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GDHS grads reap rewards SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Michael Bosman	\$800.	Entrance Scholarship, McMaster University Bachelor of Physical Education
Sheril Cave	\$500.	A.M. Wilson Searle Scholarship
Bob DeZeeuw	\$1500.	Admission Scholarship, University of Western Ontario
Mark Micklethwalte	\$8000.	York University Renewable Entrance Scholarship
Diana Morrow	\$2000. \$2000.	Queen's Honour Matriculation Canada Scholarship
Lisa Numan	\$1600.	Presidential Scholarship from Redeemer College
Heather Santsche	\$1500.	Tuition, Atlas Alloys
Nick Varrlechlo	\$100.	Arts Scholarship Award, University of Waterloo
Curtis Withers	\$4000./ 4 yrs.	Carleton University (Journalism)

AMY PEARCE AWARD - presented by the Rotary Annes of Georgetown for proficiency in six O.A.C. level courses
Julie Hancock

HALTON BOARD OF EDUCATION AWARD - to a graduate for high proficiency in six O.A.C. level courses.
Kristen Voegell

UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CLUB OF GEORGETOWN AWARDS - to two graduates who have shown leadership in school and community activities and who are now pursuing studies at university.
Mark Micklethwalte
Diana Morrow

HALTON WOMEN TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - to a female graduate pursuing studies in mathematics, science or technology. The award is dedicated to the memory of the young women tragically killed in Montreal on Dec. 6, 1989.
Diana Morrow

1987 CENTENNIAL PHYSICS SCHOLARSHIP - for outstanding achievement in the Physics O.A.C. to a graduate continuing studies of engineering or physical sciences at university.
Diana Morrow

STANDARD PRODUCTS AWARDS - for excellent achievement in:
(i) Communications - proficiency in English and one other language at the O.A.C. level.
Diana Morrow

(ii) Social Science at the O.A.C. level.
Tammy Davidson

(iii) Art - exhibiting ability in a variety of art media
Sonja Wassermann

MADARASZ CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC AWARD - for proficiency in two O.A.C. science courses to a graduate considering a career in the health care field.
Kelly Cotton

MAURICE CHARLES HILLOCK MEMORIAL AWARD - for highest proficiency in French after four years of study.
Kelly Cotton

A.M. BAXTER PLAQUE - to the outstanding student in the O.A.C. level sciences.
Ken Sun

FACULTY OF G.D.H.S. SCHOLARSHIP & GOVERNOR GENERAL'S MEDAL - to the graduate who has achieved the highest proficiency in six O.A.C. level courses.
Diana Morrow

HYMAN SILVER MEMORIAL AWARDS - given in memory of Hyman Silver to two graduates for proficiency in six O.A.C. level courses.
Ken Sun
Barry Ewing

J.L. LAMBERT PROFICIENCY AWARD - given by the staff and former students in honour of Mr. Lambert's service to G.D.H.S. as Principal from 1935 to 1965. It is awarded to a graduate for high proficiency and school citizenship.
Kelly Cotton

MARGARET HIGHAM AWARD - presented by the Kinette Club of Georgetown for excellent school citizenship and high proficiency in six O.A.C. level courses.
Michael Warbeck

JOHN ELLIOTT AWARDS - to graduates who have shown exceptional involvement and achievement in the performing arts (music, dance, drama) in school and in the community, while achieving good scholastic standing.
Mark Micklethwalte
Holly Verhaegen

SWEET ADELINES MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP - to a graduating student in Halton for outstanding achievement in the area of vocal music.
Holly Verhaegen

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AWARD - to a student who has demonstrated superior skills in the English O.A.C.
Michelle de Braux

Alternative education survey distributed in Halton Hills

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT
The Herald

In its quest to assess community reaction to alternative education, Georgetown District Christian School (GDCS) is distributing a survey to over 17,000 Halton Hills residents.

"The purpose of the survey is to find out if the public feels threatened by alternative schools or if they believe their time has come," explained Art Loveless, chairman of the GDCS Board of Directors.

He and Treena Sybersma, principal of GDCS, believe in alternative schools such as GDCS and have three goals: to increase awareness of alternative education, assess community opinion of alternative education and to support the concept of partial government funding for alternative schools.

The two discussed the rationale behind the creation of the survey and their ideas about education with the Herald Thursday night.

"In the interest of broadening the option of alternative schools to low income families, we propose the concept of partial government funding," said Mr. Loveless. GDCS is like other alternative schools in that parents cover the cost of educating their children - an expense not often affordable for lower income families.

Currently, alternative schools like GDCS receive absolutely no educational funding from the government, unlike Roman Catholic Separate schools which are completely funded.

"We believe partial funding of our schools would reduce the overall cost to the Ministry of Education in the long-term," he said. "The cost of teaching students in GDCS is 60 per cent of what it costs to teach a student in the public school system and as more and more parents send their children to alternative schools, government education costs would decrease."

What he and many other alternative education supporters don't want is full funding.

"Full funding usually means full control," said Mrs. Sybersma who explained the whole concept of alternative schools is based on a parental desire for quality education which is based upon a clearly stated philosophy. This permits specific values to be taught.

Another reason GDCS doesn't want full funding is because the board believes in responsible government.

"Full funding would be a drain on government coffers," he stated. Mr. Loveless and Mrs. Sybersma aren't alone in supporting alternative education and partial government funding.

There is a provincial organization called 'The Coalition for Religious Freedom in Education' which was formed in 1989 with the goal of "promoting justice, equality and fairness in the treatment of diverse ideological and religious views and communities represented in the Ontario education scene," as stated in a pamphlet distributed by the coalition.

There is also a political party, the Family Coalition Party, which supports partial government funding to independent schools believing it will reduce education costs and enhance the quality of education in Ontario.

Even still, Mr. Loveless admits it wasn't easy to convince some GDCS board members to support the idea of a community survey.

"It took quite a bit of selling



ART LOVELESS

within our own board because the survey isn't something that directly promotes our school," said Mr. Loveless. "We realize this is a novel thing to do."

If the results of the survey are positive and used as part of a political campaign to pressure the government for partial funding, it will indeed benefit other alternative schools which have the same agenda.

Mr. Loveless has stated the results of the survey are "one more piece of information to substantiate the worthiness of our cause."

Mrs. Sybersma said the survey was the brainchild of Mr. Loveless. "He has a large vision. He sees education as a justice issue."

Despite the issues, both administrators say their ultimate goal is to promote parental involvement in alternative education.

"When a group of people have the same ideas and values, it makes sense to form an alternative school rather than strip all value systems out of public schools," said Mr. Loveless. "We believe the removal of moral and spiritual elements from education isn't healthy for children."



TREENA SYBERSMA

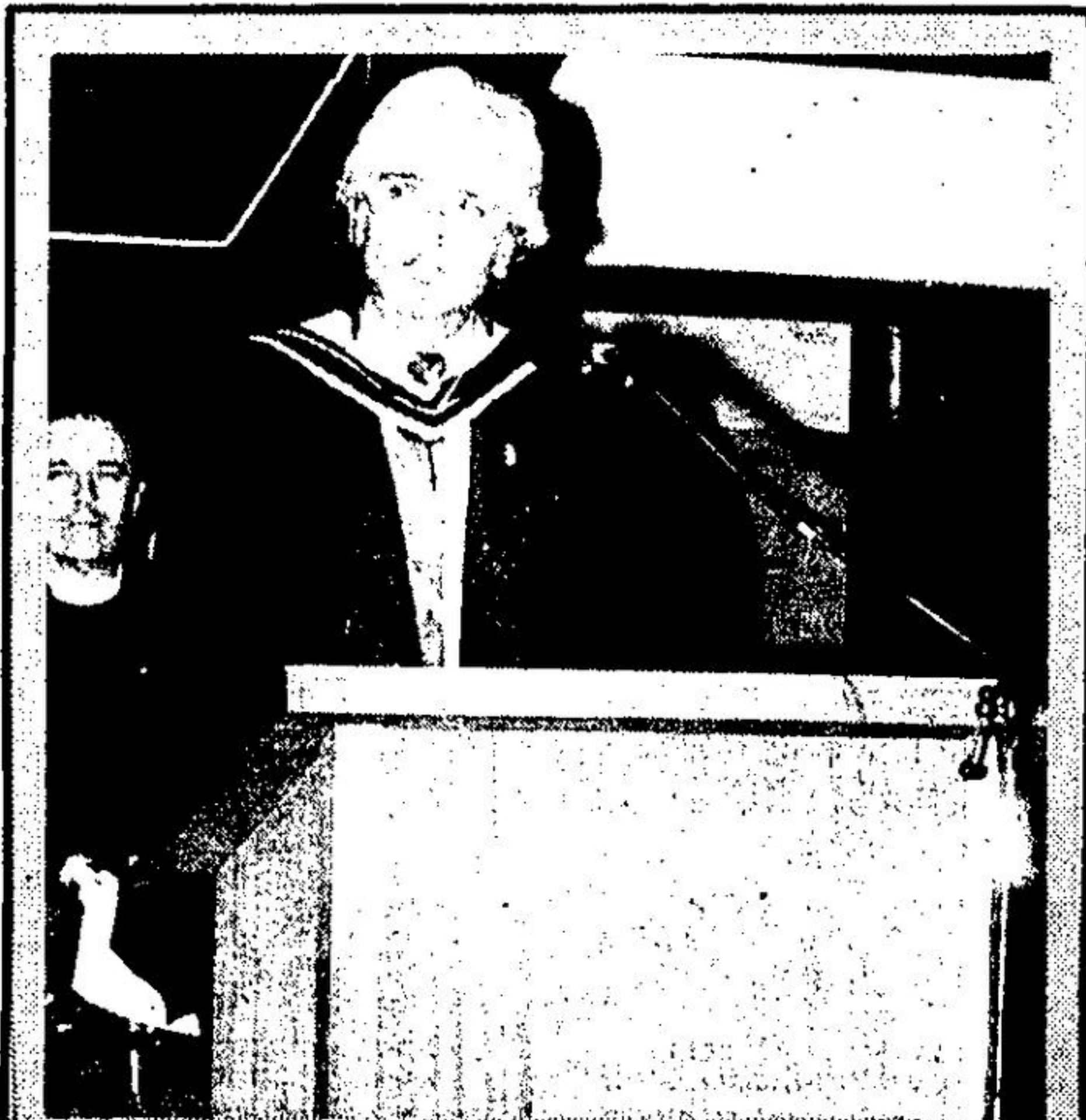
They're also concerned with the governments' current trend of doing just that and what they perceive as the threat of parents losing their rights when it comes to their children's education.

"If parental rights are removed, you're left with the state's rights which can be rather frightening," he said.

The surveys are already in the mail and contain 11 questions which are basically aimed to assess the attitude of the public toward education in general. Residents are asked if they believe in the creation of alternative schools with a distinct philosophy, what type of schooling they choose, and if alternative schools should be funded, among other questions.

The answers will be compiled in February and a copy will be made available to anyone who requests it for a \$2 fee.

Georgetown District Christian School is an inter-denominational Christian school which was founded in 1965 to provide elementary education based on a Christian philosophy of life. The school is governed by a board of directors which is elected by parents and supporters of the school.



Principal address

GDHS Principal Bryn Davies addresses the graduating class of 1991 at the annual GDHS Commencement Friday evening. In his address, he commented on how the times are changing and the graduating students must face these changes with confidence and determination. (Herald Photo)