

COMMUNITY

Persechini run biggest in region

For Joe Persechini, there's no question there will be an encore.

The question is, how many more?

After all, his pet project — the Persechini Run/Walkathon — has surpassed even his most optimistic expectations and will do so again tomorrow when the 23rd version of the event smashes the \$2-million barrier in aid of the Easter Seal Society.

Last year's run/walk raised nearly \$200,000, pushing the total earnings to within \$45,000 of Persechini's \$2-million goal. Persechini anticipates a similar total this year, with between 3,000 and 4,000 participants involved.

"The first year we raised \$2,700 and I swear to God, I didn't think it would last," Persechini said. "One million was kind of a dream."

Initially, the event was a private run among members of Persechini's Newmarket-based fitness centre. Then, with the involvement and at the urging of the late former wrestler Whipper Billy Watson, Persechini's run began to grow. And grow. And grow some more, to its present status as one of York Region's largest annual charity events.

"He's gone now, but he still tells us what to do," Persechini noted. "He told me we'd raise \$1 million and I said, 'Yeah, sure Whipper.'"

Needless to say, Persechini is impressed with the attention the event has generated across York Region, as other municipalities answer the call.

"It's become a regional run with all nine municipalities involved," reported Persechini, noting more than 300 volunteers will help make the event function.

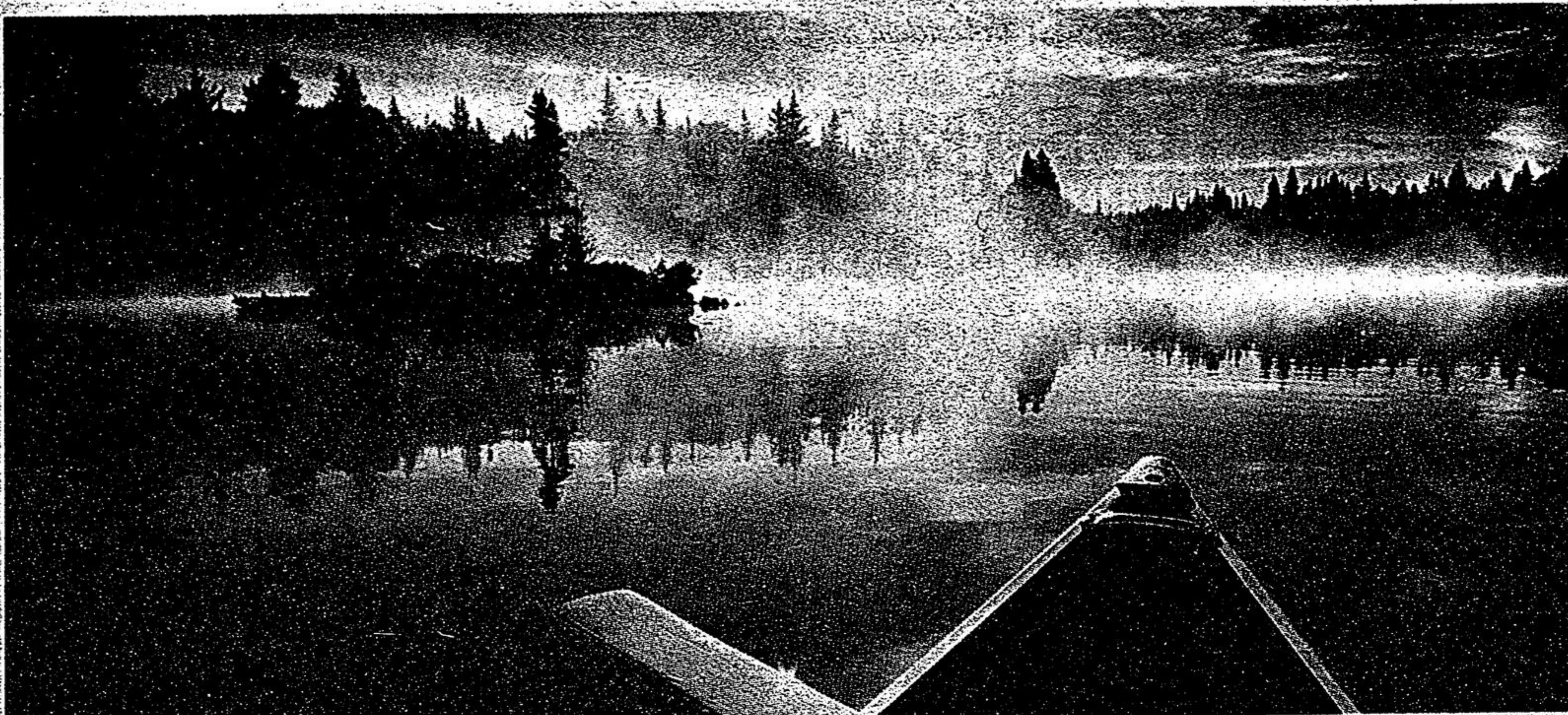
"It shows that things are happening around us and that we're a community that cares. It's nice to see the nine municipalities join together and make this special event even better."

But Persechini, who is billing this year's run/walk as Y2M (Year \$2 Million), is already considering handing off the organization of the event to the Easter Seal Society after the 25th run/walk in 2001.

"I'm taking it up to the 25th and I'd like to see it carried on."

Pre-registration sessions at Persechini Fitness & Squash Complex in Newmarket is today from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Participants may also register at Newmarket's Upper Canada Mall — the starting point for the run/walk — beginning at 7 a.m. tomorrow.



Ontario isn't just another pretty place, it also has a fantastic profit sharing program.

Want to invest in the strongest and fastest growing economy in the country? Why not consider Ontario Savings

Bonds. When you buy Ontario Savings Bonds, your invest-

ment will be at work here to build a better future for you

and your province. SECURE: Your investment, including

principal and interest, is backed 100 per cent by the

Province of Ontario. INVESTMENT FLEXIBILITY:

There are three investment alternatives to meet

your needs. NEW THIS YEAR: Now you

can order your new Bonds simply by phoning us at:

1-800-433-3596. If you have 1995 Bonds, you can extend your

benefits by exchanging them for 1999 Bonds. Call us at

1-800-433-3596 or visit us on the web at www.ofina.on.ca/OSB

for details. AVAILABLE EVERYWHERE: For your convenience,

you can buy Ontario Savings Bonds at

banks, trust companies, credit unions, caisses

populaires, Province of Ontario Savings Offices

and through investment dealers.



ONTARIO SAVINGS BONDS

Invest In Something You Believe In

	1st year	2nd year	3rd year	4th year	5th year
STEP-UP BOND Five-year term, redeemable every six months	4.25%	4.75%	5.25%	5.75%	6.00%
VARIABLE-RATE BOND Seven-year term, rate reset every six months and redeemable every six months	6-month 4.50%		3-year 5.25%		
FIXED-RATE BOND Three-year term, redeemable at maturity	5.25%				

Available from May 28 to June 18. For inquiries: **1-888-212-BOND (2663)**

www.ofina.on.ca/OSB

After so many collision tests, we've starting see stars. (5 of them to be exact).



1999 Saturn SL1 4-Door Sedan

includes auto a/c am/fm cassette plus much more

1999 Saturn SL1



\$220/MO./36 mo.

\$2,000 DOWN PAYMENT

\$17,213 MSRP

PRICE INCLUDE FREIGHT & PDI

In tests conducted by the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Saturn sedans are the only cars in their class to receive a 5-star safety rating. (The highest frontal impact rating for driver and front passenger in U.S. Government NHTSA testing.) Mostly, we credit the steel spaceframe, with front and rear crumple zones, reinforced steel side pillars, and dual front reduced-force airbags. But some credit should also go to the dummies who sat through all those tests. We think they did a bang-up job.



SATURN of Thornhill a Roy Foss Company

7200 Yonge Street, Thornhill, Ontario, 2 blocks north of Steeles Avenue in the Toronto Automobile Center (905) 764-0764

payments shown are for 1999 Saturn SL1-ISC pkg. including 4 speed automatic transmission and air conditioning. 36 month low kilometre smart lease program at 5.1% 1st. mo. refundable security deposit of \$300, applicable taxes and licence extra. Optional buyback at lease termination is \$9,123 plus taxes total lease obligation is \$9,920.