

Halton police dog tracks down teen theft suspect

Youth charged with thefts from cars at town house complex

By **STEPHANIE THIESSEN**
The Champion

A suspect was apprehended early Sunday morning by a police dog after a thief broke into several cars and fled from police.

At about 1 a.m., a resident of the townhouse complex on Commercial Street observed a teen opening doors of unlocked cars and rifling through glove boxes and personal items left in the cars parked in the lot, Halton Regional Police said.

When police arrived in the area, the culprit fled, they said, so the services of Const. Lisa Scott and her police dog, Gage, were called upon.

Const. Scott said police were able to point her and Gage in the direction the thief fled. Police said Const. Scott and Gage found the suspect in about 30 minutes in an area just north of the townhouse lot.

"The uniformed guys (officers) created a fabulous perimeter," Const. Scott said, explaining that police dogs help the officers create a perimeter around the area where the suspect is.

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The officers can then block off major roads around the perimeter so the suspect has nowhere to go and must hide out until he's found by police, Const. Scott said.

That's exactly what happened in this case.

Police located the suspect and he was told to come out, Const. Scott said.

"The officers yelled, 'Come out, there's a dog coming,' but the kid chose not to come out," she said, explaining that since officers didn't know if the suspect had a weapon, Gage was sent in and apprehended him.

All property taken from the cars was recov-

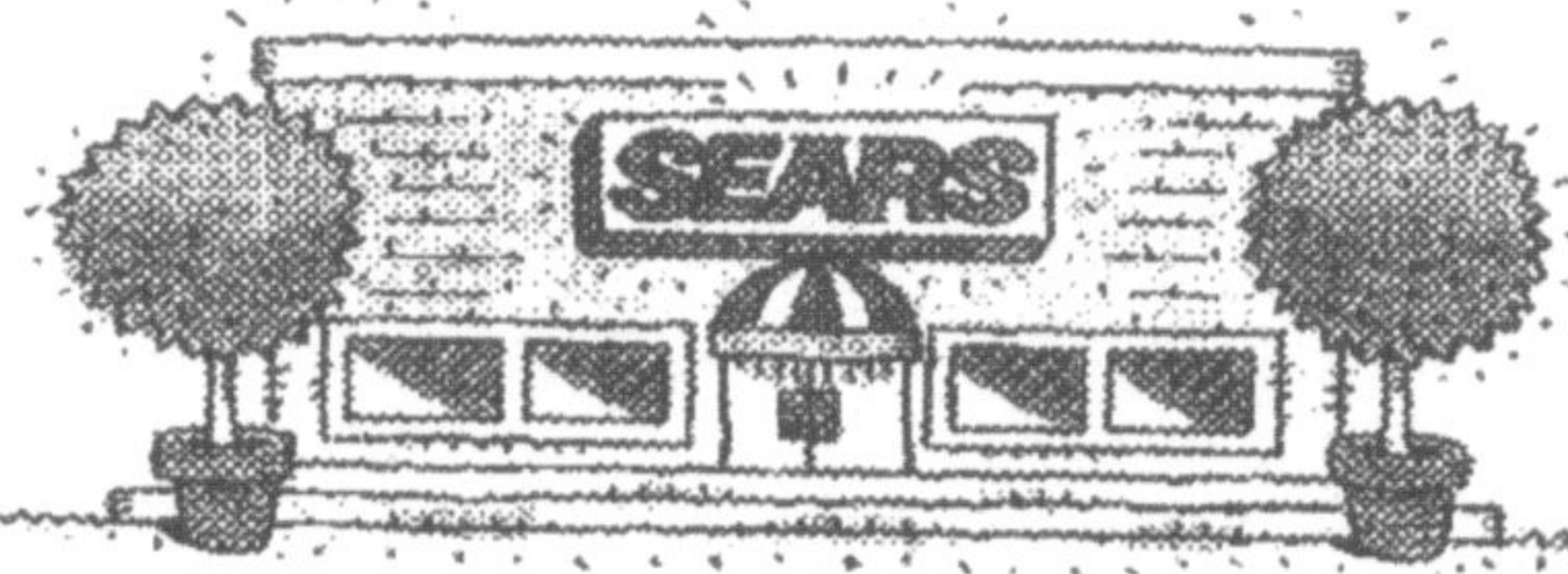
ered.

A 15-year-old Milton youth was charged with theft under \$5,000, possession of stolen property and prowling by night. He'll appear in Milton Youth Court September 4.

In light of the incident, police are warning residents to keep their vehicle doors and windows locked.

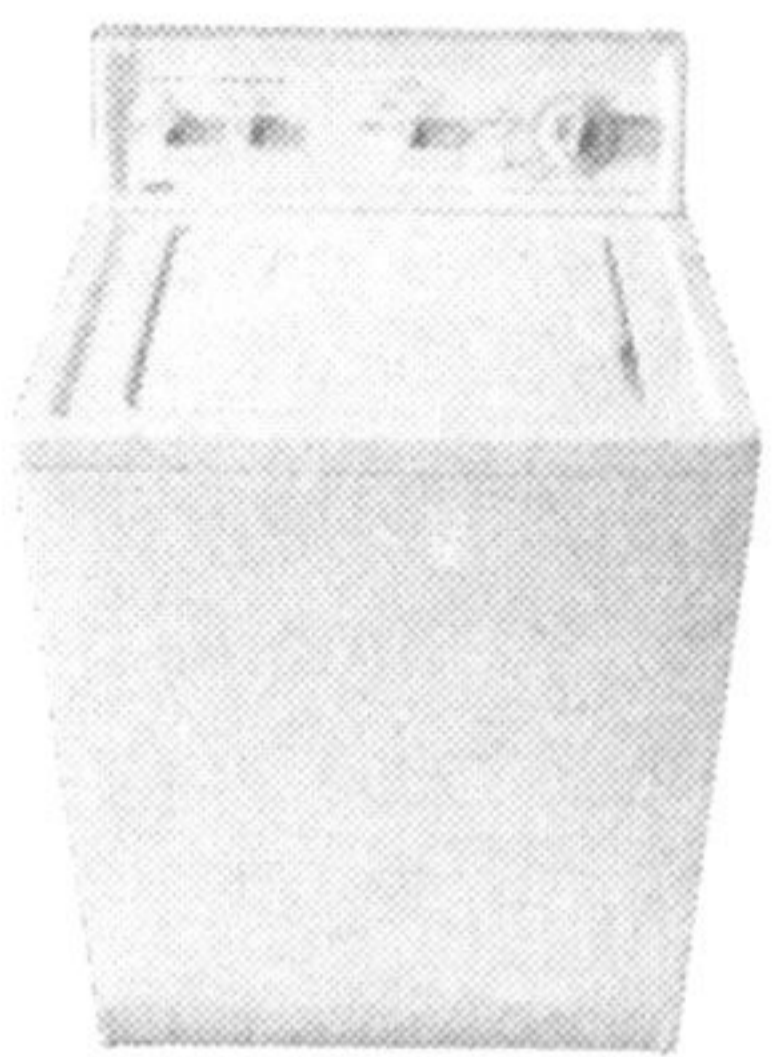
Also, they said, any personal or valuable items should be removed from the vehicles when left unattended.

Stephanie Thiessen can be reached at sthiesse@miltoncanadianchampion.com.



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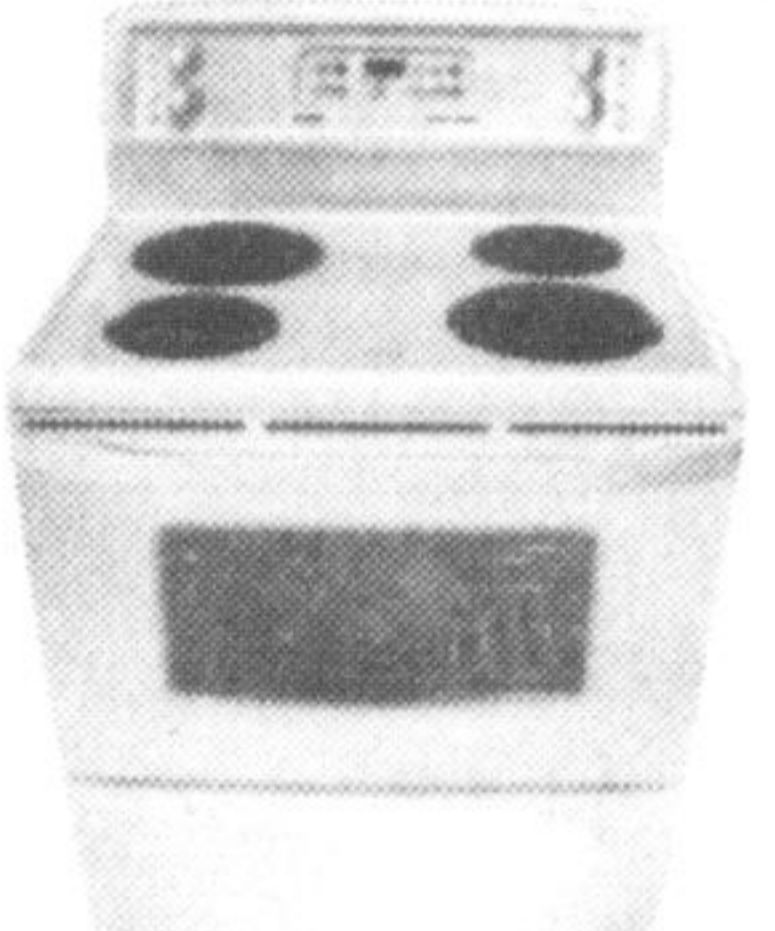
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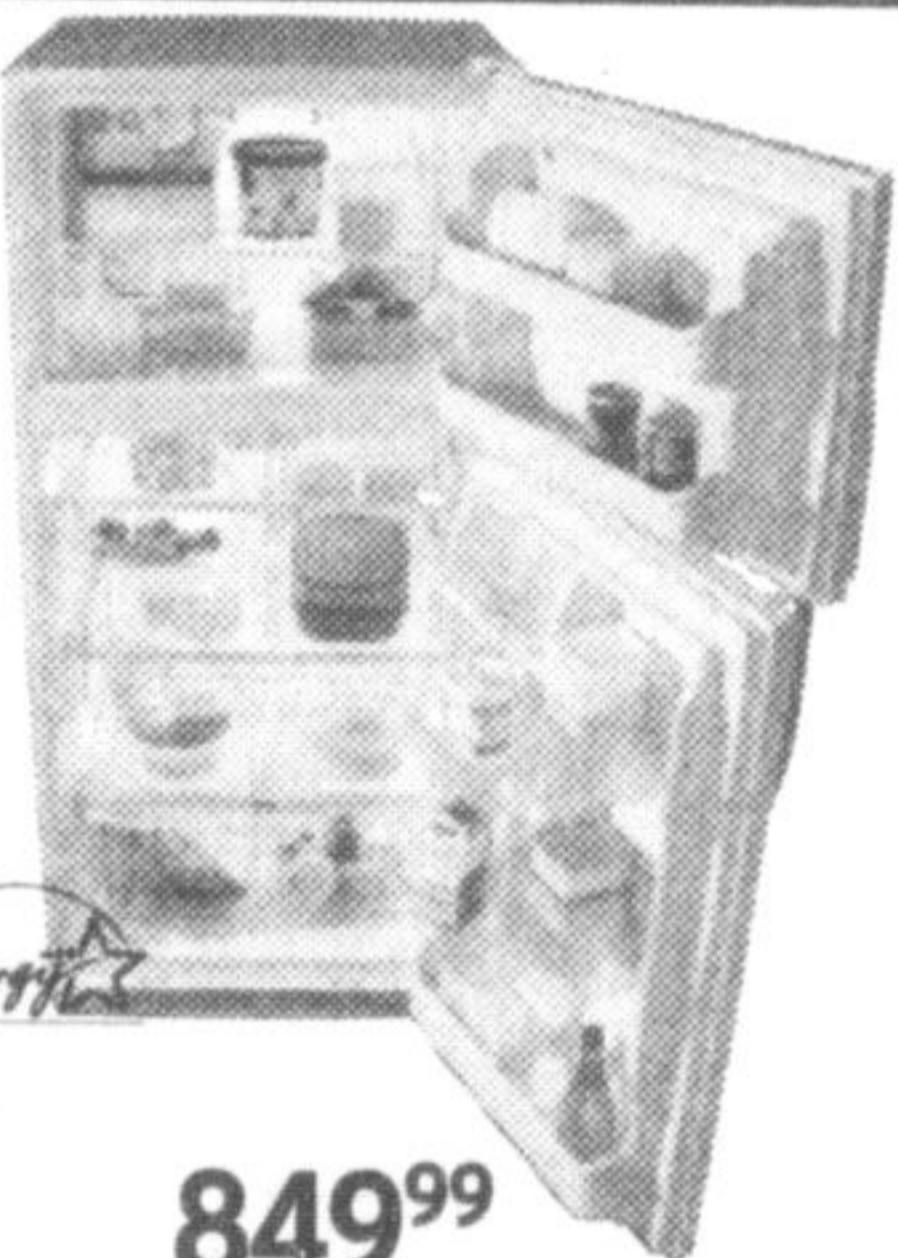
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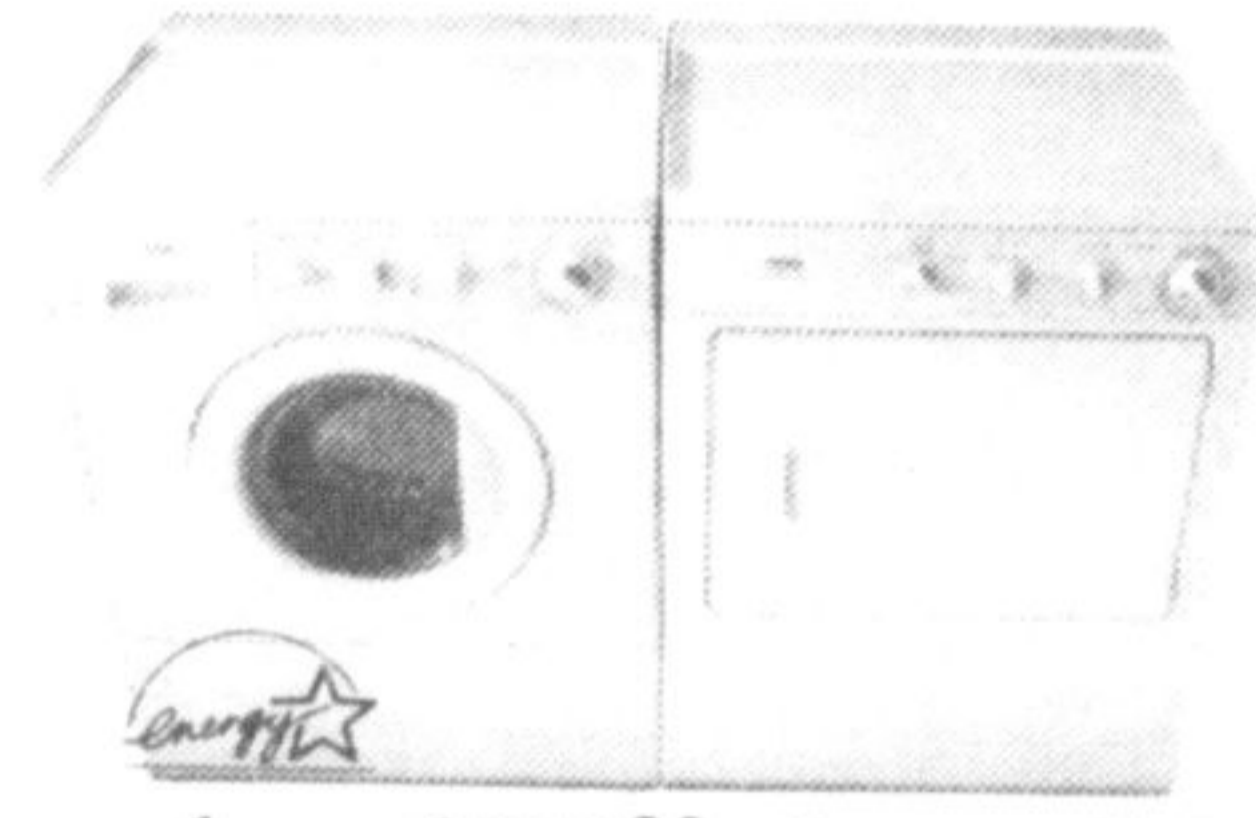
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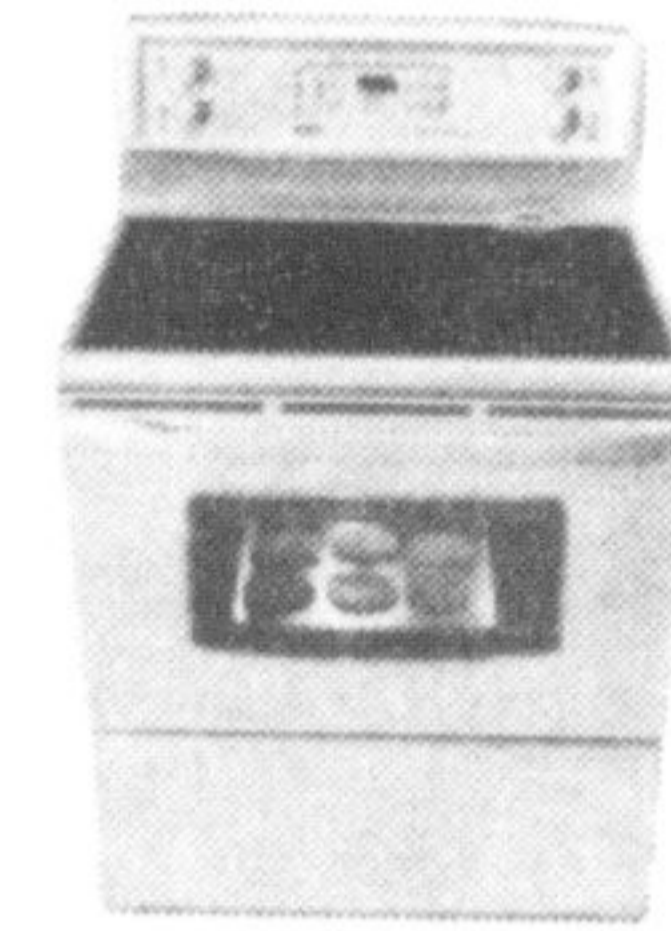
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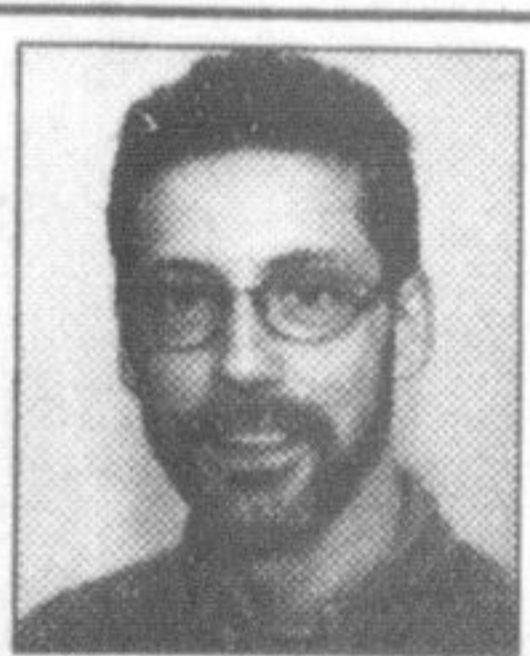
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Pot house suspect in court

A Milton man charged in late March in connection with a marijuana-growing operation will appear in Burlington court September 2 to be spoken to.

The date was set during a July 29 appearance at Ontario court (provincial division) in Burlington.

Halton Regional Police charged Darcy Alan Bedard, 33, in late March with possession of a controlled substance for the purpose of trafficking and production of a controlled substance.

Police discovered 113 marijuana plants in various stages of growth as well as hydroponic growing equipment in a Baverstock Crescent house.

The marijuana plants had a street value of \$28,500.

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