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and of course, POINSETTIAS



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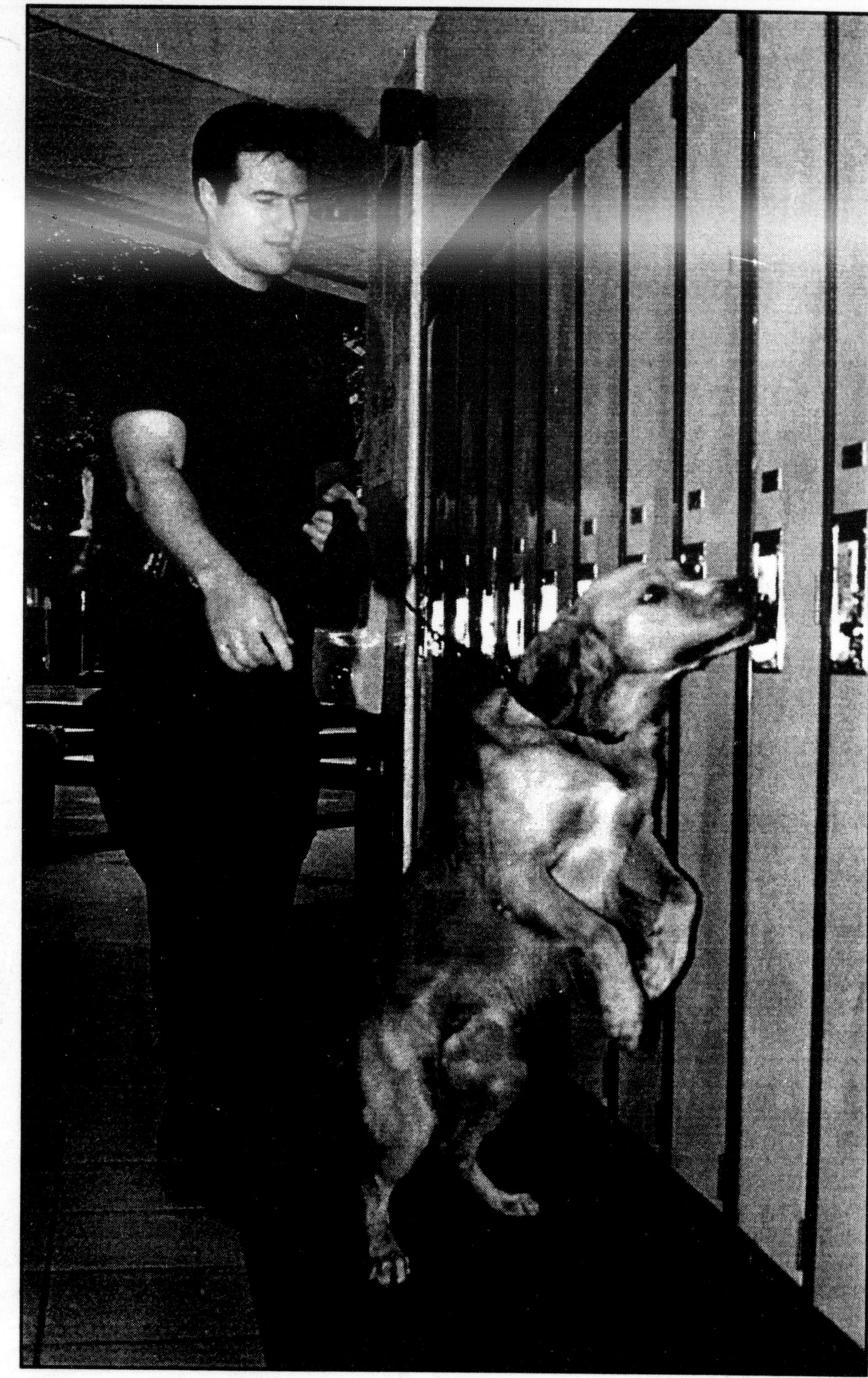


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Canada Customs' Darryl Martin leads his golden retriever Cyrus on a locker search at Bishop Reding Secondary School Thursday. No drugs or firearms were found during the inspection.

Sweep turns up nothing

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just trying to keep the school clean."

Grade 11 student Meaghan Terry said she agrees with the school's right to search lockers and that she doesn't feel at all uncomfortable with the practice — which is generally done once a term without prior notification.

Under current legislation, only school administrators have the right to conduct random locker searches with no specific suspicion of possession required.

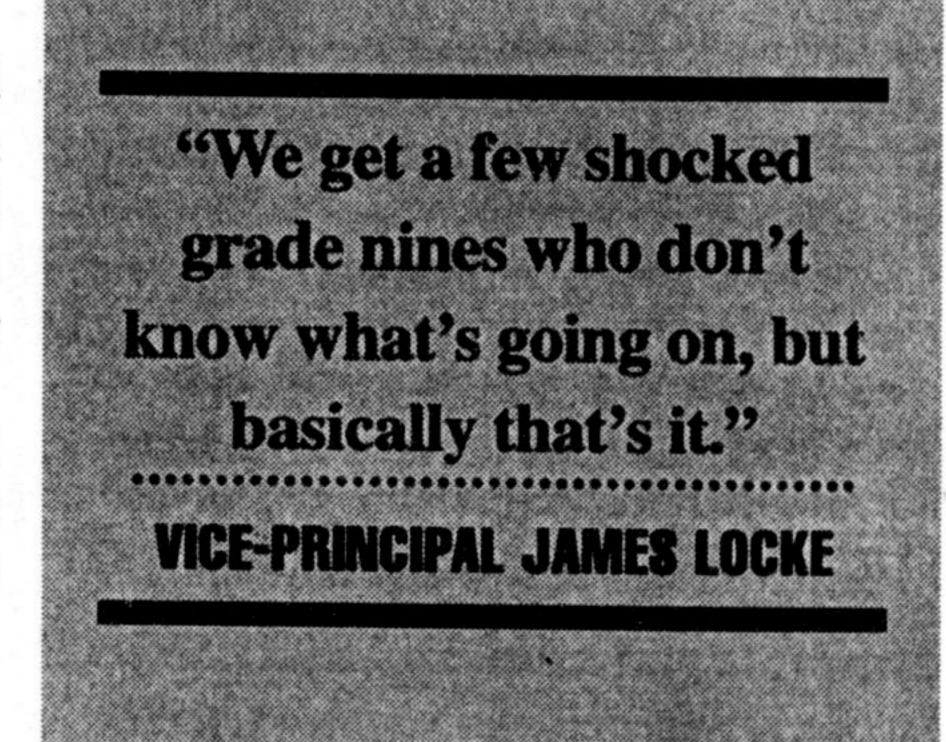
Reaction minimal

Bishop Reding vice-principal James Locke said these inspections have been done for the past three years and that negative reaction from the student body is usually minimal.

"We get a few shocked grade nines who don't know what's going on, but basically that's it," said Mr. Locke. "We have a very good relationship between teachers and students here and we always encourage the kids to talk to us if they have questions or concerns."

The Bishop Reding afternoon search was the third done that day under Project Hallwalk, an initiative by Halton Regional Police's Drug and Morality Unit and Pearson International Airport's Canada Customs branch.

A small quantity of marijuana was dis-Central High. Inspections at Bishop Reding and Lester B. Pearson uncovered they're doing."



nothing.

Labrador and Golden Retrievers were used in the search at the local high school, which took roughly half an hour during the last period of the day.

Nose knows

The halls were kept clear throughout the process, with students on a spare directed to the library or cafeteria. An announcement was made to the students about the search shortly after the canines and their handlers departed.

Drug and firearm detection, said customs canine cop Scott Cable, is extremely effective, with the use of dogs who smell everything separately and are able to distinguish between thousands of different odours.

"There's a 10-week training program covered in a bathroom at Burlington that's required but it's basically for the handlers," he said. "The dogs know what