

**Wheels section**

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**GEORGETOWN Track and field results**

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# The Independent

## Weekend Edition & Free Press

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### NEWS AT A GLANCE

#### Backhoe stolen

■ A \$40,000 backhoe was stolen from the River Dr. and Lynden Circle area sometime between Friday and Tuesday.

The backhoe, a 1993 Case 580 Super K, is yellow and orange.

Halton Police say the keys weren't in it at the time.

#### Candidates meet

■ The last of four all-candidates' meetings for the riding of Halton will take place Monday, May 31 at the Library's Cultural Centre on Church Street in Georgetown.

Incumbent MPP Ted Chudleigh of the Progressive Conservatives, Mohan Anand of the Liberals, Jay Jackson of the NDP, Bill Champ of the Green Party and Giuseppe Gori of the Family Coalition Party are expected to be in attendance.

The event will run from 7:30-9:30 p.m.

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### Flower power

With a forecast calling for nothing but sunshine, Lisa Buck of Georgetown armed herself with trowel and box plants as she filled out her flower beds. Gardeners should delight this weekend as the weather office is calling for sunny skies and warm temperatures.

Photo by Ted Brown

## Police review calls for hiring of 37 officers

While a review released this week of the Halton Regional Police Service (HRPS) calls for only a fine-tuning of the force, it is recommending the hiring of 37 additional officers.

"Bringing Into Focus," a document prepared by the consulting firm of Perivale and Taylor, was formally presented to the HRPS Board yesterday (Thursday) morning. In it, the findings address changing the police service's rank structure and seeking supplementary funding for vital programs, but the document states clearly that large-scale changes are not required.

"The suggested refinements in this report are simply that, refinements, proposed to improve structures and processes," states the report. "There are no strategic changes or wholesale realignments required. The community of Halton Region is policed well by dedicated officers and civilian staff."

According to the report, "all the principal elements of an effective and efficient policing service exist within the HRPS."

The report offers suggestions for enhancing service—in short, to make the best use of available resources and determine where additional staffing is needed and how it should be re-organized.

The report does state, however, that "important functions within the service are short of staff." To that end the report calls for the hiring of 37 new officers, 13 more than the 24 new constables already approved.

The report also recommends the creation of new positions including: four new staff sergeants, two additional

See REVIEW, pg. 5

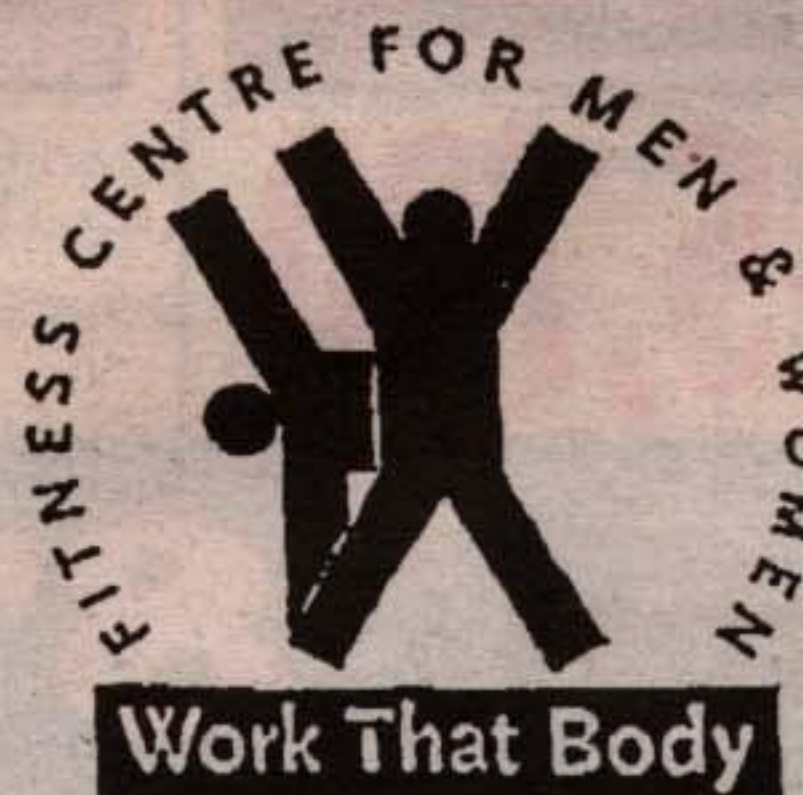
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