

*Halton Hills*

# THIS WEEK

Vol. 1, No. 20 Saturday, November 21, 1992 32 pages

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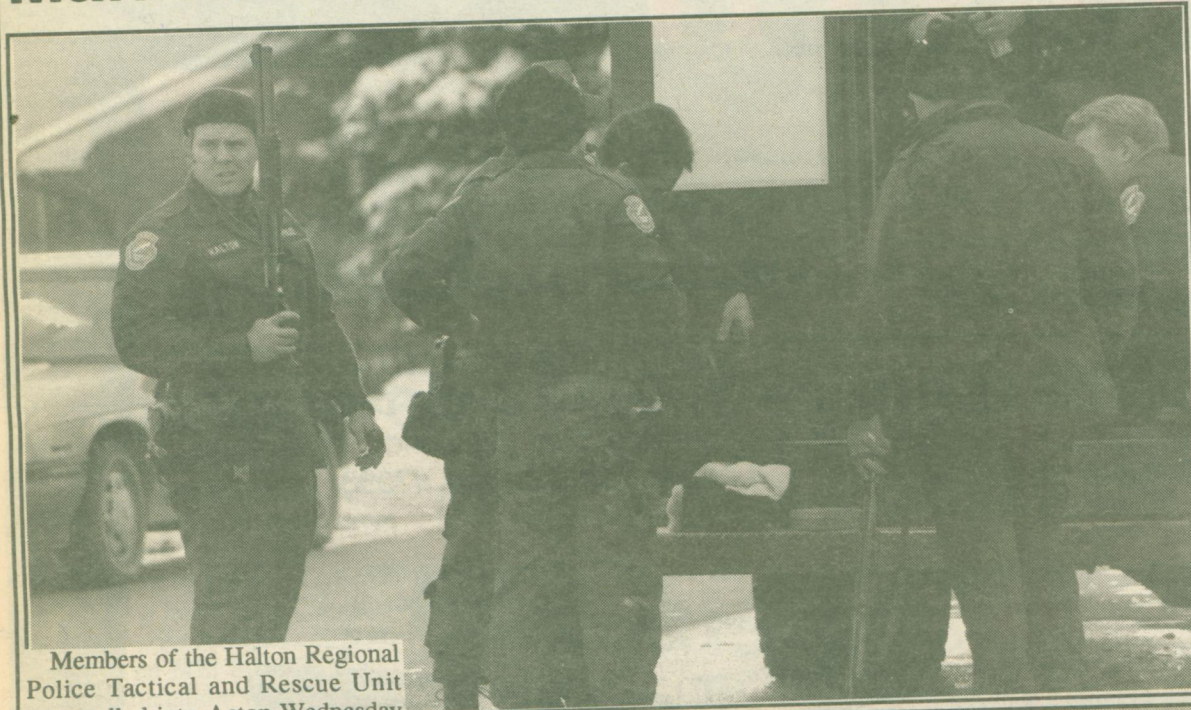
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## Man takes two-month-old hostage



Members of the Halton Regional Police Tactical and Rescue Unit were called into Acton Wednesday after a man took a two-month-old hostage.

At about 1:10 p.m. Wednesday police received a call from a woman who "indicated her common-law husband had assaulted her and taken their two-month-old daughter."

According to police, the couple had been involved in a domestic dispute in which the suspect had been drinking and became progressively more aggressive. The accused left the Lakeview Ave. residence where the couple lived.

As the female was leaving the accused returned to the house. The victim attempted to reason with the 25-year-old suspect after a further altercation took place. The accused assaulted the female who then fled the house and called police.

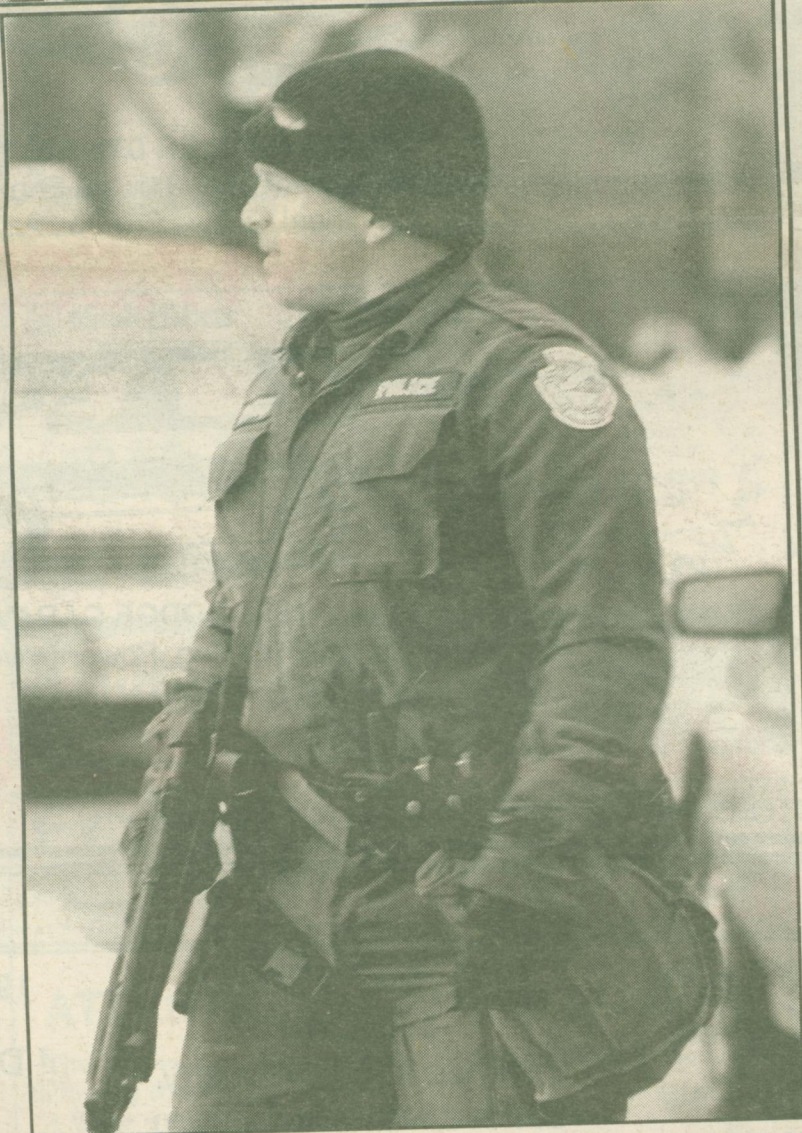
When police responded to the scene the suspect "refused to give up the child or leave the home," a police media release said. The release added the man "was acting in an irrational manner."

Police moved quickly to seal off the area around Lakeview Ave. and TRU officers moved in.

A telephone link was established and a police negotiator determined that there were no weapons in the house.

At about 3:25 p.m., the suspect surrendered to police without incident and police found the uninjured child inside the house.

The suspect was charged with assault and was to appear for a bail hearing Thursday in Milton.



Members of the Halton Regional Police Tactical and Rescue Unit were called into action during Wednesday's hostage taking incident in Acton. Photos by Scott Augustus

## NEC control issue to resurface Dec. 9

By Dianne Cornish

To ensure that both sides of the issue are heard before a decision is made about the possible transfer of development control from the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) to regional governments along the escarpment, Halton Region councillors deferred a decision Wednesday about the possible transfer of development control from the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) to regional governments along the escarpment. People wanting to address council on the issue were informed that delegations will be heard at a meeting of the Region's planning and public works committee at regional council headquarters, in Oakville, Wednesday, Dec. 9. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m.

At the opening of Wednesday's regional council meeting, regional chairman Peter Pomeroy suggested the deferral. Council was to look at a recommendation arising from last week's meeting of the planning and public works committee. Basically, the recommendation called for transfer of the NEC's development control functions for escarpment lands in Halton to the Region of Halton. It suggested that Halton ask Ontario's Minister of the Environment Ruth Grier to take immediate steps to implement the transfer.

In reaction to the committee's proposal, a group of environmentalists and landowners living along the escarpment, picketed regional headquarters Monday. The demon-

strators, who want development control to remain in the hands of the NEC, numbered about 15. They included representatives of POWER (Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources), FOAD (Furiously Opposed to Acton Dumping), EAGLE (Ecology Awareness Group, Landscape and Environment) and the Hickory Falls Ratepayers' Group.

POWER president Barbara Halsall, who was among demonstrators, told Halton Hills This Week that she and others talked with Pomeroy on the steps of regional headquarters Monday. "We told him that we thought the issue (transfer of development control power) was being brought forward very quickly," Halsall said. "We said that basically we saw it as a bad idea and we asked if he would defer a decision on the matter."

Halsall said Pomeroy wouldn't agree to defer, but she thinks he had a change of heart when he saw the number of delegations wanting to address regional council about NEC on Wednesday.

The council agenda listed three people wanting to address regional councillors. Halsall was on the list along with two representatives of the Niagara Escarpment Landowners Coalition (NELOC), Mississauga planner Glenn Schnarr and Halton Hills landowner Kent McClure. However, there were others in the audience who were planning to ask permission to address

Continued on page 24

## Santa hits Acton today

Acton and area residents are reminded that the Acton Santa Claus Parade is today. The theme is All Wrapped Up For Christmas. Bring friends and family and enjoy the afternoon!

The parade will feature 16 floats and seven bands, said Bill Spielvogel, chairman of the Acton Santa Claus Parade Committee. Once more the parade is being organized by the Acton Fire Fighters Association.

There will also be clowns, fire trucks, a 1927 Studebaker, and more. Children can bring their letters to Santa to the parade, where they will be picked up by Canada Post letter carriers.

Candy was donated by the Acton IGA and Dare Candy in Milton, said Spielvogel. Santa's float is donated and maintained by the Olde Hide House.

The parade starts at 1p.m. from McKenzie-Smith Middle School, proceeding down Queen Street to Young, to Mill Street then north on Main to River Street.



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