## Look out for counterfeit money

# Fake \$100 bills making the rounds around Halton

Halton retail businesses have been victims of at least two recent counterfeit scams involving both Canadian and U.S. fake money.

Phony Canadian \$100 banknotes have been passed in Oakville, Burlington and Georgetown stores this year, and last autumn fake U.S. \$100 bills were passed in Burlington.

One of these latest efforts to prey upon the business

community
seems to involve
colour photocopying or
laser photocopying genuine
banknotes,
while the other

while the other is the more traditional printing process.

The processes for making photocopied and printed counterfeit money mark bills with characteristics that make them dis-

tinquishable from genuine currencies, and knowing what clues to look for can literally save businesses cash.

Easily the best method of checking a suspicious banknote is to compare it with one known to be genuine. A simple examination of a suspect bill against a real one will reveal whether it was printed by federal authority or by some casual counterfeiter. Ask your bank for new bills, then look for differences, rather than similarities, if you come across a suspect bill.

If a bill of the same denomination as the suspect one cannot be obtained, ask for a two dollar bill because counterfeiters seldom consider them worth copying.

All the printing on Canadian banknotes is clear and of

excellent quality. The portrait is lifelike, with fine detail. Some of the printing is raised above the surface of the paper, and can be detected by running a finger over it. Counterfeit bills, especially photocopied ones, are flat.

One of the most distinctive characterists of Canadian banknotes is the small green discs or planchettes scattered through the paper. They can be tested two ways; they can be picked off the paper, and they glow when exposed to ultra-violet light. Attempts to remove simulated planchettes will damage phoney bills no matter how they are created.

Tiny printing on Canadian bills is also a special feature that has been used recently to foil photocopiers. On the

five dollar banknote, for instance, there are waves of small "5" numerals running through the Coat of Arms. Most photocopiers cannot pick up such details.

A more recent innovation for Canadian banknotes appears in the new \$50 bill. It

features a small square of thin film that reflects green from one angle and gold from another.

The portrait on genuine U.S. bills is sharp and clear. The figure is separate from the background. Portraits on fake bills are usually of poor quality, lacking in detail, and the figure blends into the background.

On American bills, two seals flank the portrait; to the right is the U.S. Treasury Seal and on the left is the Federal Reserve Seal. The treasury seal is embossed, the saw-toothed points are even, clear and sharp while the stars in the chevron are well defined.

On phony bills, the saw-toothed points can be uneven see FAKE on page 7



Photo by JON BLACKER

#### Keeping tabs

E.W. Foster School students are collecting pop can tabs in conjunction with an environmental project sponsored by Domino's Pizza. The company will provide funds for the school to purchase a wheelchair when the collection reaches one million. Students are asking for the public's help. Tabs can be dropped off at the school or arrangements can be made for them to be picked up.

# COMING NEXT WEEK



# CO-ED TOUCH FOOTBALL REGISTRATION

At the Equipment Centre behind Nelson High

APRIL 6, 8, 9, 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Sat., April 7, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

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PARKING LOT

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Division Year of Birth

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BELVENIA

TYKE '80-'83
ATOM '78-'79
PEEWEE '76-'77
BANTAM '74-'75
MIDGET '71-'73

Proof of age required (for new players only)

For further information, please call
Ken Foster 639-1137 Lillian Wilson 336-1602

FREE CAMP! REGISTRATION 1990 REGISTRATION Friday, April 6 6 p.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, April 7 10 a.m.-3 p.m. TACKLE FOOTBALL REGISTRATION Stampeder House Rep League Proof of age required for new players. BMFA will once again run an instruction camp beginning May 22. Camp is free to all registered players of BMFA. EQUIPMENT CENTRE BASEBALL ., NELSON PARKING SCHOOL LOT STADIUM OVERAGE/UNDERAGE YEAR OF MAX. FEES MAX. WEIGHT WEIGHT BIRTH Division \$60.00 65 born in 79 85 lbs. '80'83 TYKE \$75.00 85 born in 77 115 lbs. '78'79 ATOM \$90.00 145 lbs. 115 born in 75 '74-75 PEEWEE \$105.00 '71-73 180 lbs. 145 born in 73 BANTAM \$115.00 71:73 Unlimited MIDGET (1971 - Returning Players Only) NOTE Bantam and Midget Rep Only For more information, please call Martha Smith 336-7053 Kathy Mantini 332-0990

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