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Fund-raising woes: Can't win 'em all

We share the local Cancer Society unit's delight over last week's Terry Fox Run in Acton and Georgetown, which raised another \$19,000 for cancer research. The 360 kind souls who gave up part of their Sunday to renew the promise of the Marathon of Hope deserve their community's thanks.

We only wish the same weekend hadn't seen a dismal turn-out for the muscular dystrophy dance-athon at Alcott Arena.

There were bad feelings all around when the two teenage organizers decided to pack in their worthwhile project some 13 hours earlier than planned. Only a handful of dancers had shown up, but no spectators and no special guests, and it would be entirely understandable if organizers felt a little bitter about the community letting them down.

The bottom line in this sad story is indeed public apathy about the cause as well as the event. After a false start caused by a misunderstanding between town officials and the youthful organizers - Kevin McLauchlan and Ross Baird - the dance-athon looked as though it might generate a little excitement by attracting top Canadian personalities like Darryl Sittler and Kevin's uncle, Murray McLauchlan.

Whether it was something to do

with the event's simultaneous timing with the Terry Fox Run or the lack of a popular focal point in the fight against muscular dystrophy - like Terry Fox himself - no one can really say. Kevin's somewhat naive enthusiasm over the dance-athon may be a reason why certain VIPs were expected but failed to show, but that has no bearing whatever on the turn-out. Had folk-rocker McLauchlan turned up, he would have been greeted by a dozen or so curious teenagers.

Look beyond Kevin's and Ross' grand expectations, though, and you have some pretty remarkable entrepreneurship for two inexperienced teenagers. Even the Kinsmen Club failed to muster Georgetown's young dancers for its annual cystic fibrosis dance-athon, choosing finally to move the event permanently to Acton High School, where the kids tend to get involved more readily, for some unknown reason.

Sorry about the way things turned out, boys, but don't be too discouraged. The most successful community movers have to use TNT to get people interested around here. We're just happy you haven't abandoned the fund-raising plans altogether: hopefully, we'll have another chance to make good on your expectations.



Letter from the editor

Paul Dorsey

'Seeing Things' on TV

Been checking out any of the new television series which networks have been dangling in front of us as a primer for the coming season? The sheer banality of it all is being adequately documented elsewhere, but there's at least one show worthy of comment here.

The CBC, lo and behold, had a pleasant surprise for me the other night when I watched a pilot for "Seeing Things", a new drama series filmed in Toronto. CBC, which replaced the railroad as the vehicle for our National Dream, has actually come up with a winner of its own.

"Seeing Things" is about a news reporter who happens to be clairvoyant. I know - it sounds hokey as hell, but the concept, judging from the first show, really works.

What makes the new series so surprising as a CBC venture is that it looks like nothing the CBC has ever produced before. That, you'll be interested to

know, is due to one man's efforts, director George McCowan, an American.

Famous in the TV industry for directing fast-paced cop shows from The Mod Squad to Streets of San Francisco to Charlie's Angels, McCowan is that tall, lean, dark-haired figure many Georgetoners watched strolling pensively around their streets during the filming of "Never Trust an Honest Thief" here. If "Seeing Things" is any indication of McCowan's current abilities, "Honest Thief" should be quite an exciting feature once it gets released.

Last word on the Orson Welles movie, by the way, was that producer Zale Magder was still looking for a distributor. If you think you're getting impatient, think about Michelle Finney, the Toronto actress who co-starred in "Honest Thief". She's probably wondering if the world will ever get to see her major film debut while she bides her time with TV commercials and guest shots on "Party Game".

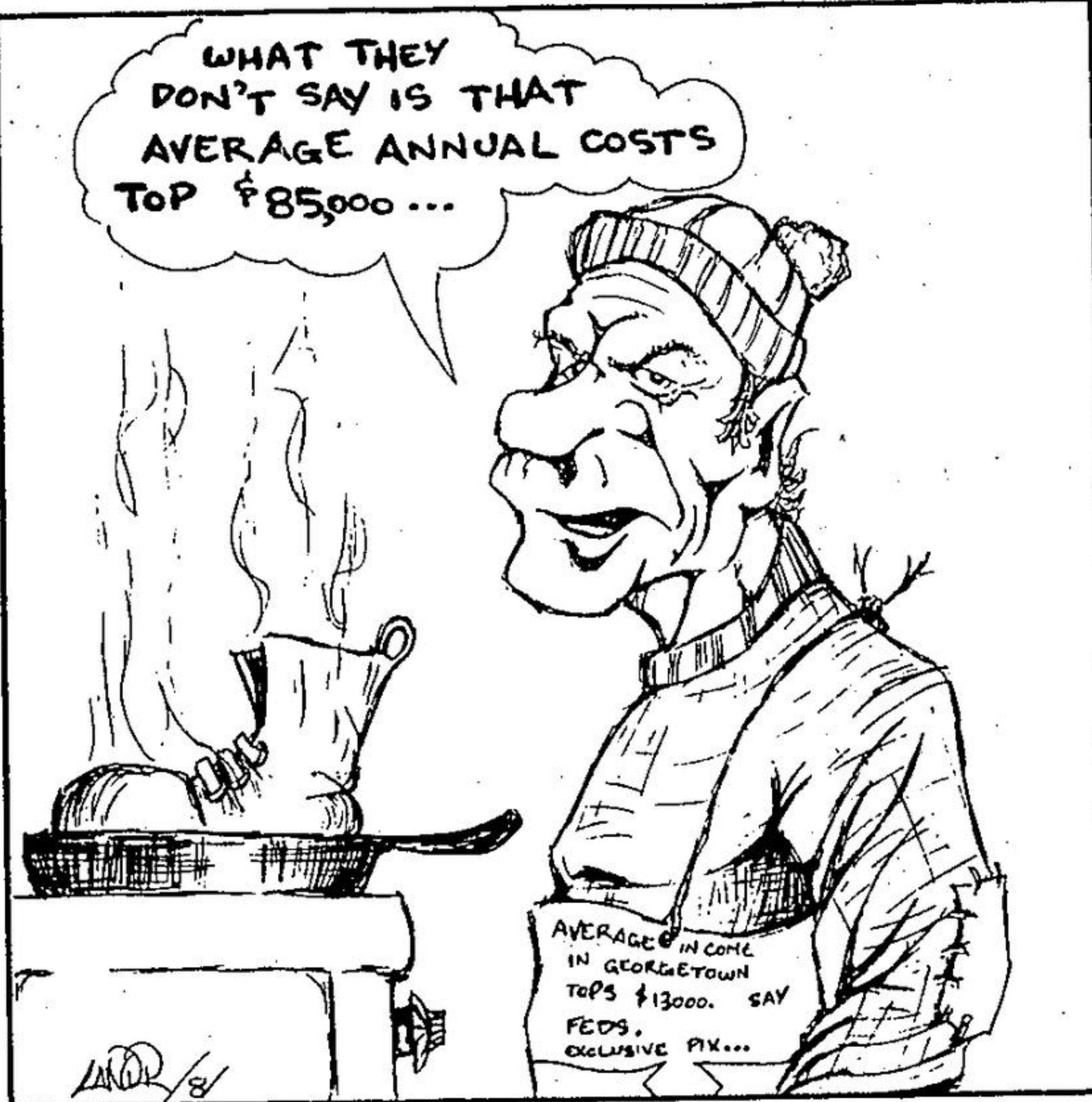


SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY

As you might guess from the ramp markings (Pete Pomeroy Sports is the former name of North Halton Sports Ltd.), it was ten years ago next week that the GT Motorsport Club and the Georgetown recreation department organized the community's first Grand Prix soap box derby on the Maple Avenue hill. Turned into one of the province's biggest soap box events by that year's 38 entrants, the derby returns Oct. 9 for its anniversary running. Will co-sponsors the Kinsmen Club of Georgetown and McDonald's Restaurant invite all young Villeneuves out to the same location to test their courage and challenge their speed.

(Herald file photo)

Grand Prix returns Oct. 9



Why pick on Joe Clark? He's been a hard worker



Ottawa Report

By Stewart MacLeod

Ottawa Bureau of The Herald
Given the myriad of difficulties confronting the Trudeau Government during the summer, one would have thought the pressure would be off Tory Leader Joe Clark, that he would have had a relatively tranquil period in which to fend off the disidents.

There seemed to be more important things to think about. With astronomical interest rates, soaring inflation, the long-running constitutional squabble, the energy fight, and allegations of government indifference, why would Tories continue to look inward? With all those external targets, why pick on Joe Clark?

And anyway, Clark has been performing very well during the summer. Since Parliament recessed, the 43-year-old former prime minister has not had a weekend to himself as he travelled the byways of Canada, visiting everything from by-elections to tea parties to county fairs in search of

more hands to shake. It's doubtful if any opposition leader, so far removed from another general election, ever worked so diligently during the summer holidays. Perhaps he has little choice. With one-third of the delegates voting for a leadership convention at last February's party meeting, Clark obviously had some work to do.

And there was every indication he was doing it well.

DOESN'T CHANGE
However, his exhausting efforts did little to dispel the discontent that has been waiting for the party since that February get-together. It has been clear from caucus comments that Clark's difficulties were not behind him, that there was still a significant segment of the party clinging to the belief that the Conservatives can't regain power under Clark's stewardship.

"We're just like the Toronto Argonauts," says one veteran Tory MP. And when I heard about that motion passed by PC Metro, a blanket organization which seems to speak for 31 Toronto-area ridings, those words really began to sink in. The executive of PC Metro has apparently decided that Clark should carry the blame for the party's failure to win the Spadina by-election. As a result, Clark should call a spring leadership convention, which would be held in the city, and which was passed unanimously.

"A lot of members of the executive felt we should have won that election,"

said a spokesman for PC Metro. "But apparently there was a lot of negative reaction against Clark when canvassers knocked on doors."

NOT EXPECTED

Odd enough, prior to the Aug. 17 by-election, it was difficult to find any highly-placed Tory who felt the party would win. Everyone seemed resigned to the fact Liberal Jim Coombs would be the victor and the NDP's Dan Heup would come in second, followed by Tory Laura Sabia. It was a rollicking great surprise when Heup won over Coombs, but no one seemed taken aback that Sabia didn't do better. She was only about 800 votes behind the winner and she actually did better than the Tory candidate did in the 1980 election.

And when you consider that, on the same day, Tory Roch LaSalle won in Joliette, Que., by a landslide, there was no reason to think Clark's head would go on the block over the by-elections. Trudeau head perhaps, but not Clark's.

However, there it is. The national office of the Conservative Party has received this motion from PC Metro and since it speaks, even if unofficially, for 31 ridings - all of them highly important to the party - it can't be easily dismissed. The vote, said Party President Peter Blaikie, "has to be regarded as a signal."

And unless there is some dramatic intervention this fall, it's difficult to see how Clark can avoid calling for a leadership convention.

MP Bob Rae slick with press - early favorite for NDP



Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

Queen's Park Bureau of The Herald

Like mama from heaven, federal MP Bob Rae has dropped in on Queen's Park to save the New Democratic party from perishing of leader-hunger on the road to the New Jerusalem. Hallelujahs, however, might be a trifle premature.

In a slick press conference performance here that partly explains why the Ottawa Press Gallery drools over Rae, the NDP's federal finance critic offered himself as the man to revitalize the demoralized provincial party.

But one suspects it won't be all that easy.

It is noticeable that in the eastern end of Toronto where Rae's federal riding is located, the three New Democrats who hold provincial seats there seem underwhelmed by his candidacy.

Marian Bryden, for example, has already said she has no intention of stepping aside to allow Rae a "safe" seat to enter the legislature, whether Rae wins the leadership or not.

TWO MORE
Of the other two Richard Johnston is considering seeking the leadership himself, and Jim Renwick has already urged Johnston to run.

True, about half the Queen's Park caucus has endorsed Rae, but even greater support from his fellow MPPs didn't help Ian Deans win the leadership race last time a convention was held.

So while Rae is obviously the early favorite, it is smart of him to play it cagey and not resign his federal seat until he sees who the party chooses at next February's convention.

Unlike most of his potential rivals, Rae is largely an unknown factor at the provincial level, hence the packed media studio here the day he parachuted in from Ottawa to declare.

He was impressive, bright, articulate, quick thinking, quick on his verbal feet, and with a good grasp of where he wants to go with the party and why.

NOT GOOD
On the other hand he's a language extremist.

The best juxtaposition of his talents with this drawback came when a reporter asked whether he would take former NDP Leader Michael Cassidy's approach of dodging dicey political issues such as party policy urging "human rights" protection for homosexuals.

Rae quickly rephrased the question to say he didn't see the issues as one of protection at all, but rather simply a matter of the right to privacy by another group in society, and that

he supported.

It was neat play - not liking the angle the reporter took, Rae adopted his own, and stuck to it regardless of the questions tossed at him, which in essence moved the topic of debate to his grounds.

CARRIED AWAY

Although well done, in the process Rae got carried away with the language he used.

To him denying homosexuals "human rights" is a "slippery slope" that puts "society in danger" and will lead to the government telling us all what to "read, think, or drink."

Really? The statement is so ludicrous as to be laughable. Another instance of this tendency to language extremism came in the prepared text that Rae read out at the press conference.

He made the odious statement that Ontario has been "ruled by one party longer than Poland or Bulgaria," which is factually true but is also said a social democratic government like Norway's the NDP would consider it a McCarthyite smear.

But maybe that kind of rhetoric will inspire the delegates.

POET'S CORNER

A New start in the Morning

The newness of the morning, with love and smiles and cheer
Hope for a day in a happy way, for better times are near.
We think of the troubles of yesterday, then our worries appear
Prepare yourself for a friendly test, and shed not a tear
You are not alone in this beautiful world, when you seek and find it's clear
You may meet with the ill-fated, and unfaithful, drop them they're wiled,
Look for the dawn of the morning,

down by the willow tree
its freshness and its beauty, or a breeze that sets you free,
A twittering bird in the branches, its life is happy and proud
He spreads out in the country, away from the rest of the crowd.
Birds nest built in the willow tree, its whistle is never loud
It's a beautiful scene, the willow limbs are bowed.

—By Albert Brooks
RR2 Acton

Halton's History

From our files

THIRTY YEARS AGO—Georgetown's two professional hockey players, Bob Goldham and Joe Schertzl, have both reported for fall training. Bob is a Detroit Red Wings defenceman and Joe is with the Hershey Bears of the American League.

While plowing on Norman Devereaux' farm, Tom Brockbank turned up a coin-penny bank token dated 1857, issued by the Bank of Upper Canada.

Georgetown has 70 new taxpayers this week. Forty-eight wartime houses on Normandy Boulevard and 22 on Churchill Crescent are being offered for sale. Houses sold from \$3,625 to \$4,475.

"If any government thinks of clamping price controls on food without at the same time putting controls on wages and profits, it's going to hear from farmers," said Dr. H.H. Hannon, president of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. "Food prices aren't high in relation to other prices or wage rates," he said.

He pointed out that the average price for milk paid by the Canadian consumer in 1939 was 11.10 cents per quart whereas on June 1, 1951, it was 19.5 cents per quart. In contrast to this, the average hourly wage was 42.7 cents in 1939 and on June 1, 1951, it was 115.8 cents.

In other words, in 1939 it took 15.6 minutes of working time to make enough money to purchase one quart of milk, while in 1951 it took only 10.1 minutes of working time to purchase the same article.

An ad in the classifieds says, "Pig strayed to our property. Owner may have same by proving ownership and paying expenses."

The theme of the Women's Institute convention at Guelph was "To understand the world is better than to condemn it; To study the world is better than to abuse it; To make the world better, lovelier and happier is the noblest work of any man or woman."

TWENTY YEARS AGO—Residents in the Kennedy Public School area would like an outdoor skating rink and hockey cushion this winter. The request was turned over for committee consideration.

Secondary School 9 in Limehouse opened the term with Mr. Reed and Mrs. Hearn in charge and an enrolment of 37 in the senior room and 45 in the junior room.

The use of high-powered rifles in southern Ontario, including Halton Hills, is prohibited under a new hunting regulation effective Sept. 1, 1961, in order to reduce the possibility of gun accidents. Shotgun will do the job just fine.

Georgetown's new Main Street will be unveiled to the public this week. The Honorable Robert Macaulay, Ontario's Minister of Energy Resources, will assist in the opening ceremonies.

Beardmore Tanneries in Acton were accused of depositing offensive liquid and causing offensive odors at an Esqueting Township council meeting. A petition signed by 30 residents in the vicinity of the tannery charged that the smell clings to clothing and furnishings, that their property has lost value and their wells may be polluted. A charge had been laid under the township bylaw and was to be heard in court that month.

Planning board and council granted permission to the Texaco Oil Company to erect bulk fuel oil storage facilities on the base line near Highway 401.

A local bus service for East Georgetown residents to get to downtown may be a reality, according to councillor Don Barrager. Georgetown Transportation Co. is surveying this. The company holds a local franchise but found it unprofitable, and they've decided to add a seventh man to the Georgetown police force attracted 24 applicants.

A Toronto man, Morton Szas, 34, swallowed a bee that had crawled into his pop bottle while he was picnicking at Terra Cotta Conservation Area Sunday. He went blind for half an hour and nearly choked to death. When he swallowed the bee, it had stung his throat making him temporarily blind and constricting his throat so he could hardly breathe.

At hospital, doctors gave him adrenalin shots and told him he was allergic to bee stings. He recovered his sight and went home.

TEN YEARS AGO—The Georgetown Fair Prize list is now available and competitors are competing for over \$10,000 in cash prizes.

Secondary School enrolments in Halton County total 16,432 and elementary school enrolment is 32,640. A migration pattern within the county is causing some concern for the school board. "Almost 395 out of 800 come from within Burlington, that is they have moved from older more settled areas of new housing," said E.S. Lavender, assistant to the county director of education.

The long awaited traffic lights at Maple Avenue and Guelph Street will be installed within the next few weeks. Installed at a cost of \$4,448, the traffic lights cost \$5,000.

Hornby's Jim Day, a 25-year old equestrian has been named to the nine-member equestrian team to represent Canada in the fall national horse show circuit.

George Herrington, dog control officer for Esqueting appeared before Township council Tuesday night repeating his offer made the week before to continue the service in Esqueting. He had originally planned to resign at the end of September. At present he is paid \$200 a month plus \$7 for every dog he picks up as long as the pick up is authorized by the township clerk.

Canadian studies and a course called "Man's Environment Choices" won approval from the Halton Board of Education at the first meeting of the new school term. The broadened study course is an effort by the history committee to improve what it terms insufficient and neglectful teaching of Canadian studies.

Close to 11,000 people stared skyward for almost three hours Sunday watching the Brampton Flying Club's second annual air show at their Victoria field. A former Georgetown man, Lionel Hamilton, flew a skelton-like contraption called a "Breezy" he had built himself.

Bryon Bentley of Milton was hired by Esqueting council last Tuesday night as the new tax collector at a salary of \$6,500 a year.

Some of Halton County's Emergency Measures Organization volunteers haven't had their uniforms on in more than two years. Allan Masson told the county council's financial committee last week that "some of them have added an inch or two and couldn't get them on if they tried."

ONE YEAR AGO—A total of 1,147 runners participated in a cross country run at Georgetown and District High School last Tuesday, raising a total of \$2,213.50 for Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope against cancer.

Area hunters interested in participating in Halton's first controlled deer hunt in more than a decade have until Sept. 30 to apply for a special permit from the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Father Oger Dervan, 65, ended 20 years service with Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church. About 200 parishioners gathered together to pay him tribute. He went to St. Felix Friary in Weston, Ontario.

Sunday marked the end of the GFFL regular season. The Acton Optimists won 5-4 over the Limehouse team in baseball.