

Program helping students choose their career paths

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fit around students' apprenticeship jobs. Oakville resident Allyson Bradley, who's in grade 12, is one of the students who won't continue with the program.

Now that she has completed the high school co-op portion, completing her placement requirements and earning her seven credits, she'll be attending Sheridan College's Oakville campus to earn her ECE diploma.

For Ms Bradley, the point of the program wasn't cheap tuition but to get a little taste of what it's like studying ECE before she made a huge commitment.

Mr. Bradley said she knew if she decided she didn't want to become an early childhood educator, she hadn't invested too much time or money and could change her plans fairly easily.

"I wanted to experience it to make sure this is what I wanted," she said.

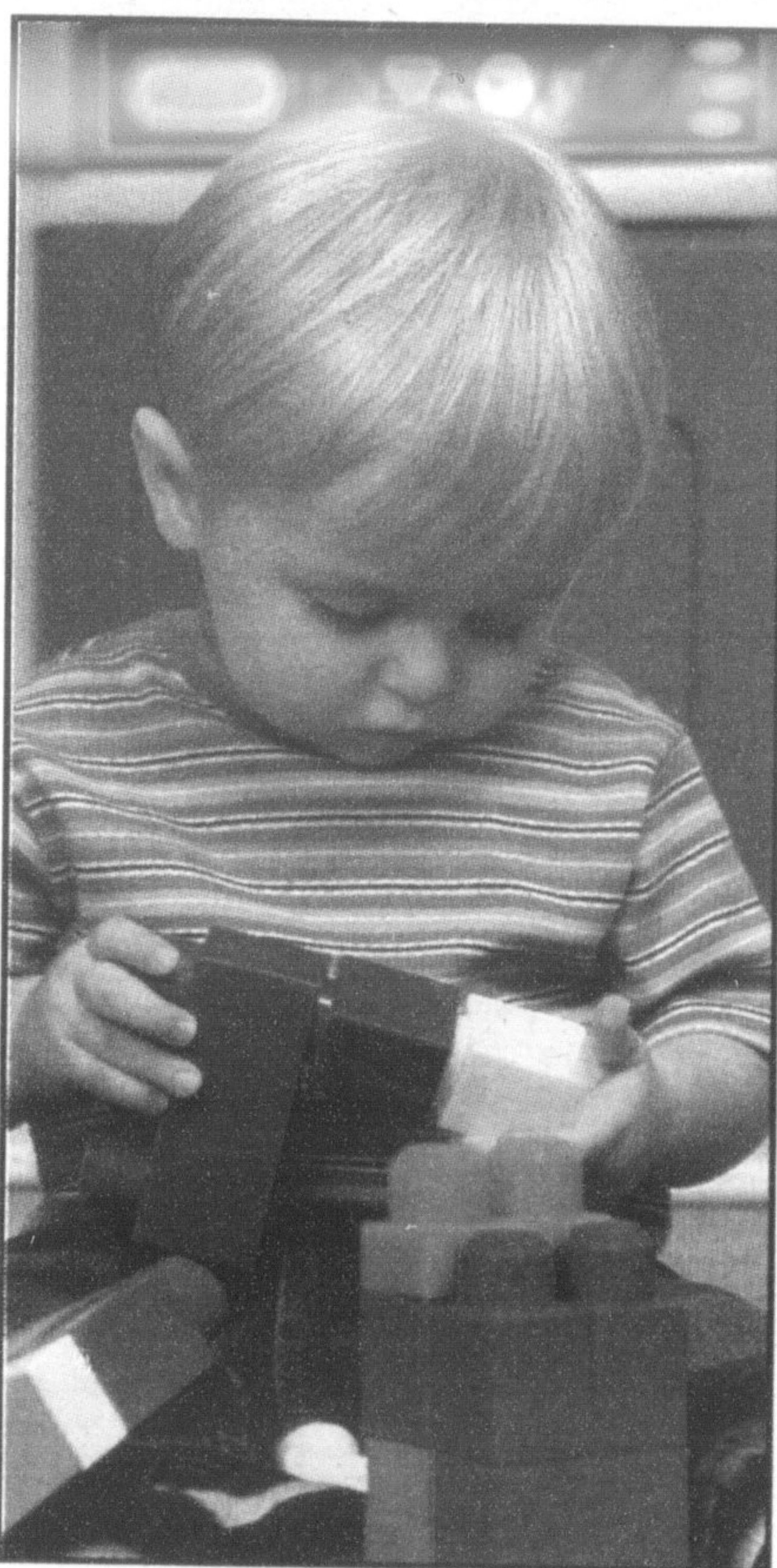
Fortunately, she said, the program just served to confirm that working with kids is what she wants to do.

Of the 16 girls and one boy enrolled in the program, just a couple are from Bishop Reding Secondary School. Rob Zomer, 18, is one of them.

"I've always loved kids," Mr. Zomer said, adding he decided the program was right for him because of its hands-on nature.

He completed his placement at the Milton Junior YMCA, and will be going on to college in September to earn his diploma, he said.

For more information, call Wayne Mason at (905) 335-3663, ext. 3371, Rob



Students learn all about child development as part of the ECE Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program at Bishop Reding Secondary School in Milton.

DeRubeis at (905) 632-6314, ext. 568 or Anne Putica at (905) 875-0124, ext. 160.

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

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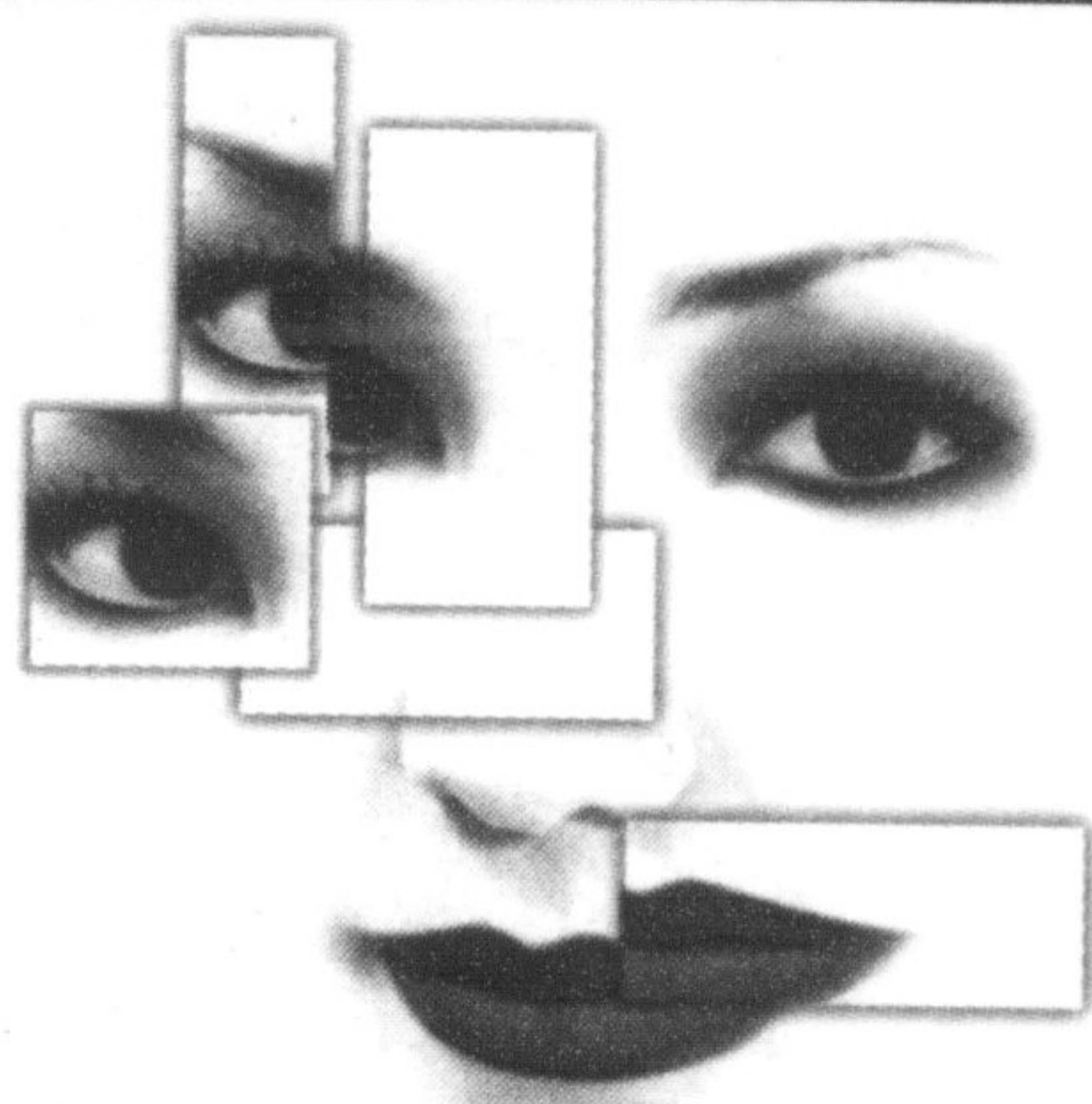
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