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The Independent

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

44 Pages Vol. 128 No. 47

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Chong lands cabinet posts

Wellington-Halton Hills MP Michael Chong had some new responsibilities added to his job Monday, when he was named as a member of Prime Minister Stephen Harper's cabinet.

Chong, 34, was sworn in Monday as President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Minister of Sport.



MICHAEL CHONG

"I'm honoured to have been asked to serve in Prime Minister Stephen Harper's first cabinet," said Chong. "I will work hard to ensure that Canada is one nation indivisible from coast to coast to coast, so that all Canadians from all regions are an integral part of this great country of ours."

Chong, 34, of Nichol Township, who is serving his second term as MP for the riding said although he now has additional tasks, "I remain committed to my primary responsibility—that is to serve the people of Wellington-Halton Hills as their Member of Parliament in Ottawa."

Prior to being elected, Chong served as an information officer for the NHL Players' Association and senior technology consultant with the Greater Toronto Airports Authority.

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Nose-to-nose

Friday was Red Nose Day at all M&Ms Meat Shops, and Georgetown was no exception as staffers Lori McCaslin (left) and Diane Hallett hammed it up with their red noses in the store located on Guelph Street.
Photo by Ted Brown

Fan faces assault charge after teen hockey referee shoved

A Georgetown man is facing an assault charge after a 15-year-old referee was pushed following a house league Atom hockey game at Mold-Masters SportsPlex last Saturday morning.

Police report the incident occurred Jan. 28 after a male referee from Georgetown disallowed a goal in the game (the average age of the players was 10 years), because he said it was scored after he blew the whistle to stop play.

A fan was enraged by the call, police say, and when the referee was leaving the ice after the game the fan berated and cursed at him, then pushed him, causing

the teenager to sway backwards.

The referee regained his balance and was not injured. He continued walking past the fan into the dressing room.

The incident was reported to league officials and police.

Police say when the fan learned of the police investigation he contacted the investigating officer and voluntarily came to the Georgetown Police station where he "expressed remorse and regret for his actions."

Charged with assault level one is William Kirby, 49, of Confederation St. He is to appear in Burlington Court March 7.

Georgetown Minor Hockey Association House League vice-president Ron Lefebvre said Tuesday the accused was an assistant trainer with a house league select team this year.

Town of Halton Hills Manager of Facilities Paul Stover said police reviewed videotape at the arena on Monday (Jan. 30) but Stover added the videotape didn't capture the incident.

He said Georgetown Minor Hockey Association (GMHA) and the Georgetown Referees' Association were working together on the matter and have sent a letter to the accused suspending him from Halton Hills arenas while his child

is playing hockey.

Stover said the Town has a zero tolerance policy in effect for violence and vandalism at town facilities and will support the decision taken by the league and association.

"We've been speaking with our counsel, and we're still in the process of evaluating the situation and don't want to say anything at this point," said Hal Pells, president of the GMHA on Tuesday.

He confirmed a letter had been issued, but would not comment on its contents.

—By Lisa Tallyn, staff writer



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