



Region hits stalemate

After close to an hour of debate, Halton Regional Council found itself back at square one in its effort to choose architects to work on the new regional headquarters building.

Council rejected a short list containing the names of six architectural firms recommended by the staff committee studying the matter.

Some councillors opposed the short list because they felt there hadn't been sufficient research done on the firms. A number of councillors wanted the firm of Roscoe, Stienstra, Haverly and Rankin, a Burlington firm, included on the short list.

While several councillors alluded to a number of concerns about how the process was being handled, it appeared obvious that some are still convinced the building should not go ahead.

Anti-building lobby Councillor Carl Eriksen told council there was a group of anti-building people who were simply working to block any progress on the issue.

Some councillors opposed engaging an architect at all but favored a turnkey approach—which had earlier been ruled out.

In turn council defeated motions to approve the list of six, another motion to approve the list with the addition of the Burlington firm, and a final motion to open it up to any architects who ex-

pressed interest in the building.

A committee including senior staff, the regional chairman and two independent architects would have been formed to interview the lot.

No direction

As it stands the matter is back in the hands of a staff committee but the committee is unsure of what direction to take.

"We have to make a decision. Our lease here is only good for so long. We can extend it for six month periods for up to two years," Chief Administrative Officer Ernie Reid said.

The original lease at the Harvester Rd. Burlington property comes due next month.

Council after a long, dragged out battle approved purchase of 10 acres of land in Oakville but that has been the only positive action on the matter in two and a half years. That action was taken several weeks ago.



ROSEMARIE WAGNER, left, and Mrs. Mary Towgood concentrate on making berry knots during a macrame class in an evening course at Acton High School. Students in the eight week course learned to work with different fibres and how to make the beads which set off several pieces of macrame. The class finished instruction with 15 members.

Acton police are investigating the theft of a tape carrier and tapes from a Rockwood man's car parked on the townline south of Acton.

Police looking

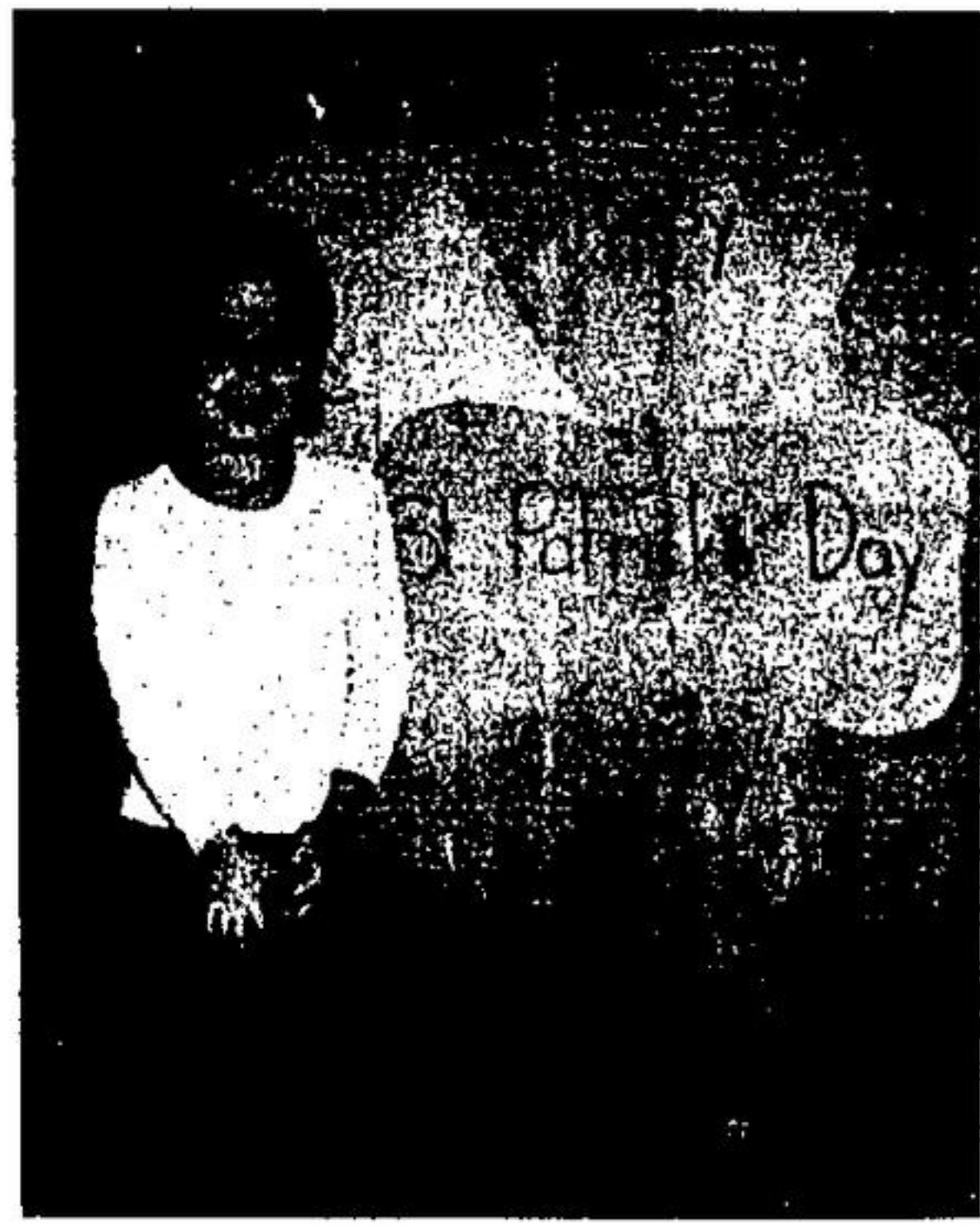
A man in his late 20s is being sought by police in connection with the rape in Esquesing, Thursday night, of an Oakville woman.

The woman says she was raped in a car driven by the suspect and has furnished police with the license number.

The suspect is thought to be approximately five feet, four inches tall, weighs 145 pounds and has a medium build.

He was wearing navy pants, a blue T-shirt and platform shoes, possibly with wooden soles.

The woman said he was unshaven and had a distinct foreign accent.



CATHY O'LEARY'S great-grandparents came from Ireland, and she's wearing green today. She's six, has two sisters Colleen and Chris, and her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Michael O'Leary, Division St. The shamrock is on the door of her classroom of the M. Z. Bennett school.



No meal allowance change

Halton Hills employees won't get any extra meal money this year.

Council approved a personnel committee decision Monday calling for the meal allowance to remain at \$3 for employees who are out of town during lunch or dinner on municipal business.

The \$3 a meal allowance won't apply to conferences, conventions and seminars employees attend.

\$4,000 damage

A single car accident March 13 at Ospringe caused minor injury to driver William Russell Woods, R. R. 5, Belwood. His vehicle swerved out of control into the ditch, where it struck a hydro pole and rolled over. Damage to the vehicle was estimated at \$4,000.

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Grants are confirmed by Welch

Confirmation that grants totalling \$258,900 to assist in the improvement of recreation facilities in Halton Hills has come from Queen's Park this week although all the projects have long since been finished and are in use.

Culture and Recreation Minister Robert Welch issued a press release March 9, announcing approval of the grants which were for the construction of the Gordon Alcott Arena, the Georgetown and District high school indoor pool, the Acton Lions indoor pool and repairs to the Acton arena roof.

Provincial assistance for the projects is provided through the Community Centres Act, administered by the Arts Division, Ministry of Culture and Recreation.

Halton Hills clerk Doug Pritchard said it is not uncommon for projects such as these to wait for final confirmation of grants from Queen's Park but could not say how much it cost the town for the long wait.

Hoax letters are called scurrilous

The public is being warned of a "scurrilous campaign" obviously intended to be racist which is victimizing Ontario residents.

The Hon. Bette Stephenson, M.D. the Minister responsible for the Ontario Human Rights Commission, said "hoax letters are being sent, on the letterhead of a fictitious Canada Council for Commonwealth Relations and of actual government departments, and over forged signatures, informing the recipients that they have been selected to accommodate a visiting family of Pakistanis coming here on a cultural exchange program."

The Minister described the contents as intended to be of a derogatory nature and to frighten the public about newcomers to this country.

"I have today written to the Postmaster General, the Hon. Bryce Mackasey, regarding this questionable use of the mails and to the Hon. John Munro, Minister responsible for Multiculturalism, to ask him to use his influence and the services of his officials to advise the public of this matter."

Dr. Stephenson urged the public to ignore such letters.

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