

# Baby is a star beauty contestant

By JANET BAINE  
Staff writer

Caitlind Thompson is only 19 months old, and already she has won nine Canadian titles in baby beauty pageants.

She is representing Georgetown today (Feb. 6) at the Miss All Canadian Beauty Pageant in Toronto.

Caitlind's mom Kelly competed in pageants for four years when she was a teenager. In 1992 she was first runner up in Miss Acton Fair.

Caitlind, a blond tot with a winning smile, won Queen of beauty and photographic in the preliminary Sunburst competition in Milton, both in 1992 and 1993. She was in the Miss All-Canadian beauty pageant at Christmas, where she came away with five titles in promodelling, costume, photogenic, beauty and portfolio.

Babies are judged on their beauty, personality and gestures, while small children are also judged on poise and how they can present themselves on the runway, Kelly said. At one show a favorite Barney song happened to be playing when Caitlind had her turn in the spotlight, and she danced to it, which impressed the judges.

"If they do something completely outrageous and spontaneous, that's what gets them to win," Kelly said. "It sticks out in the judge's mind."

She also noted there's a good and a bad side to the pageants. Some parents take it very seriously, which can put pressure on the children to win. Some even punish the child when he or she doesn't win, even though the child really doesn't want to compete.

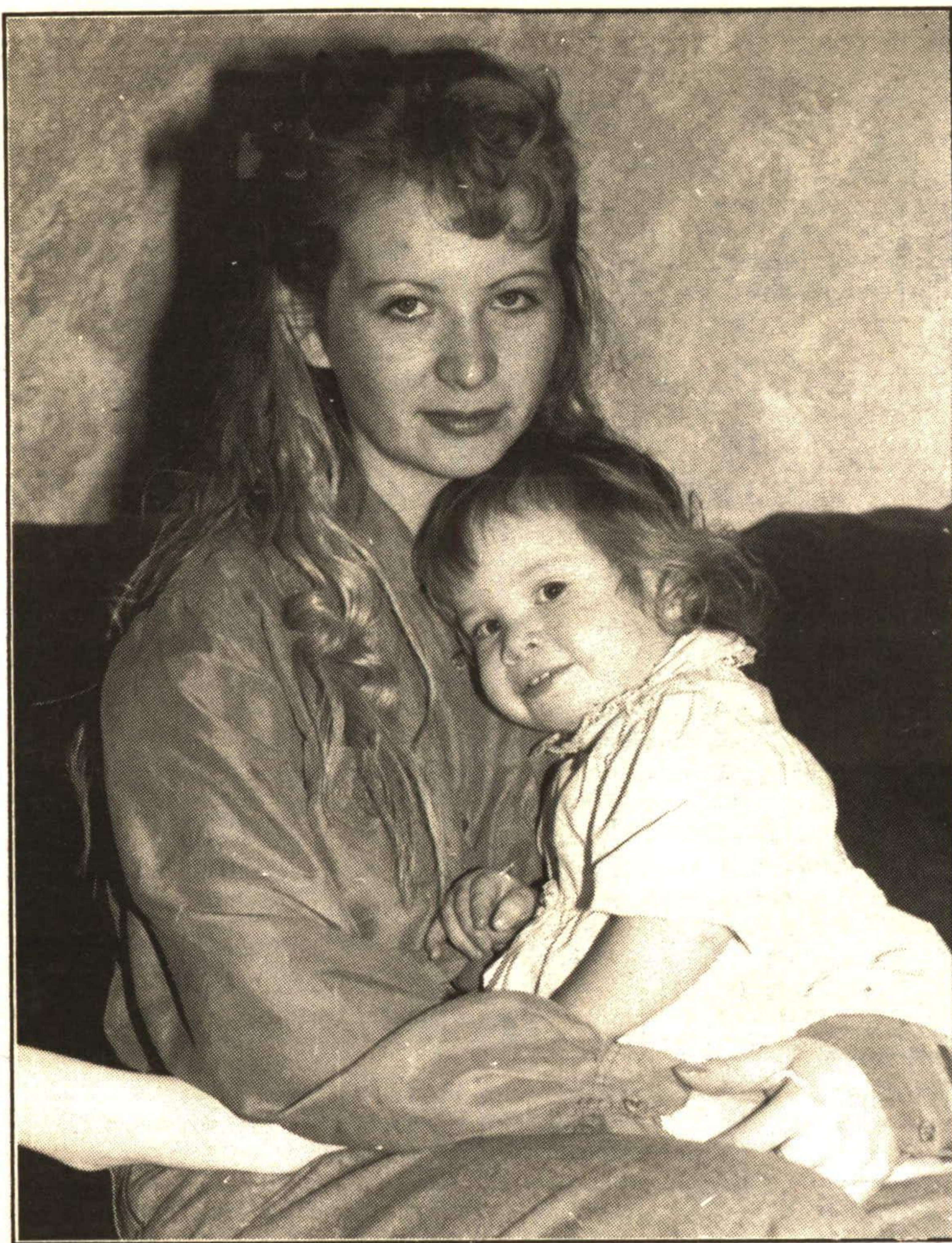
"If (Caitlind) later decides she doesn't want to do it, I wouldn't push her," Kelly said. "It was always just fun for me, and that's the way I want my daughter to look at it." She believes Caitlind has already benefited from participating in the pageants.

"I know it was enriching for me, and it'll make her more outgoing

and self-confident," Kelly said. "The first time (in a show) she was really shy, but the more she is around things like that, it gets her excited and she likes to talk." There are usually 10 to 20 babies or children in each category.

Caitlind will be in the national finals for Sunburst in Toronto in July, and "when she wins that," said her optimistic mother, she will go on to the North American level.

Kelly is hoping that some local businesses will sponsor her daughter, to help cover some of the costs of competing. First Choice Haircutters is Caitlind's sponsor in Sunday's competition.



Nineteen-month-old Caitlind Thompson has already won nine Canadian titles in baby beauty pageants and today she represents Georgetown at the Miss All Canadian Beauty Pageant in Toronto.

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Youth Program Tues./Friday

### Christian Reformed Church

Trafalgar Rd.  
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Ministers Office 877-2848  
Secretary's Office 877-7585

### Halton Gospel Temple

Phone (416) 873-9652  
Highway 7 West of Trafalgar Rd., Georgetown  
Affiliated with P.A.O.C.  
Pastor Rev. David Woodcock  
Youth Pastor Bob Barwick  
SUNDAY SERVICES  
9:45 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL and ADULT ELECTIVE  
11:00 a.m. MORNING WORSHIP  
6:00 p.m. EQUIPPING THE SAINTS  
Wed. 7:00 p.m. Family Night Fri. 7:17 p.m. Youth

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8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
Church School & Nursery  
11:15 a.m. Annual Vestry Meeting

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11 Guelph St.  
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11:00 a.m. Georgetown  
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- Susan E. Robinson  
Church Office: 877-2531

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