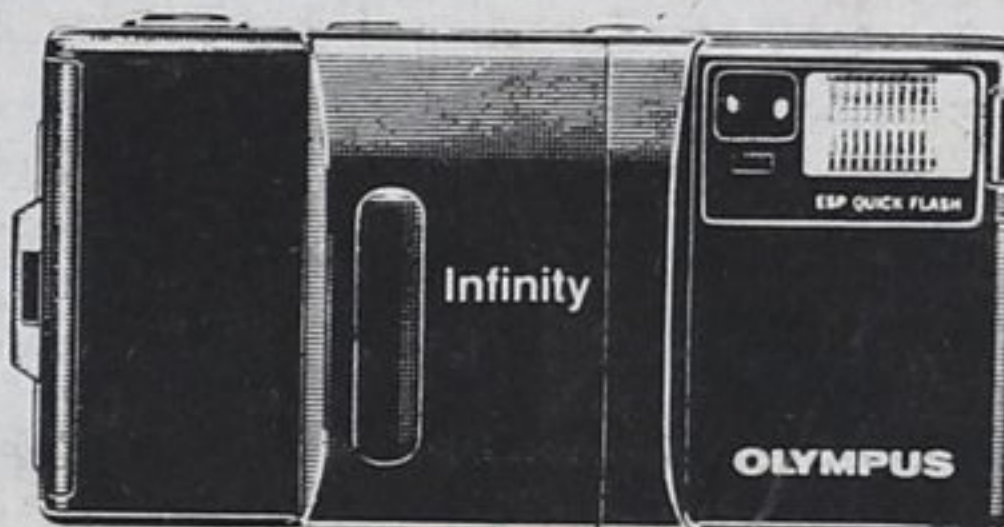


Getting Ready

Ecole Secondaire Penetanguishene Secondary School's Stage Band is practicing for its Christmas concerts and for its trip to the International Youth Music Festival in April. The band has been given

it had to audition and it was one of just a few Canadian bands going. Another honour for the band, according to band parent Jeanette Limoges, is the coming of St. Michael's School Choir next Monday.

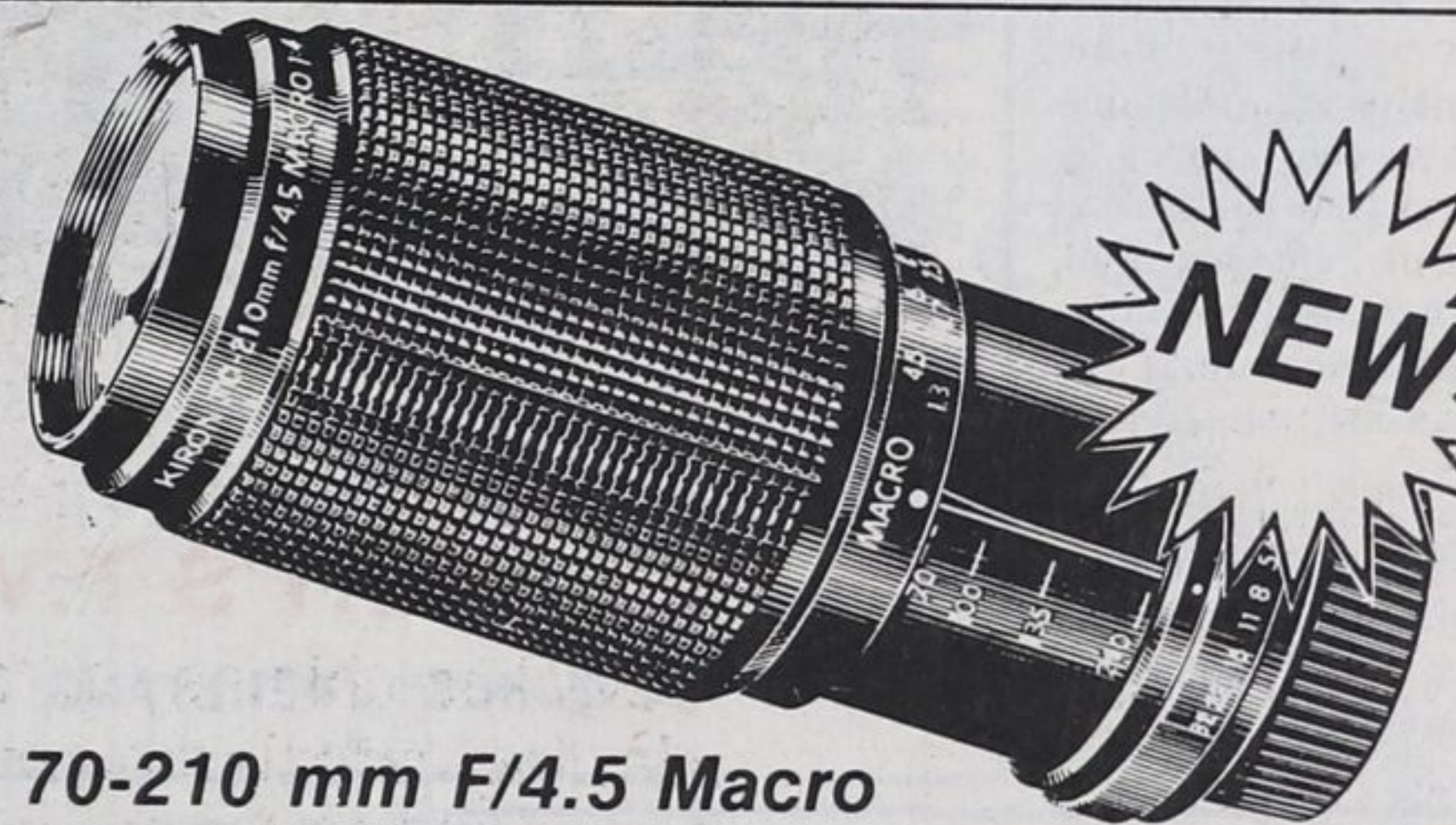
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