



A soggy mess

Workmen were up to their knees in water last week at the Ontario St. underpass construction area thanks to spring rains and runoff. The flooding hampered the GO service and three trains were prevented from making the trip from Milton to Toronto. After the water was pumped out of the area train resumed normal service after a few hours.

Workshop gets chop

Keeping in line with its budgetary restraints, the Halton Board of Education denied funding for a learning objectives chart and a summer workshop for a member of the board's French language advisory committee, Thursday.

The learning chart, from kindergarten to Grade 6, was chopped from the budget by the finance committee, Bob Dixon, superintendent of program told the board. "But if the board feels this is a necessary thing, I would incorporate it as a priority in the already established printing budget," Mr. Dixon suggested.

Mr. Dixon went on to say the printing of the poster size chart could be done at E.C. Drury School to cut the cost from \$15,000 to \$5,000.

"The budget has been pared down to a level which was passed here earlier this evening and now a senior member of management is requesting that an item which isn't in the budget be approved. I think they're (senior staff) in for an awful surprise if they continue to make presentations for money not included in the budget. I hope this is the first and last time such a presentation is made."

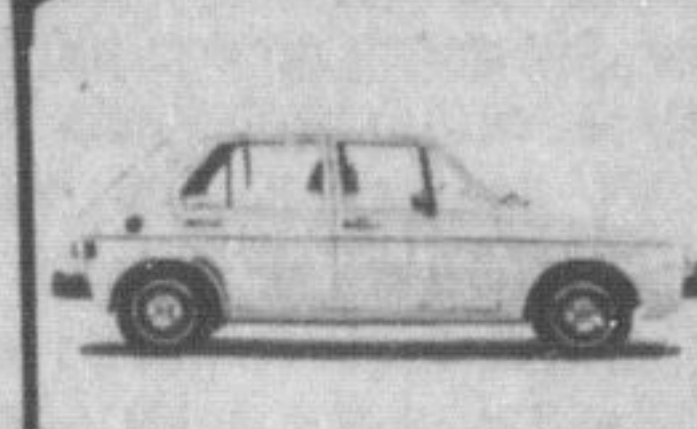
The learning chart was formulated after a year of work by teachers, parents and trustees. It was designed to show teachers and parents, in a clear way, what children are learning in each subject area and at each level. The chart was turned down in the 1981 budget also.

Trustee Betty Fisher asked on behalf of the French language Advisory Committee that \$700 be found to send a member of that committee to a summer workshop. Mr. Dixon said since it was such a small amount of money, he would consider transferring funds from something else to cover that expense.

Trustee Cam Jackson was angry that any more expenditures be brought before the board. "After trying to follow the path of restraint and eliminating all fat on the budget. I would hope to God we're not going to bring forward more expenditures. I have little patience with the idea of coming up with \$700," Jackson said.

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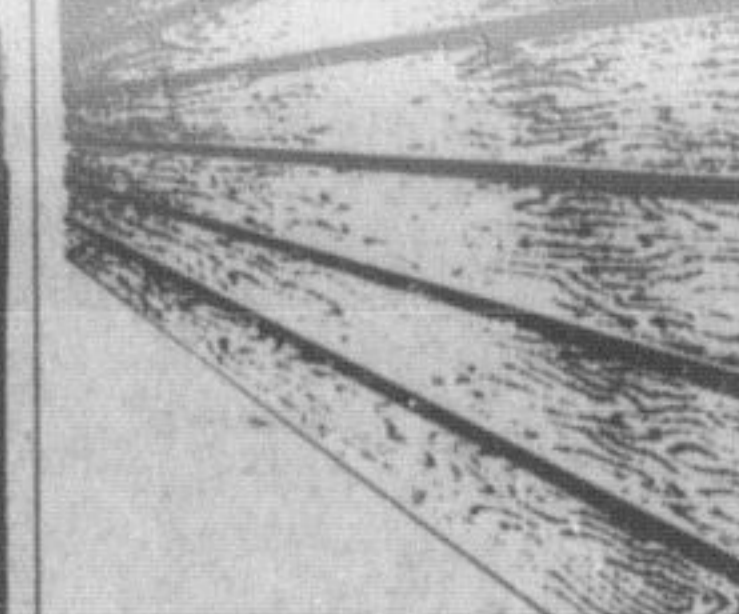


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An extra refrigerator in the basement should be turned on only when absolutely necessary. The cost of running it continuously could be as high as \$10 month.

A home movie screen can be quickly fashioned from any card table. Cover with a white sheet, open just the 2 legs on one side, and place atop another piece of furniture.

To strengthen the corners of a plastic tablecloth so that tears don't happen where table points butt against it, crisscross some adhesive tape to the back of cloth at those four points.

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A whiz at the fair

By JANE MULLER
Champion Reporter

With the road to the future paved with high technology and computer science, 14-year-old Roland Knight has already found his place in this world.

The Milton District High School Grade 9 student earned four first prizes recently at a science fair at McMaster University involving more than 100 students from the Hamilton area. Roland is the first Milton District High School student to participate in the science fair with a 22-year history and his success is likely to spur more local students to participate next year.

While attending Centennial Middle School in Georgetown for Grades 7 and 8, Roland was informed of the science fair and participated both years. His interest in science "began a long time ago," first in the field of electronics. His parents' home in rural Milton has a couple of devices which illustrate the young man's passion including an automatic plant watering system and a door bell which plays different tunes.

His latest scientific endeavours

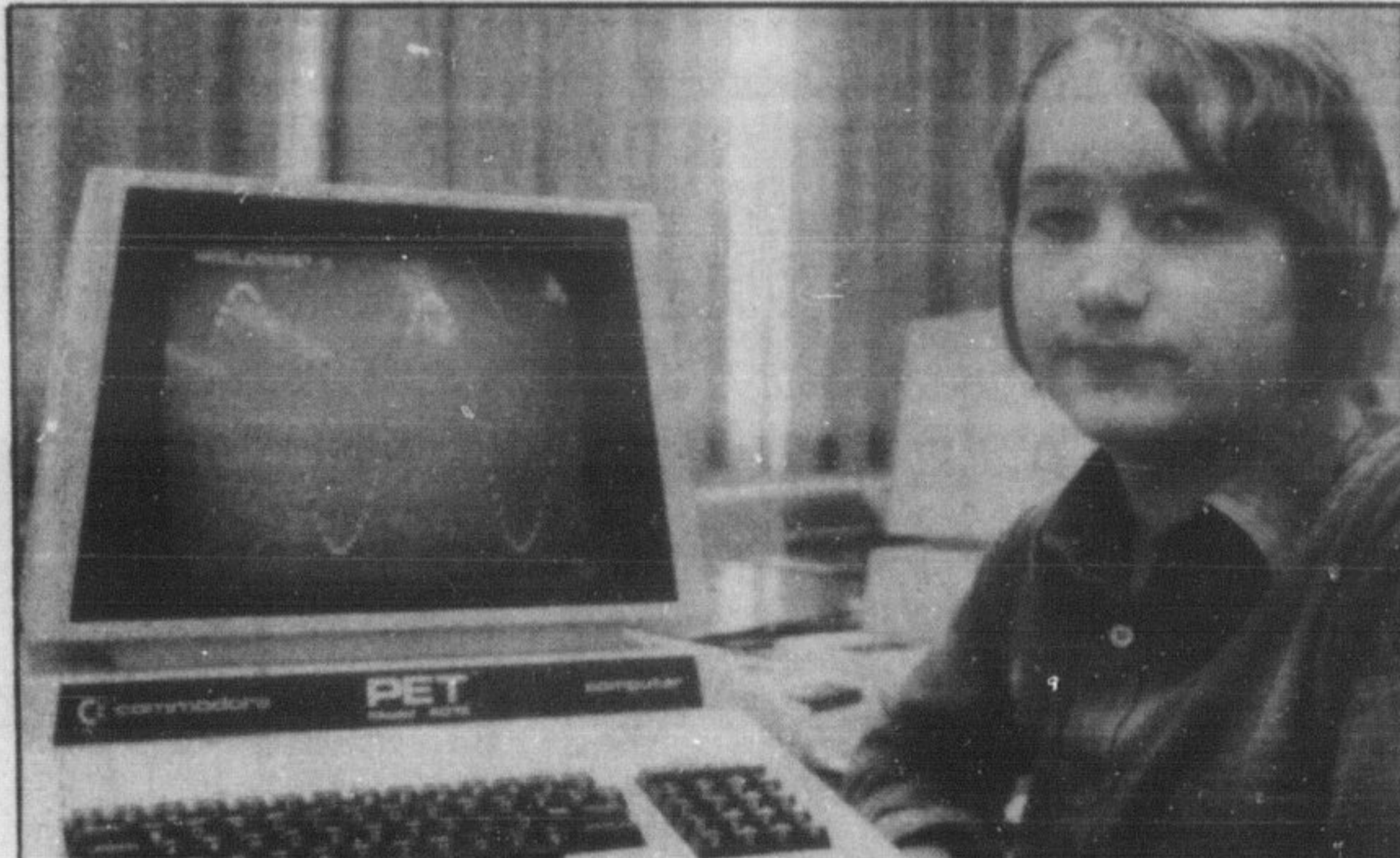
have been with his TRS-80 computer which helped him earn his science fair prizes. With a Grade 9 math average of 98 per cent and a first prize as the school's best math student in his grade, Roland admits his home computer has helped him develop his mathematical skills.

Roland "trained" the TRS-80 to understand certain words and transform them into a language the computer can understand. Essentially the computer learned to comprehend Roland's voice patterns.

Contest judges must have been impressed, awarding Roland four prizes in a field of 35 other intermediate competitors from Grades 9 and 10.

Roland's awards included the Proctor Award, Trustee Merit Award—Physical Sciences Intermediate Level, Instrument Society of America Award and the Mohawk College Admission Award for Engineering and Technology. The four prizes earned the young scientist a few hundred dollars as well as a plaque and added incentive for next year's event.

He plans to build a robot which talks.



Roland Knight not only understands his computer but has trained it to understand his voice patterns.

Liquor dispensers, booze stolen

An estimated \$400 worth of liquor dispensers and liquor were stolen from Halton Hills Place when thieves broke into the banquet hall over the weekend.

Halton Regional Police said thieves gained entry into the Steeles Ave. address by breaking two windows.

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