

# Music Mania — still another successful show

By Bob Hastings

STOUFFVILLE — In a decade of productions, 'Music Mania' has become a spring thing. As regular as the season itself — and equally bright and refreshing. The 1970 version was no exception as it delighted close to 1800 patrons in the Stouffville District High School last week.

It was both an artistic achievement and a commercial success. The choral work defied the label 'amateur' and the skits and one-liners were timely and full of local significance. The joie de vivre of the cast overflowed the stage and captured the very tuned-in audience from 'curtain up' to finale.

Lorne Bowdway, the show's musical director, did a superb job in blending the voices of the chorus into beautiful arrangements of everything from 'Something Groovy' to the 'Battle Hymn'. A medley of songs from the stage presentation of 'Hair' was one of the vocal and visual highlights with its rousing lyrics and effective and ingenious lighting.

The script committee, headed by Keith Sutherland, who was also the producer, created clever dialogue delivered with good timing and expression. Mary Grant and Mary Harris combined in 'Life on the Wicked Stage' to incite much laughter before Jean Harrot, Gord Ness and Melinda Paterson performed ably in a clever interview. The station — "CRUD", the location — "Beautiful downtown Stouffville, the nation's capital of gravel pits and industrial waste".

Current hits, "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head", and "Jean" were balanced by such standards as "Autumn Leaves" and "Somewhere My Love" and were performed in fine fashion by the chorus soloist, Elva Newmarch did a fine rendition of "Jean". The "Swamp Lake Ballet" was well titled as the spoof's dancers more closely resembled frogs than swans. A political sketch made a something less than subtle suggestion where Finance Minister Benson's "white paper" may eventually find itself.

The orchestra, consisting of Jerry Waite, Ted Topping Jr. and Wally Lee added greatly to the musical mood of the evening.

'Music Mania' has provided years of entertainment for Stouffville and district audiences and money for many worthy causes. This year's profits are directed to the newly formed Recreation Committee to ensure even further enjoyment for the citizenry.

This annual production has become a town institution, but what of its future? For that matter, what of Stouffville's future? Perhaps the reflections of the good times enjoyed on both sides of the footlights will trigger some action to preserve 'Music Mania' and to prevent 'Municipal Mania' in 1971.

## Team assistance is refused with regret

STOUFFVILLE — In recognition of this success, the team coach, Peewee hockey club advanced to the semi-finals in the OMHA playoffs before bowing out to Huntsville.

In recognition of this success, the team coach, Jack Watson requested some financial assistance from village council towards the purchase of jackets.



Music Mania, that originated back in 1960, completed another successful two-night stand in the auditorium of Stouffville District High School, Friday and Saturday. An estimated 1,800 persons attended. The full cast is shown here. —Cadieux Studio



The 'Music Mania' dancers displayed the same talent that has made them show favorites through the years. The girls are (left to right) — Sharron Brazler, Bobbie Vanstone, Lynda McLean, Jackie Petrie, Maureen Drollet and Gale Harris. —Cadieux Studio

Members agreed that while it would be nice to recognize all playoff entries in some manner, there was not sufficient funds available for this purpose.

Reeve Ken Laushway said council's policy had been to honor champions and finalists. "It would be nice to give every team new jackets, but there's a limit," he said.

"We must draw the line somewhere," agreed deputy-reeve Jim McKellar. Coach Watson estimated the total cost at about \$400. Councillor Ian Chapman suggested that to approve assistance for one, other similar requests would follow.

## Budget delayed

STOUFFVILLE — Stouffville taxpayers didn't turn out in droves, Thursday night, to learn how their money is to be spent in the current year.

For if they had, they would have been no-wiser. The budget report has been postponed again, this time to May 7.

Committee chairman, councillor Tom Lonergan said the village was still awaiting finalization of the Queen's Park home shelter grant, a figure he expected by the end of the month.

Reeve Ken Laushway suggested the over-all increase would not be as great as had first been predicted.

## Editor's mail

Dear Mr. Thomas: I had occasion to visit the Stouffville Conservation Area around lunch time this week. I was pleased to notice that the area was being put to good use by a number of other people there, too.

About 60 or 70 high school students were sitting on the bank eating their lunches. But what pleased me the most was the way that these young people picked up their garbage, along with other waste already there, and took it to the school for disposal.

Taking into consideration that these young people had indicated their respect for the area, possibly some better facilities could be afforded — a few picnic tables and garbage cans would definitely be an asset. Edward Allan.

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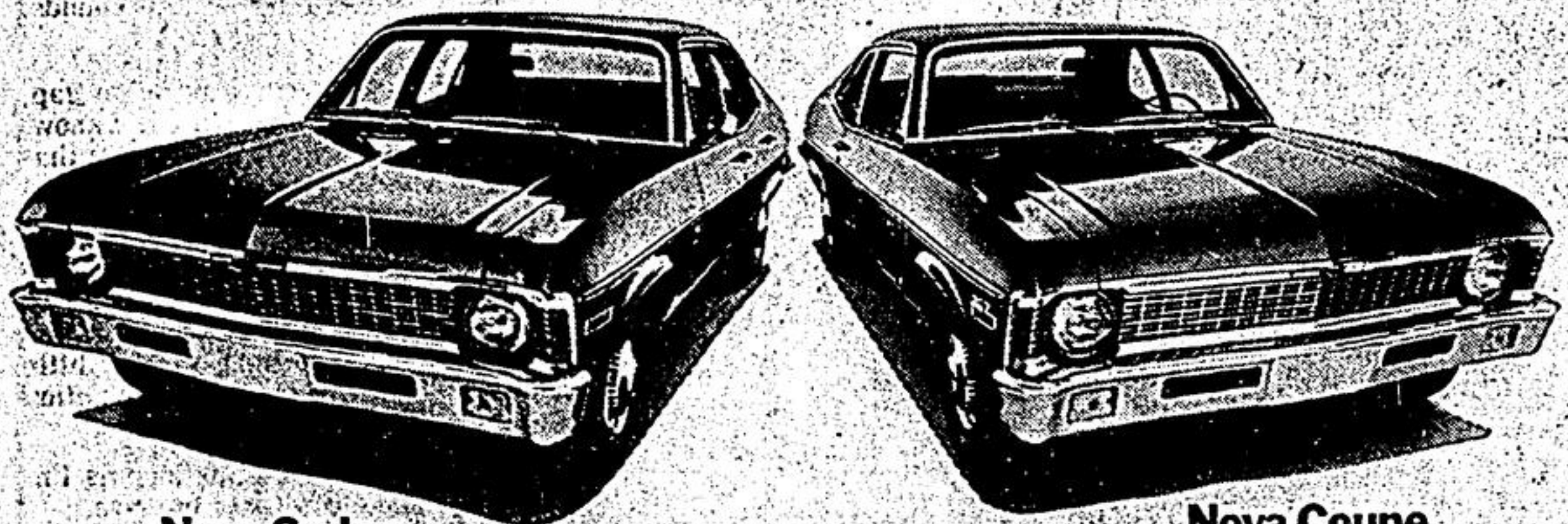
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