

Computer viruses almost fixed Public school report cards will be on time

Sorry kids, but nearly all your report cards will be on time after all.

Halton District School Board officials have almost caught up with computer viruses that had threatened to delay elementary school report cards.

"At two or three schools, there has been a big impact and there is difficulty accessing corrupt files," Superintendent Keith Johnson said in a recent interview.

"The remainder of the schools will meet the timelines for reporting. The potential for delay has been minimized."

Elementary school report cards

are due at the end of November.

Board officials want to meet the deadline so parents have report cards for Dec. 4 parent-teacher interviews. That date is a PA day which cannot be altered.

Johnson said the viruses were specifically affecting Apple computers in the elementary system. The board's secondary schools, which are in a PC environment, were not affected.

He said 10 schools were significantly infected by viruses, but the numbers have been reduced through cleaning and scanning.

"We have updated and put in more sophisticated virus software,

with the latest inoculations for viruses," noted Johnson. "You pay more for the software, but there's a far greater sense of protection."

Board staff originally thought problems were due to a six-year old North American virus that attaches to operating systems and is activated by a time clock. But two additional viruses were discovered.

Staff and outside computer experts have been working to fix the problem. "We're going to maximize the dollars spent by combining this with regular maintenance that has to be done," noted Johnson.

—By Dennis Smith, special

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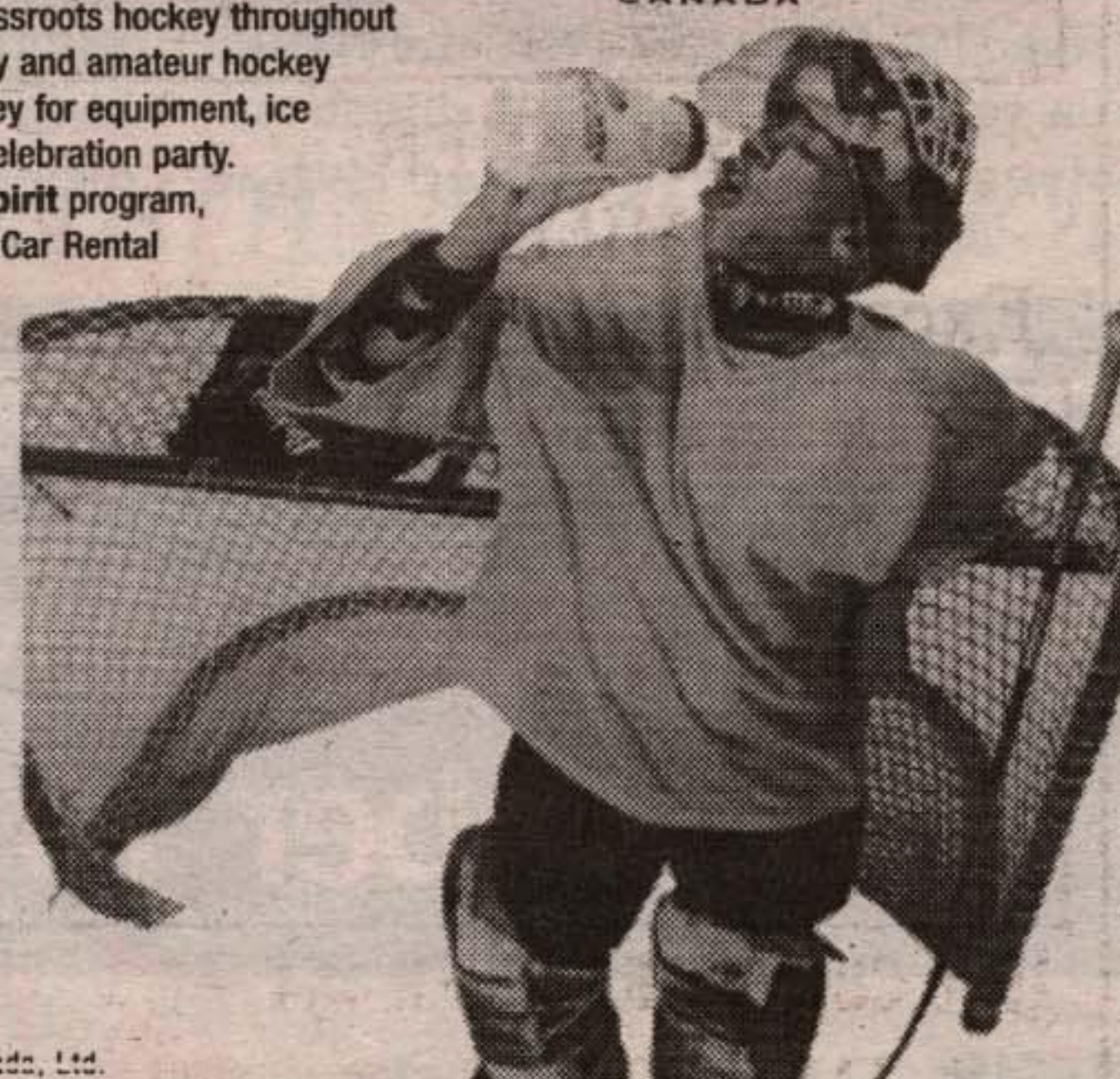
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Aradia Baroque Ensemble
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Lisa Sullivan-Timney
Lisa has performed in opera, musical theatre, oratorio and Christian musical productions. Trained at the University of Toronto, she has performed widely in Canada and the United States. She and her husband, Patrick, reside with their family in Georgetown South.

Patrick Timney
Patrick began an operatic career in 1985 as a member of the Canadian Opera Company Ensemble and has performed extensively in Canada and the USA. He has appeared with the Toronto Symphony, Chicago Symphony and others and portrayed Monsieur Andre in the Canadian National Tour of the "Phantom of the Opera"

Carolynne Godin
Carolynne trained in Kingston and attended opera school at the University of Toronto. She performed with the Elmer Iseler Singers for a number of years and has given many and various types of solo performances. She made her first CD this year with the Elmer Iseler Singers. Like Lisa, she teaches voice and has a full and busy family and professional life.

Lenard Whiting
Lenard is a graduate of the opera division of the University of Toronto and has worked with many opera companies. He is an organist and choir director in North York and musical instructor with the University of Toronto. He has had wide solo experience with a number of companies and in a variety of musical styles.

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