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Bike race receives rough ride

By ROB KELLY

A Hamilton bicycle race organizer had an uphill climb to convince municipal councillors his event was worth the aggravation this year.

Monday night Tim Farrar appeared before a skeptical general committee and outlined plans for a high-profile, heavily sponsored, star-studded (at least in the bike world) event he hopes will come to the town August 15.

The Niagara Classic bicycle race has run through Milton for the past two years. But municipal officials have become annoyed with what they see as the dangers and disadvantages associated with bike races. Also, the sport has come under intense criticism in the area following an outcry by Lowville residents after a recent race.

Approximately 600 racers converged on the tiny rural village for that event, and many of them choked the area throughout the day, according to Mr. Farrar. Area residents complained of unacceptable behaviour by cyclists and spectators. That behaviour was reported to include people relieving themselves publicly.

As well, Milton councillors were concerned about the safety aspects of the race, with 100 cyclists barrelling along rural roads alongside cars.

Eventually councillors opted to grudgingly support the race, which has received the backing of Milton's .. easy for Mr. Farrar.

Calling himself "one of the biggest supporters" of the race in the past, Makor Gord Krantz said last year there were "some real problems." Those included devoting "eight to 10" municipal workers to race duties, Mr. Krantz said, in effect having taxpayers subsidize the event.

make sure that does not happen again.

Councillor Brian Penman said in such races "things like stop signs are frequently ignored. This is not Europe, where you set aside whole countries for racers to plow through."

municipalities as Burlington toward racing and added, "I'm no prude, but some of the things that have been reported in the last while are socially not acceptable. I have nothing against. the race, but I do have something against a lack of etiquette."

Mr. Penman said cyclists often act "as if they own the road," creating a situation "of an accident waiting to

want some assurance we're on top of these things."

Mr. Farrar said he would be "the first shortcomings" in the past, but said last race in Milton." are "on a surer footing" with new

sponsors.

nificant differences" between the much-criticized Lowville event and the size. He estimated 650 racers took part in the Lowville event. The Niágara Classic involves only 100 racers, divided into five-man teams. Another major difference is "the

The councillor cited the "increas- calibre of the competition." While the ingly hostile" position of such 650 cyclists in the Lowville event were largely locally based, his race involves 20 five-man teams that form some of the top-echelon world competitors, Mr. Farrar said.

The race co-ordinator also indicated there will be a higher police presence with his event, and more portable toilets, if necessary.

In addition, race organizers have posted a \$1,000 performance bond with the town.

Councillor Bill Johnson said Mr. Farrar "would be well advised to tell all your participants that if their conto acknowledge the organizational duct is not exemplary this will be the

they were due to "financial "I want to see this thing as a firstshortcomings" and now race officials class race," councillor Brad Clements told Mr. Farrar. "Otherwise we're going to cancel it. The onus is on you There are a number "of fairly sig- to ensure it is a first-class race."

Council instructed Mr. Farrar to appear in early August with a report his proposal, Mr. Farrar said. One is concerning final preparations and race precautions, including approval from the Halton regional police.

Mr. Farrar still must obtain permission from the city of Burlington and Halton Region for the event.

Inmates get rave Downtown Business Improvement reviews for recycling Area group. But they didn't make it reviews for recycling

While government institutions may be expected to lead the way in recycling, one could perhaps be excused for thinking such an idea would only receive a lukewarm reception from prison inmates. In Milton, however, that is apparently not the case.

Following a recent tour "It becomes costly and I want to Maplehurst Correctional Centre, Halton North MPP Walt said, "it is obvious that Maplehurst is an example of what government institutions can do to promote proper waste management. The staff and inmates at the centre can take great pride in the success of their efforts."

Maplehurst officials have completed stage one of their recycling plan, which involves both staff and inmates. The facility has its own "blue boxes" for recycling in each common area, and special containers for pop tins have been provided by Alcan in the visiting area.

Prison superintendent Gary Commeford said the commitment to less waste also extends to bulk buying of supplies. "Bulk buying makes good sense. If you buy large packages you not only have economic benefits, but you have less waste in the form of empty containers."

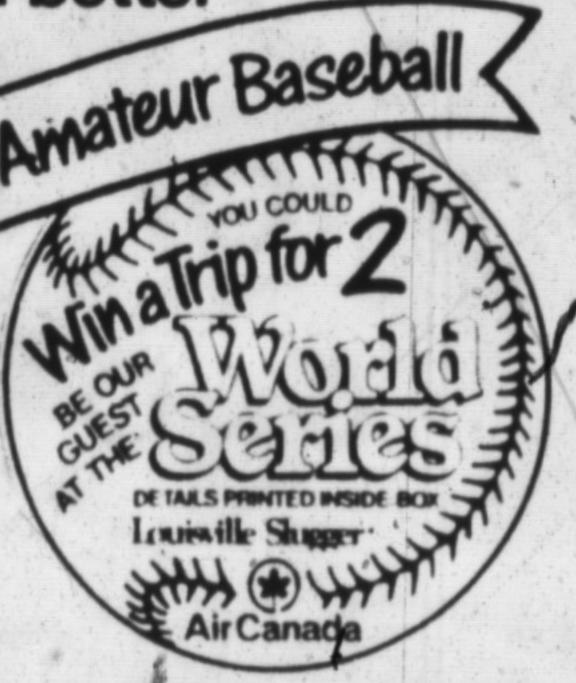
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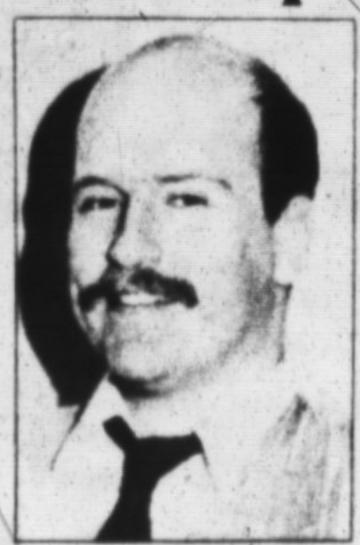
Milton Minor

Baseball Assoc. Sale begins May 13, 1989 We do it for the kids".



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Champion appointments



Rob Kelly

Publisher, of The Champion, lan Oliver is pleased to announce the promotion of Rob Kelly to the position of News Editor. Rob the talent and commitment he has shown in the past in his news and sports reporting.



Stephen Uhraney

lan Oliver, publisher of The Champion is pleased to announce Uhraney's Stephen appointment to the position of photogbrings to the position rapher. Stephen has worked for the Etobicoke Guardian and will work with photographer John Warren.



Karen Smith

Publisher of The Champion, Ian Oliver is pleased to announce the appointment o Karen Smith to the position of reporter. Karen was previously employed by Metro-Mississauga News and Etobicoke Guardian newspapers.



Annemarie Mojsilovich

Ian Oliver, publisher of The Champion is pleased to announce the appointment of Annemarie Mojsilovich to the position of Television Times sales representative. Annemarie is a former student and employee of Sheridan College.



Charles Parchem

Publisher of The Champion, Ian Oliver is pleased to announce the appointment of Charles Parchem to the position of Champion Country sales representative. Charles is long-time Campbellville resident and is selling advertising that will appeal to our rural readers.



Linda Norton

lan Oliver, publisher of The Champion is pleased to announce the appointment of Linda Norton to the position of clerical assistant. Linda, a resident of Milton, will enhance the level of service provided to our customers.