

Scallen asks leave to appeal in fraud verdict

More than two and one half years after the sensational Milton trial, a final appeal will be made January 27 to appeal the fraud conviction imposed on self-proclaimed Catholic priest, Denis Edward Scallen, 58.

Scallen's lawyer, David Harris of Oakville, said an application for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada is being sought and will be heard January 27. Three judges will hear the application and decide if the case should be heard by the full panel of nine Supreme Court judges.

The six month jail sentence given in July 1978 was appealed by Scallen but the decision of the court was upheld by the Ontario Court of Appeal. Since the Court of Appeal ruling in October Scallen has been serving his sentence.

During the nine-day trial the jury of six men and six women heard testimony from two teenage "nuns" who spent 30 months at Scallen's Fifth Line

religious retreat, near Limehouse. The "nuns" testified they were made to strip for Scallen, known as Brother Dan or Father Benedict, as penance for sin.

During the trial Scallen was found guilty of defrauding the parents of the two teenage "nuns" of \$4,000 and an Oakville man of \$80 which they donated to the retreat known as the Benedictines of Mary Immaculate Order.

The appeal, lawyer David Harris said, is only for the fraud charges. The Crown Attorney is waiting for the final settlement of the fraud case before deciding whether to proceed on the outstanding charges of one count of rape and two counts of indecent assault which allegedly took place at Scallen's religious retreat.

Throughout the trial Scallen proclaimed his innocence to Judge Allan B. Sprague and maintained he is a Roman Catholic priest.

News digest

Exchange student

Acton Rotary Club will welcome an exchange student from Australia to town this weekend. Jennifer Nunan, age 16, will be staying with a number of Rotary families during her stay here. She will be grade 11 at Acton High School. The daughter of an Anglican Church priest, Miss Nunan is from Alexandra.

Owl Prowl at Mountsberg

Mountsberg Wildlife Centre will present a special winter program this Friday, Owl Prowl. The free family outing will feature winter activities like horse drawn sleigh rides, a snowshoe hike, skating and when visitors are cold they can enjoy homemade soup, free, at the bonfire by the skating pond. There will also be a puppet show, a slide talk, films and visits with Oscar, Mountsberg's great horned owl.

Town hall committee

Councillor Terry Grubbe will likely be the chairman of Halton Hills council's special committee overseeing restoration plans for Acton's town hall. Other members of the committee are Councillors Pam Sheldon, John McDonald and Harry Levy.

Seek crossing guards

Halton Hills is looking for more crossing guards for Acton. Deputy clerk Deimar French says there is a dire need for stand-by crossing guards here.

Seek liquor licence

Halton Hills council made no comment, simply received and filed a notification from the Liquor Licence Board stating Family Restaurant, 15 Mill St. East, has applied for a liquor licence.

Annual fair meeting

The annual meeting of the Acton Agricultural Society will be held Saturday, January 24 beginning at 10 a.m. at Knox Presbyterian Church.

Up school guards' pay

School crossing guards at a standard location had their pay upped from \$200 to \$220 per month retroactive to January 1.

All guards will receive a 10 per cent increase, recommended by Halton Hills general committee, Monday night.

Guards at stations where more than one school is located and where the hours vary, will receive \$264, up from the previous \$240. Supervisors will now receive \$264.

Patrol zones added

In an effort to improve police presence in areas where needed, Halton Police Chief James Harding has added three new patrol zones in Halton Region following a study of the area.

Harding said the new zones were added in Oakville and Burlington while police zones in the north were reduced giving officers less distance to cover.

Trinity welcomes African speaker

by Jennifer Barr
Mankekolo Mahlangu, a social activist from South Africa, will be in Acton February 1, speaking at Trinity United Church at 10 a.m. in celebration of the Ten Days for World Development program.

Ms. Mahlangu is currently in exile from her native country, but has been a member of the Africa National Congress; a member of the Committee of Ten in Soweto; she has worked with various youth organizations, People United to Save Orphans, and industrial feeding schemes. She is described as

"offering a vibrant evangelical faith expressed in an active social stance."

Local churches are focusing on Ten Days for World Development and proceeding with plans for this year's educational program taking place from January 30 to February 8.

Each year the Ten Days committee, sponsored by the Anglican, Catholic, Presbyterian, Lutheran and United Churches, attempts to educate Canadians concerning Third World development problems. This year's theme is a

continuation of last year's "Right to Earn a Living".



John Kiteley

Asparagus farmer in the courts

Another Halton Hills farmer is in court because he allegedly refused to buy a licence for his asparagus.

The Ontario Asparagus Growers Marketing Board, which regulates production, charged John Kiteley, RR 3, Georgetown with producing asparagus without authority, with refusing to permit the board to measure his fields and with falling to complete a board file.

Kiteley was remanded Monday until next month for trial.

The provincial asparagus board withdrew charges against RR 4 Acton farmer Casey Ross because he paid last year's fees. Ross, who was convicted last year of growing his crop without a licence and other offences, has gotten around the board's rules by splitting up his asparagus fields.

The board charges a licence fee of \$25 per acre. There is no fee for less than a half acre of asparagus.

Em Lavender

Board director resigning post

Halton educators have about a year to find themselves a new leader.

Education director Em Lavender has tendered his resignation, after 24 years with Halton Board of Education, effective at year's end. The resignation was accepted with regret.

Lavender, who is in his sixth year as director, told board members Thursday that for the balance of his term he would "give the old college try" to the best of his ability.

"I believe the leadership in the system is sound, with some problems, but sound," commented the director.

Trustees knew Lavender was expected to step down this year. They may now start

searching for a new director.

"I am convinced that I will leave with my pride in the teacher's role undiminished and with a tremendous respect for the role of citizen as trustee, a role that I have come to associate with some of the finest people I have known," stated Lavender.

The board, last year, passed a motion which altered the requirements for a director. No longer must the administrator be a teacher.

Lavender's resignation is the second recently to be suffered by the board. Superintendent of business and finance Bruce Lindley also tendered his resignation. The board has advertised his more than \$50,000 a year job.

Copies cost increases

The cost of obtaining copies of the Official Plan have gone up from \$6 in Georgetown and \$7 in Acton to \$10.

Esquing's Official Plan will now cost \$20, double its previous amount.

Councillor Russ Miller asked for an explanation of the higher cost for the Esquing copy.

Clerk Administrator Ken Richardson said that plan has to be printed commercially since it has color maps, so costs more. The other two are printed in the town offices.

You Are Invited

To Meet FRAN BAINES



Fran is seeking the Progressive Conservative nomination for the riding of Halton-Burlington in the next provincial election.

Drop in and discuss your concerns with Fran over a cup of coffee. Got involved in her campaign.

SUPPORT FRAN

THE TIME: Sunday, January 15th, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
THE PLACE: North Halton Golf Club

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THE COMMITTEE TO NOMINATE FRAN BAINES



Photographer photographs photographer—single tracks in fresh snow at the Rockwood Conservation Area.



Sumacs and cedar rails—typical of an Ontario winter.



What force created this interesting tree formation on the Fourth Line of Esquing?



Partially frozen river winds its way through Limehouse.

This week thru the lens

Photos by Jennifer Barr



Rockwood Conservation Area attracts skiers of both the cross-country and downhill variety. Trails are marked in accordance with skiing skill required for safe negotiation.



One man and his dog brave sub-zero temperatures for a winter walk. Holland Cousens and Sam take a hike around the parish.



Valleyspring Farms, owned by the Ralph Cunningham family, is framed by stumps from the stump fence bordering their Limehouse property.

Delay Chamber annual

The Acton Chamber of Commerce annual general meeting likely won't be held now until March vice-president Dave Whiting says. Whiting reported last month that Ontario Minister of Housing Claude Bennett would be coming to Acton to speak at the meeting to be held in February. However, Whiting was recently informed Bennett can't attend after all. He is now looking for another guest speaker.

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