



Nine year old Jennifer Cook turned in a beautiful solo performance as "Miss Valentine" at the Uxbridge Figure Skating Club carnival, April 4 and 5. The talented skater was enthusiastically

applauded by a receptive audience. Close to 150 took part, from tiny toddlers to accomplished seniors.

Jim Thomas

Sees spending change

CLAREMONT — A Durham Board of Education Trustee, Linda Carder, of Claremont, says that, although she's "happy" with the proposed schools' budget for this year, the Board is soon going to have to spend more in the special programming area.

Mrs. Carder said the budget, which is going to the Board for approval, April 13, is expected to be up 10 per cent over last year's total of \$94,364,530.

As usual, the main expenditure is for salaries, which took up 89.9 per cent of the overall figure in 1980.

"That's a little over proportion," Mrs. Carder said.

"I feel we don't spend enough on other things, such as text books, materials, maintenance and building improvements, and special (remedial) programming."

While they didn't have the staff or the proper programs for the latter, Bill 82 - a provincial edict ensuring that "every exceptional child receive an education suited to his or her ability," put more emphasis on the matter.

"The ministry recognizes the boards don't spend enough money, so we'll have to spend more," Mrs. Carder said.

The program covers both gifted children and those with special learning disabilities, and

with 48,000 students in the system, the ministry says 15 per cent of the student population require special programming, she said.

She said, too, the three-year program of checking children before they started kindergarten, was also making progress each year, with a "new package" going into the schools this fall to help further determine their needs.

She said the program assessed the different skills of the children, including everything from their ability to bounce a ball and stack blocks, to using scissors and

recognizing different colors.

"With the advent of nursery school, they come very advanced," Mrs. Carder said. "If problems are spotted, or there are areas which need work, the teacher must develop a way to make the students happy."

She said parents can make testing appointments beforehand "and we hope we'll catch the problems."

She said it is just as important to recognize the gifted child, as it is the one with learning problems, if children are to proceed at a proper pace in school.

Rape Centre hits snag

DURHAM REGION — Who needs the aggravation, appears to be the attitude some principals are taking with respect to involvement with Durham Region's Rape Crisis Centre.

Co-ordinator Jeannette Ross admits the organization is encountering "natural fears", particularly in Uxbridge and Port Perry.

"The principals are a little worried," she said, "especially after all the flak over the family life series".

So far, no sessions have been arranged. The principals, she said, feel student attendance should be voluntary and outside

regular school hours.

In Oshawa, she explained, the co-operation has been good. She's still optimistic the attitude will change in Port Perry and Uxbridge.

"They're more reluctant in rural areas and I can understand this, but it still makes me angry."

A public meeting is set for April 15 in the Port Perry Masonic Temple. It will involve representatives from the police, the clergy, social service agencies, the medical and legal professions. A similar gathering is planned for Uxbridge Secondary School, April 30.

Senior Citizens' home approved

UXBRIDGE — Planning and development committee, last week, gave approval to Trinity Manor, a three-storey senior citizens' home on First Avenue in Uxbridge.

The plan had previously been before the board, but the latter had asked for various revisions. Included in these were additional parking spaces. Architect, Michael Kopsa, said there was now room for 24 cars, with more spaces available in the future.

He said the L-shaped building would have 40 units, with the roof to be landscaped to present an open area.

When it was suggested by

chairman Sandy Ewen that there was a problem of density in the plan, Alex Grant, planning consultant, replied that the "density in terms of people is not that great. I think the plan is good," he added. "It can't be used for anything but a senior citizens' apartment."

Said Ewen: "This is a special building, so maybe the quickest way is a free-standing by-law."

Mayor Bill Ballinger moved the owners forego an application and the clerk be instructed to draw up a by-law for submission to council.

"We become part of your unofficial sales staff," the mayor told the applicants.

Figure Skating Carnival

Home talent pleases crowd

By Jim Thomas
UXBRIDGE — Strictly home town talent, not even a guest skater to 'steal' the spotlight. Carnival chairman Jackie Fort and her executive assistants pinned their hopes on the 'draw' of local stars, and it worked.

The audience loved them, from the tiniest toddler to the accomplished senior, they cheered, they whistled, they laughed, they applauded; enthusiastic response from an appreciative crowd.

Even the fact the Saturday night show was twenty-five minutes late in starting, failed to deter their excitement. Their anticipation of what was to come, proved well worth the wait.

The theme, "Holidays on Ice", lent itself perfectly to a

variation of ages and skills. It allowed everyone to "get into the act", some on several occasions.

It was an extremely fast-moving show, with almost no delay between sets. The fact there were no props (only a single Christmas tree), allowed the skaters to move off and on simultaneously. Exit and entrance to dressing rooms was orderly.

The costumes, that lend the necessary color to a carnival, were beautiful, particularly those associated with Valentine's Day, Canada Day and the 14-member precision team in Mothers' Day. All skaters joined in the grand finale.

Individually, it was difficult to choose. From crowd reaction, Jennifer Cook, Connie Colby, Jill Watson, Hillary Simpson

and Katherine Woodhead were obvious favorites. Lee-Anne Armstrong and Kristi Stewart as "Rudolph", stirred the loudest laughter, particularly when Rudolph's hind quarters suddenly became separated from his front. Intended or not, the act was a hit.

The Popeye-Olive Oil routine, performed by club pros Larry Hopkins and Eva Jones, had the audience somewhat confused. They seemed unsure as to when to laugh and when to applaud. Their performance was a mixed bag of brilliance and comedy.

The 1981 Uxbridge Figure Skating Club carnival will likely go down as "one of the best" — good enough to entice many back for a second look on Sunday.

Turn down cafe bid from local resident

UXBRIDGE — Councillor Don Jackson, who two weeks ago, suggested the planning and building committee not encourage Susan Pekkinen in her request to open a restaurant north of Claremont, was the only member to vote in favor of the proposal, last week.

Mrs. Pekkinen, operator of Susan's Restaurant, in Stouffville, presented a draft plan of her project, north-east of the Uxbridge-Pickering townline, as requested by the committee.

At that time, the applicant told members she wanted to build a restaurant in front of her

house. It would be a fast food outlet, with daily specials, no liquor, and would seat 100.

Last week, she said she would only put in 50 seats.

As at the first meeting, Mrs. Pekkinen was again told the restaurant wouldn't comply with present zoning regulations.

Said chairman Sandy Ewen: "It doesn't conform to the Durham official plan, or the (town's) comprehensive by-law. We have to decide if we want a restaurant in that area."

"We have to establish a need," said Mayor Bill Ballinger. There's one at Claremont and one at Coppins Corners.

Said Councillor Gerri Lynn O'Connor: "We don't need half the ones in town, either."

Chairman Ewen said he couldn't support a free-standing by-law on the matter; it would defeat the purpose of the comprehensive by-law.

Councillor Jackson said he wasn't "totally opposed". The one at Coppins Corners, for example, can't accommodate all the trucks, he stated.

"I could support the request if we wanted to go to the Region," he said.

However, on a motion by Mayor Ballinger, the application was denied.

Mayor to milk a goat

Farm Fair Days

UXBRIDGE — During a period of three days and three nights, close to 3,000 elementary school children will visit Lloyd Wilson's Sales Arena on Beaver Road, two miles north of Uxbridge.

The influx of young people, accompanied by teachers and parents is an event called Farm Fair Days with all proceeds (one dollar per student), going to the Uxbridge Public Library Extension Fund. The dates are April 23, 24 and 25.

Chief organizers are Barbara Evans, Barbara Murphy, John Fowles and Lloyd Wilson himself. Mr. Wilson is providing all facilities free of charge.

Displays will be set up for viewing on Thursday evening (April 23), but a good part of the

interest will be centred around activities on Friday (April 24). For example, a calf-dressing contest is set for 8 p.m. Any boy or girl who hasn't a calf of his (her) own, can reserve one by calling 852-3524. This will be followed by a goat-milking contest involving Mayor Bill Ballinger and members of Uxbridge Council, Vicky Taylor, the Library's lovely representative in Spring Water Days, will also try her hand. At 9:15 p.m., three varied styles of auctioneering will be featured including a lady, Beryl Pearce of Port Perry; the fastest, Bill Walker of Markham and the oldest, either Fred Smith of Newmarket or Alvin Farmer of Gormley.

Three auction sales are set

for Saturday including contents from the estate of the late Ada Moyer of Stouffville.

Other exhibits of interest will include a display of antique farm tools and rope-making by Ed Brown, a petting zoo, various breeds of beef and dairy cattle, free milk and cheese samples, butter-making by Dorothy Brown, a bee and honey display, a steam display, a Junior Farmers' display and a dog obedience demonstration.

Of special interest Friday evening (7:30 p.m.) will be the Mini-Beats from the Colin Marsh School of Music.

From the 3-day project, the Library Board hopes to raise \$5,000. Principals or teachers wanting to take part in the program, should call 852-5231.

Reject Durham's subsidy appeal on police budget

DURHAM REGION — The province has rejected an appeal by Durham Region's chairman Gary Herrema for a subsidy payment to offset a \$16.7 million police budget.

Police costs for 1981 are \$2.5 million over last year's figure and \$173,000 over council-authorized limits.

Herrema's discussions were with John Hilton, Ontario's deputy solicitor-general. The only recourse now, he said, would be to appeal directly to Inter-governmental Affairs Minister Tom Wells and ask for equalization for property owners in the region.

Herrema pointed out that regional council might be forced

to cut back on the police budget to ensure that property owners do not face a big increase in taxes to cover this expense.

Queen's Park's stand on the Durham request is the same taken on an appeal by the Region of Niagara.

Herrema indicated that raises negotiated by the Commission for its uniformed officers played a part in the record budget. As of Jan. 1, 1982, a first class constable will earn \$29,800.

Assault

PICKERING — A 16 year old youth has been charged with indecent assault, forcible confinement, assault causing bodily harm and possession of a dangerous weapon, after a West Hill motorist was allegedly attacked near Claremont, last week.

According to police, the 18 year old driver picked up a hitch-hiker on her return home from work. Once inside the car, he is said to have pulled a knife and ordered her to drive south to Claremont. There he indecently assaulted her. During the scuffle that ensued, the woman was struck with a pipe. She managed to escape and summon help at a nearby house.

Students 'at home'

UXBRIDGE — Two former students and one in Grade 12, were "at home" Friday night when they played for a dance at Uxbridge Secondary School.

Dan Cox, RR 1, Uxbridge; George Davie, Victoria Street, Uxbridge and Tom Watson, RR 1, Goodwood, are members of a high energy rock group called "Zenolith".

The three-member band has played at The Compass in Newmarket; Paddi House in Cobocok and for a number of private parties. They've been together about 1 1/2 years.



An exciting "Farm Fair" at Lloyd Wilson's Sales Arena, Uxbridge, April 23, 24 and 25, is expected to attract 3,000 elementary school children. Planning the event here are (left to

right) - Barbara Murphy, Lloyd Wilson and Barbara Evans. Proceeds will go to the Uxbridge Library Extension Fund.

Jim Thomas