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Georgetown Welcome Wagon hostess, Debbie Butler, arrived with a basket of special gifts from Georgetown businesses to celebrate Georgetown couple, Ken and Sue Disley's adoption of two Romanian children Thursday night. The couple just came back from Romania where they undertook the adoption procedure on their own. (Herald photo by Lisa Boonstoppel-Pot)

Georgetown couple adopts two Romanian babies

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT
The Herald

Six weeks ago, Sue Disley of Georgetown donned a lab coat and assumed the role of a doctor's assistant so she could get inside a children's home in Romania and catch a glimpse of the toddler, who is now her adopted son.

Now, home a week after their six-week stay in Romania, Sue and her husband Ken Disley of Rexway Drive, reflect on the lengths they went to adopt not only two-year-old Gordon, but also a second son, three-month-old Doug.

While Gordon crawls from one

toy to another, throwing pieces all over the floor and Doug contentedly sucks on his bottle, Mr. Disley talks about the pain and desperation the couple felt last summer when Sue miscarried after an invitro-fertilization process. The couple had been trying for six years to conceive after their marriage in 1984.

Realizing they may never have a child of their own, the couple decided to adopt.

"We knew it would take a long time to adopt a child from Canada, so we decided to start the process of international adoption," said Mr. Disley.

The process begins with a

home-study, which the couple started in December 1990. The Disley's hired a counsellor, approved by the provincial government, to write a review about the couple and their lifestyle which must be submitted to the province which either denies the couple the right to adopt or replies that it does not object.

Mrs. Disley said because she and her husband believe that children need siblings, they wanted to adopt two children at once and it took a bit of persuasion to convince the counsellor of this. By the end of February this year, however, the couple learn-

Continued on Page 8

Weapons seized by police deemed prohibited by judge

Over two dozen machine guns that were seized from a Limehouse business last year were deemed prohibited by a Provincial court judge in Milton Monday and will be disposed of.

In a precedent-setting decision, Judge Douglas Latimer determined that nine complete semi-automatic machine guns and 14 machine gun frames and receivers could easily be converted to fully-automatic weapons, which are considered prohibited weapons under the Criminal Code of Canada.

The weapons, Heckler and Kosh MP5-A3 rifles, were seized from Collector's Source, a Limehouse firearms and military memorabilia dealership, in

January 1990 after Halton Regional Police were tipped off by the RCMP.

The machine guns are manufactured as fully-automatic weapons but were converted to semi-automatic rifles before being shipped to Canada, said Sergeant Keith Woudstra of the Halton Regional Police.

The weapons hadn't been changed back to their fully-automatic state but were seized because police believed they could too readily be re-converted to fully-automatic weapons.

This belief was corroborated by an arms expert at the trial who told Judge Latimer the weapons could be easily reconstructed,

said Sergeant Woudstra. As fully-automatic weapons, the rifles are capable of firing 800 round per minute.

Detective Sergeant Mike Eacrett of the Halton Regional Police, said the case is an important one because police forces across Ontario, and Quebec are proceeding with similar investigations and may use this case as a precedent.

He said no charges are pending against the owner of Collector's Source because "he had no intent to commit a criminal offence."

Since the weapons did pass through British Columbia and Canadian government inspections, the owner didn't realize he was even committing a criminal offence, said Det. Sgt. Eacrett.

Police investigate abuse reports

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT
The Herald

Three former students of Ernest C. Drury School for the deaf in Milton have come forward and reported they were sexually and physically abused by school staff, revealed Detective Sergeant Michael Eacrett of the Halton Regional Police Force.

The sexual assaults, involving sexual intercourse, allegedly occurred between 1972 and 1981 said Det. Sgt. Eacrett.

Three females who have come forward so far are all deaf or hearing impaired and were between 15 and 17 years old at the time of the reported assaults.

Halton Regional Police first became aware of the allegations last Thursday when one of the former students filed a complaint. Two more complaints were forwarded to Halton Police by the London Police Force who are investigating similar allegations at the Robarts school in

London. Two Robart students stated they were sexually abused at E.C. Drury dating back to 1972.

Both police forces, along with the Ministry of Community and Social Services, are investigating the reports. So far, two former members of the E.C. Drury staff, who had been transferred to Robarts, have been suspended with pay. Another former E.C. Drury teacher, now employed elsewhere by the Ministry of Education, has also been suspended.

Det. Sgt. Eacrett said the investigation will take several weeks. Police are now reviewing all occurrences of sexual and physical abuse the have taken place at the school since 1971. "The majority of our records contain assaults of students on students," he said. "We're investigating to see if there is a connection."

Education Minister, Marion Boyd, announced Friday that a probe had begun into complaints of abuse at the Robarts School. She said there was some indication that other provincial schools may be involved and because of that, records have been seized from five provincial schools for the deaf and blind.

E.C. Drury School for the Deaf operates out of an adjoining building to E.C. Drury High School on Ontario Street South in Milton and has about 250 hearing impaired students aged five to 20.



Willow Park protest

Willow Park trailer camp residents were out in force Saturday protesting the Credit Valley Conservation Authority's decision to serve eviction notices on the residents as of today (Wednesday). The CVCA position is based on the fact the Authority has

declared the Willow Park trailer camp to be on the Credit River flood plain and therefore, the residents lives would be in danger should a natural disaster - flooding - occur. (Herald photo)

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