Cocaine 'drug of the 90's'

Marijuana plants grown in Halton

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According to Sgt. Gordon marijuana is the least expensive street drug costing about $30 per gram.

The cannabis derivitive hashish is the drug "kids are most likely to try" and comes in a solid or liquid form.

Solid hashish is a tarry substance with a black or dark brown sticky surface.

"It almost looks like a piece of doo-doo," Sgt. Gordon said. "Kids will often hide it by pushing two pennies or nickles together with the hashish in the middle."

In its liquid form — known as hash oil — the thick greenish- black liquid is usually sold in one gram or five gram vials.

It is usually smeared on a regular cigarette with a safety pin and smoking that oil smeared cigarette — known as a spliff — contains enough narcotic to cause a high.

A gram of hashish is currently selling for about $10 to $15, while hash oil — containing a higher quantity of THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) the active ingredient in cannabis products — sells for about $20 per gram.

"The drug that really frightens me is LSD (lyseric acid diethylamide)," Sgt. Gordon said. "LSD is readily available in any high school."

Sold in "hits" costing $3 to $5 each, the colorless, tasteless, odorless LSD or acid is dropped onto blotter paper that is then cut into small squares. "Blotter acid" is then ingested by chewing up the small square.

"The scarey thing is that you never know how much (acid) you are getting," Sgt. Gordon said. "You also never know when, where or if you will have flashbacks."

She said that in her four years working for the drug squad she had never heard of anyone in Halton having acid "dropped" in a drink or food.

Cocaine, a naturally occurring substance from the coco plant, "is the up and coming drug" in Halton region.

Costing $140 to $160 per gram, cocaine — and its deadly derivative crack — is becoming more available on the streets, Sgt. Gordon said.

While local police have yet to seize crack being trafficked, "you will start to see crack seizures this year."

Crack is three times more addictive than cocaine and starts a "craving cycle" from the moment it is used.

"People get really, really caught up in it and eventually it takes over your whole body," Sgt. Gordon said. "Because of the craving cycle you get to the point that you have to take it just to feel okay.'

Anyone finding what they suspect to be a narcotic should seal the substance in a small envelop, put their initials over the seal and turn the substance over to police, she said.

House entered

More than $1,100 worth of property was removed from a Calvert Dr., Georgetown residence during a daring daylight entry Tuesday. Police are continuing their investigation after the culprit entered the garage at the residence and then forced open the door joining the garage and the house. Once inside, the culprit removed a new 28" color television, a vcr, stereo, jewelry and cash.

Tools taken

Power tools worth about $200 were removed from a James St., Georgetown, home improvement business sometime last weekend. Police believe the culprit scaled a fence and then removed the hinges on an outside door to get inside the business.

Kids will be exposed to drugs ---- parents should know the signs

By SCOTT KLINE

The head of the Halton Regional Police Drug and Morality Bureau says it is important for parents not to be afraid to talk to their kids about drugs.

"Don't make talking about drugs a subject that is taboo," Sergeant Jackie Gordon said. "One of the best things you can do is talk about it."

A 12-year-veteran with Halton Regional Police, Sgt. Gordon told about 30 members of the University Womens Club of Georgetown the drug trade in Halton is growing.

"At some point, whether directly or indirectly, your kids will be exposed to drugs — there are no two ways about it," Sgt. Gordon said. "We have a problem with drugs in society."

From her four years experience in the Drug Bureau and talking to kids, Sgt. Gordon said most youths follow a pattern that leads to their trying drugs — experimentation with cigarette smoking, followed by experimentation with alcohol, then drugs.

The cannabis products, marijuana and hashish — or its derivative hash oil — are the most frequently used drugs in Halton Region.

"Curiosity is the main reason why people give drugs a try," Sgt. Gordon said. Youths also face problems of low self-esteem, peer pressure and often the need to be defiant.

Parents can look for several "tell-tale" signs that their kids may be using drugs.

Blood shot eyes, difficulty concentrating, moodiness, social withdrawal and a change in friends are some "good signs" that a youth may be using illegal drugs.

"A drop in school performance and an unexplainable increase in skipping at school are very, very good indicators that your child may be using drugs," Sgt. Gordon said. "If your money is disappearing, that's also a good sign."

She said parents should be concerned if they notice rolling papers or rolling paper packages in their child's room as "young children and adults don't usually roll their own cigarettes."

Drugs can often be found "hiding in that pair of jeans hanging on the floor," in cigarette packages, or rolled up in small pieces of tin foil, Sgt. Gordon said.

"You have got to be thinking about various hiding places and looking for the signs," she added. "The drugs are not going to be sitting on a desk or on the coffee table in the living room."

When a parent discovers their child is using drugs they can contact several resources including police, the Addiction Research Foundation, ADAPT, or the new group PAD (Parents Against Drugs.)

"Parents should really encourage their kids to talk about the problem," Sgt. Gordon said. "Teaching them to say 'No' is about the best thing a parent can do."

Stores entered

A pair of Moore Park Plaza stores were entered sometime Tuesday night. Someone pried open the rear door on both stores causing a total of about $200 damage. A quantity of cash was removed from the stores. The investigation continues.

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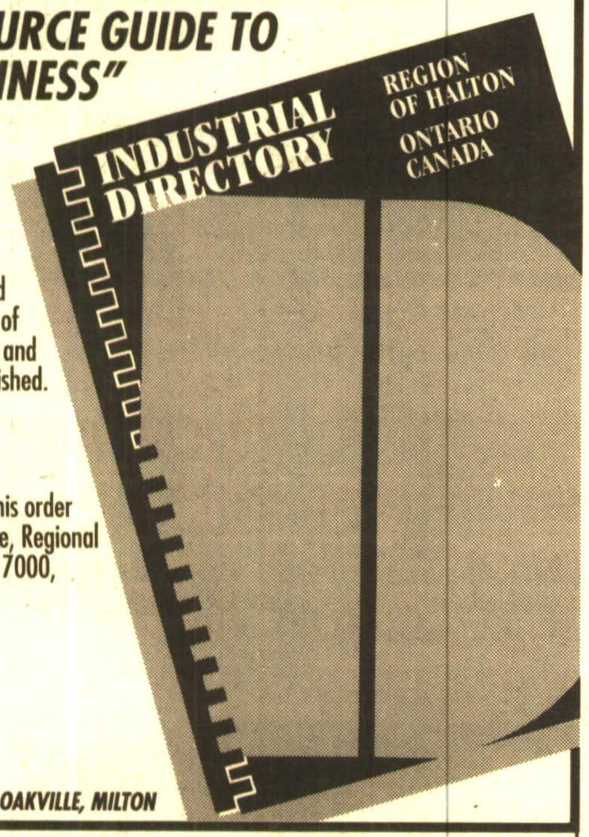

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ACTON HIGH SCHOOL

invites Public and Separate School parents of Grade 8 Students to an

"Information Evening"

concerning

Grade 9 Course Selections, Special Programs and Planning for High School

DATE: Wednesday, January 16, 1991

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Acton High School Cafetorium

SPECIAL NOTE: The French Immersion Program Meeting will be held on the same evening at 6:30 p.m. in Room 102.

The Halton Board of Education

The Halton Board of Education

FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAMS
THE HALTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Information meetings are being held to explain Grade 1 and Grade 7 French Immersion programs starting in September, 1991.

LOCATIONS of the information meetings:

Robert Baldwin School
Monday, January 21, 1991
7:15 p.m. (Milton)

Robert Little School
Tuesday, January 22, 1991
7:15 p.m. (Acton)

George Kennedy School
Thursday, January 17, 1991
7:15 p.m. (Georgetown)

For further information please call 847-1550

Pat Hillhouse
Chair

Bob Williams
Director

Tooth Chatter
by
ALEX TRENTON,
Denture Therapist

EATING WITH DENTURES

It will take practice to learn to eat a fairly normal diet if you wear dentures. Especially during the first few days of receiving new teeth, it is a good idea to eat a soft diet. This will allow the elimination of potential sore spots, with a minimum of discomfort, and will also make the learning period more tolerable. You should also avoid tough, hard, and sticky foods. Although some experienced denture wearers can eat a normal diet including apples, salads, and corn on the cob, this is probably the exception rather than the rule. Most people who have dentures will find some restrictions in the foods they can manage.

Some points to remember regarding eating and chewing habits, is to eat slowly and try to cut your food into smaller pieces. Extra chewing is required with dentures. In fact it will usually take a denture wearer twice as long to chew food, as it would a person with natural teeth. Also, you should try to chew vertically (up and down) rather than horizontally (side to side). If you have to bite using your front teeth, try spreading your tongue against the back of the upper denture to keep it in place. Although the normal tendency is to chew on either one side or the other, denture wearers should try chewing food on both sides, over the back teeth, at the same time. This helps to prevent tipping of the denture.

Smile with confidence! Get a "NUBITE" on life!

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