

Georgetown Marketplace Mall opens Tuesday

This Tuesday Halton Hills shoppers will finally get the chance to check out the long awaited indoor mall in Georgetown.

Doors at the \$13 million Georgetown Marketplace will open at 10 a.m., festivities marking the grand opening will begin at 11 a.m. in the centre court with Mayor Russ Miller officiating at the ribbon cutting ceremony. A town crier will provide the formal opening proclamation and free balloons will be handed out to all the children.

A variety of activities are planned through Saturday Sept. 5.

Elaine Turkington, mall manager, says there has been a lot of community interest in the new mall, which has been planned for sev-

eral years. "We are all very excited about the opening of the centre," said Turkington. "It has been a long time coming. There has been a true indication that people have been really waiting for more services and stores in Georgetown."

Turkington says about 70 per cent of the mall's 60 stores will be open for business that day. Along with many of the mall's original tenants several new merchants have set up shop there. Some of the new stores include Coles Book Store, Into



Opening September 1

Fashions, Pita Pazzaz, Sears Catalogue Store, Woolco, Romeo Men's Fashions and others.

Turkington says many of the stores that won't be quite ready to open on Sept. 1 should open in a week or two.

Stores scheduled to open later include Baskin and Robbins, Outback Amusements, Northern Getaway, Hakim Optical, Bata and Kid-U-Company.

Activities planned for opening week in the mall's centre court include performances from 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. by Polka Dot Door

Wednesday, Slam Dunk Basketball Dare Devils with pro players and audience participation on Thursday, Blue Jays mascot B.J. Birdie signing autographs on Friday, and Route 66 entertainers taking centre stage on Saturday.

Turkington says the mall will be holding a draw on Sept. 14. The grand prize winner will take home a 1992 Volkswagen Fox valued at \$11,800 from Autohaus Georgetown, second prize is a \$500 shopping spree and third prize is a free club membership to Work that Body.

Entry ballots were in the Independent/Free Press' Georgetown Marketplace supplement in Wednesday's paper, extras are available at the mall.

HALTON HILLS

WEEKEND

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News

Digest

Bicycle and car collide

Police are investigating an accident that occurred at the intersection of Maple Ave. and Market St. at 3:10 p.m. Tuesday. The accident involved a 30-year-old Belwood man driving a truck, and an 18-year-old Limehouse girl on a bicycle.

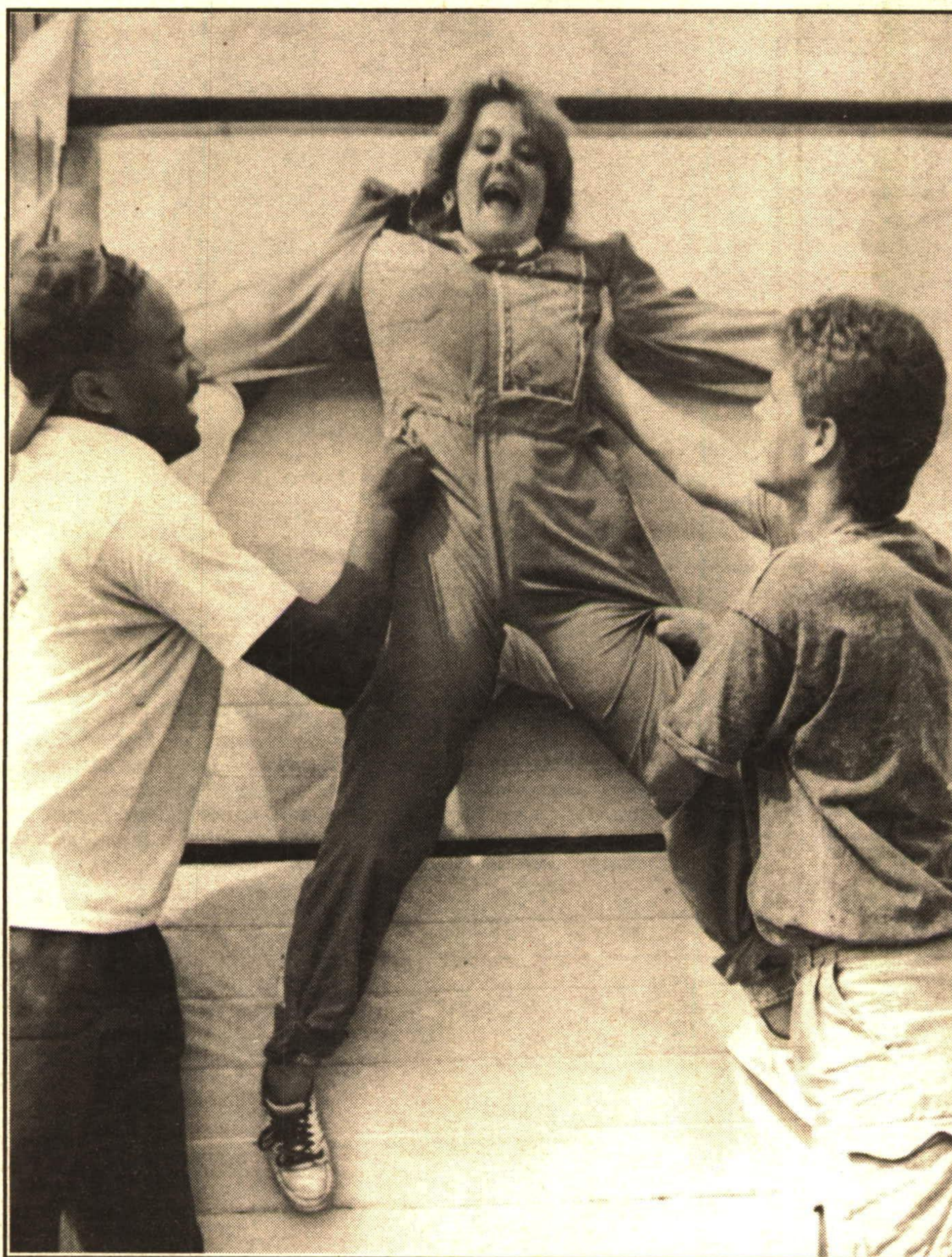
Police say the truck driven by the Belwood man was stopped at a stop sign on Market St. at the Maple Ave. intersection. Police say the man began edging forward to see the oncoming traffic when he was struck by the cyclist who was riding too fast to stop. The cyclist was taken to Peel Memorial Hospital by ambulance, treated for bruises, cuts, scratches and released.

Free parking

At the request of Halton Hills town councillor Anne Currie, Georgetown's downtown parking meter fees have been lifted after 6 p.m. every day. Currie argued that rates which only apply between 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., except on holidays, is reasonable, and will benefit the downtown core. Councillors quickly agreed to the request Monday night.

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Ahhhhhhhhh!

Lisa Murray, the 1991-92 Halton Dairy Princess gets a hand from Velcro jumping attendants, Keith Samuel and Sean Forbes. Velcro jumping is one of the attractions in the Human Adventure area, just inside this year's Canadian National Exhibition's Princess Gates. Lisa was competing in the Ontario Dairy Princess competition at the CNE. Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Town warned: prepare now for population

By STUART JOHNSTON

Staff writer

Halton Hills will be facing "tremendous pressures" for development in the years to come as population levels within the region go through the roof, councillors were told Monday.

Ray Simpson of Hemson Consulting Ltd. explained to local politicians that as people continue to pour into the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) over the next 20 to 40 years, Halton Hills will be forced to provide new homes and jobs to accommodate them.

He urged them to plan for this contingency as soon as possible, and not follow Mississauga's example of "incremental," or piecemeal, planning.

"In reality, you choose to live within the GTA, so you will be facing this kind of pressure," he said. "The worst thing you could do is pretend it doesn't exist and build a wall around this place. It would be much better to put a plan in place to deal with it in case it crops up."

Simpson noted the GTA's population grew by 500,000 people between 1986 and 1991 - 100,000 per year - and that rate is either going to hold steady or climb in the years to come. He said over 36 per cent of the country's population is centred within the GTA, but land is running out in many of the higher populated areas such as Metro Toronto. He predicted Halton's population will more than triple to over one million within 30-40 years.

"Population growth is occurring in one or two major urban areas in each country throughout the world...and Halton Hills is sitting in the middle of the fastest growth in Canada," he added. "You are going to see a significant upsurge in the housing market, and there will be a greater growth pressure on Halton....You'd better start doing planning for it now. If we're serious about preserving green fields and long-term agriculture, we must do it now."

See CONSULTANT SCOFFS, page 5

Halton's population will more than triple to over one million within 30-40 years.

WEEKENDS



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