

SHOWING HIS WINNING STYLE, Scott Wilyman glides down Main St. on his skateboard, unaware that a thousand pairs of eyes are on him. Scott was a class winner among 41 boys who entered the skateboard races, a new event at Community Day this year. The whole day was a roaring success

July 1 day of fun

Community Day roaring success

By Peter McCusker
Milton's Community Day and Canada's 111th birthday celebrations were a roaring, all-day, crowd-pleasing success Saturday.

From early morning until well after dark, a variety of fun events lured citizens and visitors to Main St. and Rotary Park where a host of attractions—most of them free—were laid on to entertain them. Even the weather was ideal for the day.

Milton Jaycee Dave Dunn, one of the organizers, summed it up: "People went away with a good feeling, and we did too."

The three-month-old Jaycee unit had accepted the challenge of heading up Community Day 78 a few months ago, when it was learned the Parks and Recreation Department and town council had cancelled the event, for lack of funds. Jaycees checked into it and found a lot of community interest, and offered to head up the arrangements if enough other service clubs and individuals would lend a hand.

Many did, and the Jaycees' involvement gave the fledgling club good experience and know-how for next year. Dunn estimated the attendance at Rotary Park activities at well over 2,500 throughout the day.

Skateboard races and a tug-of-war event, both new to the program this year, were pronounced big successes. The annual soap box derby and fireworks at the mill pond also drew record crowds.

The constant drone of over 100 wheels rolling and spinning, final paint touch-ups, brake repairs and a few early bird spectators could have

been witnessed early Saturday morning, on Main St.

Preparations were being hurriedly made for the Kinsmen's Soap Box Derby. And as drops of oil were administered to squeaky ball bearings, the day's activities in other parts of town were also beginning.

The Saturday morning Flea Market in the old Milton Fire Hall on Main St. and the Farmers' Market in the parking lot behind Milton jail were also alive with activity.

It was Canada Day and the long list of events scheduled had organizers praying for sunny skies and large crowds. They weren't disappointed.

Main St. sidewalks and the roadway were crowded all day with spectators taking in the soap box derby and the skateboard slalom races. Rotary Park was jammed with people and activities and over 1,000 remained for the final display of fireworks at the Mill Pond in the evening.

Milton Jaycees retailed over 2,000 hot dogs and 2,000 cans of soft drinks at Rotary Park and the Kinettes poured over 400 orange drinks on Main St.

The Jaycees sponsored the skateboard events on Main

St. and there were no injuries to any of the 41 entries in the event, although there were a few spills taken by competitors.

Barton Veinott claimed the 14-16-year-old category award with a 14.5 second run down the slalom course. Jim Muir was second and recorded the fastest time of 14.25, while Mike O'Shea was third.

In 11-13-year-old skateboarders, Scott Wilyman claimed the winner's prize with an 18.2 second run. Mike Chuchmach and Dale Patterson followed second and third. Gary Noseworthy had the fastest time in this grouping.

Nick Wallis was the top skateboarder in the seven to 10-year-olds with Phillip Cockram of Campbellville second and recording the quickest time with 21.7 second run. Nicholas Thompson was third. Trophies were provided by Pizza Delight in the Milton Mall.

Winners in the Jaycee draw were Frank Modaffari of Meadowbrook Dr. Milton for first place prize, Colin Best claimed the second prize and Scott Legault of Toronto third. Mayor Don Gordon,

who attended all the day's events, drew the winning tickets.

Milton Firefighters took advantage of a poorly equipped Halton Regional Police squad in the first annual tug-of-war. The Firefighters, 14 of them, dug in deep with heavy work boots and made quick work of pulling the police across the line.

Realizing their folly, the Halton Hogs regrouped, acted as scavengers and came up with heavy boots as well. A longer second draw had the police making a contest out of the pull and tying the score. The firefighters claimed the third pull in the best-of-three for the Molson Brewery trophy.

Members of the Firefighter team were Karl Drews, Bob Kerr, Carl May, Gordon Krantz, John Johnson, Al Welke, Jim Finn, Murray McConnell, Gord Wrigglesworth, Pat Ryan, Harold Penson, Harold Coulson, Larry McDougall and Ron Gervais.

Halton Gymnastic Club members demonstrated their finesse, balance and gymnastics. (Continued on page 7)

Three killed

Safety brake disconnected Milton inquest jury is told

Three lives could have been saved, had all braking devices been in use, a five-man jury decided after learning a safety brake switch was disconnected in a runaway locomotive that killed three men on a Milton construction site.

William MacCrae, a supervisor with Canadian Pacific Railways, stated during the inquest into the deaths, that a "dead man switch" normally hooked up for CPR use was not connected on March 14, when the privately owned locomotive slammed into four trucks parked on the Britannia Rd. railway site. The accident killed three employees of Penvidic Construction, Burlington.

A CPR supervisor for 35 years, Mr. MacCrae said he found the locomotive "well kept and clean" and said he could find no mechanical problems with it. The locomotive was sold six years ago to Penvidic Construction Co. by CPR.

The five-man jury deliberated for half an hour Wednesday before presenting its verdict. The verdict indicated the accident could have been avoided, if all

braking devices had been in use.

While the cause of the runaway locomotive cannot be established to be either through human or mechanical error, it could have been prevented through the full employment of all braking devices, summed up by the jury.

Richard Hill, a six-year employee with Penvidic Construction, told the jury that it was "Common" to have the dead man switch disconnected on such jobs, since a driver is frequently moving around in the cab, and would not be able to always keep his foot on the pedal.

He explained that in this particular job, the train engineer would be moving out of his seat to take signals and directions.

The tragedy occurred after train engineer Victor Newcombe, 58 from Burlington, left the idling locomotive to join 25 other company employees for a coffee.

Muddy conditions prompted three company trucks and the coffee van to park on the railway tracks in front of the train, witnesses told the jury. The train killed Mr. New-

combe instantly, dragging his body a full 200 feet, as the locomotive slammed into the four other trucks.

Jose Carrelas, 52, and Joao Pereira, 50, both from Toronto were killed, after being trapped between the trucks.

Numerous tests carried out

on the locomotive failed to determine if either a human or mechanical error had caused the train engine to roll forward, Mr. MacCrae said.

He explained the locomotive had five braking systems, but only one brake, the independent brake, would have been in use on that

morning. He told the jury that it is not unusual to have the engine throttle in the forward position with the independent brake on.

"It just doesn't make any sense that the man would

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Need for NEC questioned by conservation authority

Halton Region Conservation Authority wants to see the Niagara Escarpment Commission disbanded and the conservation authorities of Ontario made responsible for producing a master plan for the escarpment and for protecting it.

A proposal to that effect is being sent to a committee of chairmen of Ontario conservation authorities for its consideration and comment.

Initially, in a strongly worded statement, HRCA's Land Use Advisory Board had recommended the authority petition the

Minister of Natural Resources for immediate dissolution of the NEC. But at a meeting of the full authority last week it was decided to approach the chairmen's committee for its views first.

The recommendation arose out of a review of the preliminary proposals for the Niagara Escarpment Plan. The land use advisory board termed the preliminary proposals inadequate.

HRCA members favorable to calling for an end to the NEC questioned whether the NEC and Ontario conservation authorities were dup-

licating services since they had jurisdiction over much of the same area. Eight conservation authorities have jurisdiction over various parts of the escarpment, chairman Brock Harris noted.

Several also objected to the time and money being spent by the NEC to produce a plan and to the NEC's practice of holding planning meetings in camera. They were critical of what they felt was inadequate public input to the planning process.

But Milton Councillor Jim Watson, who sits on the authority, said it would be

irresponsible of HRCA to pass the recommendation. "The commission is there to stay," he maintained.

Halton Hills representatives Russ Miller and Pat McKenzie said their constituents were generally in agreement with having an escarpment commission.

If conservation authorities were to take over, Mr. McKenzie added, there would have to be an overseeing group to co-ordinate all the bodies and ensure uniformity.

'Sick joke'

'Human hand' turns out to be bear paw

What was first thought to be a human hand found outside of McKersie Funeral Home about two weeks ago turned out to be a bear paw—and the object of a sick joke.

The paw was off a bear shot by Mrs. Carol Simon of Bronte St. and had been on a roof with the other three paws to dry.

Someone took the paw and planted it outside the funeral home and had left it to look like a human hand.

Lackie McKersie said that some people found the paw and knocked on the door of the home.

"We were being put on," McKersie explained. He explained that the people who found the hand and people at the funeral home thought the thing was a hand and at first feared it was linked with a murder.

"That's what we thought in the beginning. There was nothing else we could think it had been prepared that way. It turned out to be just a sick joke."

Police termed the incident a practical joke but noted it wouldn't have been very funny if someone had had a

heart attack because of it. Police said they know who the prankster was, but wouldn't reveal the name.

Housing ministry won't fight dumpsite

The Tremaine-Britannia Citizens' Group won't be able to look to the Ontario Ministry of Housing for support in its fight against a landfill site in Milton.

The Ministry notified Milton Council last week it would not oppose plans for a landfill site when the matter goes before the Ontario Municipal Board.

An inter-office memo within the ministry indicated only two agencies had replied to the circulation of the official plan amendment. Halton Health Unit said it had no objection and the Halton Conservation Authority

listed a number of concerns about the proposed landfill site.

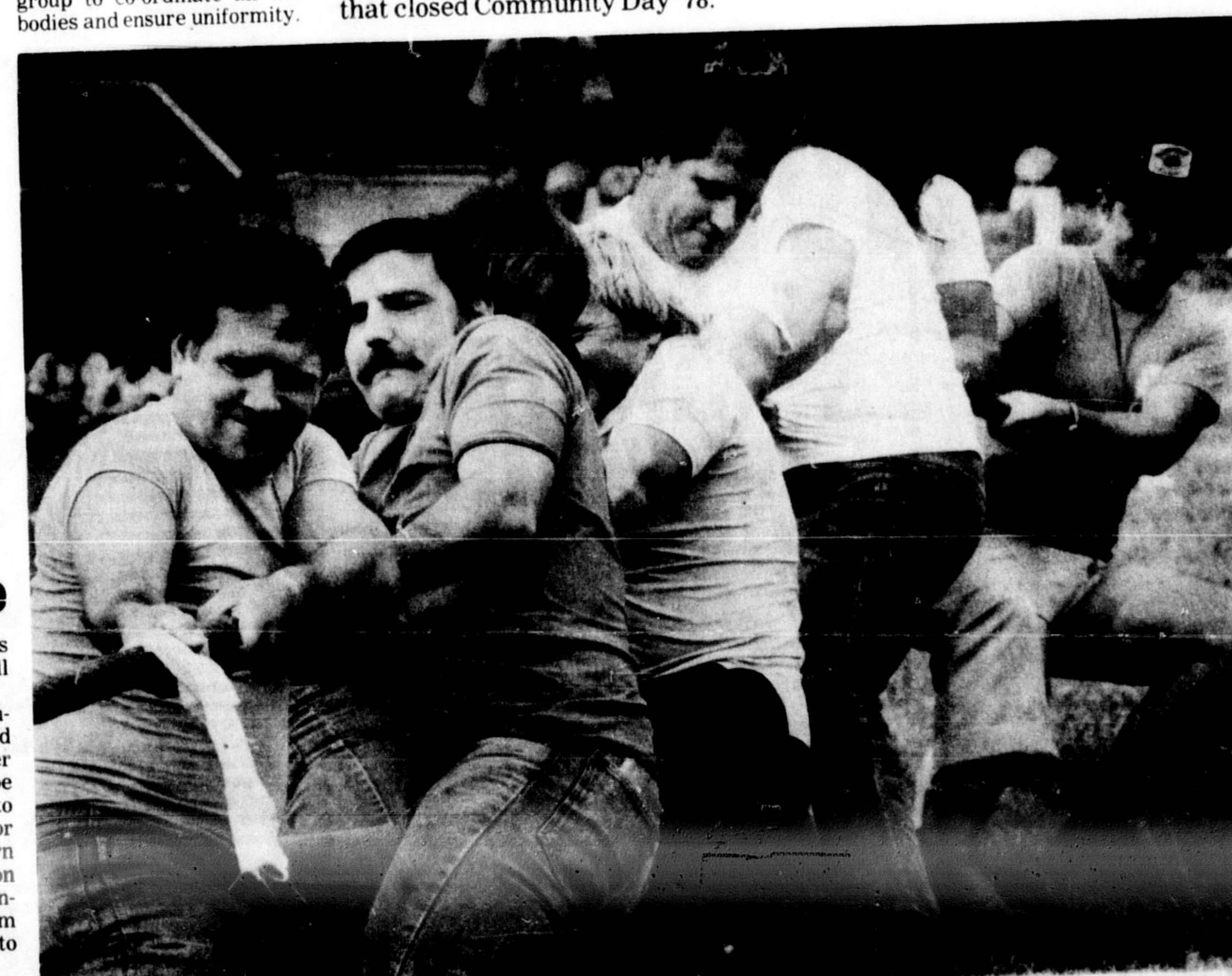
The authority noted concern about containment and treatment of surface water and asked that that issue be studied and resolved prior to commitment of the site for land use, expressed concern about possible effects on neighboring farms, and concern about flood waters from the Indian Creek flowing onto the landfill site.

The authority suggested a woodlot in the southwest part of the site should be preserved.

No date for an OMB hearing has been set yet.



ALL EYES WERE SKYWARD Saturday night when a \$650 display of fireworks went up in the air over the mill pond in Centennial Park. Enjoying the show were Steve Beasse, Craig Runnalls, Ian Bennett, Lee Bennett and Dwayne Bursay, all of Milton. Over 1,000 witnessed the aerial display that closed Community Day '78.



HEAVE! MILTON FIREFIGHTERS took advantage of an ill-prepared Halton Regional Police team Saturday in their tug-of-war. Gord Wrigglesworth, Harold Penson, Jim Finn, Gord Krantz, Bob Kerr and Karl Drews gave a heave with the firefighter team.

