# Country's post-secondary institutions best place to look for innovation: Reed

Since a lot of Canada's best thinkers and innovators are working under the auspices of research chairs at universities, that's where the federal government's focus should be to stimulate new ideas and subsequent technology for business and industry.

That's the opinion of Halton MP Julian Reed, who attended a large gathering of politicians and business leaders in Hamilton earlier this month.

Several hundred people showed up at McMaster University for the federal-government sponsored Canada's Innovation Strategy conference.

Mr. Reed sat in on half of the all-day

event. He said he came away with the belief Canada's universities and colleges are best suited to achieve the federal strategy to promote and develop innovation within the country. "The challenges are the need for increasing partnerships between industry, education and government. We were there to discuss innovation and what can be done to accommodate it at the municipal and provincial levels. We have a highly-recognized post-secondary educational system, whether it is McMaster or Sheridan College in this area. Now Britain and Australia are copying Canada. We have 2,000 research chairs supported by the Innovation Foundation."

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As for the essence of the innovation forums, which have been held across Canada since May, Mr. Reed said he believes they will eventually have an impact on government decision making.

"All of it (findings) will be put in a report that will no doubt influence policy in the future."

He said the key at the forum level is to make sure guidelines and goals are clear for participants. "Some of the attendees, I think, weren't really sure why they were there and initially thought they would be delivering their own agenda."

There will be a national summit on innovation in November.



The Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW), Milton and District, have awarded five \$500 scholarships this year to post-secondary school students.

Bishop Reding Secondary School graduate Amy Prisniak participated in a variety of sports and was a member of the Student Athletic Association. She was also head coach of the midget girls volleyball team and was involved in peer tutoring.

She's currently attending Queen's University to study physical and health education.

Ashley Hutchison served on Milton District High School's parent/community council and the Student Athletic Association. She was the co-founder of the Anti-violence Committee and was also a member of the School Council and Prom Committee.

She's now attending McMaster University to obtain a degree in geriatrics.

E.C. Drury High School graduate Lyndsey Jones was part of the Student Government Executive and General Assembly, the School Reach Team and Dateline Drury. She was also active on the Milton Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee, St. Paul's Church Council and Youth Net Halton.

She plans to become a secondary school teacher after graduating from Wilfred Laurier University.

Ernest C. Drury High School graduates Brianne Bell and Heather McQuitty also received scholarships. No further information was available.

Since 1963, the CFUW has been recognizing outstanding female graduates of Milton secondary schools heading to university with the giving of Awards of Merit scholarships.

Funding for the scholarships is raised annually by the club's spring book sale.

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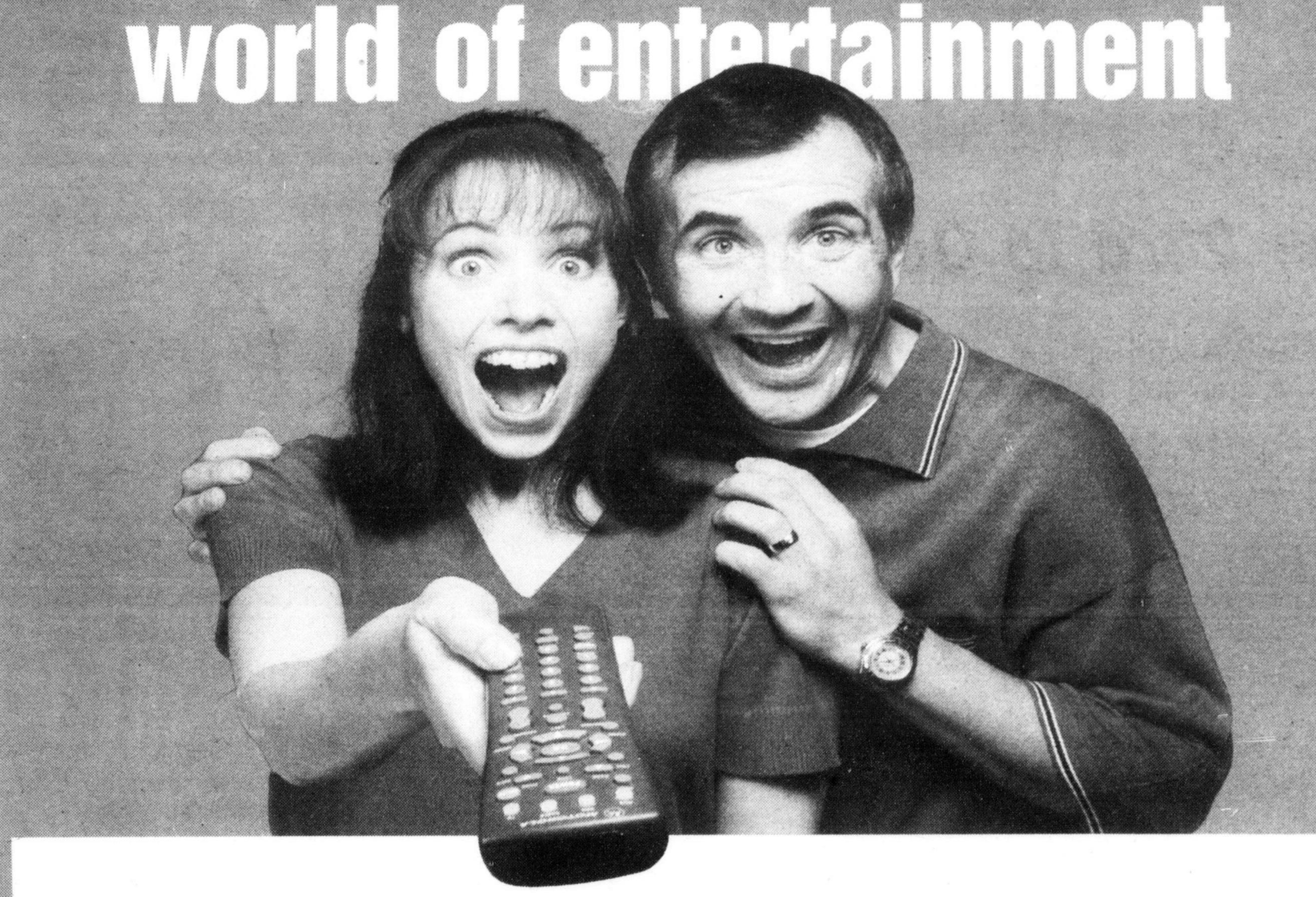
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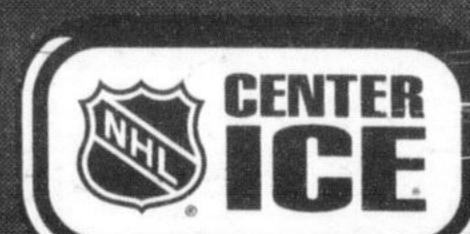
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