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Maley taking a harder line

By BRAD REAUME
The Champion

Once a voice of moderation in a sea of dissent, local family physician Garnet Maley has sounded the clarion call of protest.

Dr. Maley, president of the Halton Medical Society, had preached a conciliatory approach to negotiations between physicians and the provincial government.

But after 76 per cent of doctors voted against a pact negotiated with the province, Dr. Maley says provincial Health Minister Jim Wilson "turned up the heat" and tried to bully doctors through a letter to the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Dr. Maley estimated close to 100 per cent of Milton physicians are refusing to see new patients, a position endorsed by the Ontario Medical Association. Doctors in Burlington and Oakville are engaged in the job action at about 80-90 per cent rate, he added.

Those who already have a family doctor or are seeing a specialist for an ongoing problem will not be affected. But people will have difficulty finding a specialist taking new patients. In addition, doctors say they will cover life threatening or emergency situations.

According to Dr. Maley the letter from the health minister suggests the college should hold any doctor who engages in a job action responsible for professional misconduct. In addition it calls for the same



Garnet Maley

penalty to be imposed on doctors who discuss job action with their colleagues. The letter was enough to change Dr. Maley's mind.

"Jim Wilson is trying to limit who I can talk to and about what," said an indignant Dr. Maley. "That is a major infringement of my civil and human rights."

Doctors are concerned about four main issues; billing caps, billing clawbacks, funding malpractice insurance and restrictions on where physicians can practice. The proposed solution to the latter issue was one that caused the negotiated deal to collapse.

The solution forced new doctors to practice in under-served areas of the province, pri-

• see CH'DLEIGH page 5



Photos by GRAHAM PAINE

Thoughtful remembrance

Milton paid homage to the fallen Sunday during the annual Remembrance Day parade and wreath laying ceremony at the cenotaph. Sergeant at Arms Sam Perry (left) salutes, while (at right) reflecting on those lost is veteran Bob Allan, a member of the Legion colour party. Hundreds turned out for the ceremony.

Foxfire review decision due soon

By STEVE LeBLANC
Special to The Champion

Students at Milton District High School will soon find out whether they will con-

tinue reading *Foxfire* in the classroom, and those opposed to the novel will learn if their attempts to have it banned have met with success or failure.

The outcome of an in-school review of *Foxfire: Confessions of a Girl Gang* - the controversial Joyce Carol Oates novel being taught in Milton District's grade 12 English classes - will be forwarded to Halton Board of Education Superintendent Kit Rankin by Friday, Nov. 22.

Ms Rankin will then relay the committee's decision to school principal Barb Singleton as well as the complainants - namely Jack Huisman and Rev. Ken Campbell, who represent a citizen's group called PACT (Parents Against Corrupt Teaching). They claim to have more than 2,000 signatures in support of their cause.

Foxfire was taken out of the classroom prior to the in-school review - which is being headed by vice-principal Tom Johnson and includes a committee made up of teachers and parents of students currently reading the novel. The third and final committee meeting is scheduled for tomorrow (Thursday).

The review represents the latest battleground in Mr. Huisman's ongoing fight to have the book removed from the board's curriculum. His opposition to *Foxfire* - which contains profanity and scenarios of sexual acts - dates back to last year when the book was first introduced in Milton District's classrooms.

And while successful in having the book removed on a temporary basis, he doesn't

• see HUISMAN on page 3

NEWSLINES

Human rights poster contest

A children's poster contest will be held in celebration of International Human Rights Day December 10.

Sponsored by the North Halton Cultural Awareness Centre, the contest is open to all Halton high schools.

Entries (up to four from each participating school) should incorporate the ideas expressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The winning entries will receive a first prize of \$100, a \$75 second prize or a third prize of \$50.

The deadline is November 29. Send or drop off entries to Kentner's Catering, 62 Mill St., Georgetown, L7G 3H6.

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