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## More bucks for hospital from gov't

By **KAREN SMITH**

*The Champion*

Halton Healthcare Services (HHS) will receive just shy of \$1 million in additional funding from the provincial government to help cover the demands of Milton and Oakville's growing populations.

The amalgamated corporation of Milton District and Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial hospitals is one of 11 Greater Toronto Area health care facilities sharing a one-time grant of \$13.5 million in growth funding.

"It adequately meets our requirements that we had planned for growth," said HHS spokesperson Trish Carlton.

She said the funding will translate into new services such as retinal surgery for Milton and Oakville patients. It will also mean expanded services to meet increasing demands.

GTA/905 Healthcare Alliance executive director Jim Armstrong said the recent announcement in the regions of Halton,

• see CASH on page 5

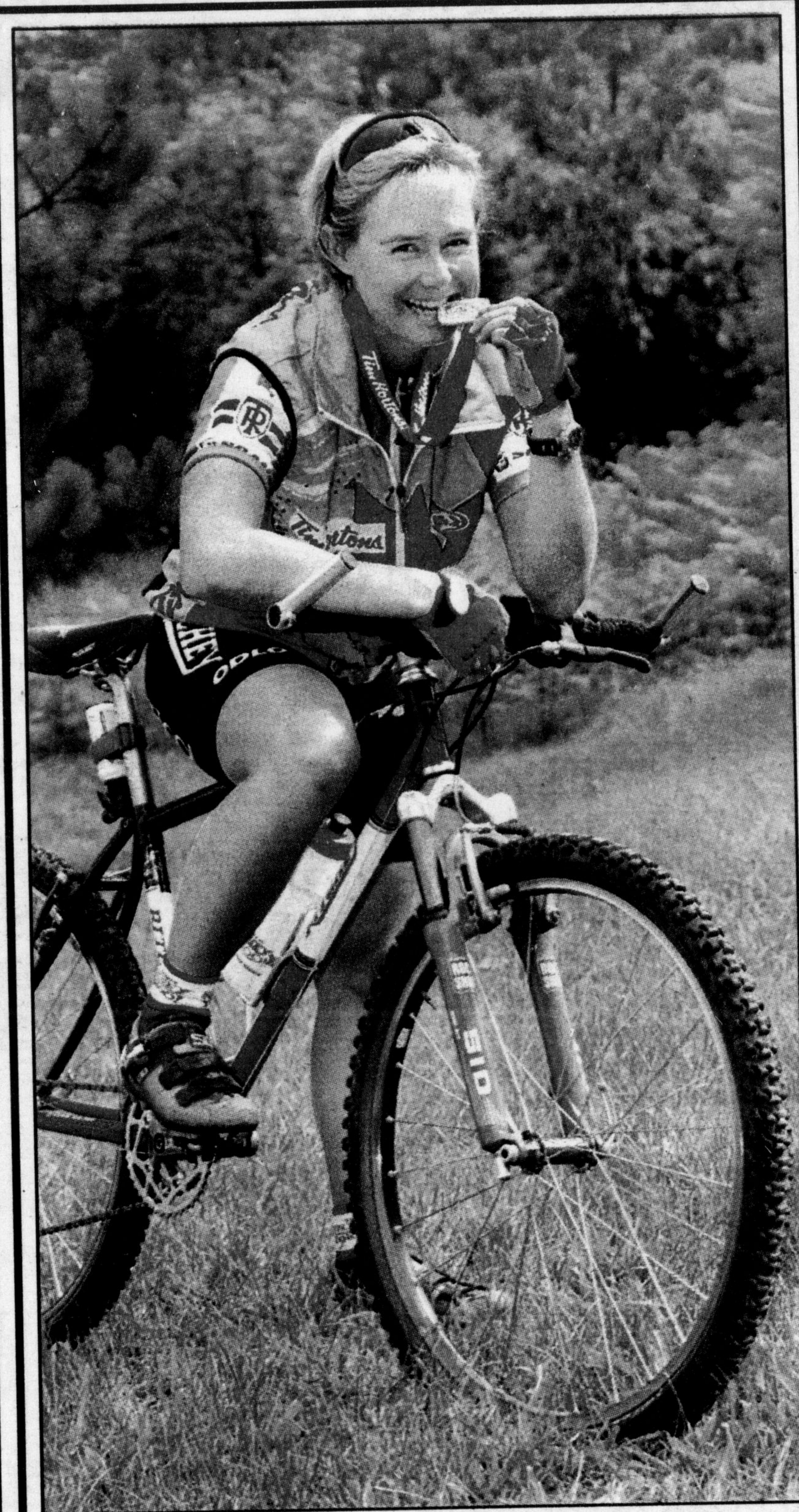


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

## Golden girl

Campbellville's Chrissy Redden displays the gold medal she won last weekend at the mountain bike nationals in Quebec. Please see story on page 20

## Looks like ECD teachers have new deal

By **IRENE GENTLE**

*The Champion*

After 14 months of negotiations, Ontario teachers of the deaf, blind and learning disabled will likely return to school this fall with a contract.

A tentative deal has been struck between the union representing the teachers and the management board of the Provincial Schools Authority.

The teachers, who are represented by the Federation of Provincial School Authority Teachers (FOPSAT), have been without a contract since last August.

The provisional agreement goes to a ratification vote September 9. Details will be released at that time, said Mike Walsh, chair of the negotiating team for FOPSAT.

But the teachers had been asking the Ontario government for wage parity with school board teachers, who earn an additional \$3,000 to \$5,000 annually.

Both sides returned to the table August 12 after a hiatus of nearly three months.

The tentative deal was struck at noon Wednesday, Aug. 17.

The dispute became a provincial election issue in Milton after the union organized a well-attended demonstration outside of Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh's campaign office in May.

Teachers from the E.C. Drury School for the Deaf and the Maplehurst Correctional Centre were among the demonstrators.

When talks collapsed later that evening, the union vowed to stage daily mini-protests outside the campaign office until the June 3 election.

The union also instituted a pink letter at the time, which blacklisted the employer.

The blacklist is likely on ice for now, said Janis Tomkinson

of the provincial government Management Board.

"My presumption of that it is on hold until the time of the ratification," she said.

FOPSAT represents about 240 teachers of the blind, deaf and learning disabled at five provincial school sites, including the E.C. Drury School for the Deaf.

Approximately 25 instructors of adult offenders in correctional institutes are also represented by the union.



Ember Johnstone

## She aims for crown

Milton Fall Fair Ambassador Ember Johnstone will be looking to upgrade her crown at this weekend's Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) Ambassador Competition.

The 19-year-old university student and cheerleader will be up against approximately 100

• see CNE on page 3

### NEWSLINES

#### Birds at Bronte

This weekend will be devoted to a close look at taking wing at Bronte Creek Provincial Park.

Two days of fun and educational activities for the whole family are planned at the Birds of Bronte display.

There will be a live exhibition of birds of prey from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday (Aug. 21) at the Nature Centre, near parking lot C.

Night hikes will take place from 8:30 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. both nights.

Bronte Creek Provincial Park is on Burloak Drive, between Oakville and Burlington, north of the QEW. It is open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

#### WEEKEND INSERTS

- Joggers • Smittys
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