

Handgun seized as police bust local crime spree

Two Acton men and one from Georgetown remain behind bars in connection with charges stemming from a mini crime spree cracked by Halton police last week.

Police laid 28 charges against four men and one Young Offender and recovered stolen property, including a Browning 7-mm semi-automatic handgun allegedly stolen by one of the suspects

from a relative's home. The gun was found hidden on the former Beardmore property in Acton.

The arrests began at 3:30 a.m. last Monday when a Churchill Road South resident called police about a suspicious man loitering in an apartment building parking lot. Police found two suspects removing coins from the building's laundry ma-

chines and arrested one man at the scene. The other fled but was arrested four hours later at an Acton home.

Over the next 48 hours Halton police made additional arrests. The following are before the courts:

Jason Waterworth, 19, of Highway 7 in the Silvercreek area faces 17 charges including possession of an unregistered restricted

weapon, theft of a vehicle from Tyler Transport, three counts of attempted theft of a vehicle, seven counts of break and enter, theft, mischief, possession of stolen property, willful damage and breach of an undertaking. Waterworth has been in custody since his arrest and appears in a Milton court tomorrow (Friday) for a bail hearing.

Ryan Hill, 18, of the Acton area faces 6 charges including possession of a unregistered restricted weapon, mischief, theft of a vehicle from Tyler Transport, theft, and breach of probation. Hill has been denied bail and will be back in court December 14 to set a date for trial.


Devon Fraser, 18, of Acton is charged with break

and enter in connection with the Churchill Road south laundry room incident. He was released and appears in court January 11, 1999.

A 16-year-old Young Offender from Acton is charged with possession of a restricted unregistered weapon and appears in court on January 8, 1999.

Jamie Bradberry, 18, of Georgetown faces three charges.

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What's Inside



Only the steel skeleton of the old arena remains standing, a tribute to the builders of an edifice professionals said was unsafe. See demolition photos on Page 3.



The Beatrice Aeros were in Acton last Friday to give a big boost to women's hockey and sign autographs. See story on Page 13.



Although these Mustangs didn't win a volleyball title their male counterparts from McKenzie-Smith Bennet school are vying for the county-wide crown tonight (Thursday). See story on page 15.

Don't forget the Acton Blood Donor Clinic at the Legion Hall next Thursday. See Page 16.

Students test wilderness theories

Longterm care centre for town

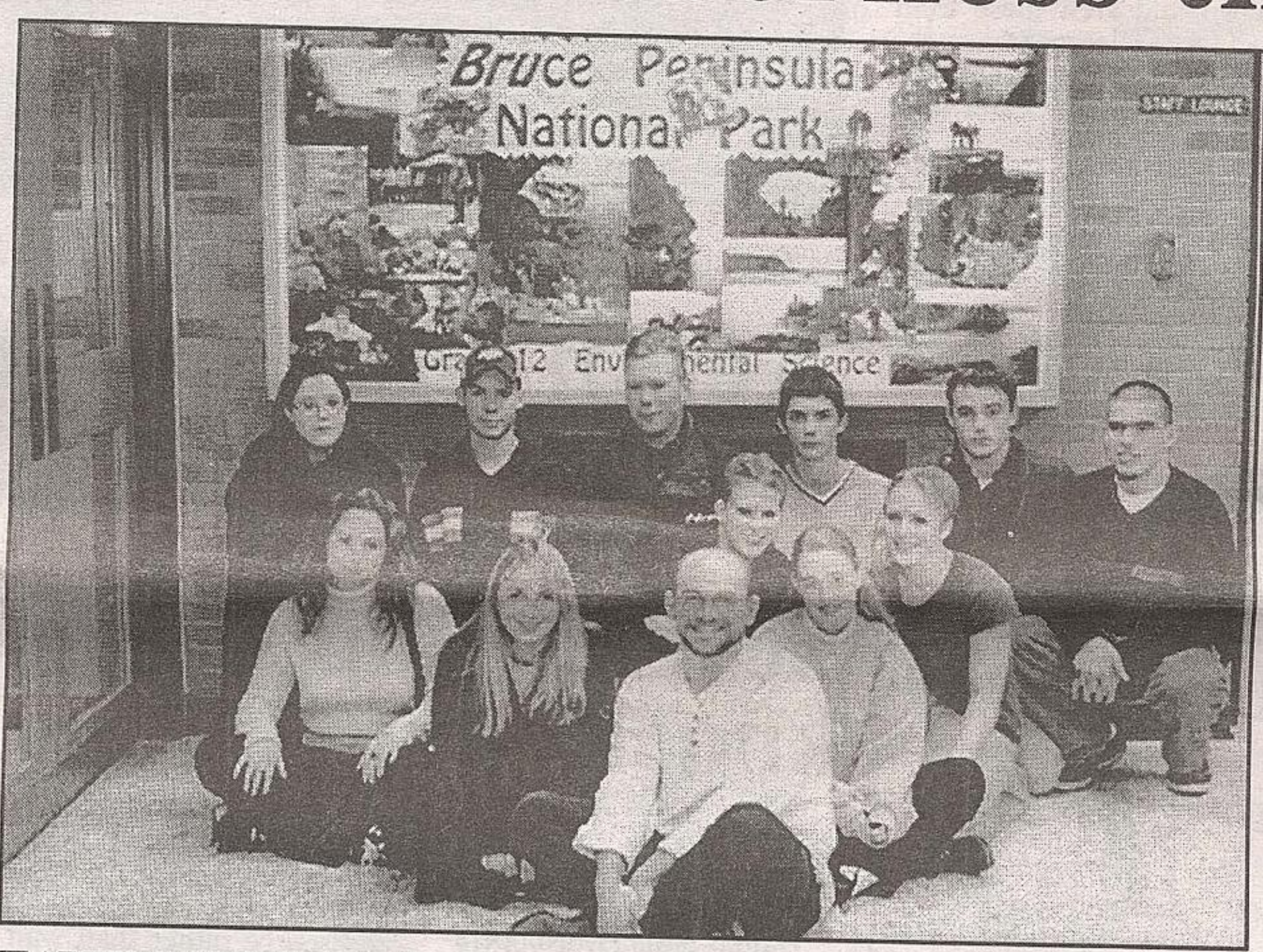
Halton will get more new long term care beds to accommodate the elderly and infirm, part of the Ontario government's new program to look after those who can no longer take care of themselves. One 96-bed centre will be located in Halton Hills.

Long Term Care Minister Cam Jackson of Burlington announced the program and the award of 650 beds in the first phase on Monday. Facilities will be built in Halton Hills as well as Burlington and Oakville.

Halton now has the fewest long term care beds in Ontario, 55.2 beds per 1,000 seniors over the age of 75. The provincial average is 91.2 beds per thousand elderly.

The government has selected three organizations to develop facilities for 650 people at five sites. Halton Health Care Services, which operates Oakville Trafalgar Hospital and Milton Hospital will build a new 96-bed long term care centre in Halton Hills. The centre will focus on people undergoing dialysis treatment and those requiring psychogeriatric care. There will also be specialized programs for younger residents with physical disabilities. The location for the Halton Hills centre has not yet been bought, only financing is in place, said MPP Ted Chudleigh's office.

Continued on Page 2



HEARTY CREW: Despite freezing weather the Acton High school Grade 12 Environmental Studies students who went wilderness camping last month had a great time applying classroom theories in the field. The campers included: Back, left to right, Sandra Banjac, Ryan Oudesluys, Josh Campbell, Adam Bosch, Geoff MacLeod and Ian Banfield. Middle: Crystal Wooldridge, Melissa Young and Tannis Wade. Front: Vicki Burgoyne and Brook Lindsay. Front: Mark Kovich (teacher). - Frances Niblock photo

Kids set up base camp on Bruce

In the classroom the environmental theory was dry. In the field it was both wet and cold as a group of Acton High school students camped at the Bruce Peninsula National Park recently on a three-day wilderness field trip.

The 11 environmental studies students, one brave parent and teacher Mike Kovich set up a base camp in the park and studied the beautiful geology and ecology of the Niagara Escarpment.

Kovich said the students were well prepared, motivated and eager - perfect campers.

"Despite the freezing weather we had smiles on everyone's faces the whole time and that was because they had an excellent attitude. That made my job so easy," Kovich said recently.

"There was a lot of potential for people being unhappy or complaining about the weather but everyone got along really well, sort of like an Outward Bound experience. If it weren't fun, no one would learn anything."

Kovich, now in his second semester at Acton High, is used to winter camping - his last teaching job was in a small James Bay community north of Moosonee.

Student Geoff MacLeod said he had to stand on the rocks and cliffs to appreciate what he'd learned about the

Continued on Page 2

Police nab young robber

An Acton youth faces three charges in connection with a robbery at Jug Milk on Mill Street East, Wednesday morning.

Police say the 17-year-old entered the store wearing a balaclava around 7:15 a.m. and demanded money and cigarettes from the lone clerk, Salim Ahmed. He then left the store by the side door and climbed onto a school bus.

Store owner Qazi Ahmed said his clerk recognized the youth because he shops in their store regularly. When he went to the bus the clerk followed him and told the driver he had been robbed and the police had been called.

The youth then left the bus, returned the stolen property and entered the bus again. Police arrested him from the bus.

Ahmed said in the two years he has owned the store this is the first time it has been robbed.

"And the sad part he is just a school boy," Ahmed said.

Although no gun was seen during the robbery, the youth was charged with robbery, wearing a disguise with the intent to commit an indictable offence and using an imitation firearm while committing an indictable offence.

He will appear in Milton Youth Court on

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