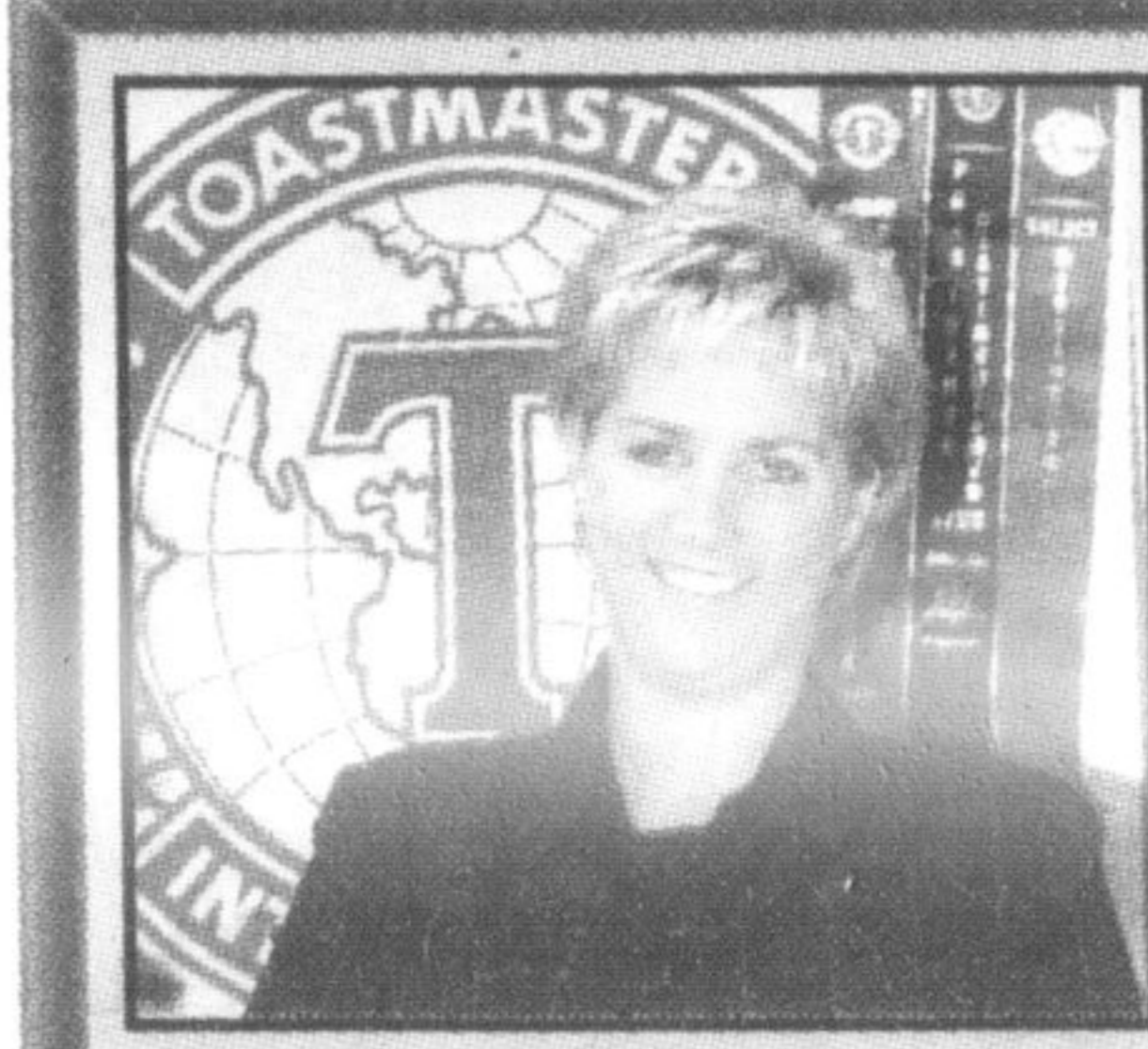


Woman accused of murdering ex-husband grew up here

See page 2



Toastmasters takes fear out of speaking in public
See page 8



Senior Red Sox upset favoured St. Catharines in first round
See page 14

Hit-and-run driver sentenced to nine months in prison

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West Nile found in mosquitoes in south Halton

Health officials must now decide whether to begin spraying program

in parts of the U.S., particularly among the elderly.

For now the emphasis remains on education, said Mr. Willmott. People are being warned to take precautions against being bitten, and the need to remove breeding sites around homes, such as standing water.

Halton has 10 mosquito trapping sites, and the West Nile Virus was found in mosquitoes at two of them, one in Oakville and Burlington. Neighbouring Peel Region has also had mosquitoes carrying the virus. Halton is the fourth Ontario regional municipality where mosquitoes have been identified with West Nile.

To report a dead bird, call (905) 825-6187. Instructions on handling dead birds and other West Nile facts are listed on Halton's Web site, at www.region.halton.on.ca/health.

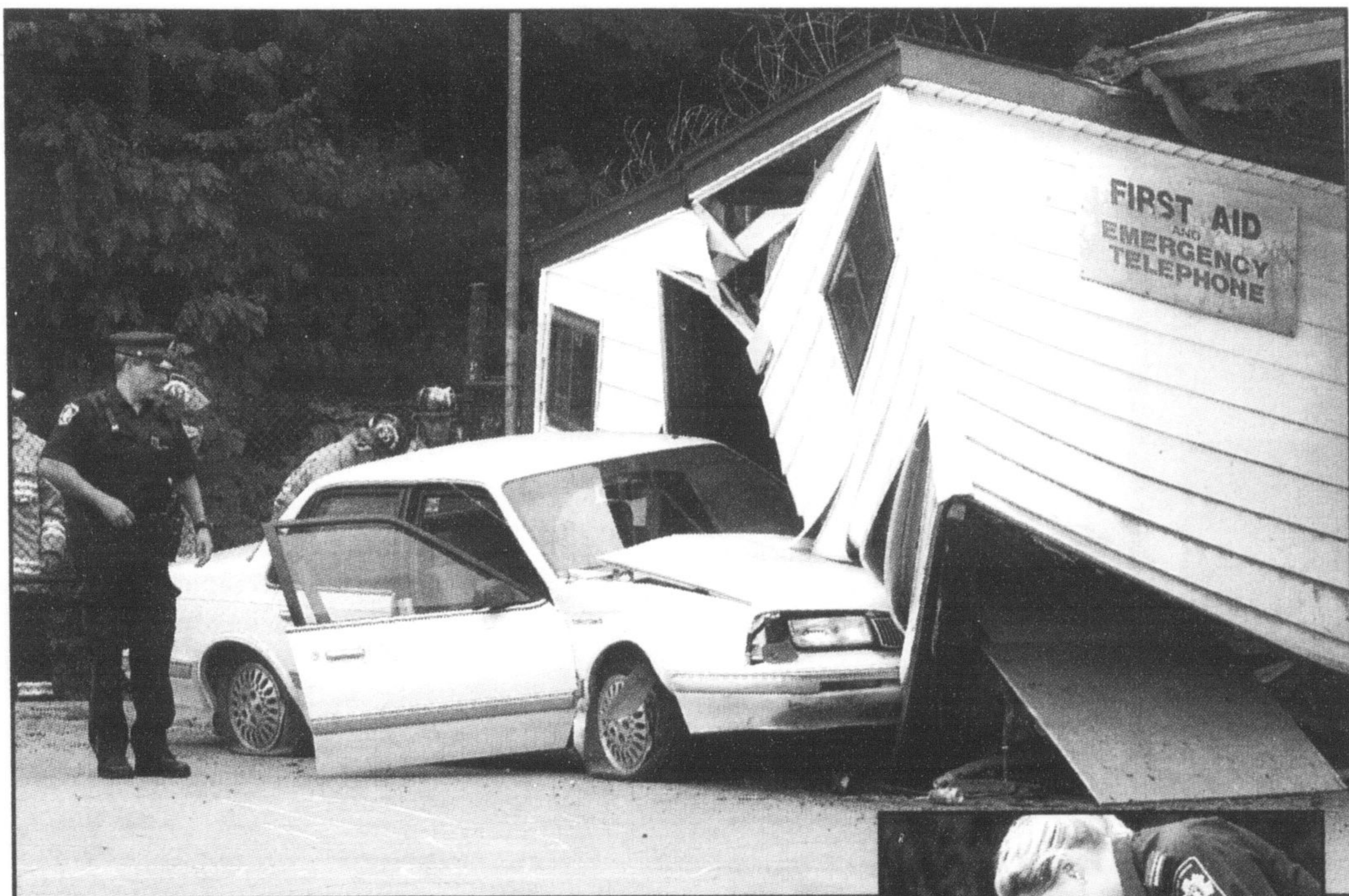
Halton's health department is still considering whether to begin a program of spraying following confirmation that mosquitoes in Burlington and Oakville have the West Nile Virus.

Meanwhile, health officials continue to receive a large number of calls about dead birds, particularly crows. Testing of a small number of the birds has determined the presence of the virus, indicating they were bitten by infected mosquitoes.

Peter Willmott, director of health protection services for Halton, said a decision on spraying hasn't been made. "I think the decision will be made with consultation with a range of experts, and we'd certainly have to discuss the issue with elected representatives."

Many concerned residents have called about spraying over the past few days, he said, most expressing opposition, citing potentially negative environmental effects.

But at the same time there's concern about human health should vulnerable people be bitten by mosquitoes, although the risk is considered low. No human in Canada has ever tested positive for West Nile, but it has caused sickness and death



Photos by GRAHAM PAINE

The lone driver of an Oldsmobile Cutlass Ciera lost control of her vehicle at James and Victoria streets at 12:45 p.m. Saturday and ended up crashing into the guards' shack at Rotary Park. The car went over the curb, through a fence, down a 50-foot embankment, through another fence and into the park. The driver suffered only minor injuries. Luckily, no one else was hurt. The pool was about to open in 45 minutes.



Car crashes into pool shack

A potentially-disastrous situation was avoided Saturday when a car crashed into a shack at Rotary Park, just missing the outdoor pool.

Helen Vansickle, 79, of Milton, was driving her Oldsmobile Cutlass Ciera on Victoria Street at about 12:45 p.m., when she lost control and mounted the curb.

The car drove through several wooden barricades and careened down a 50-foot path before

crashing through the pool's fence and into the lifeguards' shack.

The shack was situated about 10 feet from the pool.

Luckily, the pool — which was set to open at 1:30 p.m. — and surrounding area were empty at the time of the accident.

Ms Vansickle was taken to Milton District Hospital and treated for lacerations to both arms and bruising to the chest area caused by the inflation of the air bag.

"She must have had a guardian angel with her," said Ken McAlpine, co-ordinator of parks and facilities for the Town. "I classify this as bizarre and lucky."

Ironically, the shack was scheduled for demolition in the fall, he said. The pool was closed for the weekend and re-opened yesterday.

Halton police said the accident is under investigation. A damage estimate wasn't available.

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