

## Mother of four

# Tragic train collision claims life of woman, 41

Tragedy struck a Campbellville family Friday afternoon, when a south bound CN freight train hit and killed Helen Bosada of 7161 Guelph Line, Campbellville at the Derry Rd. railway crossing in Milton.

The 41-year-old mother of four was on her way to the House of Spectacles, Milton, where she worked part-time Tuesdays and Fridays.

An investigation of the wreckage of Mrs. Bosada's 1970 Plymouth Duster has ruled out the possibility of brake failure, stated police. According to two witnesses, she approached the tracks and applied the brakes, but

did not come to a stop. "The lights were flashing and the train whistle sounded, according to both witnesses who were stopped on either side of the tracks," stated Constable Rod Plant, Halton Regional Police, "but apparently for some reason, she just kept going."

Ron Phillips of Oakville, travelling immediately behind the Bosada vehicle, told police he noticed one brake light go on as the vehicle approached the tracks.

Mr. Phillips had travelled behind the Bosada car from the time it left the driveway and recalled only one brake light operated.

"She apparently was doing the legal speed limit," added Constable Plant, "but the roads were greasy from light snow."

An eight-foot snow drift prevents a driver from seeing the train coming from the north direction as well, noted Constable Plant.

Mr. Phillips was between three and four car lengths behind Mrs. Bosada and was himself unable to see the approaching train. He saw the flashing lights and heard the whistle though.

Constable Plant, who arrived at the scene within minutes of the crash, described it as one of the worse vehicle collisions he

had ever witnessed. "The car was completely dissected in two, with the rear end of the car 100 feet south of Derry Rd. and the front half smashed against the hydro pole east of the tracks."

"It is really the worst kind of damage I have ever seen." Damage to CN equipment is estimated at between \$4,000 and \$5,000, according to CN spokesman Ivan Trudel.

Engineer driver of the train, Charles Emery of Sarnia was not injured in the crash, said police, but "It was still some time before the train was able to stop." The train was brought to a halt near the next concession south of Derry Rd. he stated. Wreckage from the car was strewn hundreds of feet surrounding the tracks, evidence of the enormous

impact of 100,000 ton, 73 car train in collision with a single ton car. The train was estimated to be travelling at 45 miles per hour.

Mrs. Bosada, who was not wearing seatbelts at the time, was thrown from her car and died of head and neck injuries, according to police.

Mrs. Bosada was scheduled

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CLEANING THE ATTIC? Not really. Milton Fire Department was doing much more than moving the fire trucks to their bays in the new fire hall on Steeles Ave. Saturday. The move entailed the relocating of memorabilia; unearthing old photographs which recalled memories of an earlier Milton Fire Department, and sweeping out the Main St. building for the final time. (Champion photo by Linda Kirby)

## Separate teachers vote on strike soon

Halton's 26 separate schools could be closed by mid-April by a teacher strike, chief negotiator for the teachers Bob Boyle has warned.

He said the teachers' negotiating team abandoned talks with the board last week "totally disgusted" with the trustees negotiating team's tactics.

The teacher negotiating team will ask its over 350 members for a mandate to apply for a strike vote March 14.

Boyle said a straw vote will be taken at the meeting to see if teachers support a strike. If they do, the negotiating team will apply to the Education Relations Commission for permission to hold a strike vote the last week of March.

Should the official vote call for a strike then the negotiators would go back to the board to see if they are willing to resume negotiations. "They refuse to do this point," Boyle observed.

If the board still refused to negotiate then the strike committee would set a date and give the board five days' notice before teachers went out.

Boyle said the earliest a strike could begin is mid-April.

He noted the strike might take the form of work-to-rule, rotating strikes or a whole system walk-out. These details haven't been worked out yet.

There is agreement between teachers and trustees on most items and teachers would like to see the eight outstanding issues sent to arbitration. The board has refused with chief negotiator Hartley Sherk, declaring the board is responsible to the public and outsiders shouldn't be making local decisions.

Boyle said at last week's

negotiating session the board, through mediator Jane Devlin, a Toronto Lawyer, had assured the teachers' increment was not to be part of the eight per cent wage settlement. Then the board turned around and said teachers' increment would be included in the eight per cent, Boyle said.

He claimed the board also reneged on an agreement placing all the money available in one pot and allowing teachers to distribute it as they wanted as long as it was done proportionately among the teachers. The teachers had decided to accept the board offer and asked that nobody would have received a

raise for September, October or November of last year. All of the 8.6 per cent raise would have come between December and June. The board turned around and rejected this proposal.

"The board doesn't want to negotiate. They want to say how much we will get, when we will get it and where," Boyle declared.

He said the board has never said what the teachers are asking for is unaffordable, just that they can't have it.

Boyle said he hopes the Halton Separate School Board is more "reasonable" than the Essex Board. He

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Council rejects region inquiry

Yet another call for an independent study of regional government in Halton was rejected by Halton Regional Council during a regular meeting Wednesday.

Council was considering a recommendation from the council's Bill 151 Review Committee. For the second time the committee urged council to request a study. An earlier request for an independent inquiry came from the Actonians for Action Committee.

Bill 151 Committee Chairman Don Gordon said he didn't feel the study was needed. Councillor Carl Erikson agreed with that stand.

Erikson said there was a dangerous trend that suggested the only way a proper study can be carried out is with the use of experts and bureaucrats carrying fancy suit cases.

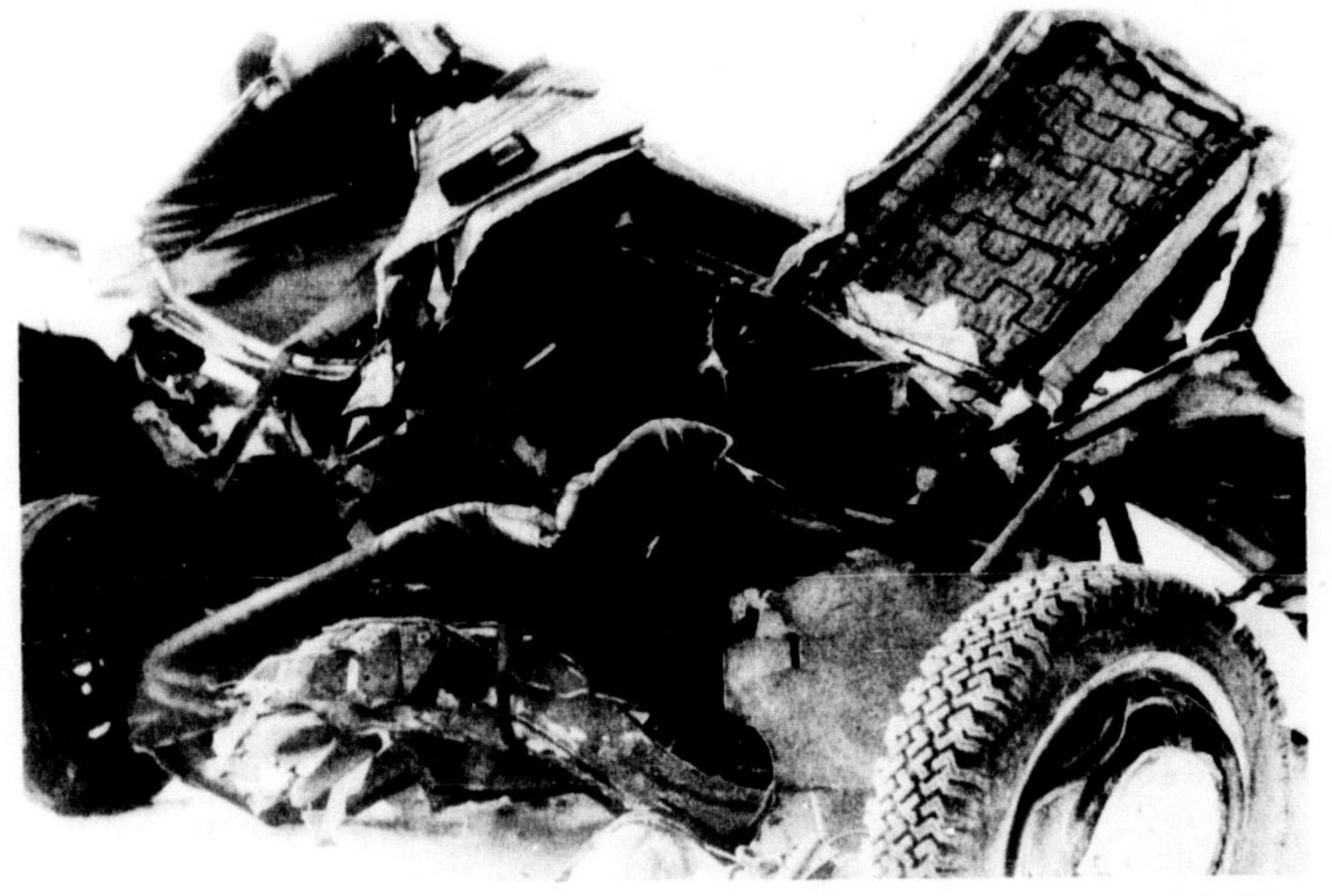
Burlington Councillor Pat McLaughlin supported that stand.

"We don't need anyone to tell us our problems. What we need is the courage to go Queen's Park and see that we get what we want," he said.

Acton Councillor Pat McKenzie said he supported a review by an independent task force and noted that was the essence of a brief prepared by the Actonians for Action Committee.

Oakville Councillor Gord Reade said he opposed the call for another study and suggested approving another study would simply serve as an excuse not to act on the recommendations from the Bill 151 study.

Milton Councillor Jim Watson said he'd favor an independent study. "I feel we need a task force to carry our recommendations to reality," he said.



A PILE OF WRECKAGE is all that remains of the car, after a tragic collision that claimed the life of Helen Bosada, 41, of Campbellville. The mother of four was killed instantly when her car was sliced in half by a 73-car CN freight train at the Derry Rd. crossing.

## Optimists anxious

# Methane scare delays building

About \$7,000 worth of testing will be carried out immediately, to see if methane gas produced by the town's former landfill site on Commercial St. is a threat to neighboring development, Milton Councillors agreed Monday.

Staff will be asked to see if three neighboring developers will share the cost of the study with the town, and the mayor and staff were asked to visit the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) to press for an early start on the Optimist Club of Milton youth centre.

Construction of the \$800,000 youth centre was scheduled to begin April 1. It will be located at one corner of Brian Best Park, the former landfill site at the south end of Commercial St. Also delayed by the Ministry's request for gas testing are a 20-lot housing development owned by Aldo Tesolin and a five-lot project of Peter McWilliams. Development of the town's park also hinges on the tests.

It was revealed last week that the youth centre project has been put into limbo,

following receipt of a MOE letter suggesting the potential for methane gas migration could create "a hazardous situation" on neighboring developments.

The Ministry suggests \$20,000 worth of testing is warranted, but the town's engineers said the work could be done for \$7,000.

Although some councillors were upset that the MOE was clamping restrictions on the site at this point, Clerk Campbell Thompson said the MOE edict was nothing new. Council was fully aware of the need for frequent tests as early as 1973, before the old dump was closed, he said. The town promised to carry out an adequate monitoring program at that time, he noted.

Some early testing was done, but no gas was found. The Ministry is merely reminding the town that some subsequent checking is necessary, he said.

The MOE has not said there is methane gas present, just warning the town that decaying refuse in landfill sites does cause the gas and

some explosions have been reported elsewhere.

Councillor Jim Watson opposed spending "one cent" on tests. He said the town should also check to see if lightning, meteorites, black plague or a falling Russian satellite could cause any damage to the area.

Councillor Brad Clements said some Williams Ave. homes are close to the old dump site, but he noted none have been blown up — yet.

Watson called it "a bunch of malarkey" and said the town is "being conned".

Al Logan and Bill McGinnis of the Optimist Club urged council to go ahead with testing quickly. "We can't drag our feet now," McGinnis said, noting the club has let a contract for the construction of the building and it is supposed to start April 1. They said the Optimist Club might be willing to share in the cost of tests.

Clerk Thompson said the tests cannot be finished by the end of this month and predicted it would be at least the middle of April before testing can be completed.

# Uniform rates get second look

Only two weeks after voting against a move towards uniform water rates across the region and \$4,000,000 in provincial grants, Halton Regional Government has seized the opportunity to take a second look.

After a predictably steamy and lengthy procedural hassle, council agreed to take a second look at uniform water rates, a sewer surcharge and expansion of the regional road system.

That action was taken during a meeting Wednesday. During the debate Chairman Ric Morrow was chastised for what some members felt was poor ethics. Oakville Councillor Carl Erikson reminded Mor-

row that he had made a special point to make reports for the first meeting available a week earlier than usual, so questions could be asked and action taken at the meeting.

"But after it was defeated at that meeting you admitted you gave us an inadequate report and you knew more information would be re-

quired and now you want a rerun of the whole thing."

Oakville Councillor Gord Reade said there was nothing raised to cause council to want to reconsider.

Oakville Mayor Harry Barrett said the accountability and the credibility of the re-

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## Flyers on the ropes!

Milton Flyers dropped their third straight loss to the Streetsville Derbys in Streetsville Arena Tuesday evening, to make a do-or-die situation Friday night in Milton. Derbys won the game by a 8-6 score.

Flyers must win Friday or face the situation of being beaten in four straight games in the finals for the second consecutive year. Game time Friday is 8 p.m. at Memorial Arena.

## Dump fighters collect 15 tons of newsprint

Fighting the proposed Site F Halton landfill site took the form of a paper drive Saturday, as members of the Tremaine-Britannia Citizens' Group spent the day with trucks collecting all available newspaper and paper material.

An estimated 15 tons collected by a crew of 35 members is expected to generate \$500 in funds for the group.

A tractor-trailer outside Milton Mall served as the major paper depot for the day.

Anticipated legal fees of \$150,000 to fight Site F have prompted the citizens' group to arrange fund-raising projects, according to Mrs. David Katz, spokesman for the group.

Mrs. Katz would not disclose the amount of money raised since the group's formation two years ago, but stated a full-time bookkeeper looks after all the funds.

Two draws, a dance, and a membership drive have all helped to raise money, she continued, but added, "we anticipate a long, hard fight."

That could include OMB hearings and possibly a Supreme Court battle, she stated.

The group has now 400 registered members, according to Mrs. Katz.

Although the group did not reach Saturday's goal of 20 tons of newspaper, the day was considered a success.

"There is enough paper material and returnables to keep this kind of thing going on a weekly basis," said Mrs. Katz.

"The essential aim of this project and others is to keep bottles, papers and cans out of landfill sites."



WHAT TASTY DELIGHTS there are from maple sap, as these twins—four-year-old Lars and Jason Dressler of Mississauga—discover upon sampling maple candy. The candy, boiled through a long process, is then poured in a thin

steam over snow to harden it into candy. Mountsberg Wildlife Centre opened the maple syrup festival this weekend with approximately 2,000 visitors in attendance. The festival continues each weekend through to April 9.