

The Second Section

Established 1861

The Canadian Champion

Herb Crowther — Publisher
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EDITORIAL: News: Mike Boyle, Lisa Tallyn. Community: Jane Muller. Sports: Rob Kelly. Photography: Jon Bergstrom.

ADVERTISING: Retail Sales: Ian Oliver, Vicki McCulligh, Debbie Pells, Carol Fagan, Lyn Arthur, Ruth Basket. National Rep: Dal Browne (416) 493-1300.

BUSINESS: Laurie Beaulieu, Shirley Dyc.

DISTRIBUTION: Barbara Leader.

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Second rate

Monday's decision by Milton's councillors to construct a clubhouse complex at Brian Best Park will be well received by the community. It is long overdue but a welcome relief to teams which use the soccer pitch and two ball diamonds on the complex.

As Champion Reporter Rob Kelly so aptly reflected on the situation last week in a column, the sports facilities in Milton don't truly reflect the affluence of this town. By and large, they are second rate, make-do types of fields more reflective of the way the town was 20 years ago.

The population of Milton is hovering around 35,000 and when those great lands to the east finally get developed, Milton's population will approach 50,000. Most are young families with the average 2.5 children per household.

The new diamond in Campbellville is a great addition. But like most sports complexes in town, it came about because a developer forced the town's hand and as a result the town has two nice fields in Campbellville.

Similarly, the Optimist Club owes the town some money, a bucketful, we're told. They are forcing the Town's hand and the Town is responding in a positive way. They should be applauded.

But the Town should seek out ways — even if they cost the Town money — to improve the quality and quantity of sports fields and arenas here. We should be at the vanguard of initiative of sports fields. Playing follow-the-leader 20 years after the fact really doesn't us — or the Town — good.

Child abuse

An exhaustive study of child abuse in Halton derived from the case histories of the Halton Children's Aid Society carries some shocking statistics and some clear messages.

Halton Sexual Abuse Program co-ordinator, Paul Bennett, reviewed 800 cases of sexual abuse in Milton and the three other Halton municipalities to find out we have a different situation than the classic "big city" kinds of sexual abuse.

It was noted the largest number of alleged sexual perpetrators were the biological parents — not a "dirty Uncle Ernie" as the stereotype most of us have come to suspect. In addition, a high proportion, about one-quarter, are young males. It boils down to Halton having direct parents committing sexual attacks on an increasing number of young boys.

The report clearly shows Halton is a different place and has different sexual abuse problems than Metro Toronto and as such requires different methods. There can be little disagreement with Mr. Bennett's contention "the treatment system is totally under-equipped to deal with such large numbers and would become overwhelmed if it were to be faced to provide treatment services to this potential caseload."

Now that we have a direction sign in Halton, the logical thing is to pursue the need to eradicate sexual abuse. The only place to do that in Halton is in the home with an intensive plan of attack. We have the numbers, so it now is up to a group in the community to take up the challenge.



Viewpoint

Bits and Pieces

with JIM ROBINSON



The cartoon above is to remind us to set next Saturday aside so you can bring the entire family out to Victoria Park for the annual Milton Hospital Auxiliary Strawberry Fair. The whole thing is set up like a summer social and it is perfect to meet old friends and get to know new people. The best part of it all is that all the money raised goes to the hospital. Please make an effort to come out to the Strawberry Fair next Saturday.

Milton's Triathlon

Ed Braam, owner of Ultrasport on Thompson Rd., is putting everything he has into organizing the second Milton Triathlon which will be held on the Labour Day weekend this year at Kelso.

The Triathlon involves a one-kilometre swim of Kelso Reservoir and then a 40-km. bicycle ride followed up by a 10-km. run up to Hilton Falls from Kelso and back. It is a tough, demanding sport, as many of you will have noticed from watching the Iron Man on television.

Ed expects he will be swamped with entries from very serious competitors from across the central States and Canada, but he wants to have Milton people in the race because of the location. He is holding entries open for more Miltonians but only this week. If you have ever thought of attempting something this gruelling, the trick is to enter and start training today.

Old Friend, New Venture

Karl Barnhart is a superintendent with the Peel Regional Police and has been involved in all of the major cases that force has investigated over the years. I have known Karl since I started covering cop stories in this area on Jan. 3, 1970.

I always knew Karl was arts oriented because of his painting and sculpture, but I was pleasantly surprised this week to learn he has started preparing limited photoart prints and will have an exhibition June 22 at his home at 2376 No. 8 Sideroad in Kilbride. If you happen to be in the area, feel free to drop in and meet Milton's newest addition to the arts colony.

20 St. John Years

Twenty years ago, a much younger Don Miller moved to Milton and he brought with him his St. John Ambulance training.

Over the years, Don and the other members of the brigade have gone from strength to strength where they are a major presence at every event you take your family to during the year.

Next Wednesday, the Milton St. John Ambulance Branch and Brigade will be celebrating their 20th anniversary with a dinner and dance.

I have been invited to attend, and I am honoured to do so. The St. John Brigade does a job above and beyond, and we are lucky to have people such as Don and his crew here in Milton.

Showcase Showdown

Next Thursday, Showcase '86 chairman Tom Richardson, will tell the rest of the Chamber of Commerce a review the May 22-24 Showcase and what the future of the consumer show should be.

Well, no one needs to tell Tom about the fantastic success he and his committee pulled off this year. Anyone who tried to walk down the aisles on Friday night knows the answer to that one.

The big question is going to be the frequency of the show. Should it be yearly, bi-yearly or what? Personally, I hope the chamber will be going for 1988 but I know of several exhibitors who would very much like another show next year because of the response to their booths this year.

The best part, for the visitors, had to be the number of prizes, draws and gifts. Talk about a cornucopia!

It boils down to the fact Milton has a thriving business base and one we should be proud of. Making the decision on when to hold the next Showcase is going to be a tough one, so I wish Tom and the chamber good luck on this one.

Pages of the Past

One Year Ago

From the June 12, 1985 issue
 • The Crazy Horse Tavern on Steeles Ave. — which has been a cause of concern for Milton residents since it opted for nude erotic dancers — is a thing of the past.

The owner of the building, George Scobie, said he kicked out the owners recently and is interested in re-renting the building to another business — one he said wouldn't likely have nude entertainment. However, despite the closing up of the business, an appeal registered by lawyer for the Crazy Horse's owners to the Ontario Municipal Board to permit nude dancers is still in effect.

• A Christian drive-in theatre is being set up at the Canadian Tire parking lot on Market Drive by the Men's Fellowship of Emmanuel Baptist Church. A variety of dates throughout the summer has been scheduled. The films will be for the general public with strong accents on family relationships and the person's struggle for an identity. The program begins Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and will include a group of 73 teen singers from the United States. The film, The Cross and The Switchblade, begins at dusk (about 8:45 p.m.) and stars Erik Estrada of C.H.I.P.S., fame and Pat Boone.

• W.I. Dick Wildcats were the overall winners in the Milton Family of Schools track and field meet Thursday with 264 points, edging middle school rival Sam Sherratt by 12 points. The two middle schools were strong at the 10 (bantam) and 11-year-old (junior) levels, with Dick placing first both times. Sherratt was second at junior (173 to 127) while Percy Merry School was number two at bantam with 56 points to Dick's 91. Sherratt was only a point behind with 55. At the tyke (seven years old) level E.W. Foster was first with 28 points. J.M. Denyes was second with 26 and Pineview was third with 21 points.

20 Years Ago

From the June 8, 1966 issue
 • Construction began this week on a \$1.2-million addition to Milton District Hospital following the board's acceptance of the contract last week with the Stewart-Himan Construction Co. of St. Catharines.

In terms of years, it's a "two-down-one-to-go" situation. It was just two years ago this month the hospital board began active work on planning the 30-bed addition which will bring capacity of the hospital up to 83 beds. The board said it expects the addition to be completed within a year.

• Representatives of the Lions Club asked Milton Council to deed them the three-acre parcel of land north of Base Line Road, west of Highway 25, for construction of a community centre.

Dave Brush told council the club was looking for a site on which a centre could be built. "about the size of the arena." He reviewed a fund had been building over the past three years for such a major project. Provision for adequate parking was essential, he said.

• In spite of the fact that the price has dropped from \$20 to \$3 a pound, gensing is still being grown in the northern part of Peel and Dufferin. It takes seven years for the root to mature.

50 Years Ago

From the June 11, 1935 issue
 • Milton's population has increased. E.C. Yates, assessor, has returned his roll, which shows the population of Milton to be 1,785, a gain of 46 over the previous year, the figures for which were 1,739.

• The fire alarm rang on Tuesday afternoon when a fire started at the Milton Brick Plant on Thomas Street. The brigade responded and the reels were hauled out of the fire hall, but when it was realized that the nearest hydrant was too far away for the hose to reach the building, the reels were put away again. A bucket brigade tried to extinguish the fire, but it was not put out until one barn was destroyed and another nearly ruined. Loss will be over \$500.

• A full busload took in the annual excursion to Queenston Heights and Niagara Falls on Sunday last. Some of the merry-makers "shuffled off to Buffalo". All report having had "a whale of a time."

120 Years Ago

From the June 14, 1866 issue
 • Having heard that there is great dissatisfaction in reference to the manner in which the Scrub Race for the Purse of \$12 was disposed of on the Queen's Birthday, and that the judges of the race are highly censured for awarding the prize to the horse entered by me, for the purpose of giving any of those parties who had horses entered for the race, and are dissatisfied with the Award of the Judges I issue a challenge. To offer those a chance of again testing the running qualities of their respective horse against mine, I am willing to match my horse against any horse for Fifty or One Hundred Dollars to be run over the same ground — half mile heats — best three out of five in two months from the date of this challenge. Twenty-five dollars to be put up as forfeit money. Challenge to be accepted in one month.

DUNCAN DEWAR
 Milton, May 28, 1866

Police Officer of the Month

Entered burning home in rescue bid

Police Officer of the Month is a regular feature of the five Metroland Printing, Publishing and Distribution community newspapers in Halton. It is presented to give readers a better understanding of those of the Halton Regional Police Force who are there to serve and protect.

By LISA TALLYN
 Champion Reporter

Police officers need to rely on their instincts. It is the nature of their business. Halton Police Constable Ed Irwin had to trust his actions to instinct at a call last month.

Const. Irwin, who works out of Burlington, arrived at the scene of a house fire on Plains Rd. before the fire department early Saturday May 24.

He was told by several people at the scene that an elderly gentleman was still in the burning house, likely in a back bedroom.

"There was smoke billowing out of every window and door of the house," said Const. Irwin. "I smashed two window panes and climbed into the house."

Once inside the smoke was so thick that the young man rummaged around the room for something to cover his nose and mouth. He found a sweater, and used it to reduce the smoke inhalation.

After two minutes of searching in the house, the 28-year-old constable could not locate the trapped man, and had to escape himself.

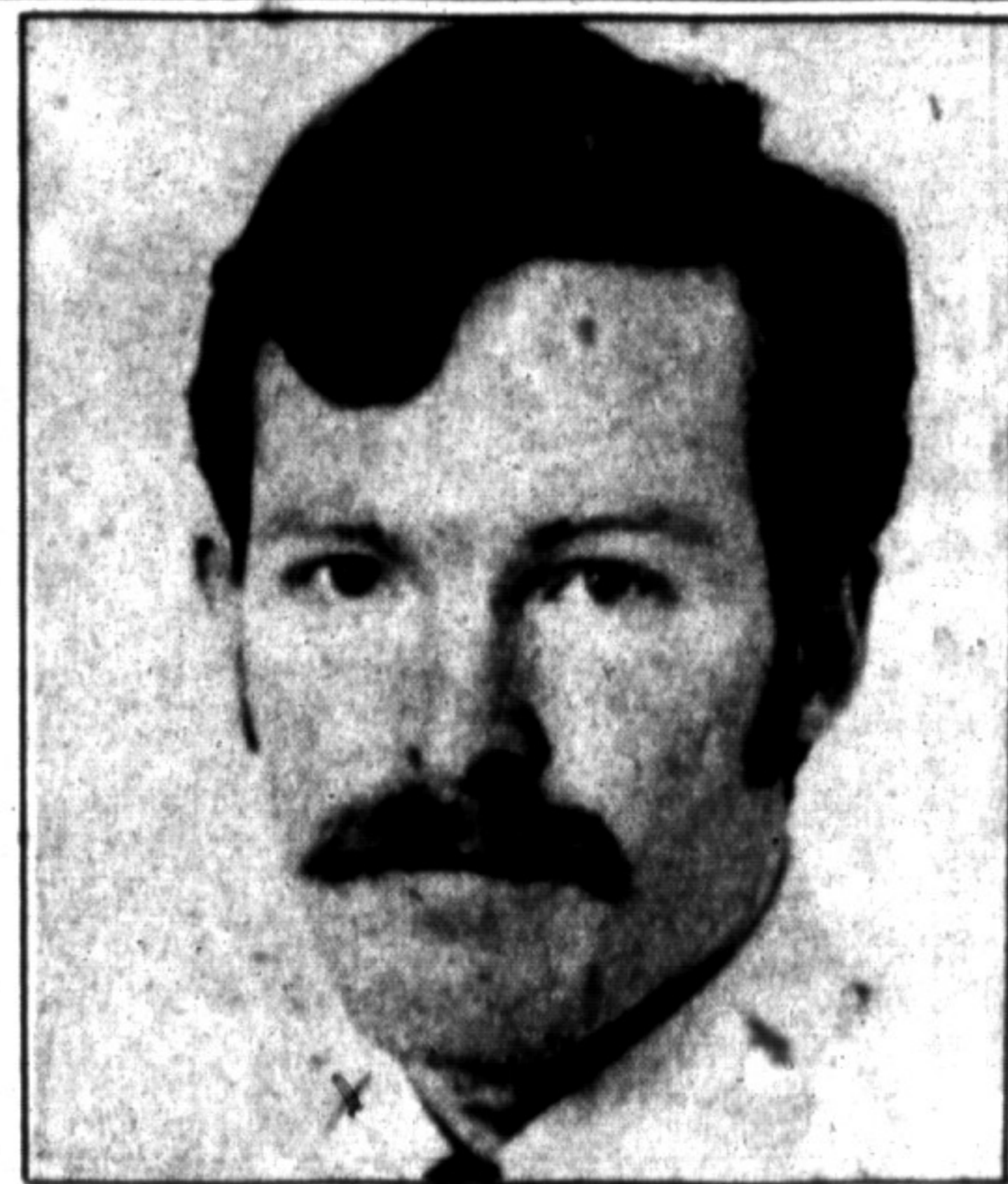
He was taken to hospital and treated for cuts to his arms and smoke inhalation. Minutes after the constable was forced from the burning shell, the fire department arrived at the scene and rescued the elderly man. He was taken to hospital in critical condition, but died four days after the fire.

"It is pretty rare for us (the police) to arrive at a fire call before the fire department. In those situations you act on your instincts. When I was told that there was someone in the house,

I didn't think twice about it, I just went in." Const. Irwin has been a member of the Halton Regional Police Force for the past nine years, beginning as a cadet in 1977.

Policing is a tradition in the Irwin family, several of his relatives are officers as well.

Const. Irwin lives in Burlington with his wife and two children. He says he would be interested in working in the detective or intelligence area of the force in a few years.



Const. Ed Irwin

