

# the HERALD

Home Newspaper of Halton Hills - Established 1866

A Division of Canadian Newspapers Company Limited  
45 Guelph Street, Georgetown L7G 3Z6, Ontario

DON BRANDER, Publisher  
and General Manager

MIKE TURNER  
Editor

DAN TAYLOR  
Advertising Manager

Phone 877-2201

Second Class Mail - Registered Number 6643

Page 4 - SECTION A, THE HERALD, Wednesday, September 21, 1988

## One too many

Halton Hills council did well to react swiftly and strongly to what could have been a very serious tragedy Monday.

Accidents involving school buses, like the one that occurred on the Fourth Line Monday, are relatively rare. But there's something about hearing of such mishaps that leaves many people asking questions.

Thankfully, there were no serious injuries in the accident Monday. Still, the event demonstrated a shortfall in the precautions that can be taken to protect children.

There are countless areas along countless roads where accidents are waiting to happen. Given the right conditions, these stretches of road will eventually be the scene of an accident.

But the mishap Monday drove home a very important point for people whose business it is to make the roads safer for those who use them.

Rarely can any good be taken from a highway traffic accident.

But in this case there may be one very small exception to the rule.

The fact that children were involved makes this a very high-profile incident. In any other situation, given the same circumstances, this could easily have gone down as "just another highway statistic."

It was almost ominous that signs had been ordered and had actually been received that may have averted the accident, had they been in place Monday.

But the important thing to note here is this, and other stretches of road that harbor potential tragedy must be dealt with expeditiously.

Less than a month of the current school year has passed. And the accident involving a school bus Monday is already one too many.

## Going too far



### Editor's notebook

By Mike Turner  
Herald Editor

I don't think there has been a single sport that has been able to amass so much negative criticism in a relatively short time, as hockey.

On-ice indiscretions have gone from the arena to the courtroom and this appears to be a trend that will continue.

Soccer has gained considerable notoriety over several years, but this is more because of the actions of the fans than the players and the sport itself.

Some of the negativity with hockey is, of course, earned. But at the same time, there are elements at work that have helped fuel the fire of discontent and disruption in the hockey world.

And one of the most potent of these outside elements is the strange brew of producers sitting down in Hollywood who put together such bizarre depictions of our unofficial national game.

There have been several movies made about hockey. Some have used hockey only as a backdrop. That's fine. But then there are others that seem to think they know what the game is about and try to push that image via the screen.

One of the first "hockey" films was (embarrassingly enough) Canadian, called Face-off. Fortunately, this was simply bad and few people bothered with it.

Then came Slapshot with Paul Newman. Here, hockey was depicted in a negative light, but the movie probably came closest to showing what "life on the farm" is like for many players, even though some bounds were overstepped. Quite frankly, Slapshot was funny.

## Hanging on a thread



### Your Business

Diane Maley  
Thomson News Service

We in Toronto are happy to hear that 54 per cent of you folks like our city. That good piece of news - derived from a recent Gallup poll - eases our guilt for our booming economy.

For a while there, we worried about our good fortune. Our anxieties were made worse by Ottawa politicians, who blamed us for high interest rates. If the Toronto economy were not so strong, they fumed, Canadians elsewhere would not have to pay so much for their mortgage loans.

John Crow, governor of the Bank of Canada, is devoted to taming inflation, which could roar up to a rate of five per cent if we're not careful. He should take a look at Brazil. Inflation there is clipping along at an annual rate of 600 per cent.

"We are running a real risk of hyperinflation," said Edmar Bacha, an economics professor in Rio de Janeiro. Prof. Bacha is a master of understatement, it would seem. By comparison, Mr. Crow seems hysterical.

Michael Manfred, chief economist at Scotia McLeod, sees inflation in Canada rising to five per cent by year-end and 5.75 per cent a year

so a partial pardon was in order. But then someone down in Timsetown came up with the idea for another "hockey" movie. This rendering made its way to the small screen recently and presented me with my first opportunity to see it.

It didn't take me too long to realize that the closest anyone involved with this movie ever got to a real hockey game was the ice in their drinks.

The movie was Youngblood and starred Rob Lowe. Need I say more?

The premise of the movie was a young hockey player trying to crack the line-up of a Canadian junior team in Hamilton.

To make a long story short, the title character makes the team, realizes he has to learn to fight and winds up decking the other team's goon in the championship game. Hence, he gets the girl and young players mob him for his autograph.

Along the way, we're asked to believe that the Memorial Cup final drew a few hundred blood thirsty onlookers, and everyone was more interested in celebrating the fact that the goon got decked than with the fact that the Memorial Cup had been claimed.

It kind of rubs me the wrong way to think that there are jerks sitting down on a beach in the southern states thinking Canadian hockey is so prehistoric. And make no mistake, there are people who do.

After all, there are still people down there who think Toronto is a settlement of igloos.

The only good thing I could find to say about Youngblood (even the title is absurd) is that I didn't waste the money to rent the video.

You know, maybe it was a good thing Wayne Gretzky did go down to Los Angeles to play his trade. At least he can tune some of the "beautiful people" in to what hockey is really all about.

Then again, there's the possibility he won't draw any crowds once the "beautiful people" realize he's no Dean Youngblood.

from now. To curb it, short-term interest rates may have to climb another two percentage points by next fall, he predicts.

### LENDERS GET FAT

This is not a good time to borrow money. The fact is, interest rates in Canada are a rip-off. The "real" cost of borrowing, after subtracting inflation, is as high as it has been since 1981, when the prime business lending rate surpassed 20 per cent.

The reason, one could argue, is that inflation is about to pick up, so the people who set interest rates are taking this into account. This argument may hold some truth when it comes to long-term interest rates, but not with short-term ones, which can be adjusted readily to changes in inflation.

Inflation is running at less than four per cent a year; the prime business lending rate, a short-term measure, is 11.25 per cent. Five-year mortgages cost 12.25 per cent. That leaves lenders with a whopping "real" return on their money, more than enough to compensate for inflation, particularly of the imaginary kind.

Clearly, this is the time to be a lender, not a borrower. By lending your money to the federal government, in the form of bonds or treasury bills, you can reap a generous, risk-free return. By lending it to banks and trust companies in the form of guaranteed investment certificates, you will do even better.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

## Some good, some bad in Thomson report

If you like the current immigration system, you'll just love the new approach to welfare set out in the Thomson report.

That's the report from the committee headed by George Thomson, that spent two years and \$3 million looking into the Ontario social-assistance system.

Thomson is a former senior bureaucrat (Ministry of Community and Social Services) and a former Family Court judge.

All but one of the other 11 members of the committee are either people involved in the social-assistance sector or busybodies closely linked to it, including former United Church moderator Clarke MacDonald and NDP labor leader Terry Meagher.

Not surprisingly, then, the Thomson report calls for a massive increase in social-assistance spending - to \$4.4 billion from \$2.3 billion (in theory, in practice it would be more when you consider some of their ancillary recommendations). The overall Ontario budget is \$38 billion.

The report also calls for major changes in how the system operates, including income supplements to the so-called "working poor," and special child-benefit and disability payments.

This isn't to say the recommendations are simple. The 624-page report is complex and is, according to Thomson, to be taken as a whole rather than in parts.



### Queen's Park

Derek Nelson  
Thomson News Service

A quick initial read indicates some good stuff - and some not so good.

In particular, the administrative system for this new welfare millennium is described in such a way as to make Immigration Canada seem sensible.

**OMINOUS**

It is ominous to read that large chunks of the current system will pass to other agencies or ministries. Yet, "we believe that the new program will be a much better one for those who work in it and that the overall result will be additional skilled personnel providing income support and opportunity planning to people in need," the report said.

In short, more staff. And what will they do? (What follows are excerpts from the report's summary.)

"Opportunity planning will be the system's other primary function" beyond income support.

"A skilled staff person and the recipient will develop a plan that identifies strategies to enable the

recipient to leave social assistance or to live more independently in the community.

"There is substantial evidence that it is unnecessary to compel sole-support parents to participate in opportunity planning."

For some others, "the requirement to participate in opportunity planning should in itself be conditional on the provision of meaningful help by the government and on the establishment of procedures to protect the rights of recipients, including a grace period and the opportunity to challenge the content of the proposed plan.

"Opportunity planners should function as strong internal advocates. Clients should be advised of the availability of external advocates and encouraged to use them if desired. Legal clinics should be expanded."

"Recipients for whom opportunity planning is mandatory should be made aware of the possibility of a reduction in benefits if they fail to participate. Any proposed reduction should be appealable."

"The current procedures for determining disability involves excessive reliance on clinical judgement."

At the Social Assistance Review Board, where appeals currently go, "more decisions should be appealable, the right to legal representation should be guaranteed and there be full disclosure of all rele-

vant information. The rules of evidence should be followed, and a complete record of the evidence should be available. Interpreters should be provided as required. Adequate reasons should be given for all decisions, with rehearings permitted only in exceptional cases."

And so on. No wonder Thomson also comes out against a guaranteed annual income. All those social workers and lawyers would be out of jobs.

## Halton's History

from our files

### 30 years ago

A 12-teacher staff headed by Principal William Kinrade is teaching a total of 451 students this year at Wrigglesworth Public School. The heaviest enrolment this year is in Grade 4, with a total of 74 pupils, while Grade 7 is lightest with 35. There are 48 new pupils in two kindergarten classes and 37 in entrance class.

The Georgetown Ministerial Association met in the study of Rev. Morgan McFarlane last Friday afternoon. Rev. Kenneth Richardson of St. George's Anglican Church was made chairman for the coming year and Mr. McFarlane of St. John's United Church is secretary-treasurer.

Bob McMaster was returned as president of the Glen Williams Cemetery Board on Monday, Sept. 8, when the board met for an election of officers in the town hall. Others returned to office include: Mrs. Vern Kirby, Mrs. Bob McMaster, George Sargent, Tom Hill, Carly Wheeler, Howard Garvin and Vern Kirby.

### 15 years ago

Two residents of Esquewaug Township who appeared before council Monday to request municipal aid for access to their homes left the meeting unsatisfied. Nick Hunsley and Lou Hogue, residents of 22 Sideroad, Georgetown, wanted to rent town equipment for road repairs rather than renting more expensive commercial equipment. The town refused their request, saying that public equipment was not for private hire.

OHA's intermediate A provincial champions the Raiders begin practising for 1973-74 season this Sunday. If the executive's estimation of this year's team is correct, they will not only defend their title but add it to the Canadian Intermediate A Championship this campaign. "This team is going to be much stronger than last year's," executive member Dave Kenner told the Herald last week.

Halton County Children's Aid Society consolidated its three county offices into one location when it moved into new premises Friday. The new CAS offices are located on the second floor of the new Reimer Building in Burlington. The move means that the Society's offices have closed in Burlington, Oakville and Milton. The CAS plans to open interview offices throughout the county.

### 10 years ago

Plans for a 10,000-foot shopping plaza on Mountainview Road at John Street, Georgetown, met with no disapproval in a public meeting last Thursday, but have since drawn objections. Coun. Peter Pomeroy told council Monday night that area residents who did not see the newspaper advertisement contacted him to speak on their behalf. Council will defer the final reading of a bylaw prepared last week to allow building of the plaza.

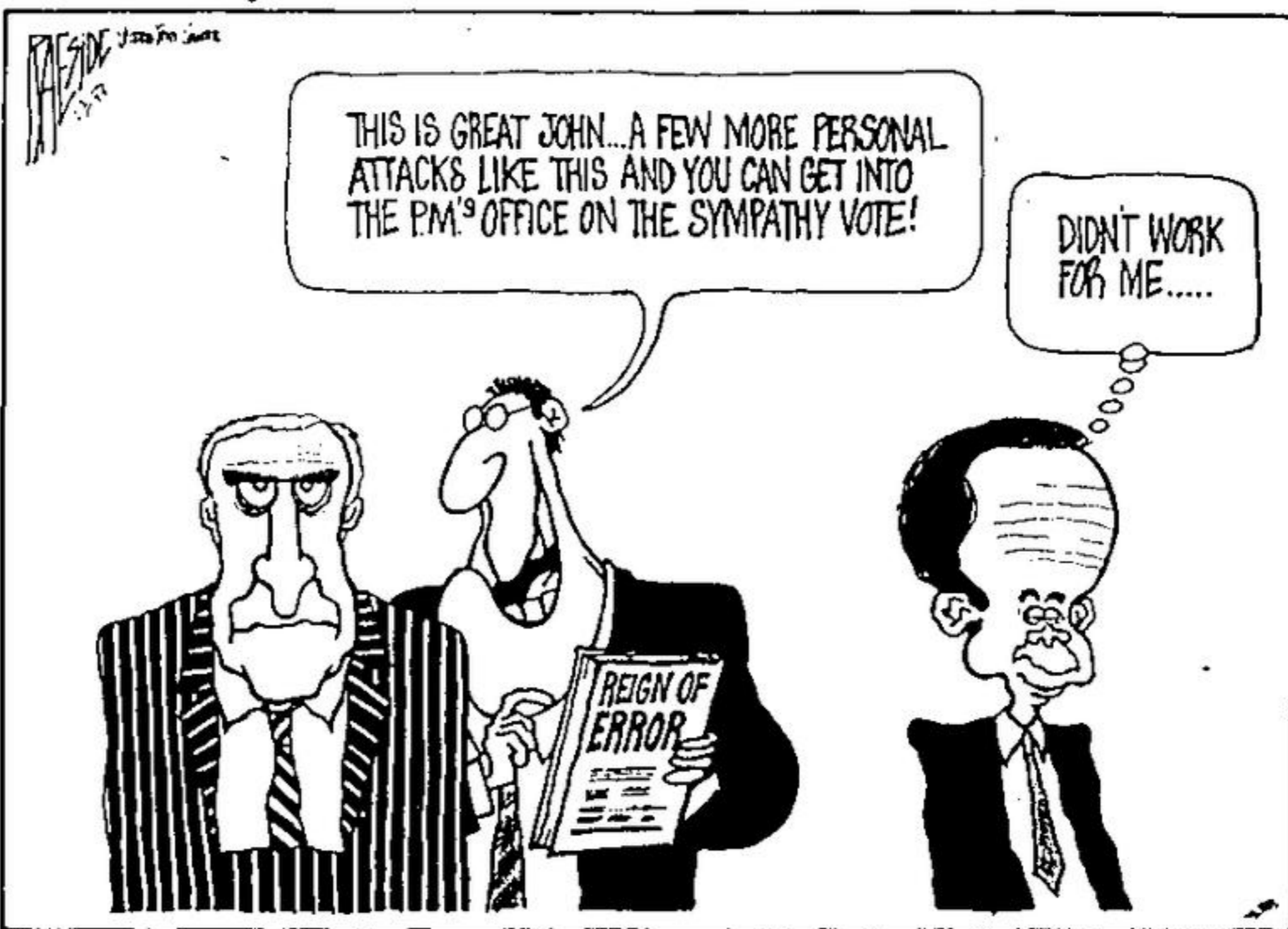
The Halton Hills Library Board will determine its goals and objectives before proceeding with plans to expand the present Georgetown Library. The Board said it believes two more meetings are necessary to determine community needs. The decision followed a lengthy meeting Wednesday with a representative from the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation, which allocates Wintario grants and Ontario Heritage Foundation funding.

A move is on by some Halton Board of Education members to reduce the number of professional activity days. Trustee Jim Clelland gave notice that he intends to make a motion at the Board's next meeting to reduce the number of professional activity days from nine to seven. Several trustees have expressed concern that professional activity days are not well-spent.

### 5 years ago

Planning to reap a substantial return on its investment, town council agreed last week to offer \$60,000 for the Paul Stevens estate, a 29-acre Maple Avenue property which might some day house Halton Hills' first consolidated municipal centre. The money would come from a six-year reserve fund the Town has been saving. Councilors voted 9-4 in favor of the offer following a four-hour public meeting. Most of the people crammed into the tiny council chambers in the town's Trafalgar Road offices were businessmen and merchants, members of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and the Business Improvement Area (BIA). Mayor Pete Pomeroy apologized for the secrecy involved in the transaction, but maintained that it was necessary to avoid sudden price hikes on real estate.

The Georgetown ladies powder-puff league softball season has come down to one game, following playoff tournament action at the Fairgrounds on the weekend. It will be Mostly Golden squaring off against the Knight Riders for the 10-team league honors this Sunday afternoon at the Senior Citizen's Diamond. Mostly Golden finished second overall in the regular season with 20 points.



## Citizens' forum

### Some information misinterpreted

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The following letter was submitted to The Herald for publication.

Att.: Mayor Russ Miller.

Dear Russ,  
Further to my letter of August 2, 1988 and the subsequent discussions at Council, the Chamber congratulates Council on stating its intentions to end the discrimination practised against certain commercial businesses in Halton Hills in regards to their garbage pick-up.

However, I would like to clear up some misinterpretations made by some of the councillors. When it was suggested that a container system could be an approach to be used it was individual containers that each merchant or residential home owner would use rather like a garbage can on wheels. The Chamber would not endorse a large communal container in any residential neighborhood and we would be reluctant to recommend its use in commercial areas unless the container was out of sight of the public.

The individual container would be rolled to the street and picked up by some mechanical method, at present cities in the USA, and Windsor Ont, use this method. This system could be incorporated with the recycling program that Halton Hills has endorsed.

As stated in our August 2nd letter we will make every effort to work with the Town on this matter. I have sent copies of this letter to both papers for publication as they

both wrote stories on our letter and we wish to make the public aware of our intentions as regards to the type of containers we are suggesting.

Looking forward to the Engineer's forthcoming report on this matter.

Yours truly,  
Wald Dixon,  
Director

### Retailers must have a say

Dear Sir,  
Time will perhaps prove that the Ontario governing authorities made their biggest tactical blunder to date by not consulting with the small retail-business sector on the critical Sunday opening issue. Since nearly 100 per cent of the province's 120,000 small shopkeepers are adamantly opposed to Sunday shopping, it is

quite obvious that small retailers MUST have a say on the matter, and the problem will never be resolved until this is done. Why is it the government insists on making an ass of itself by flogging a dead horse?

Yours very truly,  
Ervin Enchin

### A United Way thank you

Dear Sir,  
I wish to thank the following people for giving generously of their time to the United Way booth at this year's Acton Fall Fair: Chris Dooliver of the North Halton Association for the Developmentally Handicapped, Claudette Smith of the YMCA, Jim Lindsay, Tom Niblock

and Councillors Pam Sheldon and Al Cook.

Thanks to you and those who dropped by to say hello and buy raffle tickets, United Way achieved success!

Warmest regards,  
Arlene Bruce,  
United Way of Halton Hills

### WRITE US A LETTER

Want to share your feelings on any subject with the community? The Herald welcomes letters to the editor on any topic and from anyone who has the urge to write.



The Georgetown Citizen's Band strikes up a tune