



Milton Heights Academy
Pride in Achievement

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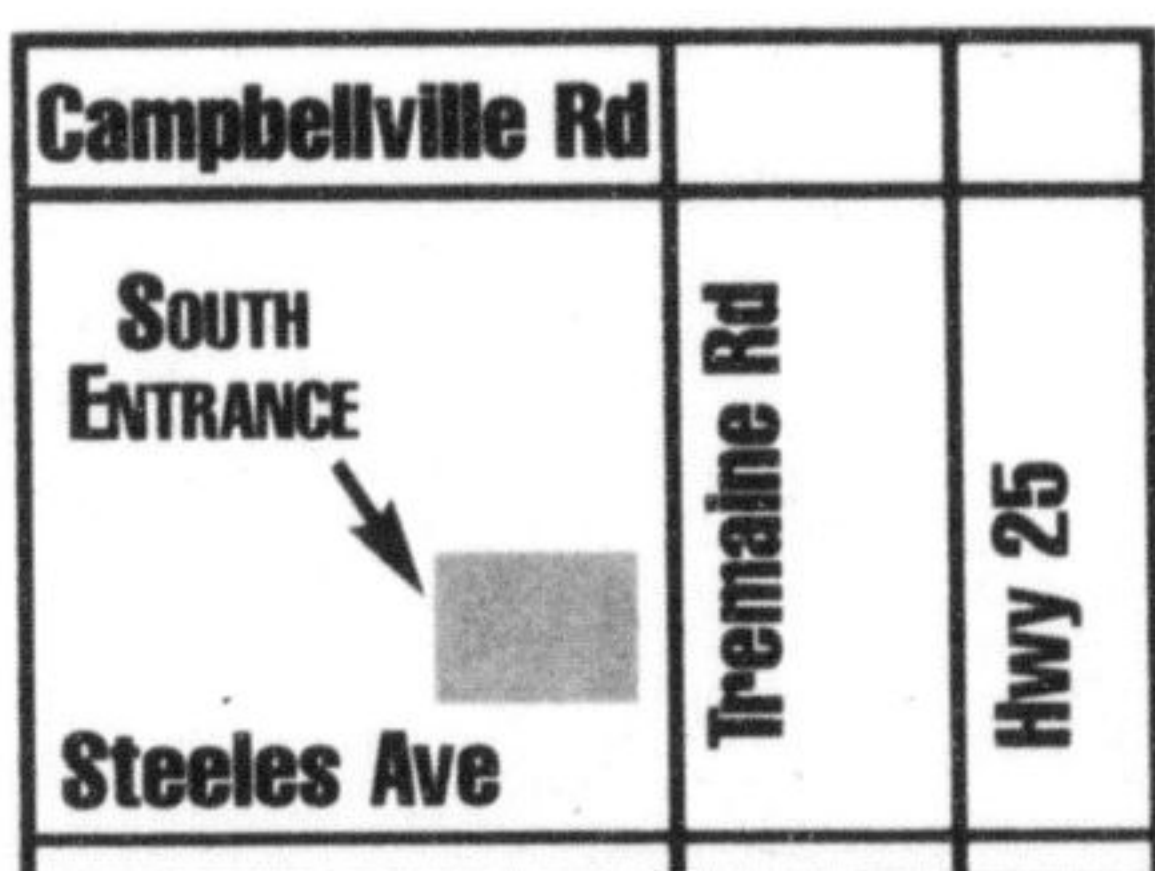
OPEN HOUSE

Saturday,
November 30th,
10:00 - 2:00 pm

- ☆ **Small Classes (14 max.)**
- ☆ **Qualified Teachers**
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A PRIVATE SCHOOL FROM J.K. TO GRADE 8

FLAP aims to reduce bird collision incidents in GTA

By **FANNIE SUNSHINE**
The Champion

Millions of birds each year are dying from preventable collisions with buildings.

That was the message Michael Mesure of the Fatal Light Awareness Program (FLAP) wanted to get across to Trillium School students last Tuesday.

Since 1989, FLAP has rescued birds that have collided with human-built structures in Toronto and the GTA, Mr. Mesure said.

Seven days a week, FLAP volunteers can be found tending to injured or dead birds, he continued, adding the organization monitors Toronto's financial district during the night and surrounding areas in the day-time.

"This is happening everywhere (bird collisions). It's a global problem. Birds of different species are dying off slowly but surely."

Mr. Mesure, who's the co-founder and executive director of FLAP, said birds are attracted by bright light from towers and often end up smashing into building windows because the lights were left on.

"Birds hit at all levels," he said, adding FLAP picks up an average of 3,200 birds a year.

"In North America we waste light all the time. In North America alone, 100 million to one billion birds die each year from colliding with structures. This is a very serious number. It works out to 193 (deaths) every 60 seconds."

• see BIRDS on page 20

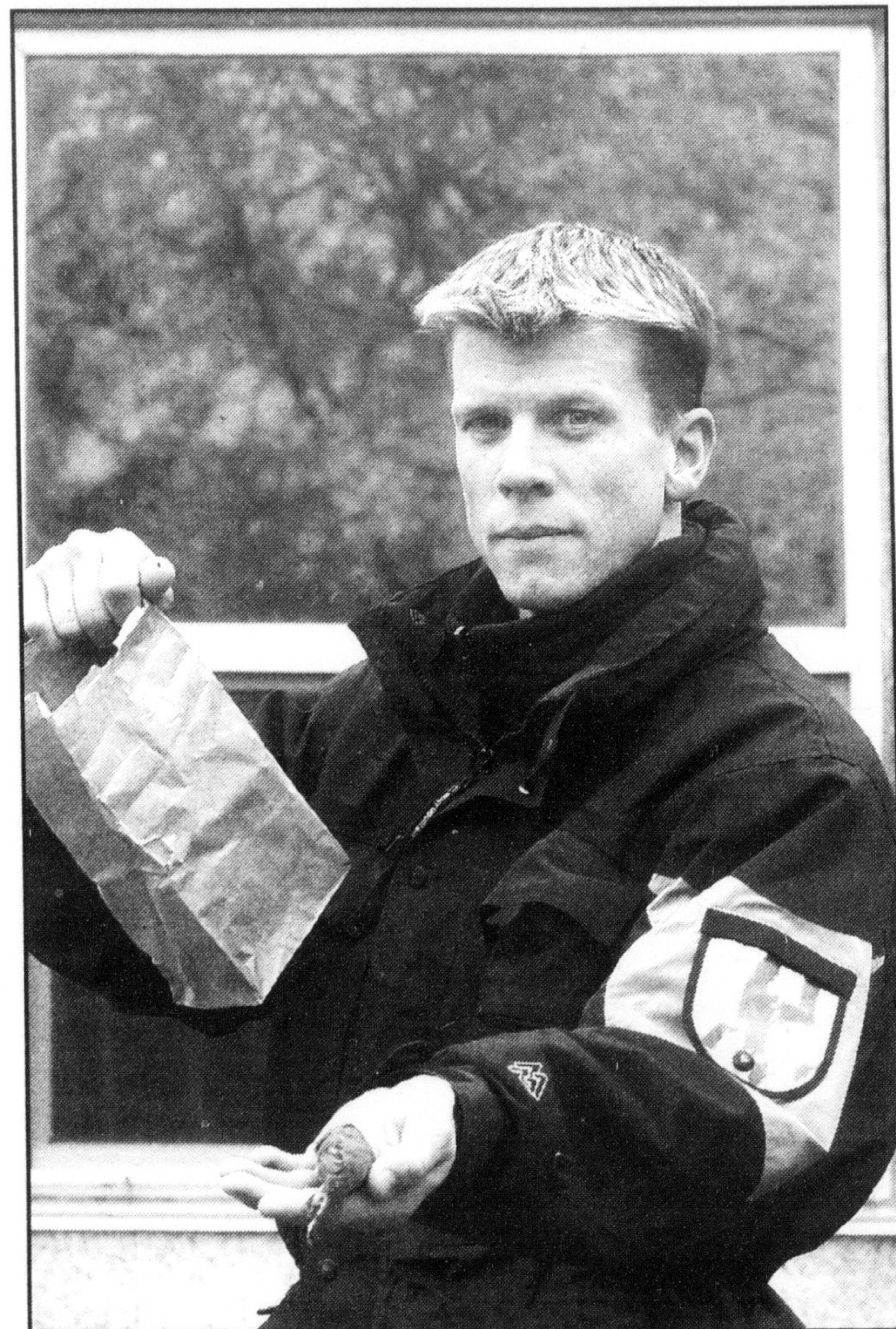
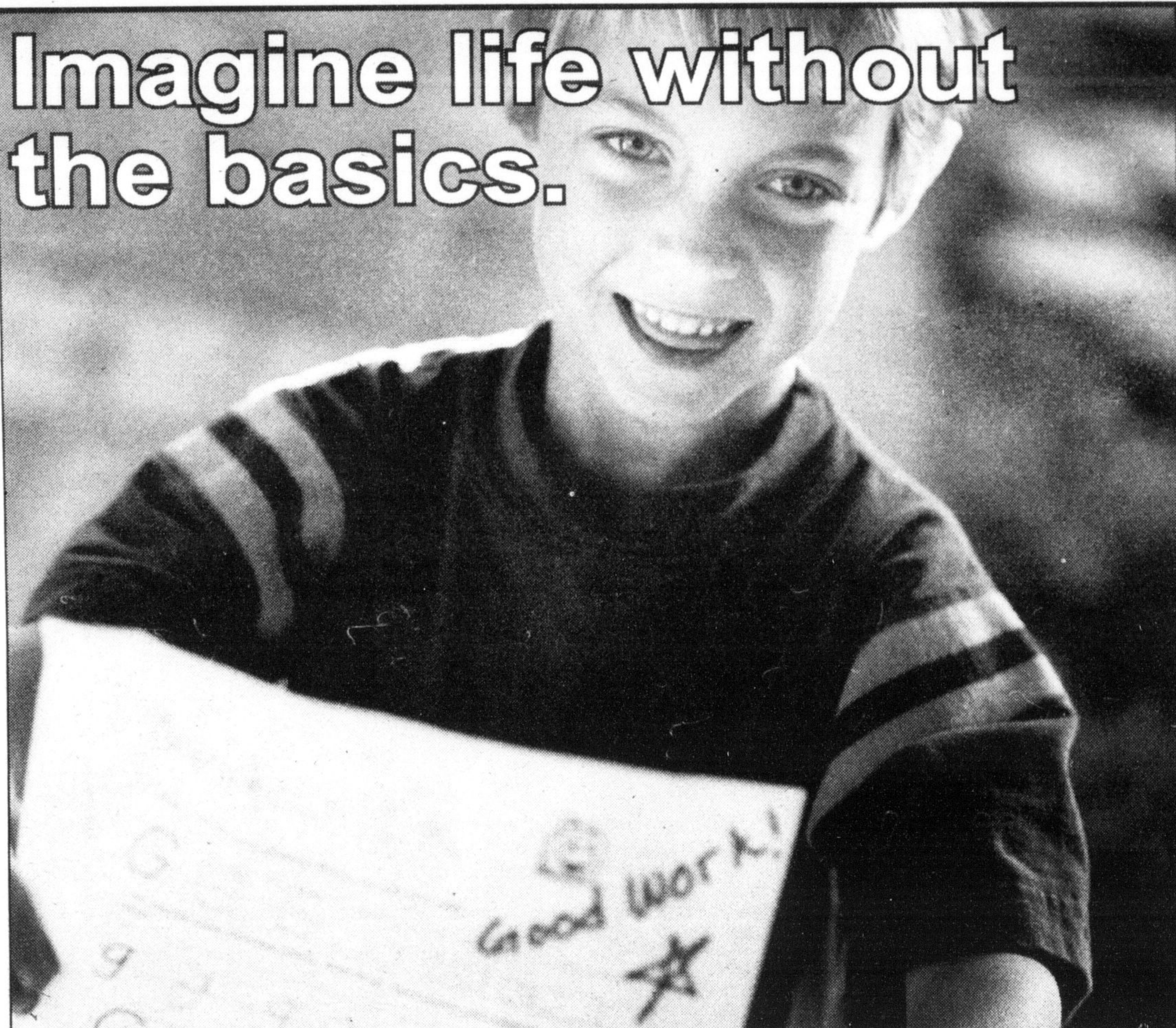


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Michael Mesure of the Fatal Light Awareness Program holds a small dead bird in front of a window with mirror tinting, which is a problem for birds.

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