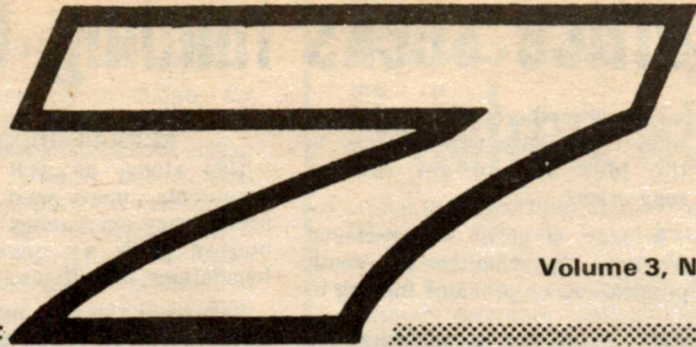


GENERAL MEETING

Don't forget our general meeting next Thursday at the Don Vale Community Centre, 80 Winchester at 8 p.m. Deadline for our next issue is Monday noon September 25 at 80 Winchester or 265 Gerrard. And lets keep those stories and articles coming in.



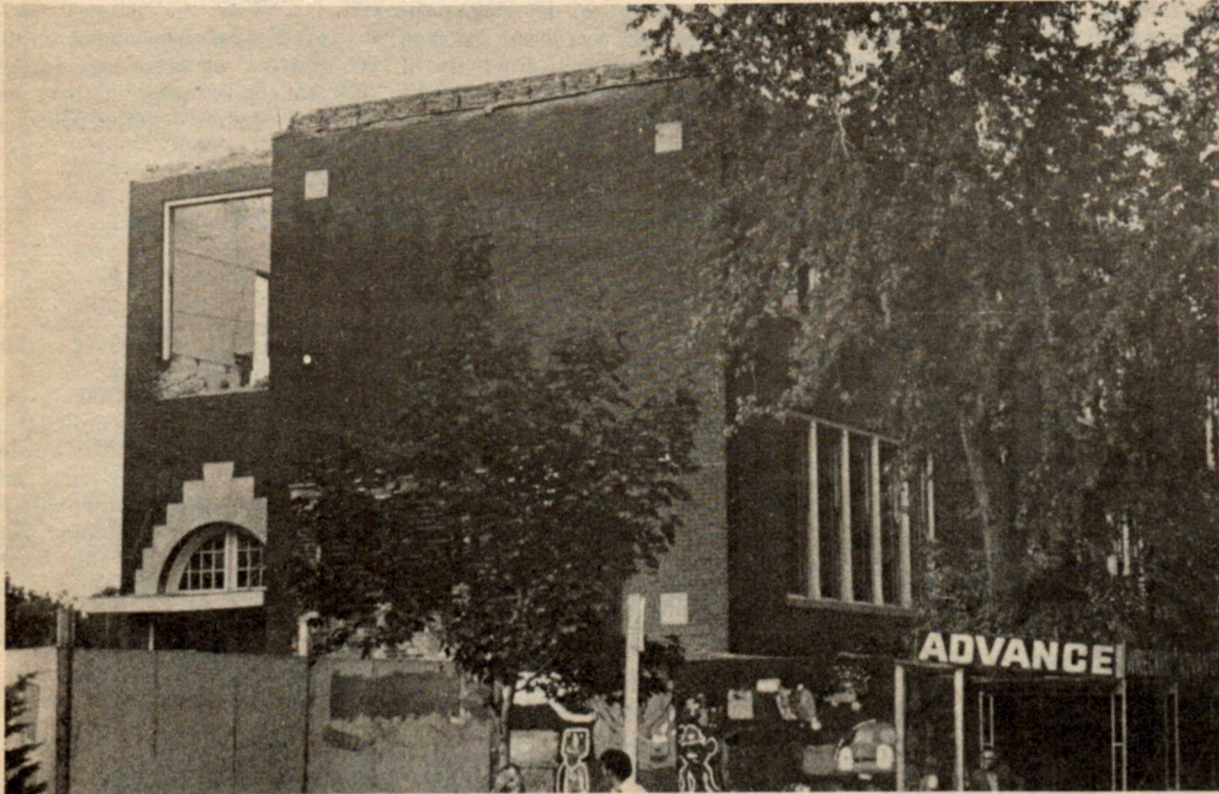
NEWS

WARD 7 COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER
265 GERRARD STREET EAST

Volume 3, Number 6

368-5101

September 9, 1972



It's coming down! After being used for 70 years, the old Withrow School is being torn down. Students this year are using the new building, completed this summer. (Photo by Bill Reno)

City politicians are sweeter as municipal election draws near

by JOHN SEWELL

City Hall is just beginning to crank itself up from the summer holidays in order to finish out its term before the city election scheduled for December 4. The difference between the next few months and the usual City Council is that the politicians will be making sure they don't do too many things which make people unhappy. So if you have a pet project which normally wouldn't get through Council, maybe now is the time to try again.

DUNDAS WIDENING

All those people who attended the Eaton Centre hearings on the question of the widening of Dundas Street should prepare a new battle plan. Council decided in August that Dundas Street would not, generally, be widened, and that the block between Bay and Yonge would only be widened 14 feet.

Now the Metro Planning Board is renewing its opinion that Dundas should be widened 54 feet, so that it becomes a six lane highway. They aren't doing it on any evidence, since the report that was to have been produced to justify the widening has never seen the light of day.

But when the matter is discussed by City Council, you can be sure that most of the politicians will make sure that Eaton Centre is not stalled, even if it means Dundas street must be widened significantly. No dates have yet been set for the hearings on the question, although they will probably take place later this month.

FREE PARKING

A motion to allow free overnight parking for all of Ward 7 was sent by City Council to the Public Works Committee for study. People east of the Don River and south of Danforth know that they have free overnight parking right now (and they seem to be pleased with it), but Council refused to extend that benefit to the rest of the ward at this time. It seems they think it such a good idea that it should be tried in the whole city - and that Ward 7 shouldn't be allowed to keep all the good things for itself.

On the bright side, free overnight parking will be allowed on streets east of the Don River which only

used to allow permit parking at a fee of \$5.00 a month. The recommendation has gone through Council, and now has to be confirmed at the next Council meeting on September 13.

GRANT STREET

The top of Grant Street, north of Kintyre, will be closed and sold to the Board of Education for inclusion in the playground and park they plan for the area.

SHOPPING PLAZA

Rumour has it that interest is being shown in the Consumers Gas lot (south of Eastern, east of Broadview) by a developer who wants to build some housing and a shopping plaza. Approvals for this are not allowed until planning studies are done and the appropriate changes made to the Official Plan. And until we find out whether or not the developer is serious, the planning studies won't begin.

FIRE INSURANCE

Is there anyone out there who wants to do some work on fire insurance? Lots of people have trouble getting it at a reasonable price, if they can get it at all. How about if we got all of the people with fire insurance problems together, and then as a group went after one of the big companies? If people like that approach, give me a call and we'll get started on it.

NEW LIGHTING

The Parks and Recreation Committee has agreed to put lighting into the park at the corner of Hamilton and Kintyre. Seems teenagers gather there and cause problems to neighbours. Unfortunately it will be a few weeks before the light standards used by the City are available, so don't look for any action until the end of the month.

And just up the street, at the corner of Hamilton and Broadview, is the lot that has lied empty for six years. A senior citizen building (three or four storeys high) has been approved for the site, and there is a chance that the building will be underway before the construction season ends in November. If it doesn't start then, we can expect it to start in the spring of 1973.

NEW PUB

Residents in the Dearbourn Broadview area will remember a couple of meetings a few months ago concerning a possible tavern being built on the east side of Broadview, just north of Dearbourn. After the meetings (where residents objected to that type of building) the developer went away and reconsidered. No one has heard of him since. Maybe he will get a better idea, and we'll have a chance to meet with him again.

7 News general meeting

A general meeting of SEVEN NEWS is being called for Thursday Sept. 14th at 8 p.m. at the Don Vale Community Centre, 80 Winchester street.

Purpose of the meeting is to decide future policy on a number of important issues that have arisen during the summer. Anyone who lives in or works in Ward Seven is welcome to attend and vote.

Agenda items include:

- A request by Guerilla Newspaper to do our typesetting and paste-up.
 - Policy decision on future grant requests should the LIP program be continued or re-introduced.
 - Decision on advertising policy for the upcoming Federal and Municipal election.
 - Policy on borrowing money to improve our "cash flow" position.
- Further items may be placed on the agenda anytime prior to the meeting. Information on any of these items may be had by phoning the SEVEN NEWS office at 368-5101.

MASS MEETING

Riverdale to take on larger issues at Fall convention

by MEL BROWN and NORMAN G. BROWNE

THINK BIG! will be the theme of the mass meeting of the Riverdale Community this coming Tuesday evening at Riverdale Collegiate.

The Mass Meeting is seen as the first step toward a community convention planned for this November.

The Community Convention will have 800 to 1000 people from 100 organizations in attendance. They will meet to hammer out an action platform on issues and resolutions in Riverdale and to establish a permanent mass-based organization to carry out the resolutions established by the convention.

SUCCESSFUL ACTIONS

Buoyed up by a number of recent successful actions against small and medium issues, the Riverdale-people see the need for a larger organization taking on a number of bigger issues.

Some of the larger issues that a larger, mass-based organization would deal with are as follows:

- Development could be controlled and unnecessary development and expropriation could be eliminated.
- Speeding could be eliminated on streets not designed for the present speed limit and where pedestrian traffic is heavy.

- Taxes could be held or lowered to ease the burden on the homeowner.
- Education could be made equal and available to all children in the area.
- Policing of the area could be improved and better relations established between local citizens and police.
- Drug abuse and alcoholism could be lessened.
- Better Day Care facilities for working mothers could be provided.
- Ethnic Relations could be improved and strengthened.
- Free Parking could be continued and extended.
- High rent, inadequate housing and absentee landlords.
- Pensioners and senior citizens could have their lot improved.
- High rent, inadequate housing and absentee landlords.

AGENCIES INVOLVED

The mass meeting and Convention will have representatives from resident groups, church and school groups as well as a number of local agencies who are participating in the planning.

If the mass meeting decides on having a convention, it is expected that seven committees will be formed to deal with finance, planning, resolutions and structure.

Any one who lives, works or worships in the Riverdale area is invited to the Mass Meeting.

Boxing club for Don Area

A new youth activity, serving kids of all ages will soon get underway in the Don District.

Called the Cabbagetown Boxing Club, it is located at 4 Lancaster Street between Winchester and Prospect running off Parliament Street.

Organizers of the new club are Police Constable Peter Wylie of 52 Division and Clifton Beverley, a city employee working at the John St. pumping station.

Chief trainer will be P.C. James Barber, 1964 middleweight champion of Ireland and former European Police Games middleweight champion. A total of eight staff people are expected to be working on the project on a part-time, volunteer basis.

The cost of organizing the club has so far been met largely out of the pockets of its organizers although informal requests have been made to various levels of government to seek funding. Some money and material has been donated by local businessmen.

Over 60 kids have taken out advance membership in the club and many more are expected to join after the official opening in September. Kids under 16 are being enrolled free and a fee of \$3 a month is being charged anyone over the age of 16.

When underway, the club is expected to be open from morning to night, seven days a week.

Sept. 18th is date of first fall SOCCA general meeting

By ETHEL PROULX and LESLIE HAHN

Now that the summer is over SOCCA (South of Carlton Community Action) will return to their monthly general meetings. The first one will be held Monday, September 18 at 7:30 at Central Neighborhood House, 349 Ontario Street.

This will be a different kind of meeting—an informal meeting with conversation and refreshments. The conversation will center around four booths concerned with: health,

streets and lanes, food budgeting and area planning.

At these booths there will be people concerned with these issues who will be prepared to give information on the issues involved and to hear your problems and ideas for action. For example: do you know where the best food buy of the week is? At the food budgeting booth you can talk to and connect with people interested in lower food costs. It is hoped that the T.V. program on SOCCA will be ready for viewing. Come as you are and bring a friend.

Community controlled law office seeks funding to get started

by JENNIFER SILCOX

How could a community run law office prevent police harassment of teenagers? What can be done about landlord-tenant problems?

These were some of the questions raised at a meeting held recently to discuss the possibilities of a community run law office in the Don District.

The idea for a community legal office originated with a group of law students from Osgoode Law School who were familiar with a similar project in the Pointe St. Charles area of Montreal.

COMMUNITY CONTROL

The basic philosophy behind such an office is that it would employ a lawyer and staff who are controlled by a board of directors from the community and would focus on problems important to that community.

Some of the possible areas it could cover include the following:

- Legal Casework and Groupwork - handling individual and group legal problems.

- Education - this could include writing pamphlets on citizen rights

in certain areas such as consumer protection, explaining the legal side to situations which arise such as being approached about an option to buy property, or holding informal seminars on topics of interest in the community.

- Research and Advocacy - to find out why certain legal problems come up many times in the community and what can be done about them; to ascertain if certain laws need changing and to follow through using test cases, briefs etc. to change these.

TRAIN LOCAL STAFF

Another major part of the program would be to train community people to staff the office, along with a lawyer, and to handle cases in lower courts where a lawyer is not actually necessary.

In this way the office would be working toward the goal of getting the community to the point of being able to handle many legal needs themselves without having to be dependent on outside lawyers or law students.

The law students who originated the idea, held open community

meetings in the spring to find out what community reaction was to the idea and to get further suggestions.

In May, a grant was received from the Opportunities for Youth program which provided funding to

start laying the groundwork for such an office.

During the summer, citizen groups were contacted and the idea discussed with them. A feasibility study was published on the area and its legal needs and discussing the place of a community run legal

office in the area.

SEEK FUNDING

This study, as well as other documents, were used to make preliminary approaches to funding bodies such as governments foundations, law offices etc.

Last week the first meeting was held with community people specifically interested in a law office. A film on the Pointe St. Charles project was shown and then the philosophy and problems of setting up a similar project in the Don District were discussed. Questions were raised as to how

soon funding could be obtained, whether a good lawyer would be

willing to work for a salary, what kind of policy restrictions a board could lay down and on what basis the board should be chosen. The group which was present agreed to act as a temporary steering committee to continue looking at these questions.

Anyone who wishes to be on this committee or who has further suggestions or questions may feel free to contact Jennifer Silcox at 961-4920 after 5 p.m.

Dixon Hall entertains senior citizens with weekly trips

By JANICE MILLER

Again this summer, Dixon Hall has been the haven of Senior Citizen activity in the River-Parliament area of wonderful old Ward 7.

Highlights of the summer for the ladies included: - weekly craft projects, mini bingos, afternoon teas, knitting, sewing and last but not least a pre-summer bake sale at Dixon Hall's Street Dance.

The men, on the other hand, enjoyed a series of rap sessions, theatre shows and a tour of Toronto's Chinese Community which included a Chinese meal at its best plus a tour of the downtown mall.

WEEKLY TRIPS

The peak of the summer however for both men and women were the weekly outings which began June 21st at Pioneer Village and ended

August 23rd on a cruise around Lake Ontario aboard the Sam McBride. Other outings included: - sipping ale at Formosa Spring Breweries, returning to the agricultural days of the 1800's at Gibson House, becoming Kings and Queens of the Day at Dundurne and Casa Loma castles, walking through the jungle of the African Lion Safari and restful, entertaining afternoons at

Stratford viewing the Shakespearean Festival.

FALL PROGRAM

While the summer is coming to an end, programmes for Senior Citizens are just beginning and September is no exception with an outing planned for September 11 at 12:45, with the group being accompanied by the new staff member Nancy White.

Planners to report to S. Carlton area meeting

A report on Community Services and Needs for the South of Carlton area is being prepared for the next meeting of the South of Carlton Working Committee.

The paper, the first in a series, is being prepared by the planners attached to the Working Committee in consultation with local citizens.

When all the reports have been completed, they will form the basis of a detailed plan being worked out by the Working Committee for that area.

The next meeting of the South of Carlton Working Committee will be held September 12 at 7:30 p.m. at Central Neighbourhood House.

Montessori run nursery school

by JUDY STAMM

Since early July, a nursery school for 2 to 4 year olds has been operating out of St. Peter's Church on Carlton street under the direction of a Montessori nursery school teacher.

The facilities at the school include an outdoor fenced playground, a bright indoor playground, a classroom and gymnasium. A nursery room for babies of attending mothers is also included.

The Montessori teacher is one of a dedicated group of people trained specifically to start up and operate nursery schools with the emphasis on teaching basic development skills in the child. She is assisted by the mothers of the children who help out one day a week.

The school operates in the mornings from 9 to 12 and a new term started Sept. 5th. Fees are kept low and are adjustable according to the amount of grants obtained from the government. The school has a capacity for 20 children.

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Ward 7 News Round-up

Warren Beamish, Progressive Conservative candidate for Rosedale, has opened a campaign office at 459 Parliament. Reports are that he has \$100,000 backing him in his fight to unseat incumbent Donald S. MacDonald.....Rumor has it that Steinbergs is planning to build a supermarket on Parliament street north of Carlton.....Win Silman of Central Neighbourhood House has left after 12 years as Nursery School Supervisor. She has joined the staff of the Ontario Crippled Children's Centre in Leaside.....A CBC WEEKDAY film crew is active in the Don District. Already filmed is a program on Townhousing. Under production is a show comparing two local papers: the St. James and SEVEN NEWS.....Watch for CITY-TV to turn up at most major meetings in Ward Seven with a full mobile crew. They want film segments for a number of community programs they are running in the fall....FIRING LINE, a syndicated, confrontation-type program similiar to Under Attack will have local activist Bert Chapman on an upcoming show. Tickets are free from Neighbourhood Information Post.

ADDED CUT LINES: The front page picture in last issue showed a rubber tire hanging from a rope tied to a tree in West St. Jamestown park. The City Works Department subsequently came along and cut down the rope and tire but the local kids had it tied back up within a half hour. It's also reported that more kids play under that old oak tree than in the \$20,000 concrete playground built for them in St. Jamestown.....

UPCOMING: Watch for a street dance in Don Vale on Sept. 30th.....A dance will be held Sept. 14 at All Saint's Church, Dundas & Sherbourne. Admission is 25c with raffle, dance and floor prizes. Refreshments are free and proceeds to to the All Saint's Activity Fund.

MEETINGS: Riverdale Convention, 7:30 Sept. 12 at Riverdale Collegiate.....Community Secretariat, 8 p.m. Sept. 18 at Don Vale Community Centre.....SEVEN NEWS General meeting, 8 p.m. Sept. 14 at Don Vale Community Centre.....South of Carlton Working Committee, 7:30 Sept. 12 at C.N.H.....SOCCA General Meeting, 7:30 Sept. 18 at C.N.H.

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Successful OFY Project finishes at Moss Park

That the Opportunities For Youth office has difficulty in separating the wheat from the chaff is no secret. But one of the projects that certainly warrants continuation is Children and Senior Citizens Alike (C.A.S.C.A.), until recently operating in the Moss Park Penthouse at 275 Shuter Street.

For seniors and invalids, they offered a drop-in centre, transportation to and from hospitals and doctors' offices, hairdressing once a week, and assistance with the errands and the small routine tasks which are difficult for those not as physically active as they once were.

Perhaps the most visibly successful area was the free "Dinner at Lunchtime" on Thursdays. On the first Thursday, one senior citizen arrived, on their last Thursday, 65 were present.

50 GUESTS

"We averaged between 40 and 50 guests once word got around," said Marlene White, Co-ordinator of the project and also chief cook for the dinners. The senior citizens rearranged their medical appointments so that I wouldn't have to drive on Thursdays. Marlene, who used her own minibus to drive people to their appointments, made three or four trips a day, often more.

The seniors enjoyed having a central spot where they could chat with their neighbours, read, have a coffee, or play with the children. If they needed help to get there, Mary Lou Giblen, Monica O'Hara (both 17), Denise Roth, 14, or Linda Rivers, 16, were there to help them.

WADING POOL

The girls also supervised the wading pool, taught arts and crafts, dancing and pantomime in which both senior citizens and children took part. Grooming classes for all ages, films and outdoor games were also part of the programs.

"We wanted to take day trips as well, but there just wasn't enough money," Marlene said. "We had between 35 and 40 children each day from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday."

C.A.S.C.A. also cooperated with the George Brown Community Campus Trailer, and the Moss Park Tenants' Association to produce the Moss Park Community Festival on August 18 and 19.

WANT ANNUAL GRANT

"If we could get an annual grant, we would also like to add a weekly



Moss Park sports competition prize winners pictured above include John Fleming, Mark Gangen, Andrew Horvath, Pat MacKenzie, Gary Ploughman, Blaine Roth, Kem Stevens, Gilbert White and Ronny Witten.

Among the girls, prize winners were Lisa Bordens, Chrisla Bradshaw, Susan Fleming, Karen McNeil, Lorna Peterson, Sandra Ororke, Maria Sampson and Pat Winders.

shopping trip for the senior citizens who can't do it on their own and can't afford to pay prices like 85c a pound for butter that stores which deliver charge," Marlene said. An extension is "doubtful", according

to a local O.F.Y. official.

C.A.S.C.A.'s 15-week program cost only \$4,610 and benefitted several hundred people. Surely the government can afford this on a year-round basis.

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Reviews: Tenant and homeowner guide . . .

by BARRY MORRIS

RULES OF THE GAME: a handbook for tenants and homeowners. 58 Pages. Cost 25c. Published by Pollution Probe, 25 Harbord St.

Fortunate are the people, the inner-city neighbourhoods, and the variety of community workers and serious politicians who now have available to them this recently published booklet.

This is really an informative, sensitive and critical handbook. Several helpful leads are provided on every aspect of the development - re-development process as it is now being neatly and unjustly practised.

It contains superb research into how taxes are arrived at, and most crucially, who benefits from taxes; that is, who gets which services, where and how much. It also details why some areas and people suffer at the expense of those who get more than a just share. Also described is a tight and concise analysis of "redevelopment tactics", much of which any aware observer will recognise as being already at work in his own neighbourhood.

The handbook also gives detailed and very practical guides on 1) Title Searching (or how to find out who owns what, for how much, where); 2) Publications

which are helpful to digging out the (no longer) hidden ways and means that the pros live off the housing stock of old neighbourhoods; 3) Lists of who to call for a whole host of services and needs that the City Hall complex of resources is supposed to provide; and 4) a variety of clear charts indicating the rich-poor standings.

All-in-all, the handbook is an utter necessity for anyone, but anyone, at all, ever, interested in understanding what is going on in this city. The handbook really provides some solid clues and guides on the practical aspects of city politics.

Interestingly enough, the handbook couldn't have been published at all a couple of years ago. Painful experience, learned the hard way, has been carefully gleaned and now reported for us to consider and act on.

We need not be condemned for our past mistakes or uninformed past actions. The future can be different. The RULES OF THE GAME Handbook explains why and how.

Congratulations to Pollution Probe and the staff of researchers and writers who have produced this much needed booklet.

As Albert Camus puts it: "Each man, on the foundations of his own sufferings and joys, builds for us all".

Peewees in semi-finals

By MIKE BRITTON

After a long trying season, coach Bob Hogan has put together a successful combination resulting in a strong third place finish.

This is quite an improvement over last year when the boys won very few games and finished a disappointing fourth.

Other than the consistent leadership of coach Bob Hogan and brother Fred, the team has prospered behind the excellent pitching of Glenn Gaudette and Wayne Estwick. Other stand outs were first baseman Bob Gauthreau and out fielder Billy Schweir. However, a strong team effort was

an integral part of the team's rise in the standing and other honorable mentions include: Mike Gauthreau, Steve Gauthreau, Ken Gauthreau, Tracy Estwick, Ralph Martin, Dean Connelly, Rick Sampson, Ricky Devost, Leo Devost and others (Sorry for those guys who we've missed).

After their third place finish, the boys defeated Central Neighbourhood House in the best 2 of 3 series, and they now advance to the semi-finals against Don Vale of Broadview Y.

Winner to meet Woodgreen in the finals for the championship.

Men's softball league

By ROY KETCHESON

The highlight of this year's Men's Division has been the strong and consistent play of South Regent Community Ball Club supported by the Services Unit.

In the season just passed, coach Roy Ketcheson and pitcher Butch Lee led the club to the winner's circle 11 out of 12 ball games during the regular season. The only team to beat them being Don Vale Community Centre.

Having finished first, Roy and his boys eliminated Woodgreen in the A series of the Men's Semi-finals in three games and earned the right to meet Don Vale for the championship. (Ironically this is the only team that beat them in the regular season).

Thus far in the finals, South Regent defeated Don Vale 7-6 in an extra inning thriller and 3-0 in a tight second game.

Stand outs throughout include: Steve Gardiner, John Madden, John Sampson, Sam Cannpirella, Rick Baxter, Dave Barr, John Connelly, Ron Trahey, Grant Reeve, and Jim Connelly.

Congratulations to Regent Park Service Unit - Softball team, league champs, of the Don Valley Softball Association, Men's Division - pennant winner 1972. South Regent.

Sluggers in 2nd place

By RAYNETTE COKER

Dixon Hall's first venture with a girls' baseball team proved to be a good one. The Dixon Hall Sluggers held second place through the whole season and gave St. Christopher (the first place team) a run for their money.

The Sluggers with Captain (Short Stop) Brenda Bradshaw and excellent pitcher Susan Garrison,

Karen Dawson, Margaret Madden and newcomer Margie Cluett (to mention just a few of a very together team) certainly gave a good showing for their first season.

St. Chris better look out next year because if we can keep kids like Bonnie Wilcox and the Nadon Sisters, we will certainly end up in first place.

. . . . and downtown housing report

The city Planning staff has brought out a major report which has a great deal to say about the housing situation in Central Toronto. Although "South-East Spadina: Tentative Planning Proposals", the report contains a twenty-four page section on the changes that have been occurring in the downtown residential areas including Ward Seven.

This section of the report traces the history of downtown housing and shows how such things as urban renewal, the expansion of offices, the influx of middle income apartments and "White-painters" are wiping out the traditional working class neighbourhoods. It shows that even with all this activity there has actually been a

15. decline in Central Toronto's downtown population over the last twenty years.

POOR FORCED OUT

Having looked at the past, the report looks into the future. It predicts that if the trends continue, more and more of the Downtown will be turned over to high-rise apartments which house exclusively upper income people with no children. Or, if not displaced by apartment blocks, the report shows how lower income communities will be forced out by professionals and other high income people who buy older houses and renovate.

The report paints a future picture of Downtown Toronto as a lifeless core surrounded by high apartment

developments including Metro Centre, a few scattered "townhouse" areas which will be the only remaining pockets of older housing and finally, the last vestiges of low income housing - the public housing projects.

CALLS FOR ACTION

Complete with all kinds of data and maps, the report is an obviously well researched work which deserves attention. It calls for action on the part of City Council to do something about the way our Downtown is going.

It says, for example, that new housing projects should be forced by the City into providing mixtures of both apartments and single houses for both middle and lower income families. It says that the City should stop allowing developers to build in existing neighbourhoods and instead encourage them to build in areas where communities would not be disrupted like the business and industrial sectors. And, it says that new policies should be adopted that would help neighbourhoods like South St. James Town, South of Carlton and the Grange to improve and rehabilitate not for "whitepainters" but for the present residents.

Copies of the report are available to the public by calling the City of Toronto Planning Board at 367-7182

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