

# The Canadian Champion

Milton's Choice Since 1860

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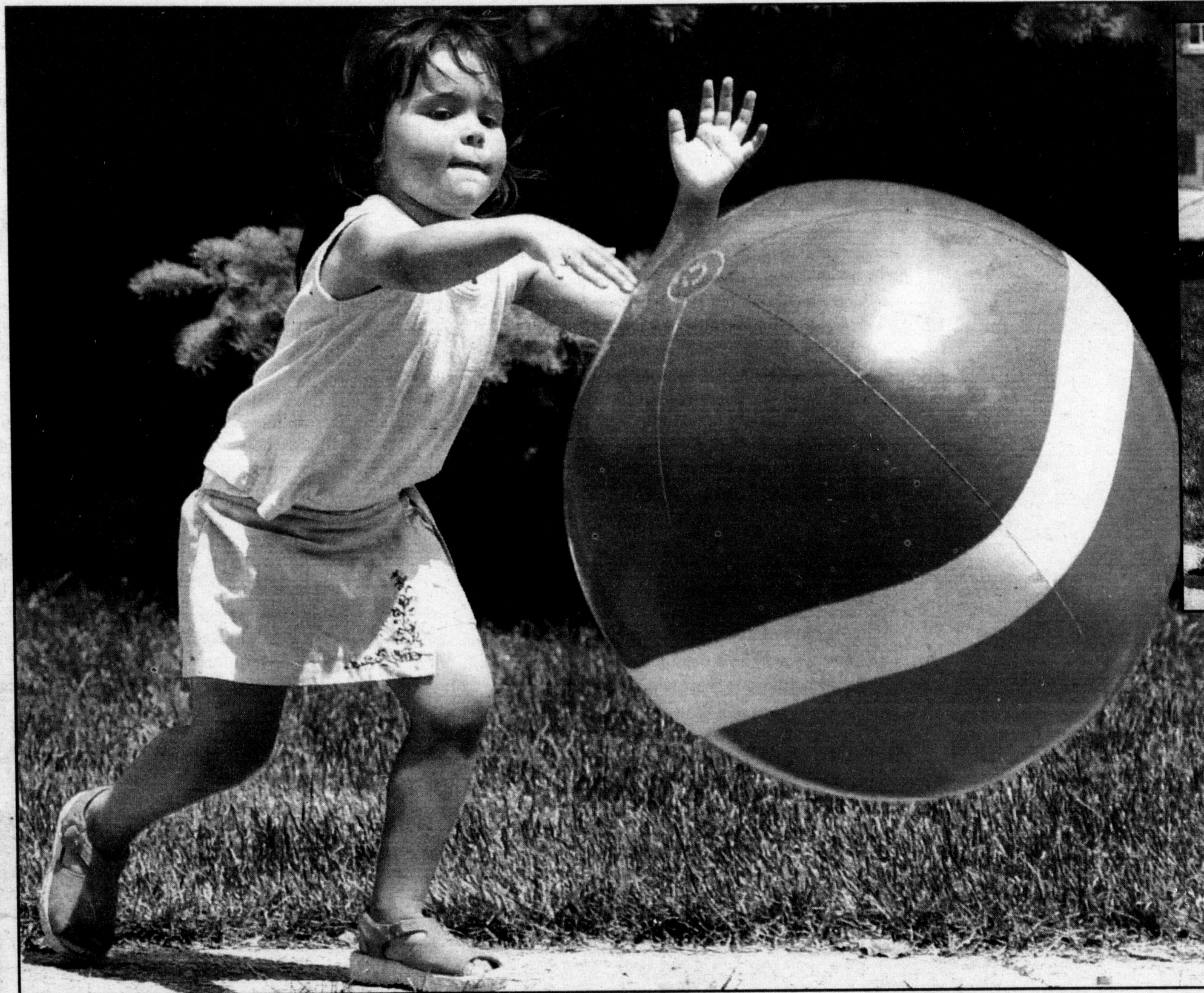
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## Fun, fun, fun

Three-year-old Patricia Costa chases after a giant beach ball — and is later joined by older sister Paula (inset) — during the Milton Community Resource Centre's Family Fun Fair at Victoria Park Saturday.

Photos by GRAHAM PAINE

## Citizens concerned about inmate release policy at Maplehurst jail

By IRENE GENTLE

The Champion

The prospect of former prison inmates rapping on car windows to ask for a ride out of town is a chilling one for many residents.

But that's what seems to have happened to a family friend of resident Don Crowder at the Steeles Avenue and Martin Street intersection.

"She was at the stop light there and someone just walked out and tapped on her window and asked for a ride," said Mr. Crowder.

Now he's wondering what will happen when

Maplehurst Correctional Centre is transformed into one of three provincial super jails.

"There's a number of people who are concerned about the release policy," said Mr. Crowder. "What is it? What happens?"

Since the correctional facility houses two types of inmates, there are two types of release policies, said Maplehurst superintendent Iain Leithead.

The first are sentenced provincial prisoners serving no more than two years less a day in time.

For convicted inmates who have served their time, a firm release policy is in place.

"With these fellows who are here on sentence, clearly we know when their discharge date is,"

said Mr. Leithead.

When it arrives, a jail employee escorts the inmate to the Milton GO Station, and ensures they board a bus out of town.

But the facility also holds those awaiting trial or sentencing — called remand.

Remanded inmates can be released on bail at any time, or have their charges dropped altogether. Then they're not escorted out of Milton.

"It's not possible at the moment to do that," said Mr. Leithead.

Though remanded inmates may be charged with a host of crimes, a bail release means the court has judged the accused safe to reenter the community,

• see JAIL on page 2

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### TUESDAY INSERTS

- Cashway • Connon Nursery\*
- White Rose • Fortinos\*
- Chamber of Commerce  
Phone Book (Rural)

\*Selected areas only

#### TIP OF THE MONTH:

Heartworm is the most serious of all the worm parasites. They can affect any dog and more recently cats. Each year heartworm disease threatens dogs and cats with death or permanent disability. Heartworms usually do not cause any outward signs until the disease is advanced. They can grow to a length of 15-30 cm and be hundreds in numbers living on nutrients which they steal from your dog's or cat's bloodstream as well as causing irreversible damage to your pet's internal organs. Heartworm disease is transmitted by mosquitoes which take up the immature (baby) worms called microfilariae with their blood meal when an animal already infected with heartworm is bitten. The worms then grow into infective larvae and are transmitted to other dogs and cats by the mosquito when it feeds again. Once in your pet's body the larvae travel to the heart and lungs where they mature and produce new microfilariae. One infected dog (including foxes and coyotes) can easily become a source of infection for an entire area or neighbourhood and every dog and cat exposed to the infective mosquitoes are at risk. You can protect your dog or cat from this serious health threat by implementing a heartworm prevention program. This involves a simple blood test prior to starting a monthly medication given June first to November. IT'S EASY TO PROTECT YOUR PET AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF HEARTWORM DISEASE BY SIMPLY GIVING A GOOD TASTING CHEWABLE TABLET ONCE A MONTH.

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