

Corcoran may seek Tory candidacy

YORK CENTRE — For Liberals in about 30 seconds — at a meeting last this riding, nomination of a provincial candidate for the next election was disposed of quickly and neatly — in

For the Conservatives, though, chances are the same procedure will be a lot more fun. Two-time defeated candidate Anthony Roman, mayor of Markham, says he'll again seek the Tory nomination at the convention April 22. Possible candidate Other Conservatives, however, are looking for a new face and they've turned to Richmond Hill Councillor William Corcoran. "A lot of people have been asking me to run," Corcoran said, "but it came up all of a sudden. I'm giving it consideration." Roman, asked whether he would confirm rumors that he'll be trying again, said simply, without hesitation: "Yes, I confirm it." There's the possibility of other candidates, but at this stage local Tories agree it will be a showdown between the two municipal politicians if Corcoran enters the race. Whoever wins will face first-term Liberal MPP Alf Stong, nominated without opposition at his party's convention in February. No NDP action York Centre New Democrats haven't set a date for their convention, but it will be discussed by the party executive at a meeting this weekend. Tony Snedker, a Thornhill Secondary teacher who ran for the NDP last September, said the executive is considering several possible candidates

but has not approached any of them yet. He said he would be happy to run again himself, provided the election doesn't come between May and July when his professional commitments wouldn't allow the time. "We're not particularly expecting an early election," Snedker said, "but we'll be ready if and when it happens." In good shape He added the NDP is in "very good financial shape. Whenever the campaign comes, we'll be starting off with more money than we've ever had before." Under Snedker in the last election, the NDP increased its share of the vote from 11 per cent in 1971 to 23 per cent. Stong won that election with 14,913 votes to Roman's 13,083 and Snedker's 8,140. For 35-year-old Stong, a Richmond Hill lawyer, it was a first try at politics and for Roman, 40, it was the second time he was the unsuccessful Conservative candidate. 6-year mayor Roman is in his sixth year as Markham mayor and previously served as councillor and deputy reeve. Corcoran was elected to Richmond Hill council in 1972, representing Ward 5 in the northern part of town. He has not previously entered provincial politics.

York Centre riding consists of Richmond Hill, Markham and the Thornhill section of Vaughan. The riding, created in 1967, has been held continuously by the Liberals. Don Deacon was elected MPP that year and served until his retirement from politics last year.

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Tony Roman ...will try again



William Corcoran ...may challenge Roman



MPP Alf Stong ...Liberal's choice



Tony Snedker ...NDP ready for election

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'Nice tall building' is ruled out by OMB

RICHMOND HILL — Local residents wouldn't have to be jealous of Toronto's skyline if restaurateur Gabriel Gabriellides had his way. We ought to have "some nice tall buildings" of our own, say about 250 feet high, Gabriellides told Municipal Board hearing at town hall last week. The OMB didn't agree. In fact, it not only approved a town by-law limiting building heights, it ordered the town to go even further in the same direction.

60-foot maximum The new limit to building heights in the old Richmond Hill village area is 45 feet (four or five floors) with an extra 15 feet allowed for elevator housing. As approved by town council last May, the bylaw would have set a maximum height limit of 60 feet, with or without elevator housing.

Gabriellides, owner of fried chicken franchises and rooming houses in Richmond Hill, was the only speaker at the hearing to plead the case for taller buildings. "Why should there be maximum of 60 feet?" he asked. "It doesn't make any sense to me."

Preserve hilltop The answer, according to town solicitor Tom Fraser, is that the town wants to preserve the distinctive hilltop skyline of church spires and trees. Gabriellides remained unconvinced and said he thought a skyscraper here and there "would be something nice for Richmond Hill. People are always admiring all the tall buildings in downtown Toronto."

Another speaker at the hearing, Citizens' Advisory Group chairman Dawn Osmond, said the 60-foot limit was too high. "I basically support the action of council," she said, "but a 40 to 50-foot limit would be even better."

Unique skyline "We should preserve the unique skyline of Richmond Hill, with historical church spires which pierce the sky and can be seen from all directions."

A building of 60 feet would, in some

places, be sufficiently tall to hide a large part of a church spire, Mrs. Osmond said.

Town planner Kathy Pounder, questioned by Fraser, said the planning

staff felt the "distinct characteristics" of the Hill skyline should be maintained.

She also offered the view that "personally I think 60 feet is too high

Forty-five feet would be a reasonable limit." A 45-foot building is considered adequate for four commercial floors or five residential floors.

\$68.1 million budget

School tax to rise 16%

AURORA — York County Board of Education has approved a budget of \$68.1 million, which will bring about a mill rate increase of 16.6 per cent. Each mill is worth \$20 on a home assessed at \$20,000.

In Richmond Hill, although the exact mill rate hasn't been determined, taxpayers will pay 15 per cent of the total public school requisition.

In arriving at the \$68 million figure Monday night, the board applied last year's surplus of \$975,000, plus \$1.3 million of its reserve fund, cutting it down from its original figure of \$69,088,594.

After provincial grants have been applied, York taxpayers will have to pay a total of \$32 million.

Weary after almost six hours of bickering, trustees seemed happy to reach the compromise figure.

Until Markham Trustee Don Sim produced the middle-of-the-road budget figure, trustees had divided almost evenly into two entrenched factions — those who wanted to cut further and those who wanted to cut less.

Though the board had talked of a "top-down" budget, in which it would set a total budget figure, then make cuts in expenditures to fit, that process faltered Monday night.

Soon after they began discussions, trustees were caught up in a line-by-line debate of the draft budget.

They were snapped back to their original plan by a motion from Markham Trustee Don Cousens, who called for a budget with a requisition of \$35,718,000.

After lengthy debate, the motion was defeated.

Then the trustees returned to their line-by-line efforts. They had cut about \$75,000 from the secondary school budget by ordering an increase in productivity (administration personnel in the schools will teach more and teachers will have less spare periods) of about 3½ per cent.

They had also trimmed about \$10,000 by halting expenditures on conferences and fees for courses that staffers attend.

When they returned to their line-by-line efforts, the trustees could not reach consensus on anything.

They tried to make summer school a program for only those students who needed the courses to complete their school year. They failed to agree.

They tried to save on the master teachers program by cutting the whole thing and putting those teachers back in

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Amusement site study released

MAPLE — Engineering reports, commissioned by Taft Broadcasting Company, the U.S. firm which has proposed building a 320-acre amusement park on land about half a mile from Maple, will be available to the public next week.

The reports deal with the park's impact on traffic, ground water, the natural environment and social patterns in Maple, Vaughan and the Metro areas.

This literature, as well as other information, will be featured at "open house" programs April 8, 9 and 10 at Maple community centre.

A representative of Family Leisure Centres of Canada, a subsidiary of Taft, told the Liberal the impact studies cost the company about \$300,000.

In addition to providing reports, the company will be sending representatives to discuss the park with interested citizens.



(Photo by Hogg)

Tasty Canadiana

The sap was flowing last weekend at Bruce's Mill Conservation Area on Gormley Sideroad, and people turned out in droves to view the process, old and new, for making maple syrup. Pictured above, Jason Helfernbaum (6) of Willowdale is caught sampling the sweet water that drips from the spigot into the pail in traditional early Canadian fashion. Behind, modern plastic tubes carry sap efficiently to processing centres for conversion to syrup or sugar. Visitors to Bruce's Mill will be able to watch the sugaring off and enjoy pancakes and fresh maple syrup from 10 a.m. to 4:40 p.m. weekends to April 11.

Inside The Liberal

Budget talk 'hot air'

School Trustee John Stephens sees board cost cutting measures as a lot of hot air. See his Guest Spot column on Page A-4.

It was the biggest year ever for York Central Hospital Auxiliary's fund-raising efforts, with a total of \$35,000 turned over for needed projects. See Page C-1.

This week's index of news and advertising features is:

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410 goals wasn't enough to win this hockey game

By Fred Simpson

RICHMOND HILL — It wasn't exactly of earthquake proportions but a group of local youngsters made history on the weekend.

What did they do? Well, sir, they created a new world's record. Right here.

That's what.

It may never happen again. Time will record that seven youngsters of able body and mind, March 27, the year of our Lord 1976, at 6:21 a.m., set the following:

They played 24 hours and 21 minutes of non-stop road hockey on a local tennis court at the back of the Richmond Hill Arena.

The old record was 24 hours and was set by some unknown in New York City. Who are the heroes?

The roll call: Reggie Golub, 11, Greg Christenson, 10, Steve Irwin, 12, James Gwillam, 12, Anthony Cronin, 12, John Cronin, 15, and Paul Cronin, 8, all of Roseview Avenue in Richmond Hill.

Quotable comment from one of the participants.

Was tired "Man, was I tired," said Reggie Golub. "The worst part was my feet. They got pretty sore. Not at first. Later. Around 2 p.m. the next day.

"We started right on the button at 6 a.m. Friday of last week. In fact, we dropped the ball at a second to 6 a.m.

What happened?

"Well," said Reggie, "I scored 263 goals which was the tops. Jamie Gwillam was second with 240."

What was the score? "We edged them out by 424 to 410," said Reggie in an outburst of modesty and then added, "But I'm not sure. Just use that score as an example."

Casualties, yet

There were a few casualties.

"One of the fellows got hit in the nose with the ball," continued Reggie. "It made his nose bleed. Another fellow got a ball in the eye.

"One other guy went to sleep but that

was okay. You're allowed to sleep five minutes over every hour."

Who were the other heroes?

Unsung heroes

You guessed it.

The unsung heroes. Moms and dads.

"Our parents supplied us with sandwiches and fried chicken during the night. Some of them played with us for a few minutes. They were great."

Were you tired after the ordeal?

"Man, was I tired," concluded Reggie. "I went home and slept like I had six tranquilizers."

Where on earth did you get the idea?

"We saw it on television. The record was set in New York and we decided to break it. Gee, I hope they recognize it."

Finally:

Would you like to do it again?

"No, not this. But a friend and I have something else in mind for the summer.

We'd like to set a new record for sitting on a garage roof.

"But don't print that. It's just an idea. We might not do it."

Okay.



(Photo by Hogg)

History-making hockey

For 24 hours and 21 minutes, a gang of Richmond Hill boys played non-stop road hockey to set a world record for longest game ever. Final score was 424-410, or something like that. Participants were Reggie Golub, Greg Christenson, Steve

Irwin, James Gwillam, Anthony Cronin, John Cronin and Paul Cronin, all from Roseview Avenue. Their parents were on hand to supervise the action, and to provide well-earned sandwiches and fried chicken.