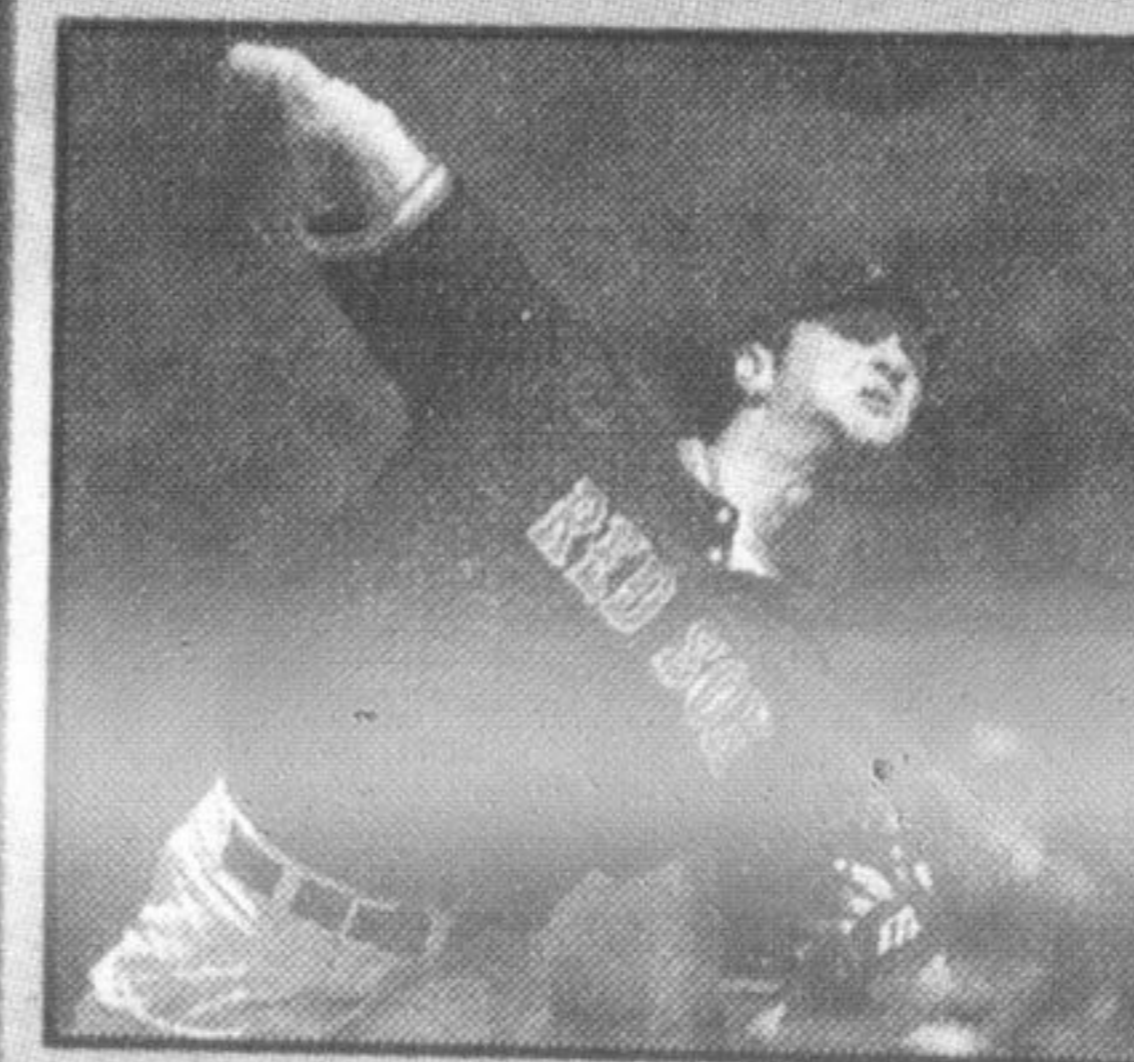


Town's goodwill shines bright in blackout

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Retired Armitage missed at Loblaws  
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Seniors Sox bounced by Erindale  
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Second dead crow tests positive for West Nile

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# The Canadian Champion

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A Metroland Community Newspaper

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## Aftermath

While some businesses get back on their feet others are shutting down as part of the aftermath of Blackout 2003. Above, M&M Meat Shop owner Scott Schlotzhauer and worker Ingrid Drabik restock a cooler prior to the store's opening at noon Saturday. Meanwhile, the Mohawk Slots shut down yesterday to save power. See story on page 2.

Photos by GRAHAM PAINE



## People urged to conserve power, water

By JASON MISNER  
The Champion

The water is safe to drink, sewage is properly and safely being disposed of and garbage/recycling pick-up is on schedule, but businesses and residents alike are being urged to conserve as much power as possible over the next few days.

Patrick Murphy, Halton's commissioner of planning and public works, said the first part of this week is expected to be huge test for power

usage as businesses re-open. A massive blackout hit Ontario and several U.S. states late Thursday afternoon, shutting down much of the private sector.

The provincial government has asked employers to operate their businesses using 50 per cent of the electricity they normally would to help keep the tentative power grid stable. The Region is asking everyone to heed the call.

"We don't have enough power to get through a normal workday, Mr. Murphy said. "There is going to have to be a significant power savings to get through without having rolling

blackouts.

"(Yesterday and today) will be the big test," he said, noting power consumption has been scaled back at the regional headquarters building on Bronte Road. It had power restored by 11 p.m. Friday.

Overall, Mr. Murphy said the Region fared exceptionally well during North America's worst-ever blackout. When the lights went off shortly after 4 p.m. Thursday, two of the major services Halton provides residents - water distribution and sewage disposal - never lost a beat because generators kicked in immediately, providing back up power to

keep things running.

The systems are back using regular power.

"I was very pleased we were able to maintain these services during this blackout," Mr. Murphy said. "Water concerns were my major concern. It's important during a power blackout that you maintain potable (drinkable) water and water for fire protection services."

He was especially pleased that the water reservoirs - excess water that is stored in tanks above and below the ground - were well above the danger threshold. The Region typically  
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