

Weekend Champion

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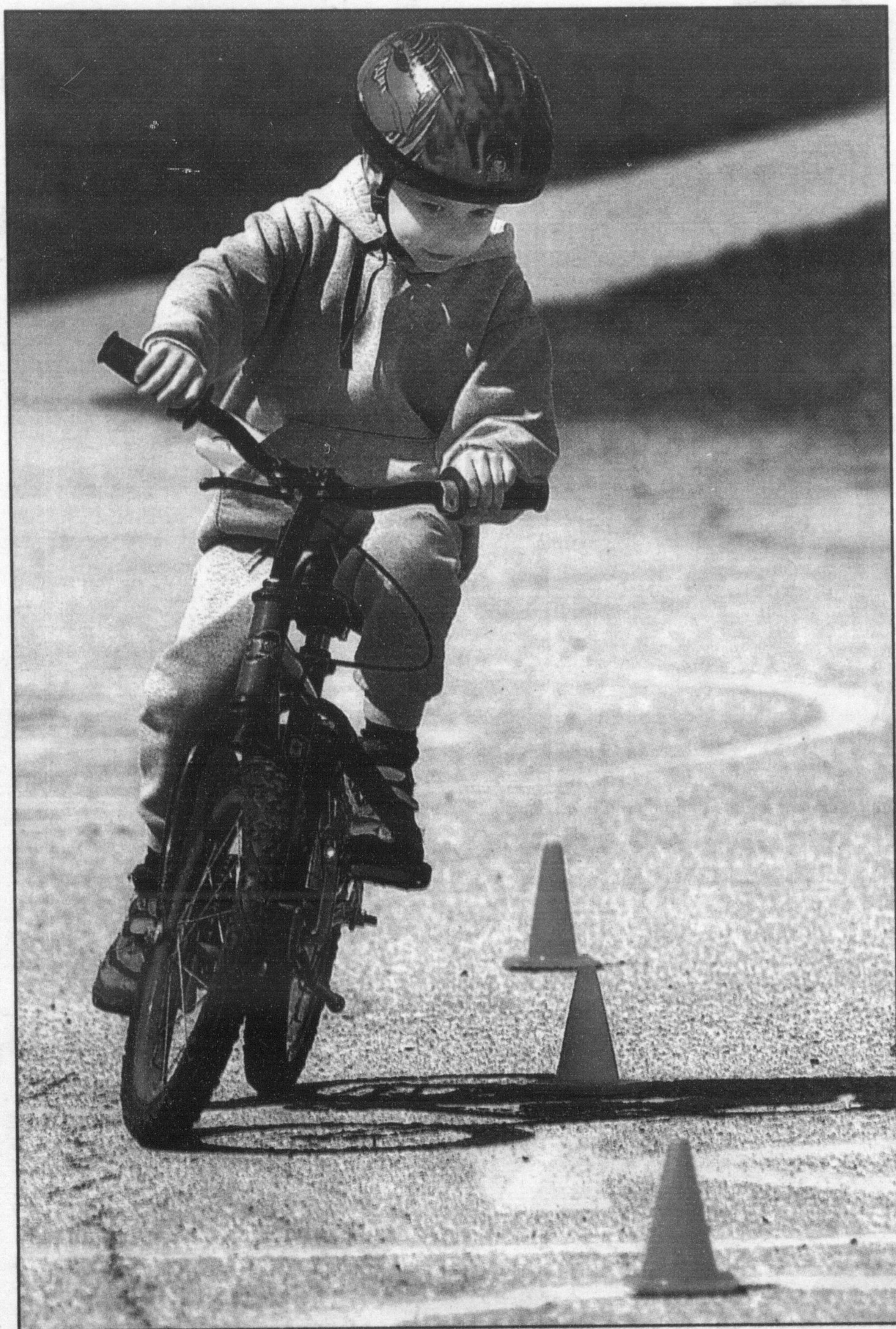


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

✓ Safety first

E.W. Foster School took advantage of Wednesday's warm weather to stage a bike rodeo and safety check. Here, Jordan Webber, 7, keeps his eyes on the road as he navigates the pylon weave course.

Student committee sends anti-violence message at school

By FANNIE SUNSHINE

The Champion

On April 20, 1999 two teenage gunmen went on a bloody rampage at a Colorado high school, killing 12 students and one teacher.

And though the devastating incident didn't occur in this community, it doesn't mean it never will.

That was the message a group of Milton District High School students were trying to get across at an anti-violence assembly Tuesday.

"They had four weeks to go until graduation," Anti-Violence Committee member and grade 12 student Garion Sparks-Austin told fellow students while watching a video of the Columbine High School after-effects. "Their lives have changed forever. If such a thing happened at our school, how would you feel? Would you regret not taking steps to prevent violence in the first place?"

Grade 12 student Jayne Lillicrap, also a member of the student-run committee, said the violence she sees in schools make her "sick."

"I was crying so hard when I was watch-

"If such a thing happened at our school, how would you feel? Would you regret not taking steps to prevent violence in the first place?"

GARION SPARKS-AUSTIN

ing the Columbine video and these kids beside me were laughing," she said.

"They didn't care. What would've happened if it was our school and other kids were laughing? If there's a fight everyone goes running to watch it. What if there was a weapon being thrown around and what if it killed someone? What would you do if you watched someone die? Would you tell their family that you stood around and watched them die because you were encouraging the fight? It's happened before (in other schools), what makes us so differ-

• see STUDENTS on page 5

Information meeting on vandalism

Vandalism is becoming a growing problem in Milton.

Now St. Peter's School Council members and Halton Regional Police aim to cut it off at the root. They'll begin with a public information session at St. Peter's School Monday from 7 to 8 p.m.

The evening will give concerned residents an opportunity to discuss ways of dealing with the issue within schools and the community. Everyone is invited to attend.

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