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NEWS AT A GLANCE

Chlorine spilled

■ A 41-year-old Ballinafad man received minor injuries when the tap on a chlorine tank at Nikki's Pools on Guelph St. broke Saturday morning spilling approximately 200 gallons of chlorine on him and the floor.

Halton Hills firefighters were called. They hosed off the man and administered oxygen and called in their Hazardous Material team to contain the spill and remove the liquid.

The injured man was taken to Georgetown Hospital then later transferred to Peel Memorial Hospital. He has since been released.

\$6,000 break-in

■ Two sets of golf clubs and two fishing rods valued at \$6,000 were stolen from an unlocked garage on Dairy Dr. in Acton sometime Thursday morning. Halton Police remind area residents to keep their sheds and garages locked.

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A Halton Regional Police drug squad officer chops down some marijuana plants in a grove near Acton last Thursday. Photo by Ted Brown

'Eye in the sky' leads police to \$1M pot seizure

Halton Regional Police Service made good use of its helicopter last week when a search from the air of rural areas in Halton Hills, Milton and Burlington resulted in the seizure of more than \$1.5 million worth of marijuana plants. The bulk of the plants, about \$1 million worth, were found in Halton Hills.

Staff Sgt. Bruce Mitchell of Halton's Drug and Morality Bureau said four marijuana growing sites were found in Halton Hills. About 400 plants were found between Blue Springs Golf Course and the Blue Springs Scout Reserve, 486 in Limehouse, about 200 between Hwy 7 and Dublin Line and 20 to 30 small plants in the 17 Sideroad and Hwy. 25 area.

Mitchell said the plants were found on private property near the edge of bush lines and water and, in most cases, the property owner was unaware they were there. He said a healthy plant can yield more than \$1,000 worth of marijuana.

Const. Jeff Corey, co-ordinator of the Halton Regional Police helicopter project, said the marijuana plants, found in secluded rural areas, ranged in height from three to 12 feet.

The marijuana was spotted from the air with the help of two expert observers from the OPP

See HELICOPTER, pg. 3

Acton to get 24-hour ambulance service

Beginning next month the Acton ambulance station will be staffed 24 hours a day seven days a week which should significantly reduce response times.

The increase in service for Acton and the surrounding rural area was announced by Regional Chairman Joyce Savoline at the Acton ambulance station Friday morning.

Currently, the Acton ambulance station is staffed 12 hours a day Monday to Friday (nights) and 24 hours a day on the weekends by volunteer paramedics of Halton Hills Ambulance Service. When the 24-hour coverage is to be introduced on September 20, two paid staff will work the day shifts Monday to Friday and the volunteers will continue to work nights and weekends.

Jim King, Halton's Director of Land Ambulance Services, said currently when the station isn't staffed or the attendants are out on a call, an ambulance has to come from Georgetown, Guelph, Milton, Streetsville, Brampton or Orangeville. Depending on where the ambulance have to come from response times range from 15 to 26 minutes.

See AMBULANCE, pg. 3

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