

Council Review library services

Soon after the holiday excitement fades, members of Milton council and the local library board will gather to discuss submissions to the provincial commission reviewing the structure of public library services. Some councillors, along with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario have argued that library boards should be brought under the direct control of local councils. The Milton library board told the town's general committee recently that independence is the best way for them to provide library services to the town.

Interest rate up

Businesses and homeowners making profits by investing their tax money at high interest rates have had a little of the sweetness taken out of their scam by town councillors. Acting on a recommendation from the general committee, councillors approved an increase in the interest rate they charge on overdue taxes. Effective Jan. 1, 1982 the rate will be pegged at 1.5 per cent above the prime rate on the day the proper bylaw is passed.

More practise time

Children in minor hockey and figure skating programs should have more practice time at ice rinks in the town, according to Coun. Rick Day. Mr. Day convinced town councillors to have the recreation director report on ways of providing more practice time at the rinks for such children and possibly give consideration to the construction of a practice rink in the town.

Source separation in new year

A source separation program for local garbage will be started early in the new year, town councillors have decided. Councillors gave their approval recently to a general committee recommendation calling for the establishment of three collection stations in the town to collect newspaper that would normally be discarded with other garbage. This new system will allow newspaper to be sold for recycling. Proposals have also been invited for the curbside pickup of newspapers, to start in April of 1982.

Policies to develop

Milton administrators are going to turn their attention toward developing a policy for appointments to individual advisory board in the town. A resolution passed by the town's general committee and council calls for a six year term for appointments and a policy for advertising for replacements at the end of each term.

Staff were also directed to start advertising for one council appointment to the Milton Library Board, one to the Halton Region Safety Council and two to the local committee of adjustment.

We pay more

A commission looking into retail gasoline pricing in Canada will get a submission from Milton council, members decided recently. Acting on a recommendation from Coun. Rose Harrison, the politicians will send the commission a letter they originally sent provincial energy minister Robert Welch, complaining about the fact that retail gasoline prices in Milton are higher than in other areas.

In his reply to that letter, Mr. Welch said it did appear that gas prices in Milton have not been affected by the price wars in other areas and speculated that a higher than average number of independent dealers may be the cause. He also noted that provincial authorities have no control over retail gas prices.

—Steve Arnold

Barcrest Farms

Plight of stock may be resolved this week

By LINDA KIRBY
Champion Reporter

The plight of a Milton horse breeder faced with the possibility that some of his prize stock may have contracted contagious equine metritis, a type of venereal disease, may be resolved this week, according to the man's lawyer.

All 102 horses at W.K. Hermanns' Barcrest Farms were placed under quarantine early last month as a result of an investigation by the federal Department of Agriculture.

Officials are concerned that some Hanoverian horses were imported from West Germany without undergoing proper blood tests.

Mr. Hermanns, a West German immigrant, got the breeding farm last year but did not import the horses himself.

David Buchanan, acting on behalf of Mr. Hermanns, said a meeting held yesterday afternoon had come "very close to resolving the problem."

Mr. Buchanan refused to elaborate on the meeting or say who it was held with.

"Hopefully, this will all be resolved soon," he said, adding he did not want to say anything else for fear of damaging discussions.

He added the investigation had been "very hard" on Mr. Hermanns.

The quarantine prevented the horses from competing at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto last month—where horses establish their reputation for the coming breeding season.

The quarantine was lifted last week on about 80 horses, all below breeding age.

Those still under quarantine include some pregnant mares, but no testing for the disease has taken place yet.

The investigation will hopefully establish the horses' exact origins.

Under Canadian import rules, horses below breeding age, that have come from a country such as West Germany, must undergo four blood tests before being admitted.

Stallions older than two years must have more extensive tests that can take a minimum of 52 days.

Bill Lawson says

Staff appointments lead accomplishments

Outgoing chairman of the Halton Board of Education, Bill Lawson, cited two staff appointments as major achievements of the board during his one-year tenure.

Barbara Moore was the first woman appointed superintendent of business and finance in the province.

The board also secured Wally Beevor, "the aurora borealis in the provincial education arena at this time," as its new director of education, Lawson said.

He also cited the filling of the trustee vacancy left by Jackie Cutmore with Jim Clelland as an achievement.

Lawson also mentioned the board's approval of the long-term aims and objectives and the implementing of French as a second language in grade 4.

The expansion of computer educa-

tion was another important step the board took during the past year, he added.

Lawson was pleased by the participation of 17 trustees in interviewing candidates for positions with the board.

He praised trustees for committee work, singling out Noel Cooper, chairman of the finance committee and Cam Jackson, who chaired the salary committee. The two were instrumental in negotiating five collective agreements.

Lawson said that the implementation of an improved negotiating process had a positive effect on relations between the bargaining parties.

Other people he singled out for praise included the board's chief negotiator, Colin Champbell, the vice-chairman Elaine Riehm, and secretaries to the board, Mrs. Pastor and Mrs. Thomson.

Agencies take over counsel

Family counselling services in Halton will be entirely turned over to paid agencies and individuals at the end of this year.

At that time, members of the Region's health and social services committee were told recently, Halton's single counsellor will be replaced by three contracted agencies and two individual counsellors.

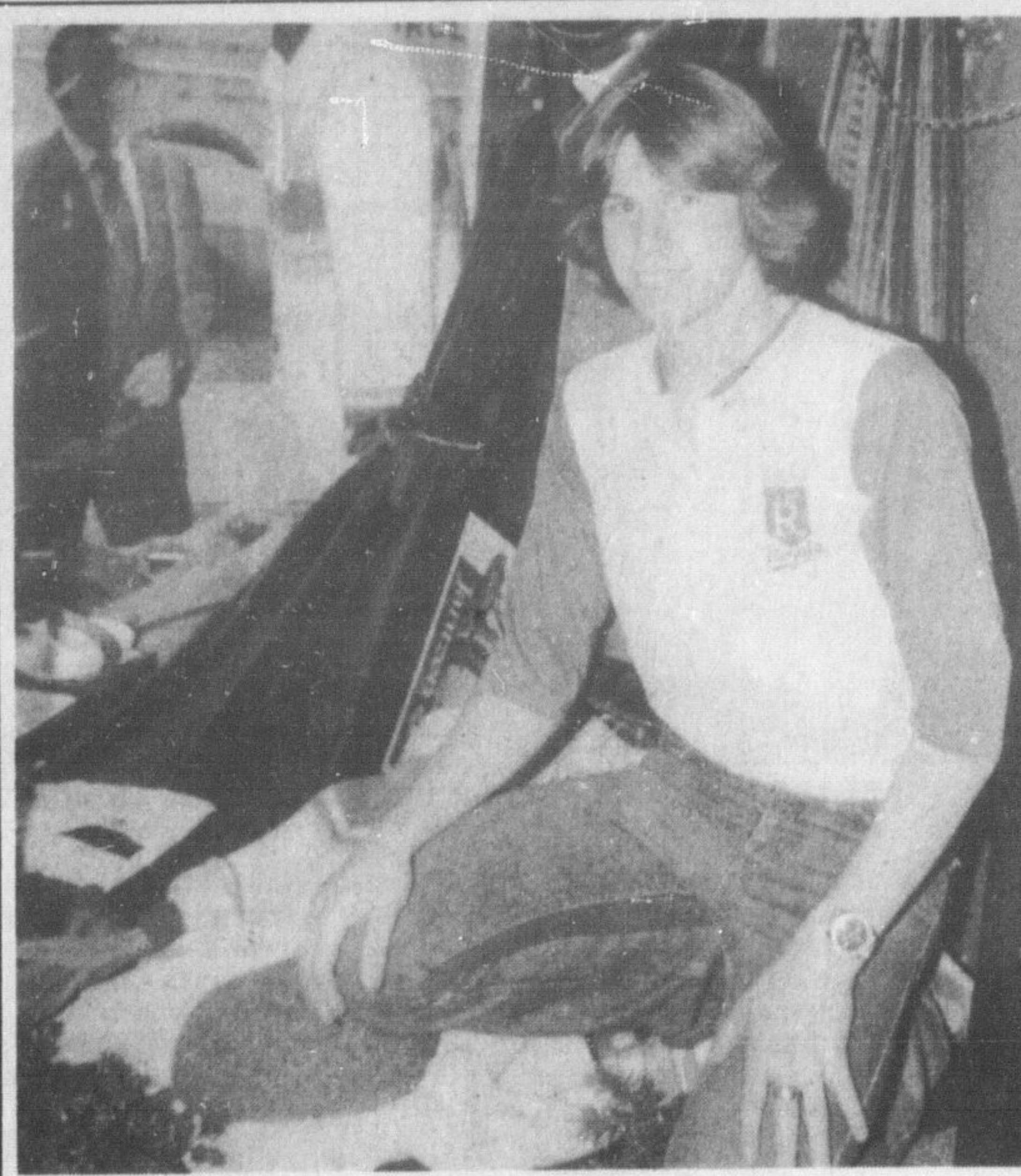
In Milton, services will be provided by the Oakville Family Service Bureau, the Burlington Counselling and Human Relations Institute and Toronto-based counsellor Allan Bross.

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The best dressed Main St. window at Knight's Men's Wear earned a prize for its designer, Jeff Harris, a Milton District High School student who took part in the contest sponsored by the D.B.I.A. Store owner Art Melanson observes the window from the street.

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Cop response time to be monitored

Police and ambulance response times to emergency situations should be carefully monitored to ensure that all situations are properly handled, according to a coroner's jury.

Members of Halton's health and social services committee decided last week to ask both the police department and ambulance service to do just that.

Committee members were reacting to information provided from an inquest held in March, 1981, in which the jurors questioned the time taken by police and ambulance attendants to respond.

Oakville Coun. Fred Oliver said a letter should be sent to the chief of police, asking that his planning staff keep a close watch on the time that elapses between police receiving a complaint and the arrival of the officer.

"This could be a vehicle for him to ask for more staff," Mr. Oliver said.

"They should be keeping us posted if they feel their response time is longer than they think is adequate," he said, adding "no one here is competent to know if the times are adequate or not."

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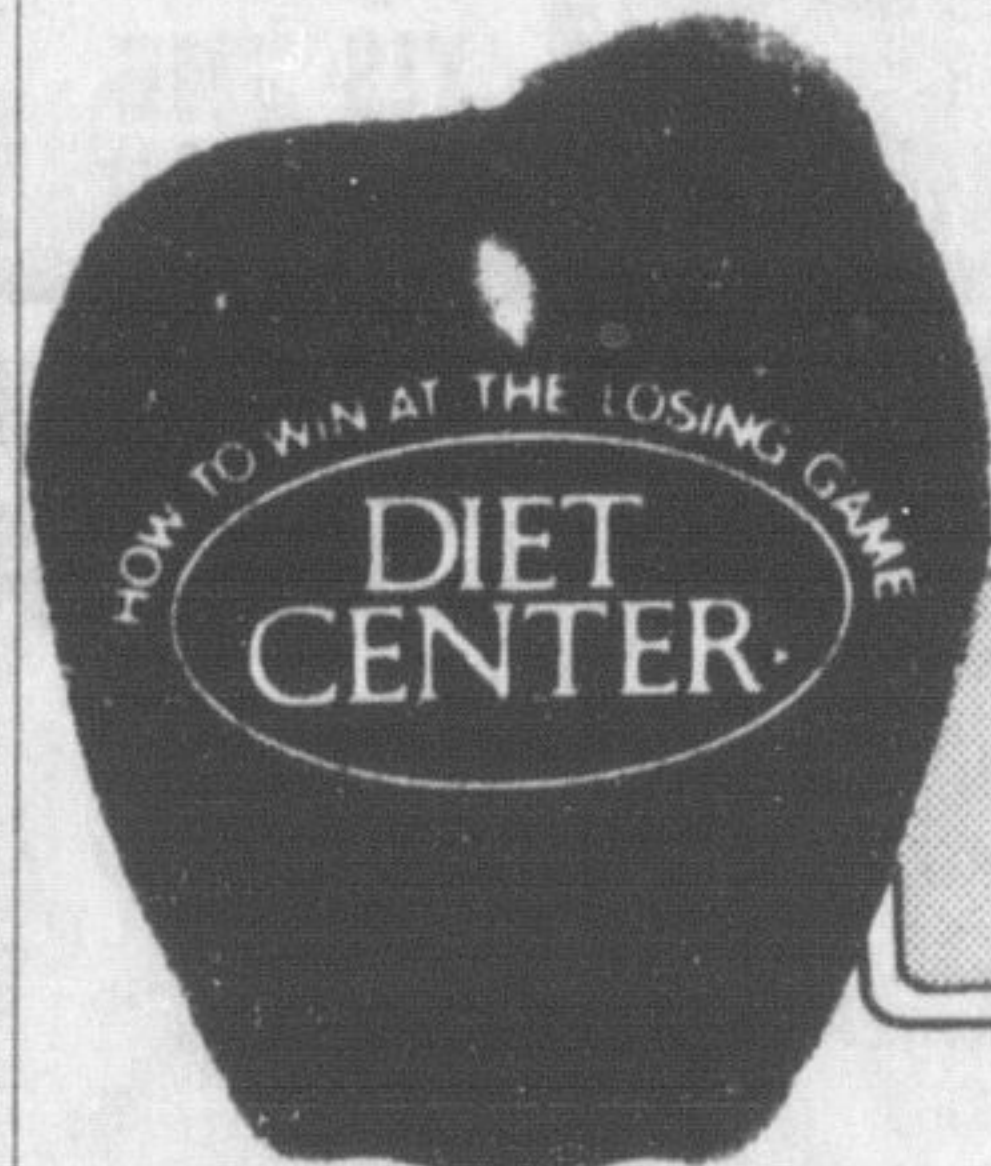
Physiotherapists employed in Halton Health Unit programs can look toward a salary increase, members of the health and social services committee have decided.

Committee members have recommended a salary schedule for the therapists ranging from \$19,351 to \$23,087 annually. Weekly rates have been set between \$372.13 and \$443.98. Hourly rates range between \$10.63 and \$12.09.

Physiotherapists are employed by the Region in the infant stimulation and home care programs.

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