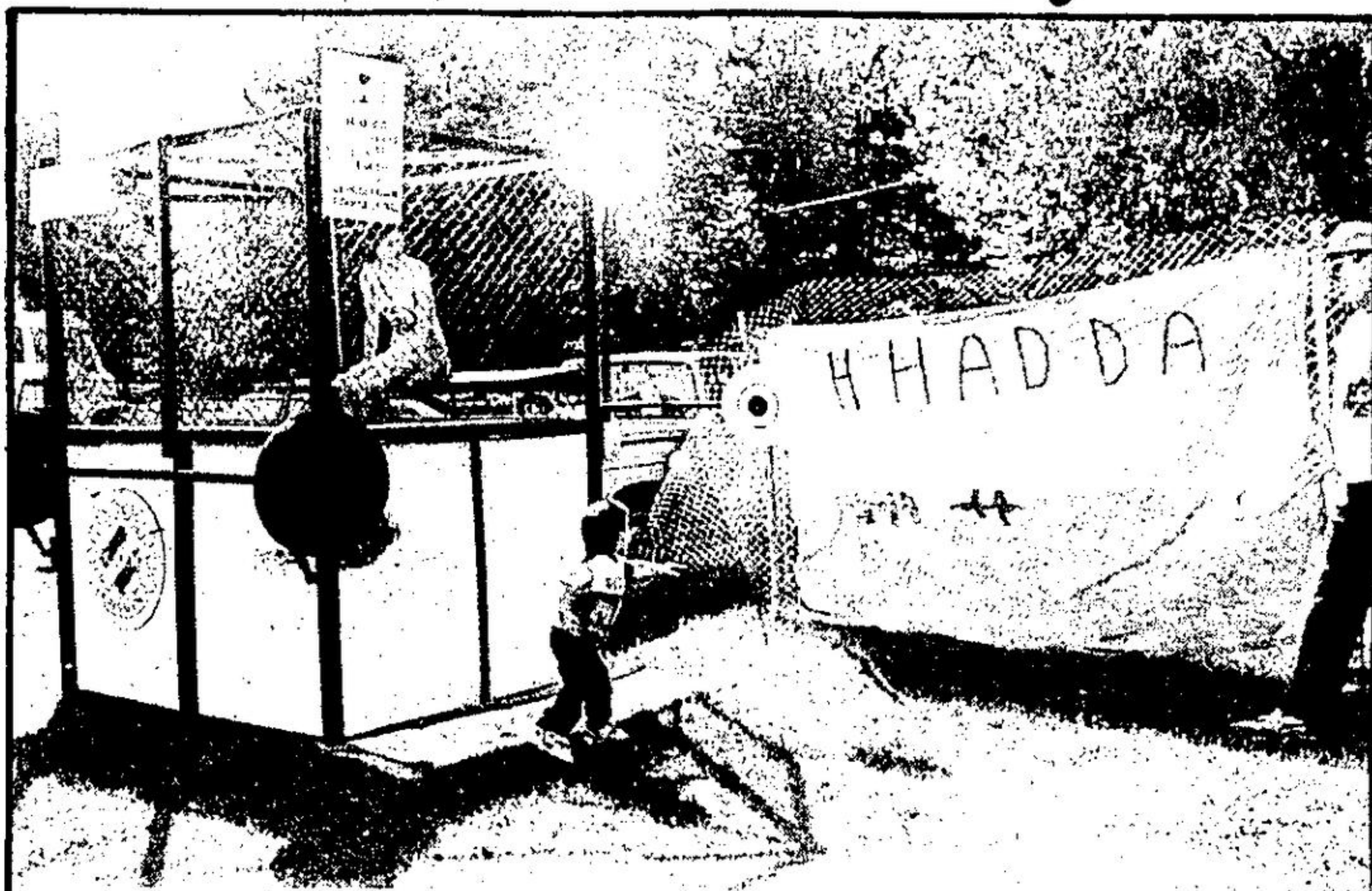


Community



Ready, aim, fire

Little Guy David Jerry Moldawan of Alberta, Canada, got up nice and close to the Halton Hills Anti-Drinking and Driving Association (HHAAD-DA) dunking booth at Bang-O-Rama to make sure he wouldn't miss the target that would send Bonnie

MacLean of Guelph splashing into the water. David was having a grand time in Ontario at Bang-O-Rama and at his grandmother's place, Ruth Beckenhower, who was celebrating her 50th birthday Sunday. (Herald photo)

Image of just society depends on where you live

Do you think you are living in a just society? The answer could depend on whether you live in town or in the country, in a high-rise apartment or - maybe most important of all - whether you have been a recent victim of crime. Statistics Canada surveyed some 10,000 Canadians age 15 and over in 1988 to find prevailing attitudes about crime, police enforcement of the law and the efficiency of the court system. Following are just a few of the findings.

- A full quarter of Canadians said they felt unsafe walking alone in their own neighbourhood at night, a 1988 Statistics Canada survey showed. This feeling of apprehension stood at 40% for all women and 55% for elderly women living in urban areas.

- A 1988 Statistics Canada survey showed urban residents were more likely than those in rural communities to think the rate of crime in their area was higher than elsewhere. They had good reason. Urban dwellers reported 40% more personal criminal victimization and 70% more crime against households than did residents in rural areas.

- People who have recently been victims of crime tend to believe crime is on the rise in their neighbourhood, according to a 1988 Statistics Canada survey. A full 15% of those in the survey who had been crime victims felt crime was increasing compared with just 6% among those who had not.

- Persons who were separated or divorced (particularly women), living in high-rise apartments or on low incomes perceived crime to be higher in their

dwelling area than in other areas, according to a Statistics Canada survey in 1988. The result suggests these categories have a higher than average risk of violent victimization.

- Asked about measures taken in the previous 12 months to protect themselves from crime, one-quarter of households reported putting in new locks, burglar alarms or window bars, according to a 1988 Statistics Canada survey on crime and the justice system. About 5% of households changed telephone numbers.

- Participants in a 1988 Statistics Canada survey were asked whether, in their opinion, police were doing a good job in four main areas. Sixty per cent gave them a "good job" rating for law enforcement. Police got "good job" ratings from 50% of those surveyed on the question of responding to calls, from 66% on being approachable and from 56% on supplying crime prevention information.

- The proportion of positive opinions expressed on how well police do their work tended to increase with the age of the respondents, according to a 1988 Statistics Canada survey. Persons under 25 were least likely and those over 45 most likely to give police a favorable rating.

- Criminal courts did not rate highly in a 1988 Statistics Canada survey of performance in four major categories. While 44% of survey participants felt courts did a "good job" of protecting the rights of accused persons, just 25% gave the courts a similar rating for determining guilt. 16%

for helping the victim and 14% for providing justice quickly.

- A solid majority of participants (65%) in a 1988 Statistics Canada survey gave the opinion that sentences given out in criminal courts were not severe enough. About 25% believed sentences were about right and only 2% felt them to be too severe.

For further information, contact Media Relations (613) 951-4636, Communications Division, Ottawa, K1A 0T6.

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CRIME STOPPERS



The Halton Regional Police Service in Oakville and Crime Stoppers of Halton are requesting your assistance in identifying the person responsible for damaging 15 new and used cars at Kennedy Ford in Oakville.

Sometime during the nights of Thursday and Saturday, the 28th and 29th of March, 1991, an unknown person damaged these vehicles by making large, deep scratches in the paint surface. The used car lot which faces onto

Lakeshore Rd. was struck, as well as the new car lot, which faces onto Rebecca St. in Oakville.

The total cost to repair the vehicles was in excess of \$8,000.

If you have any information that leads to an arrest in this or any other offence, you may be eligible for a cash reward. You need not give your name and your call will be treated with complete anonymity. Please call 1-800-668-5151.



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