

The Sphere Clown Band had them rockin' and rollin' in the halls at Georgetown Marketplace last Monday. Patty the clown had no trouble getting youngsters to join her in a little bit of shimmying and shaking which went on long way in curing the March blahs. photo by Simon Wilson

Bingo bonanza cures the winter blues

"This is the easiest money I've made since I was on the Hydro Commission," Georgetown resident and businessman Roger Haggett quipped Thursday when asked to comment on the \$3,333 which he won earlier this week in the Toronto Sun Bingohh contest.

A former Acton resident, Haggett once served as an Acton commissioner on the Halton Hills Hydro Commission. He shared a \$10,000 prize in the Toronto newspaper's contest with two other winners on Monday.

"It sure made my day," Haggett said of his win. "It kind of gets rid of the doldrums."

Haggett said he bought the paper with the winning numbers before going into work at the Timeout Roadhouse, Friday. He and Acton councillor Rick Bonnette own the Georgetown sports bar.

When he realized he had a winning card, he phoned the Sun and was told to come into their offices Monday to claim his winnings and have his photograph taken for Tuesday's edition.

Asked what he plans to do with the money, Haggett said, "I'm going to take my wife, Jane, on a well-deserved vacation. With whatever is left over, I'll do something foolish, like pay my taxes or something," he added with a smile.

Hockey turns ugly

Brawling on the ice was continued in the parking lot of Gordon Alcott Arena in an incident this past week during play in the 33rd annual Georgetown International Bantam Hockey Tournament.

In one of the games, two opposing players got involved in a scrap. After the game, the father of one of the boys allegedly grabbed the other youth and punched him.

Charged with assault is 35-year-Michael Parsons of Georgetown. He is due to appear in court April 19.



Saturday, March 20, 1993 28 pages



232 Guelph St., Georgetown 873-2254

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Education Task force in board's plans

By Oksana Buhel

The finance committee of the Halton Board of Education will be meeting this Monday evening to discuss what kind of cuts will be necessary to decrease the 1993 bud-

The provincial government, which had promised a 2% increase in education grants this year, has instead reshuffled the existing funds, in effect, making no new funds available, said Dave Whiting, Halton Hills Wards I and 2 Board of Education Trustee.

Whiting, vice-chair of the board, explains that some boards have profited from the reshuffling, but



MP's have joined the girdle manufacturer's living off the fat of the land.

this time, the Halton Board did not.

The changes which the finance committee will be evaluating, and which the board will be voting on next Thursday, are a forecast of permanent restructuring which the board will be implementing.

'We're planning to establish a Task force which will be comprised of several committees," said Whiting. These committees will deal with elementary schools, high schools, instructional services and maintenance. The Task force will include the Halton board chair. vice-chair, the three standing committee chairs (finance, salary and property), and several other individuals.

"This force will assess individual schools, take them apart, and build them up again," he explained. Parents and teachers will be presented with a percentage of their individual school's budget and they will decide how the funds are to be allocated. "One year, they might decide that they need more money for computers, so they'll have to take the money from other programs. But it will be up to them."

"On-site budgeting" promises to

bring about important changes. "We want it (budget planning) to work from the bottom up, instead of the board speaking down to the schools," Whiting explained. "Our goal is to have a 0% budget increase." He explained that the Halton board is anticipating that in five or six years, the government will no longer be granting any funds to the schools.

This will mean that principals and other decision-makers will have to equip themselves with some form of business knowledge.

"It will work," Whiting maintains. "We'll just have to be responsible about it."

As well as being responsible, we will also have to be patient. "We can't just downgrade the system," Whiting explains. "I mean it can be done, but it will take a while. Students currently in the system will have to make their way through it before any changes can be made."

Whiting compares the changes to a locomotive going downhill - even if you apply the brakes, it will be a while before the locomotive stops.



Off to Ottawa

Georgetown #676 Royal Canadian Army Cadets left from the Georgetown Armory last Tuesday for a three-day cultural tour of Ottawa. Captain J. H. Harrison is the commanding officer of the Georgetown cadets corps.

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