

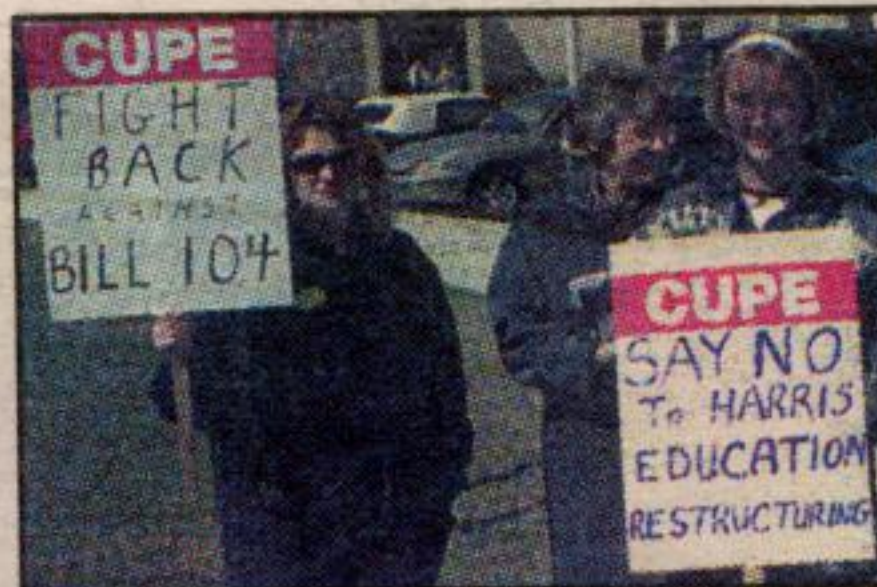
Carving
a niche

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Local man
Mexico-bound

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Groups protest
Tory cuts

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NEWS AT A GLANCE

Hungry thieves?

■ Four brownies and some butter tarts were all that were taken during a break and enter into a Main St., Acton restaurant early Saturday morning.

Police say sometime between 1:30 and 4:05 a.m. glass in the front door was smashed with two rocks to gain entry into the restaurant and the sweets were taken.

Food drive total

■ Georgetown District High School students collected 9,551 pounds of food for Georgetown Bread Basket during a food drive Saturday.

The drive was organized by two Georgetown District High School OAC business administration classes and the business club DECA.

Despite the winter-like weather Saturday about 125 volunteers (students and parents) helped collect the food.

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Buckle up for safety

Const. Mark Underwood of Halton Regional Police adjusts 9-month-old Amanda Ellsworth's car seat to ensure she is in it securely. Underwood will be among the car seat inspectors showing parents how and where to install their car seats properly at a Car Seat Safety Clinic set for 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, April 26 in the Canadian Tire parking lot. As well, Halton police will be cracking down on people who don't wear their seatbelts during the Provincial Seat Belt Campaign April 19 through May 2. The annual campaign is designed to increase usage of seat belts and child restraints. See story on page 12.

Photo by Ted Brown

School trustees fail to finalize '97 budget

If William Shakespeare sat in on Monday's Halton Board of Education budget debate, he might have deemed it much ado about nothing. He may have even foreseen the prospect of needing a twelfth night to get the job done.

The Bard at the board would have had trouble figuring out whether to make his story a comedy or a tragedy, however, following a tie vote by trustees on a 1.55 per cent mill rate

increase to the 1997 budget.

The 8-8 tie killed the suggested mill rate increase. Oakville's Penny Siebert did not vote, earlier declaring a potential conflict of interest because her husband is a member of the Ontario Secondary Schools Teachers Federation in Peel Region. It would have added \$23.75 to the education portion of the property tax bill for a \$200,000 home in Halton.

Even if trustees had passed the budget with

the slight mill rate increase, it might have died at a later date. Director of education Bob Williams took an unusual position prior to the vote, telling trustees he could not accept their budget proposal.

"It is with some regret I make this statement. We in administration do not believe that 1.55 per cent on the mill rate is achievable. It will result in a significant deficit and I would

See HALTON, pg. 14



SEE PAGE 35
FOR FULL DETAILS

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