

## Portable cleanup taking time

Cleaning up mould from portables continues to be an uphill climb for the Halton District School Board. Superintendent Gerry Cullen recently estimated the portable cleanups, commonly referred to as remediation, were about two weeks behind schedule.

"They've all been checked, but the process is taking longer," said Oakville Trustee Debbie Marklew. "It has been very much a learning experience."

Remediation is going slowly because it is being done very thoroughly said the trustee, who co-chairs the ad-hoc committee on mould in portables.

Workers are checking all walls, including the exterior wall and drywall, right down to the stud frames, said Marklew. She added work on vapor barriers and adjustments to external flashings are also involved.

"Parents are anxious," said Marklew. "But we've been explaining the process and they are happy we're going to this extent so this doesn't happen again."

The stachybotrys atra mould, part of the fungus family, was first discovered last fall in Halton public school portables.

The potentially-toxic fungus may cause or amplify allergic reactions or asthma in some children and possibly induce flu-like symptoms like nausea and headaches.

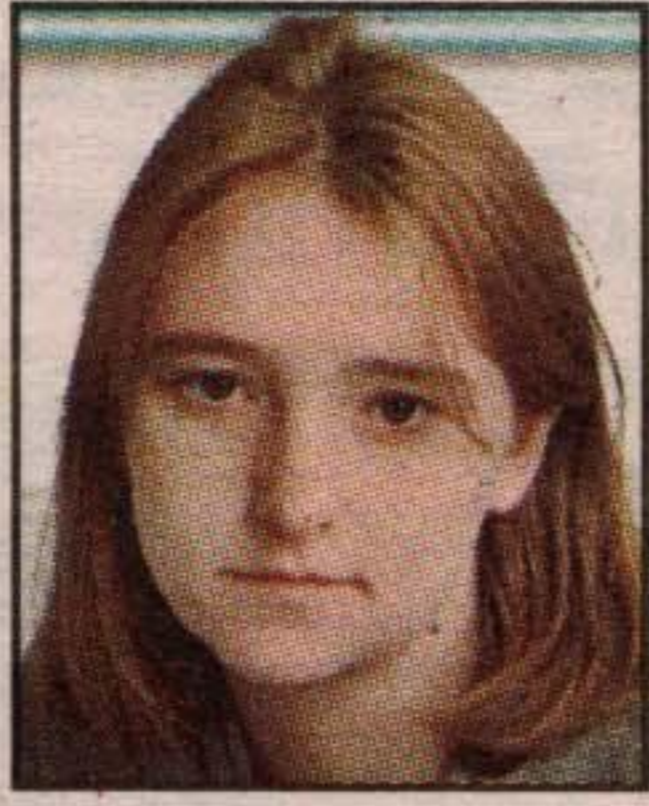
She said about 54 portables were ready when the school year started. The trustee said more than 180 portables have been checked and 40 or 50, especially those with mould in all four walls, will be disposed of altogether.

The trustee said it's hoped all the portables will be cleaned up by Christmas.

—By Dennis Smith, special

## What You Said

*'Under new regulations in the Game and Fish Act, the Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Program allows 12-year-olds to hunt with firearms, under certain regulations. Do you agree with these regulations?'*



**Kerry Wright, housewife, Georgetown**

"No, I don't agree, because I feel at 12, children shouldn't be able to use a gun, whether accompanied by an adult or not. They are simply too young to accept the responsibility that goes with handling a firearm."



**Ross Groom, entrepreneur, Orangeville**

"No, I don't agree at all. We don't let children drive until age 16, yet we're letting them use a gun at 12? When hunting, the only purpose of using a gun is to kill, and I simply don't feel safe where a 12-year-old is holding a gun, whether supervised or not."



**Guylaine La Blanc, waitress, Georgetown**

"No I don't agree at all. I think it's pretty stupid to give a gun to a child. It simply does not make sense to me at all."



**Brian Foley, business consultant, Toronto**

"Yes. Allowing a 12-year-old to hunt will involve a certain amount of training...and the more training, the more respect that individual will acquire for that firearm. But envisioning my own child using a firearm at 12 does boggle my mind."



**Bobbie Pittman, customer service, Georgetown**

"No, I don't agree at all. I simply don't think 12-year-olds are mature or responsible enough to handle firearms at any level."

## 85th Acton Fall Fair leaves fair crowd happy



Tanya Tonkovich made it a second victory for her family when she was crowned Miss Acton Fall Fair on Friday. Tanya's sister Sonya held the honor in 1996. With Tanya are first runner-up Steph McKay, left, and second runner-up Kelly Soutiere. (Right) Cecil Starr and Darren Kearns outduelled a chainsaw, cutting through a log twice in 11 seconds, as they demonstrated a variety of timber sports at the fair.

Story and photos by  
Herb Garbutt, staff

From the roar of the truck pull to the shrieks from the midway rides to the drone a cow's moo—it's not too hard to tell the fair is back in town.

And the 85th Acton Fall Fair didn't disappoint as visitors soaked in the sights, sounds and smells of the annual event. From opening night when Tanya Tonkovich was crowned Miss Acton Fall Fair, following in the footsteps of her sister Sonya who won in 1996, the fair drew big crowds for a variety of events.

But as well attended as the events were, the small town feeling was still very much intact.

"It's great," said Linda Hillman, who was there with her eight-year-old niece Brittany Smyth. "There's no crowds and no lineups. Brittany said it's just like the Ex

(Canadian National Exhibition) only in a different place."

"I just like the whole atmosphere of the fair," said Mike Petkoff.

For his daughter Jessica, 8, the midway was the big hit. After going on the Himalaya three times, and with a couple of tickets left, she was planning a fourth spin on the ride.

And while fair-goers were enjoying the activities, the Acton Agricultural Society worked diligently behind the scenes to make sure everyone had a good time.

"You lie in bed some nights thinking 'How's everything going to get done in time,'" said president Ron White. "The first thing you know it's all ready. There's a crew of about 20 who come through and get things set up. It's a real credit to them."



**FLETCHERS FAMILY SHOE STORE**

**877-1664**

Downtown Georgetown



**PENALJO**  
BY  
NATURALIZER.

JAMBOREE in Taupe, Navy, or  
Black Leather Uppers

**\$92<sup>98</sup>**

(Medium & Wide Widths)

**WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?  
COMFORT!**

Inside this smart casual, you'll find all the easy-wearing aspects of a moccasin, combined with memory foam, a roomy toe box, padded tongue and breathable lining for the most comfortable walk around!

**"THE FOOT  
PROFESSIONALS"**  
Certified Pedorthist  
on staff to fill your  
Orthopedic Footwear  
Prescriptions