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Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Rugged takedown

A Milton Mustang grappled with an E.C. Drury ball carrier in boys rugby action Wednesday at Milton District High School. The visiting Spartans won 36-3.

Same town, but different visions as two of leaders campaign locally

By **KAREN SMITH**
The Champion

After NDP leader Howard Hampton stood outside Milton District Hospital Wednesday afternoon calling for more attention to health care, Premier Mike Harris came to town promising further tax cuts and a continued strong economy.

As the June 3 provincial election race heated up, Mr. Hampton attacked the Conservative government's decision to award more than \$1 billion in home care contracts to the private sector.

He said the move creates a situation in which the bottom line is profit rather than patient care, and agencies won't be able to keep up with the demands of early release patients from hospitals.



Mike Harris

"Last year in Halton Region, demand for home care increased by 35 per cent due to early release from hospitals and our aging population," said Mr. Hampton, who was greeted by a small crowd of supporters.

"Patients are sent home to hospitals sicker and quicker."

Later in the day, Premier Harris emphasized that a balanced plan — including tax cuts — and the strength of purpose to see it through will guarantee that Ontario's economy stays growing and strong.

'Blueprint' includes income tax cuts

During an early evening Conservative rally at Halton Hills Place, the Premier said his 'Blueprint' charts a new course of lower taxes for Ontario — on top of the 69 tax cuts introduced in the Harris team's first three budgets — including a 30 per cent cut in personal income tax rates.

He said tax cuts to date have helped fuel consumer spending and have made Ontario a more attractive place to invest, resulting in the creation of close to 540,000 jobs since 1995.

But Mr. Hampton said the provincial government has slashed \$1.97 billion from health care to give a tax cut to the wealthiest six per cent of people, and added that the NDP is committed to stopping "American-style, for-profit home care."

• see HARRIS on page 10

Boy seriously hurt in bike accident

A 12-year-old Milton boy suffered serious injuries when he was hit by a car while walking his bike across Ontario Street Saturday.

The boy was walking westbound shortly before 5:30 p.m. when a southbound 1983 Buick struck him south of Parkway Drive. He was rushed by ambulance to Milton

District High School, where he remains in intensive care.

No charges had been laid a press time. The investigation continues.

INSIDE

WEEKEND INSERTS

- A&P • Biway
- Campbellville Foodland (rural)
- Canadian Tire • Country Depot
- Dynamic Golf • Food Basics
- Future Shop • IGA (p) • IGA (p)
- Lazy Boy • Loblaw's
- Maxi & Co • Patriot Computers
- Sears • Shop & Save (rural)
- Town & Country Window Cleaning
- Work World • Zellers

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