



These top 11 year-olds brought honor to Richmond Hill and Canada in December when they won the Miami Junior Orange Bowl Soccer Tournament in Miami, Florida. This is the first time in the eight years of the international tournament the championship has been taken out of United States. Citation plaques were presented to members of the Richmond Hill Advance Masonry Minor Mosquito Soccer team by Mayor David Schiller on behalf of the town.

RICHMOND HILL WINTER CARNIVAL

Only one more day until the frigid festivities begin to mark the start of Richmond Hill's 11th Annual Winter Carnival.

Dining and dancing with 18 snow princesses at Richvale Community Centre will launch the carnival Thursday evening at 7 p.m.

At that time a panel of local and possibly NHL hockey celebrity judges will pick the new carnival queen, but the winner will not be announced until Friday, February 9, at Mill Pond.

Tickets are still available for the evening of fun in Richvale.

Last Saturday, Richmond Hill and Area Block Parent Association won the Best Decorated Bed Contest at Hillcrest Mall with a bed decked out to commemorate International Children's Year.

Tiny dolls dressed in traditional ethnic costumes and flags of the countries adorned the bed which will join at least 20 others in the Bed Race Sunday on Mill Pond.

Marg Shaw, the organizer for Block Parents, said Tom Carvin, the co-ordinator of the Bed Race is trying to get more women to join the five female entrants for Block Parents.

So far the North York Soccer Association will have the dainty entrants and Mr. Carvin hopes to get some of the snow princesses to push the town Works Department entry.

Mr. Carvin said this year the race will start at Mill Street as usual, run the full length of the pond and then turn to come straight back as some felt in other years the race was too short while others felt the "V" bend was too dangerous.

The Kinsmen Club of Richmond Hill is sponsoring a Ski-a-Thon to take place Sunday with a trail marked out around the pond and the local golf course.

Pledge forms are available at the stage on Mill Pond beginning Friday, for all cross-country ski enthusiasts.

Button sales continue to climb in the local schools with elementary schools outdoing secondary schools.

Pleasantville had sold 192 buttons by last weekend and Langstaff Secondary School and Richmond Hill High School tied at 150 each.

Local snow princesses outdid the academic institutions last Saturday at Hillcrest Mall by selling 312 buttons.

THE RICHMOND HILL Liberal

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Spring Mills Estates

Council swings back on subdivision plan

Councillor Gord Rowe brought up a resolution at council meeting Monday night which some feel could support a developer's application, defeat a government process, nullify an Ontario Municipal Board decision or force another OMB hearing.

The resolution was concerning the application made by Spring Mills Estates Limited for an amendment to the official plan allowing a rural estate subdivision on Bayview Avenue south of the Stouffville Sideroad.

The developers proposal is for 52 one-acre lots on the site.

The town of Richmond Hill originally had supported this amendment but at a later date rescinded the bylaw because of objections by the region.

Objections were based on the fact that the subdivision was proposed for an area considered possibly to be within the Oak Ridges Moraine, a special study area, and that is still a matter of debate.

Other issues which came into the town's decision include the problem of roads, the fact that it does not agree with designation in the new official plan, and the fact that the development may create a whole new community with all its ramifications.

Councillor Rowe said the intention of his resolution was only to notify the OMB of the feelings of the majority of council.

The feelings of the majority of council, according to Councillor Rowe, are that such a development in the community would be beneficial.

Mayor Dave Schiller, and councillors Al Duffy, Mike Burnie and John Birchall felt that passing such a resolution made mockery of the week of hearings in Richmond Hill by the OMB about this development.

January 8 to 12 the board sat in the auditorium of Richmond Hill Public Library hearing evidence both for and against this type of development in this particular location.

"Basically we would thwart the process by passing such a resolution," said Councillor Birchall.

Mayor Schiller felt the resolution might pre-empt the decision of the OMB leaving them with nothing to rule on.

Councillor Duffy said he would like the council members and town staff to study the new evidence presented to OMB before supporting such a resolution.

A motion was made by Councillor Mike Burnie asking council to defer the resolution until the results of the OMB hearing were handed down.

feeling the issue had gone too far and too much money had been expended following the proper procedure.

Councillor Burnie's motion was defeated and the resolution was passed with a five to four majority.

The four councillors echoed a concern that the passing of such a resolution would have a detrimental effect on the board's final decision, suggesting in fact they might not even make a decision in light of the support of the majority of town officials.

"It's not really a direction to the OMB," said Councillor Rowe, "but just an indication of our feelings."

Town solicitor, John Sterling, said he felt the OMB would render a decision based on evidence given at the hearing.

A representative from the OMB

said there is no information available about the hearing at this time as members are working on a decision.

Strike into third week at Reynolds

Steelworkers in Richmond Hill are into the third week of their legal strike against Reynolds Extrusion Company Limited on Edward Street, and still they have not heard from their management.

United Steelworkers of America union, local 84-12 went on strike January 22 when mediation on their contract, which terminated October 31, 1978, broke down.

At issue, are money, benefits, holidays and contract date.

Dennis Smith of Mill Street in Richmond Hill, president of the striking local, said he had been in contact with the Department of Labor and informed them the union was ready for a meeting "any time — anywhere".

Personnel Manager for Reynolds, Al Potter, said in an interview, his company policy is not to get involved in a battle of issues through the press and declined to comment.

The ministry of transportation and communication has awarded the contract for widening of Yonge Street through Thornhill.

Repac Construction and Materials Ltd. was the low bidder at \$3,657,070 for the reconstruction of the whole of Yonge Street between Steeles Avenue and a few hundred feet below Highway 7.

MTC is awaiting the signed documents from the contractor before making the standard announcement, said Jim Davidson of the contract approvals branch.

The roadway will be seven lanes wide below Clark Avenue

and five lanes above counting the continuous left-turn lane up the middle.

The Society for the Preservation of Historic Thornhill objected to the width of the lanes at 12 feet with 17 feet in the middle, but succeeded only in having a couple of bus bays relocated.

Street lighting will be improved at each intersection but the municipality is responsible for the intermediate locations as well as for new sidewalks. MTC will replace the sidewalks that are torn up as part of the contract as well as providing for drainage, curbs, gutters, "rebuilding the

whole thing."

The contractor has been given 160 working days to complete the project starting April 2. Since the winter and rainy days are not counted, it is likely the project will be completed in August of 1980, said Mr. Davidson. Good weather could mean the project will be done sooner.

Everyone concedes the street will be a mess in the meantime. Already, there have been complaints to Markham councillors about the relocation of the gas main on the east side of Yonge Street, one of several utility relocations that has been done in advance of the widening.

Ray Ilingworth of the MTC construction branch said that it is hoped that two lanes of traffic can be kept open during rush hours. If 30 per cent of the traffic switches to Bathurst and Bayview during construction, there should not be too great a problem.

\$3.6 million

Contract is awarded for Yonge widening

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Hydro talks zapping along

At last there are some results from the variety of meetings, committees and discussions about Ontario Hydro's decision to place high voltage transmission lines through the southern three municipalities of the region.

Last Friday, Alf Stong, (MLA-York Centre) called a meeting of a committee set up to study the situation to discuss strategy and review Ontario Hydro's position.

Committee members unanimously agreed that further construction of the transmission towers should be curtailed immediately.

Council members from Vaughan and Markham agreed to suggest to their respective councils to pass a bylaw similar to the one passed by Richmond Hill to prohibit construction by limiting the height of the towers.

This step by Richmond Hill was seen as a significant and major one toward a unified approach by the three towns toward Ontario Hydro.

Richmond Hill Councillor Al Duffy said he thought this was "the right step" because it would make it easier for the three towns to be unified if they had a similar bylaw.

The Richmond Hill councillor referred to the case of Halton Hills where Ontario Hydro built the towers to the northerly and southerly boundaries of the town and when confronted with objections from Halton Hills went to the Ontario Municipal Board citing cost as the reason to proceed through the town.

"Maybe they will make an exception and go around us all," said Councillor Duffy, "or sit with the planning staff of all three

to see if there is another acceptable route."

Councillor Bob Sherwood, representing the town of Markham, said although the passing of a similar bylaw seemed to be a "simple solution" at first, talks with officials of Markham seemed to indicate the possibility of "legal ramifications".

He has asked his town officials to study the suggestion.

The Markham Councillor said he felt strongly about these towers going through Markham — "Markham has the most at stake as they go through the complete town — as well as speaking as a taxpayer in the province of Ontario — the lines are more expensive here than through a rural area," he said.

Councillor Sherwood said he felt the only possibility of changing the proposed location would be for the three towns to present a "unified approach".

The minutes of the meeting said committee members recognized the success of Ontario to date in other municipalities was based on a fragmentation of opposition.

Committee members also agreed to set up another meeting hoping to get an expert's opinion on alternatives, from a technical as well as an environmental standpoint.

Representative from Vaughan, Lorna Jackson, said she and Dario DiGiannantonio would put forth a motion to Vaughan council asking for staff input.

"I think it is probably a good first step," said Councillor Jackson, "and hopefully we'll come to a satisfactory solution."

Town begins talks with Bond Steel

Wheels were put in motion Friday to find a site for Bond Structural Steel Limited, to relocate so the town can begin negotiating for a grade separation at the railway tracks on Markham Road.

A committee set up by Richmond Hill council to look into the situation, met with the owner to look at the relocation problem.

Bond Structural Steel will need 10 to 20 acres of industrial land, at a "reasonable cost".

"It's a rather unique problem," said Councillor Gord Rowe, one of the committee members.

"Ordinarily the town would not get involved in relocation, but we need the property and must make the best deal we can," he said.

Planning staff members, present at the meeting, were asked to pursue the search for an area acceptable to the town from a planning perspective, as well as a site acceptable to the owner.

The owner also agreed to forward suggestions of sites he finds acceptable to the planning staff for their perusal.

Councillor Rowe said he saw the relocation of Bond Steel and the acquisition of the land, the

number one step toward the much needed grade separation. "It was a profitable meeting," said the councillor, "with both sides understanding the problems of the other."

Benefits of being a senior

Richmond Hill Councillor Lou Wainwright was treated to a special honor to commemorate his 65th birthday Thursday.

Transit Co-ordinator, Bud Newton formally presented Councillor Wainwright with his senior citizen bus pass for the Richmond Hill service.

Community Pulse

New citizens

Fifty-five Richmond Hill area people will become Canadian citizens tonight.

Last April the Catholic Women's League sponsored the first Citizenship Court ever in Richmond Hill.

At that time applications were received and since then the applicants have been interviewed and approved by Ottawa.

This evening at Our Lady Queen of the World Catholic Church on Bayview Avenue a judge will preside while these 55 people swear allegiance to the Queen.

One-liner master

Defence Minister Barney Danson has a surprising talent for well-timed one liners, as displayed at his bear-pit meeting in Richmond Hill Monday night. Irritated by the anti-Quebec feeling in the room, Mr. Danson said he had just visited a French Canadian town. "I hope no one will mind me mentioning that . . . I didn't need a passport."

Some encouragement

Tom Viersen, campaign manager for John Gamble, who will oppose York North Liberal MP Barney Danson in the next federal election, attended Mr. Danson's bear-pit session in Richmond Hill Monday.

Mr. Viersen did not say anything all night, but he was able to recruit two possible campaign workers from the audience for the Progressive Conservative cause.

Ski-A-Thon Sunday

The Kinsmen Club of Richmond Hill will hold a cross country ski-a-thon this Sunday near the Mill Pond. Skiers may make up their own pledge sheets or call 884-0469 or 884-6577 for further information.



A bevy of...

Sitting on the world's longest snowmobile these delightful ladies are preparing for this weekend's Winter

Carnival. One of them will be chosen Queen at a dance tomorrow night in Richvale. Winner will be announced

Friday. Photo was taken at Hillcrest Mall by Bruce Hogg. Last year's Queen, Cory Bockus, is at the controls.