



COMMENT

Student, parent using poor judgment, here

A Bishop Reding Secondary School student has shown a lack of respect for both his school and his religion by renouncing his Catholic faith in order to try to avoid religious education classes.

While we don't agree with the grade 11 student's argument that he shouldn't have to take the courses, it's within his rights to challenge whether he should be required to or not.

What we have a problem with is the way he's gone about addressing his bone of contention. It's unfortunate that he has chosen to turn his back on his religion, or at least say he has, to try to make a point.

And what about the student's father? As an adult and parent, he has shown a lack of judgment by not only condoning his son's behaviour, but by supporting and encouraging it.

If the family doesn't like the rules -- which in this case we believe are reasonable -- challenge them in a well thought-out, respectful manner.

If that doesn't work, remove yourself from the situation.

The student has a choice to attend another school in which Catholic education courses aren't required.



OUR READERS WRITE

No need for Drury development: student

Dear Editor:

I am writing in regard to the majority vote against housing development behind E.C. Drury High School.

I am very pleased that the proposal was voted down.

As I study urban and regional planning at the University of Waterloo, I understand more and more why some areas are developed certain ways and others are not.

This happens to be one situation in which I agree housing development should not occur.

It is an asset to have greenspace for

reasons of aesthetics, safety and crime prevention.

If development should occur at all, I fully agree with fellow Miltonian Patrick Kelly and his suggestion of building a park and sports facility.

There are many other options that would incorporate greenspace, but housing development would not.

I have confidence in Milton's future expansion, but there is no need for the housing development proposed behind E.C. Drury High School.

Amanda Mulkins
Waterloo

Madeley's lawyer speaking nonsense: Crown

Dear Editor:

Re: 'Sheppard murder appeal expected to start this year' (January 29).

Along with Amy Stevenson of this office, I represented the Crown in the trial of Keith Madeley for first-degree murder in the death of Fred Sheppard.

Mr. Madeley was convicted by a jury in March, 1998 and was sentenced.

In the above-mentioned article in your newspaper, Christopher Hicks, defence counsel for

Madeley, is quoted as saying he believed Roy Hopkins took back his confession when he realized he would receive a life sentence if convicted of first-degree murder.

This is a bizarre comment in light of evidence now clearly known to Mr. Hicks that Mr. Hopkins did not and could not have killed Fred Sheppard in Milton since he was in Calgary, Alberta the day of the murder being interviewed by his parole officer.

It is nonsense to suggest Hopkins

was in any jeopardy of being charged or convicted of this murder.

The independent OPP investigation of the Hopkins "confession" also revealed he had falsely confessed years ago to a murder in Toronto.

The bottom line is that Hopkins had a conclusive alibi for the day of Fred Sheppard's death, which did not depend on his own words.

Brian O'Marra, Crown attorney
Ministry of Attorney General
Halton

Eye injury advertisement good to see, says doctor

Dear Editor:

Re: Your public information content (February 8).

Thank you to Milton District Hospital, Canadian Champion and the good health tip as presented by Halton Healthcare Services.

Your add was excellent -- 'LOOKOUT', an article related to eye injuries acquired in sports

activities.

But it would be interesting to know how many people read it, and even better, how many take the advice.

I have heard many of my patients say, "I never knew that" after it already happened.

Accidents happen, however serious injury can be prevented.

Please keep the messages going out.

Our community really needs your help.

It's good to see I'm finally not alone in striving for our community's best interest at heart.

Dr. Ron Strohan, optometrist
Milton



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Pud

by Steve Nease

