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**SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 1996 VOL. 9 - ISSUE 50 40 PAGES - 50¢ + G.S.T.**

*News*

**Digest**

**Town opposed to reform**

In light of published reports the provincial government plans to announce reforms to the Environmental Assessment Act, council passed a resolution Monday night put forward by Councillor Rob Heaton requesting the province consult with local government on reforms to the act before announcing a provincial government position. Council also supported advising the provincial government the town is opposed to Environmental Assessment reform without proper consultation with all stakeholders (including municipal government), and that the Minister of Environment and Energy be requested to meet with council so she can benefit from the town's experience with the act and with the siting of a proposed landfill in the Acton quarry. The town's position is to be sent to the region (for endorsement), Minister of Environment and Energy, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Premier Mike Harris.

**Benefit performances**

Music and comedy will be at its best on Friday and Saturday night (April 5 and 6) at the John Elliott Theatre in support of the Georgetown branch of the Canadian Cancer Society. On Friday evening performances from some of Canada's finest musicians takes centre stage beginning at 8 p.m. Performers include Bill and Janine Kent, Edgar Thatcher, Victor J. Hansen, Doug Reansbury and Laura Thomas. On Saturday at 8 p.m. Men Without Hairs will perform their comedy routine with special guest David Merry. Tickets are \$15 and are available at the theatre box office or from the Georgetown branch of the Cancer Society.

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## Crime stats on the rise in Acton

By **LISA TALLYN**  
*Staff writer*

Halton Regional Police Inspector Keith Gregory told councillors Monday night he is "relatively happy" with the results of District One's (Georgetown and Acton) year-end policing report.

Crime in all categories except for one is down in Georgetown, however the results for Acton are not quite as rosy as several crimes are on the increase there.

Gregory noted that in Georgetown only auto theft occurrences are up this year over last. There were 34 auto thefts in Georgetown in 1994 and 39 in 1995.

Both theft and property damage is down in Georgetown. Last year there were 315 theft offences reported compared to 236 in 1995. In 1994 there were 279 incidents of property damage and 234 in 1995.

Break and enters are down in all categories in Georgetown; 41 shop break and enters in 1994 compared to 34 in 1995, 38 house entries in 1994 and 35 in 1995, 5 school break-ins in 1994 and 2 in 1995 and 29 other break-ins in 1994 compared to 20 last year.

Robbery in Georgetown is down from five to three in 1995 and sexual assaults are down from 20 to 13. Assaults are down from 140 in 1994 to 125 in 1995.

The situation in Acton however is not quite as positive.

Theft offences in Acton went up from 108 in 1994 to 155 in 1995 while property damage incidents rose from 80 in 1994 to 152 in 1995.

Gregory said there had been a "significant increase" in the number of youths involved in those incidents. He added in the future the police will be more visible in the community.

Auto thefts only rose by one from 12 in 1994 to 13 in 1995.

Break and enters are also up in Acton; from 6 to 22 shop entries, 11 to 18 house break-ins and 0 to 7 school entries. Other break-ins however are down from 11 to 8.

"There is no particular pattern," said Inspector Gregory. He added most of the shop entries occurred in the downtown core and Councillor Rick Bonnette

asked whether moving the police office from Mill St. could have had an effect. Gregory said he couldn't be certain however the police are still attempting to find a location in the downtown core.

Robbery in Acton is down from five in 1994 to zero in 1995. Sexual assaults jumped from 6 to 11, due largely to some historical sexual assaults being reported, and assaults increased slightly from 50

in 1994 to 52 last year.

Gregory assured council the police budget had been passed and it shouldn't mean any reduction in the number of hours the police station is open in town.

### Cinderella on Ice



It has been a busy weekend for the Acton Figure Skating Club which did three performances of Cinderella at the Acton Community Centre to wrap up the skating season. Cara McGilloway (left) is Cinderella while Cara Routledge is her Fairy Godmother in the annual carnival. The final performance went Saturday evening at 7:30 p.m.

TED BROWN Independent/Free Press



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