

# The Canadian Champion



A Metroland Community Newspaper

Vol. 139 No. 5

Tuesday, March 17, 1998

36 Pages

75¢ (GST included)

## Madeley guilty, gets life in jail

By IRENE GENTLE  
Special to the Champion

A young man who killed in cold blood will spend as much time as he has been alive behind bars.

After 15 hours of deliberation in a Milton murder trial the jury has found Keith Madeley, 25, guilty of first-degree murder. He was immediately sentenced to life in jail, with no chance of parole for 25 years.

Madeley took the life of Fred Sheppard, 77, mortally wounding the senior with several shots.

Mr. Sheppard's bullet-riddled body was found March 7, 1995, slumped in an outhouse on his Steeles Ave. property. He had been struck four times, twice in the back and chest area, once through the arm and once in the head with .22 calibre rifle shells.

The nine man, three woman jury found Mr. Madeley guilty just after 6 p.m. last Thursday (Mar. 12) following a trial that spanned almost two months and consisted of mostly circumstantial prosecution evidence.

It was enough. After almost 15 hours of deliberation, the jury came back to the court questioning the difference between first and second degree murder.

They returned less than 45-minutes later with a verdict of guilty in the first degree.

Madeley showed no emotion as he heard the decision and had handcuffs slapped on his wrists in court for the first time during the course of the trial.

Tears flowed at the verdict,

but none from Madeley or Irene Madeley, the convicted killer's mother. Though she sat in the front row the two made no eye-contact before or after the verdict was read. Madeley offered a weak and choked 'no' when Judge Robert Blair asked if he would like to say anything to the court before sentencing.

In contrast, the friends and relatives of Mr. Sheppard cheered as the verdict was announced and sobbed quietly while sentencing was handed out.

As the crowd filed out many stopped to shake hands or hug Crown attorney Brian O'Marra and his assistant, Amy Stevenson.

For Irene Madeley the result materialized her worst expectations.

"What will be will be. I'm ready," said Mrs. Madeley, only moments before the verdict was delivered. "He's okay as long as I'm okay. We support each other."

Rather than the end of the waiting, Mrs. Madeley believes the verdict is only the start for her son.

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Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

## Sweet taste of spring

Jennifer Neumair hoists her two-year-old daughter Cassadi up to sample some of the spring sap running at Mountsberg Conservation Area.

## Andrew: Portables to be examined

By KAREN SMITH  
The Champion

Portables at Milton schools will be inspected in the wake of the recent discovery of toxic fungus in Oakville.

"If we've got fungus in Oakville, we've probably got some fungus up here," Milton Trustee Erica Andrew said Friday.

Concern over mould arose after stachybotrys atra fungus was found in two portables at Pine Grove and Brookdale schools in Oakville.

Exposure to the toxic fungus is believed to trigger asthma and allergies and cause flu-like symptoms.

Later inspections revealed 11 of 15 portables at the two schools contained various amounts of some kind of mould.

Children have been removed from all portables at the Oakville schools and are

attending classes in school libraries, gyms and computer rooms until the portables are cleaned up.

Ms Andrew couldn't give a timetable for when other schools would be inspected, but said Sam Sherratt elementary school and Milton District High School have been listed as priorities due to their age.

Numerous other Milton schools use



Erica Andrew

portables.

The majority of Halton District School Board trustees Wednesday night refused to be rushed or have a "gun held to their

• see PORTABLES on page 16

## NEWSLINES

### Used books wanted

Milton's Canadian Federation of University Women wants donations for their upcoming annual book sale.

Any used books in reasonably good condition would be appreciated, and can be dropped off at the library or in a deposit bin at Zellers.

Proceeds from the book sale, held later this spring, will go towards scholarships and various other projects.

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