HALTON HILLS OUTLOOK, Saturday, April 30, 1988 - Page 7 Ambassador addresses high school students

Improving Canada-U.S. relations

By BELINDA SNELL Outlook Special

Guest speaker Ambassador Thomas Niles was warmly welcomed by staff and students of Georgetown District High School Tuesday afternoon when he dropped by to discuss relations between Canada and the United States as a part of the recent Education Week.

High school teacher Tom Ramautarsingh, who recently attended a conference held by Ambassador Niles in Toronto, invited him to speak at the high school in order to help restore and maintain a better understanding of Canada's relationship with the United States among students.

Mr. Niles was first nominated as Ambassador to Canada by U.S. President Ronald Reagan in July of 1985 and was later sworn into office on August 13 of that same year.

In his talk, the Ambassador touched on a series of different topics including the issue of acid rain, NATO and a subject of major interest, free trade.

The first Free Trade Agreement was signed in 1854 but lasted only 12 years when, in 1866, the United States dropped out due to problems with the United Kingdom (Canada was then a British Colony). Mr. Niles feels that this time around the agreement will work as it will provide a reliable framework for the future, in which consumers of both countries will benefit.

"Canada and the United States must prosper as a whole if each individual unit is going to prosper." Mr. Niles stated.

He feels that the United States and Canada must work together in order to achieve any kind of economic prosperity in either of the two countries. He believes that Canada will soon live interdependently which he refers to as "an unavoidable part of life, to come into effect in the near future."

Later in his talk, Mr. Niles remarked that the two governments are currently working together on the issue of acid rain and that the problem should be resolved soon. When questioned by students about events surrounding Watergate and the Iran Contra Scandal, Ambassador Niles confessed that the United States had made many mistakes in the past but that they were at least aware of this and were able to willingly admit it.

Ambassador Niles stressed the importance of being open to the people concerning the countries' fallthroughs rather than trying to hide them and pretend that all is running smoothly when it's not. The U.S. are very concerned about their

Thomas Niles

image and although they are not proud of the fact that they have made considerable mistakes in the past,

they will not deny this fact. Students were surprised how knowledgeable the U.S. Ambassador was about Canadian history and they seemed to be taken in by the Ambassador's interesting and easyto-follow speech.

Many gained from the conference with Ambassador Niles and he seemed pleased by the round of loud applause he received, which echoed throughout the high school cafetorium.

Mr. Niles, however, got more than he bargained for when he walked off stage with a bundle of gifts presented to him by school principal Barbara Singleton. Among these gifts were a collection of Rebel tshirts, caps, buttons, mugs and beer mug holders.

Music teacher Katle Ortolon and

the school Jazz Choir opened and closed the big event by playing a number of songs, and a solo performance was given by high school student Mandy Dean.

After the closing ceremonies were over, the platform party, consisting of Ambassador Niles, Barbara Singleton, Tom Ramautarsingh and high school student Janet Mitton, moved on to the Squash Club, where Ambassador Niles added to his enjoyable day with five games of squash.

Fire route made

Residents of Danicla Court in the Morley Mills Co-op in Georgetown will soon have to make sure their cars are not parked on the street.

The town's General Committee Monday opted to make both sides of Daniela Court no parking zones in order to create a fire route.

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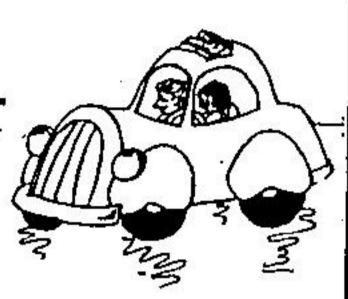
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