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**IN PURSUIT OF VANDALS:** Halton Regional Police Constable Tara McLorn investigates the damage to one of two gravestones toppled by vandals at Evergreen Cemetery earlier this week. This monument, almost a century old, is in memory of Margaret MacNab who passed away in 1909.

## More damage to cemetery gravestones

*Police ask the public to keep an eye out for vandals*

By Stephanie Thiessen  
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Milton's Evergreen Cemetery has been struck by vandals yet again, prompting disgust and vows to bring about justice.

"We're going to catch them," said Jim Strain, secretary-treasurer of the Ontario Street cemetery. "This is ridiculous."

Sometime Tuesday night or early Wednesday morning, two granite gravestones, both crossing, were toppled over.

One weighed more than 900 pounds, and was put in place sometime between 1920 and 1930. Fortunately, it didn't suffer much permanent damage.

The other stone was lighter, but was reinforced with a metal rod connecting the stone to its base, which was bent backward.

Cemetery officials had to torch the metal bar to bend it back upright, and damage remains.

Both gravestones were located in the older part of the cemetery, about 35 feet apart.

Police were on hand Wednesday morning collecting evidence.

It was barely a month ago when about two dozen solar lamps were smashed with air guns at the cemetery. Nobody was caught.

Although the damage isn't as widespread this time, Strain said it's more serious, with the stones more difficult — and costly — to repair.

"The first one, I figured it was younger kids doing it, but this time they're older — they had to be able to push them over," Strain said.

Halton Regional Police Det. Sgt. Peter Hodgson said he doesn't know why anyone

would do such a thing, nor does he know if this incident is related to the one last month.

He advised people driving or passing by the cemetery at night to keep their eyes open for anything amiss.

"If they see anyone hanging around or acting unusual, they should give us a call and we'll check it out. We'd be happy to check it out," Hodgson said.

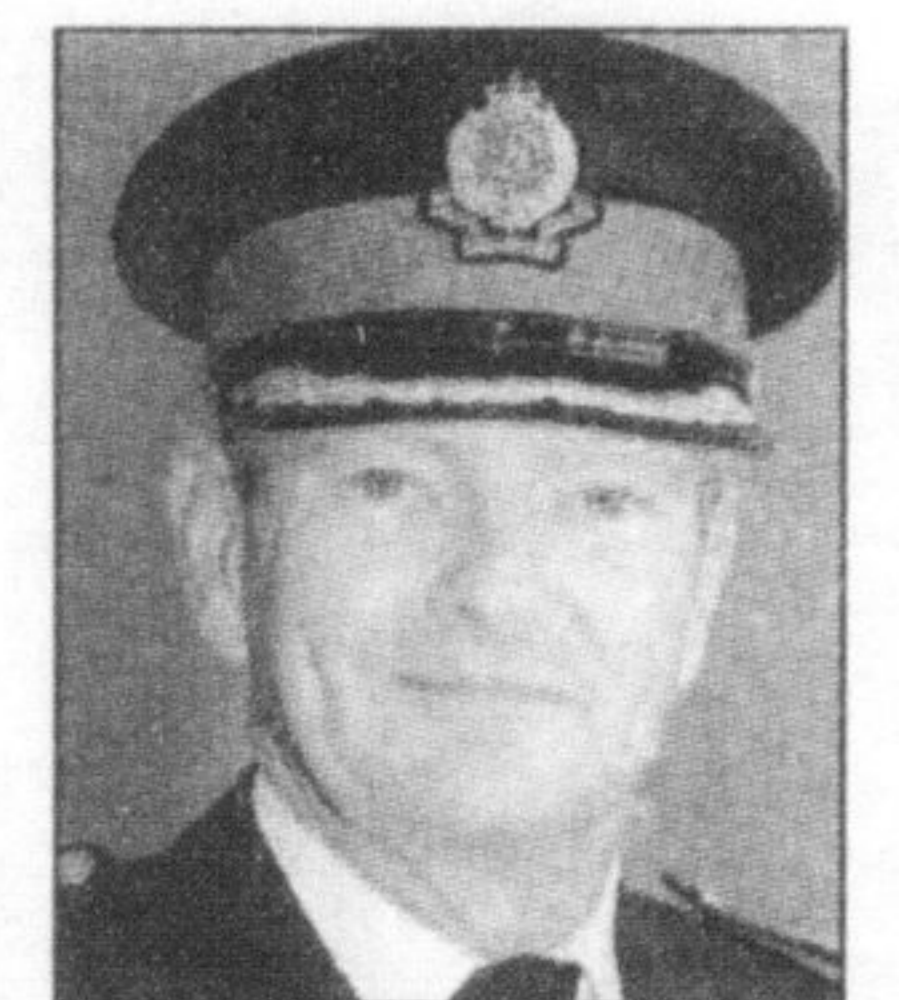
Strain said the idea of security cameras will most likely be raised once again at this week's cemetery board meeting, although the idea's been rejected before because of the cost.

"We're going to have to do what we have to do to deter what's going on," Strain said, adding he doesn't want to lock the gate out of respect for family members who sometimes visit their loved ones' graves in the middle of the night.

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## Crowell new chief of police

By Dennis Smith  
SPECIAL TO THE  
CHAMPION



Gary Crowell

The deputy chief of the Halton Regional Police Service will move up to the top job as of June 3.

Gary Crowell will become Halton's new police chief, the Halton Regional Police Services Board announced Tuesday morning.

"Gary's 35 years of policing experience, commitment to community policing and leadership will serve this region well," said board Chair Ken Musgrave.

"The board is confident that it has  
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