

Call out to community to add extras to new 'no frills' ice pad

By **BRUCE STAPLEY**
Correspondent

On target, on schedule and right on the money.

That's the status of the second ice pad currently under construction at the Rec Centre. The \$1.1 million facility, which saw the first shovel go into the ground in mid-September, should be completed in mid-February as originally anticipated. The seven person crew assigned to the job by the Branick Group, the local contractor undertaking the project, has managed to stay on schedule thanks to a mild December, which helped make up for a soggy October.

While the project will come in on budget, it will be up to the community to put the finishing touches on the job, according to Branick Group co-owner Tony Mauro. "This is a no

frills pad," said Mauro. "There are some details that will have to be completed. There will be no finishing of the dressing rooms, and the electrical and plumbing has only been roughed in. That's what the town asked us to do."

The remaining work will be the responsibility of the user groups, said Mauro. "A lot of people made commitments when they were pushing to have the second pad built. Now it's time for them to come forward. People will have to buy their bricks for the Wall of Fame, and some service groups and local people will have to come forward so we can get this thing complete."

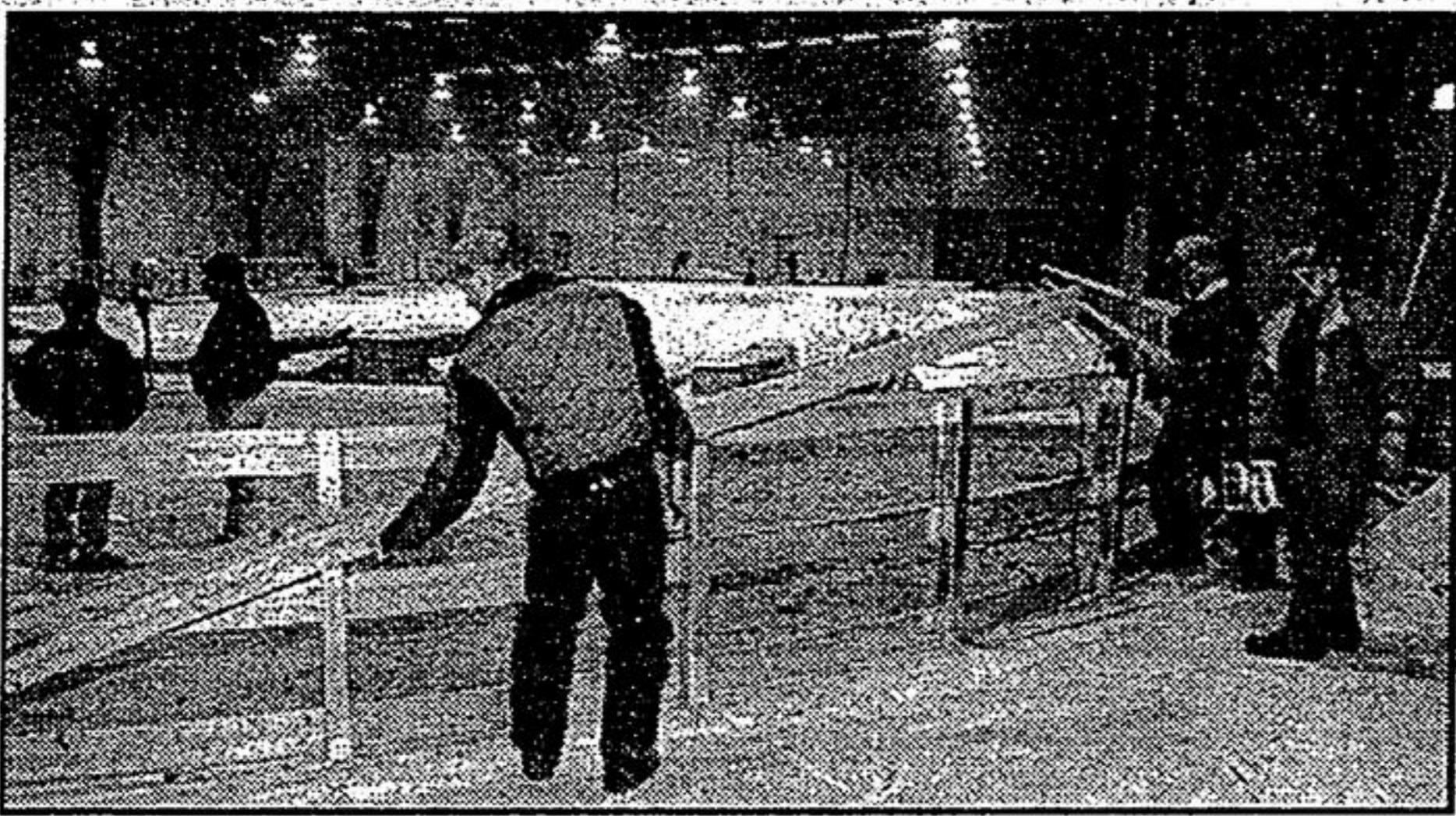
Mauro, who along with his Branick Group partners Michael Mott and Emilio Ronco are local residents, said he is confident the loose ends will be tied up. "We're hoping

people will come along before the end of the project. The people in town are very good, and one way or another, they'll get the job done." Mauro said his company has made every effort to use local trades people wherever possible in

constructing the facility. The company's own commitment has included building one of the four dressing rooms free of charge, along with kinking in other extras.

Meanwhile, town facilities director John Crawley and his recreation department staff are lining up customers for the new, year round facility. With upwards of 90 per cent of prime time hours tentatively booked for the 1997-98 winter ice season, the emphasis will be on marketing off hour times and summer ice, said Crawley. "We have been conducting a campaign for spring and summer ice, and there have been lots of inquiries from private (skating and hockey) schools and summer hockey leagues."

With summer rates of \$125 and \$70 per hour (plus GST) for prime and non-prime time respectively, he said the pad should be attractive to many groups. Crawley said the goal is to have the ice in the new pad by May of this year, just after the ice is taken out of the existing rink. The summer ice could go down earlier if it's economically feasible. "If we have the customers, we'll put it in."



Workers put in the boards at the ice pad under construction at Stouffville Rec Centre last Thursday. Photo/SJOERD WITTEVEEN



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The department will be looking to get its feet wet during the new pad's initial summer of operation, Crawley suggested. Subsequent summers should see a marked improvement in overall operation.

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York Region

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK
TREE BY-LAW
APPLICATION FOR MINOR EXCEPTION**

The Transportation and Works Committee of The Regional Municipality of York will hold a public meeting on February 5, 1997 at 10:00 a.m. in Committee Room A at the Regional Administrative Building at 17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket, to consider an application and a by-law pursuant to the Trees Act to permit the owner, Maples of Ballantrae Lodge and Golf Club, of the property located on the west side of Highway 48, approximately 2.5 kilometres north of Bloomington Road (Y.R. 40), and being part of the east half of Lot 13, Concession 7 in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, to clear approximately 3 acres of forest.

Any person who attends the public meeting shall have the opportunity to make representations in respect of this matter.

Further information and a draft of the by-law above referred to may be obtained from the office of the Regional Forestry Coordinator, Regional Administrative Building, 17250 Yonge Street, 4th Floor, Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 6Z1. Telephone 905-895-1200 or 905-764-6345; ext. 3044.

Anyone wishing to attend the public meeting and make representations is requested to inform the office of the Regional Clerk at 905-895-1231 or 905-731-0201, ext. 1303 prior to January 24, 1997.

DATED AT NEWMARKET THIS 15TH DAY OF JANUARY, 1997.

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