

RBI's replace 3 'R's as school salutes Jays

By Kate Burbidge
Toronto Star

Blue Jay mania hit a Brampton high school yesterday.

Shedding their usual burgundy uniforms, students at Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School donned Blue Jay regalia to celebrate Toronto Blue Jays Day.

Even principal Lorne Howcroft sported a baseball cap.

"Hey, they'll take the (world) series in four straight," Howcroft predicted.

"The Blue Jays will kick the Yankees' beeps (backsides)," said 15-year-old Rob Leoni.

School started with the national anthem, prayers and the playing of the Jays' theme song. The jingle was heard every other period after that.

It was all a bit much for Chris Todd, 15, who likes to be referred to as Turbo T.

"Watch the Indy 500, now that's cool," Turbo Todd said. "If I watch baseball, I sleep. Besides, I don't like guys who play with bats and balls."

But most students, such as 15-year-old Paul Griska, are convinced "the Blue Jays are the best and the Yankees, well, stink."

"The Yankees are poor sports," added Grade 10 student Patti Ross, 15.

Graham Edward was the only student who dared to wear a Yankees uniform and guidance counsellor Bill Hefferman wore a Detroit Tigers outfit.

"Tiger Stadium has the best hot dogs in the league," Hefferman said. "But there's no hope for the Tigers as long as Sparky Anderson is manager. I think I'll become a Cleveland Indians fan."

White-faced student Scott Cunningham painted the words "Blue Jays" on his forehead.

Even Boston-born school chaplain Father Stan Mackacinas, rumored to be torn over rooting for Toronto, caught the spirit and wore a Blue Jays cap.

A raffle will be held and next week eight pupils will be taken to Exhibition Stadium to meet the team, science teacher Nick Kotsos said.

They'll also deliver letters of encouragement, such as this one from Grade 9 student Jason Levin:

"Tony Fernandez, dah-ling, you look mah-vellous."



Jays fever: While students at Brampton's Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School celebrate Blue Jays Day yesterday, Scott Cunningham, 15, shows the face of a true Blue Jay fan.

\$20,000 plan proposed to solicit food for poor

By Michael Smith Toronto Star

Two days after he officially announced he'll seek re-election, Toronto Mayor Art Eggleton has proposed a \$20,000 pilot program aimed at combating "the distressing reality" of hunger in the city.

But Eggleton hotly denied he was playing politics with hunger, saying the announcement, made yesterday in his city hall office, "comes from the mayor of Toronto, not the candidate for mayor."

The three-month pilot program, called Foodshare Toronto, would have volunteer workers manning

a city hall hotline, taking calls from people who want to donate surplus food and from those in need of aid.

The \$20,000, which Eggleton hopes to have approved at Toronto City Council's Oct. 7 meeting, will pay a full-time co-ordinator for the hotline.

Alderman June Rowlands, the city's budget chief, said after the news conference she thinks council will be able to find the money. "I think it's a very worthwhile program," she said.

Alderman Anne Johnston, Eggleton's main foe in the mayoral race, said she is "delighted" that the issue of hunger was getting attention from the mayor.

Johnston, chairman of Toronto's board of health, said, "I set out 13 years ago to make public health sexy, and I'm delighted to have succeeded."

After the plight of tens of thousands of hungry people was revealed in The Star in August, John Sweeney, Ontario community and social services minister, said he was considering asking the cabinet to extend to year-round last winter's emergency program. Under that program, \$720,000 was given to churches and agencies in Metro to help feed and house the poor.

Representatives of several agencies, including Stop 103, the Scott Mission and the Salvation Army, joined Eggleton at a new conference announcing the city's proposal.

Police and committee strive for a safer Caribana festival

Efforts have begun to ensure a safe and secure Caribana festival in 1986.

Senior members of Metro police have met with the Caribana Cultural Committee to discuss the goals and objectives of next year's festival, a police spokesman said yesterday. Anyone wishing to contribute can contact the police public affairs department or the committee.

Caribana weekend festivities held last month on Centre Island ended in a melee in which police and spectators were injured.

Humane Society aims to raise \$40,000

The Toronto Humane Society hopes to raise \$40,000 in its annual tag day tomorrow.

About 200 canvassers will be on duty between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. at major shopping malls and bus and subway stops, said tag day convener Carol Takagi. Last year the society collected \$16,000.

Man fined \$500 over porno tapes collection

A Scarborough man has been fined \$500 in Provincial Court for possessing pornographic video cassette tapes for the purpose of circulation.

Lal Sitlani, 38, of Glenstroke Drive, pleaded guilty to circulating and possessing obscene material. He has 90 days to pay the fine or face 50 days in jail.

Police seized 10 pornographic

News digest

tapes in a raid of Sitlani's home on May 9. Also seized were 234 counterfeit videotapes of Hollywood movies valued at \$23,400.

Brampton Transit drivers ratify pact

Brampton Transit drivers and maintenance workers have ratified the city's latest contract offer, steering clear of a strike.

Members of Local 1573 of the Amalgamated Transit Union voted 54-29 in favor of a contract giving them an 8½ per cent wage increase over two years, raising the basic pay of drivers to \$13.70 an hour from \$12.58.

The 95 Brampton transit union members — 86 drivers and nine maintenance and office workers — had been in a legal strike position since Sunday.

Man in seniors' home died of natural causes

A 73-year-old Scarborough man whose body was found in a Scarborough senior's residence died of natural causes, Metro police say.

Ivan Pryda was found dead in his apartment at Saint Peter and Paul Retirement Residence on Milner Rd. shortly before noon on Wednesday. Police from 42 Division originally investigated the death as a possible homicide.

the city's land use committee, which is hearing objections to the development.

As the hearings got under way Wednesday, Eggleton kicked off his re-election campaign with a stinging attack on opponents of the development.

He charged opponents with engaging in "fear mongering," spreading "the big lie" that the giant development will lead to more expressways.

'Same old people'

"What is the mayor insisting — that everyone agree with him? He may not have expected opposition to the development, but we feel we have a legitimate view to present," Devine said yesterday.

In an interview earlier, however, Alderman Fred Beavis, a strong supporter of the rail lands plans and a member of the land use committee, defended the mayor.

Beavis said he thinks the opposition is being orchestrated.

"It's the same old people saying the same old things," Beavis said. "As far as I'm concerned, I'm satisfied our planners know what they're talking about. I'm satisfied traffic won't be a problem, and that expressways won't be necessary to serve the projects."

Eggleton has said 35,000 new permanent jobs would exist in the development, not enough to justify more expressways, especially with improvements to the public transit system.

But Eggleton admits the rail lands will be a "major issue" in the coming election. He says he will emphasize the benefits of the development in his campaign.

Eggleton's main opponent in his bid for re-election, alderman Anne Johnston, has vowed to battle against building a 60,000 domed stadium downtown, and to get developers to scale down proposed office buildings in favor of more housing.

reform days back to city

By Susan Pigg Toronto Star

Mayoral candidate Anne Johnston has pledged to return a flavor of reform to Toronto politics and give residents a strong voice again in the future of the city.

Johnston, 53, officially kicked off her campaign for mayor of Toronto last night, saying that people have lost trust in Toronto's government and need a dynamic mayor to take control.

"People are worried like they were back in 1972. People are scared of the spectre of expressways shoving through our cities."

"I want to be the voice for those people and for those fears, and a voice for their hopes too," Johnston told about 300 enthusiastic supporters at her Wellesley St. campaign headquarters.

Earlier this week, incumbent Mayor Art Eggleton attacked opponents of the controversial railway lands development, accusing them of spreading "the big lie" that the massive development will lead to more expressways.

'Real fears'

"He called them liars. They're people with real, honest to goodness fears," Johnston said.

Johnston said the reform movement is "a sleeping giant" that is being brought back to life by concerns that Eggleton and other Toronto politicians are allowing too many huge developments in the core of the city. She said it's time the city set down firm rules for developers.

"I want us to deal with the neglect in this city, the neglect of neighborhoods, the neglect of people," Johnston said. "I think it's my turn and my time."

Former Liberal MP in race for mayor of Scarborough

By Rita Daly
Toronto Star

Former Liberal MP Norm Kelly kicked off his Scarborough mayoral campaign yesterday by announcing he will take a "hands-on approach" to the job.

Kelly, 44, a former Scarborough alderman, delivered a half-hour speech without once referring to incumbent Gus Harris, who so far has refused to announce his intentions.

But he talked of the city's need for "a dynamic mayor" who will do more than sit in his office or attend ribbon-cutting ceremonies.

"I don't want to govern Scarborough with the tools of a township and I don't want to be your reeve," he told supporters gathered at the Devonsleigh Place restaurant on Steeles Ave. E.

Kelly proposed the establishment of at least seven mayor's task forces on various issues — seniors, the family, youth, tax reform — as a way of boosting the mayor's office and tapping valuable resources in the community. If elected, he said,

would also increase staff in the mayor's office and hire more independent staff for councillors.

The former federal MP for Scarborough Centre is in the running with two other candidates, Alderman Joe DeKort and former controller Brian Harrison.

Kelly described his own campaign as more sophisticated, delivering a "logical, coherent message" as opposed to an "ad-hoc approach" to issues.

The most publicized item of Kelly's campaign so far, though, is his hiring of campaign bigwig Bill Marshall, who is also running Art Eggleton's mayoral campaign and who has run campaigns for John Sewell, Peter Worthington and David Crombie.

Asked by a reporter why he brought Marshall on his team as campaign strategist, Kelly replied, "The devil made me do it."

Scarborough "has developed all the characteristics of a big city and I wanted someone who could articulate the issues to the people," he said.

Eggleton accepts 'love' match with Johnston

As a labor of, uh, love, Toronto Mayor Art Eggleton has accepted mayoralty arch-rival Anne Johnston's tennis challenge.

Eggleton, who says he plays tennis "a couple of times a month," told The Star yesterday he's willing to play, if — as Johnston suggested — the match brings in money for the United Way.

Johnston's challenge was in response to Eggleton's comments about domed-stadium critics. "The Mayor on Monday called people who questioned the dome financing anti-jock and anti-sports," she said. "That's nonsense."

No date's been set for the match.