

OPINION

Going for gold

If you love the Olympic Games, you will be pleased to know there's an impressive group of athletes from Halton heading to China.

Oakville and Burlington have 10 Olympic hopefuls who will test their athletic prowess at the 2008 Beijing Games. To make the August 8 to 24 event that much sweeter, Oakville kayaker Adam van Koeverden will carry the Canadian flag during the opening ceremonies.

Van Koeverden is the reigning Olympic and world champion, as well as world record holder in the men's K-1 500 metres.

Joining van Koeverden in Beijing will be Burlington residents Mark Oldershaw, canoeing, and Brady Reardon, kayaking.

This group, as well as

the rest of Canada's canoe and kayak team will be coached by Burlington's Scott Oldershaw, himself a former Olympian.

While watching the Games, keep your eye on these Oakville athletes: Oskar Johansson, sailing; Andrew Hurd, swimming; Colin Russell, swimming; Kara Lang, soccer; Diana Matheson, soccer; Kyle Jones, triathlon (alternate) and Alyssa Brown, gymnastics (alternate).

Oakville's Josh Cassidy will be wheelchair racing in the September Paralympics.

Over the ensuing weeks, it would be encouraging for our athletes to know that they have a very proud country cheering them on to greatness.

We wish them luck.



ReadersWrite

E-mail your letters to editorial@miltoncanadianchampion.com.

Credit for rural high-speed 'net access should go to Mowbray

DEAR EDITOR:

Last Wednesday's checked flag event to officially launch high-speed Internet access in rural Milton missed out on honouring the real driving force behind this project — Ward 3 Councillor Jan Mowbray.

I hope she gets the recognition she deserves for stepping this project into high gear. I believe that without her to fuel the work, it simply wouldn't have happened.

While most of our rural councillors, the rest of town council, the mayor, the CAO and other key staff leaders were and continue to be vital to this project, it's Mowbray

who deserves the lion's share of the credit.

It was she who responded to her constituents' pleas for high-speed Internet access by committing herself to it.

From there she assembled a community project team, researched funding opportunities and prepared the way with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs for our proposal, marshaled her fellow councillors and staff to support the work and provided the overall impetus for the project.

She continues to press staff and Xplornet for information about the remaining extender sites so those of us

who aren't serviced by the present towers can determine if we have any hope of service.

Mowbray has been tireless and loyal to the people of Nassagaweya on this issue, as well as those Ward 1 residents who have also benefited greatly from this.

I also appreciate the promises from the Town and Xplornet to keep pressing to reach the 95 per cent coverage goal and look forward to seeing public information on areas targeted for extender sites.

TONI RITCHIE
MOFFAT

Plenty of parking available at Tonelli arena

DEAR EDITOR:

In response to D. Knowles and his or her parking woes, Bronte Meadows is an extremely busy park on soccer nights.

I live very close by and see people constantly parking on Laurier Avenue where 'No Parking' signs are clearly posted.

There actually is ample parking close by. You may have to walk about a block, but there's parking. Did you know that you can park at John Tonelli Sports Centre, which just so happens to be right down the street?

This parking lot is usually empty on soccer nights.

Check out the Milton Magic website under maps. I will save you the time and just quote directly from it — "Bronte Meadows Park contains three soccer fields, and it might appear that there is parking on Laurier Avenue next to the fields as the road widens. Not so! Instead use the ample parking space that's available at the Tonelli arena adjacent to this park."

Milton is a great town, so if you're going to complain, please find something more constructive to complain about.

E. CROSS
MILTON

Increase in crime quite disturbing

DEAR EDITOR:

Recently my car was spray-painted in three places with silver paint.

I'm very disappointed with the increase in thefts, break-in of vehicles and vandalism.

This is a great place to live, but very annoying to have someone deliberately destroy personal and public property.

My concern is for this vandal, who one day will get caught by a person who'll take the law into his or her own hands. It doesn't take much for things to escalate out of control, and it will happen.

Everyone feels the pressures of this economy and the clock is ticking — tick tock, tick tock. How long will it take before someone with great potential makes a poor decision and is injured or killed because of a deliberately foolish random act? It will happen, and another precious life could be lost.

Lastly, I don't understand how someone gets any satisfaction from destroying another person's property. Won't their conscience be so seared that they'll live with the guilt of their actions?

You reap what you sow; how long will it be before the perpetrator becomes the victim?

To those who commit these crimes, please don't let me lose faith in people, especially our youth. They have so much to offer in a world that needs to be made right.

DANIEL SILVERTHORNE
MILTON

The Canadian Champion

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