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Raiders first ...for now

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NEWS AT A GLANCE

Woman charged

A Rockwood woman was charged with assault after an off-duty Halton Police officer was spat upon Friday afternoon.

The officer stopped to intervene when he saw two females fighting on the front lawn of a Victoria Ave. home in Acton. He identified himself as a police officer, and one woman spit in his face while he attempted to apprehend her.

Charged is Wendy Titus, 39, of Rockwood South.

Vehicle stolen

■ Police are investigating the theft of a \$20,000 1969 Pontiac Beaumont, from a Hwy. 7 business sometime late Tuesday or early Wednesday.

Scary theft

Halton Police report a four-foot scarecrow, valued at \$150, was stolen from the front step of a Smith Dr., Georgetown home late Friday or early Saturday.

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Re-leaf workers

First Ashgrove Scouts Tylyr Tombs, 11, (left) and Simon Treviranus, 10, were out Sunday raking and bagging leaves for area residents in a bid to raise funds for a trip to Prince Edward Island in July for the Scout Jamboree. The local troop will do the leaf work for a donation towards their trip. To book the scouts call 873-0855 or 875-4526.

> Photo by Yvonne Gaynor

Arena decision put on ice

alton Hills council has iced a decision on whether to go ahead with Ltwinning Alcott Arena until a special council meeting in two weeks.

Monday councillors expressed shock and dismay over a staff report that construction bids were much higher than the budgeted amount of \$4.1 million. Even accepting the lowest bid, would put the cost at \$6 million.

The extra costs are attributed to the high demand for construction firms and sub-contractors to build in the GTA area, and the resulting escalating prices for services and materials.

However, seemingly determined to go ahead with the project, councillors directed staff and the project architects to find cost savings, without substantially changing the project—between \$200,000-400,000 worth of items. This could include things such as changing flooring finishes, reducing spectator seating or eliminating some

painting on the steel beams.

Ward 4 Councillor Ron Chatten warned, "We're not building a Cadillac here, so we're going to have to be careful about the number of cutbacks."

Once reductions have been found, the project team will go back to the four bidders to see if they'll adjust their bids. Then the project team will report back on Thursday, November 9, at a special council meeting at 5:30 p.m. for council direction.

However, despite any found reductions, the pricetag will be in the \$5.9-\$6 million range. So, at that meeting, councillors will need to consider their options: to accept the new cuts as proposed, to pay for the current plan with the extra \$2 million pricetag, or to re-tender again with major design changes (a substantially scaled-down project) and hope the new bids in February are lower.

See FATE, pg. 3

Acton father killed in crash

34-year-old Acton man was killed, and his wife Land daughter critically injured, after their van was hit by a truck in the intersection at Fifth Line and 25 Sideroad in Milton Sunday night.

Pronounced dead at the scene was Christopher Stuckey of Kingham Rd.

His wife Deborah Stuckey, 38, was pinned in the van and had to be removed by firefighters and police. She was taken to Milton District Hospital then airlifted to Sunnybrook Hospital in critical condition.

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