

# Hill committee agrees to taxi rate increase

About 20 taxi drivers from Richmond Hill and area attended the Bylaws, Procedures, Fire and Personnel Committee meeting Thursday night and heard committee members agree to a fare increase.

The increase, which occurs via shorter distance for the same money, is expected to be approved by Richmond Hill Council August 8.

Similar increases will likely take place in Markham and Vaughan at the same time.

The new rates would cost the passenger 70 cents for the first one-seventh of a mile. Present rate is 70 cents for the first one-sixth of a mile.

An additional 10 cents will be charged for each seventh of a mile, as well as a charge of 10 cents for each 50 seconds of waiting time.

Present waiting time rate is 10 cents a minute.

Town staff, in its report to the committee Thursday noted, "it would appear from the material available,

that the request for the fee increase is justified, and we would recommend that the request be granted.

Staff also pointed out that the tariff structure in Toronto includes minimum charge of \$3. per trip for parcel delivery.

"This particular aspect of the Metro fee structure has not been in effect in the past in Richmond Hill, and we are recommending that it not be added," the report stated.

A committee of council in Vaughan has studied and approved the rate increase, and that community needs only council approval for the rates to go into effect.

Markham, meanwhile is awaiting more information from the taxi industry.

Richmond Hill Mayor David Schiller told The Liberal the new rates would align cab fares in the three municipalities with those in Metropolitan Toronto.

## Gamble candidate of new federal riding

Markham lawyer John Gamble was named the Progressive Conservative candidate for the new federal riding of York North on the hottest night of the year last Wednesday.

Many of the audience, some 300 sweltering bodies, were using the blue and white "Gamble To Win" pamphlets as fans throughout the convention, as the heat did not let up all night.

Mr. Gamble defeated Marjorie Lyon, of Lake Wilcox, the only other nominee in the running.

Guest speaker was Sinclair Stevens, Member of Parliament for York-Simcoe, which encompassed this area before the ridings were split.

"I'm a bit nostalgic tonight saying good-bye to part of my old riding," he said, "but this good-bye will be replaced with hello to my replacement in the House of Commons," he said.

The new riding of York-North covers the towns of Markham, Richmond Hill and Vaughan.

The convention was a pep talk for the Tories and a put-down of the current government which was to be expected, but the tone of seriousness about the state of the country was emphasized in prophecies of "gloom and doom".

"Since his term as Prime Minister in 1968, Trudeau has reduced this country to its knees. It was a land of promise 20 years ago and he has stifled an ambitious country," said Bob Tetley, who introduced Mr. Gamble.

National unity was a major topic of discussion with both Mr.

Gamble and Mrs. Lyon.

"The Canadian mosaic may be an item of art appreciation but it is a political disaster," Mr. Gamble said. "I believe bilingualism is not the answer to hold this country together, neither is a referendum since the PQ's have already shown they are an enemy to Canadian unity."

He suggested an aggressive promotion of Canadian nationalism dedicated to the multiplicity of cultures which make up the country and the firm refusal of the government to let Quebec leave.

Mrs. Lyon said elasticity was the most important quality a Canadian politician can have.

"We know that a strict dogma is fatal in this country and this is especially important in dealing with Quebec which is an emotional issue," she said.

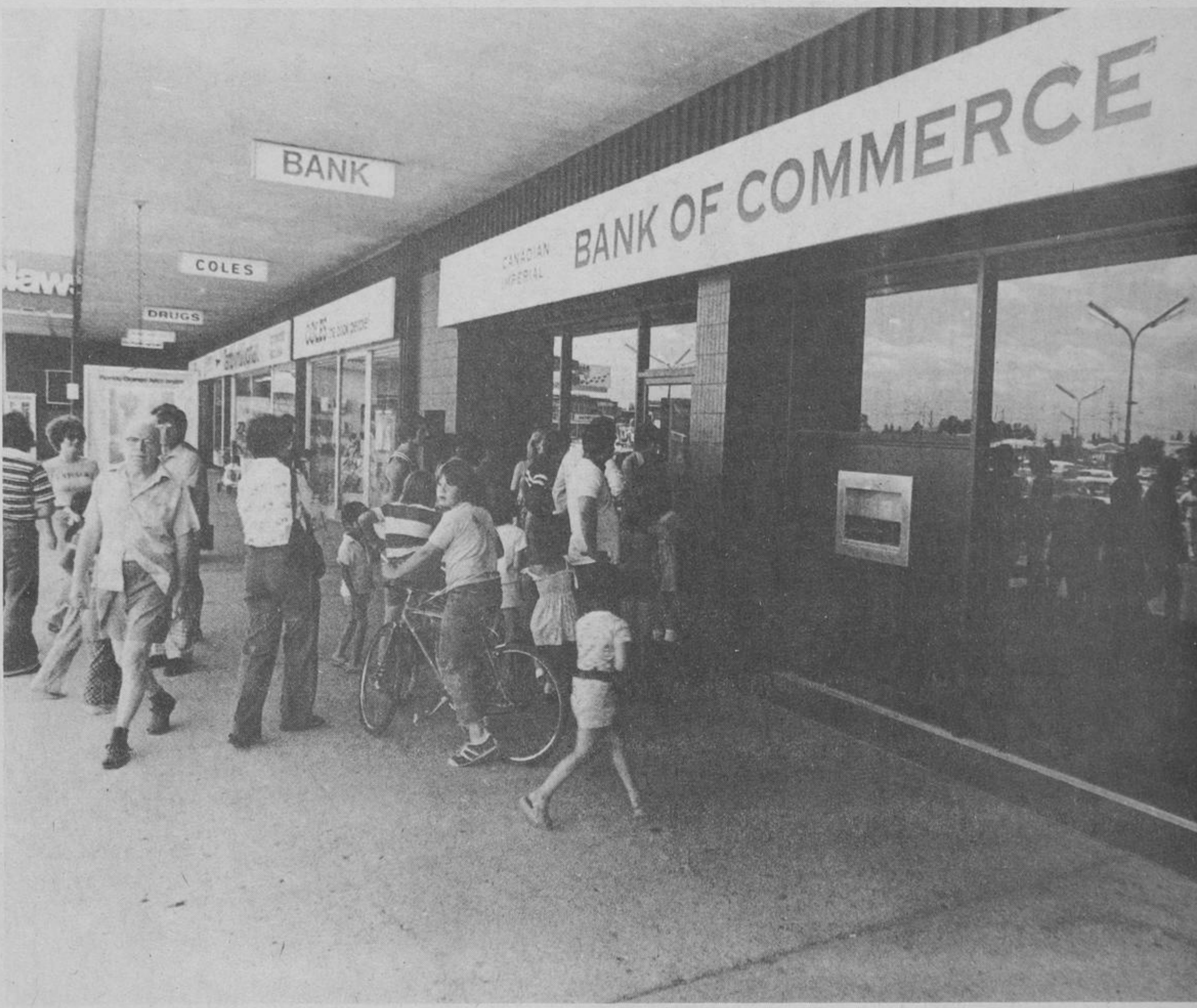
The new Tory candidate is a Markham tax lawyer, married to Katie, with two sons, Mark, 17, and Blake, 15.

Mr. Gamble said he believes the Liberal government is spoon-feeding people instead of making them think they should support themselves.

Business and free enterprise must be permitted to flourish and he believes in reducing individual and corporate tax, he said.

After he was announced as winner, he thanked his supporters, with special recognition to Donald Fraser, an executive member of the new York North Association.

"We are still all Conservatives behind Mr. Gamble," Mrs. Lyon said in congratulating the winner.



Curious bystanders mill around Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce branch in the Richmond Heights Plaza following a noon-hour armed holdup Friday. Lone bandit escaped with \$4,000 in cash. At press time police were still looking for the suspect.

### Noon-hour holdup

## Bank robber gets \$4,000

Too many eager witnesses may have assisted a bank robber in getting away with \$4,000 cash in a startling, noon-hour hold-up at Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, 10520 Yonge St. in Richmond Heights Plaza in Richmond Hill, Friday.

Police cordoned off the plaza shortly after receiving the alarm and after

hearing from several people in the area that the bandit had fled to the Donut Shop, diagonally across from the bank.

However, the bandit in this case, turned out to be Ross Cameron, 23, of 266 Harrigan Cres., who had run across to the Donut Shop to call police after walking in on the hold-up.

Police speculate now that the robber

made his getaway in a car, which was described as an older model, green, with noisy mufflers and orange license plates.

The bandit was said to be of Latin appearance, between five feet, 10 and six feet, medium build, black, curly, greasy hair — less than collar length; black moustache, with three-to-four-day's growth of beard.

Police said he was between 25 and 30.

According to police, it all started about 1 p.m., when a man walked into the bank and asked to see manager, Ed Charles.

He said he wanted to negotiate a loan and, after a short discussion on the matter, produced a gun and demanded some money.

Police said he then forced Charles into the main part of the bank, where he told both customers and staff to lie down on the floor.

Charles was ordered to gather up the money from the various wickets, which the robber immediately put into a

brown leather attache case he had with him.

After stuffing his case with money, the man left the bank and the alarm was turned in.

As of press time, the bank robber was reported to still be at large.

### Hopes lifted

## Four volunteer to assist athlete

Raymond Jackson, the blind 19-year-old athlete from Oak Ridges last week found not one, but four, trainers.

Jackson was featured in a front-page story in last Wednesday's Liberal. Hoping to attend the Canada Games for the Disabled, Jackson said he needed a trainer to help him prepare.

Four people responded.

They are Marnie Buckles from Richmond Hill; Joe Watson from Oak Ridges, Ross Linton and his daughter Sandra of Aurora.

Training for the track events began Monday at King City Secondary School, and will continue at Aurora High School.

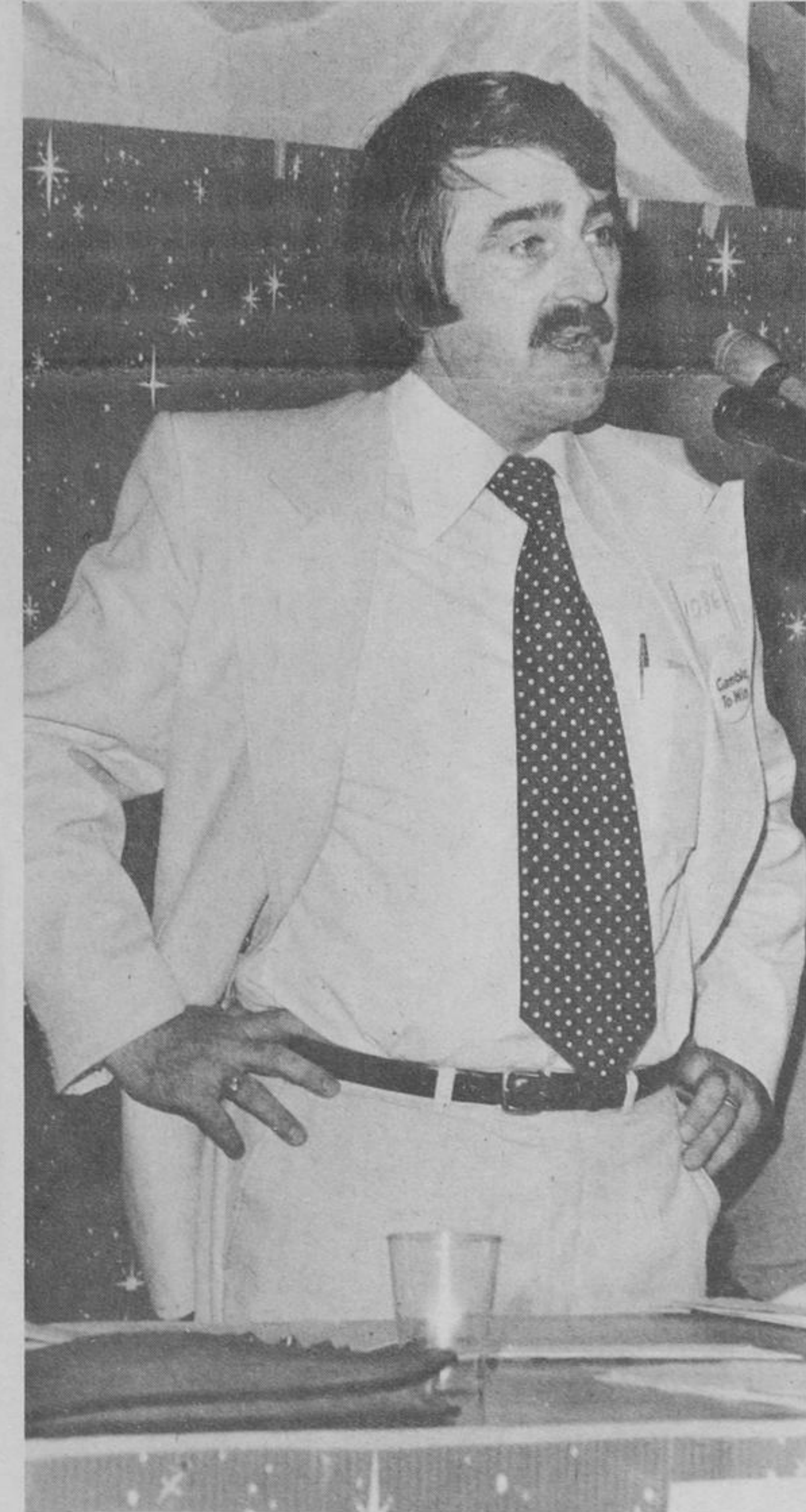
Jackson has been training for swimming events in a private pool in Thornhill, and on weekends at the family cottage.

This weekend, Jackson will enter a 3½ mile race at Wood Lake in the Muskokas. Last year, he placed fifth out of eight competitors, and with the exception of Jackson, all could see.

The young athlete, who lost his sight three years ago following a freak accident in a school gymnasium, has been attempting to raise money through the sale of Ontario Games buttons.

Jackson said the ones he had have been sold out, but more are on order.

The Canada Games for the Disabled will be held in Edmonton, Alberta.



### Progressive Conservative

John Gamble won the federal Progressive Conservative candidacy for York North at the Richmond Hill Arena last Wednesday

night. National unity can only be achieved if an aggressive Canadian nationalism is promoted, he said.

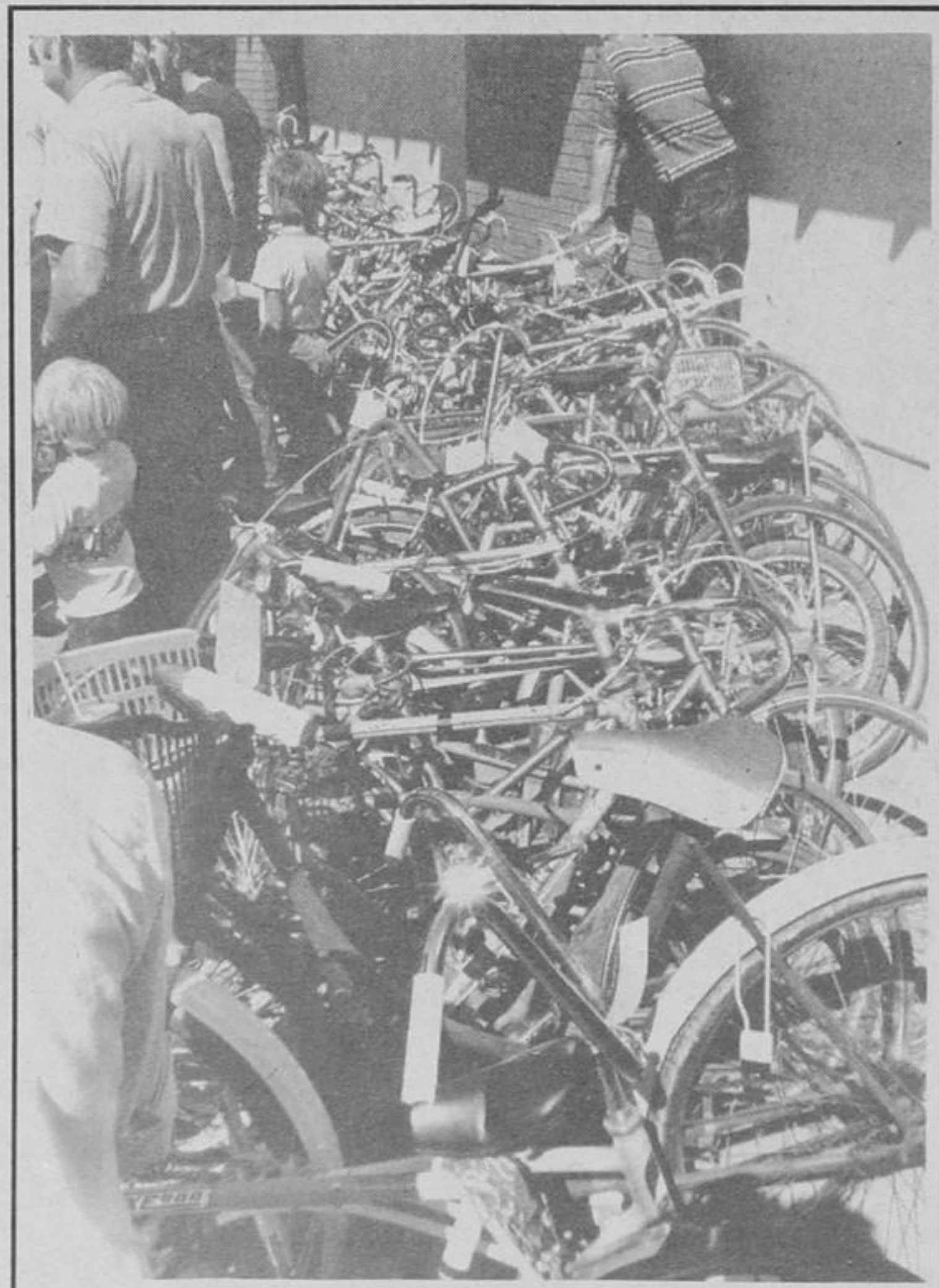
## Mexican soccer squad arrives here on Friday

A soccer team from Mexico City will arrive in Richmond Hill Friday to do battle with several area teams in a number of exhibition contests.

Celebrating "Richmond Hill Festival Day" Monday, the team will meet the Richmond Hill Major Mosquitoes at 10 a.m. at Crosby Park.

Several other events are planned for the Mexican team during their stay in this area.

For details, see Page B-1.



### Bikes?

Just a few of the bicycles available Saturday when York Regional Police held an auction from their building on Major Mackenzie Drive, Richmond Hill. Auctioneer was Keith Pike from Oshawa.

## 'Adjustments' necessary, bank closes

Sign on the door of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Richmond Heights Plaza, after it had been robbed of \$4,000 by a lone bandit Friday afternoon:

"Closed pending present adjustments."

The sign was later removed and another one, apologizing for the inconvenience caused by the temporary closing, was posted.

The sign also listed the names and addresses of other Commerce branch banks in the area.

## Reported robbery, Good Samaritan misses withdrawal

Playing the Good Samaritan has its drawbacks, so far as Ross Cameron, 23, of 266 Harrigan Cres., Richmond Hill, is concerned.

Cameron is the man who called police after walking in on Friday's bank robbery.

He told The Liberal he had gone to the bank to withdraw some money when he saw the gun-wielding bandit ordering the bank employees to lie on the floor.

Cameron said he immediately ran out the door and across the lot to the Donut Shop, where he phoned York police.

"It seemed like they were here in a matter of seconds," he said.

However, by that time the bank bandit had gone, taking some \$4,000 with him.

Cameron, a student at Trent University in Peterborough, never did get back into the bank to make his withdrawal.

Even if the bandit hadn't already done it for him, the bank decided enough was enough and closed its doors for the rest of the day.