

More students stay in schools

By Carol Stewart-Birkby
The number of young teenagers leaving school before age 16 in Halton has dropped by half over the last three years, according to Cam Jackson, chairman of the Halton Board of Education's Early School Leaving Committee.

The Burlington trustee said, in a report recently submitted to the board, the decrease may be an indication that schools are "dealing more effectively with this particular type of student." Other factors will be studied in the fall, but Jackson suggested the decrease could be caused by the current tough job market for teens and also the improved counselling for teens offered by social agencies such as children's aid and probation.

"The programs in the schools are being developed for these teenagers and we are trying to place teachers with guidance experience with them, in groups smaller than regular classroom size," said Jackson.

Students who apply for early school leaving are described as between the age of 12 and 15, "disruptive in the classroom and in the school and seem impervious to traditional discipline or counselling."

The Early School Leaving Committee in Halton allowed 38 students early leaving status in the 1980-81 school year. Half of these were girls, a significant increase, since traditionally twice as many boys applied for early leaving in the past.

"My impression is that more girls are expressing opinions and emotions now whereas in the past, they withheld them," said Jackson.

Jackie Cutmore, Oakville trustee and chairman of East Area Early School Leaving Committee, said she feels the decrease in early leavers is due to more students being guided towards vocational schools, such as General Wolfe High School.

"Once the students get over the initial stigma of going to a vocational school, they enjoy it and



Miss Canada 1981, the lovely Dominique Dufour of Laval, PQ, is radiant in her national costume specially designed for the Miss Universe Pageant held in New York July 20. She was chosen first runner-up to the winner. This is an 1867-style gown of off-white peau de soie trimmed with silk and cotton lace, commemorating Canada's confederation. She's coming to Milton Saturday, Sept. 5 to participate in the Steam-Era reunion.

do well," she explained.

"There has been a genuine effort by all parties involved to help these teenagers. Guidance counsellors, teachers and social workers all make it work," she added.

Each student who applies for early leaving status is dealt with individually by the Early School Leaving Committee. "Every student has a different problem and there is a different solution for every student. We are very flexible in tailoring a program to the individual's needs," Jackson explained.

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Miss Canada's reign ends, too soon

By Wilma Blokuis
Dominique Dufour wishes she could be Miss Canada for the rest of her life.

"My reign went very fast—I only have two months left!" said the attractive 22-year-old with auburn hair and blue eyes, in an interview held in Toronto last week.

"It is a once in a lifetime experience," Dominique stresses. "I encourage every girl to do it—it's just great."

"I've travelled across Canada," she continues, "and I've been to the North Pole!" She participated in a week-long Christmas Tour with the Canadian Armed Forces, and did a fair bit of public speaking.

A professional model, Dominique defeated approximately 160 girls for the title of Miss Laval.

This gave her the opportunity of entering the nationally televised Miss Canada Pageant, held on Nov. 3, 1980. "I was the 34th contestant, at the 34th annual pageant," Dominique mused.

As Miss Canada, Dominique was invited to enter the Miss Universe pageant in New York on July 20, and was chosen first runner-up among the 76 contestants from around the world.

Back from New York, Dominique is mixing her summer hobbies, swimming and reading, with the public relation duties she is required to perform. She also goes home to Montreal quite often, to visit with family and to do a little modelling. Dominique (5'5") modelled professionally for 21½ years before she entered the Miss Laval pageant.

As Miss Canada, she does have a few opportunities to model in the Toronto area, having lived in this city for the past nine months. Sept. 14 to 18, she is participating in fashion shows at the Scarborough Town Centre, and will model at the Toronto Eaton's Centre Sept. 24 and 25.

Then, she will take her final holiday as Miss Canada, in England, returning just in time for the Miss Canada Pageant, to be held at the CFTO-TV (Channel Nine) studios on Nov. 2, presented by Cleo Productions. As in past years, the pageant will be televised nationally by the CTV network.

All the arrangements for her trips, functions and modelling as Miss Canada have been made by Cleo Productions, where this interview was held.

When Dominique gives up her crown, she plans to return to Montreal, to continue her modelling.

Champion brings Miss Canada 1981 to steam parade

The Canadian Champion is bringing Miss Canada back to Milton for her second local appearance in less than a year. Dominique Dufour will be in Milton Saturday, Sept. 5 to participate in the grand opening and downtown parade of the Steam-Era reunion.

She'll be assisting Henry Stanley, Halton's agricultural representative, at the official opening of the Steam-Era reunion in Milton fair grounds, scheduled for 12 o'clock noon. The parade through town takes place at 11 a.m. — half an hour earlier than in previous years.

Fans can see Dominique in one of the parade's lead cars, or at the steam show in the fair grounds.

Her first appearance in Milton was also her first public appearance after she won the Miss

Canada crown last fall. She participated in Milton's Santa Claus Parade last November, through the sponsorship of The Champion.

Dominique was further honored this year when she went to New York for the Miss Universe pageant, and was named first runner-up. So Miltonians will be meeting "the second most beautiful girl in the world, and the most beautiful in all of Canada" at Steam-Era 1981.

Minister promises assessment help

Milton Council will be informed when the Attorney General unveils a proposal to improve the assessment appeal process.

The town had joined in with a Mississauga resolution asking for a review and new legislation to streamline the process of reviewing grievances over assessments.

George Ashe, the New Ontario Minister of Revenue, said he is aware Attorney General Roy McMurtry has "prepared a proposal" on the issue.

"When the Attorney General is in a position to implement this proposal, my Ministry will be prepared to amend the relevant sections of the Assessment Act to give it force."

Two names given AMO

Milton Council has proposed Councillor Brad Clements and Treasurer Don Loughheed for nomination of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Board of Directors.

Municipalities are asked by AMO to nominate those who might be willing to serve on the association.

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Festival . . .

(Continued from Pg. 1)

been a huge success the past two years. There are 5,000 passports available at \$3 each. They allow entry into all 14 pavilions and other exhibits.

The 1981 cultural line-up includes the Canadian pavilion at Town Hall, Chinese pavilion at Grace Anglican Church Hall, Dutch pavilion at the Canadian Legion Hall, English pavilion at the Kernighan House, Irish pavilion at Holy Rosary Hall, Italian pavilion at Pine St. Union Hall, Japanese at St. Paul's United Church Hall, Latvian at Knox Presbyterian Church, Jamaican at the Optimist Centre, Philippine pavilion at the Old Fire Hall, Scottish at Laurier Arena, Ukrainian at the Charles Hotel and Welsh at Laurier Arena.

Tender project

Tenders went out Aug. 19 for the reconstruction of Ontario St. from Pearl St. to George St.

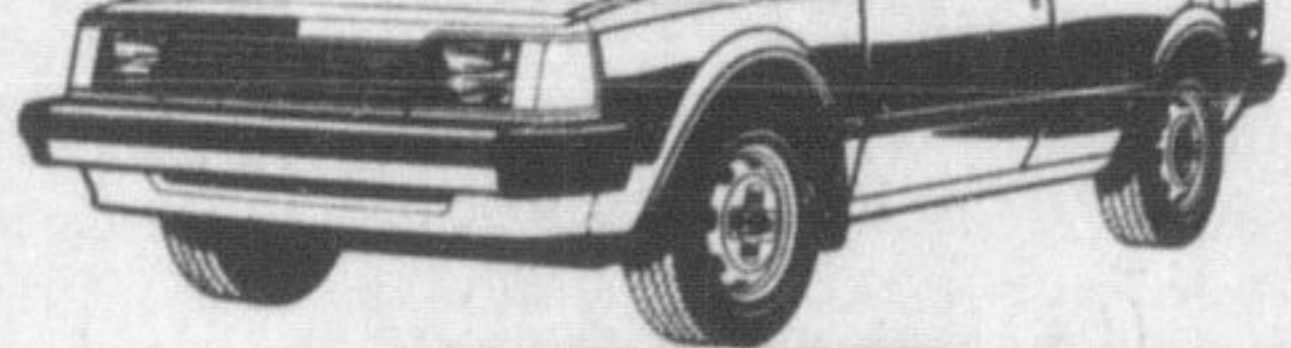
This project will include the grade separation at the Canadian Pacific Railway crossing.

The tenders will be accepted until Sept. 16 at 2 p.m. and will be opened at 2.15 p.m.

A summary of the tenders will be before council on Sept. 21.

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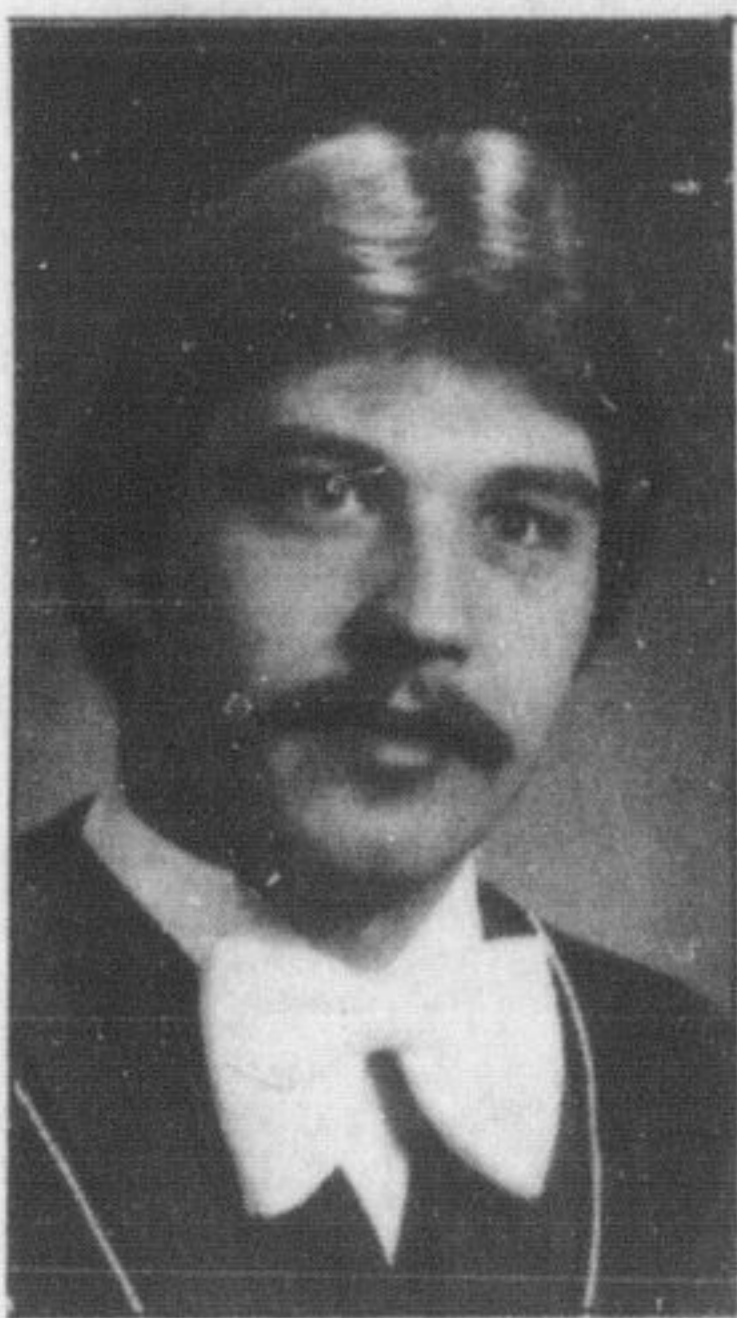


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