

Sports centre dead without long-term town agreement

BY JOHN KEENAGHAN
The \$3.1 million Mississauga Sports Centre will not be built without a long term agreement for the ice rentals from the town, developer Rex Faithful revealed this week.

Faithful said the consortium he heads, Caval Associates, could be left

hanging if they proceed without a lease and the town continues to build its own rinks.

The lease must be sufficient to cover the principal and interest the consortium would be required to pay on loans to build the three-ice-surface complex.

Faithful acknowledged

that the town has dismissed any possibility of financial guarantees on debenture debts for the complex.

The centre's prime time rates would be within 50 cents of what the town now pays, he claimed.

He said the centres rate would be \$45 an hour com-

pared to the present town rate of \$32. But he noted that a town subsidy hikes the rate to \$44.50.

"That is the actual cost to the town and remember that they do not pay taxes plus they have a mortgage to pay off."

Faithful pointed out that

the complex's prime time would be between 5 p.m. and 11 p.m. while the town ran prime time between 5 a.m. and 12 p.m.

He said his other rates would drop to \$31.50 and \$26 over the remainder of the day.

He said the only reason for

the lease was to ensure that the town did not build more arenas.

Faithful noted that the town has been losing in excess of \$100,000 a year on most of their own facilities.

Town manager Dean Henderson, who has been meeting with the developers,

said he has received two proposals. One, the long term lease on ice rental, was not acceptable, he said.

Another proposal is now being considered, Henderson added.

Faithful said he "doesn't really care" about the problem facing a prospec-

tive Junior A hockey franchise here.

The Times revealed last week that former Toronto Marlboro general manager Tom Smythe would attempt to bring a team to Mississauga.

Maple Leaf Gardens president Harold Ballard has

vowed to block the Smythe move.

"It's not our problem said Faithful. "All I know is that we have an agreement for a certain amount of money over a period of years."

He said negotiations would continue this week to reach an agreement with the town.

John Graham remanded again

John Graham of Port Credit has been remanded for sentencing for the third time in order to allow further psychiatric examination at the Clarke Institute in Toronto.

Graham has pleaded guilty to charges of kidnapping a 17-year-old Oakville girl and indecently assaulting a 13-year-old Burlington girl.

The recommendation for further examination came from Dr. Allan Davidson of Toronto, who said that despite earlier reports by Brampton psychiatrist Z.R. Mech, he felt Graham could be helped by psychotherapy.

Dr. Mech found that Graham was a psychopathic personality who acted impulsively and could not be helped by treatment. His report said the accused might even have been suffering from an organic brain disease that affected his memory.

Dr. Davidson testified that the view that Graham could not be treated is "outdated. This is a pessimistic view not in keeping with modern knowledge in this field," he said.

Davidson said he believes a learning disability contributed substantially to Graham's delinquent behaviour.

The Toronto doctor, who said he was doing extensive work in the learning disabilities area, was granted a request to examine Graham at Clarke Institute.

The accused will appear for sentencing before county court judge B. Barry Shapiro Oct. 10.

National awards for The Times

MONTREAL — The Mississauga Times has received two major awards in the 1972 Canadian Community Newspaper Association competitions. The awards were presented Saturday evening during the CCNA's annual convention here.

The Times finished third in the general excellence category for weeklies with a circulation of more than 6,000. The Brampton-Bramalea Guardian was first in the judging with 70 points of a possible 100. The Mississauga News was second with 68.5 points followed by the Times with 68. Thirty-one papers entered the competition.

The Times also tied for second place with the Brampton Guardian in the best front page category.

Editions printed during the 1971 calendar year were eligible for the competitions.

Hovercraft plan falls through

A proposition that would have brought a 74-seat hovercraft to the Canadian National Exhibition and could have paved the way for a hover commuter service has fallen through because of a "deficiency" in the Denny D-2 craft.

Ray McCulloch, who was negotiating to bring the craft to Canada said he had been misinformed about the \$275,000 machine.

McCulloch said he hopes to interest a British firm in bringing three similar craft here to start the commuter service.

He felt a service could begin as early as next spring.

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Sheridan College is planning a modernistic dome for its Mississauga campus. Page 3.



Surplus

The Sokoloff brothers are specialists at turning surplus materials into useful items. Page 4.

Treasure keys

A small brown building on Wolfedale Road contains the keys to treasure hunts around the world. Page 7.

Talent over size

The Mississauga Raiders hope talent will make up for size in their upcoming football league schedule. See Mike Toth page B1.

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FIFTEEN CENTS



At last, a sunny August weekend! So what did the organizers of the Mississauga Summer Festival at Huron Park do? They brought in a load of snow for a snowman-making contest, that's what! Above, Kevin Bradish, 9, takes an icy ride with the help of Pat Marple. Looking on are Mark Hodson, 4, (foreground) Marilyn Christie, and Valerie McKenzie and her daughter Julie, 4. (Times photo by Ray Saitz).

French class approved but officials afraid it will be second rate

BY SID RODAWAY

French language classes will be offered by the Peel-Dufferin Separate School Board in September, 1973 following a summer-long campaign by local French-speaking parents. But board executives fear the quality of the education program will be second rate.

"I'm afraid we can't guarantee the same quality in French language education as we offer in English," Brian Fleming, the separate school board's assistant superintendent and the man who will design the program, said in an interview.

The board had resisted attempts by the French club "A la Claire Foundation" to institute the program this year but voted to start it in 1973.

Without prior notice seven representatives of the club appeared at the general meeting of the board to demand immediate implementation of classes but

the board agreed to bend the rules and consider the issue the same night.

Spokeswoman, Irene Parashchuk claimed, "all French speaking supporters of this board have an inalienable right to their French language and culture. Moreover our Canadian constitution upholds these principles."

Mrs. Parashchuk pointed out that Ontario school law revised in 1968 guarantees French speaking minorities the right to French language instruction.

The move towards French instruction had met no resistance from board staff or trustees — it was simply the impracticality of starting a complicated program in such a short time. The club did not approach the Dufferin-Peel Separate School Board until late June.

"Of course I would like to see a French School," said board superintendent Joe Hugel. He explained that to

start the program on such short notice with most of his technical staff on vacation is impossible.

"It's not just one single problem because if it was we could overcome it. It's the lack of a curriculum, books, trained teachers and portable classroom space.

"Come on, that's far fetched if they think we can do it in a few weeks," Hugel added.

But the A la Claire Foundation wasn't satisfied with the explanation. Mrs. Parashchuk said the legal rights of French speaking supporters "cannot be disregarded or refused or withheld because of administrative regulations." There are 75 French children registered in the system for Kindergarten to Grade 4.

"The parents who are supporters of this board cannot be expected to be aware of all the red tape concerning the establishment of French language

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Changes coming: Saddington

PORT CREDIT — Draft proposals for the revision of the town's often-criticized, high-rise zoning by-laws will be ready for debate within the next few months Mayor Cy Saddington revealed this week.

The mayor, in an answering letter to town activist Hubert Wolf's questions on future development and methods for the revision of the town plan, said the zoning by-laws have been under reconsideration for the last year by town planner John Montague.

Acting Mayor Frank Leavers, in a call for greater public involvement, said Monday that the Port Credit

Residents' Association should review the draft proposals and make their own suggestions known at future public meetings.

Last week he promised to institute an official town plan review if the town was allowed to continue as an independent unit within regional government.

Saddington's letter explained that continued high rise apartment development could be controlled by the increased suite levies that developers must pay. The levy is now set at \$850 per apartment suite but some are predicting it will be hiked to a \$1,000 per suite before a developer can turn the sod.

In response to Wolf's call for an austerity program to lower Port Credit's high tax rate, Saddington claimed that "the services our residents receive is far superior to those of surrounding municipalities."

He explained that there was a concerted effort underway to reduce expenses and the results will be reflected in next year's tax rate.

Saddington wrote that he agreed with many of Wolf's suggestions for municipal beautification but that at the present time his council is not prepared to expend the funds.

ONE RESIDENT SPEAKS OUT

Mississauga wildlife: fugitives of human progress

Like a swollen river overflowing its banks, Mississauga's construction boom is quickly ravaging the natural habitat of wildlife with the town's boundaries. Kirwin Avenue resident Gertrude Dowds, a freelance writer, examines this phenomenon below.

BY GERTRUDE DOWDS

When our first settlers displaced the Indians, at least they provided reservations. But we, the modern homesteaders to Mississauga, can't even make that poor provision for the wildlife which we are rapidly displacing.

The bulldozers bellow across the town, tossing trees around and burying swampy stands of bullbushes and blackberry clumps under a desert of putty-coloured clay, from which arise the split levels and apartment towers for newcomers like myself.

I revel in my new apartment but when I take my daily hike across hydro allowances and the few remaining woodlots and abandoned orchards, I run into the fugitives from our human progress.

They can't read the development signs, nor understand the significance of those ominous pegs splashed with the town's orange paint, so they flutter around and probe the undergrowth, in bappy ignorance that this small haven will also

SECLUSION

It is apparent to me that Mississauga has been rich in wildlife. A walk through the quiet green parkland which lies between Shepard Avenue and Camilla Road gives proof of that. The gardens of Shepard Avenue, sloping down to the creek, are for the most part well wooded and secluded.

There I have seen surely the most obese groundhogs on the continent. I have also raised a ruffed grouse in the old orchard south of the park, but as building expands these will depart for they have never taken to suburban life.

Not so the red winged blackbirds, who detest passers-by and scold from every bush. These birds seem to be increasing in spite of vanishing swampland and in the last few years have moved right in among the homeowners, confident and prosperous, provided there is even a little water nearby.

On the east side of the park there is always a pheasant, foraging in the vegetable plots of Camilla Road. The pheasants will eventually go but they're more tenacious than grouse and not overly scared of people. They'll hang around for a while if there's food to be had.

I've been surprised to find quite a few cowbirds on the grassland of this park for these are real country birds of the cow pastures and the dusty back roads. They're not very noble characters, the cowbirds, for they deposit their eggs in the nests of smaller birds but I like their

unexpected brown heads attached to black bodies and am glad that a few are still sticking around.

Further east, at the end of King Street, there is a very ancient orchard, long abandoned but as yet undeveloped. The weed seeds are now maturing and I've come across several families of goldfinches having a fine feast there. These are birds to lift the spirit, as they swing on top of a thistle, in their clean cut black and yellow outfits. But these too will leave us as their weedy feeding grounds disappear.

CONFIDERS
But there is one corner of this orchard which is crammed with birds, and birds that can be relied upon to return each year to Mississauga. In the south east corner a narrow path has been beaten to Cliff Road and this path is bordered on one side by a row of conifers (dividing it from the grounds of a beautiful old house).

The other side of the path is a dim, tree-shaded tangle of blackberry bushes and the moment I set foot on this terrain there is a clamour of protest.

The bluejays start it and a bunch of chickadees join in. While the bluejays are nesting they flit around, silent as ghosts. But once the family is on the wing, they are the noisiest birds in creation.

At least three families have been raised in those conifers and they sure make a stranger feel unwelcome. Then a robin leaps to a branch to warn his clan. Out of the blackberry bushes bursts a throng of robins, mature robins and speckled young,

flying before me down the path with wild cluckings, while the jays follow me from tree to tree, scolding all the way.

This district south of Highway 5 must have been covered with apple orchards a few years ago. The nice thing is that a lot of the trees have been preserved and many of the newer houses have beautiful, mature apple trees on their front and back lawns.

This is the area where the Baltimore orioles flourish and it proves that if care is taken to preserve some of the original planting, the wild population will stick around to share the amenities with us.

As I write, high on a balcony on Kirwin Avenue, a pair of red-shouldered hawks are wheeling above the spot where, till this morning, their home was. I'm not madly devoted to this couple for while they were nesting they scared me badly by diving at me when I dared to walk below. But when the heavy equipment arrived at 9 o'clock I was sad to watch their anxiety and thought that maybe last year such another pair may have nested right in the high spot where I and my garden chair are deposited now.

TOWN HOUSES

I called the town planning department and a patient gentleman kindly answered my questions. When I asked why the trees were being cleared south of the tracks he told me that townhouses were to be built. So that's goodbye to the cottonwoods and the tame chipmunk.

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Kirwin Avenue resident Gertrude Dowds.