Spectator is fined \$1,000 over trial mistake

Hamilton's daily newspaper has been fined \$1,000 for disobeying a court order and publishing banned information in the Keith Madeley murder trial.

The Southam Inc.-owned Spectator pleaded guilty to the charges in Ontario Court (provincial division) in Milton Monday in connection with a March 12 story.

Judge Douglas Latimer heard that the newspaper didn't purposely ignore the publication ban, but an offending paragraph in a story slipped through lastminute editing before a verdict had been reached.

The paper was criticized for creating the potential for a mistrial while a jury was in deliberations to determine if Madeley was guilty of first-degree-murder in the 1995 slaying of 77-year-old Fred Sheppard of Steeles Avenue.

The trial judge, Justice Robert Blair, had prohibited publication of his ruling that a confession by Madeley was inadmissible at the trial because the suspect has been assaulted by a Halton Regional Police detective during questioning.

A paragraph in the story by reporter Tony Fitz-Gerald tied the ruling to the confession before the jury reached a verdict, contrary to the ban and, in turn, the Criminal Code of Canada.

Deputy editor Dana Robbins pleaded guilty on behalf of the newspaper.

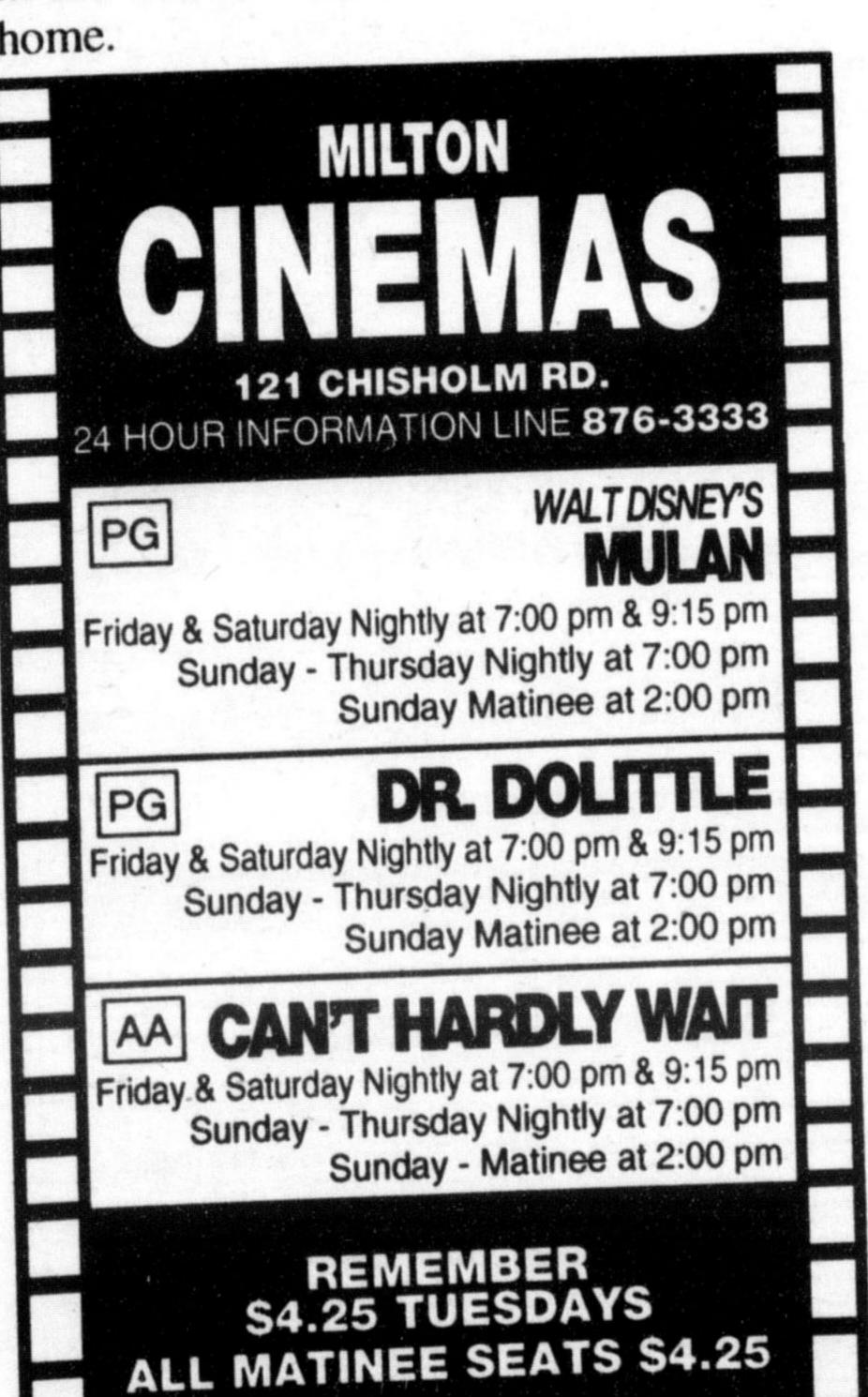
Spectator lawyer Brian Rogers told the court the story had been prepared in advance with the expectation the jury would reach a quick verdict.

When it became apparent that wouldn't happen, editors scrambled to delete information.

He said a factor complicating the matter was that Judge Blair had declined to make his written ruling available to the media.

Judge Blair questioned the jury after the article appeared and was told they hadn't seen it. That avoided a mistrial.

The jury ended up finding Madeley guilty of shooting Mr. Sheppard to death in the outhouse behind the elderly man's home.



Woman pleads guilty to trafficking in heroin

A Halton Hills woman who sold heroin to Milton high school students has pleaded guilty to trafficking.

appeared in Ontario Court (provincial Manzer and eventually met her supplier division) in Milton Tuesday.

She was seen selling heroin — considered a highly addictive substance -- to 15 Milton high school students last fall.

The youths, aged 14 to 18 years, weren't charged but Halton Regional Police contacted parents.

Manzer, who's now undergoing drug rehabilitation treatment, was charged

with 18 counts of possession of a narcotic and trafficking.

Court heard an undercover police offi-Alison Manzer, 21, an addict, cer made numerous purchases from for a buy on November 7, when the pair were arrested.

Judge Douglas Latimer convicted Manzer of breaching a probation order (related to a theft charge) and two counts of trafficking for drug sales in October and November. The other charges were withdrawn.

Manzer, faces sentencing July 8.





Seat, monthly lease payment of \$239/\$339/\$399 based on 24-month lease from Ford Credit to qualified retail lessees, on approved credit. Some conditions and a mileage restriction of 36,000 km over two

years apply. \$3,995 down payment or equivalent trade required. First month payment and security deposit required. All offers exclude freight (\$795/\$795/\$940), licence, insurance and all applicable taxes.

Dealer may lease for less. Offers may change without notice. See dealer for details. ®Registered trademark of the Canadian Automobile Association. ‡Based on 1997 calendar year manufacturer reported

deliveries. Limited time offer. *Some conditions apply to Graduate Cashback program, see dealer for details.