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# Weekend Champion

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Photo by GRAHAM PAINE.

## ✓ Kids celebrate our past

Receiving the Milton Historical Society's Education Award was Mr. Nagy's Grade 8 at St. Peter's School, for their work on historical sites such as Crawford Lake, Town Hall and the Mill Pond. Here the students showcase their projects which garnered them the award at Sunday's Heritage Awards. See page 7 for more awards photos.

## ✓ Teachers settle a three year deal

By HOWARD MOZEL

*Special to The Champion*

After five months of acrimony, the Halton Catholic high school teacher dispute finally ended Monday with the endorsement of a new three-year deal.

"The board is very pleased that the teachers ratified a multi-year contract which will bring stability to the system for the next two years," said Halton Catholic District School Board Chair Jim Sherlock.

Mr. Sherlock characterized the deal as a fair settlement for both parties that was designed to restore stability to the Catholic secondary system in Halton. He said both sides are eager for a fresh start and are committed to developing an improved working relationship.

This new affiliation appears to be getting off to a

good start: Extra-curricular activities, which teachers had refused to conduct, have already started at some schools.

Joe Pece, president of the Halton secondary unit of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association (OECTA), agreed with Mr. Sherlock's assessment that the settlement was a fair one.

### Bitter fight

"It brings resolution to what was obviously a very long and bitter battle," he said.

Mr. Pece believes the three-year deal will allow time for both sides to rebuild the relationship that was "destroyed."

"This settlement does come as a relief to teachers," said Mr. Pece. "The board's actions to lock teachers out of their classrooms will be difficult to

forget. However, all teachers are looking forward to having the time to teach and work with students."

The teachers voted 74.4 per cent to accept the agreement on Monday. The Halton Catholic District School Board ratified the new contract during a special meeting held later that day.

Mr. Pece said the 25 per cent of teachers who rejected the contract did that not so much because of the deal itself, but because of the manner the agreement was forced through the February 10 lockout by the board.

"Throughout the past five months the most onerous and contentious issue was the level of trust that has eroded between the board and its secondary teachers," said Mr. Pece.

Mr. Sherlock said the deal would not have been

• see STRIFE on page 9

## A new skirmish over pay

By IRENE GENTLE

*The Champion*

In round two of a councillor wage wrangle, throwing politics out of the arena touched off a new donnybrook.

A week after council voted to appoint a citizen's committee to review council salaries, the selection process of the review team also came under fire.

The issue arose at the administration and planning committee after Councillor Rick Malboeuf objected to a staff report suggesting that council appoint a five-member citizens committee to review councillor stipends for the first time since 1991.

Normally, council is responsible for appointing the members of all citizens committees.

When it comes to the touchy subject of their own salaries, council should take a more hands-off approach, said Mr. Malboeuf.

"Is it proper to have council decide who

• see MONEY on page 14

## NEWSLINES

### Barn, house burn

A vacant house and barn were ravaged by a couple of rural fires this past weekend.

It took all three Milton Fire Department stations to battle the blaze on Burnhamthorpe Road, east of Tremaine, which destroyed a \$125,000 recently vacated home early Saturday morning.

Sunday afternoon on Fourth Line, a barn on an occupied farm property was reduced to rubble, although no estimate on damages was available. Firefighters fought the blaze for more than two hours.

### WEEKEND INSERTS

- A&P • Biway • Campbellville Foodland (Rural)
- Canadian Tire • China House
- Food Basics (P) • Future Shop
- Halton Hills Parks & Rec (P) • IGA
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- Petsmart • Shop & Save • Sears
- Vito's Pizza • Walmart

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