

Visit with favorite Leaf trio highlights Martha's 97th

by Helen Murray
It was the happiest birthday of Martha Jackson's long life last Tuesday, November 28 as she sat in Maple Leaf Gardens surrounded by her three favorite National Hockey League players.

For Mrs. Jackson, who turned 97 the day of her memorable trip to Toronto, it was a lifelong dream realized. She has been the number one fan of the Toronto Maple Leafs even before Foster Hewitt days. She is probably the only fan who has only missed one game (on the radio or television) in the history of the team. She knows all the players' names, records, and family life, for the past 50 years.

Yet, in spite of her enthusiasm for the game and the players, she had yet to be present in the Gardens for a game, or meet any of the players.

A few years ago, a player joined the Leafs who was to become her all-time favorite. In an interview on her 96th birthday in her Mapleview Lodge, R.R. 2, Acton home she told this newspaper "He is a terrific player, skates well, handles the puck well, is kind, courteous... and oh so cute."

That player was Darryl Sittler, captain of her team.

That interview set the wheels in motion. Through the combined efforts of then Halton Hills councillor, now mayor-elect Peter Pomeroy, friend Dave Voight, and reporter Helen Murray, a meeting was set up for Mrs. Jackson to meet Darryl. It was a coincidence that the meeting was finally arranged for her birthday.

Mrs. Jackson knew nothing about the arrangements going on. They were to be a complete surprise to her on Sunday November 26, when Joan Waldie, operator of the Lodge told her.

Two days later, she was sitting in Maple Leaf Gardens, watching the entire team practice. The morning was more than she ever imagined as she watched her favorite team skate past.

Some players looked up and smiled. Dan Maloney complete with face mask to protect a recent facial injury, gave her a big wink.

After over an hour of practice, she got used to watching the likes of Borje Salming, Darryl Sittler, Lanny McDonald, Tiger Williams, Pat Boutette, Ian Turn-

bull, Mike Palmateer, Paul Harrison, Ron Ellis, Roger Neilson etc., going past.

As she sat in the huge arena watching the practice, she realized just how honored she was to be sitting in. "There are thousands of little boys, and big boys, who would give their eye teeth to be sitting here," Mrs. Waldie told her.

After the practice, Darryl Sittler skated off the ice to chat with her. When he was told it was her birthday, he called over two other favorites of hers, Tiger Williams and Lanny McDonald.

"You have to stay out of that penalty box," she scolded Tiger Williams, her finger bouncing off his wrist. "You are too good a player to be sitting in there. They need you too much on the ice." He made no promises to her, and hinted he had to keep up his reputation, (as a fighter). He then handed her his hockey stick as a birthday present. Surprisingly enough, Tiger did not get a penalty the next night against Minnesota.

Mrs. Jackson is the envy of thousands of women as she turned down a date with
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A rose amongst three thorns . . .

. . . so says Toronto Maple Leaf Lanny McDonald, right as he and fellow teammates Darryl Sittler, left, and Tiger Williams, back, surround Mrs. Martha Jackson of Mapleview Lodge, R.R. 2, Acton on her 97th birthday last Tuesday. The meeting took place in Maple Leaf Gardens.—Photo by Helen Murray.

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Jack Raftis favored as new chairman

Wages and hiring snarl elementary teacher talks

The hiring of more teachers and salaries are the main issues delaying the signing of agreements between Halton's elementary teachers and the board of education.

The teachers' negotiating team has asked for a mediator to be appointed to work out the hiring and wage issues plus a number of related matters.

The request comes on the heels of the release Monday of the Education Relations Commission fact finder's report which urges both sides to continue talks.

"It is hoped that both parties will give due consideration to the comments and recommendations of this

report and will continue negotiations in an endeavor to reach an agreement," states fact finder Grant Gillespie at the end of his seven-page report.

The teachers engaged in the talks are: the branch affiliates of the Federation of Women Teachers' Associations of Ontario and the Ontario Public School Men Teachers' Federation.

The teachers want a pay increase of eight per cent that would raise the wage of starting teacher to \$13,552. The top wage would climb to \$28,990.

The Halton board is offering a general five-and-a-half per

cent hike to the public school teachers, the same offer that is being considered by the high school teachers.

The Halton board's wage offer would raise the minimum wage to \$13,462 or \$60 less than what the teachers want. The board's offer also falls short by \$804 at the other end of the scale. If the board's offer is accepted the ceiling for a teacher's wage would be \$28,186.

The other main issue is teacher hiring. The 16 special education teachers asked for by the staff have been engaged, according to the fact finder's report. However, the teachers call for an additional 50, in order to decrease the pupil-teacher ratio.

"The board does not disagree with the conclusion that both P.T.R. and class size are high in comparison with other boards," states Gillespie. "However, the board claims there is no evidence to suggest that the quality of education is linked to P.T.R. and that reasonable adjustment can be made to class size within the present P.T.R.," states the report.

The Halton board press release indicates the board wants to maintain the present
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By Rod Lamb
Halton's new regional chairman could be Jack Raftis.

The 48-year-old electrical engineer from Burlington is the only firm candidate for the post, going into today's election at regional headquarters.

Chairman of the region's public works committee since it was formed five years ago, Raftis is considered a strong regional representative.

Informed staff and fellow councillors said he would probably run council with a firm hand, in the same manner he has conducted committee meetings.

Site F supporters have no hope with him.

He has indicated he is in favor of the Milton garbage site and if the Ontario Municipal Board gives the region the green light next year, would be vigorous in pursuing the region's goal, sources say.

Three other possible contenders for the job are Burlington Councillor Walter Mulkevic, Councillor McLean Anderson of Oakville and Councillor Terry Mannell, also of Oakville.

Mulkevic, who is a 38-year-old salesman and chairman of the social services and family committee, said he has decided not to run.

Anderson, 53, a purser with Air Canada and who has just returned from a trip to New Zealand and Australia, said he hasn't made up his mind.

Informed sources said Anderson has a chance to be elected if he makes a bid to succeed Ric Morrow who is stepping down after 10 years in politics, two of them as chairman.

However, they said he would not be as strong a regional person as Raftis.
Mannell, a former Oakville reeve who had been out of politics for two years but now sits on council beside his father Laurie, said he now looks "like a non-contender."

The election for chairman is further confused by the 24 councillors, 12 of whom are brand new.



JACK RAFTIS
Halton's new chairman?

A candidate requires two councillors' signatures to be nominated. However, if a person outside of council has the necessary signatures he, too, can stand for election.

Whoever is elected has to be confirmed at the inaugural meeting a week today—Dec. 13.

By holding the chairman's election today, council hopes the inaugural ceremony will simply be a meeting with pomp and ceremony.

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HALTON HILLS' new councillors gather around Mayor Peter Pomeroy (seated). From the left, Councillor Harry Levy, a former councillor, hands the mayor the gavel. Looking on are Ed Wood, regional councillor for Ward One and John McDonald, area councillor Ward Three. Absent is Ross Knechtel, Ward One area councillor. In the background is the coat of arms for the town of Halton Hills.

Christmas bus starts next week

A Christmas bus throughout town for the benefit of the local shoppers, will commence next Wednesday, December 13 and run until Saturday, December 23.

The bus, sponsored by the Acton Business Improvement Area, will pick up passengers along the various routes free of charge.

Route one leaves the town hall on Willow Street on the hour, starting at 9 a.m. The last route starts at 5 p.m., finishing at 6 p.m. It travels east on Mill St. to Young St., east to Longfield Rd. to Churchill Rd. to Peel, west to Acton Blvd. to Mill, west to Bower, to Willow.

Route two leaves the town hall at 20 minutes after the hour. It travels along Willow

to Church, east to Maria to Poplar to Crescent to York to Eastern to Wallace to Mason to McDonald to Churchill Rd., to Norman to Rosemary to George to Mill and back to Willow.

At 40 minutes past the hour, the bus leaves the town hall and travels down Willow to St. Alban's to Main St., south to Kingham to Harrington to Doby to Mill to Cobblehill to Victoria to Park to Knox to Main to Elizabeth to Elmore Dr. to Lakeview Dr. From there it turns right onto Highway 7 (Guelph St.) to Main to River to Willow.

An ad in this week's paper shows the routes in full and how close they travel to other streets in town.

Truck spill hurts two local men

Two local men were injured, traffic was tied up for hours and a crowd gathered along Young Street where a lumber loaded truck spilled its load Saturday afternoon.

Guy Payne, 52 Main St. N., a car driver and his passenger, Gary Edge, 192 Churchill Rd. S., suffered slight injuries when their auto became the target of some of the wood dumped off an oncoming tractor trailer just after lunch.

The tractor trailer driven by Robert Peter Bridges, Brampton was westbound when it rounded the corner from Queen Street onto Young Street. The load of lumber shifted, according to the truck flipped onto its left side.

The Payne auto tried to es-

cape, but it was struck by the falling lumber, according to police.

Police estimate damage to the tractor trailer to \$10,000. Damage to the car driven by Payne was put by police at \$1,500.

Lumber was spread onto the road, which was blocked until at least the middle of the afternoon.

Onlookers soon gathered while police sorted out the debris. Acton Firefighters were also called to the scene in case of an oil or gas spill, according to fire chief Mick Holmes. Town workmen covered what spilled with sand he said.

Through the afternoon workmen stacked the lumber, and a fork lift truck was employed to hoist the load onto another trailer.



Timber-r-r!

FIREFIGHTERS AND Halton Regional Police were called to the scene on Young Street where a tractor trailer spilled tons of lumber Saturday. Traffic was tied up for hours as workmen cleared the wood from the road. Two local men in a passing car were unable to escape. Falling lumber damaged the grill and side to the tune of about \$1,500, according to police. Several onlookers arrived soon after the mishap. Police say the trailer's load shifted, and tipped the large truck onto its side.

Mayor sworn in by brother-in-law

Something new was added to the inaugural ceremony of the 1979 Halton Hills council, Monday night, when Mayor Pete Pomeroy was sworn in by his brother-in-law Leo Archdekin of Brampton, who is a Justice of the Peace.

Archdekin also placed the pewter chain of office, made by Lotte Zonnenberg, and designed by Dorothy Stone, around the new mayor's neck.

His honor Judge Kenneth Langdon administered the oath of office to both regional and area councillors.

Judge Langdon led off by commenting he was glad a former member of the 1949 Norval PeeWee hockey team had made good, referring to the new mayor. Judge Langdon also was a member of the same team.

The judge told the new council they had assumed an awesome responsibility, and will have to balance demands of citizens against resources. "I don't envy you, but I wish you well."

He said he was satisfied the people of Halton Hills had

elected people of maturity and wisdom who will do their best. In conclusion, he reminded the councillors the will of the people is not a document which bequeathes them something.

Rev. J. DeJong gave a prayer of dedication asking for guidance for councillors and mayor in their decisions.

Mayor Pomeroy emphasized the responsibility of local and regional councillors, and pointed out local councillors attended 150 meetings and regional councillors twice that amount during the last term. He added these figures did not include special meetings.

He said municipal council is the closest to the people, and warned new councillors calls Sunday morning, Sunday night, and anytime are not unusual.

He thanked the councillors for offering their services, and said he was looking forward to working with them in making decisions affecting the future of the town.

Pomeroy suggested the large voter turn-out reflected

a wide-spread concern with the overall development policy, and the effect on the tax structure. He said he felt people want to understand and communicate with the regional level, and are wondering if the town can attract industrial development.

He said he was looking forward to leading council, while informing the public.

Regional chairman Ric Morrow emphasized regional government is the same level as area council, and is simply called regional because the

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Carollers' sheets

Christmas carollers will enjoy a special pull out song sheet in this week's paper.

The page is designed to be removed from the paper and kept, hopefully from year to year.