

Slams birdie

STOUFFVILLE - A 'birdie' in golf is not uncommon. But in softball, it's an impossibility - or at least it was. The oddity occurred during a game at the Stouffville Missionary Church Sunday School picnic. Gordon Tarr, O'Brien Avenue, socked a tremendous sky-high drive to deep centrefield. Pow! The ball collided with an errant swallow, killing it instantly in flight.

Theft loss \$3,000

CLAREMONT - An alleged 'policy mix-up' has left uninsured the largest part of a \$3,000 theft on the property of Gord's Marine, Claremont. The break-in occurred June 23. Items stolen included, five new outboard motors, one new and one used chainsaw, five guns and the office wall safe. Gord Taylor, the business owner said the outboards were not insured. "We thought they were covered," he explained, "but there was some mix-up in the policy." None of the stolen goods have so far been recovered.

To sell small schools

STOUFFVILLE - The York County Board of Education has received a report concerning schools declared surplus to present educational needs. While some buildings will be retained for storage and maintenance purposes, others will be sold. The schools to be sold in this area are Ringwood, Vandorf, Bloomington, Pine Orchard, Shrubmount, Lemonville, Melville and Hagerman. While first choice goes to the owners of lands adjoining the sites, the Board will also consult the municipalities concerned to determine their preference in the method of sale. This can be by sealed tender or public auction. The Board however, is not bound by the municipalities' requests. The method and dates of sales will be announced later.

Seven hurt in 3-car crash

RINGWOOD - Seven persons were injured and damage estimated at \$2,900 in a 3-car collision at Ringwood, June 24. One of the vehicles was driven by William Turner, 37, R.R. 2, Stouffville. Two passengers, Paul Edward Turner, age 7 and Cheryl Ann Turner, age 15, sustained minor injuries. A second auto was driven by Larry Allan Lyford, 22, Main Street, Markham. The third motorist was Arthur Ferguson, 43, of Newmarket. He suffered chest injuries along with passengers Anne Ferguson, 44; Deborah Ferguson, 14; Pamela Ferguson, 7 and Carla Easton, also 7. Deborah Ferguson sustained a broken pelvis and head lacerations. The others were less seriously hurt.

Scrap dam

WHITCHURCH - The proposed Pleasantville dam and reservoir on Bogartown Creek in the former Twp. of Whitchurch, has been scrapped. Officials of the South Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority have ruled the project as 'not practical'. Originally it was hoped that the system would provide an area of recreational space and downstream flood control. Affected land owners may accept this as official notification that the project will not proceed, the release concluded.

Rail commuter now a reality



Monday, June 28, marked the official start of the Stouffville to Toronto C.N. rail commuter with a civic ceremony at the station on its return. The red ribbon is held by Mayor Ken Laushway (left) and councillor Gordon Ratcliff.



Mayor Laushway (left) introduces former Stouffville station agent, Magnus Mowat.



This sign was erected by York-Centre M.P.P., Don Deacon, an ardent commuter booster.



Another commuter promoter, John Medcof, Mt. Albert (left) presents gold spike to Mayor Laushway.



Four year old Cathy Medcof christens the commuter with a bottle of gingerale. Her uncle, John Medcof assists.

Nine Ontario Scholars

STOUFFVILLE - Nine Grade 13 graduates of Stouffville Dist. Secondary School, have been awarded Ontario Scholarships. The names of the successful students are announced this week by vice-principal R. L. Mercer. They are Brian Baker, R.R. 2, Stouffville; Gerard Egberts, Mill St., Stouffville; Allan Fuller, 10th Line South, Stouffville; Charles Lynde, Main St. W., Stouffville; Jill McWhinnie, Westlawn Cres., Stouffville; Wayne Morris, O'Brien Ave. Stouffville; Bridget Ramsey, R.R. 2, Markham; Judith Reesor, R.R. 1, Unionville and Sally Schell, Sunset Blvd., Stouffville. Each received a final average of 80 percent or over. The

scholarship amount is \$150. The top mark was registered by Charles Lynde with a 96 in Mathematics. Other individual award winners from Grade 9 through 13 will be published next week. A highlight of the event came with the introduction of Magnus Mowat, a long-time Stouffville agent when local passenger traffic was at its peak and steam was 'king'. In response to applause, he joked "perhaps I should pass my hat". There were also a couple of more worrisome moments. Like Mayor Tony Roman and four members of Markham Town Council. They rode up on the commuter only to be left stranded, when it departed with little warning. And Whitchurch - Stouffville councillor Gordon Ratcliff who leaped across the tracks' only

Receives royal welcome

STOUFFVILLE - Children cheered. Adults applauded. And those in between, just stood and stared. It was a magnificent sight - the arrival 'home' of the C.N.'s first Stouffville to Toronto round-trip rail commuter. And Stouffville was ready. The station platform was crowded for the occasion as the 3-car diesel unit, like a blunted silver bullet, swept in from the south across Main Street. The Claremont Citizens' Band launched into a rousing rendition of 'Show Boy'. And boy, what a show it was. The mood was one of co-operation and celebration. The speeches were short and the conversations friendly. Mayor Ken Laushway, the reception organizer, was presented with two historical novels on railroading by the C.N.'s Jack Menary and a gold-plated spike from Commuter booster, John Medcof. York North M.P., Bill Hodgson termed the extended service as 'only scratching the service'. York-Centre's Don Deacon described the occasion as 'a red letter day'. A highlight of the event came with the introduction of Magnus Mowat, a long-time Stouffville agent when local passenger traffic was at its peak and steam was 'king'. In response to applause, he joked "perhaps I should pass my hat". There were also a couple of more worrisome moments. Like Mayor Tony Roman and four members of Markham Town Council. They rode up on the commuter only to be left stranded, when it departed with little warning. And Whitchurch - Stouffville councillor Gordon Ratcliff who leaped across the tracks' only

Lewis wins NDP nod

YORK NORTH - The York North N.D.P. supporters have pinned their hopes on Robert S. Bob Lewis to win this riding in the next provincial election. The seat is currently held by the Conservative's Bill Hodgson, of Kettleby. Mr. Lewis, a former Stouffville and Whitchurch councillor, defeated Newmarket's Roy Dowling, in a secret ballot count, Sunday. It was strictly a two-way contest. He predicts an Ontario vote this fall.

'Century City' plan rejected by 4 to 1 vote

Reeve's stand jeered

GOODWOOD - 'Century City' is dead - not buried, but dead. Uxbridge Twp. Council passed sentence, Monday, reversing a decision made earlier. The vote was 4 to 1 with only reeve Bob Nesbitt supporting the project. The reeve's stand was greeted by boos and catcalls from a partisan audience that packed the Goodwood Hall. "When's the next election?" someone shouted. The council's action followed several briefs presented by members of 'Why a City? Citizens' Committee, that arrived unexpectedly and asked to be heard. The resolution read - 'This council is opposed to the Century City project for this Township'. One speaker summarized the difficulties that had beset the venture and pointed to the dangers of too rapid urbanization. "It would be pure self-deception to suggest that urban sprawl can be opposed without a plan," said Peter Harris, "pretty soon 'a place to stand' is all we'll have left." Other members echoed his concern. During discussion on the resolution submitted by councillor Clark Muirhead, reeve Nesbitt said he had not changed his mind. "This Council voted to support Century City a year ago, and I stand by that," he said, "I've been aware of certain difficulties over the proposal, and I would hope the Ontario Government can plug some of the loopholes in the Planning Act." His statement was greeted by angry boos. Deputy Reeve Don Jackson, pointed out that he himself might well profit from Century City 'to the tune of fifty or a hundred thousand dollars'. He nevertheless supported the resolution. Councillors Darcy Higgins and Clark Muirhead also condemned the plan and indicated they would vote for the resolution. The crowd interrupted again when Councillor Frank Hendy said he was neither 'for nor against'. "This Council has not dealt with this matter in the last 30 meetings," he said, "and I don't care if we never do." There were angry mutterings throughout the hall. One man turned to his wife and said, "we know who not to support in the next election." During the vote however, councillor Hendy supported the resolution. A second resolution was introduced at the suggestion of Reeve Nesbitt. This called for the Ontario government to amend existing legislation so that mortgage-holders in the Century City area could recover their former properties without delay. It passed unanimously. Copies of both will be forwarded to Ministers Darcy McKeough, Dalton Bales and members Matthew Dymond and William Newman. Dr. C.M. Godfrey, Committee chairman, thanked council for its support and commended them on their decision. "This has been truly a democratic action," he said. Afterwards Dr. Godfrey explained that the committee was not simply against Century City, but actively supported the Toronto-Centered Region Plan.

\$3 million gravel plant

STOUFFVILLE - A new \$3,000,000 crushing and washing plant, one of the largest in Canada, was officially opened Monday, by Consolidated Sand and Gravel Limited, on a 1,270 acre site in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and Uxbridge Twp. The system is rated at 800 tons per hour with an anticipated increase to 1,000 or more. Ceremonies highlighted the firm's policy of conservation and restoration. A small lake, that supplies water that is recycled through the plant, was stocked with rainbow trout. Property Manager, Lyman Chapman said that under proper management, the land could eventually become a rolling golf course or a residential subdivision.

Costly 3-alarm fire damages tree farm

WHITCHURCH - A 3-alarm fire, that could cost the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville as much in brigade time as the total amount of property loss, swept across an estimated 25 acres before being brought under control. The blaze, believed started by children, was confined to the Christmas tree farm operated by Wm. J. Devins, Aurora and Keith W. Horton, R.R. 4, Stouffville. At the height of the outbreak however, it was feared the fire might consume the entire 1/4 mile block. The site location was conc. 5, Whitchurch, north of the Vandorf Road. Volunteers from Stouffville, Aurora and Mt. Albert in addition to dozens of nearby neighbors plus the Dept. of Lands and Forests were able to 'ring' the area, then extinguish the flames with water. It was 15 year old Steven MacFarlane who spotted the fire first. A companion, Bradley May turned in the alarm. Although some small trees were lost, the fire was confined mainly to a 'wind break' section of lower sales value. Stouffville volunteers were at the scene over five hours. The following day, one unit was recalled when a new outbreak threatened.

Fire (men)?

VANDORF - No male institution is sacred any more. Feminist integration is even threatening the ranks of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire Department. The break-through occurred June 24, at a blaze on conc. 5, near the Vandorf Road. A prominent front-line volunteer was Ward 1 councillor, Betty van Nostrand, beating out the flames with all the gusto of a veteran. "I always did think a pair of pink rubber boots would look good in our hall," said one brigade member.