

**This week thru the lens**



You wouldn't want to kick sand at their face... Twice a week Acton's Dave Stone (top), Jeff Cooper (on speed bag), Elizabeth Ackroyd (left and bottom right), Mary Baller and friends get together at the "Y" to lift some weights.



## On-the-job-training for Acton students

Acton High School students are finding out they don't have to go to class to learn—they can go to court, police stations or even old age homes.

### Snowball rolling?

The snowball has hopefully started rolling on Lorne Doberthien's bid to have specially designated handicapped parking in shopping malls and major tourist attractions throughout Ontario.

Doberthien sent a letter to several government officials, at four levels, municipal, regional, provincial and federal, asking for a bit of consideration for the handicapped, in this, the Year of the Handicapped.

He explained handicapped parking spots in malls are inevitably taken by someone who is capable of walking from another spot. He feels this should be against the law, for a non handicapped person to take up a handicapped parking spot.

The local businessman's letter appeared before Halton region's Health and Services committee this week, which heartily endorsed his suggestions. They sent copies of their endorsement to Ontario Premier William Davis, Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed, Margaret Birch, secretary of Social Development, Queen's Park and Janice Tate, director of Transportation for the Handicapped.

The grade 12 Sociology program has developed educational co-operative, where the students spend either 100 or 200 hours out in the field learning practical sociology as well as spending some time in the classrooms.

"I like this better, you learn a lot more and it's better than just reading from a book. You get involved, you just don't sit there," said Corrine Andrews, a grade 13 student in the program. Miss Andrews and fellow grade 13 student Suzi Bahr are spending

part of their hours working at the Halton Regional Police Department's Division One headquarters—learning the practical side of dealing with juveniles from Sergeant Richard Kivell and Detective Bill Riddle.

The girls are shown just what happens when a juvenile becomes involved with the Halton Youth Bureau, right from their first interview with the officers, through to possible court appearances and the filing of reports.

Seeing this candid view of the police officers' work has changed what the pair think of police work. "I thought they'd be more strict," said Miss Bahr. "It's a lot more relaxed here."

let one youth off with just a warning. She didn't think she would have been as lenient in the same situation.

"She's going to make a fine mother some day," chuckled Sgt. Kivell.

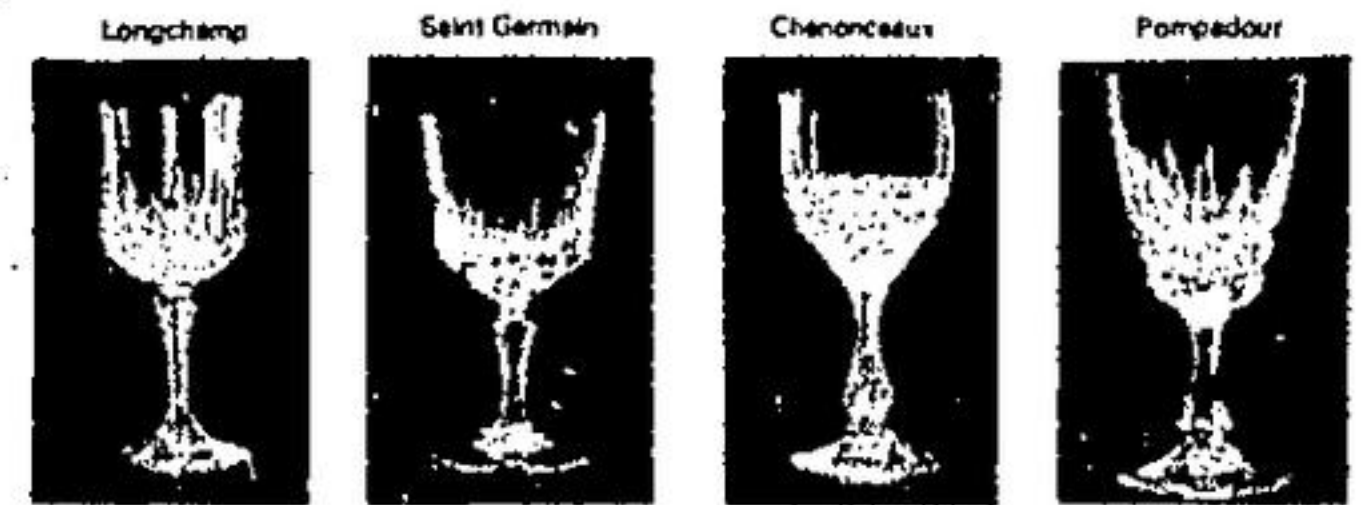
The program has been an excellent learning ground for the two students, since they both

want to become involved with juveniles after they finish school. Miss Andrews hopes to become a correctional worker and Miss Bahr is looking towards social work.

"This makes you want to go out there and get more involved," said Miss Andrews.

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### Bank managers say

## Homeowners cope with high rates

No one in Acton is in danger of losing their homes due to high interest rates, according to Acton's five bank managers.

A lot of people are grumbling about the soaring rates, says Jack Meinen, of the Toronto-Dominion Bank, but they realize there is nothing the local banker can do about it, he told the Free Press. Most people are coping with the situation, he said.

Brian Hahn, of the Bank of Montreal, said there are very few mortgages coming due which his bank holds. He estimates maybe one month, and so far he has had no problems. If any do crop up, he said, that customer would be referred to head office.

Bank of Commerce manager Glen Harrop said there have been quite a few mortgages coming due there recently. "Most seem to be getting by," he said. Many people are making a lump sum payment on the mortgage to reduce the principle, thus reducing the payments.

A few customers, he said, have indicated they could not meet the high payments, but he has not heard back from them and figures they are looking after their situation.

John Kruchuk, of the Halton Hills Community Credit Union said he has not run into any problems with his customers' mortgages.

Reg DiCola, of the Bank of Nova Scotia noted they do not have too many mortgages coming due, and has experienced no

problems. Pat McLeod, public relations for the Bank of Nova Scotia head office in Toronto pointed out that while the banks have a legal right to refuse a mortgage, individual circumstances would be considered and everything possible done to help the individuals who could not manage a 20 per cent interest rate.

She noted there have been fewer foreclosures and powers of sale this year than a year ago. "People are finding

ways of coping," she said. McLeod noted that even though mortgage rates have gone up, but so have salaries in the five years that a mortgage had run.

All lenders, she said, are very aware of the problems facing homeowners, and are working together with the customer to help them.

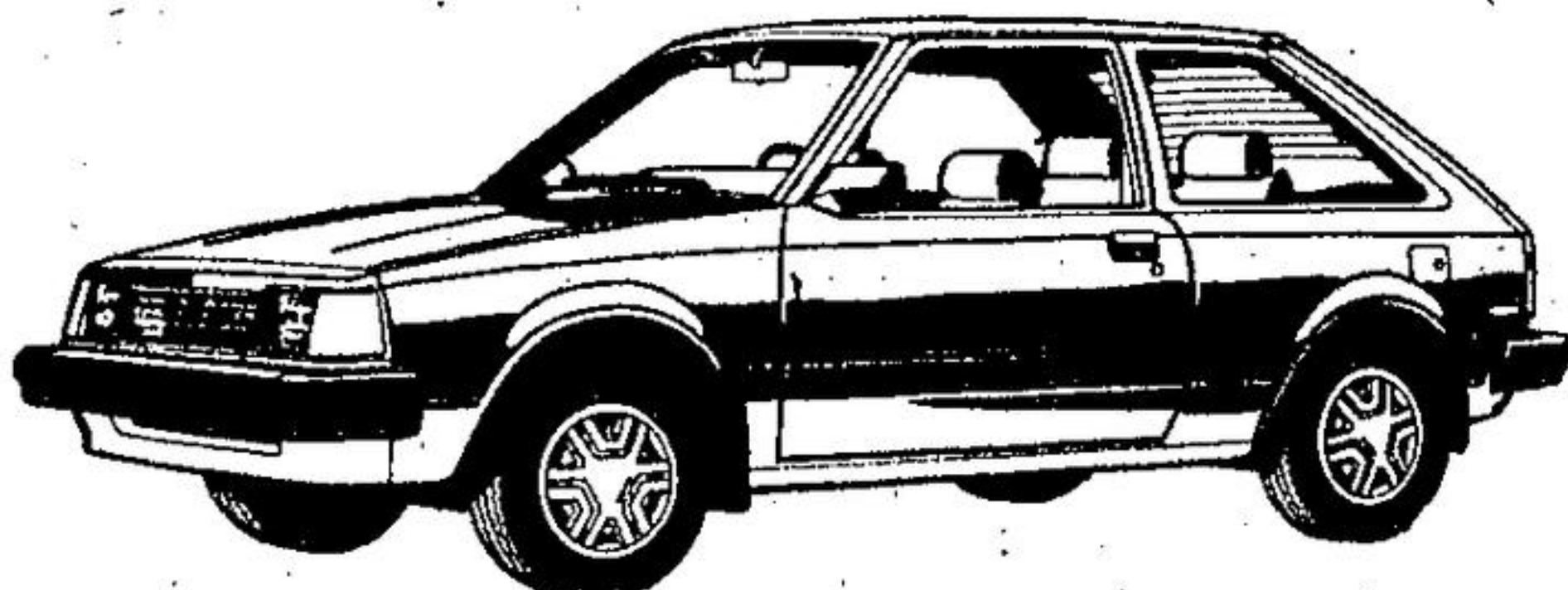
On a national scale, McLeod said, there have been very few foreclosures, compared to the number of mortgages coming due.

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### Couch fire

Acton Firefighters were called to a Poplar Ave. home Saturday to extinguish a fire in a chesterfield, according to fire chief Mick Holmes.

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