

Halton Hills

THIS WEEK

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Centennial student Chad Miersma rocked the day away last Saturday in Centennial School's 12 hour rockathon fundraiser. The rockathon, combined with a fun fair, raised almost \$10,000, said principal Don Warren. The money is slotted for extracurricular activities, a portable P.A. system for the gym, and to import cultural groups and environmental groups for the kids. Photo by Scott Augustus

Town sets strategy for landfill battle

By Dianne Cornish

The Town of Halton Hills took its first step Tuesday in yet another landfill battle by applying for participant funding from the Interim Waste Authority (IWA). It got town council's unanimous approval for that and other action Monday night, three days after town officials learned that two candidate sites on Halton Hills' eastern boundary are included on the IWA's short list for a Peel Region landfill. The two sites, located just north of Norval and bounded roughly by Mayfield Road, Heritage Road and Winston Churchill Boulevard, are among five on the short list from which one preferred site will be selected next May.

"It just seems we're always spending taxpayers' dollars to fight landfills," Mayor Russ Miller told council shortly before councillors voted to direct town solicitors to apply for participant funding. Over

the past four years, Halton Hills spent close to \$500,000 in its battle to fight a proposal by Reclamation Systems Incorporated (RSI) to locate a landfill in a mined-out portion of the Acton Quarry. It applied earlier this fall for recovery of its costs from the Environmental Assessment Board (EAB).

To counter plans for the possible location of a Peel landfill on its eastern border, council also directed town clerk Janet Lunn Stewart to organize a special meeting in Norval between council and affected residents "to hear and document their concerns."

In addition, town administrator Dan Costea has been authorized to hire experts who will review and monitor the IWA's Peel site search, in co-ordination with the town's solicitors, Thomson and Rogers of Toronto. A report of their findings will be presented to council "at an

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GDHS student dies playing basketball

A 17-year-old Georgetown District High School student collapsed and died during a school basketball game Thursday morning.

Jeremiah Fendley was playing basketball in the school's gym at approximately 10:30 a.m. when he "collapsed suddenly", a Halton Regional Police report said.

A pair of teachers initiated lifesaving measures on the youth and Halton Hills Ambulance officers were called. The student was rushed to Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital where he was pronounced dead at about 11:55 a.m., the police report added.

Brian Woodland, communications officer for the Halton Board of Education, said the Tragic Events Response Team arrived almost immediately from a meeting in Milton and began counselling students and staff.

"The Tragic Events Response Team will be at the school for as long as they're needed," Woodland said. "They have set up a centre in the school for grief counselling."

Students in the school were notified of the tragedy a short time after it occurred.

"The school is very upset," said shocked principal Bryn Davies, who sounded shaken.

The police report said that an autopsy was to be performed yesterday (Friday) to determine the cause of death.

Town's bylaw stance defended

By Dianne Cornish

The Town of Halton Hills cannot request reconstruction of the Third Line through the Acton Quarry until United Aggregates Limited (UAL) has completed quarrying operations in the northern section of the quarry, town administrator Dan Costea said Tuesday. Costea was responding to accusations made at town council Monday night that the town has failed to enforce the bylaw and, through its lack of action, should be targeted

for investigation by police.

Diane van de Valk, a member of a citizen's group called FOAD (Furiously Opposed to Acton Dumping), criticized council for not enforcing the bylaw calling for reconstruction of the road through the quarry.

Costea explained that the bylaw, dating back to 1974, authorized the mayor to sign an agreement with the then quarry owner, Indusmin. Under that agreement, the quarry was given the right to take aggregate

from under the Third Line. As a result, the road was re-routed.

A clause in the agreement says that "at the request of the town, reconstruction of the road will follow completion of quarrying operations," Costea said. However, with the increased demand for aggregate, the UAL continues to mine the quarry north of Regional Road 43 and it's expected mining will continue there for the next five years, the town official added.

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