

Region rejects extended deer-hunt protest

Halton councillors have defeated a proposal to protest provincial plans to hold a four day deer hunt in the region. Last week councillors rejected a motion from the planning and public works committee and send a "strongly worded" protest to provincial authorities.

"I'm very disappointed in council, but I could see the feeling that was developing," said Coun. Bill Johnson (Milton). Scheduled for Nov. 2-5, the hunt was first debated by regional council as a three day proposal. Plans to make it a four day affair were

never discussed with regional officials. Mr. Johnson said he rejected provincial arguments that a four day hunt would standardize affairs across the province and that there is no provision in law for a hunt to be held at any time other than an open season.

"They make the laws because they have a majority now," Mr. Johnson said. He added that the only means available to Milton now to control hunting in this area would be to pass a bylaw prohibiting the discharge of firearms within the municipality.

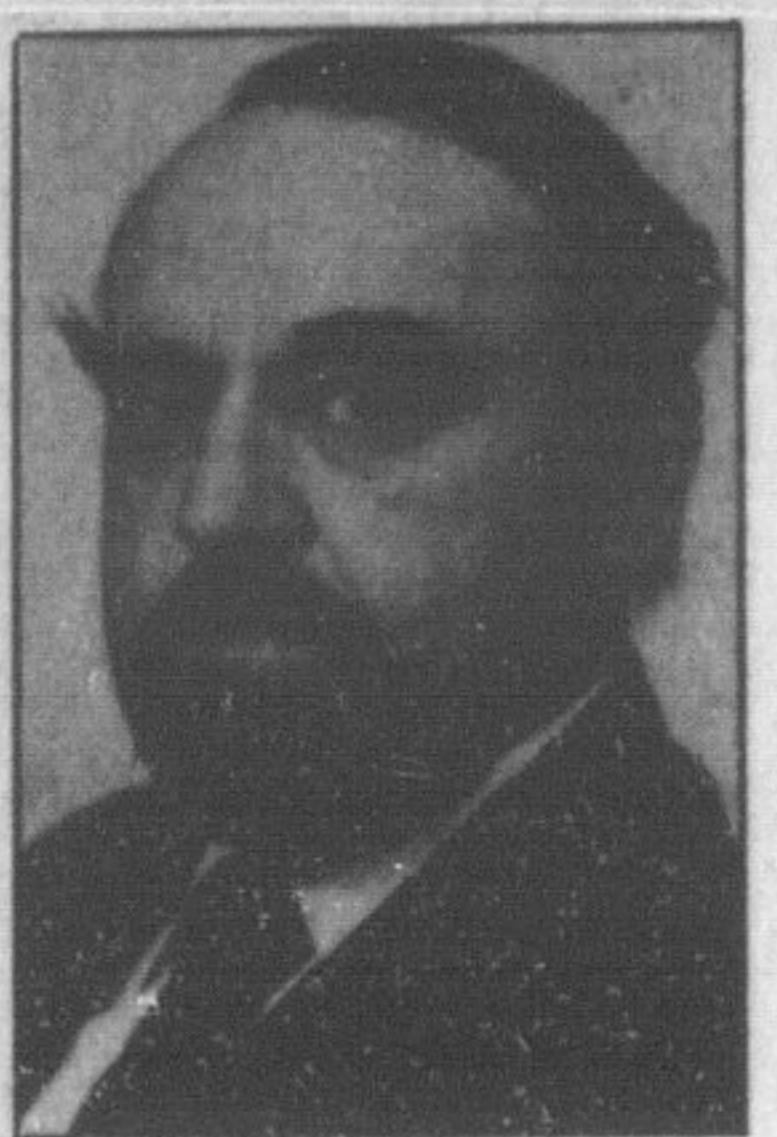
"I'm getting very concerned about the erosion of our right," Mr. Johnson said, noting that local wishes have been overruled or ignored on Site F, pits and quarries regulation and now on the hunt. If provincial officials want a four day hunt, he said, they should have

proposed that in the beginning. "They should take responsibility for this rather than leaving us as councillors to face the ire of the people who elected us," Mr. Johnson said. On other fronts, Mr. Johnson and several

other hunt opponents have printed more than 1,000 "no hunting" signs to be spread throughout the area wherever land owners are concerned about hunters. Residents wishing the signs can pick them up from a number of locations, including the

offices of The Champion, 191 Main St., Milton. More than 2,000 people have applied for the 900 hunting licences to be issued for this area. Hunting permits will be issued to 300 persons in the Halton Hills area and 175 in Milton. Seventy-five per cent

of the hunters allowed in this area will be local residents while the remaining 25 per cent will be non-residents. Licences were granted by lottery for the towns of Milton, Halton Hills and the townships of Flamborough, Puslinch and South Dumfries.



Bill Johnson

The Canadian Champion

A Metroland Community Newspaper — Serving the Community for 120 Years

VOLUME 120 — NUMBER 22

MILTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1981

34 PAGES — 30 CENTS

Picketing nurses seek wage parity

By Jane Muller

Local nurses seeking wage parity with those in other provinces rallied for public support yesterday, (Tuesday) conducting an information picket at the doors of Milton District Hospital.

The 25,000 Ontario nurses have been working without a contract for more than a year now and as they are not allowed to

strike, have been waiting for an arbitration decision for many months now.

A registered nurse for 12 years, Eileen Eige, president of the local Ontario Nurses' Association said this is the first time in her memory a contract settlement has taken so long.

"The association states young nurses are going other places for jobs. They are free to travel and the money is there and they want to make it," Mrs. Eige said.

After spending three years in college and now working as professionals, Mrs. Eige feels nurses should not be making less than postal workers, sanitary engineers and teachers.

She indicated Ontario nurses have not received a major wage increase since 1974 and their 1979 raise was their last to date.

The starting wage for registered nurses in this province is \$17,400 per year with those at the top of the scale receiving \$20,112.

"Being without a contract doesn't affect working conditions, but it hurts when you pay your mortgage and are putting food in the refrigerator," Mrs. Eige said.

Wage parity is the nurses' first concern, but a list of other demands including more holiday benefits, better working hours, responsibility, seniority and transfer seniority benefits are being asked for.

The Nurses are seeking for a pay increase of about 40 per cent to bring their wages up to the national level.

"It went to arbitration and they haven't offered us anything yet. They were supposed to hand down a decision in March," Mrs. Eige said.

"The funds are there for the increase, meanwhile they are collecting interest and we are sitting with our hands out waiting," she added.

"Since 1974 they have been cutting back on medical services and we are the ones being cut back. They aren't considering the cost of living."

Mrs. Eige said Milton District Hospital Administrator Brian Brady could grant the nurses an interim raise of about 18 per cent as some other Ontario hospitals have.

Nurses in British Columbia recently received a 45.59 per cent increase and nurses in other provinces have been given similar raises.

Mrs. Eige said Ontario nurses are demanding the same range of increases, as past raises have not been in keeping with the cost of living.

"There are a lot of nurses raising families on their own these days and they can't on the salary they're getting," Mrs. Eige explained.

She feels some nurses will begin seeking new professions if they don't start making more money.

Pay differs only slightly for the evening and night shifts and weekend hours don't mean extra pay, according to Mrs. Eige.

The 52 local hospital nurses were represented by off-duty nurses only in the information picket yesterday. Mrs. Eige said the 134 groups of Ontario hospital nurses are trying to get together to form a representation to picket Queen's Park.



A comical pair. Together now for six years, Sam and Lois Ross are quite a team. The 17-year-old Milton District High School student taught herself to project her voice.

Comical sidekick helps Lois entertain crowds

By Jane Muller
Photo by Tom Burley

Two heads are better than one, even if one of them belongs to a dummy.

Ventriloquist Lois Ross finds with the help of her plastic-headed friend Sam, she can express a lot more to an audience than she could without her comical sidekick.

She explains Sam thinks he is adopted, but actually he was a gift from Santa Claus six years ago. The 17-year-old ventriloquist has been practising ever since, mainly in front of a mirror.

"It was hard at first," she remembers. The line she set out to conquer saying without moving her lips was, "my mom bakes the best apple pie." This exercise, along with repeating the alphabet hundreds of times while watching her reflection, have helped her develop her skill.

Sam had a hard time pronouncing the letter "b" but Lois adapted to his problem. He would tell the story of Goldilocks and the three hares, his own version of the children's story. That act is still used by the pair, especially with young audiences.

Inspired by Sheri Lewis and her lovable hand puppet Lamb Chop, Lois dreams of having a television show one day with the help of her bright orange-haired dummy.

Sam, by the way, takes offence to being called a dummy—but Lois admits there really isn't another name for a ventriloquist's doll.

"He always makes me seem like the dummy instead of him," she suggests.

Sam and Lois perform at birthday parties and the annual Milton District High School variety nights. She is attending Grade 12 this year and plans to make her fourth appearance in a variety night. She and Sam entertained at Back to Acton Days and a 4-H club achievement day as well as a local school and McDonald's Restaurant.

Lois is active in the homemaking program of 4-H and is trying to learn how to sew. Sam has been wearing the same black and white checked jacket and black pants since the day she got him, as it is hard to find clothes suitable for a two-foot tall dummy. Lois plans to sew some new sets of clothes tailor made for Sam.

The trick to being a ventriloquist is mastering voice projection and "getting the audience so involved with the puppet they forget about everything else," Lois explains.

When complimented on her technique, Lois is quick to say she has a long way to go. She doesn't consider herself an expert, but she seems to

have mastered the art of talking without moving her lips.

Lois is the kind of girl likely to be described as bubbly. She has plenty of energy and personality to share with Sam who is just as likable as the young lady who controls him.

Sam is a basic dummy. His head moves from side to side, his mouth opens and closes and his eyes blink. Lois would like a more intricate dummy with a wooden head, more moving parts and some assorted costumes—but she will never discard Sam. The new dummy will not be a sister to Sam, but a brother.

"To project a female voice would sound too much like my own," she said.

Sam's six years with Lois haven't been easy. He's been dropped and broken a few times and once even had to have brain surgery. Lois' favourite uncle, who is quite supportive of his niece's ambitions, performed the delicate operation to restore Sam's ability to move his eyelids.

"His eye's weren't blinking so the centre seam of his head was split and two elastics that controlled his eyelids were put back in place," recalls Lois.

Living in a rural area six miles to the north of Milton for the past nine years, Lois and her older sister Darlene had to find ways to amuse themselves. Among the noted country amusements like playing in the hay loft and amongst the corn fields, Lois found time to develop her abilities with the help of Sam. She practices often and makes a concentrated effort when preparing for a performance.

She can operate the little man with one hand inserted into his back. There she holds a plastic tube extending from his neck which controls head movement. Also included along the plastic column are two levers, one for the mouth, the other for the eyelids.

"Sam is a six-year-old with the mind of a 21-year-old. He acts about my age or a little older and he's old enough to date because he talks about them sometimes," she explains.

The girl's sense of humor is obvious and evident even at first meeting. She has the talent to make Sam seem like a different entity from himself. He is an acquaintance with whom Lois can converse.

Lois's new challenge as a ventriloquist is expected this Christmas. If she gets the second dummy she is hoping for, she will try to use them both as one. The odd person out with a pair of dummies, Lois now needs some more exposure and a chance to practice her rather unusual talent in front of an audience.

Obituary

Bessie Smith, Site F opponent

One of the most dedicated opponents of the Site F dump is dead at the age of 96.

Bessie Smith, around whose rural Milton home Halton has proposed to build its future garbage dump, died Oct. 6 at Milton District Hospital.

Anne Katz, spokesman for the Tremaine-Britannia Citizens' Group, which is the major organized force against the region's plan, praised Miss Smith as a "tremendous fighter against the dump."

Miss Smith, she said, was 90 years old when the current controversy over a new garbage dump for the region erupted "and during those years she would be at the region whenever a meeting was called about the dump."

"She did some courageous things and fought this idea very courageously," she said, adding that Miss Smith's death will take nothing away from the dump fight.

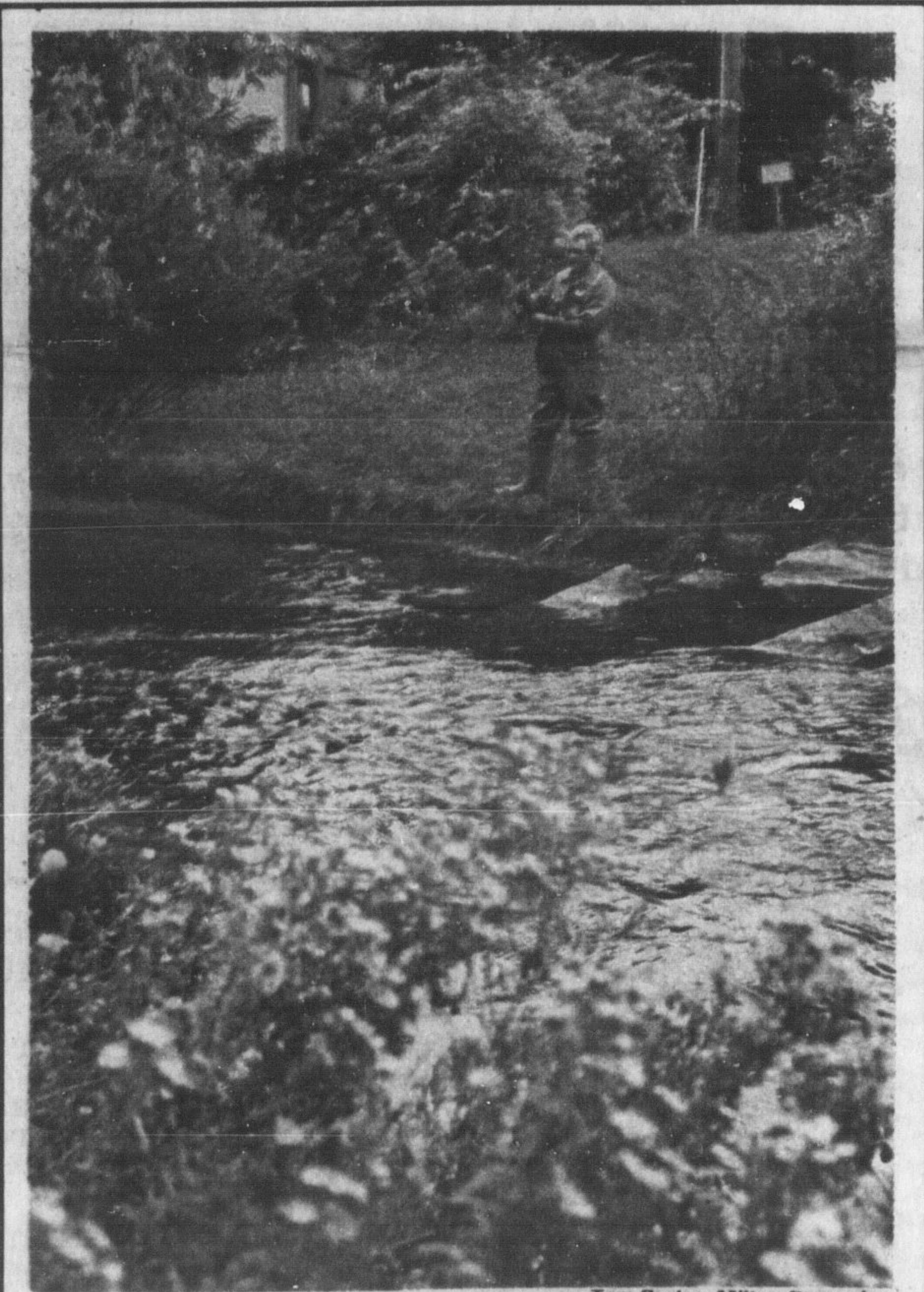
"She has become a symbol of determination for us. The symbol that she created is something that we will carry on," she said. "The legacy of her determination will help the fight to continue."

"She certainly wanted to keep the dump out," Mrs. Katz added. "I think she was horrified at the thought that it would be put on land that her family had farmed for more than a century."

Funeral service for Miss Smith was held Oct. 9 at Omagh Presbyterian Church.



BESSIE SMITH



—Tom Burley, Milton Champion

A final fling

Days like this will soon be nothing more than a memory as we face the rigors of another Canadian winter. This should serve as a warning thought. Don Pearson was photographed fishing along the 16 Mile Creek. Trout season has ended but salmon will soon be heading upstream from the lake.

Inside today's Champion

A changed man

George Meyer was once a notorious hoodlum. Now he visits jails, lecturing about how he found God, and he was in Milton last week. Story, photos Pg. 2.

They call in the night

In a darkened room at police headquarters in Oakville, the communications centre provides the vital link between the public and the police officers on the streets. The job is alternately intense, and dull. See Pg. 7.

Business briefs

The Champion introduces a new column this week, spotlighting local business. This week, a draw winner, a firm with an \$8 million contract, and a new store in town. Pg. 9.

Nanny at work

Nannies are no longer the exclusive luxury of the wealthy. More and more Canadian families are turning to nannies as an alternate to day care. The Champion visits one, see Pg. 3.

Gladys Drever

Salute to sports

Summer sports in Milton enjoyed another good year of play. With registration continuing to rise, all signs are for this trend to continue. The Champion presents a "Salute to

Summer Sports" for the second year in a row, containing many team photographs of winning and runner-up teams. Look for this special section inside today's paper.

FIRST SECTION
Editorials, columns 4
Our readers write 5
In the courts 8
Regional round-up 10

SECOND SECTION
Classifieds B1 to B3
Who Does It B8
Readers' choice B9
Dateline, columnists B11

THIRD SECTION
Sports news, views C1 to C4
Entertainment C8
Special supplements: Salute to Summer Sports; Color Your World; The Bay; K-Mart.