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Pickering, Durham brace for strike

Anderson hopes McGuinty reconsiders controversial legislation

By Erin Hatfield and Danielle Milley Staff Writers

PICKERING — The threat of a strike by the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) looms large over Pickering and Durham.

services and day care, the reach of a CUPE strike could be far, Roger Anderson said.

"In the case of Durham it could mean pretty much all of Durham staff," said the Region's chairman. "Pretty well every employee we have."

The Region has said it does not support the illegal strike action and is urging Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty to reconsider the proposed legislation.

"It is a shame the premier is forcing CUPE to take this action; the premier should reconsider," Mr. Anderson said.

♦ Premier Dalton McGuinty needs to take time and listen. Editorial — Page 6

CUPE is threatening to take illegal strike action over Bill 206, an act to revise the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS) that proposes a number of changes to pensions and better benefits for police and fire personnel.

ernment to introduce Bill 206 for third reading in its current form would trigger a strike.

For its part, the City of Pickering is preparing for a loss of workers to a protest, not for an illegal strike.

Chief administrative officer Tom Quinn said he's been meeting with the local CUPE president to make sure there are enough staff members to run the City in the event of a protest at Queen's Park Wednesday or Thursday. CUPE repre-

♦ See Pickering, Page 4

Youths targeted in Pickering robberies

Police investigating three incidents

PICKERING — Young people were threatened and robbed in three separate incidents on Pickering streets over the weekend, police say.

A knife was pulled on victims in one of the incidents, Durham Regional Police say.

Investigators have issued an appeal for information as they probe the robberies.

• Friday evening around 5:45 p.m. three male teens were walking in the Whites Road-Sheppard Avenue area when a tan-coloured vehicle pulled up beside them and three men, one of them armed with a knife, got out and robbed them, police said. The suspects, described as black males aged 17 to 25 and wearing baggy clothes and ball caps, drove off.

• Around 10:15 p.m. Friday two 18-year-old males were robbed by two men as they walked along Kingston Road near Valley Farm Road, police said. One victim was grabbed as his wallet was stolen. The suspects, both black males, ran off.

• Around 8 p.m. Saturday two 17-year-old males in a park near Liverpool and Kingston roads were robbed by two men who said they had a gun and threatened them. The suspects, one of whom was identified as white, fled; no gun was seen by the victims, police said.

Anyone with information on the robberies is asked to call Detective Mario Lessard at 905-579-1520, ext. 2524, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-22-8477.

STUDENTS BUILDING BRIDGES



A.J. Groen / News Advertiser photo

PICKERING — It was meet the engineer day at Westcreek Public School and in this case the engineer is Spencer Doreshaw's sister Sam. As part of the Grade 3 science and technology structures unit, Sam built a bridge she named Hope Bridge.

Pickering families get a healthy boost

By Danielle Milley Staff Writer

PICKERING — The goal of offering fun family fitness programs just got a little easier for Pickering.

The City is getting \$34,949 from the Province to get families moving. The grant is part of more than \$880,000 the Communities in Action Fund is providing to different municipalities and

organizations to help build a stronger and healthier Ontario.

Olga Labaj, kinesiologist with the City, said they've begun focusing on family fitness, but this funding will help them to do it quicker and allow them to reach the people they want to target.

"We were just thrilled and excited that this is something we can roll out

well," she said.

Ms. Labaj said the City's recreation department wants to address the increase in people who are overweight in the community. Through the family fit program, officials want to structure a program for those who are at the beginning level of fitness. They recognize

♦ See City, Page 4

Family centre brings kids to the village

African Canadians and immigrants find assistance through ever-growing operation

This is the third in a series of stories in February looking at Black History Month and the issues and community leaders in Ajax and Pickering.

By Keith Gilligan Staff Writer

DURHAM — In the approximately four years It Takes a Village Family Resource Centre has been operating, it's

BLACK HISTORY MONTH
Reflecting... Celebrating... Looking Ahead...
FEBRUARY
NEWS ADVERTISER

gone from new kid on the block to being referred to by other organizations.

Since its start in 2002, ITAV has served thousands through various programs,

ranging from mentoring and tutoring students to teaching African-based drum classes. There's also been workshops on braiding hair, women's reading clubs and children's arts and crafts classes.

The name of the group comes from the African proverb that it takes a village to raise a child. Former American first lady Hillary Clinton used the same proverb for the title of a book she wrote.

Yaa Shange has been executive director since Day 1, and formed the organization "because there was a definite void in the community for programs and services for African Canadians and immigrant families in the community.

"We feel we are making an attempt. There are other organizations, when approached by families, they refer them to us.

"It's our very existence," she says of agencies and individuals being referred.

"We're raised by extended families. Maybe they don't have the resources to tap into it. They need a community to help raise children."

Programs offered by ITAV include the Durham African Heritage, a tutoring program for children in Grade 2 to 6 called The Thinkers' Club, a Homework Club for students from Grade 1 to 8, the

♦ See Black, Page 2

[Briefly]

Knock 'em down for Big Brothers and Sisters

PICKERING — Fun and fundraising go together, according to the Big Brothers and Sisters of Ajax-Pickering.

The organization holds its 2006 Ontario Power Generation Bowl for Kids Sake fundraiser March 3 to 5, and bowlers, both good and not-so-good, are invited.

"Hopefully, more people will get involved in the (Bowl for Kids Sake) and help support such a worthy cause," says Little Brother Christopher Gourley in a press release.

The money raised from the event is used to support Big Brother and Big Sister mentoring programs.

"We need to do what we can (as a community) to help these kids out," Big Brother Bob Hughes says in a press release.

There are three different ways to get involved -- by starting a team and becoming the captain, joining an existing team or joining as an individual participant.

All teams or individuals must collect donations in order to participate.

For more information, call 905-831-3777 or visit www.bowlforkids-sake.ca.

[What's on]

Caribbean dance set for Feb. 25

PICKERING — The Pickering Recreation Complex will reverberate with the sights, sounds and smells of the Caribbean on Feb. 25.

The Pickering Carib-Canadian Cultural Association holds a Caribbean Night Show and Dance, featuring an evening of music and food. The show runs from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., with the dance starting at 9:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for youths and \$5 for children under 12.

The complex is at 1867 Valley Farm Rd., south of Kingston Road.

For more information or tickets, call 905-428-8244, 416-283-1757, 905-420-5196 or 905-428-3164.

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Black History Month a good chance to 'teach'

♦ Black from page 1

Anansi Reading Circle, a children's multicultural arts and crafts club, a book club for women, and music and dance classes for both youths and adults.

The Anansi Reading Circle once succeeded in doing the near impossible -- it got children to turn off the television and spend time reading books as part of a fundraiser.

The 'Good Hair Workshop' has been held to ensure the art of braiding isn't lost.

ITAV has the mission of 'strengthening African-Canadian and immigrant families, enhancing cultural values and fostering community involvement by providing social, cultural and educational programs.'

February is Black History Month and Ms. Shange supports the idea of observing it.

"A lot of our history isn't taught throughout the year. It's good to have one month to teach the contributions of African-Canadians," Ms. Shange states. "It's unfortunate it's the only time children get information and knowledge and contribution is passed on."

Last year, the organization received a Trillium grant that "enabled us to get space," she says.

The centre is on Old Kingston Road in Pickering Village.

Having it's own address helps, she notes.

"We were running out of space," she says of former lodgings on Westney



Yaa Shange is the director of the It Takes a Village Family Resource Centre. In its four years of existence, Ms. Shange has noticed an increasing amount of referrals for the centre's many programs and services.

Road. "We're grateful. People can drop in."

newsdurhamregion.com
searchkeyword: blackhistorymonth

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Ajax, Pickering schools raise flags for unity

Students display their heritage with pride

By Crystal Grimi
Staff Writer

PICKERING — Pine Ridge Secondary School students are raising flags in celebration of who they are.

On Friday, Feb. 17, members of the school's Students Together Against Racism (STAR) group are hanging 66 flags from the cafeteria ceiling in celebration of the diversity and heritage inside the walls of Pine Ridge.

"We have representation from all corners of the world," said Jody McKinnon, an English teacher and STAR representative. Flags from countries such as Mexico, Brazil, France, Spain, the Philippines -- even the United Nations and Gay Pride flags are being displayed.

"We're waving a flag for unity, not just groups of countries," said Mr. McKinnon.

The flags are being hung during a school PA Day, so Pine Ridge's population won't see them until they are all up together.

Grade 12 student Afzal Habib said he came up with the flag proposal last year, inspired by flags painted at Dunbarton High School.

"It's one of the first initiatives we've had that's had a major impact on the school," said Afzal. "I think it's an awesome project. I think it's something that's going to last and impact the entire community."

Ajax's Eagle Ridge Public School proudly displays its heritage as well.

The school opened in September 2004 and collected surveys from students on their heritage, then fundraised for flags and hung them from the school's high ceiling in the front foyer for its official opening in October 2005.

"It's based on the cultural diversity of the school," said Brenda Balmert, administrative assistant at Eagle Ridge.

When the students saw the display, they thought it was amazing, she added. "So it's kind of neat, they're proud when they look up and see the flags," said Ms. Balmert.

Ms. Balmert said she'll be excited to see Pine Ridge's display.

"It will be very visually stunning when it's finished," said Mr. McKinnon. "When (students) come in on the Monday and they go into the cafeteria, that burst of



Pine Ridge Secondary School is hanging 66 flags on Friday to celebrate diversity and heritage at the school. Among the Students Together Against Racism (STAR) students making the initiative a success, are, back from left, Shalini Lahar, teachers Jody McKinnon and Angela Crawford, Malcolm Edwards and Marcus Edwards. Front, from left, are Natasha Gurunathan, Afzal Habib, Jaiva Sharda, Tina Singh, Sasha Gokool, Nabihah Kabir, Sharon Singh and Ibad Raees.

Celia Klemenz/ News Advertiser photo

colour, the visual impact is going to be extraordinary."

The flags are five-by-three feet in size and will stay up at the school permanently. "Hopefully it will not be shocking to them, but somewhat impressive to them," said Afzal.

To raise money for the flags, STAR

students held an adopt-a-flag program and sold entertainment coupon books. Each flag was \$15. Mr. McKinnon said one class got together and purchased the United Nations flag on behalf of their teacher.

Although many flags symbolize the heritage of students and staff at the

school, some represent the country where others were born.

"A lot of people don't even know about the different countries in the world and there's people from these countries in our school," said Nabihah Kabir, a Grade 12 student and chair of Pine Ridge's STAR committee.

School boards prepare for CUPE strike

Public and Catholic officials working on plans

DURHAM — Durham schools will stay open if Canadian Union of Public Employees members take job action against the Province.

In response to CUPE threats of a provincewide strike, Durham's public and Catholic school boards have sent home letters to parents about how they'll handle the situation. A strike, which could come this week, would impact school custodians, educational assistants and secretaries. The potential job action is in protest to a provincial bill that proposes a number of changes to pensions and better benefits for police and fire personnel.

"It's our intention to keep our schools open because our obligation is to offer education to our students," said Michael Pautler, superintendent of human resources at the Durham Catholic District School Board.

Along with the letters to parents, information and updates are also available on the board's website and by phone.

Currently, the Catholic board is asking principals to anticipate the impact job action could have on daily activities. Plans will be constantly updated as needed, Mr. Pautler added.

The Durham District School Board is also working with principals on maintaining schools if a strike occurs.

"Certainly, we have our management staff and they would be responsible for ensuring safety and cleanliness is at a minimal (impact)," said Sally McIlveen, superintendent of employee relations at the Durham District School Board. "We have to look at what is an acceptable standard to ensure student safety."

Show public school board the money, and fast

DURHAM — The Durham District School Board wants the Province to cough up cash more quickly this year.

A letter will be sent to the Province requesting it be more prompt in providing grants to the board, trustees decided at their Jan. 24 meeting. Last year's budget process was delayed into summer because of the time it took the Province to provide funding.

Although Whitby Trustee John Dolstra originally requested the letter say the money be provided within a "reasonable time period," other trustees suggested attaching an April 1 date. Pickering Trustee Sherry Croteau said the board and Province may not share the same opinions on what is reasonable and believes

April 1 is an appropriate time period.

"I've got a problem with that," said Trustee Dolstra. "I don't want to give them any time because I want them to move as quick as possible... We want the information and I want it as soon as possible, I don't want to wait until April."

Trustees approved sending a letter.

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12 months ¹							✓	✓	✓				✓		
15 months											✓	✓			
18 months		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
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Region gives students its best health shots

Incomplete immunization records could lead to suspension

By Erin Hatfield
Staff Writer

DURHAM — Durham students whose shots are not up to standard will be suspended from school, all in an effort to keep preventable disease out of the region.

"The low rates speak for themselves in terms of the benefits of vaccines," Dr. Robert Kyle, Durham's medical officer of health, said.

Incidences of vaccine-preventable disease in Durham are next to none with the exception of whooping cough.

Under the Ontario Immunization of School Pupils Act, students across the province must be immunized against certain childhood diseases, or they may be suspended from school. The act has been in place for about 20 years, according to Dr. Kyle.

"It is a high priority for us and it is a challenge," he admitted.

The tracking of vaccinations requires that the Durham Region health department do so for both elementary and secondary schools. Officials deal with four English school boards and one French, meaning they track the vaccinations of well over 100,000 pupils annually.

"In recording this information we also keep track of day nurseries," Dr. Kyle said. "It's certainly a big deal for us."

Of those 100,000 students, Dr. Kyle said there are approximately 10,000 with incomplete records and with whom notices are sent home.

Students received notices several

weeks ago through their school, Dr. Kyle said. If the notices fail to facilitate up-to-date records a student faces suspension. Last year 910 students were suspended.

"Usually that works in a day or so," Dr. Kyle said. "I can't recall when a suspension order has failed."

As of Feb. 21, students in public and separate elementary schools with incomplete immunization records will be suspended until the information is received by the health department. This will be followed by all area secondary schools on April 19, and French, private and Clarington elementary schools on May 24.



"Vaccination is certainly one of our key core businesses," Dr. Kyle said. "The benefits of vaccination are extremely well-documented."

Parents are asked to forward updated immunization information to the student's school. Information can also be mailed or faxed to the health department. Students requiring immunization are encouraged to contact their family doctor. For students who do not have access to a family doctor, the health department is holding immunization clinics in February, March and April.

To arrange an appointment or to receive additional information regarding the immunization schedule, call the Durham health connection line at 1-800-841-2729. Information on immunization can also be found at www.region.durham.on.ca.

Learn life-saving techniques in Ajax

AJAX — This February, get involved in Heart and Stroke month by planning to take a CPR course.

On Feb. 10, March 19 and April 10, St. John Ambulance is presenting a CPR course featuring a demonstration component to teach participants how to perform the life-saving act. Training is \$65

and occurs at the St. John site at the corner of Harwood Avenue and Bayly Street in Ajax.

All courses run from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Pre-registration and payment are required prior to the course start date. Call St. John Ambulance at 905-434-7800.



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Pickering wants to minimize impact

♦ Pickering from page 1

sents all of the City's unionized workers. "My responsibility is to make sure we are as least-affected as possible," he said. "We've been given the guarantee the streets will be plowed." Mr. Quinn said some employees will be using vacation time or taking unpaid time off to attend the protest. He and the union have been working co-operatively to make sure no one department is depleted of staff because of that.

"It's not a strike against us, it is a protest against the Province," he said.

The City does have a plan in place in the event of a strike and Mr. Quinn said his priority is to make sure there is the least amount of disruption to residents.

OMERS is the pension plan for about 355,000 current and former employees, including municipal governments, school boards, libraries, police and fire departments, children's aid societies and other local agencies.

However the strike, in protest of the provincial legislation, would have the greatest impact at the municipal level according to Mr. Anderson.

"I am getting the impression that the premier isn't prepared to do anything more with the bill," Mr. Anderson said. "He is prepared to move forward with the bill."

"We have a very good relationship with the employees at Durham Region. We hope none of the services we provide will be affected."

Garth Johns, the Region's commissioner of human resources, said Durham has a contingency plan in place in the case of a legal strike.

"The contingency plan is designed for a legal strike," Mr. Johns said. "But it is both illegal and has nothing to do with the Region."

However he said the Region is making an effort to have service continue in an appropriate fashion.



Tom Quinn

Transit workers vote CAW

Drivers, office staff, dispatchers in new unit

By Erin Hatfield
Staff Writer

DURHAM — Durham's transit workers have voted in favour of the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW) union as their bargaining agent.

"It is an honour to be able to represent all the DRT," said Chris Buckley, the CAW Local 222 president. "I am confident (CAW) will take them into the future."

The merging of regional transit systems on Jan. 1 to create Durham Region Transit (DRT) necessitated a decision on which union would represent the group.

The vote was between the CAW, which represented Oshawa members, and the Canadian Union of Public Employees, which represented the Ajax-Pickering members.

"Oshawa Transit had the most attractive collective agreement," Mr. Buckley said. "I think that helped people make up their minds."

Whitby's transit workers are not regional employees due to a previous contract prior to amalgamation and remain a separate unit of CAW Local 222. However Mr. Buckley said he is

confident that at the end of the day the Whitby workers, too, will join the rest of the DRT workers.

DRT employees held their representation vote Feb. 10 with three different polling stations for members. When the ballots were tallied the margin for CAW was 180 to 88.

According to Mr. Buckley the turnout was high as there were about 290 workers eligible to vote.

CAW will represent former Oshawa and Ajax-Pickering transit workers and unionized office staff, drivers and dispatchers of DRT and Specialized Services.

CAW represents 22,000 active and retired members according to Mr. Buckley, including General Motors in Oshawa as well as a number of parts suppliers.

At the Region, Garth Johns said while the decision of what union would represent the DRT was being made, Durham tried to remain as neutral as possible.

However now that the vote is over, Mr. Johns, commissioner of human resources, said officials are looking forward to a positive working relationship.

The parties will soon begin working on the first contract.

City wants families working out together

♦ City from page 1

the Pickering Recreation Complex is lacking when it comes to having programs for families to participate in together.

"We know it has to be the family working together and supporting each other," she said.

They hope to appeal to a specific group through the program and get them moving.

"It's the ones who are on the sidelines... They are the ones we want to reach," she said.

The grant is going to be used to train staff who will work with families because "little people are not just tiny adults," Ms. Labaj said, adding it will also go towards promoting the program and reaching the right people.

"We're trying to see what can we do to target the people who aren't moving," she said.

The goal of the program won't be to make people great athletes, but rather to help people get healthier through physical fitness.

"We're hoping they can have some fun, do something good for their body and do something good for their mind," Ms. Labaj said.

The Communities In Action Fund supports Ontario's strategy to increase physical activity and sports participation. The fund invests in community sports and physical activities and helps remove barriers to participation for children and youth, older adults, aboriginal people, low-income families and people with disabilities.

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Alternative Energy

'If we develop an idea, we don't want to stop at publishing in a journal. We want to work with a company to make it happen.'

— Marc Rosen

Durham energetic

Not just focusing on nukes; all sorts of power coming out of region

By Jennifer Stone
Staff Writer

DURHAM — This is one "powerful" region, in more ways than one.

When people think of energy sources in Durham Region, they often immediately think of nuclear, and rightly so. With two nuclear generating stations located within its borders, and talk of new nukes possibly being built here in future to help deal with Ontario's enormous future power requirements, Durham already supplies much of the Province's power.

But, Durham is also on the leading edge of alternative energy technology, with a number of private companies and public bodies looking at power sources that are outside the realm of what we are already using.



One need look no further than Ontario's newest university, the University of Ontario Institute of Technology, to see examples of how new forms of energy are being put into action.

While nuclear is going to be a key component of Ontario's energy future, there's a real need to find other sources as well, said Marc Rosen, UOIT's Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science.

"I very much believe that balance is probably the key," said Dr. Rosen. "A balanced mix where different energy sources are used ... can achieve, really, what's best for society, and gives flexibility to change ... Balance is very important."

At UOIT, they're taking a two-fold approach. First, they're "focusing on energy in undergraduate and graduate programs," said Dr. Rosen.

"No other universities have stepped up to the plate, and we want to make sure we have graduates ready to face the challenges," he said.

But, not only is it a matter of training students. The university is also doing a variety of hands-on research which not only acts as a learning tool, but, in one case, may help heat and cool part of the university.

The Borehole Thermal Energy Storage System consists of 350 to 400 boreholes, each 213 metres deep. Hot or cold fluids pump through during the night, providing proper

temperatures to buildings during the day. The system is very efficient, said Dr. Rosen.

The system "produces (energy) when people don't need it, stores it till they do, and reduces capacity issues," he said, noting the need to balance loads, one of the issues the Province faces in terms of provision of energy.

There's a wide array of technologies the university is working on.

"This university wanted to be at the leading edge of technologies that are sensible," he said, noting the geothermal field provides he and others doing similar research "a monster of a lab in our backyard."

The university also has some "green roofs," from which water can be collected for use in toilets. The roofs serve as insulation, which provide more energy-efficient buildings.

Another area of study is cogeneration of electricity, which uses waste to produce heat and electricity. As well, work is being done on fuel cells and a variety of other alternative energy sources.

UOIT isn't just researching, said Dr. Rosen.

"If we develop an idea, we don't want to stop at publishing in a journal. We want to work with a company to make it happen," he said.



That's getting easier and easier in Durham Region, says Doug Lindeblom, director of economic development and tourism with the Region, and acting manager of the recently-formed Durham Strategic Energy Alliance.

"Since we launched in the middle of last year, we have attracted a lot of new members," said Mr. Lindeblom. From companies doing work on solar panel installation, to an engineering firm specializing in wind turbine, to a company working on conservation and demand management, they are locating in Durham.

The Region, as well, is looking at alternative sources of energy.

"Most noteworthy is that the Works Department is doing a study on how to deal with residual waste and the waste-to-energy opportunity is on the table," he said. "Everybody has a waste issue, but really, it is a waste opportunity when new technologies exist today to convert that waste to energy."

As well, in Clarington, where the South Courtice Water Control Plant is being built, wind alternatives are being studied for potential power supply, said Mr. Lindeblom.



Also in Clarington, on the south side of Hwy. 401, between Courtice and Solina roads, there are plans for

a more than 300-acre energy business park, which is expected to play host to private and public businesses focused on advancing and applying energy technologies.

The park, announced by the Municipality of Clarington several months ago, has been the subject of a vision study, paid for by a partnership between the Municipality, the federal government, Clarington's Board of Trade, Durham Region and UOIT.

Clarington could be home to a variety of alternative energy sources, both at the energy park, and in other areas, said economic development officer Suzanne McCrimmon.

"I think it's extremely balanced, and we're so energy friendly. The community of Clarington, and Durham Region as a whole, is very accepting to alternative energies," said Ms. McCrimmon.



The region is poised to help find solutions to Ontario's power problems, said Mr. Lindeblom.

"We really view ourselves as Ontario's energy capital," he said. "We're working very closely with the Province, with the Ontario Power Authority, to develop a broad range of solutions ... and to make Durham Region the place people go to for energy solutions."

Durham resident Chris Begg will be representing Canada at the upcoming World Baseball Classic. We asked him 10 Questions about his life as a pitcher.

What's bigger? Playing in the Olympics or the World Baseball Classic?

BEGG: That's tough to say since nobody really knows what to expect from the Baseball Classic. I think that the Olympics has a larger stage to it and definitely more history, but among the baseball realm, the Classic will actually portray which country has the better talent. I think that I'm in a fortunate situation to be able to take part in both.

What hobby do you have that would surprise people?

BEGG: I don't know if I have a hobby that would surprise people, but I love fishing. I don't get a chance to fish a whole lot during the season, so when I do come home, it's the first thing I go and do.

Which people have had the most impact on your success to date?

BEGG: Directly related to baseball, I've had some great coaching which started here in Uxbridge by Don Blowe on the James Campbell Insurance No Faults team. Later I had a coach in

Peterborough named Steve Terry, who seemed to give me more direction into baseball as a career. Scouts such as Greg Minor helped me find pro independent teams to play for, and my college coach, Jim Mauro, gave me the chance to pitch at a fairly high level. These days, I've had plenty of good pitching coaches with the Giants that have helped me refine my craft. And of course, as a kid trying to improve and make teams and ultimately make it to the big leagues, I couldn't have gone anywhere without the plenty of hours spent and road trips made by my parents and the support given by the rest of my family and friends.

Can people expect to see you on the opening day roster for the San Francisco Giants?

BEGG: In all honesty, probably not. Not this year anyway. That is still what I shoot for, but a lot more goes

into it than if you're pitching well or not. As a player, I get to see some of the internal politics of the business that unfortunately is a reality of the game. Maybe a more realistic goal is for a mid-season call-up.

Growing up which team was your favourite? Who was your favourite player?

BEGG: I always have liked the Jays. Even now, I follow the team and get excited about what they've done this off-season with their acquisitions. Fans should be anxious about what they may be able to do this year. My favourite player would probably have to be Nolan Ryan. It's just so impressive what he did in his career that I think he is a great role model on and off the field. I also love watching Greg Maddux pitch; he is truly a master at the art of pitching.

Which pitch is your bread and butter?

BEGG: My fastball, which is a little bit of an oxymoron since I don't throw that hard. Most people call my fastball a sinker. I rely more on movement and changing speeds than on pure "stuff." Every pitcher needs to have a good fastball in order to make his other pitches effective.

Do you have any superstitions?

BEGG: I have too many to list and some that people wouldn't want to read about. Most of my "quirks" are on the mound and the things that I do while I'm in the game. I like to call it a "routine" as opposed to superstition. Players generally develop a system that they like to use to get them in the comfort zone so every action on the field is just instinct and natural and nothing is forced or pre-meditated.

During the winter months how do you stay in shape?

BEGG: This past year, I went down to Venezuela for winter ball which kept me in baseball shape through mid-December, so it hasn't taken me as long to get back into the swing of things this off-season. I go to the gym five days a week to lift and run, and I throw five days a week down in Mississauga.

What's your favourite baseball movie? Bull Durham, Major League or Field of Dreams?

BEGG: All three are great baseball classics, but I'd probably have to go with *Bull Durham*.

To read all 10 questions, visit:

CITIZENSEYE.COM
keyword search: 10questions

10 Questions

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Chris Begg, pitcher

EDITORIALS & OPINIONS

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EDITORIAL

Pension plan bill needs another look

Premier needs to listen to union, municipal complaints over OMERS changes

It appears the Liberal government of Dalton McGuinty is heading on a needless collision course with public workers that will mean school closures and service disruptions across the province as early as this Friday.

The disagreement stems from changes proposed by the Province to the Ontario Municipal Employee Retirement System (OMERS) pension plan.

The Province will no longer oversee the plan and has outlined in Bill 206 changes which the vast majority of Canadian Union of Public Employee (CUPE) workers find intolerable.

Not only are CUPE workers upset and ready to launch an illegal strike over Bill 206, but Ontario municipalities are also seething over some changes in the bill.

Led by Durham Region Chairman Roger Anderson, who is also president of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, municipalities worry alterations to the pension plan will result in a major tax hike at the local level.

Mr. Anderson fears that the OMERS changes could hit municipalities to the tune of a 3 per cent tax increase. He has called on the Province to revisit the legislation and make changes to it that would reduce municipality exposure to increases.

One of the key points of contention in the bill is that it would create two classes of CUPE workers. The first class, including firefighters, police officers and some emergency workers, would get pension top-ups that would enable them to retire early. Such an option would be unlikely for the vast majority of CUPE workers who are paid less than their brethren.

Another major concern is the new governance model of the plan which CUPE feels is unfairly tilted toward other plan members and doesn't adequately reflect the strength of its membership.

The issue has come to a boil after Monday's session at the legislature. CUPE Ontario president Sid Ryan said he felt the Province wasn't taking the issue seriously and said he was sure his membership would go on strike as soon as Bill 206 is introduced for third reading. That could come as soon as Thursday.

A massive strike would see disruption to schools and other municipal services such as water supply, waste management and other social services. Millions of people would feel its impact.

The ball is clearly in the premier's court. The Liberals with a clear majority, can easily pass the legislation or they could table it and sit down with the various stakeholders -- including municipal reps and union leaders -- to consider any possible concerns they might have.

An illegal strike serves nobody's purposes. With both workers and municipalities fighting this legislation, the premier should take the opportunity to consult and listen.

CLICK AND SAY

This Week's Question: *Should a member of Parliament who crosses the floor have to resign and run in a byelection?*

Yes No

Cast your vote online at
infodurhamregion.com

Last Week's Question: *Should there be higher standards of security for owners of gun collections?*

Total votes: 544

Yes: 72.4 %

No: 27.6 %

IN THE COMMUNITY



Durham's bright future

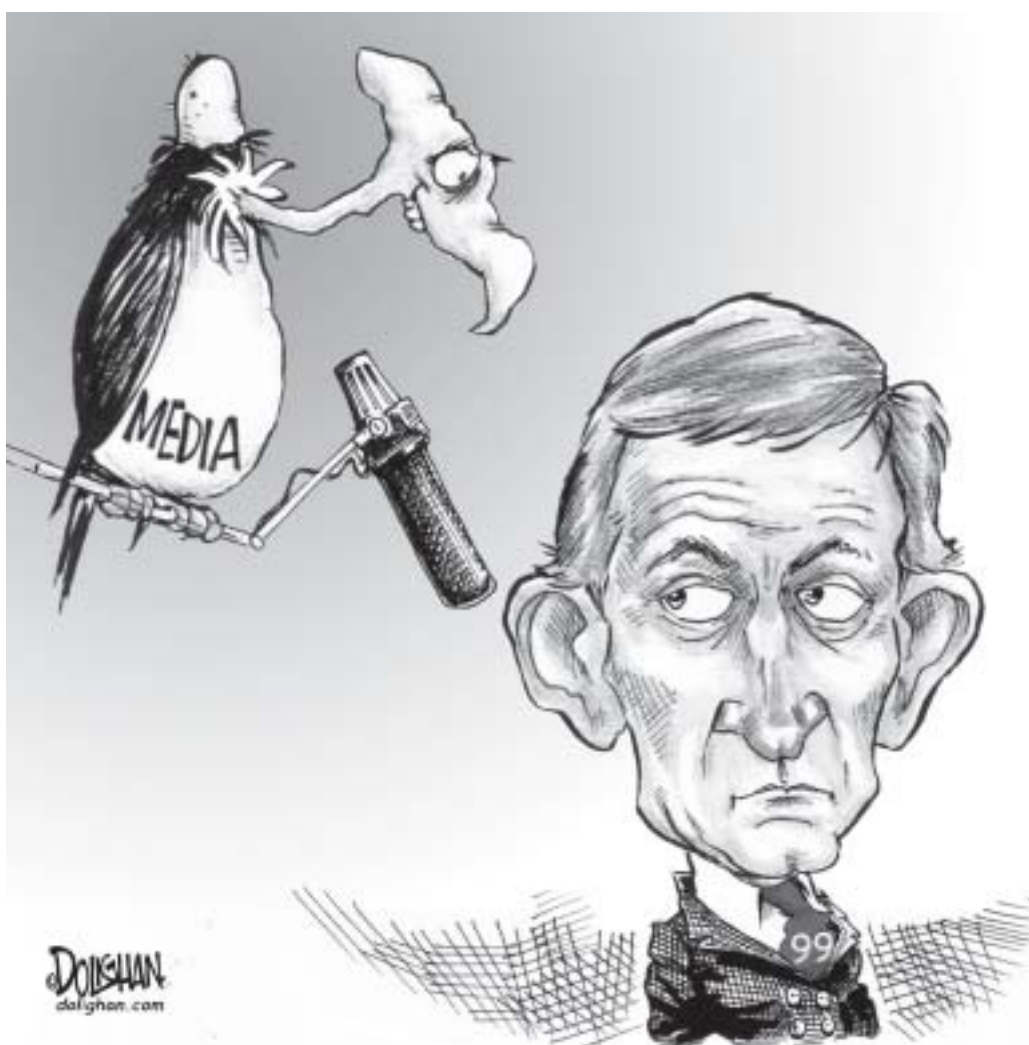
The Durham Community Foundation's recent Silver and Gold Gala raised \$22,000 thanks to local volunteers, donors and businesses. The foundation encourages charitable giving, enabling individuals, families, businesses and others to establish permanent endowments through gifts and bequests. Pictured from left are gala committee members Angela Leger, Bev Palmieri, Debbie Gill, Trevor Bardens, Jill Dyal, Natalie Sims and executive director Janet Georgieff.



To see more photos from residents across Durham and to submit your own, visit citizenseye.com, the Metroland Durham Region Media Group's newest initiative. The web page is dedicated to the submissions and photos of readers from around Durham.

Do you have a photo to share with our readers?

If you have an amusing, interesting, historic or scenic photo to share with the community we'd like to see it. Send your photo, along with a written description of the circumstances surrounding the photo (max. 80 words) identifying the people in the photo and when it was taken to: The News Advertiser, 130 Commercial Ave., Ajax, ON, L1S 2H5. Or, e-mail photos to tdoyle@durhamregion.com.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Right thing for party candidates is to vote with the team

To the editor:

Re: 'McTeague 'serves his entire riding,' regardless of one's political views,' and 'Party Whip has never decided Holland's vote,' letters to the editor, Feb. 8.

I read with interest the letters from both Dan McTeague, for whom I voted, and Mark Holland and make the following observations.

Like most voters, I vote for the party and platform first, the candidate second. If anyone has any doubts as to the priorities of the voter, they should try running as an independent.

To argue they 'would never vote for something because they got a call from the Party Whip' is concerning. If they stand for a party, then they are part of a team. Because the coach puts in a play they don't like, they can hardly stop playing.

When the party position is one that they oppose, they may abstain (which is rather like leaving the ice) but the right thing to do is to vote with the team. Mr. Holland is right. There will always be those who don't like a specific policy. That's life, but the majority of

constituents voted for the party and its manifesto/platform. They did not vote for their MPs to use personal judgments as to what platform item to support and what to reject.

All issues cannot be resolved on the basis of local popularity. A party has to look at what is right and a wider picture. If the electorate does not like government policy they have the option not to vote for them next time.

If MPs allow personal views to influence how they vote and not the party platform, let them stand as independents. Then they have no party allegiance. Getting elected, however, may not be easy.

Michael Agus
Pickering

LHINs won't be good for health care

To the editor:

Re: *Unions slam health care plan, Feb. 5.*

I have attended an information session about Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs). Durham Region will be part of the Central East LHIN, which stretches from Scarborough to Peterborough.

Under the legislation, some services will be provided at

only one site per LHIN and will be decided by a bidding process like home care is now. This means that services now provided at Lakeridge Health, such as hip and knee surgeries, could be transferred to Scarborough or Peterborough if their bids are lower, making it harder for Durham patients and families to access these services.

I was reading both the government and the www.stoplhins.com websites as mentioned in the article and also visited the Ontario Health Coalition website, which was very informative. From what I've read, there is no protection for non-profit and public service providers but there is protection for "for-profit" service providers, which is discriminatory. There is also no protection against more OHIP services being cut. This is very scary. This government has already delisted chiropractor, optometrist and physiotherapy services, which are important.

I appeal to people to please attend LHIN information sessions, look up websites about them, and write your local MPP's. From the information I've gathered, I feel this is dangerous legislation and will hurt health care.

A.M. Thurman RN
Oshawa

Father and son bond over video game

But mom wants nothing to do with computer battles



Neil Crone enters laughing

generally involves him taunting me about sacking my castle and pillaging my village while I threaten to ground him if he doesn't let me win. And it's fun.

We will, much to his mother and my wife's everlasting chagrin, play for hours. We take breaks, meet in the kitchen to eat and animatedly discuss the ongoing battle while his mother, my wife, rolls her eyes to the heavens.

We've tried to engage Mom in this activity, but she's not having anything to do with it. This is unfortunate because my son and I are connecting on a level she may never be able to. But, I have discovered, this is not at all uncommon.

Women simply do not get video games, at all.

I haven't figured out why this is.

I don't think it's a "blue versus pink" thing. My wife grew up on a farm. She's shot more things with a rifle than I've ever

dreamed of and yet she has no desire to sit, controller in hand, and blast away at a television screen.

Likewise, game manufacturers have tried in vain to tap into the female market with, for lack of a better term, "girlie games," involving Barbie and her ilk, sickeningly stereotyped gunk where little girls get to dress up their favorite character and then, undress them, I guess.

The result? Nothing doing.

They're not biting.

Whoever figures out what kind of a video game can make a woman sit and drool for hours like her male counterpart will be rich beyond their dreams. And it has to be out there. The problem, I can only surmise, is that most of the people creating these games are men.

And men, as most of us are aware, know only enough about women as allows us to survive alongside them and occasionally get lucky.

For instance, somewhere, I am sure, there is a warehouse crammed with failed titles like Shoe Hunt, Recipe Wars and Ovation.

In the meantime, I suppose, we must agree to disagree.

Boys will be boys and women will roll their eyes at them.

Durham resident Neil Crone, actor-comic-writer, saves some of his best lines for his columns.

Follow Neil's BLOG:
drinfo.ca/croneblog.html

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ATTEND PUBLIC MEETINGS AT CITY HALL

DATE	MEETING	TIME
Feb. 15	Pickering Advisory Committee on Race Relations & Equity	7:00 pm
Feb. 16	Statutory Public Information Meeting	7:00 pm
Feb. 20	Council Meeting	7:30 pm
Feb. 22	Committee of Adjustment	7:00 pm
Feb. 22	Accessibility Advisory Committee	7:00 pm
Feb. 27	Management Forum Meeting	1:30 pm
Feb. 27	Executive Committee	7:30 pm

All meetings are open to the public. For meeting details call 905.420.2222 or visit our website

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Contact **Shawna Mutton** to RSVP: 905.420.4660, ext. 2170 or smutton@city.pickering.on.ca

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VACANCY ON HERITAGE PICKERING

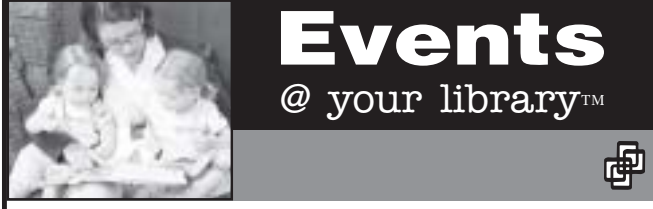
The Council of the City of Pickering is inviting applications from residents to fill a vacancy on the Heritage Pickering. All appointments run concurrent to the term of Council.

This Committee was established under the authority of the Ontario Heritage Act and its mandate is to advise Council on means of conserving heritage properties and areas and to advise Council on programs to increase public awareness of heritage conservation issues. This Committee is comprised of eight persons and meets every other month except in the summer at the Pickering Civic Complex. There is no remuneration paid to the members of this Committee.

If you are interested in being considered for appointment to fill the vacancy on Heritage Pickering, please submit a letter of interest to the undersigned setting out a brief description of any job or community-related experience.

Debi A. Bentley, CMO, CMM III
City Clerk
City of Pickering
One The Esplanade
Pickering, ON L1V 6K7

Fax: 905.420.9685
Email: dbentley@city.pickering.on.ca



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February 27, 2006

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- Please note that property assessment is the responsibility of the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) and that all assessment related inquiries should be directed to them at 1.866.296.6722.
- Additional information regarding property assessment can be found on MPAC's website: www.mpac.ca

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Please note that the City of Pickering offers the following payment options and encourages you to try these convenient alternatives. You can pay your taxes:

• At participating financial institutions. Please allow five days before the due date for your payment to reach our office. **Note: Your tax account is credited when payment is received at our office, not the day funds are withdrawn from your bank account.**

• By mail. To avoid the late payment penalty fee, please ensure that your tax payment is mailed five days before the due date. Cheques post-dated for the due dates are acceptable. **Note: Your account is credited when payment is received at our office, not the post-marked date.**

• After hours "outside" drop box at the City municipal building on or before the due date.

• By telephone/computer banking. Please check with your financial institution for details. Please allow five days before the due date for your payment to reach our office. **Note: Your tax account is credited when payment is received at our office, not the day funds are withdrawn from your bank account.**

Failure to receive a Tax Notice does not reduce YOUR responsibility for the payment of taxes and penalty.

A late payment fee of 1.25% is added to any unpaid taxes on the first day of default and on the first day of each month, as long as the taxes remain unpaid. The penalty and interest rates are set by City by-laws, pursuant to the Ontario Municipal Act. The City does not have the authority to waive penalty and interest charges.

HERITAGE DAY Celebration Event

Hosted by the Pickering Advisory Committee on Race Relations & Equity

Live Cultural Performances Include:

- Joy Allen Highland Dancers
- County Town Singers
- Durham Tamil Association
- McGrath Highland Dance
- Hispanic Canadian Alliance
- Zabra's School of Middle Eastern Dance
- Pickering Museum Village 1800's Fashion Show
- Folklore Dance
- Pine Ridge Secondary School
- Canadian Multicultural Forum
- Devi Mandir

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18th
11:00 am to 3:00 pm
Pickering Town Centre, Centre Court

Displays Include:

- The Pickering Advisory Committee on Race Relations & Equity
- Pickering Museum Village
- Heritage Pickering
- Durham Regional Police Service
- Pickering Public Library
- County Town Singers
- Hispanic Canadian Alliance
- Pickering / Ajax Italian Club
- Amnesty International
- Natural Health - East Indian Culture
- Canadian Multicultural Forum
- Durham Tamil Association

Please join us as we celebrate Pickering's rich heritage and cultural diversity!

for more info call **Kim Kranc 905.420.4660 ext. 2099**
cityofpickering.com Appreciating Differences!

Frenchman's Bay Watershed Rehabilitation Project

'Paw Prints' Hike

Have you ever spotted tracks in the snow and wondered which animals they belong to? Here's your chance to find out. The whole family will enjoy this event which starts indoors with crafts and ends outdoors with a guided hike through Rotary Frenchman's Bay West Park.

Saturday, February 25th, 2006 @ Frenchman's Bay Yacht Club
635 Breezy Drive, east of West Shore Blvd.
10:00 am - 12:00 noon

For more information or to register please call:
Michelle Pongracz, Project Ecologist
905.420.4660 ext. 2212
visit our website at cityofpickering.com/fbwrp

Frenchman's Bay Watershed Rehabilitation Project

Keep matches & lighters away from children!
Children are naturally curious about fire. Always keep matches and lighters out of **sight** and out of **reach**.

Civic 2005 Awards

Help us make history. Nominate someone you know before 4 pm, February 16, 2006.

Be A Part Of Their Story

What is Extraordinary? Most of us can recognize it - but how do you celebrate it?

The City of Pickering Civic Awards are an annual recognition of exceptional contributions to our community. A record of excellence that will become a part of Pickering's rich history. These individuals whose acts in 2005 were above & beyond the everyday need a champion, to bring them into the spotlight.

Nomination categories and forms are available at Pickering Civic Complex One the Esplanade at the Customer Care desk or online at cityofpickering.com 905.683.7575

A selection committee will review the nominations and determine recipients from each of the categories. Award recipients will be notified in April, 2006. The presentations will take place in the Council Chambers at the Pickering Civic Complex.

Have fun. Help kids.
FRIDAY, March 3rd 4:15 pm
Ajax Bowling Centre

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SPORTS

sportsdurhamregion.com

Inside...

Durham Region Volleyball Club girls' teams bring home medals in two separate events. See Page 12 for details.

Extra Hart for this year's Brier

No Hart-break this time

By Brian McNair
Staff Editor

PICKERING — Richard Hart admits he might not have been able to handle another setback at the Kia Cup.

Fortunately, the 37-year-old Pickering curler no longer has to contemplate that scenario.

Competing in his 10th Ontario men's curling championship, and fifth final, Hart tasted the thrill of victory for the first time when his Glenn Howard-skipped Coldwater team defeated Wayne Middaugh's St. George's rink 9-6 Sunday in Guelph to earn a trip to the March 11-19 Tim Hortons Brier in Regina.

The victory avenged a heartbreaking 8-7 defeat to Middaugh in last year's Kia Cup final in Whitby.

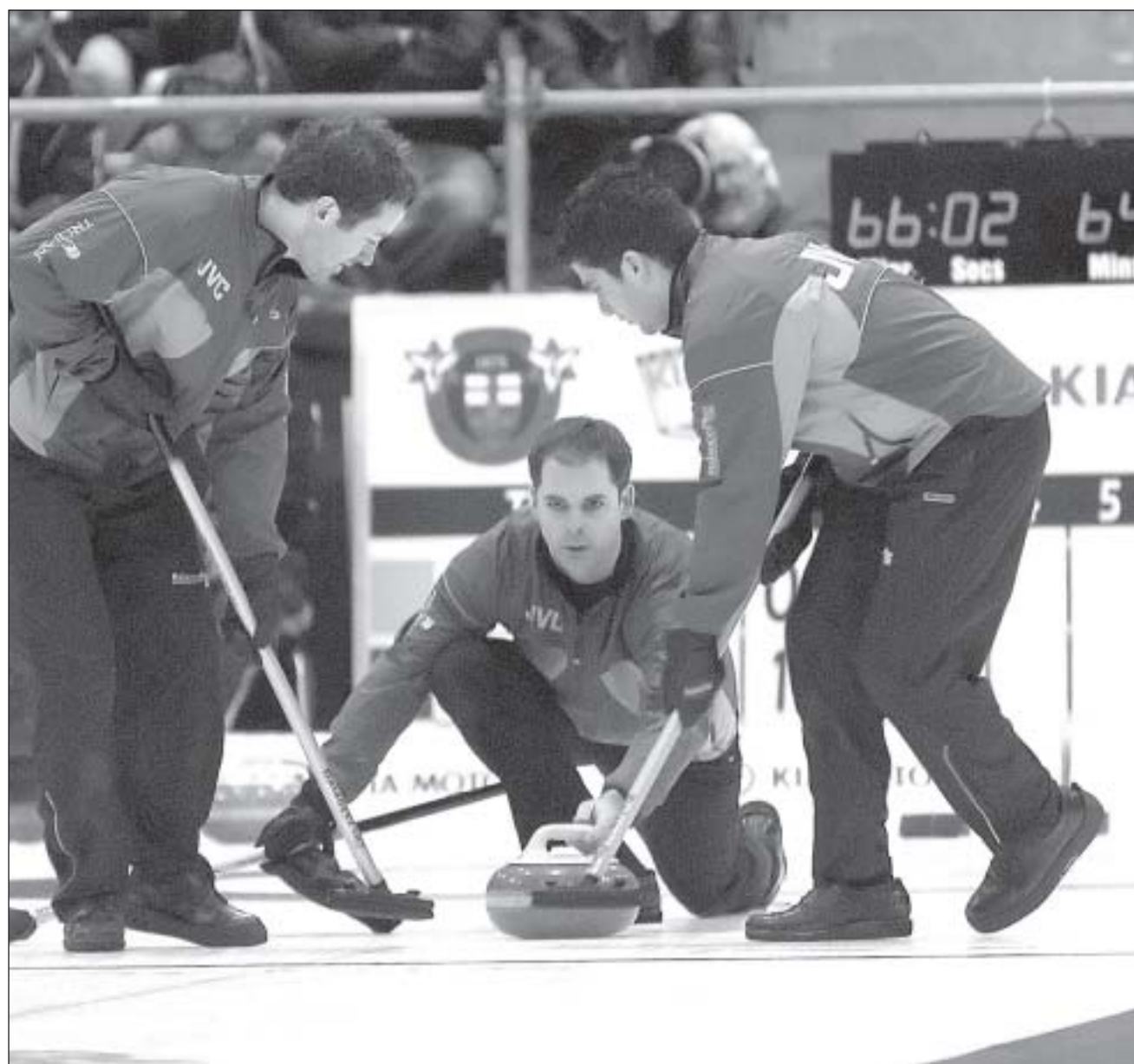
"It was a huge thrill. It feels like the gorilla's finally off the back," says Hart, who curls third and serves as Howard's vice. "It was a very emotional game, back and forth, but a huge win."

Having experienced the other end of the spectrum so many times, Hart says this year was perhaps now or never. His team jumped out to a 5-0 lead through two ends, relinquished it by the sixth, but took control for good with three points in the seventh.

"If we hadn't come through and won this year, you wonder if you'd be able to come back and give it your all again," says Hart, a project manager with Hartwell Electric. "It might have been too much."

As it stands, Hart says he will probably scale things back next year, after such a gruelling season that also included Olympic trials.

But, he doesn't want to look much beyond the Brier national championship, where he figures his team will be among the favourites. Howard, after all, is a two-time world champion, while Hart has an Olympic silver medal to his credit from 1998 in Na-



After five losses in the provincial finals, including above last year in Whitby, Richard Hart, centre, has put his hands on an Ontario curling title. Curling as part of the Glenn Howard Coldwater team, Hart and his teammates beat Wayne Middaugh's rink 9-6 in the final.

News Advertiser file photo

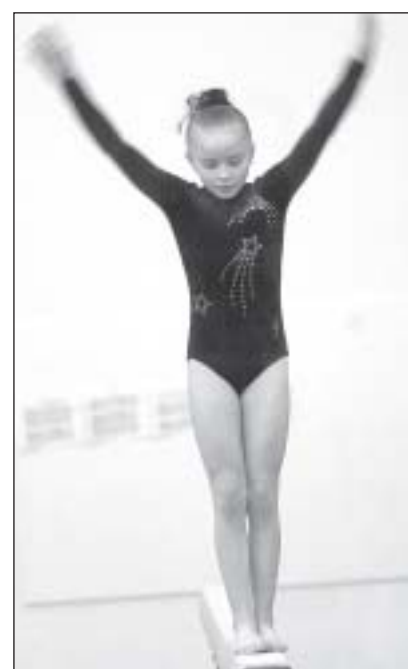
gano.

"You can't win if you're not there and we're definitely there," Hart says of the Brier. "We feel like we've got a good chance to win. We've got one of

the better teams there."

The Howard rink also includes Brent Laing and Craig Savill, both 27, who won world junior championships together in 1998 and 1999.

Ontario will have its hands full at the Brier, competing against the likes of Alberta's Kevin Martin and Manitoba's Jeff Stoughton, who have both won the tournament twice.



Jason Liebrechts/ News Advertiser photo
PICKERING — Breanna Bezouska competes in the beam event during the recent provincial qualifier meet held at the Pickering Athletic Centre.

Pickering gymnasts solid at qualifier

PICKERING — Gymnasts with the Pickering Athletic Centre turned in winning performances at a recent competition.

The centre hosted the Women's Artistic Provincial Qualifier from Jan. 27 to 29, attracting more than 2,000 competitors from 22 clubs.

Pickering's Maya Swami placed fifth overall in the Level 8 category, with thirds on the vault, balance beam and floor exercise, and a seventh on the uneven parallel bars.

In the same category, club mate Shannon Riches turned in a 13th-place finish, with a sixth on vault, eighth on the beam, 11th on the floor and 12th on bars.

Alexandra Clayton was first overall in the Level 7 category, with seconds on the vault, beam and floor, and a fourth on the bars.

Emily Towers was close behind, placing fourth overall, and she had a second on the vault, thirds on the beam and floor, and an eighth on the bars.

In the Level 6 category, ages 10 and 11, Sydney Marcoux placed third, with a first on the vault, second on the bars, eighth on the beam and 10th on the floor.

Alexandra Large turned in a fourth-place performance, with seconds on the vault and floor, sixth on the bars and 10th on the beam.

Samantha Smedley finished second in the Level 6 category with a first on the vault and bars, a second on the floor and a third on the beam.

In the Level 5 category Julia Watters finished first, with firsts on the vault and beam, second on floor and seventh on bars.

Katie Towers was third overall, with a second on beam, third on vault, fifth on bars and seventh on floor.

Adrianna Sanidas was fifth overall with a fourth on the beam, fifth on bars, sixth on vault and ninth on floor.

Rebecca Brown was sixth overall with thirds on the bars and beam, fifth on vault and 10th on the floor.

Tight game highlights men's basketball action

AJAX — The lead went back and forth in one of the closest games of the season in the Ajax Men's Basketball League.

In the end, ESN Packaging Services edged the Burgundy team 45-43 on Feb. 1. All 13 players in the game scored, with Roger Young leading ESN with 15 points. Bob Hunt chipped in seven. Captain Clayton Gall was hot for Burgundy, netting 15, followed by Mike Stoddart with 11.

Louis Davis was a scoring machine for Top Shelf, as he poured in 26 points to pace his team to a 59-50 victory over North Alliance Press. Davis drained four three-pointers and chipped in several assists. Captain Luke Luukkonen contributed 11 points. Mike Allen lead NAP with 13 points, while John Beyaz had 11. Injuries didn't prevent the Blue team from topping Dickson Printing 55-47 in the final game of the night. Big man David Jackson potted 22 points, while Scott Poulton added eight. Don Leahy hit 13 for Dickson, while captain Sherwin James and Dan Deveaux each netted nine.



A.J. Groen/ News Advertiser photo

Eyeing the prize

PICKERING — Tyler Walker, a student at St. Monica Catholic School in Pickering, gets a feel for the ball before taking a free throw. Tyler was warming up for the free throw finals at the annual competition hosted by Knights of Columbus Branch 11729. The shooting took place at Our Lady of the Bay Catholic School.

Panthers open with playoff split

PICKERING — The emotions of a thrilling overtime victory didn't carry over for the Pickering Panthers into the second game of the playoffs.

The Panthers came out flat Monday against the Vaughan Vipers and it cost them the game, 5-2. Pickering won the first game of the OHA Ontario Provincial Junior 'A' Hockey League playoff series 4-3.

Game 3 was last night at the Pickering Recreation Complex, after the News Advertiser's deadline.

On Monday, the Vipers built up a 4-0 lead at home on their way to the victory. Ryan Annesley and Todd Hosmer each netted power-play markers early in the third, but Pickering could get no closer. Vaughan closed out the scoring with an empty-netter.

"We didn't play well in the first two periods," Panthers coach John Winder said.

"I thought our goalie, Mark Duchesne, would like to have a few of those pucks back.

"We were excellent in the third period. With any luck at all, even as bad as we played in the first two periods, I felt we could come back."

Another sour note for Pickering was Richard Schofield receiving an automatic two-game suspension for a checking-from-behind penalty. Schofield received a five-minute penalty and a game misconduct. He missed last night's game and will be out for the one being held on Saturday in Vaughan.

"It was an accident plain and simple," Winder stated. "If he had 150 or 160 minutes in penalties and I said

it was an accident, you would say no way. But, he had 22 minutes.

"It's unfortunate he hit the player and the referee called it. He's certainly not a dirty hockey player."

The coach was hoping the momentum the team took into the third period would carry over into the game last night.

"On Friday, we had a lot of momentum," Winder stated, adding, "I never thought for a moment this would be four straight.

"Circumstances being circumstances, every time we played them, we had some sort of a reason for them beating us. I like to think we're a better hockey team. But, they're a team that can play as well as us," he said, adding Vaughan beat Pickering three of four games during the regular season.

In the win Friday, Tomek Budziakowski scored a power-play goal in overtime to give Pickering the win. Other Panthers marksmen were Justin Fox with a pair and Chris Jones.

Three of the four Panther goals came on the power play, while the first Viper goal came with the man advantage.

"It's the playoffs and there's a lot of adrenaline flowing," Winder said of the penalty situation.

He says penalty minutes for teams go up in the playoffs with the "emotions going and whatnot."

The teams square off in Vaughan Saturday at 7:45 p.m. at the Al Palladini Community Centre. Game 5 is at the recreation complex, 1867 Valley Farm Rd., Sunday, Feb. 19 at 8:30 p.m.

University athletics sport Durham flavour as Ridgebacks now on the prowl

Tennis and rowing first
two sports on plate

By Shawn Cayley
Staff Writer

DURHAM — The wait is finally over for the University of Ontario Institute of Technology Ridgebacks — they're OUA bound.

Athletic director Ken Babcock and his crew, including UOIT president Gary Polonsky, returned from Hamilton and the recent Ontario University Athletics winter meetings floating on Cloud 9 so-



to-speak as they received the news they were hoping for from OUA president David Dubois.

Beginning this fall, the 2006-07 varsity athletic season, Durham's university will compete in the OUA ranks in both tennis and rowing with the expectation that both men's and women's hockey will be

on campus for the 2007-08 year.

"Were in, it's official, we've got the hat (now)," said an enthusiastic Babcock. "This is historic and a very exciting day for us here (at UOIT)."

It's been a long process for Babcock and the many people who have been involved in developing a proposal, but, after receiving the answer they were all hoping for, the time and effort was more than worth it.

With that, Babcock said he is looking forward to getting the ball rolling in OUA action come September.

"We will be the new kids on the block,"

he said. "It's an opportunity to play with the best. We will be in awe initially when we face the likes of Queen's or the University of Toronto but we are putting the right people in place to be successful, people with OUA and CIS experience."

Babcock was confident, yet reserved, heading into the meeting in regards to UOIT's chances of gaining entry into the OUA. However, it didn't take long for his fears to vanish as it was a unanimous vote from the other 18 member schools.

The Ridgebacks nickname was chosen from a list of more than 300 submissions by the staff and students at UOIT.



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535 hospital / medical dental

CLINICAL RESEARCH COORDINATOR Registered Nurse with current certificate from the College of Nurses of Ontario. Ability to work independently and as a team member. Preferred knowledge of the guidelines and organizations governing research and ethics including documentation and submission requirements (ICH/GCP). Ability to communicate effectively in an oral and written format with patients, public, colleagues and other health disciplines. Superior organizational and time management skills. Computer skills. Good clinical judgement and ability to practice independently. Recent intravenous and venipuncture skills. Identifies a commitment to personal continuing education activities. Training and support provided. Fax CV and cover letter to Pat Schmidinger at 905-683-7071 or E-mail: pats@ademedical.com

DENTAL ASSISTANT required part time 5 days per week. No evenings/weekends. Experience preferred. Fax resume to 905-831-5975.

DENTAL LAB in Ajax seeks quality conscious denture technician to join our team. Please call (905)426-3663

DENTAL RECEPTIONISTS/ ADMINISTRATORS required FT in Whitby/Oshawa area. Computer knowledge required. New Dental Reception Course graduates welcome. Also looking for FT and PT dental hygienists. Send resumes to Dental Futures, 1801 Dundas St. East, PO Box 70567, Whitby, ON, L1N 9G3

FULL-TIME Dental Hygienist required for 1-year maternity leave position, commencing April 10, 2006. Please submit resume in person to Dr. Debra Shoniker, at 312 Dundas St. W. Whitby.

LEVEL II DENTAL ASSISTANT, 4 days per week, fluent in English. No evenings, no weekends. Please fax resume: 416-438-3431.

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST / KINESIOLOGIST: Experience in Holter analysis part-time for busy cardiology office in Whitby. Fax resume 905-668-8778.

PERMANENT P/T DENTAL Hygienist required for Ajax office. Every other Saturday - 9 to 1 p.m. with possible weekday hours. Please call (905)427-0822 or fax resume: (905)427-0247.

X-RAY & ULTRASOUND Technologists required one evening a week and Saturday's for clinic in Brooklin. Call Chris (905)576-8249

535 hospital / medical dental

GROUP 4 SECURICOR

MOBILE PATROL OFFICER

Required Immediately For Durham Region

Position available for: Well-groomed, mature Individual, with good communication skills Must have 2 YEARS related experience.

Fax Resume to Peter - 214 King St. E @905-579-8028
Full training and benefit plan provided

Wood Man

REQUIRES

SALES AGENTS FOR IMMEDIATE POSITIONS

Canada's Largest Lawncare Company Has Immediate Position Available In Our Conveniently Located Scarborough Sales Office.

\$10.00 Per Hour Guaranteed Base. Afternoon and Evening Shifts Available, "NO COLD CALLING."

Motivated Applicants Who Possess Outstanding Communication Skills Along with an Excellent Command Of The English Language College & University Students Are Encouraged To Apply. Previous Sales/Closing Experience, Basic Computer Skills and a Positive Attitude Are Assets.

SCARBOROUGH LOCATION
11 Grand Marshall Drive, Morningside & 401 (TTC accessible)
Please call now: **416-269-8333**

540 hotel / restaurant

Thibodeau Saguelac Marcan

Marcan Transport Division

CUSTOMER SERVICE FOR OUR PICKERING TERMINAL

Must be completely fluent in French and English

- Previous customer service experience would be an asset
- Must have excellent communication skills as well as above average problem solving abilities.
- Must have a pleasant telephone manner
- Must be able to work in a fast paced atmosphere
- A working knowledge of the province of Quebec and Ontario would be an asset.

This position offers a real sense of self satisfaction, and personal achievement.

If you are that person please forward your resume to: eric.lizotte@groupe-thibodeau.com.

540 hotel / restaurant

EXPERIENCED FULL-TIME Servers required. Apply with resume at The Flitz Pub, 619 Kingston Rd. West, Ajax (Pickering Village)

510 general help

LOOKING FOR WORK? START HERE!

- training
- job market
- resumes
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The Employment Advantage
provides the knowledge, skills and directions you need to be successful in your job search.

Call 905-426-8337 to reserve a seat for the next FREE Workshop or to arrange a Personal Meeting with a friendly, knowledgeable Employment Advisor.

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Helping People Get to Work
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Canada

510 general help

The Cedar Brae Golf & Country Club is seeking seasonal full and part time staff.

Clubhouse

- wait staff and kitchen help/short order cook

Golf Services

- mature individuals to work in the golf department back shop. Ideal for older, perhaps retired persons wanting to supplement their income and/or enjoy playing privileges.

Greens Department

- full and part time seasonal help for golf course maintenance.
- experienced tractor operator
- gardener's assistant

Opportunities for seniors or retired individuals. Landscape experience is preferred. Must have own transportation.

A JOB FAIR WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 10:00 A.M. AND 3:00 P.M. ON FEB. 18/06

In the Cedar Brae clubhouse, 6431 Steeles Ave. E., Scarborough, Ontario M1X 1N6
Phone: (416) 293-4161 Fax: (416) 293-1214
e-mail: bev@cedarbraegolf.com

IRONSTONE MEDIA CORPORATION

Ironstone Media requires a full time/part time employee for a 5 month duration to assist in writing safety policies. Good writing skills required. Please reply in writing outlining your qualifications and salary expectations to:

khume@ironstonemedia.com
Or fax copies to 905-831-2372

Herbal Magic is seeking professional compassionate career oriented individuals to provide weight management counselling in a clinic setting. Phone and sales experience are an asset. Full time applicants only.

Apply in person with resume to: 1330 Ritson Rd. North, Oshawa No Phone Calls Please

DZTRUCK DRIVER AND LANDSCAPE LABOURER

Job is combination truck driver and landscape labourer. Team player, good work ethic, positive attitude, punctual. Clean driver's abstract is required. Applicants must have transportation to and from Pickering yard. Job sites are in Toronto and surrounding area. Fax resume to: 905-420-3242. Only selected candidates will be contacted.

550 domestic help wanted

NANNY NEEDED FOR two kids in Ajax. Few weekdays and weekends. Weekends are mandatory. Excellent references and experience. (416) 878-4290.

100 houses for sale

HOME SELLERS

Find Out What Homes Down The Street Sold For!

Free computerized list with pictures of area home sales & current listings. Free recorded message 1-800-417-7295 ID#7041

Visit: www.DurhamAreaHomeSales.com

LAKEBIDE COMMUNITY AJAX Over 2500sq.ft., 4-Bedroom, 3 Bathroom, 9ft Ceilings, Hardwood Floors on main floor, WOB on pool side lot beside parkette. \$469,000 (905)427-3226.

PORT HOPE - money making duplex, always rented, new roof, siding, \$160,000. Serious inquiries only, no Agents please. Call Todd, leave message 905-375-4209.

A PORT PERRY area NEW spectacular all brick bungalow ex-cite. Home on 1 Acre lot Walk to Lake, Agents Welcome. Must see! Asking \$274k call 1-877-878-8899 toll free

AJAX SOUTH - Attention Investors: 3 + 1/2 bed semi brick bungalow. New air/furnace/windows. Freshly painted. 6-appliances, hardwood, legal basement apt. (tenant can stay). Large fenced yard, 3-car parking. Private Sale. No agents please. \$220,000. (905)686-6773 www.privateexchange.com

BEAUTIFUL 100 ACRE FARM with 3800 sq. ft. farmhouse, needs complete renovations. Farm has large barn, 2 driving sheds, property has major potential. 15 min. East of Peterborough. Priced at \$324,000. Call after 8 p.m. 1-705-292-5435.

DISTRESS SALE

Bank Foreclosures & Estate Sales

Free computerized list with pictures of

Foreclosure properties from \$170,000. No Investors please. Free recorded message 1-800-417-7295 ID#4042

Visit: www.DurhamDistressSale.com
Remax Ability Real Estate Ltd. - (905)420-7777 Fax Copier

HAIRDRESSING BUSINESS for sale in Bowmanville. Fully equipped, good location. For information call (905)623-4172

HOW TO BUILD a part time business while keeping your present job, leveraging your efforts in a unique method of creating residual income. 1-866-786-3176

SENIOR'S RESIDENCE Health Care Professional. Looking for a Lifestyle Change? Be Your Own Boss. Established Senior's Residence/furnished home for sale one hour east of Toronto. Turn-key operation, Owner Draws 85K. Selling Price:\$494,900. Fin Available with 35% D.P. No Investors Please! Kendall Truxter, Re/Max Ability 905-434-7777

SUPERINTENDENT required full time for Oshawa/Bowmanville apartment complex. Suitable for retired/semi-retired couple. No pets. Fax resume (905)623-2257. Only those chosen for an interview will be contacted.

THIS FRANCHISE is the Natural choice, visit www.turlogig.ca

165 mortgages, loans

\$\$\$100 K FINANCING OAC 5 yr. at 5.20% or Variable at 4.50 % OAC. Cash take-outs. Refinances, self-employed, Commercial, even poor credit. Call Kevin, Mon. to Sat. at 1-800-328-7887 ext. 366.

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HOME FOR SALE in N.E. Oshawa with complete in-law or teenage retreat. Each unit contains separate laundry and private garage. Asking \$294,900. Call (905)376-0645.

515 skilled & technical help

EXPERIENCED SHEET METAL FABRICATION MECHANIC

Noranco Mfg. a leading supplier of aerospace parts located in Pickering, Ontario, is seeking an experience NC Brake operator, other tasks will also be required such as counter-sinking, operating a kick press, tapping.

The successful applicant must be a team player, work well in a fast paced environment and be well organized with attention to detail.

Comprehensive benefits. **QUALIFIED** applicants please FAX your resume to: **905-831-0104** or email **hr@noranco.com**

NELSON INDUSTRIAL INC. a Leading Metal Manufacturer, located in Pickering, has an immediate opening for:

PUNCH PRESS SET-UP OPERATOR

Applicants must be experience in setting up/operating equipment and have a good understanding of safety requirements. Experience with CCI 1000 ton Punch Press/Servo Feeder an asset.

We offer a comprehensive compensation and benefits package with opportunity for personal growth and development.

Please visit our website www.nelsonindust.com
Fax resumes to (905) 428-2392

Accepting applications for LICENCED TRUCK AND TRAILER MECHANICS & APPRENTICE MECHANICS (Whitby Terminal)

Excellent wages/benefit package for qualified applicant. Apply in person to: **Verspeeten Cartage Ltd. 1900 Boundary Road Whitby, Ont. L1N 8P8 Phone: 905-404-8470**

165 mortgages, loans

\$\$\$MORTGAGE FINANCINGSS - \$\$\$1ST AND 2ND MORTGAGES \$\$\$ www.mortgageinfo.ca or call Dennis @ 1-800-915-2353. Purchases, renewals or refinances. To consolidate our debts. Lowest rates possible for residential or commercial. Credit issues, self employed, 1% professional service.

170 apartments & flats for rent

AJAX 1 Bed, Bachelor & Room for Rent. Parking, close to all amenities. 905-686-8905 905-409-1736

AJAX 401/HARWOOD 3-bed. main floor house, appliances. Near shopping & bus. No smoking/pets. \$1100/2/3 util. Parking, laundry, avail. March 1st. 905-428-6060

AJAX - basement apt, 3 bedrooms, all utilities included. Parking, available March 1st. \$850/mo. No pets. 905-426-6315.

AJAX CHURCH/HWY 2/Pickering Village - Large 2 bedrm in clean, quiet building. Available March 1st. \$950/mo utilities included plus parking. Call 905-426-1161

AJAX NORTH, 3yrs new, 1 bedroom walkout, above level, lots of windows. Suit professional couple or single. No pets/smoking. 90% inclusive. March 1st. (905)619-9500 Fred Walthe

AJAX, furnished 2 bedroom basement apartment. Includes parking, utilities, cable, dishwasher, a/c, near shopping and lake, no smoking/pets. \$825/month. First/last. (905)427-6932

AJAX, PICKERING VILLAGE. Large bright new clean 2-bedroom bsmt, eat-in kitchen, huge livingroom, open-concept, a/c, 2-parking, cable. No pets/smoking. \$95/mo inclusive. First/last/Immediate/March 1st. 905-426-4773.

AJAX, Westney Rd. & Hwy#2 2/3 bedroom of upper level of home. Utilities included. Call 905-686-5297.

AJAX, WESTNEY#401, 1-bedroom basement apt, inclusive, no smoking, no pets. \$690 monthly. Working person preferred. Avail. immediately. Please call after 6pm (905)427-0849.

AJAX, WESTNEY/Hwy 2, beautiful 2-bedroom condo, pool, exercise room, appliances, laundry, parking, air conditioning, avail. immediately. \$1350 all inclusive, call (905)427-9128

AJAX- OXFORD TOWERS. Spacious apartments, quiet bldg, near shopping, GO. Pool. 2-bedrooms \$989 Available Feb/Mar 1st. Avail. March 1st. Call 905-683-8421 or 905-683-5322.

AVAILABLE MARCH 1ST - Oshawa, Park/Gibb 1 bedroom apartment, convenient location. References, first/last required. \$690, plus hydro. No dogs. Call 416-725-3323.

BACHELOR, 1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartments, in most beautiful adult lifestyle building. Available immediately. Stevenson & Rossland, Oshawa. Call 905-579-3700 or (905)723-1009.

BLOOR ST. EAST OSHAWA - Near No Frills/401. Two 2-bedrooms, \$745+hydro(\$50/mo), March 1st. Immaculate, well-maintained, nice, bright, Laundry, small building Bus-stop at door. First/last, 1-parking. No pets. 905-686-1946

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530 sales help & agents

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ADVERTISING SALES Commission-Based Contractor Position

You are an entrepreneur looking for a low-risk/high-return means of supplementing your income. You are a highly competitive and results-oriented individual with a positive attitude and desire for success. You are an effective communicator and understand a prospect's needs and wants.

Metroland is a dynamic, high-growth multimedia company with an immediate need for a commission-based contractor sales partner to support growth of an innovative new publication.

If you feel you are the right individual for this partnership, email your resume to: jwilliams@durhamregion.com with subject line "SALES PARTNER" before February 24, 2006.

Only those invited for an interview will be contacted.

* Please note that this is a contractor-based position, not employment-based.

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Durham's fastest growing furniture retailer is looking for full time experienced Retail Sales Associates, & part time Receptionist.
Resumes: swright@furniture.ca, or via fax: 905-619-2744

Energetic, self motivated SALES REP required for high volume RV dealership. Proven sales track record in RV sales would be an asset but willing to train the right individual to join our team. Please forward your resume to craig.mcfadden@owasco.com or fax 905-579-5802

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161 franchises

161 franchises

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"Movers Who Care."

• Learn about franchising PRO's and CON's

• Find out how to identify a winning franchise opportunity

• Learn why **TWO MEN AND A TRUCK**® has become North America's most successful moving franchise system

Seminar Details • February 23rd, 2006 (7:00 pm - 8:30 pm)
• 245 Yorkland Blvd, Suite 100, Toronto, ON M2J 4W9
• RSVP by February 20th, 2006 to Jim Reid: 416-204-0073 or franchise@twomen.ca

170 apartments & flats for rent

PICKERING - Sandy Beach/Bayly Bachelor basement apt. Laundry, parking, smoke-free. Near GO train, bus out front. References required. Avail. March 1. Call 313-401-5828.

PICKERING 1-bedroom basement, FURNISHED, suits commuting style. Private entrance. Cable, laundry, gas fireplace, parking. NO smoking/pets. \$700/mo. references. Double 416-632-5282

PICKERING BASEMENT APT. for rent. 1 large, 1 small bedroom, laundry room

262 public notices 262 public notices 262 public notices

Are you a new business? Be included in either or all future Community Phone Books. (Pickering * Ajax * Whitby * Oshawa * Clarington) Please contact this Week Phone Directories @ 905-579-4400 or email: directories@durhamregion.com

316 vendors wanted 316 vendors wanted 316 vendors wanted

CANADIAN DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY EXPO 2006 A Premier Event targeting students and the general public with the latest in digital technology. Sell Your Products & Services! FRIDAY, MARCH 31, AND SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2006. Located at Durham College and University of Ontario Institute of Technology Campus 2000 Simcoe St. North, Oshawa, ON. VENDORS WANTED! Recommended Vendor Types: wireless, digital, audio, gaming, computers, home theatre, digital photography, home networking, exercise equip. etc. Just \$899 Includes FREE One Year 411 Business Directory Listings (\$360 Value) on durhamregion.com, Table, 2 chairs, Curtained Booth! Note: Limited Space! Call Now! Call Deborah: 905.579.4473 x2223

215 campers, trailers, sites 268 personals 279 tutoring services

SINCERE SINGLES, Professional Introduction Service (1992) unlimited matches, unlimited time period. Call toll free 1-866-719-9116 www.sinceresingles.ca. TUTORING High school Math Tutoring 5 years experience 905-837-9213. PICKERING, FULL-TIME live in nanny required for 3 children (ages 6, 5 & newborn). Flexible hours. Legal, references. (905)626-6167. RESPONSIBLE home childcare, 17 years experience, infants-10 years. First-Aid/CPR, creative play and outdoor activities. Church/Delaney. Call Elaine (905)683-0352. BUY/SELL stair lifts, porch lifts, scooters, hospital beds, ceiling lifts etc. Call SILVER CROSS AT (905) 668-8560 OR 1-800-659-0668

310 articles for sale 310 articles for sale 325 auctions 325 auctions

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325 auctions 325 auctions 325 auctions

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256 deaths 256 deaths

DIXON, Ann - Passed away peacefully on Sunday, February 12th, 2006 at Lakeview Manor, the age of 97. Loving wife of the late Alex Dixon. Dear mother of Barry, mother-in-law of Debbie. Cherished grandmother of Julie (Grahame), and great grandmother of Sarah. A private family service has been held. Arrangements entrusted to the McEACHNIE FUNERAL HOME, 905-428-8488. Should family and friends so desire, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be greatly appreciated. A Book of Condolence may be signed at www.mceachnie-funeral.ca

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The Durham Region Volleyball Club's under-17 team was golden at the Open Bugarski Cup in Ajax last weekend.

Under-17 volleyball team tops at tourney

Durham declaws Waterloo Tigers to win gold

DURHAM — The Durham Region Volleyball Club under-17 girls' team is golden.

Playing in the Tier 1 Open Bugarski Cup in Ajax on the weekend, the DRVC squad prevailed in a tight match with the Waterloo Tigers. Winning in the finals over the Tigers was revenge for Durham, as it

lost to Waterloo in the gold medal game of its last tournament.

Durham took the first game 25-19, but Waterloo rebounded to take the second 25-20. The third game ended 15-11 in favour of DRVC.

In medal round action, the under-17s dropped a strong under-16 DRVC team and the Oakville Thunder White squad. The under-17s went undefeated in round robin play.

The team is off to the Early Bird Classic in Columbus, Ohio and then to nationals in British Columbia in May. It also plays in the Ontario championships in April.

Team members are Lorna Button, Kristin Collins, Danielle Ganesh, Erin English, Kerry Fotherby, Emilie Fortin, Sarah Isaacs, Carrie Misselbrook, Alora Popow, Melissa Reinhardt and Jocelyn Prosser.

Coaches are Josh Ovsenek, Curtis Gilfillan and Chris Ganesh.



Jason Liebrechts/ News Advertiser photo

Working it to the Max

AJAX — Cadarackque Cougars' Kevin Wilson tries to get past Oakdale Dragon's Max Hypolite in the semi-final game of the recent Ajax Invitational Boys' Basketball Tournament at Bolton C. Falby Public School in Ajax.

Girls set their way to bronze medal

DURHAM — Being ranked seventh going into the Tier 1 Challenge Cup didn't deter the Durham Region Volleyball Club's under-15 girls' team.

The squad came home with a bronze medal from the event, held Feb. 4 at Fanshawe College in London. Playing the Waterloo Tigers in the bronze medal match, Durham prevailed 25-23, 25-22.

The under-15s started slowly, dropping its opening match to the Durham Black Attack, but the squad quickly turned it around, dropping the Etobicoke Titans 25-17, 20-25, 25-21 and then Pakmen 25-14, 23-25, 15-7. Forest City defeated the Durham team in the final round robin game.

Team members are Stevie Richardson, Brynn Thistle, Kelly Martin, Lauren Giles, Allison Doris, Stephanie Cook, Tori Stirling, Dianna Craine and Emma Hunt.

The coaches are Paul Koot and Laura Malcolm.

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Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser
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Ajax gets vocal next week with Ontario choral festival

By Mike Ruta
News Editor

DURHAM — Forty-eight choirs from across Ontario are descending on Durham Region next week to sing their hearts out.

The Ontario Vocal Festival is Feb. 23 and 24, with a different choir performing every 20 minutes over the course of the event, held in the Ajax theatre shared by both J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate and Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School.

However, while about 20 of the choirs will be chosen to move on to nationals in May, Mary Bellinger says that's the only element of competitiveness in the event. "We like to think of ourselves as non-competitive; we're a sharing environment," says the chairwoman of the Ajax festival.

She notes there is also a festival held in Cambridge and while schools and other entrants can choose which of the two they wish to attend, Bellinger says choirs from Toronto and parts east generally come to Ajax. And it's not just high school choirs that enter. 'Reconnaissance', for example, is a self-directed adult choir, while the York Region Children's Chorus is also performing.

"It's fairly open-ended," says Bellinger. "You can be any age."

Each choir performs three pieces over the 20 minutes. After the performance, each choir immediately retires to a practice room to work with a clinician for 40 minutes, an expert who provides some constructive criticism. Choirs also go home with a CD of their performance with dubbed over comments from a second clinician.

Bellinger says the same local choirs tend to enter the event. Durham choirs taking part are Anderson Collegiate Choir (Whitby), the Bowmanville High School Choir and the Bowmanville Women's Chorus, the J. Clarke Concert Choir, The Young Singers (Random Notes) of Ajax, the O'Neill CVI Senior Chamber Ensemble and Three-In-One group (Oshawa) and the Port Perry High School Girls' Ensemble and Senior Chamber Ensemble. She notes Dunbarton's choral program has "really blossomed," with three separate entries instead of one this

year. The Pickering school is fielding concert, chamber, and gospel choirs.

With so many out-of-towners visiting Durham and Ajax, never mind the large, joint-use high school facility, Bellinger has the help of an army of volunteers in assisting with transportation, hotels and the like. At the school, 60 students have a very important role to play in addition to singing.

"The most important job is the guide," says Bellinger.

She explains that the guide directs participants to a storage room where they can leave their coats, the warm-up room before they take the stage and then to the theatre for the performance, before taking the group to its session with a clinician. A pair of guides are assigned to each choir.

"They're anxious to help, particularly during school," says Bellinger.

She emphasizes that the goal of the festival is largely educational, to help each choir reach the next level of excellence in their choral singing.

It's show times

Durham performers take the stage on the following days and times:

Feb. 23

9 a.m. Anderson Collegiate
3 p.m. Bowmanville High Choir
4:20 Bowmanville Women's Chorus
7:20 J. Clarke Richardson
8:20 The Young Singers — Random Notes

Feb. 24

9:20 a.m. Dunbarton High School Concert Choir
10:40 Port Perry High School Girls' Ensemble
11 Dunbarton Chamber Choir
2 p.m. Port Perry Senior Chamber Ensemble
2:20 O'Neill CVI Senior Chamber Choir
2:40 Dunbarton Gospel Choir
4 O'Neill CVI Three-In-One

The public is welcome to attend the festival, running from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

on Feb. 23 and 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the Friday. Admission is \$3.

The school is at 1355 Harwood Ave. N. (at Rossland Road).



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Ron Pietroniro/ News Advertiser photo

Mary Bellinger taps on her heart to signal her approval as the J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate Concert Choir, under her direction, hits a poignant moment in rehearsal Tuesday for the Ontario Vocal Festival, running at the Ajax school February 23 and 24.

Entertainment in Brief

FEBRUARY 15, 2006

Black History Month show and sale in Pickering

PICKERING — Learning and art go hand in hand Feb. 25 in Pickering.

The More than a Starving Artists' Show and Sale is at The Gathering Place, 1920 Bayly St., from noon to 3:45 p.m. Admission is free.

In line with Black History Month, the event features background information on some of the earliest residents of African descent in the Durham area, in addition to gospel music and much more. Crafts are on sale, including original items made in Africa.

For more information, call 905-686-9153.

Province to hand out arts award

DURHAM — The Ontario government is setting up the Province's first Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts, it was announced earlier this month.

The award, to be presented this fall, will recognize outstanding achievement and contribution to arts and culture in the province by an individual or group.

Nominees must be engaged in a professional arts practice such as arts,

crafts, dance, music, theatre, visual and media arts.

The recipient receives \$35,000 and an additional \$15,000 will go to a promising newcomer in the same field, chosen by the recipient.

Five short-listed candidates will receive \$2,000 and a framed certificate.

Individuals must have practised in the professional arts or cultural industries in Ontario over a significant period of time and have received recognition from peers and their community.

Individual nominees must be Ontario residents, Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada. Groups must be not-for-profit arts groups and Ontario based or commercial enterprises based in Ontario.

Any Ontario resident can submit one nomination, for either an individual or a group. For more information about the award, contact the Ontario Arts Council at 1-800-387-0058 or visit www.arts.on.ca.

Student show ongoing in Pickering

PICKERING — 'Synesthesia' continues at the Pickering Civic Complex this week. The St. Mary Catholic Secondary School senior art/photo show includes the best work produced by St. Mary Grade 12 students and runs until May 11. The show students.



Rosebank Sanitary Sewage Pumping Station Upgrade Regional Municipality of Durham, City of Pickering

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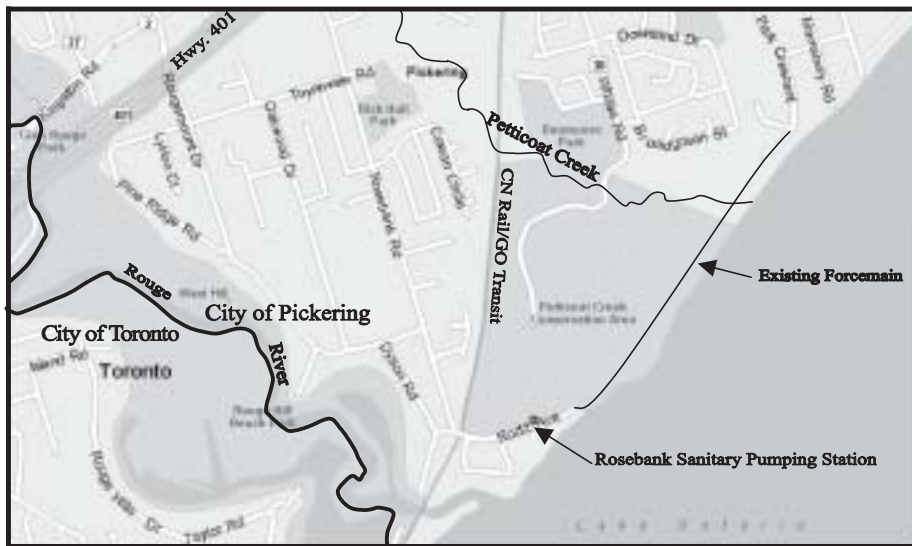
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February 13, 2006

NEWSLETTER

The existing Rosebank Sanitary Sewage Pumping Station (SPS), located at 563 Rodd Avenue in the City of Pickering, requires upgrading to provide additional sanitary sewage pumping capacity for increased sewage flows from developments within the Rosebank Neighbourhood, in accordance with the Regional and Pickering Official Plans. The upgrade is also to complete improvements to comply with current engineering standards and health and safety regulations.

As part of the increase in sewage pumping capacity, the existing forcemain conveying sewage flow from the SPS to the existing gravity sewer on Park Crescent, crossing Petticoat Creek and Petticoat Creek Conversation Area on an existing easement, may need to be upgraded. A new forcemain of larger size, or twin forcemain, will be considered.



A Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) has been initiated to identify the need for an upgrade to the SPS, as well as determining possible alternative locations for the SPS. The Class EA, including the necessary public information component, is commencing at this time for this project and is proceeding as a Schedule B undertaking in accordance with the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, June 2000.

A Public Information Centre (PIC) will be scheduled in the future to present to the public the background information and to answer questions regarding the project. Notification of the PIC will be conducted through the mail and newspaper advertisement.

Public input and comment are invited, for incorporation into the planning and design of this project. All comments will become part of the public record with the exception of personal information. Please contact one of the following for further information:

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Ajax band three months away from releasing debut album

Ajax hip-hop act Metro Zoo plans on releasing its full-length debut album this spring. "The Metro Zoo album is untitled as yet, but everything seems to be going as planned so it will be out in the middle of May," producer Charlie Royal says. Royal also says the group has been performing around Toronto and also performed in Orlando, Florida. The band, which includes Royal, vocalists BAMS, Hustle, Omega and Meyend Tricks as well as DJ Ricochet, has a gig next month at Durham College. "Our plans for the rest of the year are to perform as much as possible so that we can get our music heard by as many people as possible," Royal says. The band, which also released an EP, has two songs available at www.newmusiccanada.com, including Music Is My Soul and What's My Name?!

Whitby singers The Brooks Sisters, consisting of Caroline and Katherine Brooks, will be included on a forthcoming compilation album to be released as a limited run in the coming months. According to the group's website, www.brookssisters.com, the album includes artists such as Lisa Winn and Aaron Wrixon. The duo, which opened for Ron Sexsmith and Don Kerr at a concert in Uxbridge in December, released its debut album entitled The Carport Sessions last year.



Jason MacNeil music roundup

Oshawa band Another Blue Door has posted an update on its current status. And no, they haven't split up. "Just so ya'll know, we are still a band," the group said in a recent posting on its website, www.anotherbluedoor.com. "The four of us haven't been in the same place at the same time since that last gig Labour Day weekend. Dave's been writing tunes and we plan on playing some shows and recording a new album in 2006." Various members of the group have been working in different projects, including The Ladies And Gentlemen and Diablers.

Shows this week: The Sadies, which recently recorded two shows in Toronto for an upcoming live album, play a headlining gig at Catch 22 in Oshawa on Feb. 23. Also on the bill are Poor

Pelly and the Kent Boys as well as Kat Burns. And The Dungeon in Oshawa is home to the Ontario Ska Festival Feb. 17-18. The Barrymores, Green Division, Keepin 6, The Fad, The Soul Merchants, Skratz 3 and The Knockouts perform on Day One. On Saturday, Chris Murry, Skaface, High School Football Heroes, The Heatskores, The Johnstones, Cypher, Makeshift Heroes, Angry Agency, The Donuts, The Next Best Thing, Phat Bastard, True Trout and Buda Funk Munk perform on Day Two. Paul Nathan performs at The Corral in Oshawa on Feb. 21. And at Chicago's Diner in Oshawa, Kenny Brown and The Prevad-

ers plays on Feb. 17.

Jason MacNeil is a freelance writer in

Durham Region. Contact him at kingjinpusan@hotmail.com.

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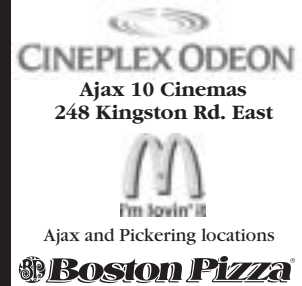
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"SERVICE WORTH PAYING FOR"

Former Cirque artist in Durham

DURHAM — A former Cirque du Soleil performer will conduct a series of workshops in Port Perry later this month.

Erica Mungham will lead acro workshops Feb. 26 for the Port Perry Dance Academy in association with the Durham Gymnastics Academy. She'll work on various skills and demonstrate her

skills. She's an aerial contortionist who is a sought-after soloist at venues across North America. Each 90-minute session costs \$30 per person. The sessions are open to all acro students in Durham Region.

Places are limited. Call the Port Perry Dance Academy 905-985-5081 to book a space.

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