

# We need to curb road rage before more fatalities occur

## DEAR EDITOR:

The recent tragedy surrounding the alleged road rage incident off of James Snow Parkway reminded me of a similar incident that happened to me last month.

On June 15, I was heading up Main Street at about 10 a.m., on my way to pick up a cake for my daughter's birthday party. As I approached the red light at the intersection of Main and Martin streets, I found myself behind a stopped vehicle.

I watched as a young woman, perhaps in her twenties, exited the driver's side and sort of stumbled behind the vehicle, while at the same time a man exited the passenger's side and traded places with her. As the man entered the driver's seat, the light changed to green. I waited patiently for several seconds for the vehicle to begin to move, but it didn't.

I could clearly see that the two individuals in the front seat were engaging in some sort of banter and seemed to have no intention of moving. Meanwhile, I could see in my rearview mirror that another vehicle was approaching from behind. I reasoned that the

oncoming car would most likely be noticing the green light, not the fact that my brake lines were on, and decided to sound my horn in case the person in front had not noticed that the light had changed.

This wasn't an obnoxious, blaring honk but rather a quick, panicked beep to alert the individuals in the car in front that we needed to move before an accident transpired.

What followed was truly shocking. The young woman hung her head out of the passenger window and proceeded to yell obscenities and threats at me with such rage that I was truly frightened. I quickly passed the vehicle, which had still not begun to move, and headed up Main Street.

I heard the tires squeal and in my rearview mirror I could see them following behind. Shaken and unsure of what was going to transpire next, I modified my route and headed up Ontario Street and down Childs Drive — my intent being to pull into the police station if the pursuit continued, which luckily didn't happen.

I pulled over and sat for several minutes to attempt to

regain my composure before heading off to my original destination.

I have lived in Milton for more than 35 years and can honestly say I have never experienced anything like this.

Each week I read in the paper about drunk drivers, and witness countless cars making illegal u-turns and running red lights through major intersections. Now, to add to the mix, we have road rage.

Milton is becoming a small town with big-city streets, and that is a frightening prospect.

I don't know if the current state of our roads is a manifestation of the increased levels of stress in people's daily lives or the result of the growth in Milton, or a combination of both.

What I do know is that tragedies like the incident earlier this month and the situation I've described above are signs that something is very, very wrong with the state of both our roads and our society.

Let's try to reclaim our roads and our humanity while we still can.

**JODI CROSS  
ROBERT STREET**

# No shortage of jobs as Milton's industries continue to prosper

'Time Capsules' are gems of information extracted from past issues of the Champion and other publications in order to provide a window into Milton's past. Explanatory comment is sometimes provided to place the situation in context.

January 1912

Milton's industries are booming. P.L. Robertson Co. Limited employs 40 hands and turns out many gross of the screw of the future daily, and at that are unable to supply the orders of manufacturers, so that the screw has not been put on the open retail market but new machines are being added as fast as possible and with increased capacity the retail market will be supplied before long. Toronto Saturday Night continues its knocking, inspired by the screw trust, but the shareholders pay no attention to it. They are more than satisfied. The old established brick works have orders for all the brick they can make and are running to their full capacity.

The new one, Brandons Pressed Brick Co. Ltd., employs 40 hands and will engage a good many more shortly, as an extra kiln is about to be constructed to supply the demands for their bricks, which are inferior to none made anywhere. The Edwards Electrical Co. employ 40 hands and would have more if accommodation could be had for them in the town. It will be supplied next spring. Williams & Co. Ltd. have 30 hands busy and need more, but like the electrical company cannot get accommodation for them at present.

The annual meeting of the Halton Agricultural Society was held at the town-hall yesterday. Officers elected: President, W.N. Scott; Vice-president, J.J. Wilson; second vice president, Ed. McCann. Directors: Nelson- G.E. Gastle, Geo. Bell, Ed. Porter; Nassagaweya- J.C. Blacklock, M.J. Carton; Esquesing- Thos. Aitkin, M. Turner; Milton- Jas. Houston, A. McGibbon, Dr. Robertson, James H. Wilson, W.E. McCready, Frank Greenlees, Geo. Andrew; Hon. Directors, Matthew Dice, J.H. Peacock, W.J. Clements, J.D. McGibbon, Alfred Hilmer, S.H. McGibbon. It was decided that the

**Milton  
Time  
Capsules**



spring fair will be April 19.

A representative of the Hydro-Electric Commission was in Milton last week in connection with the proposed contract for power for the town. He was not in a position then to quote rates, which will depend on what kind of connection is made. It is expected that the figure will be about \$30 a horse power per year. The head of one of our industries told the *Champion* that though it was possible to produce power by other means than electrical at a lower price the mean cost would be a great deal of money. He believed that reliable power, with a 24-hour service, would be a great boon to the town.

Advertisement: General Servant wanted. Good wages. Canadian girl from the country preferred; no English need apply. Apply to Miss Livingston. In February a letter writer protested "feeling of great indignity re ad. As an English woman, I beg to be allowed to support the English girl. Why this discrimination should be made I fail to see as there are good and bad wherever one goes. This depreciation is most unfair to many who are capable of filling any reasonable situation with credit to themselves and satisfaction to their mistresses. Fair play."

January is making up for the mildness of December. We have had about two weeks of very cold weather. The mercury stood at 12 degrees below zero at 7 a.m. on Friday according to the official report from Toronto observatory, the lowest in several years. In other thermometers the mercury went much lower.

This material is assembled on behalf of the Milton Historical Society by Jim Dills, who can be reached through the society at (905) 875-4156.

# Return of wallet truly appreciated

## DEAR EDITOR:

In a day and age where theft — both material and identity — is a growing concern, it's comforting to know that you can still count on a chosen few to be honest and true.

Our small town of Milton is expanding by the minute and is starting to get the reputation of a big city. Crime is often reported to the max, but you seldom hear about the stories with happy endings. Well mine is just that.

It all started with a trip to the Farmers' Market. I placed my wallet on a vendor's table while purchasing strawberries and didn't notice it fall to the ground as I packed my wagon and proceeded on.

Ready to make my next purchase, I realized my wallet was missing. My heart sank to my toes as all of my ID was in that wallet. The thought of having to replace everything was stressful, but even worse to think that someone could be walking

around as me was gutwrenching.

To make a long story short, I would like to express my extreme gratitude to Nasir, the honest man who was at the market with his son — after baseball practice at Rotary Park — for picking up my wallet, contacting me and even dropping it off at my house. Nasir, you went above and beyond the call of duty. I only wish that there could be more people like you in this world.

I would also like to thank Deb at the Milton Mall Royal Bank. I appreciate your supportive, fast and friendly service.

A word of advice, coming from the police clerk, to those of you who may not be as lucky as I was — don't carry your SIN card and/or birth certificate in your wallet, or someone could end up walking around as you.

**LISA COUTURE  
MILTON**



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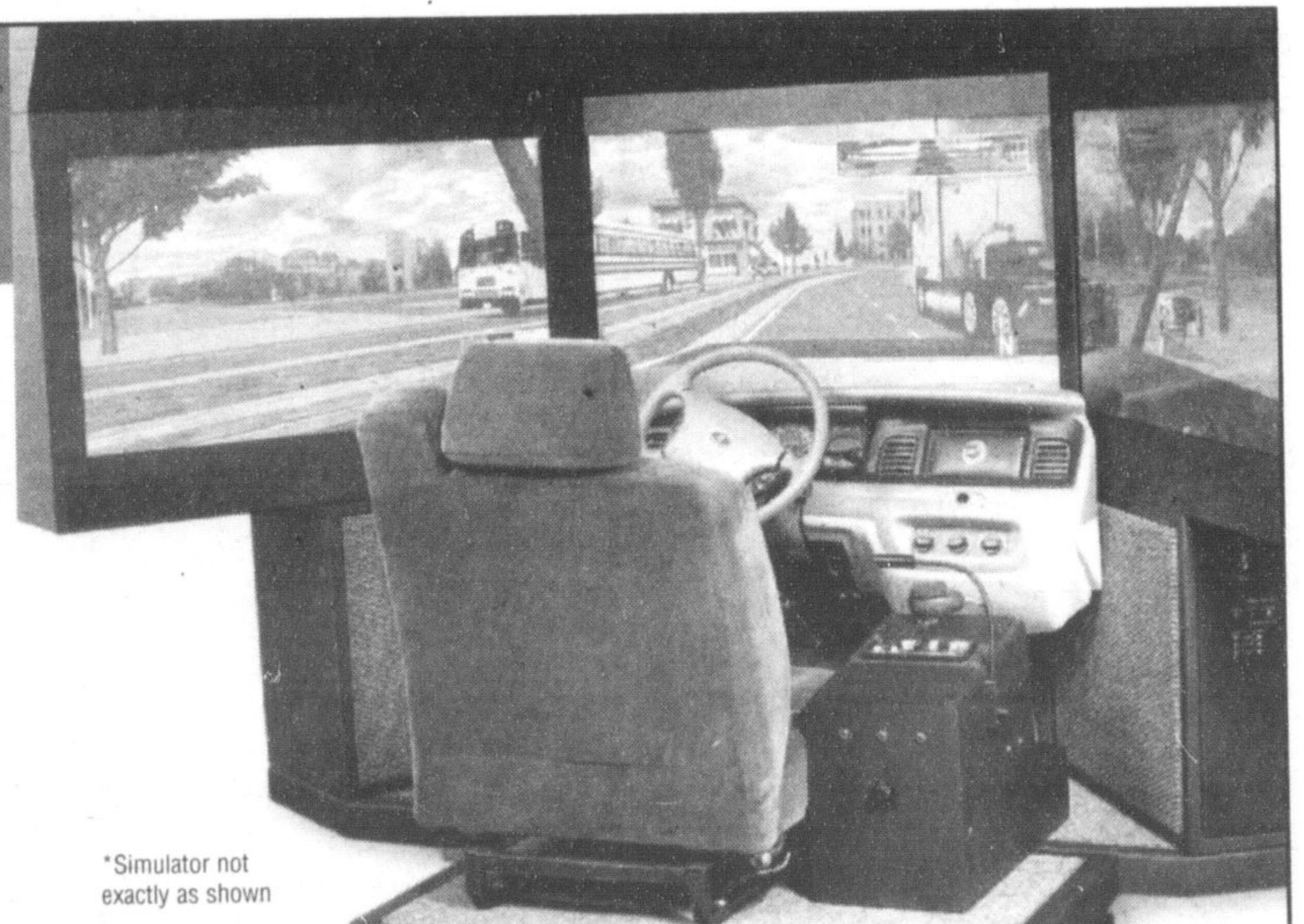
For Course Information:  
{905} 875-0480  
or Email:  
info@drivewisemilton.com

**UPCOMING SUMMER COURSES  
FILLING UP FAST!**

August 5, 6, 7, 8  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
9:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

August 25, 26, 27, 28  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
9:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

September 20, 21, 27, 28  
Saturday & Sunday (2 weekends)  
9:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.



\*Simulator not exactly as shown

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