

Teacher talks break off

What appeared to be promising contracts talks between the Halton District School Board and the union representing its secondary school teachers have broken down.

Two weeks after the president of the Halton union announced he was optimistic a deal could be reached this week, Joe Harwood said he's back to being frustrated.

"We continued to make some minor progress, but when it came down to the short strokes the board is not prepared to mirror settlements across the province. So we stopped."

The president of the 750 full-time equivalent high school teachers with the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, District 20, said the two sides talked from 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday.

Provincially-appointed mediator Greg Long presided over the meeting.

No new negotiating dates have been set. Halton's public high school teachers have been working without a collective agreement since August 31, 2002.

"The sticking point is a pattern set across the province for split (salary) grids for higher-end rates... and the board's not prepared to make that kind of settlement," Harwood said.

Harwood said about two dozen school boards have settled contracts with their high school teachers. The average final settlement figure for one year is about 4.2 per cent.

"We're looking at less than some of the settlements and more than others. We believe that Halton teachers should be somewhere in the middle of the province."

The board's current offer, said Harwood, would put Halton last in the province in terms of the top-end of the pay scale for senior teachers.

Dawn Beckett-Morton, the chief negotiator for the Halton board, indicated she's as frus-

trated as Harwood.

"It's very hard for people to understand that a board like Halton, which is a very rich community for the most part ... we are a very poor school board," she said.

"It's very hard for everyone to accept, including us. When we look at the resources we have available for salary and contracts it is not comparable to the other boards," said Beckett-Morton.

"It's not that we are trying to pick a fight with anybody in the whole thing."

Harwood is a little more optimistic about making headway on non-monetary contract items.

"There are three or four issues still outstanding. The board seemed to indicate they were prepared to move on those and they are going to give us a response in the next couple of days."

The union's current work-to-rule campaign, which includes not covering on-call assignments for absent teachers, is not being increased at this time, said Harwood.

—By Tim Whitnell, special

Female bouncer faces assault charge

Halton Police have charged a Georgetown woman who works as a bouncer at Nashville North with assault in connection with an incident at the bar last month.

Halton Police report that at 1:30 a.m. on April 19 a 20-year-old Orangeville area woman was being escorted out of the bar when she was punched in the face and stomach. She didn't require medical treatment.

Charged is Jennie Harlow, 23, of Raylawn Cr.

After Shedding 24 Lbs. with Hypnosis, Marion Chauvin says, 'I've Kept My Weight Off For 7 Years! It was a Breeze!'

I was overweight and embarrassed by my appearance.



"I called myself the diet guru. Marion Chauvin Before 24 Lb. Weight Loss"

That's when the dieting started.

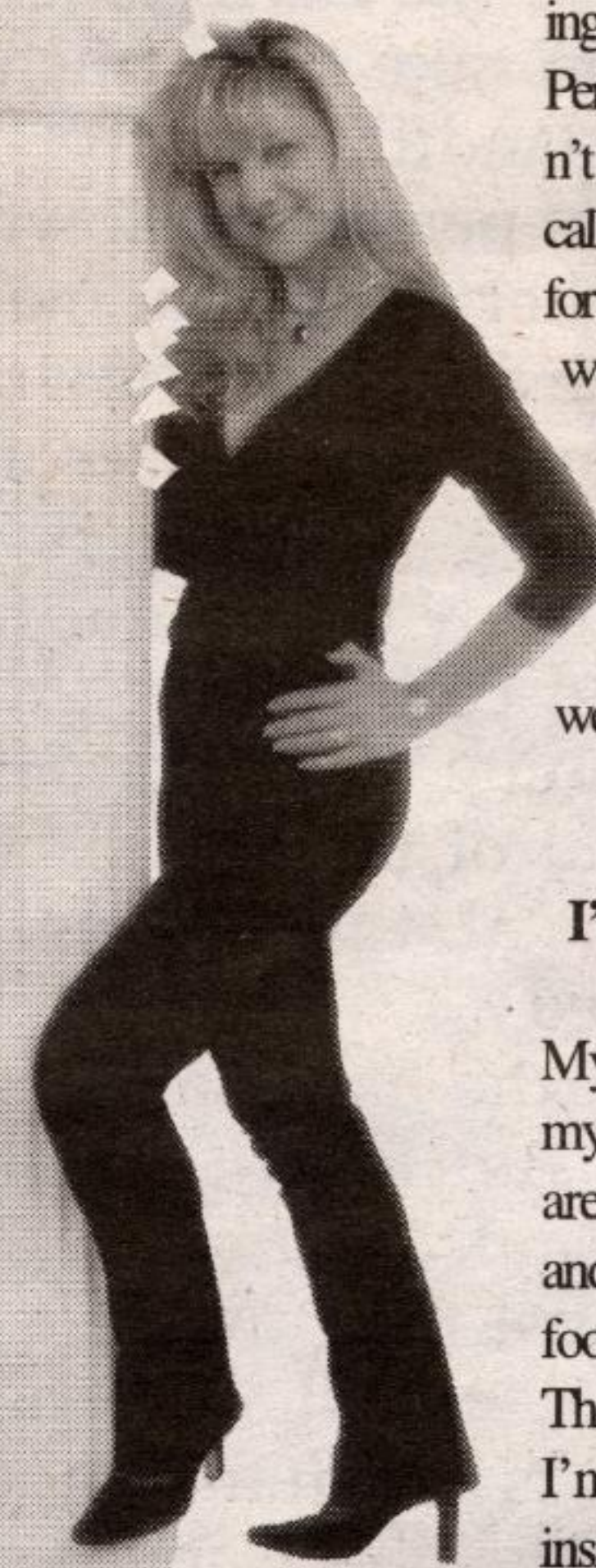
I tried a prepackaged diet one year during the holiday season. I remember bringing all those packets to Thanksgiving dinner. It was ridiculous and I was miserable. I started trying other diets such as shakes and herbal pills. The shakes left me feeling starved and the herbal pills made me a nervous wreck! You name

the diet, I'd tried it. I tried to laugh it off — calling myself the diet guru. But the truth was I felt bloated, awkward and ashamed. Dieting was a constant battle. Something had to change.

I found a brochure in a desk at work that talked about hypnosis and weight loss.

I remember looking at it and thinking it was a hoax. I laughed and stuffed it back in the drawer. For the next few weeks my weight continued to climb. One day, while feeling over-

whelmed by hopelessness, I went back to the drawer and dug out that hypnosis brochure.

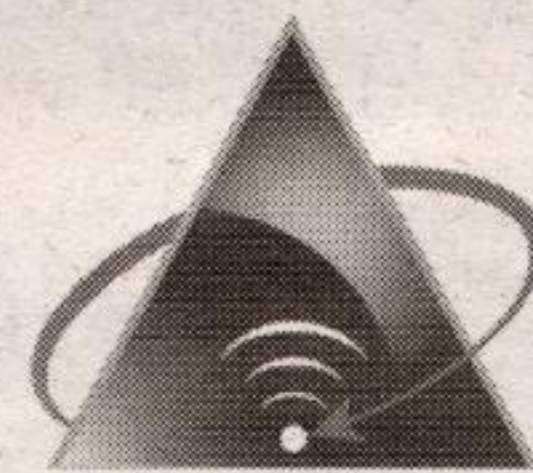


While reading it over, I realized that I had a lot of misconceptions about hypnosis. The information I was reading made good sense. Perhaps hypnosis wasn't a joke after all. I called up and went in for a consultation. That was the best Christmas gift I ever gave myself! I melted off 24 lbs. and kept my weight off for 7 years! **I am 100% confident that I'll never gain my weight back.**

My thoughts about myself and my life are totally different and I don't look at food the same way. Thanks to hypnosis, I'm a new person inside and out.

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