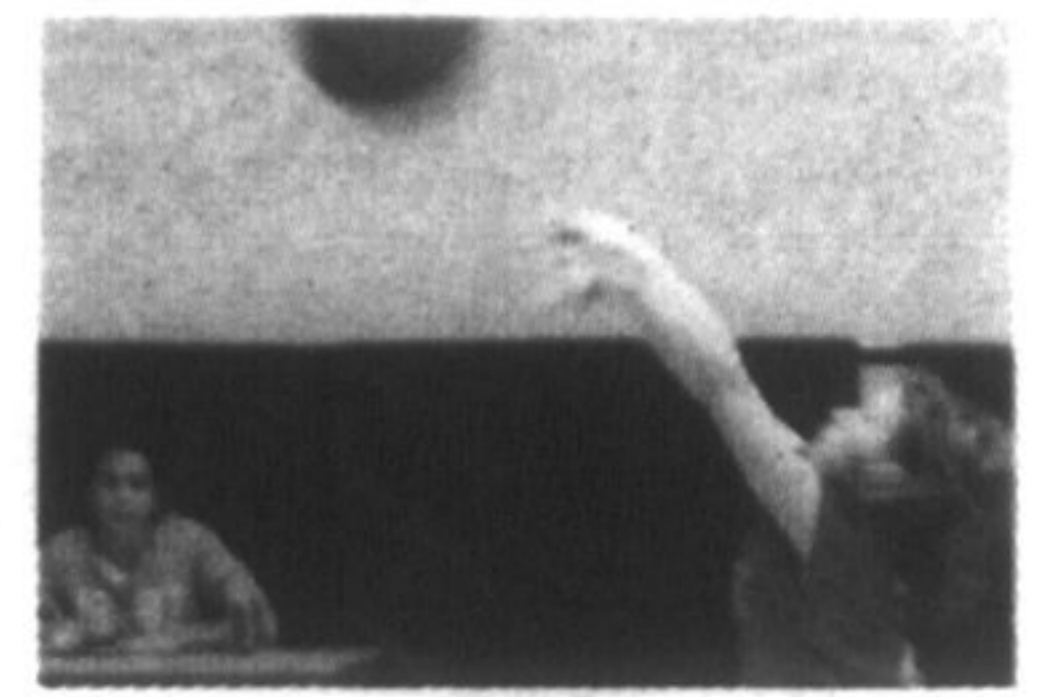


Stouffville Sun-Tribune

THURSDAY, FEB. 7, 2008 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 24 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST



18 Hottest of town's hot shots advance in K of C competition

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PARTY ON ICE



Janet Davies (from left), Tom Stephenson, Rick Wigmore, Mike Feld, Phil Bannon, Chris Cranston and Mike Wigmore of the band In Perfect Cursive and Dan Wigmore are ready for Saturday's Whitchurch-Stouffville Carnival at Musselman's Lake. Activities, including children's games, skating, outdoor music, hay rides and ATV rides, go from 1 to 4 p.m.

STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

GO TRANSIT WANTS TO DEMOLISH ONE OF FIVE REMAINING STRUCTURES IN ONTARIO

Fight on to preserve Stouffville grain elevator

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
 Staff Writer

The old grain elevator that has been a landmark in downtown Stouffville since 1922 is once again being threatened with demolition.

GO Transit, which now owns the building, has applied to the town for a demolition permit. However, a decision on the permit hasn't been made by Whitchurch-Stouffville council.

Having the old grain elevator

destroyed is the last thing Gleyne Beatty, the chairperson of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Heritage Advisory Committee, wants.

He came to Whitchurch-Stouffville council Tuesday evening, with former committee chairperson Wayne Kelly, to plead its case.

GO Transit requesting a demolition permit goes against its own policy and directives, Mr. Kelly told councillors.

The policy states significant

heritage buildings GO Transit owns shall be conserved, he said.

He quoted from a heritage impact assessment done for GO in 2005 by Archaeological Services Inc. that recommended "that the building be preserved (where it is)."

"We are asking council to deny GO Transit's request for a demolition permit," Mr. Kelly said. "We want to designate the building as historical."

Options are for GO Transit to pre-

serve it at its current location and make renovations where needed. It could be sold privately to be turned into a restaurant, for instance. Or it could be moved into Memorial Park, to be the park's interpretive centre, or to another location.

Grain elevator should be considered from the standpoint of tourism, Councillor Susanne Hilton said. It could become a tourist draw, along with Bruce's Mill.

Councillor Rob Hargrave was

concerned the building should not be neglected and allowed to decay if it remains.

The Stouffville grain elevator is one of only five left in Ontario, Mr. Beatty said in an interview with The Sun-Tribune. "It is an important building from that standpoint."

The town of Stouffville exists, Mr. Beatty said, because the railway came through it, it was an agricultural area

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