



These five lovely ladies were the finalists in the GDHS Snow Queen Pageant Friday night. From left, they are Lisa Burke, Kara Mackie, Chris Edwards, Allison Ritchie and Laura Taras. (Herald photo)

## Chris is a surprised winner in GDHS Snow Queen Pageant

By STEPHEN FROST  
Herald Staff Writer

Chris Edwards, a grade 13 student, is one happy girl this week after winning the Snow Queen Pageant at the Georgetown District High School Friday night.

Miss Edwards told The Herald following her coronation that she was at a "loss for words".

"I never really expected to win", she said. "I entered the contest because it was my last year here, and four other friends had decided to enter as well."

Leanne Mackie, last year's winner, presented Miss Edwards with a bouquet of flowers and crowned her with a tiara at the conclusion of the two and a half hour pageant.

Twelve young ladies entered the pageant: Allison Ritchie, Kara Mackie, Lisa Burke, Laura Taras and Chris Edwards who were the five finalists and Elaine Somers.

**We pay more, province less**

Halton taxpayers may find themselves paying a proportionally higher share of the region's education costs this year due to a reduction in provincial grants to the Halton board of education.

The province is increasing its grant to the board by \$1.9 million this year, but the province's proportion of the education levy will decrease. Where the province had previously paid 51 per cent of the total education bill for the region, this year it will drop to 49 per cent, according to a report from the board's finance committee.

This means the province and municipal taxpayers will be paying about \$49.7 million each of the 1980 budget of \$101.7 million. The rest will come from tuition fees and other sources.

Area Superintendent of finance Barbara Moore said the average tax increase across the region from the 1980 budget would be about 4.7 mills, or \$4.67 for each \$1,000 of assessment.

Moirra Hackshaw, Linda Carson, Ruth Allworth, Cayley Gresswell, Margaret Shubert and Karen Burton.

Allison Ritchie not only became one of the five finalists, but was voted Miss Congeniality by her fellow contestants.

The five finalists finished as follows: Laura Taras, first runner-up, Lisa Burke, second runner-up, Kara Mackie, third runner-up, Allison Ritchie, fourth runner-up and Chris Edwards, Snow Queen.

The finalists were chosen by five judges after the girls had individually "represented" parts of the world they would like to visit. All contestants dressed in the style of dress customarily worn by inhabitants of those areas. Areas represented included Thailand, Japan, France and Italy.

During the second intermission, folksinger Mike Dine entertained the audience with various musical selections, including, appropriately enough, Gordon Lightfoot's song "Beautiful".

The judges faced with the difficult decisions were George Farrow, Kim Haliburton, Madeleine Gassner, Helen Mackay and Scott Mason.

Miss Edwards said she plans to study social work at Sheridan College for two years and is at the present working part-time for the Dairy Queen.

Teacher Bill Bingham, MC for this year's pageant, felt the program went much smoother than last year's and was a good beginning to the school's Winter Carnival Week.



Last year's Snow Queen, Leanne Mackie, offers her congratulations to Chris Edwards, following her coronation as Snow Queen for 1980. (Herald photo)



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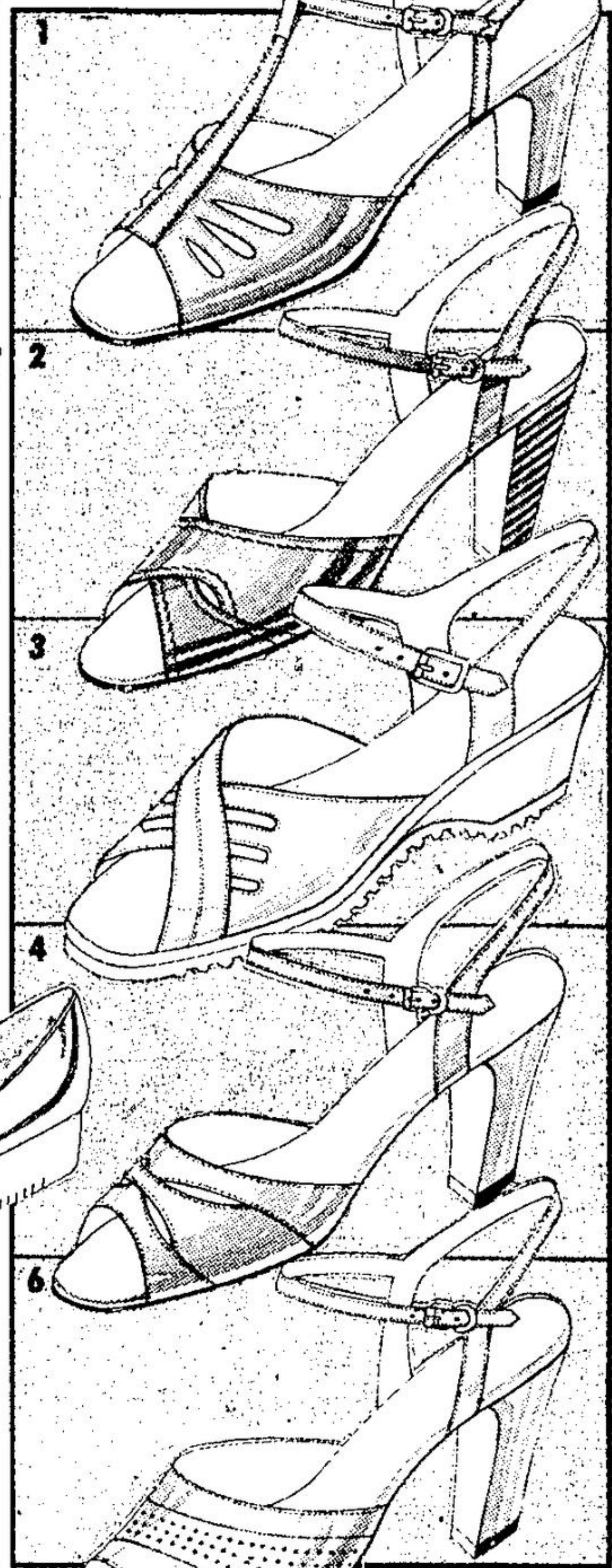
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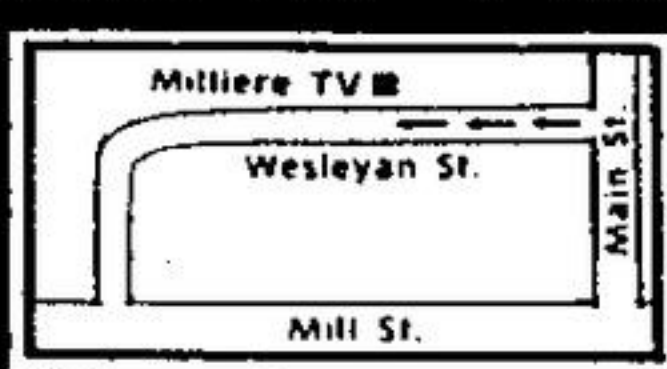
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