

High school students shocked by death of classmate

Jeremiah Fendley, a 17-year-old, Grade 11, Georgetown District High School student died at Georgetown hospital Thursday morning after collapsing during a volleyball game at school.

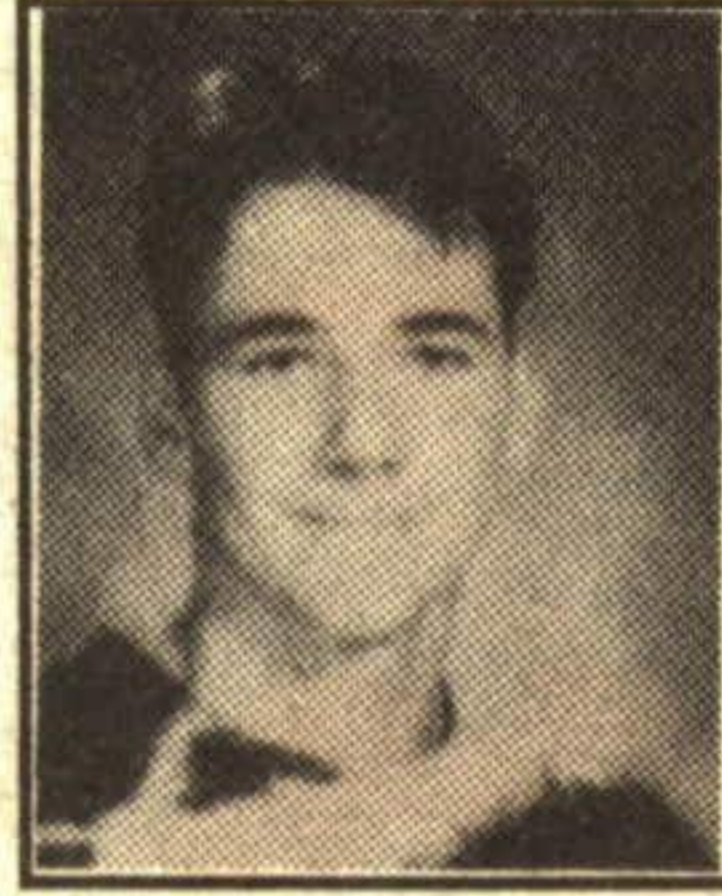
A spokesperson for the hospital says (at press time) the cause of death is unknown and an autopsy was done Friday.

Fendley died at 11:55 a.m. after being brought into the hospital by ambulance at 11:15 a.m. Fendley was in poor condition when he arrived and attempts to resuscitate him failed.

Brian Woodland, communications officer for the Halton Board of Education, said Fendley collapsed at about 11 a.m. while playing ball.

GDHS principal Bryn Davies said two teachers Jim Hall, head of the school's phys. ed. department who was in the room at the time, and Jay Anderson, also Fendley's hockey coach, applied CPR. An ambulance arrived soon after the collapse.

Davies said there was "no obvious cause"



JEREMIAH FENDLEY

for Fendley's death.

"Four members of the Tragic Events Response Team arrived at the school and set up a counselling area for the students," said Woodland.

"This has a tremendous impact on the students at the school."

Woodland said the Open Door drop in centre at St. George's Anglican Church stayed open later than usual Thursday for students.

"Jeremiah was very popular. He had lots

of friends and will be really missed. A lot of people are grieving," said Davies.

A memorial service was held for Fendley Friday morning in the front foyer of the school.

Jeremiah is survived by parents, Bob and Paula Fendley, and grandparents Violet Semple, John and Angela DeOliviera and great grandmother Lillian Ward.

Funeral services will be held today (Sunday) at 2 p.m. at J.S. Jones and Son Funeral Home in Georgetown. Interment at Glen Williams Cemetery.

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WEEKEND

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News

Digest

Restaurant rezoning

Plans to convert a Mill and Wilbur St. home in Acton into a restaurant was reviewed during a brief public meeting Monday night. Owner Steven Brunelle is hoping to rezone his property to allow a small restaurant that will fit about 30 people. While no objections were given to the planning department, senior planner Andrew Colley noted that there is a shortage of adequate parking spaces. A neighboring resident also suggested that bushes on the Brunelle property be removed to give a better view of traffic when entering or exiting.

Georgetown south homes

Only one opposing view was heard against Halton Hills Village Homes' plans to build 20 large estate homes in Georgetown south at a public meeting recently. Four of the homes will be a minimum 5,000 square feet, while the remaining 16 will be at least 4,500 square feet in size. The seven-acre parcel is located immediately west of the Tenth Line, and borders lands set aside for future industrial development. However, neighboring resident Jay Jackson expressed concern about the easterly, and biggest, lot, arguing it should remain in a natural state as a buffer between the new development and existing homes on the Tenth Line. A final report on the subdivision is likely due in the new year.

INSIDE

- Police Blotter.....page 7
- Youth awards.....page 12
- Entertainment.....page 20
- Sports.....page 22



Author's Night

Children's author Gordon Korman make a special appearance at the Georgetown Library recently to talk to students, sign autographs and discuss his latest work, "The Twinkie Squad." Sarah Williams was all smiles as she talked to the writer. An estimated 100 youngsters attended the event. For details please turn to page 20.

Photo by JANET DUVAL

Delegations prepare to fight MVA proposal

By STUART JOHNSTON

Staff writer

Homeowners and business people alike should get as much information as possible about market value assessment (MVA) before it's too late, warns Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce president, Bob Malcolmson.

In an interview Wednesday, Malcolmson said he felt Halton's plans to implement the controversial MVA next year is premature, charging that regional and provincial officials have not done enough homework on the subject.

He believed detailed studies on how MVA will impact small businesses and those on fixed incomes should have been done by the province before it allowed municipalities to proceed with it.

"They put this into motion without knowing what the personal impacts are," he said. "They should have looked into what the impacts will be on employment, small businesses and the fixed income homeowner...It appears they just drove this thing through."

Malcolmson will be taking his fight to the special regional council meeting scheduled for this Wednesday, Dec. 2 at Halton's Oakville headquarters on Bronte Rd.

As of press time, 55 delegations have signed up to speak that night, beginning at 6 p.m. in the region's auditorium.

But, unless councillors agree to take another vote on MVA, all they will be discussing Wednesday is how it is to be implemented, not if.

Halton Hills and Oakville councillors unanimously voted against the new tax back in September, but Burlington and Milton reps, with the help of chairman Pete Pomeroy, edged a victory, 13-12.

Under procedural rules, the issue can only be voted on again if a councillor who originally favored it agrees to a new discussion. Malcolmson is hopeful that will happen, but believed it will only occur if as many people as possible cram into the room to demonstrate a united opposition.

"I suggest people should phone the provincial assessment office, get the information on what their taxes are going to be next year, and then attend the Dec. 2 meeting," he said.

He questioned the logic behind calling MVA an "equitable tax," wondering how Halton Hills can be equally compared to such communities as Burlington or Oakville, when they enjoy the benefits of services like public transit.

Although Malcolmson is not rejecting MVA as a whole, he believes now is not the time to begin it, especially since 1988 is to be used as the base year to calculate property values. "Why that year? Why not 1984, '86 or even 1992?" he asked, noting the real estate market, especially in Georgetown, was overly inflated four years ago.



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