

# The Canadian Champion

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## There's a limit

We think the residents of the Cabot Trail area "doth protest too much" with nagging objections to the plans of Murray Wilson to build a new auto dealership on Main St. E. Even though the application was made last May, the dealership is no further toward completion and the crux is a concern of homeowners backing onto the rear of the dealership that their privacy will be eroded. To his credit, Mr. Wilson has listened to the residents and tried, at some expense, to placate them. The light standards now face away from the homes. A 30-foot mini-berm is being completed. There is a complicated paging system designed to work with a minimum of interruption to the homes. Yet despite all this effort on their behalf, one or two residents continue to adopt an ostrich posture, hoping to bury their

heads in sands of complaints, and no doubt, to cause so much frustration the dealership will just go away. They do not realize this frustration could, and quite legally, cause Mr. Wilson to ignore them and build the dealership the way it was planned in the first place with shop doors opening right at the property line. The zoning for the dealership allows Mr. Wilson to do virtually what he wants. But Mr. Wilson has agreed to meet the residents, yet again, in hopes of trying to do something in an amicable way. The handful of objecting homeowners should realize it is incumbent on them to be compromising. If they do not, the majority of homeowners in the area will be more than justified in pointing the finger at the objectors, should Mr. Wilson get fed up and just go ahead and build the dealership the way he wanted it in the first place.

## Plan for the future

While we understand the concerns of Councillor Don Knight that more strict controls are needed for industrial development, we would suggest it is preferable to put better industrial definitions in place for the future than trying to correct problems in the past. Mr. Knight was concerned that two industrial development projects west of Highway 25, south of Highway 401, and north of Market Dr. will be completed under an "M1" zoning, which is a restricted industrial designation. This zoning allows a fabricating plant, processing plant, packaging establishment, boat-car-vehicle dealer, wholesale outlet, or a restaurant to name a few. The concern of Councillor Knight is the "M1" zone does not specifically spell out what constitutes, say, a processing plant, and that advantage has been taken of the latitude of the wording in the past. He described Main St. E. near Thompson Rd. as an example. Nevertheless, the properties in question have come to council and

staff for consideration and approval under the "M1" zoning amendment and designation already in place. In fact, the lands are part of Official Plan Amendment 7 which has been fretfully around for more than seven years. Mayor Gord Krantz said he was concerned new rules and definitions were starting to come up late in the OP7 day. He noted one, possibly two, industrial plants hinge on approval of the "M1" area and that further complications would drive these industries elsewhere. Both Councillor Knight and Mayor Krantz are right. We can't afford to lose industrial assessment and jobs now, but we do need a clearer definition of industrial zoning. Perhaps the time is now ripe, as Mr. Knight suggests, to review "M1" and perhaps come up with that clear definition before the rest of OP7 comes to council in the form of an official development request.

## Setting a standard

It is nothing to cheer about, but the Domus Charitable Foundation will make room in its 120-unit housing subdivision for five geared-to-income families. This is only a third of the families Milton Council and Halton Housing thought would be allowed to move into the development when the Domus building application was reluctantly passed by council. The five families involved are in "desperate need" of a place to live. That it took a considerable amount of pressure to force the Domus Charitable Foundation to be charitable, augers ill for the 10 remaining families who have pinned their hopes on Domus. This pressure is going to have to be continued, with no letting up just because Domus has allowed five families in. If anything, Milton Council should pass a joint resolution with Halton Housing and the Ontario Ministry of Housing calling upon Domus to do everything in its collective power to make room for 10 more low-income and geared-to-income families. This is not just for Milton. Throughout Ontario other charitable foundations will be go-

ing to municipal councils hoping to provide shelter at reasonable rates. These councils will no doubt look at the experience in Milton and then justifiably turn down any application coming before them. If the charitable housing foundation concept is to work, it must be without blemishes and Domus is surely blemished. It therefore falls to Domus to do the right thing and open up 10 more units, if not for its own benefit, for the rest of Ontario where low-rental housing is just as badly needed as in Milton. **Commenting briefly** Former Milton Mayor Don Gordon, who lost the December election race to Gordon Krantz, is back in public life again. Last week he was named treasurer of Milton Boy Scouts, and the previous week he joined Milton Rotary Club. Now back in his finance job at Ford of Canada's office in Oakville after four years as mayor, Don tells us he has a soft spot in his heart for the Scouts, and the Rotary Club was the first to invite him to join.

**NEWS ITEM:  
CROSSWALKS AT ONTARIO ST. AND  
AT GEORGE ST. HAVE BEEN  
OFFICIALLY CREATED BY BYLAW.**



## Editor's notebook No gloom or doom?

with ROY DOWNS



Let's talk about the newspaper industry today. It's one of my favorite subjects. Partly to celebrate Independence Day and partly to appeal to readers who think newspapers don't print enough "good" news. The Denver Post last July 4 produced a "no gloom, no doom" front page. All the usual front page news (the bad stuff) was moved to page two. Reader response was positive, but one staff member complained The Post was failing to meet its journalistic responsibility, by flavoring the news report. What do you think? Should a newspaper flog all the worst news on its front pages, or is there room for some "good" news too? I suspect some newspapers are guilty of sensationalizing the news, a la Toronto Sun, by screaming headlines, sex and gore stories up front. Here at The Champion, we try to concentrate our news, by sections. "Hard" news — the councils, civic boards, crimes, fires, courts and spot news — end up in the A section; sports and classifieds in the B section; people news, columns and features in the C or third section. We're not trying to sensationalize it, it just works out that way. The A section news is, after all, the most important news of the week, the news affecting the most people. The "soft" news is also the news

that happens first, arrives first, and is ready first, so it is also logical to put that news in the C section which is the first to go on the press. Would you like to see a Champion front page with nothing but "good" news, for a change? Opinions are welcome. + + + Readership surveys are fun, and sometimes they provide some interesting food for thought. Another US newspaper recently surveyed its readers' personal interests and reading habits, by giving them a list of 34 subjects and asking if the paper should give a lot of space, some space, a little space or no space to each one. Readers gave the top eight spots to the same subjects, although not in the same order. Best food buys headed the list, and sports ranked eighth. In between were consumer news, editorials, health and medical information, human interest stories, environment, and stories on political figures or public officials. Here at The Champion, I feel we're covering most of those bases fairly well. We don't have a best food buys column (they are too readily available from neigh-

boring cities' dailies, anyway) but I am proud of our service on the other fronts. And our sportswriter Mike Boyle can't believe that sports news would ever rank eighth in readership or interest in Milton. He knows there are sports addicts out there, who appear to gobble up every word he and his contributors write for the sports section. He should know — he gets lots of complaints if anything is omitted. + + + How many people do you know, who struggled up the ladder of opportunity — from newsboy to president of a large corporation, like a Horatio Alger hero? A few years ago a survey was conducted among 1,000 men who have been outstandingly successful, both professionally and financially. Only 50 had started with the proverbial silver spoon in their mouths. Of the remainder, 300 were farmers' sons, 250 sold newspapers, 200 started their careers as messenger boys, 50 made their debut as printers' apprentices, 100 as factory workers, and 50 as railway hands. I guess there's still a chance for the newspaper boy or girl of today, in Canada's future.

### Guest column

## Would you care to coach?

Recently high school Gr. 13 English teacher Tom LaFrance's students were asked to write a newspaper column as a class assignment. The best effort came from Kevin Dryden, who wrote about coaching youth basketball. His column is reprinted here: Who was the one who said weekend kicks could be entertained through alcohol and drugs? Forget your alcohol and forget your drugs and take 20 little 10-year-olds on a Saturday morning. This year I did something I have never done before. The Y.M.C.A. in Milton needed volunteers for the youth basketball program. I became involved through a friend and haven't looked back since the day I started. The first problem was, "How do you go about keeping 20 little boys and girls under control when they are playing basketball? They could be at home watching the Saturday morning cartoons." Problem number one was easily solved. There was no solution. I tried to run them through an extensive warmup of running, stretching, and other little wearing-out devices. This proved near fatal as I almost had a heart attack trying to keep up to the little balls of fire. If the oil companies could link into the endless energy sources these little kids have, then we wouldn't have an energy shortage! The threat of 10,000 laps around the gym was all I needed to keep their attention while I was trying to explain something to them. As you know, all kids aren't built the same. It almost breaks your heart to see little James put all of his effort into shooting a basket and then the ball arcs four feet under the rim. The best way to build his ego was to put him on my shoulders and let him "Slam Dunk" the ball.

The players include soccer stars, football greats, and cowards. One of the little fellows on my team was so afraid of being tackled whenever he got the ball, he would throw it up in the air and crouch for safety. Mark, on the other hand, would rather give the ball a kick like Pelee than a swoosh like Kareem. These two among the others give the game some life and make you want to come out for next week's session. The one young whipper snapper I get the biggest kick out of is Alex, alias "The Claw". When attacking another player (and I mean attacking) his arms are waving faster than the speed of light. He just never stops. The kids who encounter "The Claw" don't soon forget it, for they

have the battle scars to show for it. Trying to teach them positional play is like trying to sell a heater to a Hawaiian. The poor basketball acts like a magnet, attracting 10 little pieces of steel. They cling together so close to the ball, it looks like a lynch mob rather than a basketball team. I am not one who is deeply into winning, as all-star team coaches are. My number one goal is to know that the kids are enjoying themselves. I'm not out to build an ego for myself. So, being involved in a project such as this one gives me all of the highs and self satisfaction I need. To all you former teenagers who were once kids too, it's still not too late to help make a little guy or gal smile. **Philosobits** By Edith Sharpe Above all, learn tolerance. + + + Do not rely on others too much, as they have a habit of letting you down. + + + God doesn't have any pets—He has no personal favorites. To Him we are all the same, no one better than the others. He loves us all, regardless. + + + When we are willing to admit we are all wrong, then we are all right. + + + Life is like a journey and the roadways twist and bend, and we fall in with companions, and unexpected strangers who go with us for a way, and then pass out of our life. All these links with others make our destinies. So even when we form acquaintances, it's up to us to leave them a little better for our company. Give them kind words to recollect, thoughts that uplift, and bless, and let them come back without any bitterness on our part. We all need someone to travel through life with.

## Turning the Pages of the Past

### One year ago

From the March 19, 1980 issue  
A breakdown in contract negotiations between Rockwell International of Canada Ltd. and the United Auto Workers Union has led to a strike by approximately 500 employees in the Milton plant. The contract covering 1,200 Rockwell workers in Milton and Chatham expired at midnight Saturday. Workers arrived at the plant Monday morning to find both entrances barricaded and locked.  
Halton Regional Police are investigating the theft of \$1,800 worth of musical equipment from the Golden Horseshoe Christian Youth Centre on Tremaine Rd., north of Burnhamthorpe Rd. Police said the theft took place over the weekend when thieves kicked in a rear window.  
The Ontario Rock Climbing Association received a boost Thursday evening following approval by the advisory board of Halton Region Conservation Authority to go ahead with a planned climbing workshop on Rattlesnake Point bluffs next month.  
Halton high school teachers will remain in the classroom until the end of the month, at least, according to an Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF) official. Of 1,208 eligible voters, 1,165 cast ballots and only 73 voted against a strike. There were three spoiled ballots.

### 20 years ago

From the March 16, 1961 issue  
Halton's population is 111,867, county assessor Ford Rogers reported to county council last week. It is up 6.2 per cent from 1959.  
Tenders will be called soon for the new provincial school for the deaf in Milton, Minister of Public Works Ray Connell reported in the Ontario Legislature this week. The building is planned for the 97-acre Kingdon farm on Ontario St. First phase, to be underway about June 1, will cost \$2.5 million and the whole project is to cost \$6 to \$7 million.  
Milton Post Office moved into the new \$61,000 addition to the local post office on the weekend. The addition doubles the working space in the old building.  
Fifteen tennis enthusiasts met at town hall last week to try to save the floundering sport in Milton. The executive plans to sell the Main St. courts and move to Rotary Park.

Ligny, Quatre Bras and Hornby school areas, which have operated as separate units away from the Esqueving township board, have decided to seek inclusion in the township board. It is understood a new consolidated school will be built in the southern portion of the township. All three schools are overcrowded.  
A contract for construction of the Kelso Dam was let last week to Halton Paving, Oakville, for \$225,511. The project is expected to cost over \$300,000 and the province pays half.  
Per diem rates at Halton Manor were increased this week to \$4.50. The former rate was \$3.30.

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### 50 years ago

From the March 19, 1931 issue  
The final hockey games for the Ellis Cup were concluded last Thursday night when Hornby won the trophy, which was presented to Stuart Robinson, manager of the team. The Hornby team is comprised of the following: Goal, Cunningham; defense, H. Wilson and W. Robinson; centre, H. Wrigglesworth; wings, R. Wilson and Tuck; subs, Anderson, C. Robinson and C. Wrigglesworth.  
A. E. Waldie, proprietor of the Milton Poultry Yards, won 7 firsts, 5 seconds, 1 third, 1 fourth and 1 fifth with his prize birds at the Montreal Poultry Show.  
A meeting is being called in the town hall on Monday evening, March 23rd, at 8 o'clock for the purpose of organizing a band for the town of Milton.  
Bread is 6c a loaf at the Electric Bakery.  
At a special meeting of the Old Age Pensions Board held in Milton, six applications for old age pensions were dealt with, four of which were passed and two referred back for further information.

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### 75 years ago

From the March 22, 1906 issue  
A patent medicine agent was in town on Friday distributing samples. He dropped a pill on the floor in the post office. A fox terrier belonging to a Martin St. lady ate it, took convulsions and died in a short time.  
Constable Harvey is out after the crap shooters. This is quite an industry in Brampton among the boys, youths and even voters. The constable says this 7 come 11 business has to stop. He caught a bunch of hopefuls busy at the game last Sunday, but let them go with a warning and a good scare.  
The weather for the past week has been wintry and there has been sleighing since Monday's storm. It is welcomed by businessmen, as the roads had been bad and the trade slack. The snow will protect the crops which had been suffering from exposure.  
Lew Smith was home over Sunday. He has been employed with the Hedley Shaw Milling Company for the past month as a bookkeeper at Thorold. He reports everything booming on the Welland Canal, the mill at Thorold turning out nearly 500 barrels a day and the mills at St. Catharines and Kingston turning out nearly as much.