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## NEWS AT A GLANCE

### Grits to meet

■ The provincial Halton Liberal candidate will be selected by the riding association at a meeting in Milton tonight (Wednesday). Three Halton residents, John Day of Halton Hills, Mohan Anand of Oakville and Paul Tate of Milton are vying for the candidacy.

The meeting will be held at Tonnelli Arena on Laurier Ave. in Milton at 7:30 p.m.

### FCP nomination

■ The Halton Constituency Association of the Family Coalition Party (FCP) of Ontario will hold its provincial nomination meeting tomorrow (Thursday). The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Optimist Club at 311 Commercial Ave., Milton.

### Dangerous prank

■ Cleaning staff recently discovered pieces of razor blades wedged into the seams along the side of the Bell pay phones at Georgetown Marketplace. Halton Police say they are looking at the incident very seriously.

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## Cheers!

Dipping into their own concoction called Pink Orchid, Georgetown District High School students Stephanie Grave, Kate Sparling and Nicole Brown were among the teams from local high schools who took part in the Ultimate Mix High School Challenge at Georgetown Marketplace Mall Thursday afternoon. Although the non-alcoholic drinks were judged for their taste, name and appearance, the true indication of the competition seemed to be the presentation of the drink, complete with costumes, props and music. The second annual competition was organized by the Canadian Automobile Association (CAA) South Central Ontario and Trauma Prevention Council, to build awareness about serving and consuming alcohol.

Photo by Ted Brown

## Region wants current ambulance service... for now

**H**alton Region has voted to open negotiations with the current suppliers of ambulance service.

The region is to take over ambulance service by Jan. 1, 2000 but the province recently extended the deadline by one year. The province also announced that it will pick up 50 per cent of the funding for ambulance service.

Until it officially takes the reigns, Halton Region has decided to work with its current suppliers, Halton Hills Ambulance Service and Mississauga Halton Ambulance Service.

"We're very comfortable with both," said Dr. Bob Nosal, Halton's medical officer of health. "We have a long history of working closely with them and this gives us the ability to decide what to do in the future."

"It's probably the best (scenario) we could hope for right now," said Gord Kearsy, president of Halton Hills Ambulance Service.

Not everyone supported the region's decision, though. The Ontario Council of Hospital Unions/Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) were outside the Georgetown hospital the day after the

region made its decision. CUPE paramedic Carmen D'Angelo said he and fellow paramedics are visiting towns and cities to raise community awareness about the downloading of ambulance service and the threat of privatization. D'Angelo was pushing for an in-house ambulance service that would make paramedics regional employees, something which both York and Durham Regions did. He said that would ensure ambulance service would not be privatized, which could lead to patients being billed for ambulance service.

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