

# Students, staff populations on rise

The number of staff and students at Halton schools has risen by a few hundred over the past year, according to statistics released by both the public and Catholic boards.

The Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) welcomed close to 29,000 students and 3,400 staff as the new 2008-09 school year began, while the Halton District School Board (HDSB) has just over 52,000 youths in class and 4,300 staff members.

For the HCDSB, the projected enrolment figures point to an approximate 300-student growth over last year's enrolments. The projected enrolment figures indicate 19,254 elementary and 9,739 secondary students attended the board's 39 elementary and nine secondary schools, as well as the board's Continuing Education facilities in Burlington and Oakville on opening day.

The HDSB reports that its enrolment has grown by about 1,200 students

from 2007-08 and that 187 new teachers have been hired. Currently, the HDSB has 78 elementary and 17 secondary schools in operation this month.

The Catholic board employs about 3,400 staff, with 65 new teachers hired to date.

Michael W. Pautler succeeds Lou Piovesan as the HCDSB's fifth director of education. Piovesan announced his retirement from the board earlier this year. Suzanne Rossini also starts her job as the board's new superintendent of education, special education.

A number of new and ongoing initiatives for the HCDSB's 2008-09 school year will include: the further implementation of the board's Focus on Faith initiative, which provides alignment and direction to building a strong Catholic learning community; the deployment of Itinerant Literacy and Numeracy teachers to support school staff with improvements to

instructional and assessment strategies and the continued implementation of strategies related to the Board's Bullying Prevention initiative.

As well, the HDSB will construct three new elementary schools in Milton over the next year.

For the first time in a number of years, the HDSB will host a parent conference on education Saturday, Oct. 25 at White Oaks Secondary School in Oakville.

## Milton high school knows country best

Milton District High School proved Sunday night it's second to none when it comes to Canadian trivia — and it was announced on TV for all to hear.

The school received special recognition on CBC's 'Test the Nation: Canada, Eh?' as the highest scoring high school participating in the quiz.

"I'm super proud of my kids and really grateful for the opportunity to be involved in such a great thing," said principal Ian Jones.

Test the Nation gave viewers a chance to take part in an interactive quiz alongside six in-studio teams.

The questions tested viewers' general knowledge of Canada in such categories as 'Made in Canada,' 'Funny Canucks' and 'We Got Rhythm.'

High schools also participated, with one school chosen to represent each of the 10 provinces and three territories.

It was earlier this year that Jones said the school grabbed hold of the chance to represent Ontario, with teacher Sandra Miller leading the initiative.

About 60 students from various grades participated, and back in the spring they took the same quiz at-home viewers did Sunday night.

But they were kept in suspense until the show aired about how they did compared with the other schools, Jones said.

When they found out they'd won, Jones said they were all ecstatic.

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## School drinking water safe

The Halton Catholic District School Board reports that the drinking water at all of its schools is safe to drink.

During the summer months, the water systems in all of the board's schools were tested for lead, as required annually under the Safe Drinking Water Act: Schools, Private Schools and Day Nurseries Regulation, as implemented by the provincial government.

Water samples were taken from the board's elementary and secondary schools and sent to Maxxam Analytics Inc. for lead analysis. All board schools tested had results below the regulation limit of 10 micrograms/litre in the samples taken after five minutes of flushing.

Individual school lead laboratory analysis results are available on the board's public website at [www.hcdsb.org](http://www.hcdsb.org) by selecting the Student Programs and Services item on the left-hand side of the web page and clicking on Regulation 243/07 — Lead Analysis Results.

In accordance with the legislated requirements of the Ministry of the Environment, staff will flush the drinking water plumbing systems on a weekly basis in locations where the plumbing was installed after January 1, 1990. Daily flushing will continue in all locations where plumbing was installed before January 1, 1990 for the 2008-09 school year.

As well, records are being kept at each school of the date and time of every required flushing and the name of the person who performed the flushing.

Public concerns about lead in drinking water can be directed to the Halton Region Health Department at (905) 825-6000, ext. 7884.

Questions regarding the board's implementation of Regulation 243/07 can be directed to Giacomo A. Corbacio, superintendent, facility management services, at (905) 632-6300, ext. 171, or [corbaciog@hcdsb.org](mailto:corbaciog@hcdsb.org).

## Board Recruitment

Oakville Senior Citizens Residence (OSCR) invites applicants to participate on its Board of Directors. Our mission: **Affordable Accommodation and Independent Lifestyle for Seniors.**

OSCR seeks volunteer Board members who will be committed to our mission: willing to deal with values, vision, change and the future; and having an ability to think strategically.

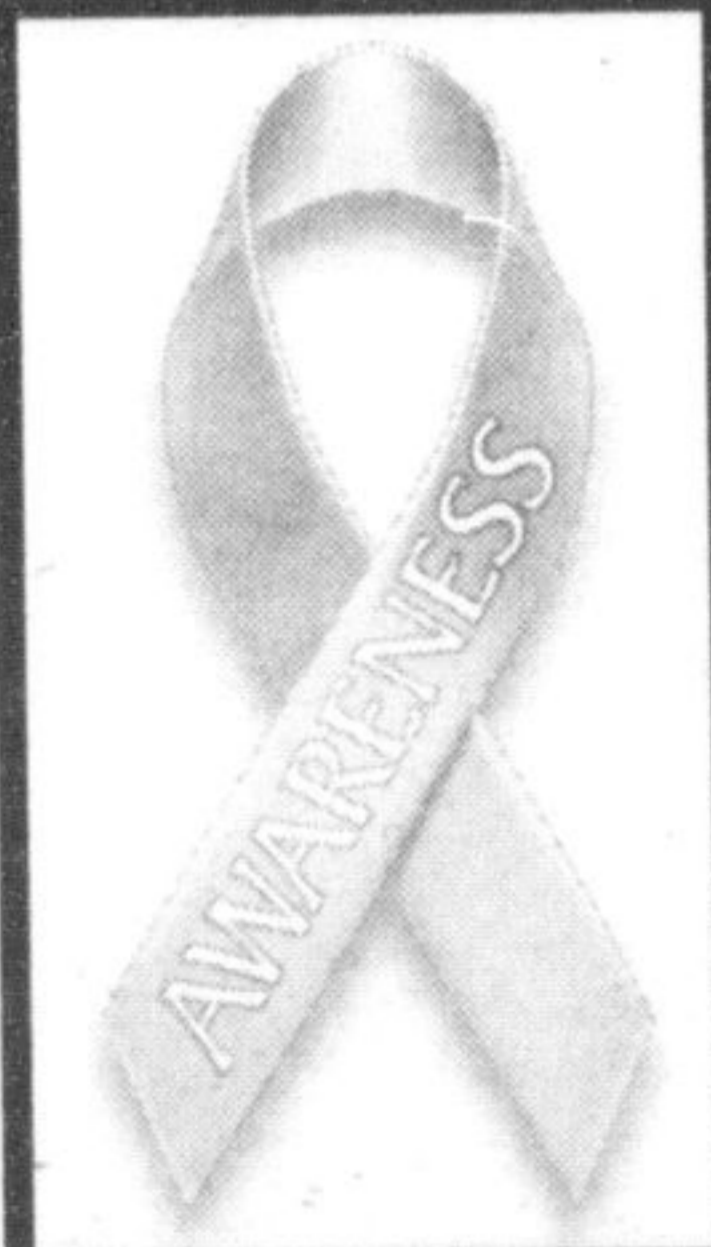
OSCR Board operates under a Carver Policy Governance model.

The Board meets the second Thursday of the month.

Kindly submit your resume to:

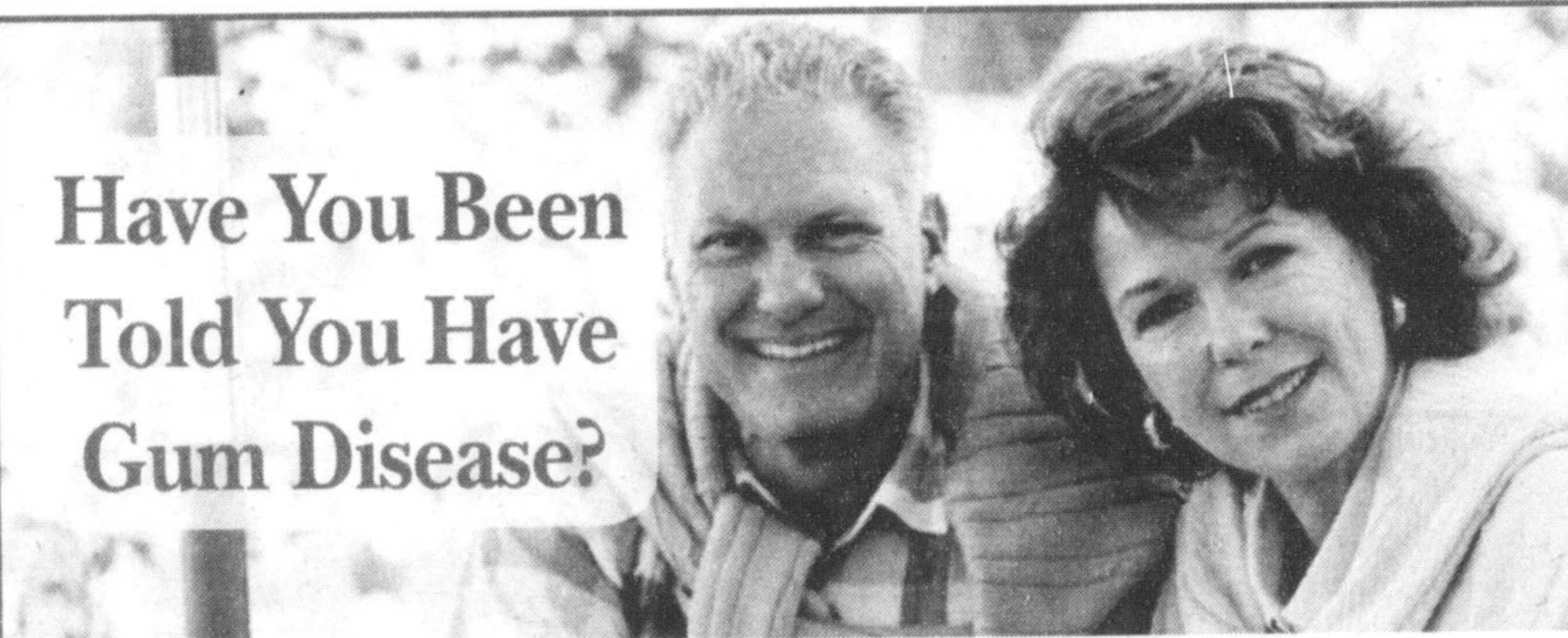
The Nominating Committee  
 Oakville Senior Citizens Residence  
 2220-2222 Lakeshore Road West  
 Oakville ON L6L 5G5  
 email: [oscr@oakvilleseniors.com](mailto:oscr@oakvilleseniors.com)

Applications will be accepted until Friday September 26, 2008.



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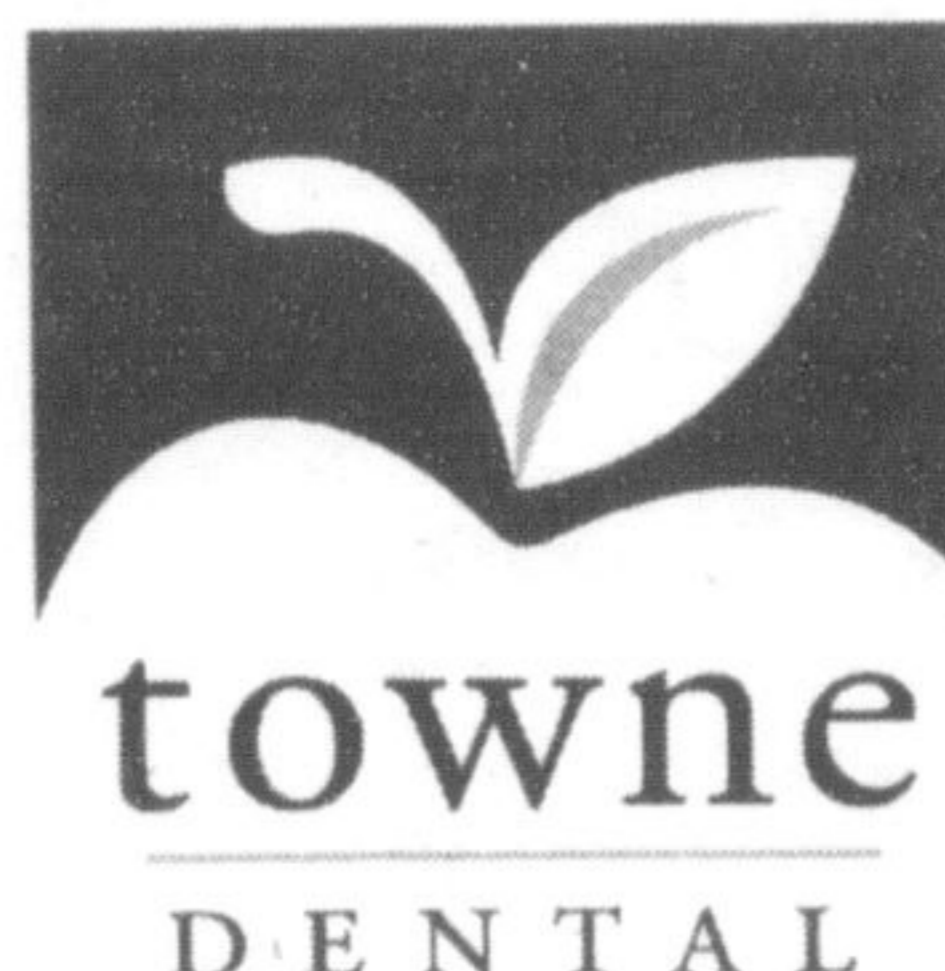
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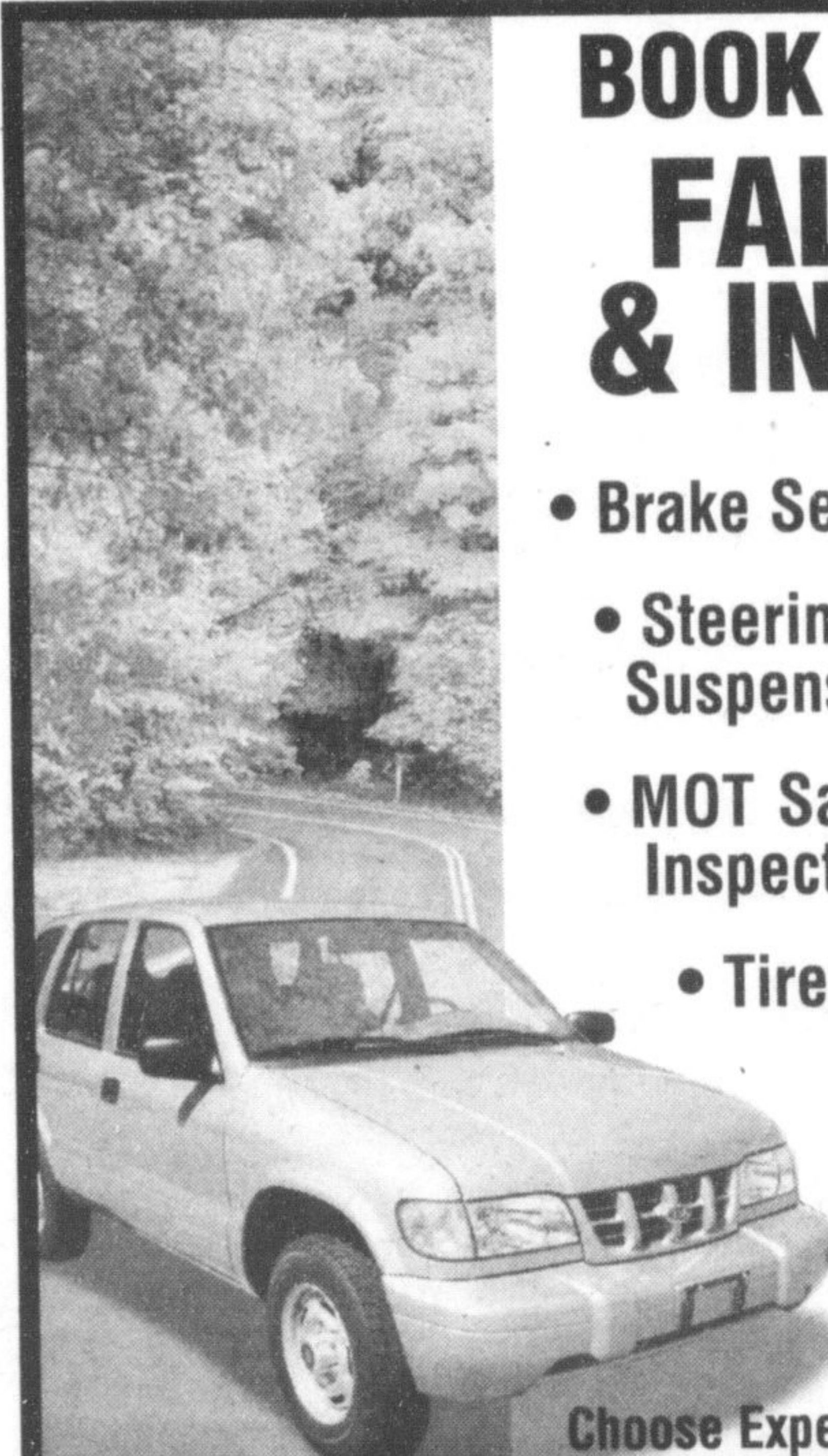


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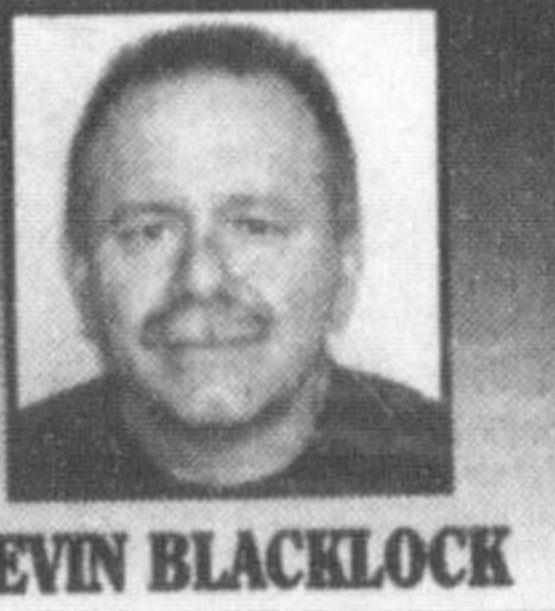
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