

# SPRING

arrives today on the calendar

## Local man remains in hospital

Port Credit OPP continue looking for witnesses to a head-on crash that injured a local man last Thursday morning, east of Acton on Highway 7.

Craig Banks, a married father of three, remains in critical condition in Toronto's Sunnybrook Trauma Centre with multiple internal injuries including a torn diaphragm, fractured pelvis and hip.

Banks was driving his green Toyota Tercel

southbound on Highway 7, heading to work as a tool and die maker in Georgetown, when the head-on crash occurred with a northbound Honda Civic between Silvercreek and 22 Side Road.

Both drivers were taken by ambulance to Georgetown Hospital and Banks was airlifted to Toronto. Kim Su Min, 33, of Brampton was treated for minor injuries.

Anyone with information is asked to call OPP at 905-278-6131

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### What's Inside



Cat shows are always popular places and Saturday's in Rockwood had lots of felines. See photos Page 13.



Robert Little School's Science Fair featured many unusual projects. See photos on Page 12.

### Home Improvement



See Pages 9, 10 and 11.

### EASTER



Look for Easter Specials on Pages 4 and 5.

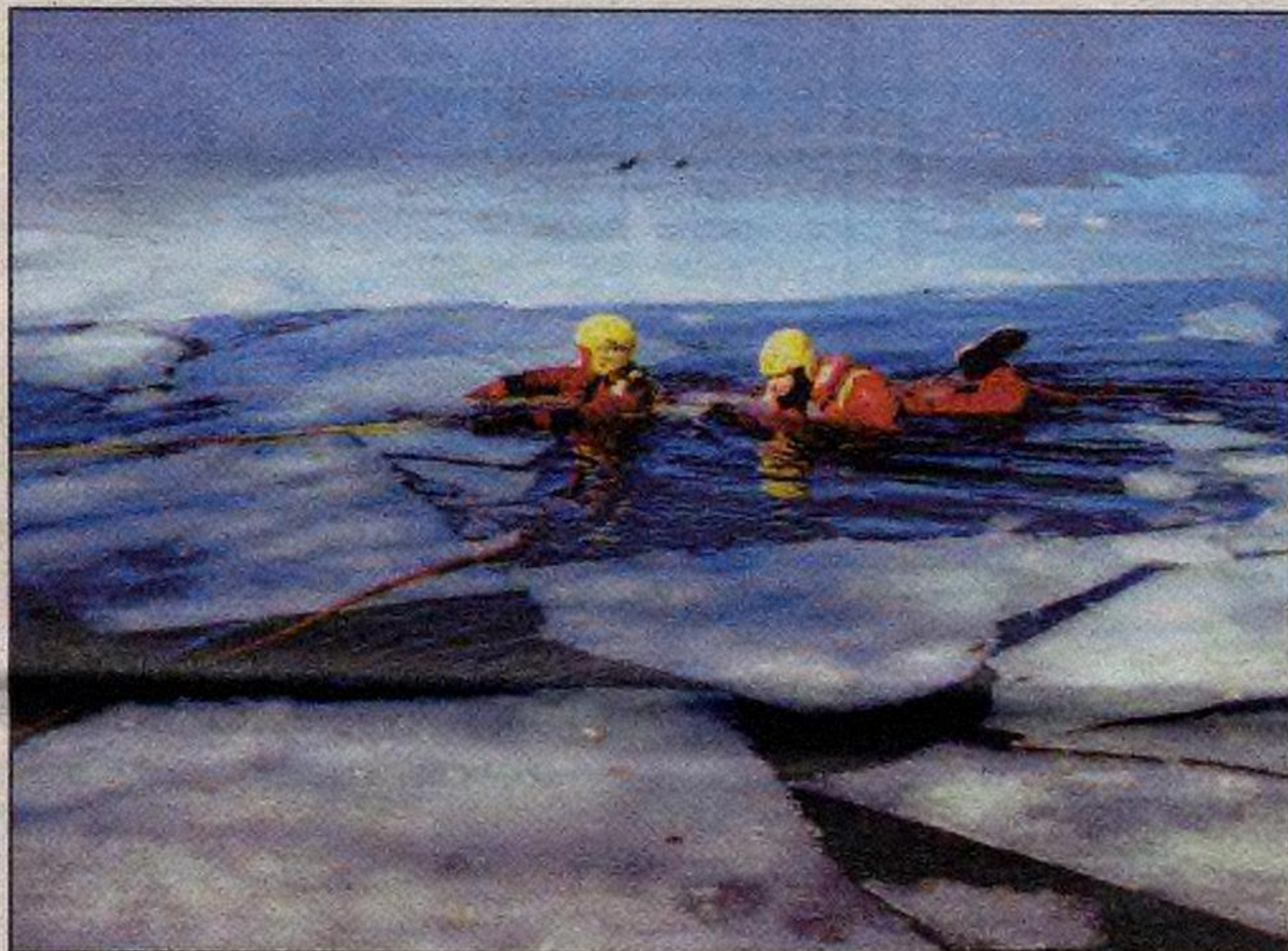
## Police chase through downtown

### Rash of car thefts in Georgetown Sunday

Halton Police are investigating a series of car thefts and break ins at local businesses in Georgetown overnight Sunday.

Two cars were stolen from businesses along Armstrong Avenue in Georgetown. At one location, the thieves left a previously stolen car with the engine still running. Then the culprits also entered Uptown Collision on Mountainview Road North by smashing the window. While inside, the thieves took computer equipment, as well as two more vehicles from the garage.

Anyone with any information regarding these thefts is asked to call #1 District Criminal Investigations at 905-825-4777 Ext 2105, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).



ICY TRAINING: "Victim" Charlie Hancock (left) is "rescued" by fellow Halton Hills firefighter Mike Wild during a water training exercise for the fire department's Technical Rescue Team in Fairy Lake on Saturday. - Frances Niblock photo

### Six teens arrested in stolen van

Six teens from Hamilton were in custody following a police pursuit of a stolen vehicle through downtown Acton on Monday night just after 8 o'clock. Police said the six youths were at a house on the Sixth Line of Halton Hills talking to another youth who lived there. Halton Police received information that a van full of youths was headed to Acton "where there was an indication they planned to harm another youth who lived there."

Constable Vince Couce observed the van just outside of Acton and determined that it had been stolen from Hamilton. He attempted to stop the van but it kept going initiating a "suspect apprehension pursuit."

The van sped down Mill St. with a cruiser, siren wailing, in pursuit, turned onto Willow St. to River St., west on River to Main St. N. A spectator coming from Elizabeth Drive said the van raced through the River St. stop onto Main, almost out of control, and sped over the railway tracks on Main St. N. past the Danville subdivision and up former Highway 25.

In the chase, the van struck a curb, police said, which deflated a tire, but it continued north on 25, finally coming to

Continued on Page 2.

## Rescue team ready and able

By FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The New Tanner

Up to their necks in the freezing water and broken ice of Fairy Lake on Saturday, members of the Halton Hills Fire Department's Technical Rescue Team (TRT) prepared for the rescue call they hope never comes.

Dressed in dry suits and tethered to firefighters on shore just in case, members of the specialized Halton Hills Fire Department team took turns sending "victims" out onto the cracking ice to be "rescued."

The TRT is one of three specialty teams within the Halton Hills Fire Department that includes both full-time and part-time firefighters with ad-

vanced training. The other teams are the Hazardous Materials and Emergency Patient Care teams.

Fire department Deputy-chief Larry Brassard said while they don't want to promote any inter-team rivalries between the three teams, each one thinks, "they're the best at what they do."

"That's what we demand of them," Brassard said, adding the specialty team members devote even more time to training than the twice weekly sessions most firefighters attend.

The TRT includes 21 firefighters, all of whom have undergone advanced training in both ice and water rescues and high-angle rescues. Their trench and confined spaces rescue training

continues.

Halton Hills set up a TRT in 1989, following the drowning deaths of several Port Colborne firefighters during an attempted water rescue in the 1980's. Following that tragic incident, Brassard said the Ontario Fire Marshall's Office made it an issue to ensure the people engaged in rescue activities were properly trained.

"Our TRT has not been pressed into action, but it's a matter of being prepared for those eventualities because the risks are in our communities - we have Fairy Lake and rivers and streams that run through our area and we're always vigilant for those kinds of things," Brassard said on Monday.

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