JANINE NELLIS gets a candy cane from clown Chris Rivett at the Y after the parade. Balloons

were given out, too.

# Teach young about law lawyer tells conference

law operates and now it atfects them, and agencies, on the other hand, need to understand the ideas of young people, said Toronto lawyer

Marvin Zuker. Mr. Zuker, also an author and professor of law, gave the keynote address at a conference dealing with youth on children's rights as well. and the law. The conference, held in Burlington last week,

was sponsored by Halton adults and young people," Youth Services Network. Mr. Zuker charged the study of law has been neglected in schools. Knowledge of the development of laws, operation of the courts, defi- up and conform to them but,

Young people need to have ciencies of the system and effect of laws on youth should not be denied young people, especially in Ontario where

the age of majority is 18, he In a short but wide-ranging talk Mr. Zuker listed what he believed to be young peoples' perceptions of what is wrong with the law and commented

"There has been an open breach of confidence between said Mr. Zuker, defining youth as those between 14 and 25. "One of the prevailing views of adults has been to wait until young people grow

today, young people are not willing to acquiesce to a life style they don't see as valid." According to the lawyer,

some young people don't trust any adults, particularly those in authority. He believes the disintegrating relationship between youth and the law revolves around drugs. "Soft drugs are seen as a legitimate activity among young people. To them it's not a social issue but a private matter," Mr. Zuker commented. "They have the suspicion laws are

enacted pleasurable activities." He added other perceptions youth hold are that the law is

discriminately

against some sections of more accountable to child-society, unevenly in different ren," the speaker told the parts of the country and un- audience of about 150,

forcement people. Youth are aware their money is sought but their rights must be universally opinions as consumers are applicable and should not be not, the lawyer said, broken down by age groups, Additionally, many believe Mr. Zuker went on, The statehigh school student councils ment should include the play no significant role and rights to food and shelter, to student newspapers are an environment free from

ethically by some law en- composed largely of young A statement of children's physical abuse, to health Turning to the issue of care, to parental support, to children's rights, Mr. Zuker reside with parents unless it said a child's legal position is is better for the child to live non-existent. In custody elsewhere, and to be concases, the child becomes a sulted in decisions related to chattel, "If children's rights guardianship, custody and are enacted, adults will be determination of status.



HAPPY MOMENT. . . Stacy Hunter talks to her

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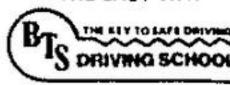
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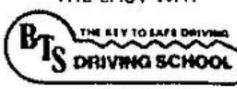
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