

# The Independent & Free Press

Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2001 44 Pages Vol. 124 No. 23

50¢ (+ GST)

Serving Georgetown, Acton and surrounding areas

18,900 copies

**ONE**  
Weekend  
**TWO**  
Weekends  
**FREE**  
Weekend  
354 Guelph St. Georgetown  
(905) 873-1828  
**Discount**  
CAR AND TRUCK RENTALS



## Local teenagers on dream flight caught in U.S. day of tragedy

A plane carrying a load of children and adolescents, including two teens from Halton Hills, hoping to enjoy their first visit to Disney World, had their dreams dashed by Tuesday's terrorist attacks in the United States.

SkyService Flight 426, which departed Hamilton's John C. Munro International Airport Tuesday morning, passed over the Washington D.C. area around 9 a.m., about the same time the terrorist campaign started.

The special charter flight was headed to Orlando, Fla. with 95 children aged 6-19. The youths and teenagers, who have severe physical disabilities or life-threatening illnesses, were anticipating fun in the sun and meetings with Mickey Mouse, Goofy and Donald Duck through the Sunshine Dreams For Kids Dreamlift event.

Instead, their once-in-a-lifetime trip was cancelled as Disney World and its older sister, Disneyland in California, were both closed at noon in reaction to the plane crashes into the World Trade Centre in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington D.C.

Samuel Palmiere, 13, (right) of Halton Hills was upset and frustrated to be stranded in an Orlando hotel Tuesday. Samuel and his sister Alexis, 16, (left) were both on a Sunshine Dreams for Kids Sunshine Dreamlift flight to Walt Disney World for

children with severe disabilities. They couldn't go to Disney World and were unable to fly home Tuesday as a result of the terrorist attacks on the United States.

Photo by Ron Kuzyk

See TEENS, pg. 5

### THE TERRY FOX RUN

**200**  
for cancer research

Fox runs set for Sunday  
...pages 13, 22, 23

### INSIDE

Town Hall News.....	4
Editorial.....	6
This 'n That.....	7
Classifieds.....	17-20
Sports.....	S/L1, 3

## Car found in Acton may be linked to death of Belwood man

A car found in Acton Sunday evening is undergoing forensic testing to determine if it was involved in the death of a Belwood man who was found unconscious on the 9th Line of Erin Township early Sunday.

Initially, County of Wellington OPP investigators believed Matthew James Virgin, 19, was the victim of a hit and run accident, however, after further investigation they are treating the death as a homicide.

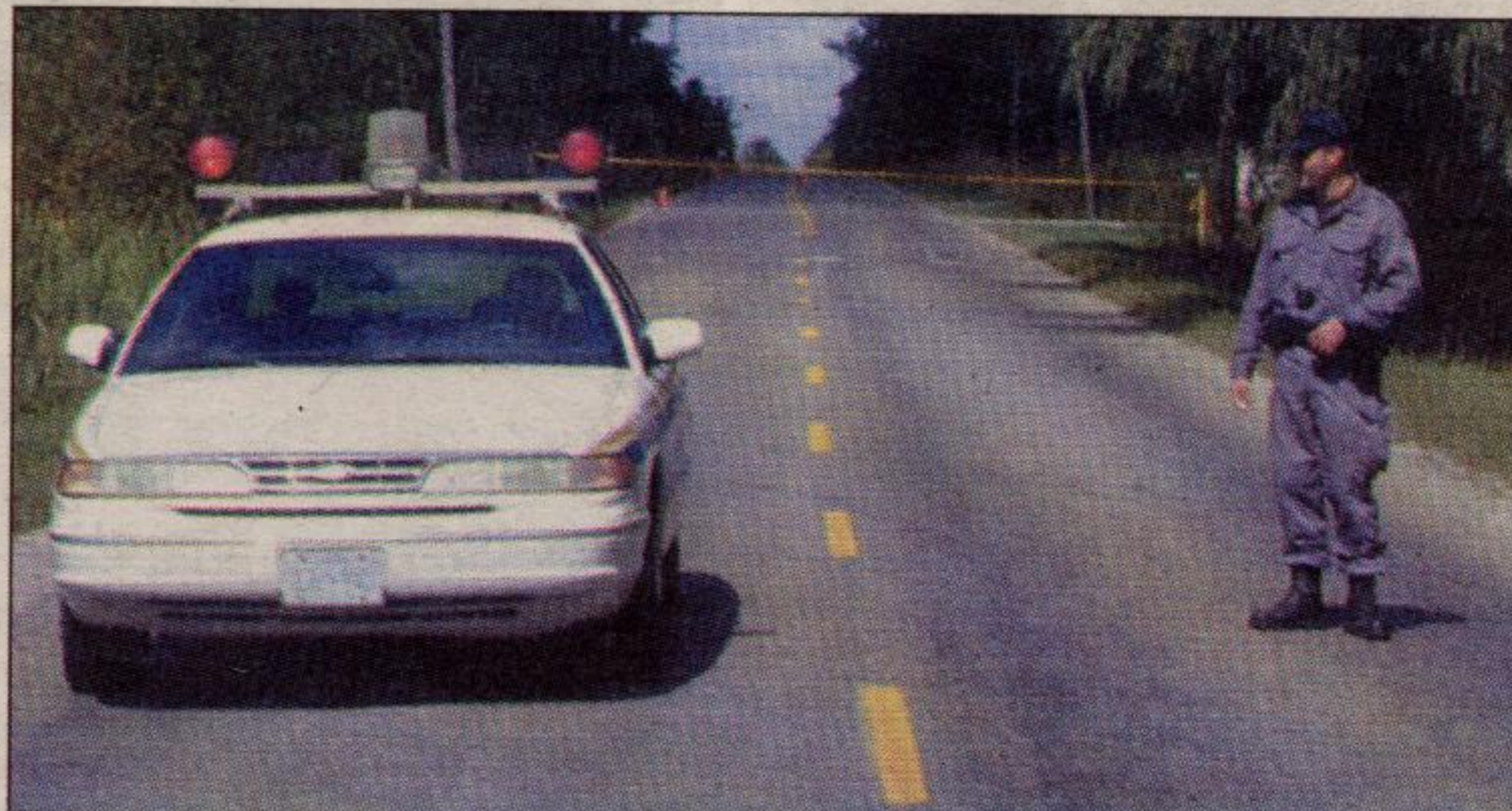
Virgin was taken to Georgetown Hospital and later transferred to Hamilton General Hospital where he died Monday.

Detective Staff Sgt. Frank Young said police removed a blue four-door car from a Cook St. address Sunday evening and are awaiting results of tests being done at the OPP Forensic Identification Unit in Orillia to determine if it had anything to do with Virgin's death.

Young said he didn't believe the registered owner of the car was from Acton.

A post mortem was done Tuesday to determine the cause of death.

Anyone who has any information that might help police solve the crime are asked to call the Guelph Detachment of the OPP at 519-822-7250 or Wellington County Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.



Wellington OPP officers guard a stretch of the Ninth Line in Erin following the death of a Belwood man. Photo by Jill Beshiri

**Achilles**



**mazda**

Get In. Be Moved.

### 2001 Protegé LX ... Zoom-Zoom with Room-Room

Achilles Mazda presents the 2001 Mazda Protegé LX with an impressive list of standard equipment that includes:



D4LSS1 AC00

- ✓ Air Condition
- ✓ New 2.0L 4 Cylinder
- ✓ 15" Wheels
- ✓ Available Keyless Entry
- ✓ Standard Map Lights
- ✓ Heart Racing Yet? It Will Be.
- ✓ Standard AM/FM CD Stereo
- ✓ Larger Fuel Tank
- ✓ 60/40 Split Rear Seats
- ✓ Standard Floor Mats
- ✓ Tachometer

Flame decals sold separately

**0 Payments for 90 days on all 2001 Mazdas**

**Extended**  
**Until**  
**Sept. 30**

Finance the 2001 Protegé

for **0.9%**  
Up to 36 Months

Or Cash Purchase Price  
From

**\$16,250.**

\*plus Freight/PDE and taxes

Achilles Mazda Ltd.

357 Queen St. ACTON

519-853-0200 • 905-453-8965