

Wednesday, September 8, 1982

Second
Section

Uxbridge Fair crowds spotty

Exhibits increase

UXBRIDGE - While the week-end weather was fair, it wasn't all that fair-going. At least, not at Uxbridge's 118th Fair, which ran Sept. 10-12 at Elgin Park.

"Attendance was 'pretty good,'" said president, Kay Reeves, adding that, "at the same time, we would have liked to see more people."

"She said that this year's gate receipts were 'about the same,' as last year. 'But a lot of people didn't seem to know

what to expect. They'd say, 'There's nothing here,' and then leave."

"I'd like some suggestions as to what people want. We can't have everything...They must know they can't have Dolly Parton."

Despite the desultory attendance, Mrs. Reeves said the Fair shows drew more exhibitors this year. "I think the people who want to exhibit fruits and vegetables, et cetera, always will," she said. "There were

more exhibits entered in the women's section."

The almost perfect weather may have worked against the turnout, "but there were still enough people interested in the Fair to support it," Mrs. Reeves said. She said, too, that

The latter, however, were not the Fair's number one draw. The big attraction, it seems, was the demolition derby, Saturday night:

Councillors square off

UXBRIDGE - Uxbridge Township Councillor Gerri Lynn O'Connor, plans to oppose fellow councillor and desk-mate, Maustyn McKnight, for the position of Durham Regional councillor in the November elections.

The veteran McKnight still hasn't announced whether he will seek re-election, although the implication is that he will.

Equally silent is Mayor Bill Ballinger, who told The Tri-

bune he felt it "too early to make an official statement." However, he left little doubt that he'd be back.

Mrs. O'Connor says she'll be a full-time councillor, "with chief concern, achieving good value, both locally and regionally, for the taxpayers' money."

Continued maintenance of roads and sidewalks, and a regular program to meet recreational needs, are also among her priorities, she said.

Outstanding musician

Followed in father's footsteps

CLAREMONT — Service was held from the O'Neill Funeral Home, Stouffville, Saturday, for William (Bill) Coates, one of the Claremont community's foremost musicians. Mr. Coates, son of George and Mary Elsie (Howitt) Coates, died Sept. 9 in Scarborough Centenary Hospital. He would have been 88 the following Friday.

Bill Coates was best known for his musical ability, as was his father. It was George Coates who first organized the Claremont Citizens Band and served as its leader. Son Bill later took over from his father. For years, the group performed at many functions throughout the district, including skating parties at the old Claremont rink. Bill's specialty was the coronet, although the family had many instruments in their home. A number of these have been donated to the Markham Museum.

For a time, Bill lived at Huntsville and played in the Anglo-Canadian Concert Band there. Later, he moved back to the home farm on the Uxbridge-Pickering townline. Mrs. Coates, the former Melissa Morgan, died a short time after their marriage. He was also pre-deceased by a brother Tom and sister Addie. The only living relative is a cousin, Ernie Carruthers of Goodwood. Mr. Carruthers maintained a close association with Mr. Coates while Mr. Coates was living at Claremont and during his stay in hospital.

Bill Coates was member in the congregation of Claremont Baptist Church and, when able, attended services there regularly. Rev. Blair Clark was in charge of the funeral with interment Uxbridge Cemetery. The pall-bearers were Ernie Carruthers, Morley Smalley, George Middleton, Frank Carson, Frank Ward, Charlie Symes, Norris Hardy and Lloyd Linton.

PICKERING — With municipal elections in the Town of Pickering still 7 1/2 weeks away, an interesting battle's already shaping up at the regional level.

Gerry Fisher, going for his fourth term as a Regional Councillor, will be opposed by Norah Stoner, representative for Ward 3. Both reside at Greenwood.

Councillor Stoner, an environmentalist, led the fight against a bid by Metro Toronto to shift nuclear soil from a property in Scarborough to the Beare Road landfill site. She also expressed concern for the safety of the Town's drinking water and successfully pressed Ontario Hydro to pay the cost of

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