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- DANICA JOSEPH
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Georgetown
- THERESA LORITO
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Georgetown
- ROBB CRAIG
24 Greystone Cres.
Georgetown
- JODI MCDONALD
RR5, Milton



McDonalds welcomes the Austrian National Team on their visit to Georgetown.

Halton's issue-filled education beat was anything but peaceful in 1978



Staff Comment
by Lori Taylor

The education "beat" is considered by most reporters to be a fairly placid one with not that much happening of a controversial nature, and little which could aspire to a spot on the front page of the local newspaper.

If there is one thing the education beat in Halton has been in the last year, it is not placid. There have been many dramatic, and some even say radical, changes in the education system in Halton, in the programs it offers, and those it proposes in offer.

The Halton board of education has been faced with many challenges in the last year, not the least of which has been maintaining quality education without increasing costs. In the early 1970's, it was easy to demand that the cost of education be reduced, because education attempts to provide quality education for the vast flow of children who were the result of the baby boom.

Now enrollment is declining, and the public is increasingly asking why the cost of education is not declining apace. The first and most obvious response is that offering one class per week costs the same in basic equipment when it is held for 10 children as it costs for 20 today. It still requires a teacher, a classroom, books and supplies. And the cost for those basic requirements has been increasing, not decreasing.

JOB-ORIENTED
In today's increasingly job-oriented society, where the goal of an education is swinging once more towards providing a student with the skills necessary to find a job,

courses with practical equipment and hands-on training are becoming necessary. Filling a classroom with electronic calculators to teach 30 students how to operate them is not guaranteed to reduce the budget for education. People are hesitant to reduce education to a point where they say, "Show me how this program will better educate my children." Yet in effect, this is what administrators in boards across the province are being required to do, by the pressure of budget restrictions.

I would not suggest that it is being done haphazardly, but under financial restraints, people proposing new ideas or programs suggestions are being asked, directly or indirectly, to demonstrate with figures exactly how much of a better person this particular program will make a student.

This is not to say that cost restraint is wrong or unnecessary. There is no need to spend \$50,000 on a new program in Halton schools if it can be done just as well for \$25,000. Cost restrictions have forced trustees and administrators to come up with new methods of meeting the needs of the students in their charge. In many cases, the new methods have had

great advantages, and can be made to work for the student. Take the proposal to build an addition to E.C. Drury School for the use as a vocational high school for the students in North Halton. This was first proposed early in the year, as a way of getting increased space for students without incurring the cost of a new building.

ACCOMPLISHED GOALS
By building an addition on E.C. Drury School for the Deaf, the board has accomplished several goals. They will be able to use existing facilities, and save on the cost of erecting a totally new building. The students in the northern half of the region will have their rides to school greatly reduced in length.

But in the abstract, the students of E.C. Drury School will have a chance to mix with students their own age in the use of facilities and in after-school activities. It will provide Halton students with an opportunity to learn about being handicapped, and perhaps give them a little more respect for those who have to learn to cope with being different.

The decision to twin Limehouse Public School with Joseph Gibbons School

in Georgetown and Speyside Public School with Robert Little School in Acton was another move made in an attempt to reduce costs, by trimming the administration budget rather than the classroom budget. In each case, a vice-principal took over administrative duties and classroom duties, in lieu of a principal. Parents who originally opposed the idea have adopted a wait-and-see attitude over the program.

The board did not spend the whole of 1978 looking at ways of cutting costs on existing programs or reducing costs on programs being implemented. The board made some revisions in its goals and objectives, and will be devoting the first part of 1979 to examining its long-range and short-term priorities, and possibly re-ordering these priorities.

The purpose of education is being called into question, and nowhere is it more apparent than in the proposal by Howard Wrigglesworth principal Eric Balkind that a course in parenting be instituted in Halton Schools.

The decision as to whether or not the course will be incorporated into the curriculum will depend on two main questions: where the money will come from, and whether or not the teaching to parenting skills should be a concern of the educational system.

While the board administration has not completed its study of the proposal, it appears that other provincial ministries in addition to the ministry of

education such as the ministry of community and social services, could be approached for funds to operate the program on the basis of an ounce of prevention being worth a pound of cure. If students received education on parenting techniques, it might relieve the pressure on social agencies which must deal with the results of poor parenting.

PARENT EDUCATION
The question of whether parent education is a responsibility of the school system is a vastly more emotional issue, with some people coming down hard on the side of the family teaching values, and some believing that certain values traditionally considered concerns of the family are not being dealt with. These people argue that incorporating such issues as sex education and parent education in the curriculum is not interfering with the family, but simply moving into the vacuum in areas parents are not dealing with.

Most of the issues being dealt with by the board right now, particularly those such as negotiations on staffing with its teachers, seem very short-term when compared with the question of the purpose of education, and the limitations as to what will be included in the Halton curriculum. It seems likely the students who pass through the Halton system in the next 20 years will be more affected by what they're taught than by the number of people in the classroom while it's being taught.

YOUR WEEK AHEAD By DAMIS

- Forecast Period - January 7-14
- ARIES** (Mar. 21-Apr. 19) Midweek looks favorable for speculative matters. A general improvement in financial and domestic affairs is likely.
 - TAURUS** (Apr. 20-May 20) Parental relationships are on a more secure footing. Home improvements or real estate dealings should fare well.
 - GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) Wishful thinking becomes reality. Helpful suggestions from a relative or neighbor can be turned to profit.
 - MOONCHILD** (June 21-July 22) Caution in financial dealings is urged at this time. An over-optimistic attitude can be disastrous.
 - LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) More prestige is yours in the days and weeks ahead. This week gives you an idea of better things in store.
 - VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You'd like to give the shirt off your back to one in need. Use discretion. You'll gain much.
 - LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Harmonious social relations bring new interests and people in to your life. Hopes will be fulfilled.
 - SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You may find yourself in the limelight this week, probably in the nature of an honor or promotion on the job.
 - SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Jewels of knowledge are yours. Enlightened understanding brings deep satisfaction. Faith can be your fortune.
 - CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Your credit standing may be at issue. Make sure accounts are in order. A windfall could be on the back burner.
 - AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Prosperous trends bring good returns. Share with mate or partner. Affluence - yours or associates - brings peace of mind.
 - PISCES** (Feb. 19-Mar. 20) Curb the tendency to excess - over working, over eating, over doing in general. Adhere to common sense, good health rules.

Personality Profile: For your Sun-Sign Analysis, send the day, month, year and place of birth plus \$1.00 for postage and handling to: Dr. Damis Starr, PO Box 526, Phoenix, Fla. Florida 32845

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 6 Embrace, 7 Top position, 10 Baseball pitch, 11 Pennsylvania city, 12 Emergency lighting, 13 Temporary star, 14 Street, 15 Doctors' org., 17 Private room, 18 Nabokov novel: 1969, 19 Operetta composer, 21 Slabs, 22 Decaliter: abbr., 24 Luzon tribesman, 25 Places, 26 Ribcuff, 27 Flute: music, 28 Citrus fruit, 29 Actor, 30 Native rock, 31 Youngster, 41 Locomotive, 43 William or Dick, 45 - fix

DOWN: 1 Isolate, 2 Secluded hollow, 3 Snappy, 4 HOWN, 5 Ladybird, 6 Johnson's first name, 7 Parentage, 8 Do sums, 9 Psalm word for pause, 10 Huddling, 11 M.D.'s course, 12 Pullet, 13 Deteriorate, 14 Glandular organ, 15 Signified, 16 Quarrel, 17 Soviet lake, 18 Political body, 19 Soiree sans femmes, 20 Encourage, 21 Dispute, 22 Perfect, 23 Fleed to wed, 24 Fluster, 25 Retiring, 26 Home work, 27 Literary work, 28 Univ. of Mayne site, 29 Conquer, 30 Humorist

Writer urges caution in decriminalizing pot

By GERRY LANDSBOROUGH
Grass, pot, dope, mary-jane... these are the street terms for Cannabis sativa - marijuana. According to recent reports Justice Minister Marc Lalonde will sometime in January introduce a bill for wholesale changes to soften Canada's marijuana laws. Presently conviction of simple possession can carry a maximum fine of up to \$1,000, six months in jail or both.

A recent Gallup Poll commissioned by the Addiction Research Foundation showed that 48 per cent of Canadians believe that possession of small amounts of pot shouldn't be a crime and/or it should be available in government stores like liquor. We support the first half of that statement but are dead against having marijuana available in government stores like liquor. Here's why.

FLOWERING TOP
From the flowering top and the leaves of hemp plant comes marijuana - hashish commonly referred to as hash. It is the dried cake resin produced from tops and leaves of the female plant. A reddish brown oil extract from the plant is also sold under the name of liquid hash or honey oil. The ingredient that produces the mood and perception changes: "The high" is called T.H.C. (tetrahydrocannabinol).

Pot is available everywhere. It's as easy to get here in Georgetown or anywhere else for that matter as going to the corner store for a jug of milk. It is next to impossible to try to tell someone that is a regular pot smoker that is not good for him or her, as a matter of fact the government has been more than negligent in its duty of informing the public in general. For instance the far content of pot is 50 per cent higher than tobacco yet who shouts from the rooftops of the danger of lung disease, bronchitis or lung disease. Alcohol passes through the body in approximately 24 hours but T.H.C. "the high" ingredient in grass remains up to several months what it does isn't known yet but alcohol is found as part of the human body T.H.C. is completely alien to the body.

When the drinking age was lowered (another piece of political stupidity) one Ottawa physician was quoted as saying "we literally told them to drink and get off the pot." The situation somehow backfired.

GREATEST DANGER
The greatest danger in pot as far as we see it in its use during the growing years and the teenage years. When kids use grass as a social cop out they never learn to cope with today's society. Why cope - just take. Years pass in a hazy oblivion, the regular pot smoker does not keep up good grades, does not keep up appearances. They lose energy and urve the mind becomes confused, slow, foggy, thinking and lack of interest in any planned activities. Take the supposed story of the young

mother on pot who put the baby in the oven and the turkey in the crib - true? Who knows but what we do know is pot produces that kind of a haze - its more than possible.

How do you tell a kid at 12 or 13 who feels good taking away that he or she is messing with fire, some youngsters do go on to destroy themselves. To the forming mind, which in its early years doesn't have a heck of a lot in it if the thinking goes something like this - if a joint or two make me feel this good I wonder what the feeling would be with... the list of possibilities is endless: uppers, downers, speed, L.S.D. and those hard core narcotics morphine, and heroin to mention only a few... some kids maybe yours will go on.

Those who argue the harmlessness of pot remind me of the occasional drinker who sips on a glass of wine now and again - how far removed from the heartache and heartbreak of the alcoholic or their families. We are a drug using society that won't change not in our time at any rate but we as custodians of our children's future have to understand the full impact of legalizing yet another "people smasher" into society.

I believe that possession of small amounts of grass should be decriminalized. The large amounts no. Pushers are the lowest form of life on this planet and nothing should be done that will lessen or offer any legal loopholes for them. Because youngsters are ignorant, because the desire to be part of the crowd is so strong, a small amount of grass should not give a criminal record - but

again abuse should still be prosecuted. The number of pot users in their early twenties and late teens that smoke up their own little ones is horrifying "isn't little Johnny so cute when he's high" - personally I'd give the lash to people of such stupidity.

SADDEST THING
The saddest thing that will ever happen to this country and definitely its downfall would be to legalize marijuana. Give the suckers what they want is not the answer. To paraphrase Marie Antoinette "if there's no bread let them smoke up they won't know the difference."

The masses that use alcohol to cope are the same crowd that will abuse pot... isn't one killer enough? Drinking and driving is a deathtrap drinking taking and driving is insanity. Forty six per cent of Canadians apparently want pot legalized that means 46 per cent of the Canadian population is without a thinking mind - do we have to increase the odds?

If you allow your government to legalize marijuana as liquor is now legalized say goodbye to the minds of your children and their children and the country will come tumbling down and frankly no one will notice, no one will even care, our youth will be in a state of mindlessness while everything that was earned so dearly in two great wars goes for naught.

Big Leapers
Some grasshoppers can jump about 20 times the length of their bodies.

New King Variety owners promise popular hand-scooped ice cream



NEW CO-OWNER DAVE ECKFORD

King Variety in Georgetown has a new owner. Dave and Georgina Eckford took over from owner Ted and Helen a month ago and are settling in nicely.

The Eckfords live in Brampton and alternate hours in the store so that one of them can be home to look after their two pre-schoolers while the other is working.

The couple were partners in a similar store in New Toronto about four years ago, but left it and Mr. Eckford went to driving a tractor trailer.

"We wanted to get back into it," Mr. Eckford said, "and we like Georgetown. It's much more friendly here. It was all Korean residents around where our old store was so it's altogether different there now."

The store will continue to be a seven-day-a-week operation open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. but he expects a slight change in hours during the summer.

Among the changes the Eckfords plan to make will be the introduction of hand-scooped ice cream cones in the new year.

"We used to sell 2,000 of them a day in the Toronto store in the summer so we hope to start it here," he said.

He didn't elaborate on the other changes he hopes to make in coming weeks saying only that a few had already been made and there would be others.

Mr. Eckford said that Ted is now working in Brampton selling cars but the couple has not left the community.

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877-5185

REMINDER NOTICE THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS DOG TAGS 1979

This is a reminder that 1979 Dog Tags are now due and available at the following locations:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| MUNICIPAL OFFICES: | 36 Main St. S., Georgetown |
| MORSE PRO HARDWARE | 40 Mill St. E., Acton |
| WIL-PRINT OFFICE SUPPLIES | 22 Mill St. E., Acton |
| ERICS DOMINION HARDWARE | 23 Church St. E., Acton |
| STEVENS GENERAL STORE | Market Centre, Georgetown |
| SPEYSIDE GENERAL STORE | Limehouse, Ontario |
| HOME HARDWARE | Speyside, Ontario |
| | 134 Guelph St., Georgetown |

- LICENSE FEES ARE AS FOLLOWS:**
1. Female or male \$10.00
 2. Spayed female or Neutered male \$7.00
 3. Kennel License \$25.00

In accordance with By-law 74-45 and its amendments, every owner of a dog on or before the 15th day of February of each year, or within 7 days of becoming the owner of a dog after the 15th day of February, shall register each dog with the collector and apply to him for a license and tag for each dog.

Every person who fails to comply with Section 2 or Section 7 of this By-law is guilty of an offense and upon conviction is liable to a fine of not more than Fifty (\$50.00) dollars exclusive of costs, and every such fine shall be recoverable under the provisions of the Summary Convictions Act, R.S.O. 1970.

G.F. Usher, A.M.C.T. Licensing Officer
Town of Halton Hills