

Health

Hospital in running for National Quality award

By KATE GILDERDALE
Correspondent

Quality of care has been a top priority for Markham Stouffville Hospital since it opened in 1990.

That commitment to quality was officially recognized this month when the facility was named one of three finalists in the Quality Health

Care category of the 1995 Canada Awards for Excellence.

The prestigious awards, formerly known as the Canada Awards for Business Excellence, are sponsored by the National Quality Institute and Industry Canada and are the country's only awards which recognize excellence in both the private

and public sectors.

"I am pleased that the National Quality Institute has recognized the accomplishments of our hospital in successfully matching hospital services to the current and future needs of the community we serve," said Markham Stouffville Hospital president and chief executive officer Marilyn Bruner.

In announcing its decision, the NQI noted, "The hospital has created close ties with a number of local health and service agencies, a management structure focused on patient needs, and has ensured active employee involvement at all levels of planning. These innovative approaches have resulted in lower staff turnover and

absenteeism, high employee morale, steady growth in admissions and outpatient visits and consistently high levels of patient satisfaction."



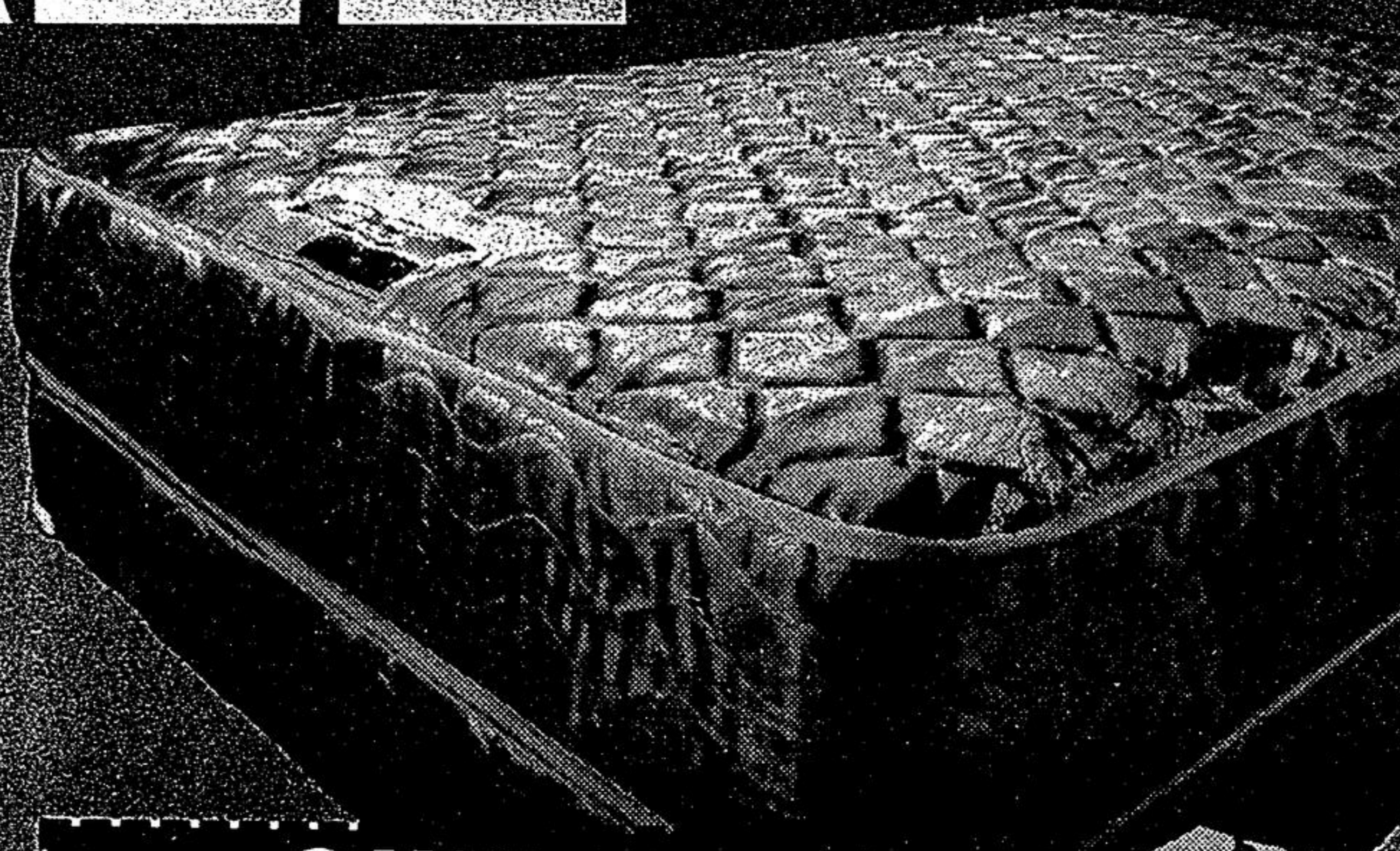
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In February, 1995, the hospital was granted Accreditation with Distinction by the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation, the highest level of achievement possible, which will remain in place for four years.

Winners of the Canada Awards for Excellence will be announced at the NQI Gala Dinner and Awards Presentation, which will be held at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, on Oct. 2 at 6 p.m.

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