

**Daffodil days coming**

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**Corrigan lands federal contract**

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**Kruk rallies for YBC title**

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# The Independent & Free Press

Wednesday, April 2, 1997 44 Pages Vol. 120 No. 52

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## NEWS AT A GLANCE

### Girls hit by BBs

■ Police are investigating a report of two 14-year-old girls being hit by BB pellets at about 6 p.m. Friday as they walked on Holmesway Place near Cobblehill Rd. in Acton.

Police say one of the girls was hit in the left thigh and the other was struck in the hand. Neither was injured.

### Spaull in court

■ David Spaull, the 43-year-old Georgetown man facing several weapon charges in connection with a stand-off with police December 10 at an Edith St. home was in Milton court again Monday.

He is to be in Oakville court Tuesday, April 8 at 11 a.m. to set a trial date.

### Change your clocks

■ Before you go to bed Saturday night remember to put your clocks forward an hour.

The start of daylight time, which begins officially at 2 a.m. Sunday, will mean the welcome return of lighter evenings.

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## Food for thought

Georgetown District High School students (from left) Aaron McLaughlin, Nicole Brookes, Cynthia Aiken, Lisa Boulanger and Andrea Alcorn are among those GDHS OAC business students who are organizing the upcoming April 12 food drive for the Georgetown Bread Basket. The project is being organized by two OAC business administration classes as well as the DECA business club. See story Page 5.

Photo by Ted Brown

## Fact finder confident teachers, board will reach deal

By TIM WHITNELL  
Special

A fact finder has summarized contract negotiations between the Halton Board of Education and its elementary teachers as at a "roadblock", but not yet at the impasse stage.

William Marcotte, appointed by the Education Relations Commission, said in his nine-page summary of negotiations that he has reason to believe a resolution is possible in the talks between board

representatives and those bargaining on behalf of Halton's 1,560 full-time equivalent elementary teachers.

"They themselves are confident in their ability to do so and perceive that only some direction is required in order to achieve an acceptable outcome," Marcotte concluded in his report.

But obstacles to a settlement between the board and its elementary teachers do exist, the fact finder noted.

"The roadblock to settlement is not a monolith but is composed of three major contributing factors: the school board's budget; the (teacher federation's) perception of the board's budget; and

funding of local educational services."

The fact finder notes the essence of the difference of opinion is in who should pay for reduced board revenues.

The board's contention is it has ongoing deficit pressures due to provincial grant cutbacks and therefore is seeking \$2.9 million in salary reductions from the elementary teaching component.

Teacher representatives say they are distrustful of the board's financial figures because the latter recently announced it actually had a slight surplus and not a deficit for 1996 and now says it is expecting a large operating deficit in 1997.

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