

33.9 percent ParticipACTION

Halton Hills wins Challenge

By **JERRY SAUNDERS**
Special to the Independent/Free Press

Halton Hills wins! Halton Hills wins!

For the 11th year in a row Halton Hills threw its hat into the participation challenge, this time the challenge was issued to Guelph.

After suffering a defeat by a narrow margin of 2 per cent at the hands of Milton last year, the people of Halton Hills were bound and determined to steal the spotlight away from Guelph in 1993.

And steal the spotlight they did! A total of 12,021 people from the Halton Hills area called in to the Civic Centre in Georgetown to be sure that their 15 minutes of exercise was accounted for.

That number was over 3,000 short of the amount of people that called in their exercise in Guelph, but that number meant very little.

An impressive 33.9 per cent of residents from Halton Hills' total population was the number that meant most to coordinator Cindy Lawrence as Guelph could only manage to accumulate 17.3 per cent of their population of 90,000.

Throughout the day the activities that were scheduled to take place in Halton Hills were jammed in beginning at about 9 a.m. until the phone

lines closed at 9:30 p.m.

Many of the local schools, including Georgetown District High School, got the ball rolling with a brisk walk during early morning classes.

Acton High School got into the act when the clocks hit 9:45 a.m. and they found themselves outside doing some aerobic exercises. After the exercises, the original plan was to form a conga line through the halls of the school, but when that failed, organizers Cathy Furness and Stephanie Jones found themselves leading a group of high school students and staff in the "I'm a little tea pot" song and dance. To start off the day this had to be one of the most outrageous activities to take place.

"It went well, it takes a lot to get them motivated, we were pleased with the enthusiasm" said student council president Cathy Furness.

From Acton High School, the spotlight shifted to the younger children of M.Z. Bennett who were led in an aerobic workout by Maureen Holmes. The music was playing in the background as 220 students jumped enthusiastically about for 15 minutes, enjoying both the exercise and the time off class.

The schools in Halton always do their part in order to keep Halton

competitive in the participation challenge.

"The schools are always wonderful for calling and giving us their numbers" said co-organizer Joanne Bodnar.

It was the adults which Halton would try to get more involved, and a display in the Marketplace Mall was a big help as shoppers walking through would stop and fill in their name on the participation sheet.

"The mall display really helped us bring more adults into the picture" said Joanne Bodnar.

The realtors of the Halton Hills area walked into the thick of things when they gathered at Cedarvale Park to tackle the fitness trail which accounted for their 15 minutes of exercise to bump up the total by another 50 people.

Even local sport groups such as the Georgetown Ladies Powderpuff League got their teams accounted for as they suited up for their regular Wednesday night action at the Fairgrounds.

This year's number of 12,021 was up from last year's grand total of 11,695, which also helped the percentage jump a full per cent over the previous year.

In 1992, Milton edged Halton Hills with 34.9 per cent of its population participating.



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Assorted 24 x 280 mL cans
Without coupon pay regular special price \$5.99
Limit 1 coupon per case. Limit 2 coupons per customer.
Coupon valid Monday, June 7, 1993 and Tuesday, June 8 at Georgetown I.G.A. only.

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