

A 'no-name' spirit for GDHS students

By KAREN PAYNE
Herald Correspondent
Georgetown District High School is having a "No-name" spirit week. The activities started Monday and will continue all week to celebrate the coming of summer.

The student council felt that with Christmas Week and Spring Festival, it would be nice to have a week to recognize the good weather. It's no-name week because the students are not honoring anything in particular except the time it's being held.

Activities at the school during the week include a slave day, a hot dog eating contest, a 10 cent donut day and a dance.

Slave day is when students put themselves up for sale. There is a slave auction and other students buy their services for the day.

The slave has to do everything his 'master' ask him, within reason. The dance will be held Friday night at the high school.

Tourism study

From 30 consultants, the region pared it to Peter Barnard Associates to undertake the Halton Tourism Study at a cost up to \$60,000. The study is due by the end of the year and will include four public meetings or workshops.

Standard Products

Car window stripping for domestic cars made in Georgetown

By ANI PEDERIAN
Herald Staff

If you like black licorice, you'll be frustrated when plant superintendent Bill Weir takes you on a tour of the 85,000 square foot Standard Products (Canada) Ltd. building on Georgetown's Guelph Street.

There's scads of what looks like fresh black licorice coming out of khaki colored machines, or lying on wooden racks, just waiting for the licorice lover.

But a squeeze and sniff quickly show the tempting strips to be black rubber, a key component of the weather stripping product Standard Products makes for car manufacturers like General Motors and Ford Motor Company Ltd.

MAJORITY
Weather, or seal stripping makes up 90 per cent of Standard Products' business. But that wasn't always the case for the company that has a 25-year history in Georgetown.

ny's involvement in glassworks.

MADE HERE
If you drive a Century, Chevrolet, Celebrity, Old Sierra or Pontiac 6,000, it's likely the weather stripping inside the car doors and about the window frames were made by Standard Products.

"Your car windows would rattle if you didn't have it (weather stripping) and they would break because they'd be hitting against the metal," Mr. Weir said. To the licorice-like rubber strips are added a steel core and a dusting of polyester fluff called daeron flock. The daeron flock helps keep car windows clean and opening smoothly.

The 131 Standard Products employees also produce stampings, or body cushions, again a product used by the automobile industry. Body cushions are bolted to the car transmission and sit beneath the motor. Basically, they take the vibrations

peak of 225 in 1973. Mr. Weir doesn't see it dropping further in the near future.

"Right now, we're trying to keep our layoffs to a minimum. Providing there's not too great a fluctuation in the auto industry, we're going to try to maintain the staff we have now. We're happy with them," Mr. Weir said.

DEMANDS

In the last seven years, nearly \$2 million has been spent by Standard Products on new machinery and tooling to keep up with the demands of the car industry. It's meant less machinery and workers, especially with the move to rubber injection moulding.

Other changes have been made in terms of safety around the plant. There are car plugs, gloves, aprons, coats and eye glasses supplies to workers. Running shoes, sandals, rings and watches aren't allowed, and safety features have been added to machinery.

"The safety factor is 100 per cent of what it used to be," plant foreman John Reaume, with the company since 1942, said.

Improving the company's quality rating with General Motors, their main customer, is another challenge Standard Products is facing. Right now they have a 2 rating on a scale of 5. Five is the poorest rating.

Standard Products employees are working on a system called "statistical process control" to match the quality work of competing Japanese companies. Machine operators are inspecting the parts they work on to make sure they meet the company's guaranteed size specifications.



CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL ELEVATOR UNDERWAY

Thanks to the initiative of Bob Rumsey and the fund-raising leadership of Jim Broughton as well as the generosity of the community, Georgetown District High School have accomplished a major goal for 1984. The school managed to raise \$21,000 with the help of the Optimist Club and others

so that construction has now started on the elevator for the handicapped. Seen here (left to right) are workmen Robert Millard and Doug Moore, teacher Bob Rumsey, teacher Jim Broughton and principal Don Baker.

(Herald photo)

Liquor okay in some schools: trustees

By ROBIN BAKEWELL
Herald Staff

After a close vote at last week's meeting of the Halton Board of Education it was decided that alcohol could be sold at functions that were taking place at some schools on a trial basis in the Region of

Halton. Halton Hills trustee Dick Howitt who was originally opposed to the idea thought it better to control the situation and added that if it didn't work out he would be the first to oppose.

Mr. Howitt also stated that as a resident of the

north Halton area there is not as many licensed premises as there are in the south.

He also said schools in the more northern part of Halton form a bigger part of the community.

Many board members argued on the basis that they were setting an

example to the students when selling alcohol on school premises. Oakville trustee Pat Hillhouse said she realized the example the board was setting but thought the students could distinguish between the use and abuse of alcohol.

300 students bus to site for commercial acting debut

By ANI PEDERIAN
Herald Staff

Three-hundred Georgetown District High School (GDHS) students took part in a commercial for the Ontario Youth Secretariat yesterday (Tuesday).

The students were bussed out to the bluffs overlooking the Credit River near Terra Cotta, dressed in white track suits, and filmed from helicopters in the air above them.

From that distance, the students in their white track suits were to appear like a giant trillium, the provincial flower.

The commercial, being filmed by Bonguard Films, is to encourage the employment of youth.

CONTACT

GDHS principal Don Baker said the school had been contacted just before Easter by the film company and Foster Advertising.

"We're trying to have program relevance," he said, explaining that the opportunity to take part in the filming wasn't thrown open to the whole school.

Instead, communications media and dramatic arts classes were

given first choice, followed by Grades 12 and 13 students. It was felt they would benefit the most from the experience.

PERMIT

Close-up shots were taken of about a dozen of the young people, requiring they have a work permit from the Actors Guild for the afternoon shooting, Mr. Baker said.

He said the actors' union requires it for close-ups where performers can be recognized.

The advertising agency will be making a sizeable donation to the school, which will give the GDHS fundraising campaign a boost, Mr. Baker said.

Students are now selling magazine subscriptions to raise money for fixing up the GDHS courtyard, getting a new sign for the school and bleachers in the gym.

Mr. Baker said Foster Advertising's donation will go a good way towards the purchase of the bleachers. He noted one set of bleachers costs \$8,000 and GDHS is the only high school in Halton without bleachers for spectators.

Herald feature series
120 years of business in Georgetown

Back in the sixties, the company used to make rear windows for station wagons, vent windows, and door frames for Ford. However, with the consumer shift to hard tops, door frames were no longer needed and, by 1980, Standard Products had also gotten out of making the little half windows for cars.

out of a moving car, Mr. Weir explained.

PROBLEMS
Being closely tied to the automobile industry has its problems.

"Our market really fluctuates," Mr. Weir, a 23-year veteran of the company said. "Since last March we've been doing exceptionally well, but, when the big guys go down, we go down."

Although staff has decreased from the



Weather strippings get clipped by Trudy Shoebridge of Georgetown as foreman Johnny Reaume looks on. The automatic clip machine is one of many machines that produce the weather stripping Standard Products Canada Ltd. supplies to General Motors and Ford Motor Company Ltd. (Herald photo)

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