

'Playing chicken' Crown insinuates

Both drivers involved in a fatal accident on Brock Rd. last December have denied they were playing a game of 'chicken' seconds before a gravel truck and car collided.

An inquest, held Oct. 22 at Whitby District Court before coroner Dr. Michael Gabrielle, heard accusations that truck drivers using the busy road sometimes cross lanes as a sign of greeting before meeting each other.

Crown Attorney Douglas Brown insinuated throughout the proceedings that Rolly Scott and Glen Hurlbert were "playing a game of chicken" at the time of the crash. Both denied the accusation.

Five-year-old Jamie Scott of Brougham was killed Dec. 5, 1985, when the vehicle in which he was a passenger was struck near Taunton Rd. by a tandem rig owned by his father, Mr. Scott, who

was driving the car, and a second passenger, James Chapman, received serious injuries.

The inquest heard conflicting evidence from the two drivers.

Scott, the owner/operator of a fleet of gravel trucks, including the one driven by Hurlbert, told the five-member jury that the tandem vehicle crossed over into his lane about 700 feet in front of the car, "and stayed there right until the end."

Hurlbert, serving a two-year jail sentence for driving while disqualified in connection with the crash, claimed he veered left to avoid a southbound car which he said was swaying and "may have lost control."

The Oshawa man, still recovering from serious burns and injuries suffered in the accident, testified at the inquest under the Canadian Evidence Act.



Rooting for a new route

Markham councillors took a minute last week to try out the new Markham Transit bus service to Scarborough City Centre. Members rode the route's first bus trip from Markville Shopping Centre to launch the new McCowan Rd. route. It's the first to directly link Markham with the

Scarborough Light Rapid Transit line. From left are Councillors Ron Moran, Doreen Quirk, Elson Miles, Bob Sherwood, Alex Chiu, Tom Newall, Gord Landon and Frank Scarpitti.

— Steve Houston

Women scarce among school top guns: study

By PAULA CROWELL
Staff Reporter

Where are all the women in the top management positions within the Catholic school system?

A study by a consulting firm concluded that women are poorly represented in the highest positions, and are less likely to be promoted as men.

The York Region Roman Catholic School Board hired Avebury Consultants to survey teachers on affirmative action.

Women working for the Catholic school board should be encouraged to apply for promotions a consultant has said.

In a report to the board at its last meeting Dr. Barbara Herring told trustees one per cent of the women who responded to the survey are vice-principals and less than one per cent are principals.

This is compared with the responding men who represent three per cent of vice-principals and 12 per cent of principals.

Dr. Herring pointed out several reasons for the imbalance of teaching administrators.

From the results of the survey she learned that women teachers are as a rule younger and have less education than their male counterparts.

Dr. Herring found that women take more leave of absence, most often for maternity, whereas men usually take time off to advance their education.

"It ends up that women are penalized for having a family," she said, adding that the effect is less opportunity for advancement and less chance for full retirement benefits.

Other recommendations included the following.

- interview every qualified woman for the job.
- include affirmative action coordinator on all interview committees.
- aim for a balance of men and women on selection committees.
- review promotion criteria for any bias against women.
- place responsibility on vice-principals, principals and superintendents to encourage and prepare women teachers to apply for promotions.

The board's affirmative action committee has formed its own recommendations based on the consultant's report. These will be presented to the education committee next Wednesday and to the regular meeting of the board later this month.

Markham Council in brief

Arena's roof repair okayed

Though the cost came in \$7,000 more than the town projected, Markham Council last night approved spending almost \$38,000 for much-needed Markham Arena roof repairs.

Town Council awarded the contract to Anspeck Roofing Ltd., which has also completed work at Thornhill's Clatworthy Arena and the Thornhill Community Centre.

Council also voted to retender additional roofing work at the Markham Centennial Arena on McCowan Rd. in 1987. The work will include roof repairs in the arena lounge and over the ice surface.

Council joins funding quest

Markham Council reaffirmed its opposition to recreation funding cuts under proposed provincial legislation and joined another town Tuesday in petitioning the government.

Council endorsed an Onaping Falls, Ont. council resolution to petition the province and stop proposed recreation grants cuts.

If passed provincially, new legislation would redesignate Ontar-

io lottery proceeds for culture and recreation purposes into the general tax fund.

Monte Carlo night nixed

Residents of Milliken's Armadale North Community Association won't be sharing a game of Blackjack with friends next month.

Markham Council originally endorsed the association's plan to hold a fundraising Monte Carlo night but was informed by two provincial agencies that licences wouldn't be issued.

Markham Town Clerk Gary Roseblade informed members that the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations (lotteries branch) and the Liquor Licence Board wouldn't provide permits for the event.

Air ambulance hangar okayed

An air ambulance helicopter hangar and maintenance building

for Buttonville Airport were given the initial go-ahead by Markham Council Tuesday.

Members voted to issue foundation permits for the structures to allow preliminary construction but warned Toronto Airways spokesman Ron Shames not to proceed with work until building permits were acquired.

"We are accommodating you because of the emergency nature of what you are doing," said Mayor Carole Bell.

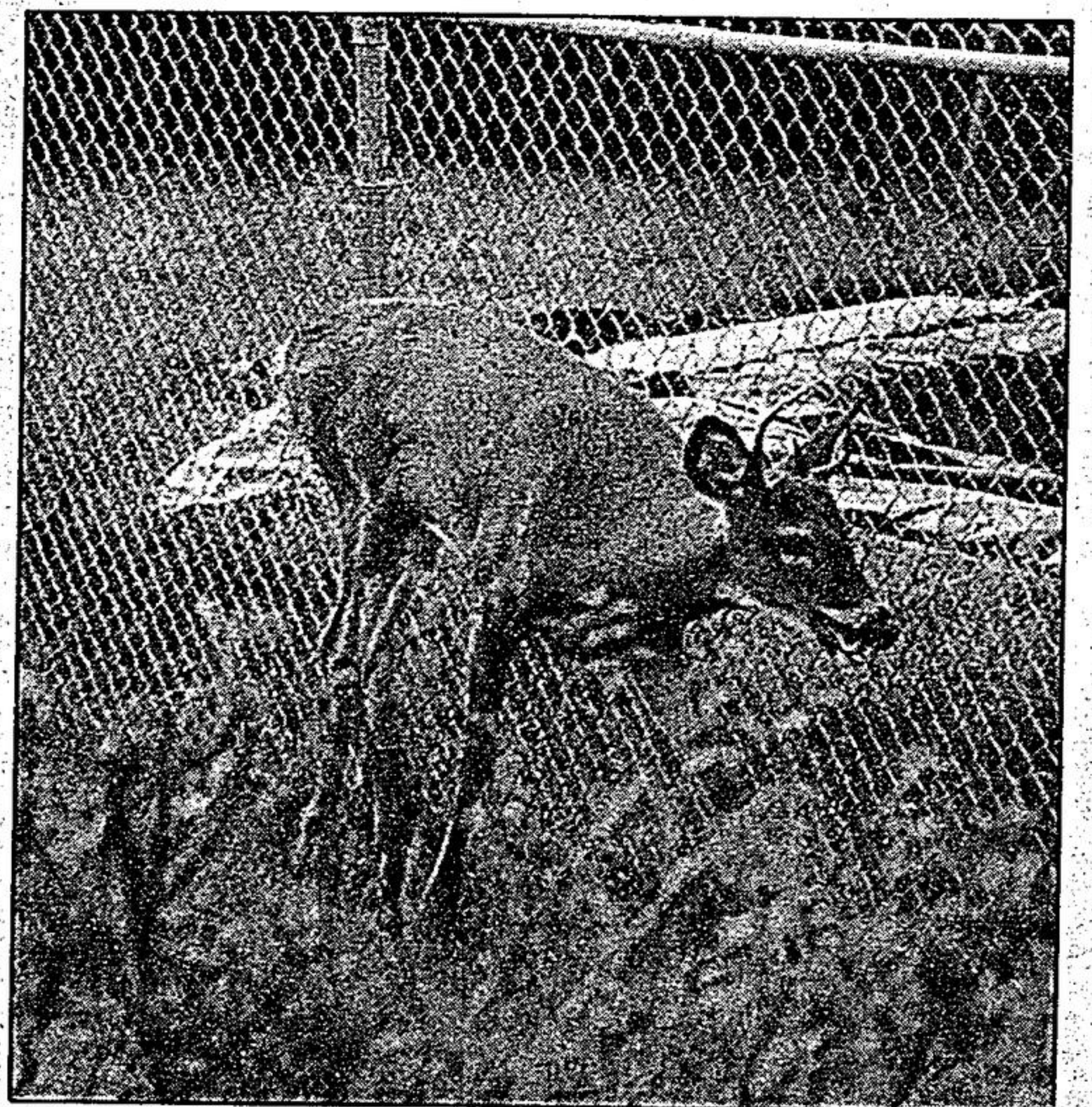
Main St. set for upgrading

The ball began rolling on the Markham Main St. beautification program Tuesday.

Council voted to spend \$25,000 for an underground transformer needed to bury hydro wires as part of the initiative.

The overall program is still to be considered in the 1987 Capital Budget and if approved, will begin next spring.

According to an engineering department report, the underground transformer must be ordered this year for work to be completed in 1987.



Buck stops here

This young deer paid a visit to a Major Buttons Dr. home this week. The animal was found in the backyard of the home about 7 a.m. Wednesday. A nearby neighbor said he was gone by 9:30 a.m. the same day. Although she said the yard backs onto other yards, there is a nearby parkway belt which the deer may call home. Had the deer been unable to hop the fence to freedom, Markham Animal Control would have sedated it temporarily while it was moved to its natural habitat.

— Sjoerd Witteveen



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