

Williams to consult board during leave

By **TIM WHITNELL**
Special to The Champion

Former Halton Board of Education director Bob Williams, who stepped down earlier this year to take on the position of a superintendent, is taking an unpaid leave of absence. However, he has been brought back as a consultant.

Director of education Dusty Papke said as part of an agreement to grant Mr. Williams a leave of absence, the former director is allowed to put in up to 20 per cent of his regular work hours.

Mr. Williams was granted a one-year leave of absence by the board in June to commence in August. At the time, Mr. Williams said he would be doing research related to his pursuit of a doctorate in education, as well as consultation in the

public and private sector.

The new director said Mr. Williams will likely work the equivalent of about one day per week at the board offices on Guelph Line. He will have an office that will be used by others when he's not there, said Mr. Papke. Mr. Williams will be paid at his superintendent's rate.

"He'll be heading up our leadership program, which is an in-service, of staff development," said Mr. Papke.

"One thing we're concerned about is the demographics of our teaching population," said Mr. Papke.

The board is worried about shortage statistics that indicate, as Mr. Papke put it, "around the year 2000 there will be a mass exodus of teachers." The director said the



Bob Williams

board is comprised of many veteran instructors, as well as principals and vice-principals, who may opt to retire around the millennium.

That's where Mr. Williams comes in.

"There is the potential for a leadership vacuum, in particular in relation to principals and V-Ps, and

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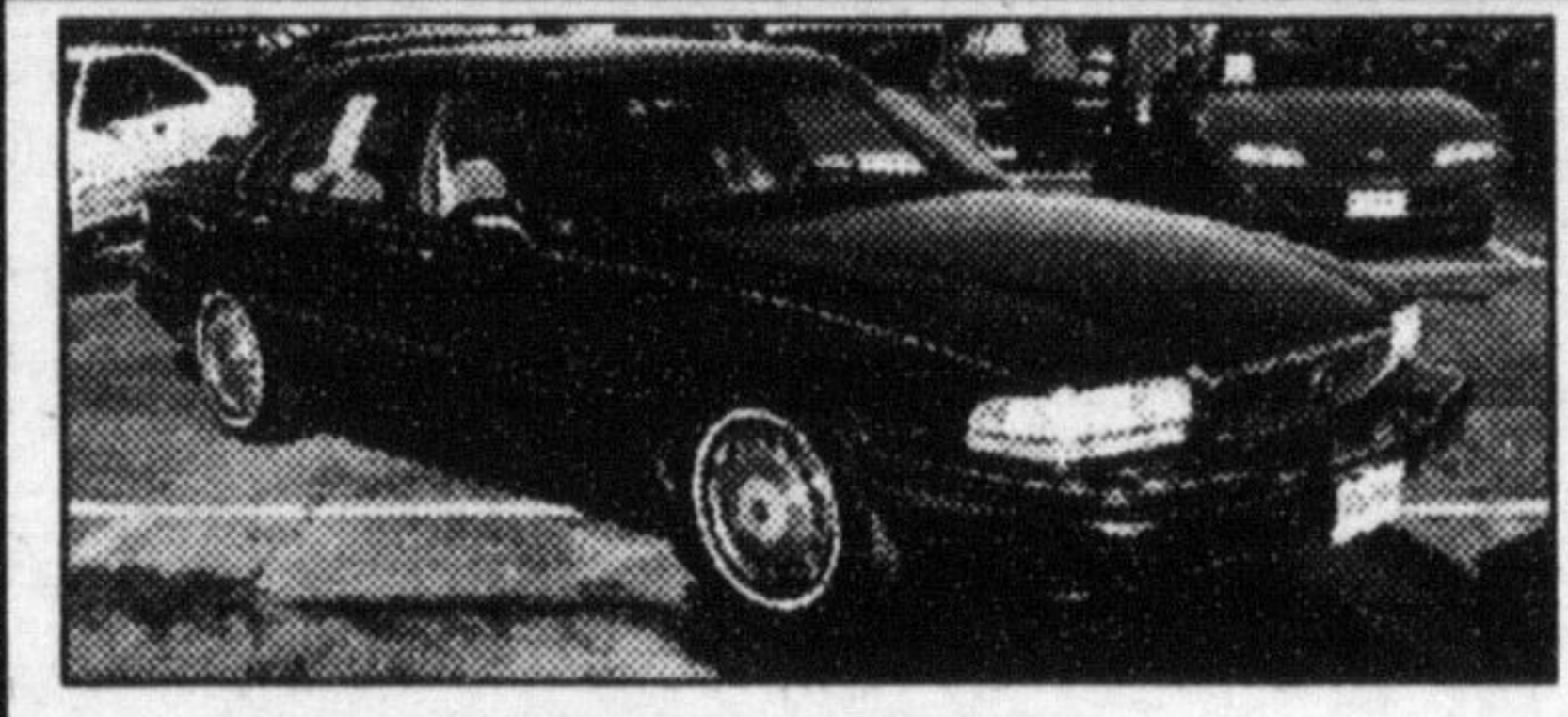
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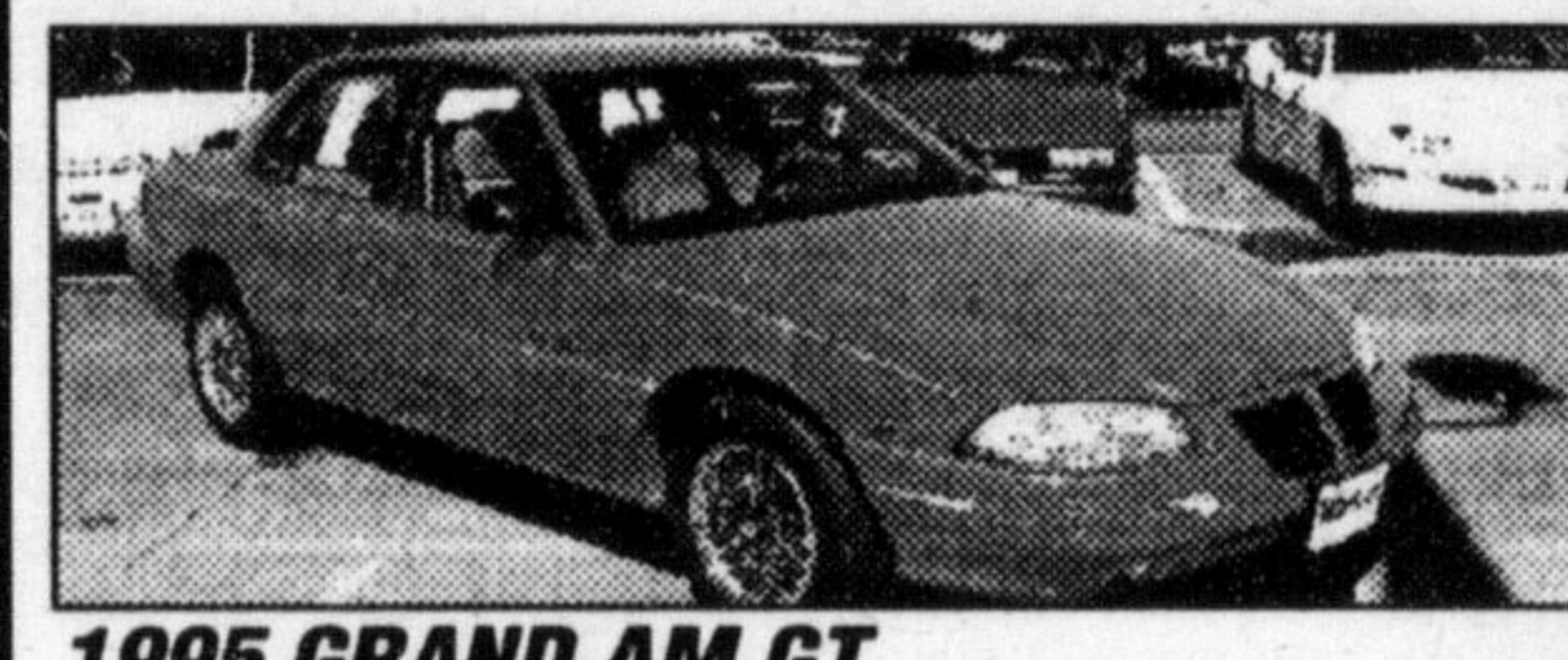
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