

Outlook on Halton Hills

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Hobart receives prestigious honor

By DONNA KELL
Herald Staff

Peter Hobart is the Georgetown boy-next-door who has everything: looks, brains, and an easy-going personality that makes him pleasant to talk to.

And now, he has the coveted Duke of Edinburgh Award awarded to students who excel in all-round achievement.

In a ceremony last week at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto, Prince Philip presented the Gold level of the academic achievement award to 69 Canadian students, including Peter, 19, who attended Appleby College in Oakville and Park Public School in Georgetown.

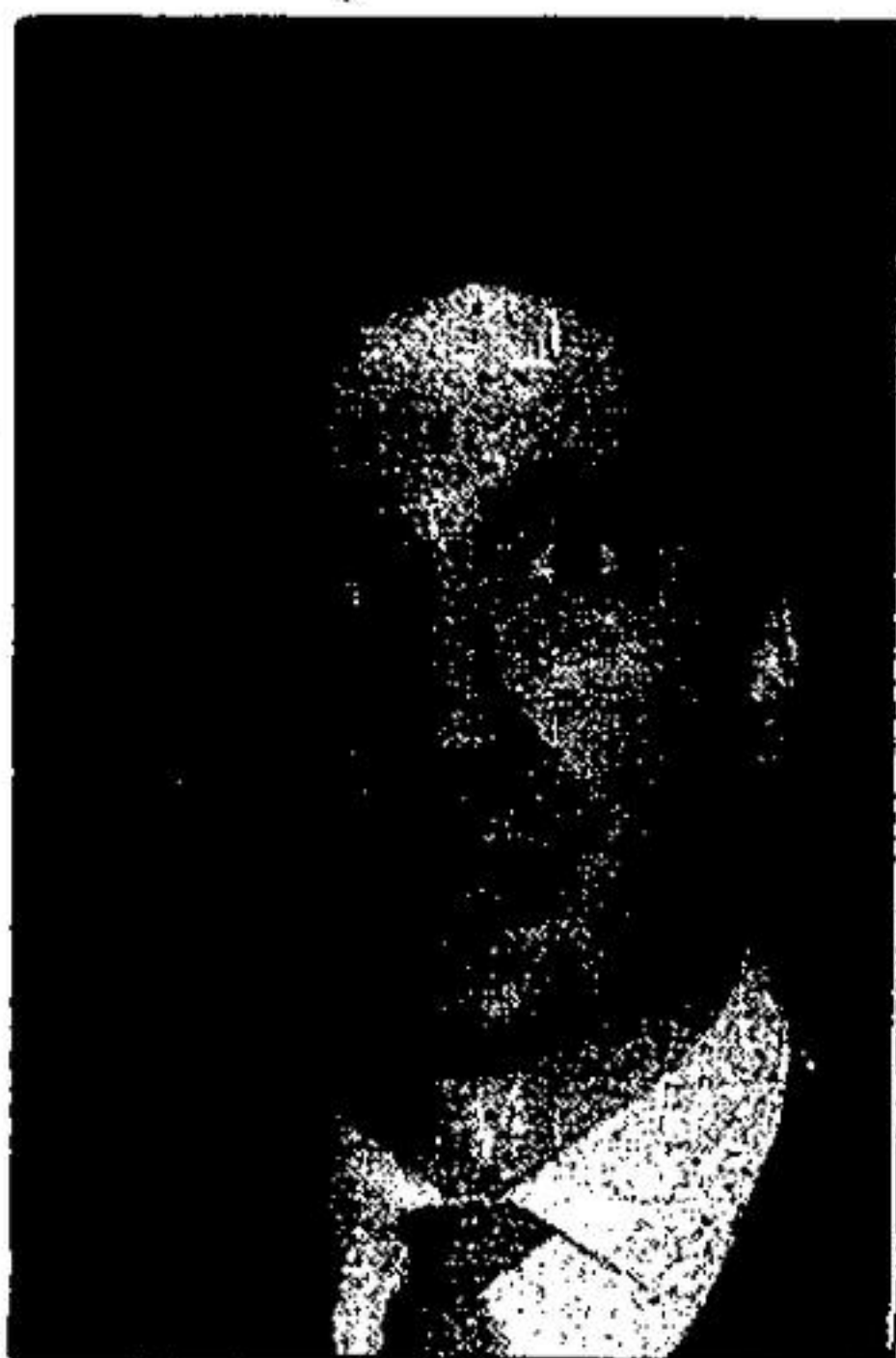
Awards were also issued to bronze and silver winners.

There were five qualifying categories for the award, including physical fitness, residential excursion, community service, skills qualification and expeditionary experience.

Peter met these criteria, mostly through his activities at Appleby College.

The physical criterion was met through Peter's participation in the varsity sports team, playing both football and rugby.

The residential qualification required that a student spend at least seven days and nights away from home at a place where they would be a stranger. Peter stayed with the Dean of Admissions at the University of Colombia in New York City for two weeks. While working toward meeting the award's requirements Peter "also



Peter Hobart

wanted to see universities in the States," he said.

In the category of community service, Peter taught Grades 4 and 5 at Steelesview Public School in Toronto. He met the skills category criterion easily by spending seven years in Appleby College's 440th Regiment Army Cadet Corps.

But the category Peter considers to be "probably the most important one... the most fun (and) the most demanding" is the expeditionary category. The applicant must have spent two weeks "roughing it" in the wilderness.

Peter was involved in Appleby College's Outward Bound program

that took students to Lake Temagami in Northern Ontario. He was an instructor for the program in Grade 12 at the college.

As a result of the exciting news of winning the Duke of Edinburgh Award, Peter will be among 28 students from across the world who will embark on a journey to the North Pole in April. He will leave, along with an Inuit girl from the Northwest Territories, to witness the month-long journey of an eight-man team that will travel from Cape Colombia to the Arctic Circle.

The 900-km, 60-day voyage will be documented by camera crews, including the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC), said Peter, who discovered he was accepted on the Arctic excursion shortly after he found out about winning the Gold award.

"It was Christmas eve and I was working (at Belamy's Restaurant on Guelph Street) when I got the call, saying I had been accepted," he said.

Peter looks forward to "learning to live away from the luxuries of the civilized world" on his trip to the Arctic, but will pursue a career in law when he returns to the civilized world in May.

He has applied to several universities as an undergraduate law student.

Although excited about winning the Duke of Edinburgh Award, Peter maintains that he wasn't shocked.

"When I found out I had won, I was just happy there had been no hitches," he said.

Proposed clean-up will be expensive

A proposed provincial initiative designed to clean up the environment will be very expensive, Halton's public works commissioner says.

The Municipal Industrial Strategy for Abatement (MISA) now being considered by the province could cost Halton taxpayers \$1.5 million in annual operating costs on top of \$3.2 million in capital expenditures, said Robert Moore.

Although the province has offered to help pay for the new program, local municipalities will play a much larger role in maintaining a clean environment if the MISA program is adopted by the province.

Through MISA, the province wants to stop industries from discharging toxic contaminants into the municipal sanitary sewer system, and to control municipal treatment plant discharges and any discharges into the storm sewer system.

The first phase of MISA, is an at-

tempt to eliminate virtually all toxic discharges into Ontario's waterways, Mr. Moore said.

The first phase alone is likely to cost Halton \$800,000 in operating costs and another \$900,000 in capital expenditures, he said.

However, Halton and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, are objecting to a proposal that would designate municipalities as the first line of enforcement of the new measures. That would leave Regions opened to law suits and the financial burden of paying fines if the regulations aren't strictly enforced, said Mr. Moore.

Halton wants the province to assume responsibility for ensuring compliance of the sewer use control program and to leave it up to municipalities if they want to opt into the new program.

The Region also wants the province to pay the enforcement of the program with private industries paying their share through a user pay system.

OPP warn motorists

Inconsistent weather patterns this winter could pose a hazard to Ontario drivers the Easter holiday weekend.

"Drivers should always take the elements into consideration and drive accordingly," said Insp. Bill Wicklund, Ontario Provincial Police traffic and marine section. Keeping headlights on during the day is another safety measure

drivers should take. Temperature changes can cause fog patches, and although having your headlights on during the day will not help you see, it will help you be seen.

Last year, six people died in six fatal accidents on the Easter holiday weekend.

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Rural homes to be numbered

Rural homeowners in Halton Hills will soon have a different kind of address.

Halton Hills councillors decided last week to implement the rural numbering system to make it easier for emergency vehicles to find houses in the far corners of the town.

Under the rural numbering system, each house not located in a hamlet, such as Stewarttown, or Glen Williams, will be given a metal plate with a number on it. The homeowner then attaches the plate in a highly visible area such as a mailbox, a fencepost or a tree.

All the numbers will be registered with the fire department, police and ambulance. That way, instead of having to dig out lot and concession numbers, emergency service vehicles will be able to pinpoint the address much quicker, town planner Glen Wellings says.

Currently, Halton Hills is the only municipality in the Region which doesn't have the rural numbering system, said Mr. Wellings.

The town is also considering distributing small telephone stickers with the metal plates.

The program shouldn't be expensive to implement because homeowners will pay for the metal plates, although no cost has yet been identified, said Mr. Wellings.

The town hopes to have the metal plates distributed later this year, but a series of public meetings will

be held to explain the system before it's implemented.

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NOTICE to Acton Indoor Pool Users:

Due to maintenance repairs, by the Board of Education, at the Acton Indoor Pool (McKenzie-Smith Middle School) the pool will be closed March 27th to April 9th. The pool will reopen for the Spring Session on April 10th.

Registrations for non-aquatic Recreation Programs are still being taken during office hours, Monday to Thursday, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Aquatic Registration:

Saturday, April 1st, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

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