

# Terry Fox Run is Sunday at AHS

"The miracle of the dream runs on." That's the slogan for this year's Terry Fox Run for Cancer Research, and in Acton the miracle will see residents gather Sunday morning on the track behind Acton High.

The local run is slated for 8 to 3 pm and participants are encouraged to walk, run or bike some or all of the 10 km. course (25 times around the 800m running track).

"We're just hoping for good weather, sunny and cool," reported organizer Jon Hurst yesterday (Tuesday). "But the run will go, rain or shine."

There still is time to pick up a pledge form at any local bank or variety store (except Beckers). Participants have until Oct. 14 to return the forms and pledge money to a bank.

This is the 15th anniversary of the Terry Fox Run; to date a remarkable \$144 million has been

raised for innovative cancer research projects.

Hurst said he will ask Acton's new Fall Fair Ambassador to officially open the run at 8 am on Sunday morning.

"Through their participation and pledges the people of Acton and area have honoured Terry's memory and continued his dream for the last 15 years, and I know they will continue to do so," said Hurst.

**BIG DEAL AT BIG SCOOP!** Mill Street's Big Scoop Cafe is planning a fund-raiser for the Terry Fox Run for Cancer Research.

For today (Wednesday), Thursday and Friday, you can get a homemade hamburger and soda pop for just \$2.50, with \$1 of the cost going directly to the Run.

"It's a great community effort and I really thought we should be a part of it," says Big Scoop owner Heather Knapton.



**SKYDOME DAY!** Blue Springs Golf Club food and beverage supervisors Sandy McNabb and Clark Somerville are flanked by the Atlas Tube foursome of, from left: Bob Davis, Jack Hill, Dino Micacchi and Carl Ohlsen during the Skydome Hospitality annual golf tournament last Wednesday. The event was held to raise money for the Children's Wish Foundation. (Doug Harrison photo)

## Student-teacher ratio irks parent

BY DOUG HARRISON  
The Acton Tanner

Pushing incoming Junior Kindergarten students in with Senior Kindergarten students, to ease the high student-teacher ratio, is forcing kids to go faster through the education system than they are capable of handling, says a concerned resident.

Acton's Gail Manuel voiced her displeasure at M.Z. Bennett on Monday night during a parent group meeting attended by some 60 parents, teachers, parent group executives and trustee candidates.

Manuel is upset that 25 J.K. students, including her granddaughter, will begin their schooling years at M.Z. Bennett this Friday under the guidance of just one teacher, Carol Lawson.

She feels a setup like the Acton Preschool Playshop, where one adult supervises eight to 10 kids, would be more appropriate and more beneficial to any child in the classroom.

"How can one person look after all those children?" she asked during the meeting.

"I think 25-kids-to-one-teacher,

at 4-years-old, is too much."

Following the meeting, Manuel lauded, "Carol Lawson is a very efficient and dedicated teacher and will put more time into the job than is necessary, but not even she can give 500 per cent."

McKenzie-Smith Principal Chris Logan replied, "Let me remind you that Junior Kindergarten is an optional program.

"If there is a ratio problem, we'll look at blending the Juniors with the Senior Kindergarten students to lower numbers. But I'll cross that bridge when I come to it."

Manuel feels that if the Halton Board doesn't provide a teacher's assistant for Lawson, parent volunteers should step to the fore.

When contacted yesterday (Tuesday), Logan said the class size is within legal limitations of the Board and that Lawson was in the process of getting parent help.

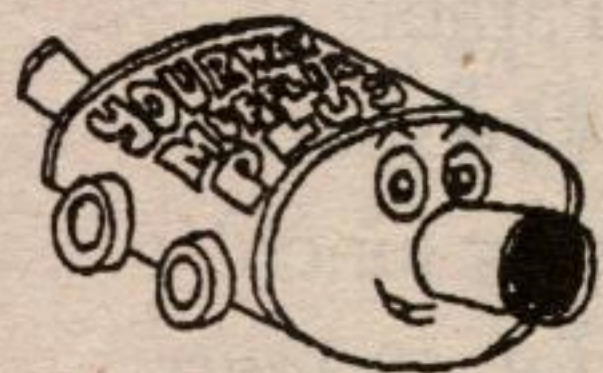
"The Acton Co-op Nursery School has disbanded. If all the parents who had kids go there pull out of this class, because they don't like the ratio, where do they go?" Manuel wondered.

"And if enough people are upset and leave the program to protest the high ratio, but as a result, find out their actions eliminated a high-ratio concern, the existing kids will be taught for free and that's not fair either."

Manuel also had concerns that Lawson won't have time to work on the appearance of her classroom after workers installed carpet in the classroom yesterday (Tuesday), but appeared to fail in an attempt to convince Logan to consider starting Junior Kindergarten on Monday.

"First impressions are very important. This is a beginning process for these students for how many years? It shouldn't be rush, rush... it rubs off on the kids."

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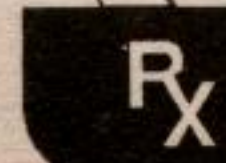
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