



MRS. MARTHA JACKSON of Mapleview Lodge clutches her scrapbook of Maple Leaf hockey player Darryl Sittler and teammates as she watches the men practice at Maple Leaf Gardens last week, on her 97th birthday.

### Visit with Leafs . . .

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Lanny McDonald. "You don't look much over 30, what are you doing tonight?" he smiled. A reel of giggles followed.

"You are a rose between three thorns," Lanny told her as the four readied to get their picture taken. A big hug from the three players put her in seventh heaven.

Mike Palmateer, Leaf goalie, paid her a visit also, wishing her a happy birthday. As she was leaving the Gardens, she was interviewed on CKO FM radio to tell of her experiences and told how she had not missed a game in over 50 years "except one game two seasons ago."

Mrs. Jackson left the Gardens with Tiger's hockey stick, a puck from Darryl, and every team member's autograph. The most important things she left with though were a big smile, a happy heart and a

## Halton eyes feasibility of parenting program

The idea of a parenting program in Halton schools was adopted by the board of education last week but trustees are looking elsewhere for the money.

Halton Board of Education endorsed the executive committee's recommendation for a feasibility study of a parenting program and a second recommendation to ask the Ministry of Education

if the program should be a must subject.

The board, however, set aside a third step—to seek money from the ministry to hire a consultant—until the ministry's opinion on making a parenting program mandatory is known.

Director of Education Em Lavender said the executive committee decided such a program is necessary, if it

gets ministry approval.

The board's move towards a parenting program was sparked by a nine-page report by Eric Balkind, principal of Howard Wrigglesworth public school at Georgetown. The report was made last month and it split trustees.

Lavender told the board the executive committee recommendations and the Balkind report were close.

Balkind wanted a place and resource centre; the committee did not want to take that responsibility. Lavender also indicated the board should stay out of the nursery centre for children.

The board is seeking the ministry's opinion on making a parenting program mandatory in every student's basic education. That is a "thorny and complex" matter, according to Lavender.

In explaining the executive committee's position to the board, Lavender said the committee was willing to house parenting courses, only if there is no cost to the board. There are surplus classrooms, he indicated.

The board was just as split-pro and concerning the executive committee recommendations as when Balkind presented his report October 12.

Georgetown trustee Barry Shepherd backed the notion of the parenting program because he said it will make future parents aware of their responsibilities. That awareness may decrease the need for special education and result in a considerable saving of money, he said.

On the other side of the question was Milton Trustee Ivan Armstrong and others. He said he saw the parenting program as "the thin edge of the wedge" for drawing the board into the day-care job. However, he indicated support for using night schools for such a program. In future only 50 to 60 per cent of the population will be having children, he said.

Oakville trustee Elsie Hilson lined up with the conservatives.

## NEC planning area okayed in Halton Hills

Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) Friday approved a slightly reduced area for which a plan will be prepared in Halton Hills.

The reduction in the area follows a public outcry which came after the NEC released its preliminary proposals for the planning area in February. In May it was announced that the area to be planned would be approximately the area of development control.

At Friday's meeting, NEC staff planners recommended that the planning area be extended to include the east bank of the Credit River above Glen Williams but the commission turned it down, favoring instead a line along the abandoned CNR line.

On the west side of town, the planners had recom-

mended extending the line to include some unique areas but that too was turned down.

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### Wages and hiring...

(Continued from Page 1)

staff ratio at 23.5 pupils per teacher. The teachers' chief negotiator, Bill Watt, contends that while the board stands pat on the ratio, the teachers have modified their position. He indicates he would like to see some change in the board's position.

Like the high school teachers, elementary teachers are asking for inclusion of a dental plan in the contract. Some agreement concerning the rate of subsidization of premiums, 75 per cent, has been reached. However there are other details to be ironed out.

Principals' wages are another bone of contention between the sides. The fact finder agreed with the board's offering of a flat \$1,500 increase rather than going with the teachers' request which amounts to an eight per cent boost.

In a related issue, single salary schedule for principals, the fact finder also sided with the board. There exists two levels of principal's wages, depending on the size of the school. Teachers are calling for a uniform salary regardless of the school size. "The board believes that principal workload is related to the size of the school," states Gillespie's report.

The use of non-certified teachers in the elementary school classrooms appears to be less of an issue than in the high schools.

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