

**Lavender forecasts**

# Drastic cuts in '79 varsity sports

Varsity sports in Halton could be drastically cut by 1979. Director of Education En Lavender told trustees Thursday that Halton's extensive inter-school athletic program doesn't appear to be in any danger of being curtailed this year but a financial crunch is looming on the horizon possibly next year.

His report showed funds raised by school staff and students pays 49 per cent of the varsity program's bills while the board picks up the other 51 per cent of the tab.

In 1976-77 Halton schools raised over \$1.4 million through the sale of game admissions, student cards,

chocolate bars, citrus fruit and garbage bags. However, that figure could be reduced if the board approves a suggestion of the joint school-health committee which wants chocolate bar sales banned.

Lavender said team transportation is the greatest cost and it just keeps escalating. Even though the board keeps raising its budget for team transportation it is doing little to reduce the burden on schools to raise more and more money to pay for transportation.

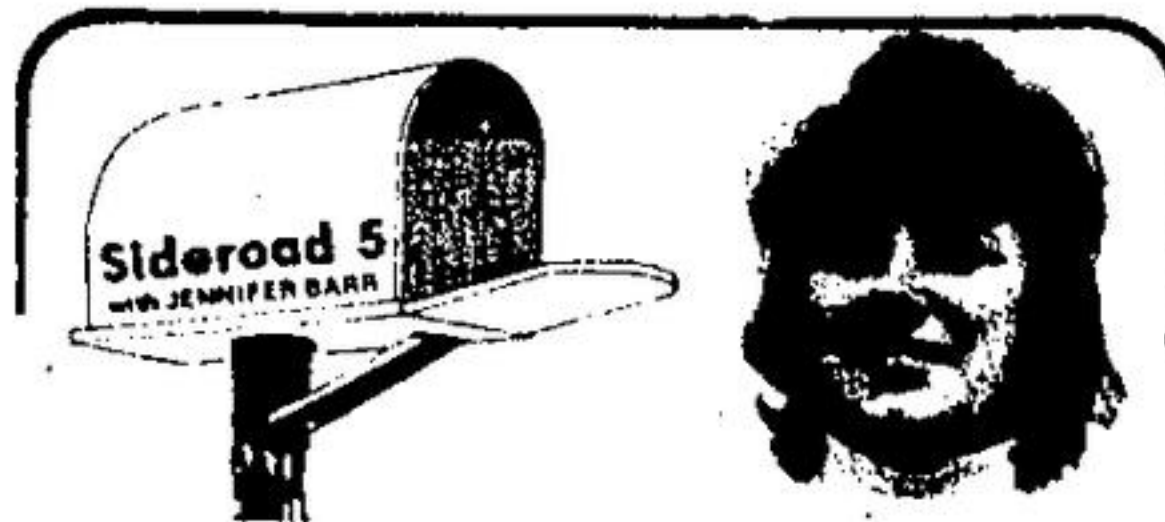
Things are even tougher for schools which are successful and go on to regional and provincial competition. Their costs, especially for transportation, keep climbing as they win more but revenue doesn't often keep pace, Lavender noted.

previous years, big cuts could be right around the corner. Lavender warned it costs for transportation and referees continue to escalate at their present rate the board will either have to increase its contribution to varsity athletics or schools will have to make cuts.

He said a "drastic cut" in inter-school athletics would create problems for the entire community.

Acton-Esqueing Trustee Bert Hinton said the school student councils and community were the only bodies who should be supporting varsity sports anyway. He thought board money should go into intra-mural sports only.

Trustee Len Auger of Oakville observed some of the schools' best intra-mural coaches come from varsity sports.



A watched pot never boils—neither does a donkey. It certainly doesn't foal anyway.

I have suffered through this donkey's pregnancy for so long, I'm in much worse shape than Jessica. She's marvellous and she loves the attention. At least twice a day, someone is giving her carrots, stroking her tummy, making personal but gentle examinations. She wonders why she should have the foal and put an end to these ministrations. The donkey specialist (yes, there is one) says she's in good health and there's no need to worry—donkey mares are often very stubborn about yielding their burdens.

They certainly are. This baby is five weeks overdue, officially, but we've been waiting for nearly three months.

Three months anxiety. Jessica had two honeymoons last year so we were watching her very closely during early June in case she had caught on her first breeding. When that time passed and it became obvious her second holiday with the stud had worked, we started to gear up for action in mid-July. No action. Nothing. This donkey foal has now been carried exactly two months longer than our first foal (different donkey mare).

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, I feel like a wrung out rag. Every morning, for at least 75 days, I've got up early, laced on my boots and padded to the upper pasture fighting mosquitoes, getting wet to the knees, and finally disappointed as I crest the hill to look straight into Jessica's peaceful eyes as she says, "Oh hello, there. Come for early breakfast again?"

I've given up. I will ignore her and she will be so upset at my lack of interest she'll lie down and give birth just to relieve the boredom.

By the time this foal arrives he's going to be a dreadful anti-climax. Jessica's doing it on purpose—she doesn't want to share the limelight with anyone.

Of course, elephants, are pregnant for nearly two years!

**Morris says:**

## Expropriation for historical bldgs. boggles mind

Using expropriation of private property to designate them as historical buildings boggles the mind, according to Councillor Peter Morris, who along with Halton Hills administration committee decided to take no action to set up a Local Architectural Control Advisory Committee in town.

Councillor Pat Patterson said his house was built in 1856, and he certainly would not want anyone telling him what he could do with it.

A report on the setting up of a LACAC committee was asked by council, after local historian John McDonald appeared at council, in July, explaining its function.

Chairman Russ Miller described the formation of such a committee as "imposing more restrictions on land owners." He suggested when someone approaches council about having a building designated an historical site, would be the time to consider it.

Clerk Administrator Ken Richardson, in his report,

## Town trades truck

There must be some sharp wheelers and dealers in the Halton Hills works department.

Monday, works committee approved engineer Robin Austin's recommendation that the town trade a 1954 truck and \$4,500 for a 1966 truck.

Austin described the 1954 White Truck as not road-worthy and unsafe. He said it wasn't worth fixing but the recently rebuilt water tank on the back will be kept.

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## Councillor - MOH clash over press

Sparks flew at regional health and social services committee last week when Oakville Councillor Ron Planche and Halton Medical Officer of Health Dr. Joseph Chamberlain clashed over handling of the press.

Mr. Planche, who is vice-chairman of the committee, said in the absence of chairman Walter Mulkech several reporters complained to him about difficulty in obtaining information concerning the polio situation in Halton. Mr. Planche asked Chief Administrative Officer Ernie Reid and Dr. Chamberlain to look into a way of disseminating information and handling press inquiries that wouldn't take health unit staff away from their clinical work.

Dr. Chamberlain disputed Mr. Planche's claim. "These things go on day after day. The newspapers lug the day-lights out of you."

Refusing to discuss the matter further, Dr. Chamberlain angrily left the table and went to sit in the public section of the council chambers.

Councillors Pat McKenzie and Russ Miller opposed Mr. Planche's motion to set up an information system, saying they hadn't received any complaints. "If the press is that concerned, there are 24 councillors they can complain to," said Mr. Miller.

But Oakville Councillor Laurie Mannell and Mr. Mulkech supported Mr. Planche and the motion was carried.

## Grants for publishers

Several area publishing houses and magazines were among recipients of grants by the Ontario Arts Council.

Early Canadian Life, Milton, received \$2,000 in magazine grants while The Boston Mills Press, Cheltenham received \$7,000 in grants awarded to book publishers.

Two Erin publishing houses—The Porcupine's Quill with \$3,500 and Press Porcupine Limited \$13,500—were also among those awarded grants.

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## Mosquito population

Dry weather has kept down the mosquito population this year. In a report to the Regional Health and Social Services Committee Halton Medical Officer of Health Dr. Joseph Chamberlain said fewer adult mosquitos this July than in the previous two summers. Dry weather reduced Culex breeding sites along roadside ditches.

The Culex mosquito is the species believed to carry the St. Louis Encephalitis virus. Surveillance is conducted by the University of Guelph.

## B & E thieves reap cash

Break and enter thieves got away with a small amount of cash after they broke into a Nassagaweya Township home. Entry was gained through a bathroom window.

## OAC grants

Grants totalling almost \$3 million to artists and organizations were announced recently by the Ontario Arts Council.

Among district organizations which received grants were \$5,000 to the Bramalea Theatre for Children and \$2,500 to the Oakville Symphony Orchestra.

## Mom files

### assault report

A Willow Street mother reported to Halton Regional Police that her seven-year-old son was struck in the head by another boy with a bottle.

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**\* REGISTRATION \***

- \* Pre-Registration in the Arena Friday, Sept. 15th, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- \* Registration in Arena Saturday, Sept. 16th, 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. (Babies need not accompany parents for registration)

**\* PRE-REGISTRATION ALSO AT TODDLERS TO TEEN SHOP — FROM TUESDAY, SEPT. 5 TO THURSDAY, SEPT. 14th**

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