

# SPORTS

## Rouge River fishway finally gets the green light

Better late than never. A fish ladder will be built at the Milne Park dam site on the Rouge River in Markham after all.

The fishway was supposed to have been built three years ago but was put on hold for several reasons, said the Ministry of Natural Resources. Now, it's a go.

Mark Heaton, a fisheries biologist with the ministry's Aurora District office, said construction is expected to begin Sept. 3.

Among the primary reasons for the prolonged delay, Heaton revealed, were design modifications that were required to meet the Fisheries Act guidelines.

"There were some sea lamprey control elements that were incorporated in the design and that was a major concern for approval under the Fisheries Act," said Heaton, who is also the project facilitator.

Another hurdle which delayed construction was financing and in particular, who would be responsible for outlaying the money to cover all of the costs. With an estimated cost somewhere near \$500,000, Heaton said with assurance that the required funding is now secured.

"We've got the modified

### OUTDOORS



Mike Hayakawa

designs (to the fish ladder) coming forward and an agreement with the Cornell Development community (for financing) and the Toronto Region Conservation Authority," he said.

With construction to begin in September, barring any snags, the fishway would be completed by December.

"Things are progressing forward. There were no delays due to the (OPSEU) strike," cited Heaton, who was quick to point out no objections were raised when the ministry and developers held a recent public hearing on the fishway.

Heaton said the fishway will be different from a traditional vertical ladder. Instead, a denil model will be created to assist

fish in negotiating their way around the 4.5-metre high concrete dam at Milne Park.

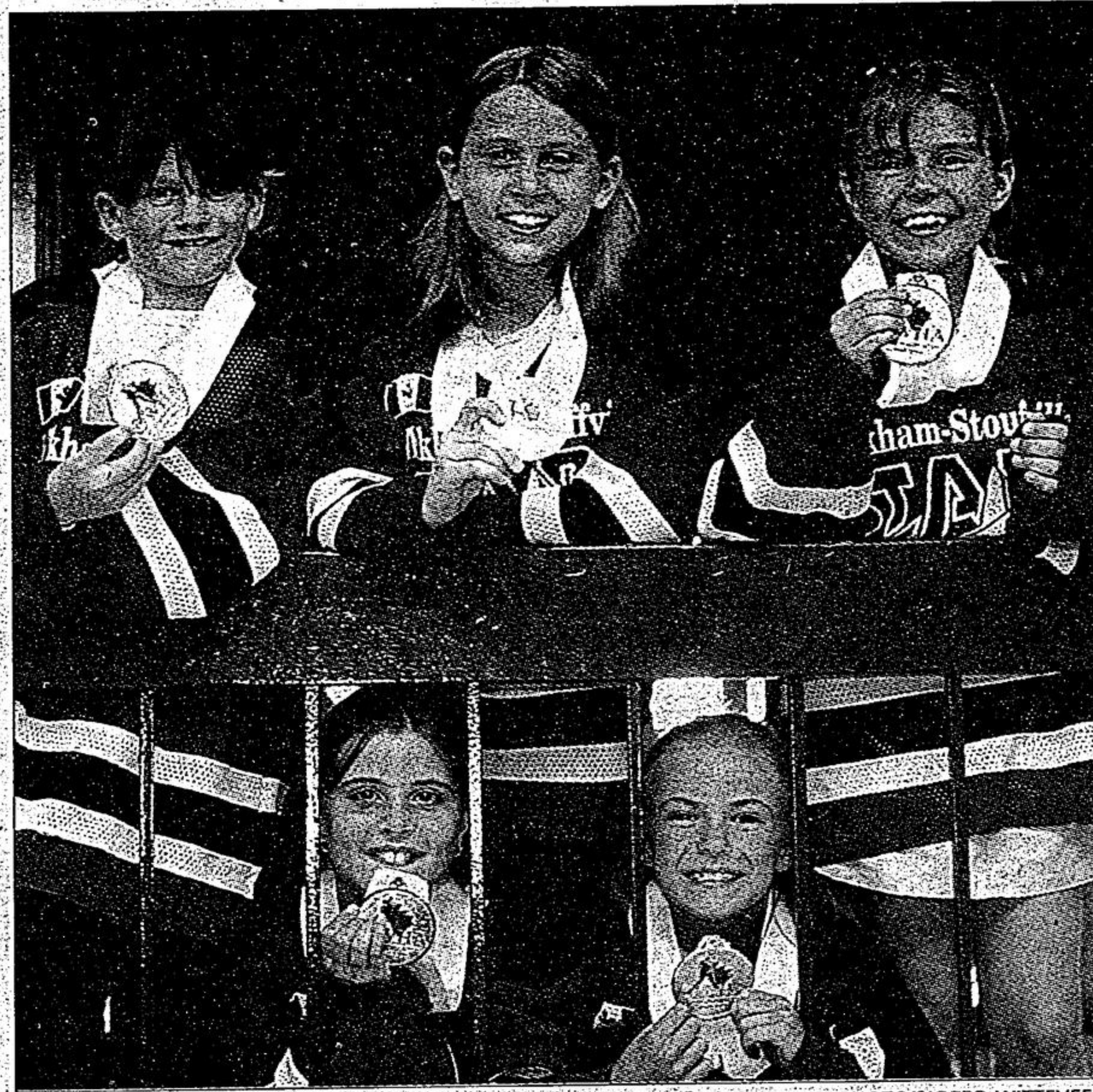
The problem with a vertical ladder, Heaton said, is that it limits entrance to certain species of fish that can jump such as salmon or trout.

A denil model is comprised of a series of rectangular concrete pipes that have baffles and creates turbulence. It also reduces the velocity of water, which in turn allows all species to go through.

With close to 55 different species of fish currently inhabiting the Rouge River, Heaton said the denil model would allow all of these species to utilize it.

Upon negotiating the fishway, the species would have access to some 50 kilometres of water on the Rouge River and its tributaries that extend near the Elgin Mills and Bayview Avenue areas in Richmond Hill. In past years when rainbow trout were transferred manually over the Milne Dam, these headwaters were utilized for their spring spawning ritual.

There are two denil fishways in use in the Greater Toronto Area on the Humber River at the Board of Trade Golf Club in Woodbridge and at Raymore Park just south of Highway 401.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

### SCORING A BIG AWARD

Several members of the Markham-Stouffville Stars novice C girls' hockey team including (top row far left): Erin Murphy, 9, Selbey Tunney, 9, and Hannah Tunney, 7 and bottom row (far left): Emily O'Shaughnessy, 8, and Danielle Porter, 9, proudly display the medals they received from the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville on Thursday during the annual Recognition of Athletes Awards Night at Latcham Hall. Recipients were those who earned a provincial title either playing for a Stouffville-based team or are from Whitchurch-Stouffville. For the complete list of recipients, see Sportsboard on page 26.

## Timely hits and solid defence propel Stouffville to seventh win

Chris Burkholder and Scott Eyre smacked two-out, fourth-inning back-to-back homers to propel the Stouffville Menos to a 2-0 win over Oshawa Mickey Finns in Oshawa City and District Softball League action Wednesday at Durham Fields.

The Menos also received some timely defensive efforts in the second and third innings as Mickey Finns loaded the bases with none out in each of those frames only to come up empty handed.

Terry Reesor limited Mickey Finns to just four hits while striking out three to earn the win.

Now 7-2 on the season, the Menos are scheduled to play two road games next week at Claremont on Wednesday and in Bradford on Thursday.

### Raiders derail Express

Scott Jamieson scored four touchdowns and added a two-point convert to ignite the Markham Raiders collegiates to a 35-0 win over the Beeton Express in Central Ontario Minor Football League action last Sunday.

Trevor Belrose added a touchdown and Colin Maclean booted three converts for the Raiders, now 2-0.

The Raiders, now 2-0, play tomorrow at Ajax-Pickering at 3 p.m.

### Markham soccer men prevail

The Markham Soccer Club

### SPORTS DIGEST

men's team ran their Ontario Soccer League unbeaten streak to three games on Wednesday with a 3-1 victory over visiting Bramalea Celtic.

Czeslaw Zajac, Al Fogetti and Dariusz Ostaszewski, on a penalty kick, each scored for Markham, who led 1-0 at the half.

Now 2-0-1 on the season, the Markham men were scheduled to play a road game yesterday against CNS club Livno in Oakville and tomorrow against CSC Velebit Karlovac.

### Macri to race in Portland

Jonathan Macri hopes to make some amends this weekend when he visits Portland International Raceway in Portland, Oregon for the fifth leg of the CART Toyota Atlantic's 12-race schedule with the running of the Atlantic Freightliner/G.I. Joe's 200 presented by Texaco.

After failing to finish in last week's race at Laguna Seca in Monterey, California when his P-1 Racing/NTN Bearings Miller Genuine Draft Swift 014a vehicle made contact with a wall, the 20-year-old Gormley resident is optimistic he can make a trip to the victory podium. Earlier in the year, Macri did a test run on the 1.969-mile road course in Portland and found it to his liking.

"Testing went well at Portland. We managed to find a good base-

line set-up for the car, and I found a good comfort zone there, so we should be in good shape for the race," said Macri, who is in 10th place in the overall series.

Macri had his first podium finish of the season on June 2 when he finished third in the Miller Lite 225 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Today's feature race will start at 6:30 p.m.



JONATHAN MACRI

Hopes to improve on outing at Laguna Seca.

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