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ROBERT TETERUCK / SPECIAL TO THE CHAMPION

DRUMMING UP HISTORY: Musicians Michael St. George and Njacko Backo perform at Hawthorne Village School Wednesday during the launch of a black history initiative in Halton schools. The Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton put on the event, supported by the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

OMB turns down subdivision plan

Board rules escarpment proposal doesn't reflect open landscape of area

By **Melanie Hennessey**
 CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

After spending seven years before a joint provincial board, a controversial subdivision proposed for land near the Niagara Escarpment has been turned down.

The much-anticipated decision, issued Wednesday by the joint board of the

Environmental Review Tribunal and Ontario Municipal Board, denied applications made by Central Milton Holdings Ltd. (CMHL) to build 264 homes west of Bronte Street and north of Main Street.

The verdict came as welcome news to the Town, Region and Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC), which all took part in the lengthy hearing and opposed the detailed concept plan (DCP) put forward by CHML for the property.

"Obviously the commission is very pleased with the decision," said NEC spokesperson Richard Murzin, noting there was an audible sigh of relief heard in the room when the commission received the news during a meet-

ing last week. "It confirms what we have been saying for seven years — building another subdivision is no way to protect the open landscape character and rural countryside of the Niagara Escarpment."

The decision from panel chair Norman Jackson said the joint board found that the DCP didn't reflect the open landscape character of the escarpment.

"This conclusion is based upon the failure in the CMHL detailed concept plan to protect all natural heritage features and functions while regulating development so that open space predominates," Jackson wrote.

He also noted that the proposed housing

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Men hurt in attack

Victims jumped by group at Woodward and Wilson

Two Milton men were reportedly jumped by a group of eight males and assaulted early Saturday morning.

Police said the two men, both 22 years old, were out walking with three women at about 2 a.m. in the area of Wilson Drive and Woodward Avenue when they were attacked.

One of the victims suffered a broken nose, a black eye, a swollen face and bruised ribs, while the other may have a broken nose.

Police are looking for eight males in their late teens or early twenties ranging from five-foot-eight to six-foot-three.

Seven of the suspects are white, with two of them possibly having darker skin, and one is black, police said.

Anyone with information is asked to call police at (905) 825-4777.

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