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Contract calls for more staff

Halton elementary teachers have struck a mild victory in their attempts to get classroom sizes lowered.

Thirty new teachers will be going into the Halton schools in September, 14 of them into regular classrooms, as part of a contract settlement between the Halton Board of Education and the Halton Elementary Teachers' Association (HETA).

A tentative agreement was reached last week between the negotiating parties. Elementary teachers will vote on the pact next Monday and it is expected to be ratified by the board at their next meeting April 28, according to HETA president Robert Filman.

Members of HETA have been made aware of which is in the tentative agreement, Filman told this newspaper, and his office is recommending it to be accepted.

The board had been offering 24 teachers, eight of whom would be entering the regular

classrooms.

Filman said he was pleased with the accepting of formula staffing, rather than Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR). PTR had been a bone of contention in the lengthy and often times controversial negotiations, when it was revealed that Halton ranks 78th, out of 76 school boards in Ontario for classroom sizes.

Formula staffing, Filman explained, will take the teachers out of various pools, rather than one collective pool for all school staff, including secretaries and principal. This avoids the high PTR figures, which include other personnel in the staff per pupil.

Filman described this move as "very positive".

Financially, teachers will receive a nine per cent increase in salary, which is the provincial government ceiling under the new wage restraints act.



Roman Neubacher III, Cathi Beecham, Richard Gardin, Joanna Scott, and Daryl Johnson hover over Scott Nowlan in a scene from Done to Death.

Done to Death is AHS production

by Paul Nolan

Many Actonians may have noticed an apparently large, white pretzel strung over Mill Street for the past week or so. However, when our recent gales finally subside, this impressive object will likely be seen for what it really is: a huge banner announcing the upcoming Acton High School presentation of the play "Done to Death."

The school's drama club unveils the play on April 28, 29 and 30. The doors will open at 7:30 p.m. for each show and curtain time will be 8 p.m.

"Done to Death" is a mystery-comedy presented in two acts. The play marks a unique venture for the drama club. In previous years, they performed nothing but musicals, but this season they will try something different, in the form of a more traditional play.

According to staff director, Suzi Beber, "A parody of every mystery plot, hero, and villain created in the past 50 years is ingeniously packed into the script."

The staff and students involved in the play's production are all counting on community support like they've had other years. It's probable that the school's cafeteria will be packed each night the play takes to the stage.

Following are the students who are appearing in Done to

Death: Joanna Scott, Roman Neubacher III, Cathi Beecham, Richard Gardin, Daryl Johnson, Scott Nowlan, John De Jong, Paul Stables, Hesty-Ann Koehler, Chris Rosenquist, Norm Harris, Sharon Corson, Monika George, Susan Lindsay, Vickie Curtis, Corrie Denny and Lisa Sansom.

Road allowed closed

At the request of an Acton resident an unopened road allowance in the area of 27 Side-road will be closed and sold to abutting landowners.

The request to close the unopened road allowance between lots 27 and 28, Concession 9, where it meets 27 Side-road, came from Sye Vandermeer.

Halton Hills general committee agreed to the request at last week's meeting. The road allowance will be sold to Vandermeer, Credit Valley Conservation Authority and William Charles Winegard.

The price will be determined by an appraisal obtained by the town and paid for by the abutting landowners. Also the abutting landowners will have to pay for all legal, advertising and survey costs.

Police beat Burglars hit arena twice

The Acton Community Centre (arena) was broken into twice the same day over the weekend, Halton Regional Police report.

Thieves forced open the rear door, smashed gumball machines and took an unknown amount of coins at about 2 a.m. Sunday, police say. Sometime between 11 p.m. and 1.55 a.m. Sunday, thieves entered through a small vent on the north side and damaged gumball machines.

Damage is estimated at about \$100.

About \$375 worth of electrical equipment was stolen from Halton Hills Electrical Contracting on Main St. sometime overnight Thursday, police say. Reports say culprits forced open a rear metal door.

A resident at RR 4, Acton was alerted to a thief by a noise in the patio area Friday morning, police say. According to reports, the resident heard her patio door screen being pried open and when she went to find the cause of the noise, the would-be thief fled.

The suspect is described as being about 18 years of age, about 5'9", medium build with dirty blond hair. The attempted break-in occurred at 10.45 a.m.

A daughter involved in a domestic dispute with her mother at a residence on Berry St.

sustained slight cuts to her hand Sunday at noon hour, police say.

No charges were laid in the incident.

A ladder worth \$120 was stolen from a shed in a backyard of a residence on Main St. South sometime between March 1 and April 15, police say.

The ladder is aluminum, two-sectional, with a yellow nylon rope.

A locked car parked in the parking lot of the Acton High School was damaged by vandals Thursday afternoon, police say.

A light was smashed and a black wallet was removed, but there was no money in it. Damage to the car is estimated at \$45.

Police responded to a domestic dispute on Poplar Ave. Thursday morning between a husband and wife in which a minor assault occurred. There were no injuries and no charges were laid.

A 20-year-old RR 1 Acton resident has been charged with break and entering after he was discovered inside Desmond's Clothing Store on Mill St. at 6.20 a.m., last Wednesday.

Four rally wheel hubcaps were discovered missing from a Main St. N. residence last Monday. Police say the caps had been taken from the wheels and stored beside the house, by the owner. They are valued at \$400.

Police report a fence at a home on Willow St. was damaged last Tuesday when vandals removed a 4 by 4 board. Damage totalled \$10.

Tools valued at \$700 and kept in a red metal box were stolen overnight April 10 to 11 from a carport of a Churchill Rd. South home.

A 40-year-old man from Sudbury was apprehended in Acton for stealing a car in North Bay last Tuesday afternoon. The car had been stolen on April 9 and police located it parked in the lot at the Station Hotel at 2.15 p.m.

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Wayside Pit

Fermax Paving Limited contractors for the reconstruction of Trafalgar Road from Maple Avenue to Highway 7, will haul the granular material from the Duenk property, at Lot 25, Concession 6. The project is expected to require 48,500 tonnes of granular "A" material. Council approved the property as a wayside pit, subject to the usual conditions of hours of operation and truck routes.

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