

The Independent

Weekend Edition & Free Press

BIG
BRILLIANT GOLD JEWELLERY
Georgetown Marketplace
(By The Foodcourt)
873-6662
JEWELLERY DESIGN & REPAIR

50¢ (+ GST) Serving Halton Hills Friday, August 24, 2001 48 Pages 18,700 copies

Teachers okay contract change that paves way for return of extracurriculars

hopes are high for a return to extracurriculars by more Halton public high school teachers, following a vote Tuesday.

A resounding 96 per cent of teachers approved a contract amendment allowing them more time to volunteer for extracurriculars. About 320 teachers cast ballots.

Most people who withdrew from extracurriculars will come back, said the president of The Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation District 20 (Halton).

"Will it be a 100 per cent return— no," said Joe Harwood. "But I think the people who didn't do extracurriculars will come forward and pick up what they've done before."

The secondary teachers' union leader said making exact comparisons will be difficult because of retirements and situations where students or community volunteers have led extracurriculars.

"I'm hopeful all schools across Halton will have a full range of extra-curricular activities," said Halton Hills Trustee and Halton District School Board chair Ethel Gardiner.

Halton District School Board secondary teachers reduced support last year of extracurricular activities like sports, arts, extra academic help, clubs and special events.

The reductions were in response having to handle an extra half-class, plus leading Teacher Advisory Programs, which involve providing career planning and student support.

Union leaders said this represented a workload of 6.67 classes per year, instead of the traditional six classes.

"The extra half-course had meant new preparation and marking requirements," said Harwood. "Now, there will be more time during the day for the work that's involved in preparing for classes."

See HIGH, pg. 3

One for the record books

Robert Wadlow, the world's tallest man, wasn't really at Fraser Direct this week to promote the distribution of the 2002 edition of the Guinness Book of World Records, but Fraser Direct employees (from left) Amy McDougall, Katie Fraser and Art Stopforth took a few minutes from packing the 200,000 books to check out the nine-foot life-sized statue that is used to promote the newest edition. Photo by Ted Brown



Police say violent crime is on the rise

While violent crime has increased in Halton during the first six months of the year compared to the same period in 2000, Halton Hills has seen an even more dramatic jump.

Violent crime in Halton Hills rose 29.6 per cent in the first six months and in Halton it was up by 16.5 per cent.

According to Halton Regional Police statistics in Halton Hills, domestic assault rose 39.1 per cent (from 23 to 32), robbery 33.3 per cent (from 3 to 4), sex offences 27.3 per cent (from 11 to 14) and assault 26.8 per cent (from 71 to 90).



EAN ALGAR

Halton Detective Sgt. Jackie Gordon stressed while percentage changes may appear significant, the actual change in the number of occurrences often is very small.

Gordon said the increase in domestic assault occurrences is likely due to a change in the way police now deal with those types of crimes. Changes were made due to recommendations that arose from a coroner's inquest into the 1996 death of an Oshawa woman.

She said as a result now more incidents fall under the domestic assault category, and Halton Police have designated a domestic violence co-ordinator.

"We've had an increase in kids fighting— bullying incidents," said Gordon about the hike in the number of assaults in Halton Hills.

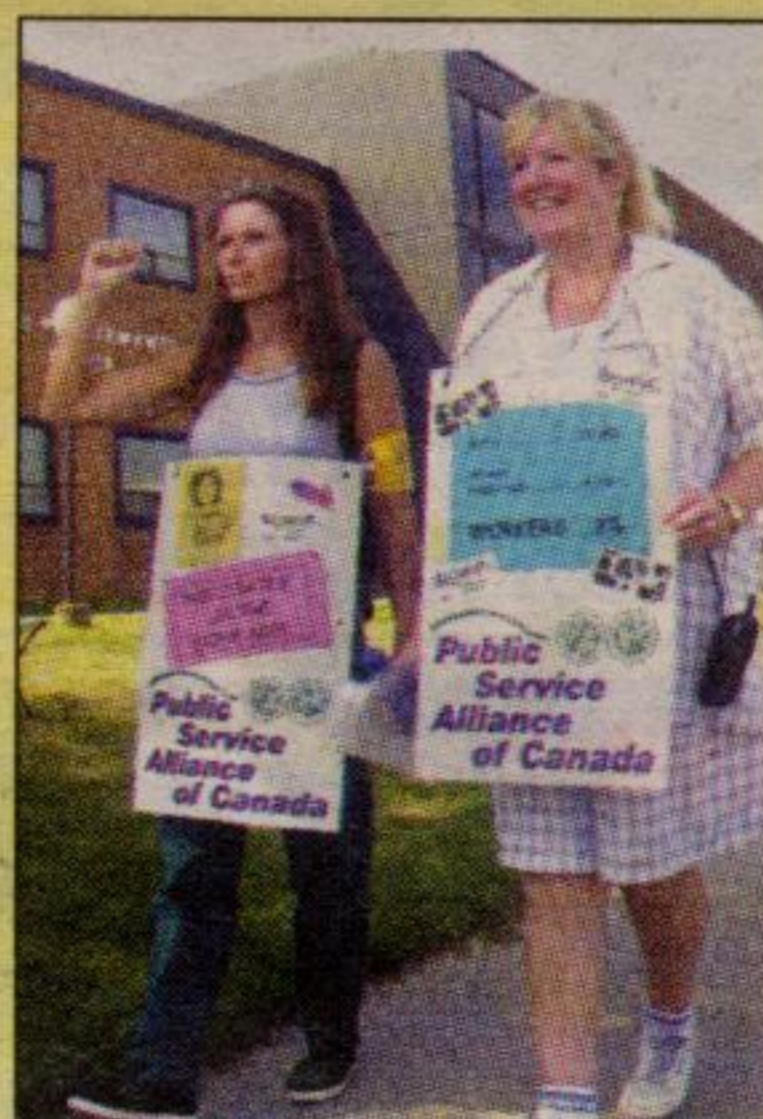
Across Halton, domestic assault increased 36 per cent (from 136 to 185), followed by sex offences at 31.1 per cent (from 74 to 97). Robbery and fraud were also on the rise at 26.8 per cent (from 41 to 52) and 29.9 per cent (from 274 to 356) respectively.

Also increasing so far this year in Halton Hills was theft over \$5,000 which was up 85.7 per cent (from 7 to 13), auto theft by 75.8 per cent (from 33 to 58) and fraud by 50 per cent (from 24 to 36).

See POLICE, pg. 3

INSIDE

Editorial.....	6
A Ted Bit.....	7
Town Hall News.....	13
Classifieds.....	14-17
Sports.....	S/L 1, 2
What's Cookin'.....	S/L 5
Entertainment.....	S/L 7



Federal workers walk the line ...page 2



STOP 'N' CASH
WHERE EVERYDAY IS PAYDAY

NOW OPEN IN GEORGETOWN

INSTANT CASH, NO CREDIT CHECK, APPROVAL BY PHONE!

Call (Local) 310-CASH Now
2274