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The Inception and England Wednesday, November 10, 1999 44 Pages Vol. 122 No. 31

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One dead, 11 hurt in collision



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Halton Hills firefighters carry an injured passenger away from the derailed VIA Rail train following Tuesday's accident. The train derailed after colliding with a gravel truck on Fourth Line, just north of 22 Side Road. Below, an aerial photo from H.A.R.P. Security (Air Division) of Oakville shows the scene of the crash. The truck driver was pronounced dead at the scene while 11 people aboard the train were taken to Georgetown Hospital. All but one of the victims were treated and released. The uninjured passengers were taken to the Georgetown police station and later transferred to a bus to continue their trip.

Left photo by Ted Brown

Train passengers were 'lucky'

A passenger train leaving Georgetown Tuesday morning derailed after colliding with a dump truck, killing the truck driver and injuring 11 aboard the train.

Nine passengers and two members of the train's crew were taken to Georgetown Hospital to be treated for minor injuries. All but one passenger was treated and released.

At press time the identity of the truck driver had not been released but police say the driver, in his 20's, was not from Halton Hills.

The train, carrying 37 passengers and four crew, originated in Toronto and was bound for Chicago with about a dozen stops along the way. A VIA Rail spokesperson confirmed the train stopped in Georgetown at 8:39 a.m. Mike Regimbal, senior advisor with operational

safety for VIA, said, according to the passenger manifest, three people were to board the train in Georgetown.

The crossing had lights and bells, which were operating at the time of the crash, but no barriers.

"Every indication is that everything that was supposed to be working was working," Regimbal said.

The accident occured shortly after 9 a.m., as the westbound train passed a level crossing on Fourth Line just north of 22 Sideroad. It collided with the loaded dump truck and jumped the track. The engine spun around, landing on its side on the rails facing east. The first passenger car separated from the engine

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