

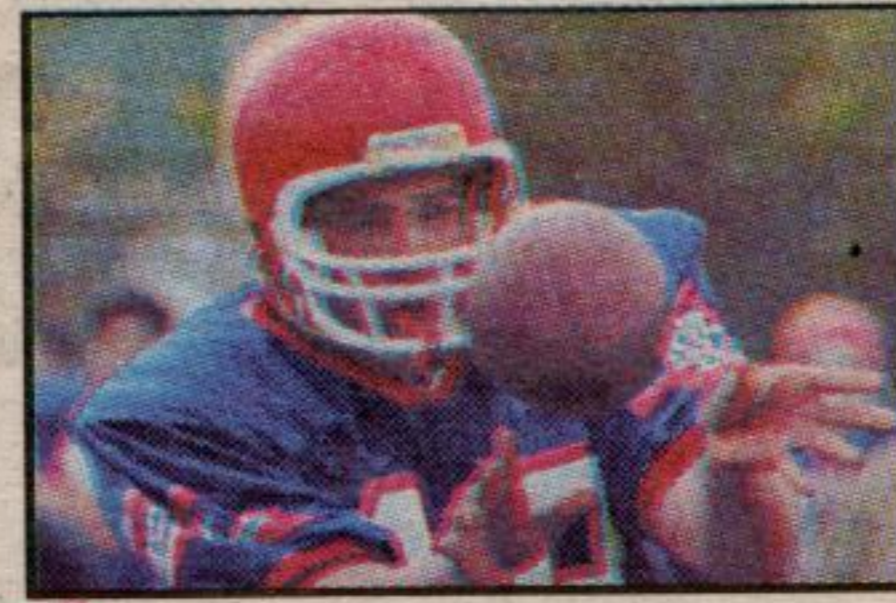
Singin' for a cause

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Schools ignore board decree

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Junior Rebels eliminated

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The Independent

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NEWS AT A GLANCE

Boy injured

■ A 13-year-old boy was taken to Georgetown District Hospital after being hit by a car Tuesday evening.

Halton Regional Police say Christopher Froggett was crossing Mountainview Rd. at the crosswalk at Cotswold Ct. when he was struck by a northbound car. The accident occurred at 6:08 p.m. A spokesperson at the hospital said Froggett sustained fractures but that the injuries were not life-threatening. As of press time, he was expected to be released from hospital Friday.

A 34-year-old Georgetown woman has been charged with failing to yield to a pedestrian.

Truck blaze

■ The Halton Hills Fire Department was called to extinguish a truck fire on Five Sideroad just west of the Eighth Line on Tuesday.

The cause of the fire, which occurred shortly after 5:30 p.m., is believed to be an electrical malfunction. Damage to the truck was estimated at \$1,800.

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Photo by Ted Brown

Dad's helper

Grade 9 students across the province spent Wednesday at work, many with their parents, as they took part in a job shadow program. GDHS student Rachael Miller, 14, spent part of her day helping her dad Phil prepare apple turnovers at their family-owned Georgetown business, Miller's Bakery, on Guelph St.

School board considers advertising on buses

Advertising may soon be coming to a school bus near you.

Plans by several Toronto-area school boards to sell ad space on school buses have been in the news lately, but the idea is also being considered by the Halton school board.

Within the next few months, trustees will be presented with a report outlining just how such advertising might be used. According to board

superintendent Wayne McNally, tentative plans would see the Halton board join a consortium of area school boards to maximize the benefits of advertising on the buses. The concept was approved in principle by the board last February, and staff was instructed to look into the merits and financial benefits of advertising on the buses. A report at that time suggested the plan could bring more than \$200,000 a year into board coffers.

More cops to be on the streets?

BY HOWARD MOZEL
Special

While Halton's police chief is asking for a 3 per cent increase in next year's operating budget, he makes it clear the money is earmarked for front-line service and little else.

"We are not spending it on frills, bells and whistles," Peter Campbell recently told the Halton Regional Police Services Board.

Members plainly concurred with this philosophy and approved the \$40.1 million budget which includes \$270,000 provided by Halton Region to pay for recurring capital costs. The whole package amounts to a 1.5 per cent increase on total regional taxes.

For the average household, this translates into \$5.76 in additional taxes, or \$1.10 over regional council's budget directions. Even so, says board chair Wendy Roberts, at less than 50 cents a day per home for policing, it's money well spent— particularly since it puts 10 more officers on the road.

"I think our people are getting a pretty good deal," said Roberts.

The chair based her comments in part on statistics Campbell presented which show Halton struggling to keep staffing in line with the region's growth. In addition, he revealed how Halton's cost per capita— approximately \$112— is nowhere near that expended by many other police agencies.

By approving the 10 officers, board member Richard Szymczyk said, the region is still moving slowly toward the level of policing it should have. Given the

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