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# Dunn may have a new home in east



## Valuable asset

The Sir James Dunn might be an eyesore to some but to owner Canada Steamship Lines the idle ship represents \$750,000 -- its scrap value. Interest is be-

ing shown in leasing the ship to be used as a floating warehouse on the east coast. (Murray Moore photo)

The Sir James Dunn might leave Midland before Christmas.

This depends on negotiation under way with a party interested in using the ship for storage on the East Coast.

The Dunn has been tied up in the Midland harbor (now at the bottom of William Street) since 1982 to the annoyance of some people who think the rusting laker is an eyesore.

Although idle, the Dunn is a valuable asset for owner Canada Steamship Lines. Its 1988 value as scrap metal is \$750,000, Captain Bryan Bateman, CSL director of fleet operations, said.

As older ships disappear from the Great Lakes, the value of the remaining

ships is rising. The Dunn's scrap value a year ago was \$500,000, he said.

Seven or eight lakers will be taken out of the Great Lakes this year, Bateman said. Twenty lakers, most of them American, disappeared last year.

The last ship manufactured and launched in the Midland shipyards, the McLagan, is under steam again this year only because it is being chartered from CSL by Parrish and Heimbecker. The McLagan was idle between 1984 and this year. Parrish and Heimbecker has an option to buy the McLagan in two years. Its sale would mean a change of name of the laker still remembered clearly by the remaining former local shipyard workers who helped to build her. The McLagan was the last ship built and launched in Midland.

If the Dunn leaves for the east coast, she won't be under power. Tugs would pull her

## Corporate jets can now land

Midland's mayor is pleased with the quick response from Ottawa to a request for money to extend Huronia Airport's runway.

Last Thursday the granting of \$458,000 from Transport Canada was announced by MP Doug Lewis's office. Corporate jets will be able to land here after the runway is lengthened.

One immediate beneficiary will be Mitsubishi. Its planes now land at Muskoka Airport, Roach said. Mitsubishi manufactures jets as well as, in Midland, color television picture tubes. The Japanese company might open an airplane sales office here, he suggested.

Neither of the privately-operated Barrie or Orillia airports' runways are long enough to permit the landing of jets, he said.

As mayor, Roach is a member of the Huronia Airport Commission. He passed on requests for a longer runway to the MP a week before the announcement, he said.

The lengthening of the runway represents a potential for spinoff benefits, the mayor said.

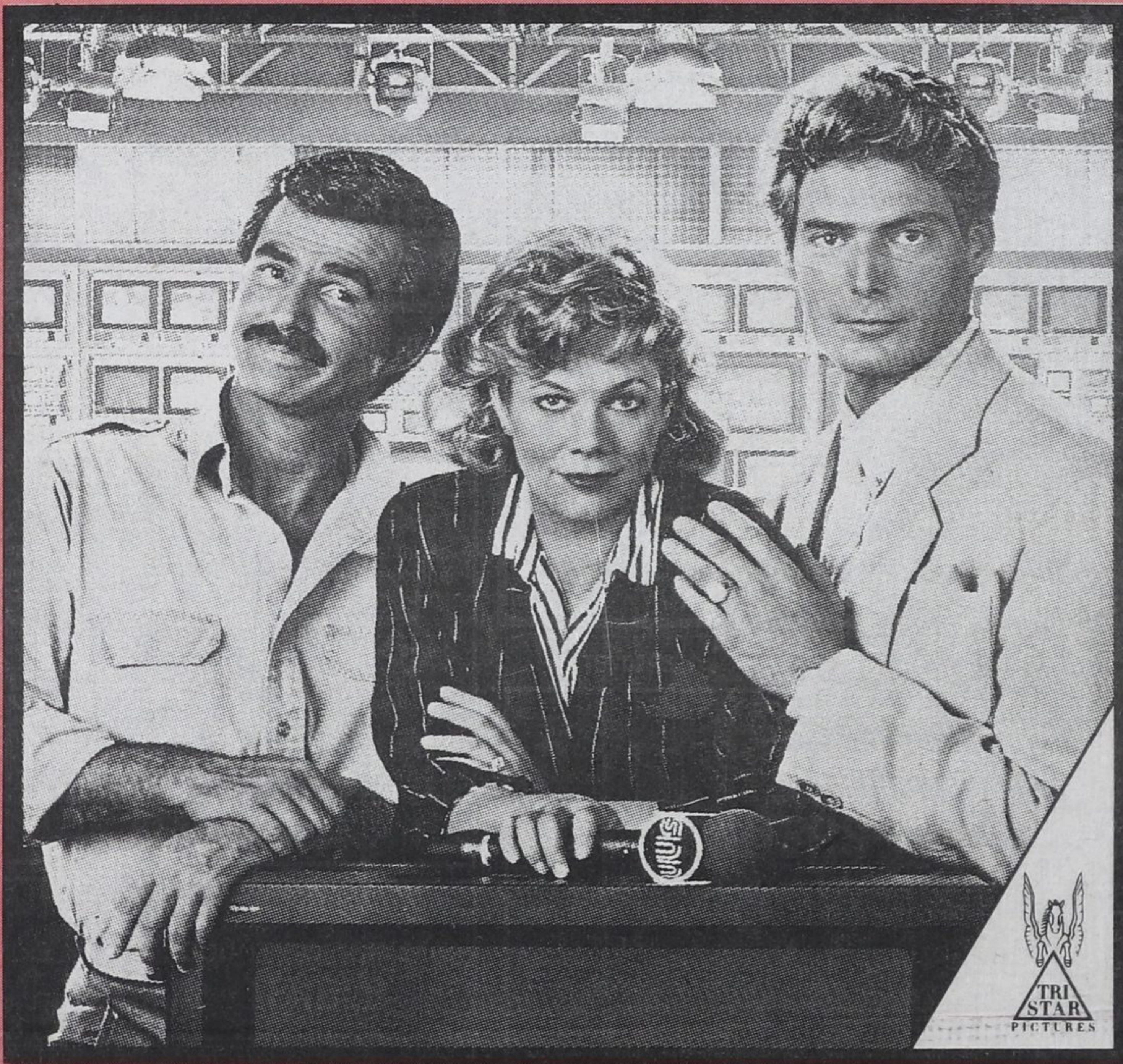
The Airport Commission has been working steadily toward obtaining money for the lengthening of the runway for three years, airport manager John O'Hara said.

## Correction

A story in the Sept. 23 Huronia Weekend stated that Victoria Harbour had issued \$120,000 in debentures for a new fire truck to be paid at \$20,000 over 20 years. In fact, the money will be repaid in 10 years.

**KATHLEEN TURNER BURT REYNOLDS CHRISTOPHER REEVE**

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