

Weekender

Comment

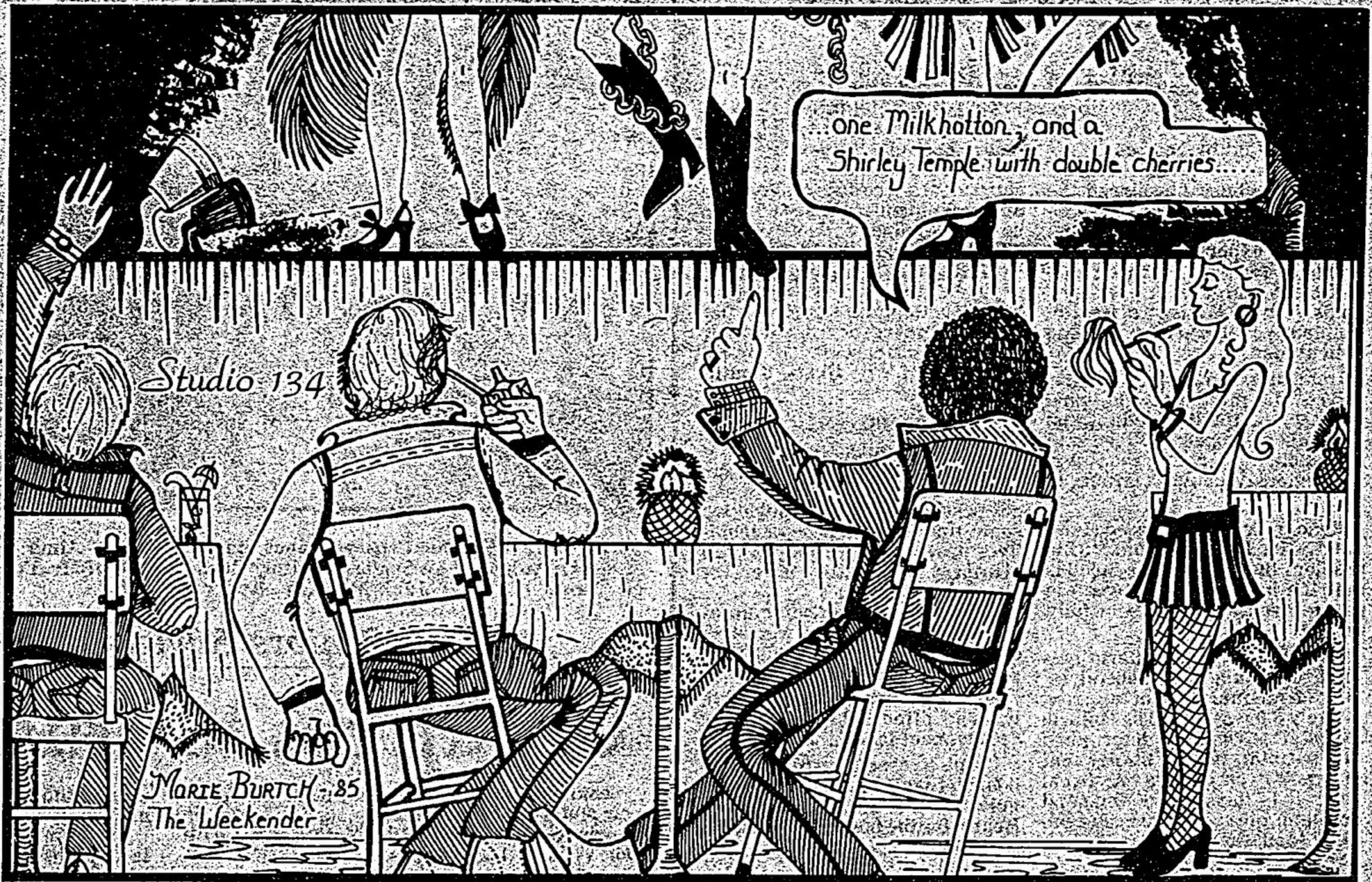
Hospital staying put but...

Even though a final decision has apparently been made to build the Markham-Stouffville Hospital on the 9th Line north of Hwy 7, there are still several unanswered questions regarding why the hospital board made a decision to move the hospital then got cold feet when there was opposition to the plan.

It seems rather strange that the hospital board people would not have predicted some opposition to the move — especially when there had been no hint for 20 years that the 9th Line site was not suitable for the new facility.

Also, when the decision was made to move the location, there should have been some provision for possible objections to the necessary rezonings — both are contrary to the Markham Official Plan. Thus the powers that be should have realized that possible objections and hearing before the Ontario Municipal Board would delay ground breaking for as much as six months.

In the end, the board took the path of least resistance. The hospital will be started this fall for completion in 1988.



Speaking Out

Do you prefer the Hwy 48 location for the Markham-Stouffville Hospital or the 9th Line location? (Asked at the Stouffville Plaza and Heritage Plaza at Wooten Way and Hwy 7 in Markham).



Debby Champion
Homemaker
Markham

"I doesn't really matter to me where it goes. I've got three kids and its too far to go when you have to take them to Scarborough for an emergency. The main thing is that we are getting a hospital."



Karla Senyk
Eaton's Employee
Markham

"To me it doesn't really matter but it seems to me that Markham's Main St. is a little busy for ambulances to get through. I think the 9th Line location would be ideal."



Brian Lehman
LCBO Employee
Stouffville

"I found out recently that there's more land at the Hwy 48 location for future expansion. That would be more suitable for those considerations. I prefer Hwy 48."



Linda Foster
Homemaker
Musselman's Lake

"I like the 9th line location better. It'll make access a lot easier for people who live in this area."

Respect is needed

Dear Sir:

I know nothing of Police Chief Bruce Crawford beyond what I have read in your newspaper over the years. But your latest on the chief does him a great injustice and insults the feelings of 95 per cent of your readers.

I have just completed reading a biography of a man in Britain's secret service — an associate of Ian Fleming writer of the James Bond series.

He happened to have joined the Royal Northwest Mounted Police in 1910 at age 17. Let me quote from his experience.

Quote One: "I was only a kid and no match for the seasoned gunman, — but I received enormous support from the uniform I was wearing."

Quote Two: "Armed with scythes and pitchforks they were ready to march against one another."

At this point I appeared on the scene and as soon as they saw my stein coming over the horizon, they were reminded of the Cossacks in their homeland and fled into their picturesque white dwellings where they barricaded themselves in."

It made me sick to read your editorial deriding Chief Crawford's insistence that those 39 officers should doff their clown-like baseball caps during the week when they wished to show their respects to a fallen comrade by wearing black armbands.

Can you imagine an unruly mob fleeing at the sight of a baseball-capped officer appearing on the scene?

Their sincere hearts must be in conflict with their heads on this issue and your editorial does them no service.

Freedom of the press for democracy, yes, but what is happening to our lawful society with the press supporting this disrespect of Chief Crawford in doing his duty.

Mr. Editor you owe him an honest apology. To do so would recover one man's respect for you.

Tom Greenhough
Unionville

Economist & Sun

The Tribune

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