



## A visit by Big Bird

Big Bird of Sesame Street fame was on hand to amuse the children when Erindale United Church held its Centennial Summer Celebration on Saturday. Many of the participants wore period costumes and events included a pie-and-bread baking contest, pony rides, horseshoe-

throwing competition, singing, dancing and a barbecue. Pastor Charles Miller played Big Bird and the children are (from left) Robin Buriak, Jill Buriak and Brenda Kelly.

Times photo by GORM LARSEN

## Nude rapist strikes again

By JAMES BAILEY

A rapist, wearing only a balaclava mask, struck again in the Sheridan Mall area Thursday night, sexually assaulting a woman in the underground parking lot of a Roche Court apartment building as police were responding to a report of an indecent exposure in a nearby building.

Police said two sisters in their early 20s were walking toward the door of the underground parking lot at 2111 Roche Court after

midnight when they were confronted by a nude man wearing a balaclava. He was armed with a handgun. The two women fled through a nearby door and called police.

Ten minutes later, a 28-year-old woman called police, reporting she had just been sexually assaulted by the man in the underground parking lot at 2200 Roche Court. After the attack, the man allowed her to leave through the back door of the parking lot. Police

blocked off the area, but the man slipped through their dragnet.

On May 16, a woman was confronted by a nude man wearing a balaclava and armed with a handgun in the underground parking lot of an apartment building at 2360 Bonner Road. As she ran toward the door, her attacker grabbed her by the head, but he was scared off by a noise.

Three days earlier, a woman was attacked by a man wearing a blue T-shirt

in the underground parking lot of a Roche Court apartment building.

Metropolitan Toronto Police are investigating 17 similar attacks on women over the past few months.

Inspector Robert Mid- daugh said that a team of eight detectives are working on the case, and police patrols have been stepped up.

The suspect is described as white, in his mid-20s, about six feet tall, with a muscular build, dark hair and fair skin.

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## Where to send troubled children

# Family court decision sparks Peel appeal

By SID RODAWAY

Peel Region has launched an appeal against a family court legal-loophole decision last week that has once again seemingly given the court the right to send troubled children

directly to group homes at local expense without dealing with Peel Children's Aid Society.

Judge Warren Durham ordered that a 15-year-old girl be placed in the custody of a Viking Homes employee, who then in turn placed the child in Viking's Kingston home.

Immediately following the Thursday decision, Peel's social services department started work on the appeal procedure.

Only recently did the Ontario Supreme Court rule that provincial judges like Durham did not have the right to send children directly to group homes and then order the local municipality to pay the cost.

Until that ruling, Durham had made extensive use of the federal Juvenile Delinquent Act (JDA) to do just that, a situation that cost Peel taxpayers almost a \$1 million last year. They paid \$37 a day for the upkeep of each child in a group home.

By JOHN STEWART

Anthony Adamson has a suggestion as to how his property, expropriated by the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, could best be used by the public.

After years of watching most of the people who visit his former property "come there to drink beer," Professor Adamson has concluded that "the drinking of beer is wanted in parks."

He has therefore suggested that the beautiful estate on Lake Ontario just east of Port Credit be used as parkland, including a beer garden. "Restaurants in parks are very successful in High Park and all throughout Europe," Adamson said.

Monday at a meeting of the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee.

The subject of the former Toronto Township reeve's land was brought up by Ward 2 Councillor Mary Helen Spence who said she was interested in the Order of Canada winner's opinions.

Earlier, Adamson, former head of the University of Toronto's architectural school, proposed to Erindale College that the land be used as a conference centre. The request was turned down by Erindale. Mrs. Spence felt the use would have been excellent for the land.

The CVCA, which expropriated the land for the appraised value of \$600,000, is doing a feasibility study to determine possible uses.

Adamson, meantime, has appealed the value

which he received for his land to the Ontario Land Compensation Board.

Adamson has been living in the house on a lease basis since the expropriation but is moving out in

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coming down to the real problem."

The conflict between Judge Durham and the Peel CAS has never been fully explained. According to Peel's social services

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## Motor-bike crackdown set

The city will crack-down on illegal use of its parks by mini-bikes and trail bikes, the recreation and parks committee declared Monday.

After hearing explanations from Peel Regional Police Staff Inspector William Snarr about problems policing parks, the committee seemed even more determined than ever to try to curb the problem.

Snarr explained that the police department cannot consider patrol of parks a

high priority in view of other duties which they must perform. But he noted that where there are problems, a yellow patrol car is sent into parks. This is often followed up by a detachment of the "old clothes" squad, who are dressed as ordinary citizens and sometimes provide much more effective enforcement.

Members of the committee were impressed by statistics Snarr produced to show the extent of arrests made and warnings

issued in parks. Drinking in parks is a common practice, especially for juveniles.

Despite Snarr's assurances, some committee members were critical of the way police often fail to pursue offenders on bikes.

William Schofield of Malton said he had seen officers sit in their cars while bikes were being ridden illegally in Wildwood Park.

Councillor Fred Hooper added that an officer call-

ed to Burnbrae Crescent had refused to chase offenders on public property within his view.

Snarr said the officers should have pursued the youths, unless they had more urgent matters to attend to immediately.

In a report, the city's director of building standards, Keith Cowan, proposed three options to improve enforcement of this "complex" problem. One option calls for a two-man team of uniformed parks personnel to be sworn in as peace officers.

The second option is for a two-man team of uniformed bylaw enforcement officers to be sworn in and work closely with regional police. The third calls for the police to establish a special parks detail of at least two officers to work exclusively on parks problems.

The city's recreation department, the city's building division and regional police are to study the three proposals and bring reports back to the next meeting on July 11.

## Phase out grant system: Butt

After reviewing 10 requests for grants Monday night and turning down all but one, recreation and parks committee members were told grants should be completely phased out.

Ward 7 Councillor Terry Butt made the statement after the committee refused nine requests for funds from the Streetsville Cadet Centre, Mississauga Air Cadets, the Boy Scouts, the Volunteer Centre for Peel, Peel Family Services, Muscular Dystrophy Association, Canadian Cancer Society, Lakeview Anglers and Hunters and the Credit Valley Philatelic Society.

A request by the Block Parent Committee was not approved, but was

deferred by the group for a further report.

After reviewing virtually every application to come before it this year, the committee has allocated only \$27,500 of the \$62,500 budgeted.

The cutbacks have hit sports, social service, cultural and other service groups. The committee has made its intent to have such groups become self-sufficient quite clear.

Butt urged the city "to take a long, hard look at phasing out grants completely."

"I cannot support taxpayers' money being used to subsidize many groups," he added. "I think we should make known our intent to end

grants. That is what we did in Port Credit and it worked fine. We cut out grants completely and to my knowledge all of the groups who were operating then are still operating today, without grants."

Councillor Frank Bean took objection to Butt's remarks, terming them "a nice motherhood statement I can't support."

"There are certain cultural groups who will never be self-sufficient," argued Bean. "I believe we have a certain cultural responsibility which we must recognize. Some groups can never charge enough admission to be self-sustaining. We as a city owe our constituents some co-operation to make sure these things are still available for the city rather than losing them because of lack of support."

Councillor Frank Leavers concurred with Butt. He wants the recreation department to include in its next public questionnaire an item asking people if people want their tax money spent on grants. "We've assumed that some cultural endeavors are supported, but the tax-

payers have never really had a chance to say," Leavers felt.

The Port Credit councillor felt "seeding" grants, to help organizations get started might be the only legitimate use of public funds.

The recreation and parks commissioner, Ed Halliday, noted that his department will be preparing a policy on grants which will be brought back to the committee to aid them in their deliberations next year.

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Judge Durham could have elected to award custody of the children to Peel Children's Aid Society (CAS). If they, in turn, had sent the children to group homes the provincial government would have borne 80 per cent of the daily upkeep cost.

The situation threatened to create a major financial crisis for Peel, but after two years of pressure the provincial government gave in and this spring announced a short-term subsidy of 50 per cent for all Juvenile Delinquent Act court orders.

The JDA also provides that a judge can award the child into the custody of a foster home or a probation officer. Using this

developed. This is generally on the former sanitary landfill site, just north of Dundas Street, where a baseball field and lacrosse box now stand. They will be relocated.

The primary entrance will be from Dundas, where a road will wind around the fringe of the park and four parking lots for 450 cars will be available.

The natural area to the north is to remain virtually untouched, although hiking trails will be added.

Dr. Paul Maycock, a botanist at Erindale, questioned the proposals to put three pedestrian crossings over the river to allow access to the cam-

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## Erindale prof, councillor clash

By JOHN STEWART  
An Erindale College professor and the recreation and parks committee chairman, Councillor Fred Hooper, got into an argument Monday night over the effect of the development proposals for the Erindale Flats Park.

The landscape architects hired by the city to prepare the master plan for the park adjacent to Erindale College on the Credit River presented their proposals. Residents from the area had been invited to hear the presentation and give their views.

The plan prepared by Johnson, Weinstein and Sustronk calls for general passive use of the 130 acres of park which will be

## Environment-study pledge called 'joke'

By JOHN STEWART  
An appearance by representatives of the Ontario Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MTC) before councillors to discuss the Highway 403 route was "academic because the decision was made back in

1962," says a councillor. Mary Helen Spence told general committee that the pledge by Barry Khojajian of the ministry that separate environmental impact studies will be done on various sections of the 12.5-mile highway

through Mississauga was "a joke." Khojajian explained that under the province's Environmental Assessment Act different aspects of the highway projects — expected to take a total of five years to complete —

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## P. Credit teen admits starting big Cobalt fire

A 16-year-old Port Credit youth has admitted starting the fire which burned down half of the town of Cobalt last month. The Times has learned.

Prov. Const. Barry Binkley of the OPP's Halleybury detachment and an official of the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office in Halleybury arrived in Mississauga by train last week to interview the youth.

The 16-year-old gave a statement to the officers in which he admitted tossing a lit cigarette butt into a pile of paint cans. He was in Cobalt working on a painting job.

The fire spread throughout the older section of the town, destroying dozens of buildings and leaving many families homeless.

A police spokesman of the OPP Halleybury detachment said no charges will be laid in connection with the fire.

Although damage in the blaze is estimated in the millions of dollars, no one was killed or injured.