

Teachers' strike main news event of autumn

Milton proved once again in 1997 that small towns can be big on news.

The past year brought no shortage of controversy, excitement, tragedy, unusual occurrences and change for local residents.

From the opening days in January to the closing moments of the holiday season, the community was chock full of activity.

Here's a brief rundown of happenings from the

1997 IN REVIEW

final months of the year.

SEPTEMBER

• The Ontario Jockey Club expressed interest

in running a full-time casino at Campbellville's Mohawk Raceway. While a casino was still in the planning stages, the Ontario government approved the addition of slot machines — possibly hundreds — at the track.

• A potential referendum on chlorination of Milton's water supply got a rough ride by regional councillors from surrounding municipalities. During an informal discussion on the plan at Halton's health and social services committee meeting, Burlington Mayor Walter Mulkeiwich slammed the idea. Oakville Mayor Ann Mulvale expressed some serious reservations.

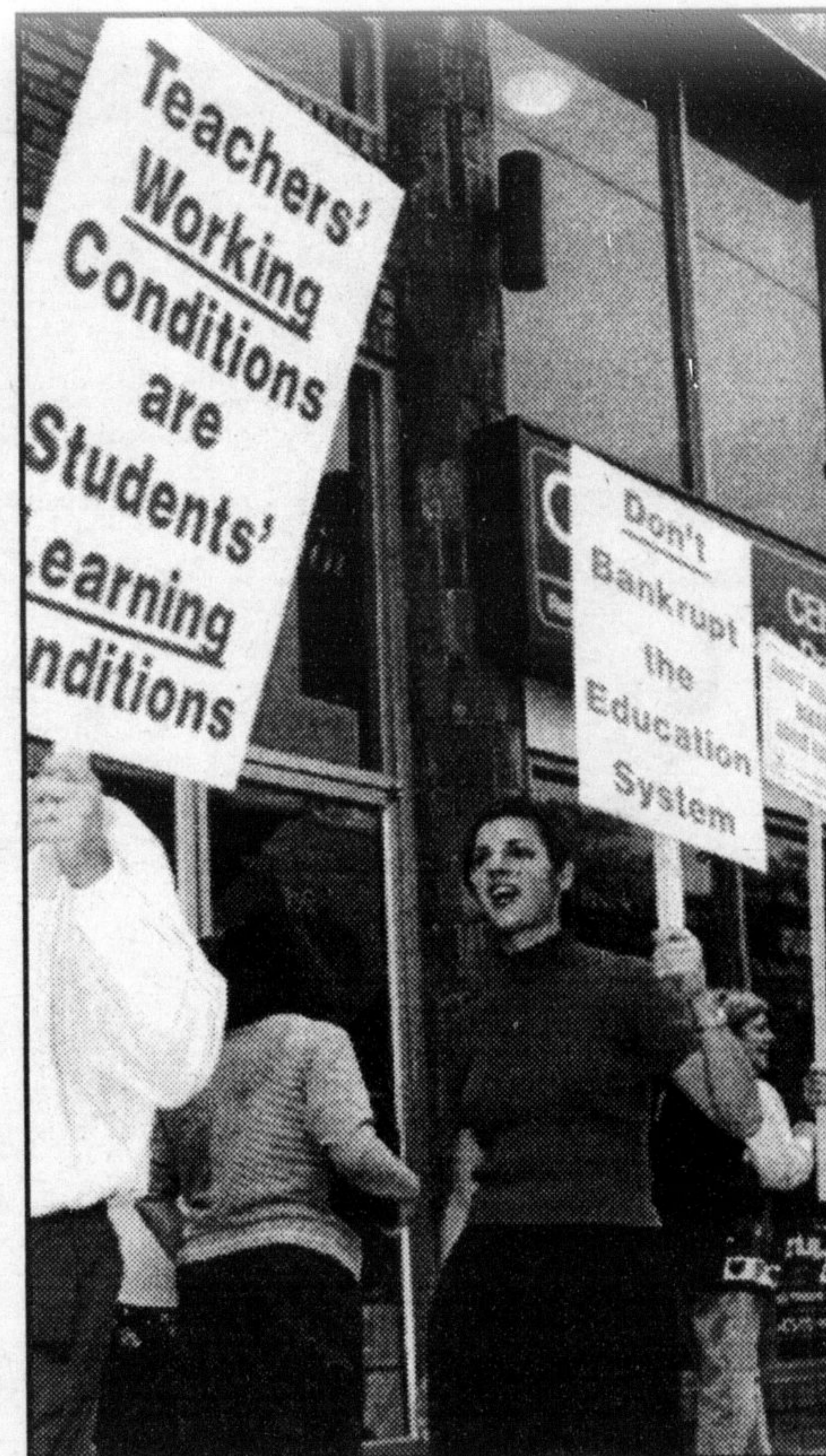
• Jail guards said a planned expansion at Maplehurst prison will have severe impacts on Milton, its citizens, inmates and guards.

Bill Gillies, corrections officer and president of local 234 of the Ontario Public Service Employee Union (OPSEU), said Milton will be deprived of a potential \$900,000 in annual property taxes which could have been generated through an alternate use of wastewater capacity.

• A defence lawyer said four police officers are all liars if Les Graham is guilty of attempting to obstruct justice.

Dean Paquette, defending the retired Halton Regional Police inspector, said only one of five officers gave evidence accusing Mr. Graham of trying to cover up an officer's assault on a murder suspect.

• see CHLORINE on page 13



Ontario teachers staged a two-week strike in October.



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