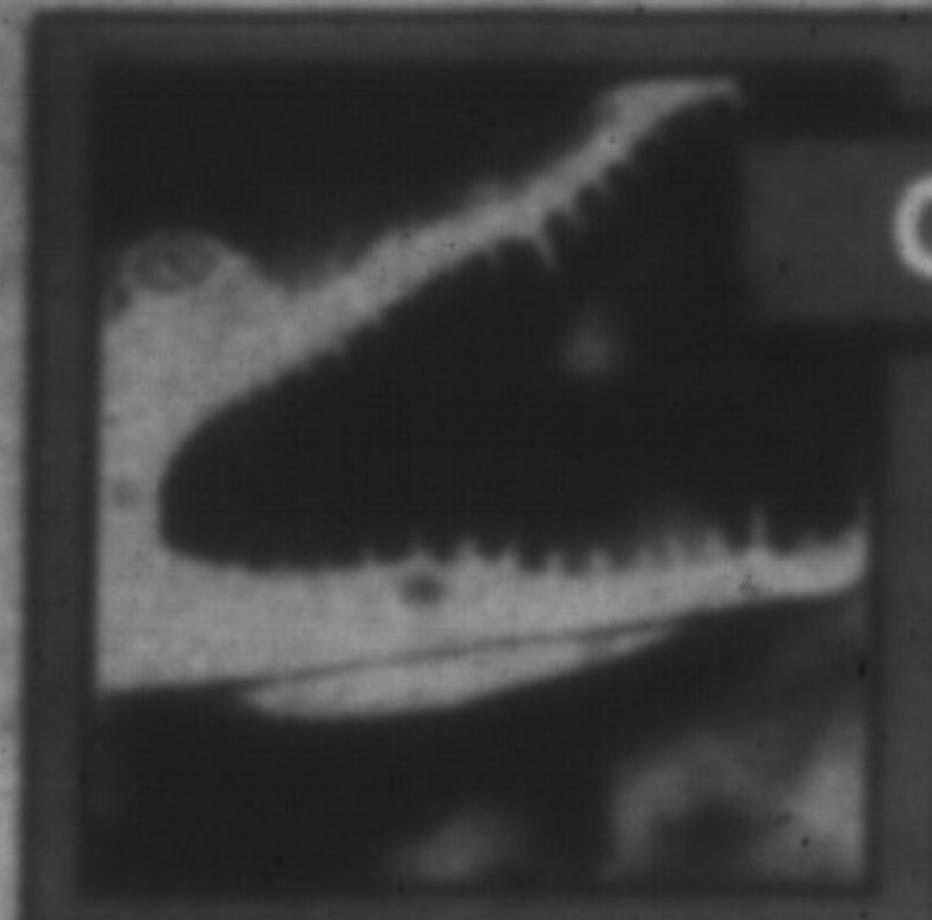


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Canadian

Wednesday edition

A Metroland Community Newspaper serving the town of Milton

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VOLUME 130, NUMBER 29

MILTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY JANUARY 25, 1989

30 CENTS

48 PAGES

Fairgrounds eyed as rec centre site

By ROB KELLY

The long-awaited study recommending how Milton should develop new recreational and cultural facilities was finally unveiled at municipal council Monday night. When the curtain was drawn back plans described a \$4.8 million recreational centre, with the preferred location at Milton Fair Grounds.

The president of the Halton Agricultural Society, Joanne Heath, sat in the audience listening as descriptions flowed around building a 40,000 sq. ft. complex complete with indoor pool, a gymnasium and fitness centre on land the society has owned for 135 years.

At times Mrs. Heath, who was accompanied by society past president Jim Livock, smiled. Mostly she sat quietly listening, however, as councillors poked and prodded the contents of the massive \$38,500 study.

Mrs. Heath readily admitted that the fair board wanted to sell their property and redevelop bold new facilities elsewhere. Whether or not the town's potential offer is one the agricultural society should accept, however, was a subject about which she and Mr. Livock had misgivings.

"We sit in a little bit of a precarious position," Mr. Livock said. The society hopes to relocate from its current 23.3 acre property to a new tract of at least 50 or 75 acres, he pointed out, with substantial redevelopment, including one \$5-million building.

"If the town only wants five or seven acres for a leisure centre...we're probably only going to get a single dwelling price (per acre)."

Instead, the duo would rather sell their entire holdings to a developer interested in dense residential use, who would possibly pay more.

Councillor Art Melanson was not excited over the prospect of acquiring the prime urban fairground land for a leisure centre either. "A couple of years ago we were looking at the fairgrounds as a residential site. I was hoping it would be residential."

It still might be that, councillor Rick Day was at pains to point out. While Mrs. Heath and Mr. Livock fear being pressured into a sale by the town, politicians fret about the agricultural society holding out for top dollar because they know they own the preferred site. Mr. Day spoke of a "telegraph" of town purchasing intentions.

There are two other high-priority locations, however. The second choice is the E.C. Drury school complex and the third is Kinamen Park.

The proposed centre would see FAIRGROUNDS on page 7

OPP nab man accused of attempted murder

By LISA TALLYN

A call for help to Milton OPP from a man stopped on the shoulder of the eastbound lanes of Highway 401 Tuesday morning has resulted in several charges being laid, including two counts of attempted murder.

Milton OPP received a call from a man in a car parked on the highway at Kelso at 5:05 a.m.

"The man said that he was in pain," said OPP Sgt. John MacSween. The caller said he had been burned.

"When the investigating officer arrived she found that the man's face and hands were burned." An ambulance was called, the man was taken to Milton District Hospital. He was later transferred to St. Joseph's Hospital in Guelph.

The officer's investigation led her to believe that the man, a Guelph resident, was involved in an incident in that city earlier Tuesday morning in which two people were seriously injured in a house fire.

Staff Sgt. Paul Deeves of the Guelph Police Department says officers responded to a house fire at 89 Victoria Rd. North at 4:40 a.m. Tuesday.

Guelph Fire Department was at the scene when they arrived. A fire was contained in a bedroom in the two-storey private residence there.

Three residents of the house suffered burns. In critical condition in Hamilton General Hospital's burn unit are Jacolena Kaulback, 39, and her daughter Julie Kaulback, 16. Michael Kaulback, 19, is in Guelph General Hospital with severe burns to his hands, arms and face.

Facing two counts of attempted murder and one count of setting fire to a substance likely to cause a building to burn is Edward William Dakin, 46, of 121 Bagot St. Guelph. Mr. Dakin contacted Milton OPP only 25 minutes after Guelph police and fire departments received the house fire call.

Mr. Dakin will be held in custody pending his bail hearing.



Photo by JOHN WARREN

Journey to Japan

Children at Milton Public Library took a journey to Japan without even leaving town on Saturday afternoon. The travel was made possible by Rotary exchange student Katsura Hanamori, 18, who conducted a program on her native land. She's studying at E.C. Drury High School and has been in Milton for the past 10 months.