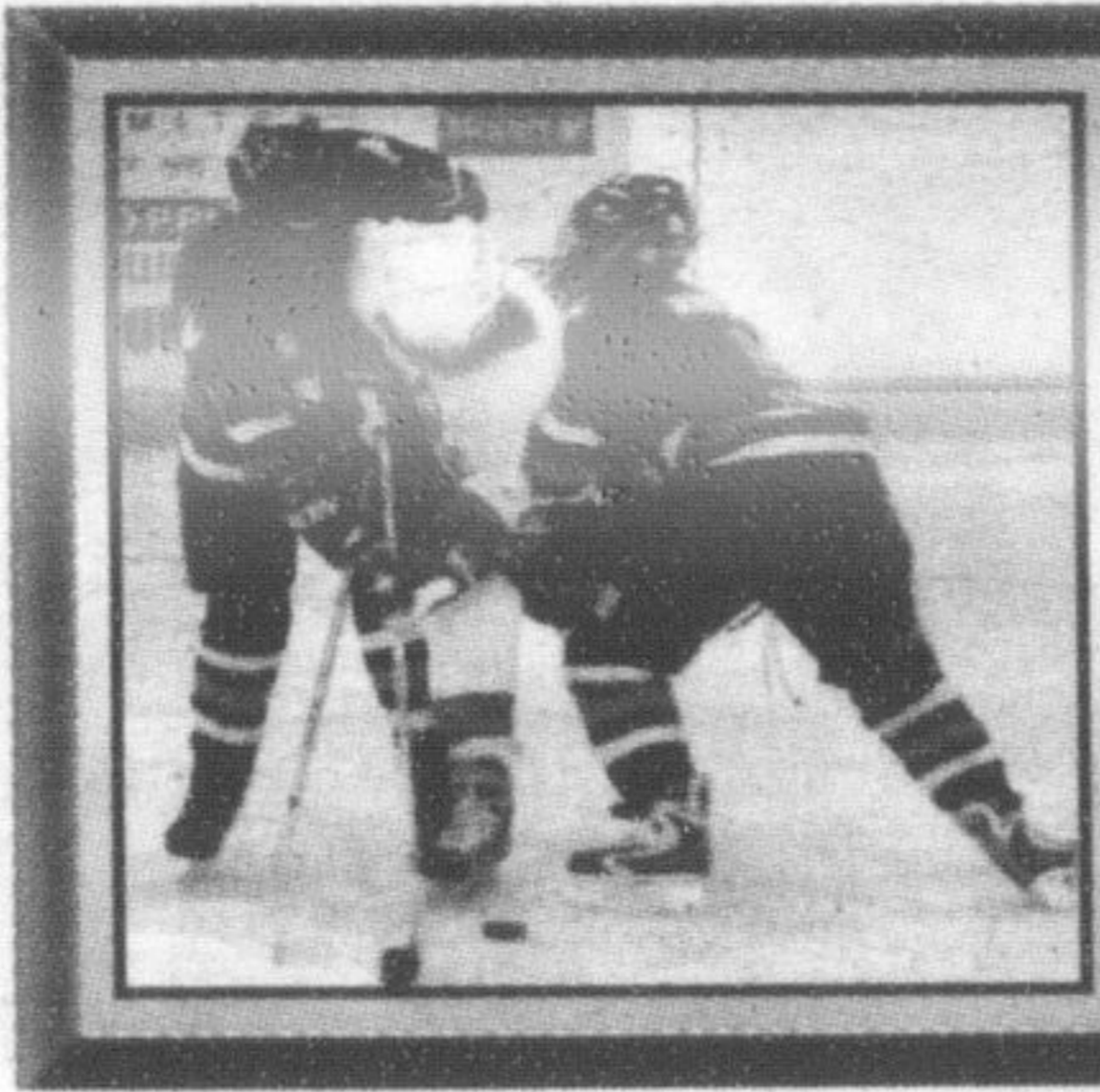


New Strategic Plan is okayed at Region
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Lots of Halloween festivities around town
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Minor peewees in tough against Burlington
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Trustee says he's not ready to resign yet
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Three people sent to hospital in fire

By FANNIE SUNSHINE
The Champion

A mid-morning fire that broke out at a Main Street rooming house Saturday sent three people to hospital.

The 11:30 a.m. blaze above the Knight Cap pub was put out by the building's superintendent and another man.

Superintendent Gord Mollin said he was in his room when he heard the fire alarm go off. "I went out to check the floor and I saw smoke coming out of the door to one of the rooms. Me and another guy got the door down and started throwing water on the fire. I tore down the curtains to make sure the fire wouldn't spread and I opened the windows for air. By the time I got out of the room, I collapsed and was taken to the hospital."

The sole occupant of the room at the time was a dog, Mr. Mollin said.

Suzanne Lavigne and her boyfriend were just getting out of bed when they heard the alarm from their second-floor room.

"We thought it was a drill or someone cooking. But the alarm kept going and we came out of our room and looked downstairs and all you could see was smoke. My boyfriend started knocking on doors and telling people to get out. We all went out through the fire escape route in the back."

When Ms Lavigne saw the dog run out of the building alone she ran back in to see where the owner was. "I got to the door but I passed out right in front of it from the smoke. A paramedic dragged me out."

Mr. Mollin, Ms Lavigne and another tenant were treated and released at Milton District Hospital for smoke inhalation and tested for carbon monoxide poisoning.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation, said a Milton Fire Department spokesman. Damage was estimated at between \$3,000 and \$5,000.



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Milton Fire Chief Harold Penson investigates the source of a blaze in a second-floor Main Street apartment.

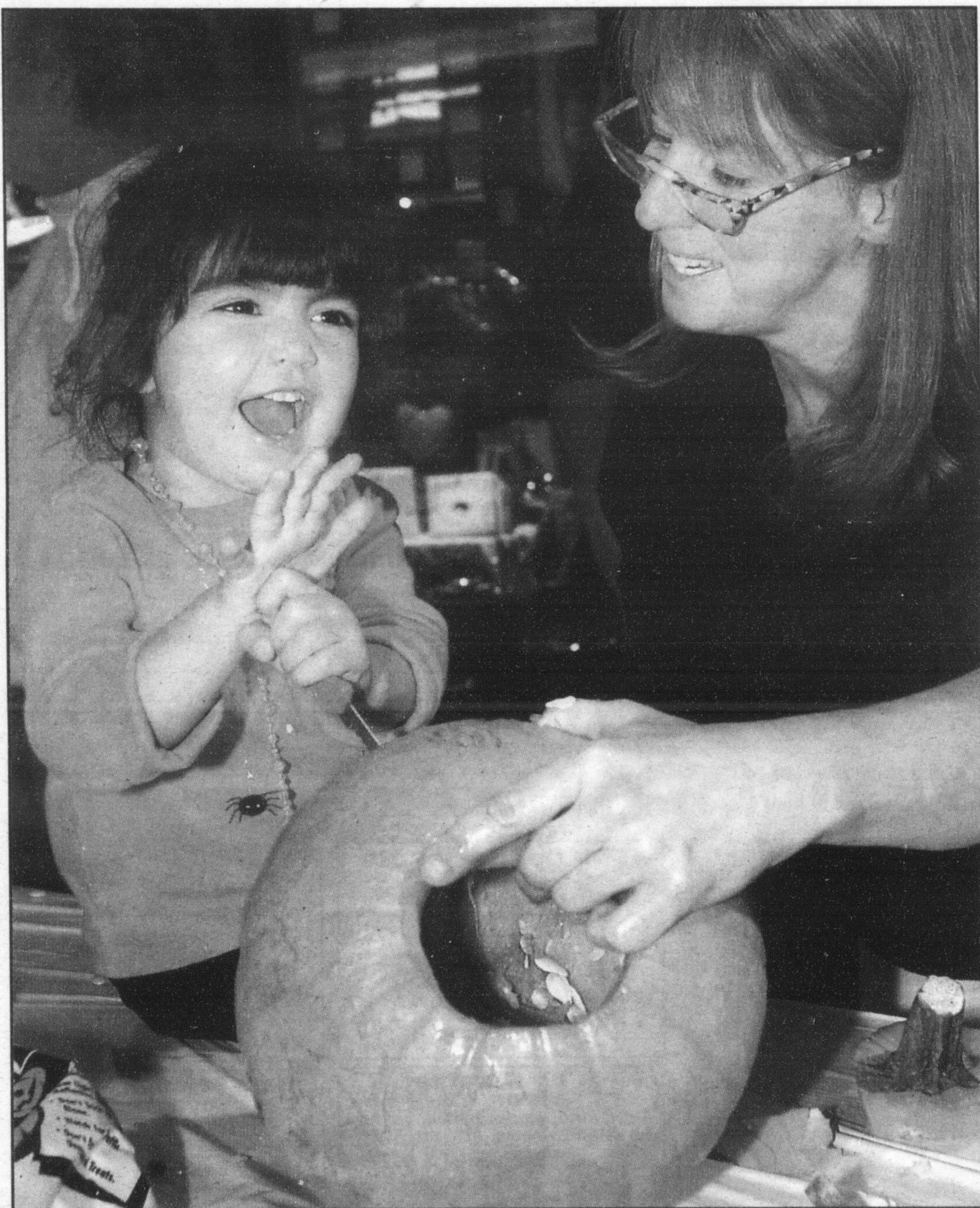


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

✓ Halloween fun

Two-year-old Mayia Swan has a great time carving her jack-o-lantern with the help of her grandmother Gwen Patterson. The fun took place at Milton Mall, which hosted children's pumpkin carving Saturday morning.

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