

Halton's Safety Council honored Kevin Harrison, of George St., for his efforts to save victims of a traffic accident. Safety Council chairman Bill Little, right, presents the lifesaving award to Mr. Harrison, Mr. Harrison was one of many people honored by the council during its annual awards night.

Photo by DAVE DEJONG

## Safety council awards Acton man

An Acton man, who was honored by the Halton Safety Council Friday for saving another man's life, was happy enough without the award. However, he appreciates receiv-

Just knowing the injured people will be healthy again is all the satisfaction 23-yearold Kevin Harrison needs.

"But getting the award, I don't know what to think of it yet, to be truthful," Mr. Harrison said in an interview. "I didn't expect this at

"Mind you, I don't mind. I get enough satisfaction seeing the person well and on his feet again."

Mr. Harrison received a framed certificate and a lapel pin from the safety council because, in the words of the citations, his "knowledgeable assistance prevented the injuries from worsening, and in fact may have

the injured youths." Other award winners and members of the audlence at Club Roma in Milton heard a brief outline of the event which led to Mr. Harrison's award.

been a major factor in the survival of one of

On a Wednesday night nearly five and a half months ago Mr. Harrison was driving north on the Fourth Line at approximately 11 p.m. He came across what at first appeared to be the aftermath of a single car accident. The scene, where Sideroad 20 meets the Fourth Line, was deserted.

There was a car which was slammed into the thick mound of soil which covers the escarpment rock.

Mr. Harrison investigated. He found two men on the side of the road. One man, Edward Vandyke, was on his back, drowning in blood. Mr. Harrison cased him over, cleared his mouth and did what he could to make the man's condition stable.

From a nearby house, Mr. Harrison telephoned for police. He then returned, with another man from the house, to the accident

While police and an ambulance were on the way, Mr. Harrison and the other man checked the accident vehicle. In it they discovered Alfred Roffie who was trapped in the driver's seat. The windshield was wrapped round him. The pair broke into the vehicle, and peeled the windshield away from the driver. He was

Halton Regional Police arrived, and Mr. Harrison used some of the police first ald

equipment to stop the bleeding and infection in Mr. Vandyke.

The third victim, Jeffrey Schenk was wrapped in blankets because he was unconclous from shock.

According to Mr. Harrison, police did what they could to help, however, they let him perform the first aid work.

Mr. Harrison first learned his first aid skill in the Scouts. "It was basic first aid. Since then I've just carried it on and advanced." "I felt it was something everyone should have. Even if it's a simple nose bleed, you

want to know the best thing for it." The six foot, three inch, soft spoken man works as a shipper and receiver at Blow Press. A bonus for the company is his interest In health, which he has promoted, so that he is an industrial first aider.

In British Columbia, where Mr. Harrison lived for about seven years, he worked as an industrial first aid attendent at a large fish processing company. There he tended a varlety of mishaps.

In the army Mr. Harrison got used to his fellow soldlers knowing the basics of first aid. He was in Cyprus for six months.

Mr. Harrison would like to see as many peo-

ple as possible learn first ald.

Even if people just read the pamphlets on first aid one finds in cars, that's something. "Even if you read that, you're far enough ahead, you'll be prepared. If you come across an accident, you'll have some idea of what to

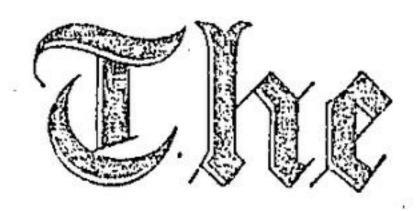
Mr. Harrison is the son of Joan and Murray Harrison of George St.

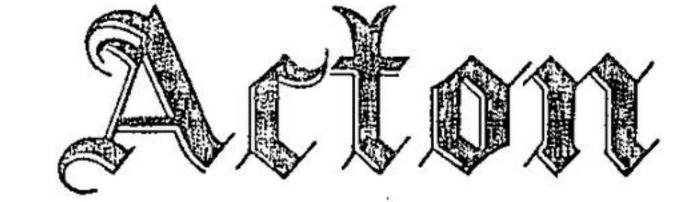
#### inside

News Digest is a new Free Press department and you'll find it on page 3. Profiles is on page 2, Editorials page 4, On the Leavell page 4, Rockwood Digest page 6 and Sports B1, B2 and B3.

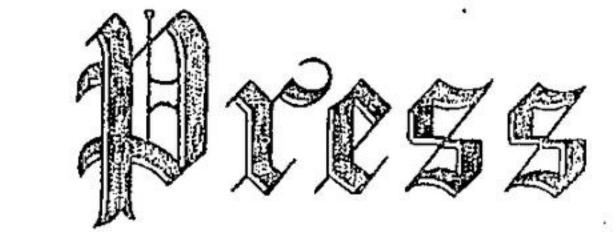
Vacform Plastics has closed and moved to Brampton. Turn to story on page 3.

Good Friday and Easter Sunday are just a few days away and today's paper contains three Easter Features. See pages 2, 6 and 9.









One Hundred and Fifth Year - No. 38

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 1980

Eighteen Pages - Twenty Cents

### Heller's may have to leave Acton

# Deal for Disston off

Frank Heller and Co. Ltd. won't be moving into the closed Disston plant.

Heller's general manager Fred Dawkins announced Monday the deal has completely fallen through.

In a prepared statement he points to lack of government assistance, high interest rates and the no-growth economy as reasons the deal fell through.

Dawkins has warned that sometime in the future the firm may have to move away from Acton.

Rumors have been rife around Acton for many weeks that a deal between Heller's and Disston's parent firm, Sandvik, was imminent. Negotiations got rolling in December and by January a tentative agreement had been reached. However, in ensueing

weeks it unravelled. Heller's has three plants, two in Acton and one in Georgetown.

Disston announced it was closing last August and shutdown November 25, throwing 125 people out of work.

Following is the prepared statement from Dawkins outlining what happened to the deal.

Won't Reach Agreement "It is now apparent that our company will not reach an agreement with Sandvik for the purchase of the Disston building here in Acton. In announcing this I would like to stress that the people at Sandvik have been very open and cooperative throughout these negotiations. I have the utmost respect for the company and the individuals we have dealt with. However, the realities of the situation are that econ-

since last fall. Mortgaging Problems

omic conditions have changed rather dramatically

"Since September, when we first began to consider this purchase, the interest burden of carrying our operating debt has increased by some 50 per cent and at this point can only be expected to go higher. At the same time, we are operating in an economy for which total output in real terms is expected to go down in 1980 for the first time since 1954. Our own business has only come close to maintaining production volumes by working at reduced

mark ups and by increasing the level of our exports. At the same time it has been emphatically demonstrated to us that potential mortgage investors consider Acton a poor location for industrial property. Consequently, they are prepared to offer only low-ratio or high interest rate mortgages.

"In spite of all this, the transaction in question could have been carried out in a very beneficial way if we lived in the country I thought we did. As an Actonian, and Canadian, I feel that I have spent the past three months swimming in a urinal, waiting for help from different levels of government but receiving, instead, what we have all come to expect. .. Back in January, when we had reached a tentative agreement with Sandvik, various government officials were quick to state that the Disston problem had been resolved, implying that they had been of great assistance in achieving this. This simply is not true.

Little government help

"To carry out this transaction we would need some form of government assistance in order to reduce the effective interest cost of carrying the debt required to acquire the building and the high costs of moving. In the Leather industry there have been two very large interest free loans given to new, unproven companies for five year terms. Neither of these companies produces their own leather. Instead they import most of their leather and merely spray finish it in Canada, thus competing with Canadian tanners but providing far less employment to produce the same final product. One of these companies is American owned and operated. They reportedly received an \$800,000 five year interest free loan from the Province of Quebec. The second company, located in Hawksebury, Ontario, received a similar loan reportedly from Federal authorities and is being operated by four unproven individuals. These companies will compete directly with companies such as Beardmore and ourselves with the blessing of government authorities. The only incentive our company was offered of any magnitude, in terms of our transaction, was a government guarantee of part of our total mortgage, which would cost us 1 per cent above the interest rate we could negotiate with the mortgage lender; thanks so very much!

"From the point of view of Acton, let us examine the reasons why our company might have been considered in a more favourable light for government assistance:

1. we are privately owned by Canadian citizens, who just happen to be life-long citizens of Acton.

2. We are operating in Acton, which has been losing its industrial base rather too quickly. 3. If we acquired the building, we would increase

our employment to approximately 250 people in the next three to five years. 4. We have extremely significant export potential

for our product because we make specialized types of leather. 5. We have, in the past year, begun tomanufacture another type of leather for which

Canadian manufacturers have had to import 50 per cent of their requirements in the past year. "In other words, our expansion would create jobs, increase exports, and help reduce imports, hardly attractive goals for a Canadian held company to

"Our company is not guiltless in this situation. Undoubtedly, if we really applied ourselves we might find a way to get some of these government funds which we all know are so easily available for business to acquire. Unfortunately, as a privately Held company we have not been able to devote

sufficient time in this area. Instead, we have spent most of our time dealing with the day to day problems of carrying out business, problems which have been rapidly increasing in recent months. Larger companies can more afford to have someone give their entire job effort to achieving such aid.

Not sour grapes

"If this whole statement sounds like sour grapes, it is not intended to be such. As owners of the business Ron and I are well advised to stay where we are and not risk what has taken a lot of effort to build. However, as an Actonian and a Canadian, I feel that people in this town should be more aware that all of the government platitudes we have heard promising to stimulate exports, reduce imports, stimulate employment and promote Canadian ownership are, as usual, merely political promises. Unfortunately the end result of these developments could be that at sometime in the future we may have to moYe away from Acton in order to consolidate our business and remain competetive with others who have received government help.



Home of the Easter bunny

Inex Crichton displays some of her many tasty Easter treats. The Limehouse candymaker enjoys her sweet hobby and is filling holiday orders for friends and neighbors. See story page 2.

Photo by JENNIFER ROWE

weren't going to support



New symbol of service

Acton Brownles, Guldes and Pathfinders have designed their first crest and these six girls each made a contribution to the new logo. They each received a mug as a prize for their design ideas. The artists are, left to right, Lee Gallant, Shelley Donston, Diana Dunn, Monica Musselle, Shannon Johnson and Kandi Hannah. Photo by GORD MURRAY

# Spring election doubted

Halton-Burlington belleve it will be an election free spring. Some preparations, though, are be- Brian Cargill. ing made.

Recently there have been rumblings of discontent from one party or another at Queen's Park concerning the political status quo. Ontario is ruied by a minority Conservalive government.

Power, however, is shared by the Torles with the Liberals and New Democratic members. Halton-Burlington has sent Liberal Julian Reed to the Legislature in the last two provincial elections. If an election is called

NDPers would have to hold nomination meetings in the riding.

Mr. Reed has indicated he's willing to stand for re-election, according to Liberal riding association president Dolly Moulden. "We must have a nomination meeting to

make it official." Meanwhile in the Conservative camp there

Executives of the maj- is a high-power search or political parties in for a candidate by the nomination committee, according to riding association president

> And according to NDP riding president Shella Lippai, a few potential candidates have been lin-

> "We'd probably be able to put together a fairly good campaign. I do know we picked up a lot of new members in the (February (ederal) election," said Mrs.

"The main thing is to find a proper guy to rep-resent the people," said the Acton Conservative. He said an opposition member can not do too much. "A member of the government can something for us."

No such case as far as the Grits are concerned. "Julian is so solidly entrenched, doing such a good job, I can't imagine anyone challenging him (for the nomination)," Mrs. Moulden said.

The Liberals are in the black financially, said the association president.

year from now) unless would be hard pressed (for manpower)." said Cargill. organization is pretty tightly knit . . . I really

myself," he said. A spring election? "I

wouldn't want

really don't feel there'll be one. Mr. Davis has stated he's not going to call an election before the now? "Mostly because

term is over (about a the NDP said they

up an election over." Mrs. Lippal, of Milton, sald she thinks there will be no election, though she thought otherwise about three weeks ago. Why not

there's a non-confidence the Liberals and the NDP vote," said Mr. Cargill. realizes people don't The Conservative went want one now." on to say: "There are really no issues to trump Liberal Mrs. Moulden, of Limehouse, doubted

there would be an election this spring. "I think he (Smith) is just sabre rattling. I think he's pointing out to the government there's a str-

### No derailment when train hits tie

by Gord Murray A prank could have resulted in a train way derailment near Crewson's Corners re-

tracks near the hamlet "never pres-

ented a hazard, but I suppose it could have," Richard Bolleau of CN Public Affairs said this week. The incident took place on Sunday, March 23 when passenger train number

656 struck the railway tie across the track at 6.15 p.m. and had to stop. the train did not derail and once the tie

was removed the train proceeded on its

Boileau sald CN is "always fearful about this type of vandalism" because A railway tie placed across the CN it could conceivably result in a disaster

or danger, Since there was no derailment, detalls of the incident are sketchy because no report was filled out, Boileau sald. Old ties had been left in the area for

anyone who wanted them after CN replaced them last year. Last week CN workmen went out to

In confirming the report, Bolleau said the area and destroyed all the remaining old ties.