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Hot, muggy weather cut the attendance at this year's Steam Era, but the 18,000 people who did attend on the Labor Day weekend enjoyed a view of the days when steam was king on the farm. One of those showing was John Calder, of Jerseyville, this year's Steam Era president. He is shown with what may be the only steam-powered Rumely tractor in existence.

Halton plans . . .

. . .continuing

## Snow's pitch for stadium gets support

By STEVE ARNOLD  
News Editor

A plan by Jim Snow to submit a brief of his own to the provincial commission seeking a site for a new domed sports stadium has buoyed hopes of Halton Region attracting the facility here.

Members of a special regional subcommittee studying possible locations here was told last week the high profile provincial cabinet minister would be submitting a brief supporting a location in north Oakville.

Oakville Mayor Harry Barrett, chairman of the special Halton committee, told members he has been told by Mr. Snow he will be supporting a site near the area of Burnhamthorpe Rd. and Ninth Line as the best location for the multi-million project.

Mr. Barrett added the Minister has provided him a confidential copy of his submission and would like to meet committee members as soon as possible.

"He is deadly serious about this and is making arrangements to submit a brief on behalf of James Snow," he said.

While Mr. Snow will support a site of the Oakville side of that road junction, committee members decided anywhere in that area would be acceptable from the region's viewpoint.

That feeling emerged following a lengthy presentation by Oakville planner John Ghent and regional planner Dave McCleary providing further information on evaluations of selected sites in the region.

According to the planners, the Burnhamthorpe-Ninth Line location is the best because it is close to two planned major highways (403 and 407) and has several other planning advantages.

"The 403 site is a cornfield and has no negative impacts," Mr. Ghent said. "It certainly allows for proper planning exercise."

The other major site in Halton, he said, is located on the North Service Rd., east of Bronte Rd. in Oakville and that "would likely meet a fair amount of localized opposition."

According to the planners, there are several other strong advantages to the northern site, located almost on the borders of Oakville, Milton and Mississauga, including that of transportation.

• See "STADIUM" Page A2

## Fox run planned

A local teacher has taken up the challenge of Terry Fox's legacy. Bob Pecora, of Sam Sherratt School, is organizing a Terry Fox Run to take place in Milton, Sept. 18.

Mr. Pecora said he took up the task after learning a run was not planned in Milton this year.

"I was in the cancer society office in Mississauga last week asking who was organizing the local effort and when I found no one was, I offered to do it myself," he said.

"The Marathon of Hope shall continue in Milton," he added.

Mr. Pecora said his interest in the run is sparked by personal experience.

"Like so many other people I've had some exposure to cancer and I believe we have to find a cure for it," he said.

Money will be raised either through a \$6 registration fee to be charged runners, or from sponsorships they gather for the 10 kilometer course.

Sponsor sheets and details about the course are available from Sam Sherratt School, other schools in town and The Champion's office.

## Weather is blamed

# Steam Era draw slumps

Hot, muggy weather over the Labor Day weekend has been blamed for a slump in attendance at the 23rd annual Steam Era show in Milton.

According to organizers of the event total attendance this year fell about 3,000 from last year's draw of more than 20,000.

Attendance on the Friday night and Saturday events were higher than ever, but the figures for Sunday and Monday were well below the levels set last year.

Despite the effects of the sun, however, attendance records were set for some of the regular Steam Era events, such as the Saturday night country-western music show, the variety night sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce of Friday and the Sunday evening gospel hour.

Sonya Vascotto, of Milton, sang for more than 2,000 Saturday night on her way to winning the country music talent show.

The next night, the Sellwood family performed for a large crowd at the gospel hour. At the centre of the festivities was a tribute display to the tractors produced by the Rumley Manufacturing Company, including 16 rare machines of this line.

In addition, 24 steam engines, 151 gas tractors, over 100 gas engines and 100 antique cars and trucks were on display for the estimated 18,000 people who attended the three day event.

One of the measures of success for the show is provided by Grace Anglican Church, which provided more than 3,000 roast beef dinners for the crowd of spectators and

participants.

Competition, as always, was a large part of the show, including threshing events, tractor pulls, log sawing, bag and sheaf tying.

• See "SUCCESS" Page A3

## French growth delayed

Plans to expand Halton's core French program in elementary schools have been stretched for another year.

Board of Education trustees last week approved a motion delaying until September 1985 a plan to have all grade eight students take a 40-minute-a-day French program.

Originally, according to a report presented by George Heaver, superintendent of curriculum services, the plan was to start daily instruction in the subject for grades seven and eight by September 1984.

Stalling the senior grade for another year, he wrote, would have several benefits for the system, including spreading the costs of the new program over two years, reducing the need for special textbooks, spreading out the need for more teachers over the two years.

## Inquest is called

An inquest into the death of a Milton man is being held this week to make the public aware of the facts, according to Halton coroner Dr. Keith Phillips.

Elmo Stretch, 52, of Milton died on the operating table at Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital last Sept. 20.

He had been transferred from Milton District Hospital because it did not have the facilities to conduct a disc removal operation in Mr. Stretch's back.

"It was fundamentally an anesthetic death. He died in the operating room and the inquest is just making known the facts around that," said Dr. Phillips.

The inquest is being held at the Halton Regional Building, Bronte Road, Sept. 7-9 and will be conducted by Halton coroner Dr. Bruce Penton.



Corn has always been a staple crop for farmers in this area, but concerns over how much land will be lost to an expansion of Ontario Hydro transmission facilities in the area have raised fears.

## Hydro offers land options

Farmers in southwestern Ontario have a variety of options to choose from in transferring property rights to Ontario Hydro for new power lines, says Hydro property acquisition supervisor, Al Davis.

Hydro is currently studying routes for transmission lines to the London area.

The lines are needed to supply economical electricity to southwestern Ontario and to strengthen connections with neighbouring utilities in the U.S.

With the assistance of the public, a number of alternative routes for the lines are being identified. Toward the end of the year, a preferred route will be selected and presented for review by the provincial Consolidated Hearings Board.

Al Davis anticipates negotiations with property owners will not start for at least a year, but he thinks it's important that everyone concerned understand the negotiation process beforehand.

As the head of Hydro's property acquisition team on the Supply to London transmission study, Davis has attended several public meetings with property owners and agricultural representatives to explain Hydro's policies.

The property owner's first choice will be either to sell Hydro ownership of the land it needs or to grant a perpetual easement (a limited interest in the land in order to build and maintain the power line).

Mr. Davis says that except in rare instances, Hydro prefers to take an easement and leave ownership in the farmer's hands. However, the decision is the property owner's.

"Regardless of which option is chosen, the farmer and other property owners will be fully compensated for any damage caused to crops, equipment or property during construction, or as a result of maintenance or repair work," said Mr. Davis.

Even if the owner decides to sell the land, he can usually continue farming it as before. It's Hydro policy to rent land back for \$1 a hectare plus property taxes.

"But this offer will only be made to the farmer or his sons and daughters, and not to new owners if the farm is sold," Mr. Davis said.

## Inside

### Lawsuit Possible

A refusal to issue a simple apology could lead the Halton Board of Education into a court battle with evangelist Ken Campbell. The story is on page A2.

### Historic Homes

Milton has a long history of settlement and over those years many fine old homes have been established. Several of these are included in a tour being sponsored by the Milton Historical Society. See page C1 for the details.

### First Section

Editorials . . . . . A4  
Viewpoint . . . . . A4  
Letter . . . . . A4  
Pages of the Past . . . . . A4  
Arthritis Kick-Off . . . . . A5  
Motocross Meeting . . . . . A6

### Second Section

Sports . . . . . B1-B5  
Real Estate . . . . . RE1-RE8  
Classified . . . . . B6-B7

### Third Section

Dairy Finalist . . . . . C2  
Doll Making . . . . . C3  
Top Students . . . . . C3  
Entertainment . . . . . C6  
Dateline . . . . . C6

### Insert

Home Hardware

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