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## Reward offered for clues to school break-in

By KAREN SMITH  
The Champion

Milton District High School is offering a reward to any student who comes forward with information about a break-in at the school overnight Sunday.

The culprits broke into the cafeteria kitchen by kicking in a floor vent and sprayed a fire extinguisher around the food preparation area, Halton police said.

"I don't know what they were after," said school principal Tom Adams. "They just made a mess in there."

The vandals entered the Williams Avenue school after breaking a west-side window. They also stole three T-shirts from a filing cabinet, said Halton police Sergeant Dan Gheller. The total loss in the break-in including damage is estimated at about \$100, police said.

The school's kitchen, at the south-east corner of the building, was already the target of thieves once earlier this year. The culprits made off with float money used to give change in the cafeteria at the start of the day.

Since the break-in, the cash is no longer kept in the food preparation area, said Mr. Adams.

He speculated the weekend's thieves could have become "frustrated" after finding no money and resorted to vandalism.

The cafeteria menu was limited Monday, but food services were expected to be back to normal yesterday, he said. The school hired workers to clean up the mess.

A reward, he said, will be given to any student with information regarding the persons responsible for the break-in.

Mr. Adams said he hasn't yet decided in what form the reward will be given.

"It could be cash, clothing, or food," he added.

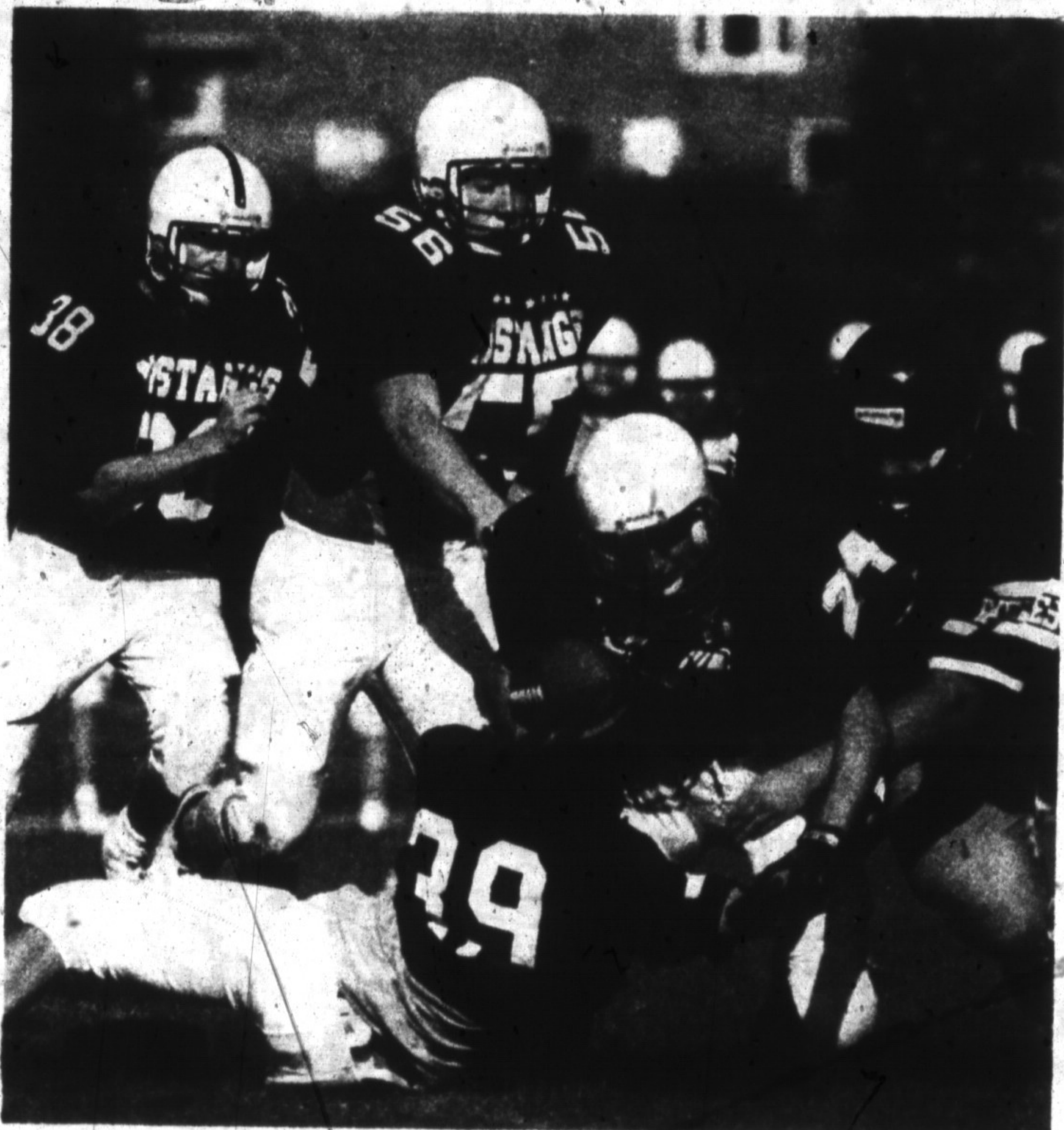


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

## What a drag!

The ball carrier for Milton District High School, Matt Macintosh, gets dragged down by Queen Elizabeth Park Eagles defenders while teammate, Martin Pyle, looks on. QE Park went on to beat the MDHS junior team 34-14 last Thursday.

## Town dumps garbage collection

By ROB KELLY  
The Champion

Milton's garbage collection will be done by private haulers beginning in January, town councillors decided Monday night. The move is expected to save hundreds of thousands of dollars, but it may cost a handful of jobs.

Bruce Fendley, shop steward for local 626 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), the union which represents Milton public works employees, said he will meet with municipal management on Oct. 20 in an attempt to ensure none of his 25 members are laid off.

Town public works director John Matthews could offer no guarantee that everyone's job is secure. "This is strictly a management situation. There are some staff changes recommended. We are hoping all union members will be protected." However, the issue "has not been decided."

Five municipal employees are assigned to garbage collection, three full-time and two part-time. The two part-timers are non-union contract employees, Mr. Matthews said.

• see GARBAGE on page 2

## Treasurer objects to phased-in property tax reform

By ROB KELLY  
The Champion

Should Halton Region successfully phase in market value assessment (MVA) over four years, it'll end up being a big headache in Milton, Town treasurer Jim McQueen suspects.

Speaking at municipal council Monday night, Mr. McQueen outlined a scenario in which nobody will be pleased.

Those who have higher taxes under MVA will be understandably upset, while others who get a break will be fuming because their tax decreases will only

be fully realized four years from now.

After six hours of discussion and protest two weeks ago, Halton regional council approved MVA when chairman Peter Pomeroy broke a 12-12 deadlock that saw Milton and Burlington's dozen councillors favouring the plan, while Oakville and Halton Hills' 12-member faction opposed it.

Under MVA, property taxes will go up approximately \$4 million in Oakville and down by a similar amount in Burlington. The Milton and Halton Hills increases are much smaller, although residential

properties, as opposed to commercial ones, face bigger jumps in Halton Hills than in Milton.

Market value assessment is land taxation based on the going price for property. No new funds are collected, but there are shifts in

who pays based on updated values. Since Oakville real estate, particularly downtown, is deemed to have appreciated more than elsewhere, taxes have shifted there accordingly.

• see HEADACHE on page 2



Jim McQueen

## Celebrate autumn

A wagon ride to Nassagaweya Canyon is part of Autumn on the Escarpment, a heritage program at Crawford Lake Conservation Area.

The celebration of fall takes place October 10, 11 and 12 at the Guelph Line and Steeles Avenue conservation area.

Country entertainment and special activities at Crawford Lake's Indian village are also included in the event. Crawford Lake is located on Guelph Line at Steeles Avenue.

## NEWSLINES

### Co-op fined \$75,000

United Co-operatives of Ontario has been fined \$75,000 under the Occupational Health and Safety Act in relation to an incident last November.

The company was found guilty on one charge of failure to comply with the act, said Moira McIntyre, a spokesperson for the Ministry of Labour.

The penalty was levied last week and "the reason why the fine was so high" was that the company has two prior convictions in the same vein over the last few years, Ms McIntyre added.

On Nov. 7, 1991, 21-year-old Mark Schrader, a Co-op employee, was trapped for more than four hours in a grain conveyor at the Bronte Street outlet when his foot became entangled. Mr. Schrader had to undergo reconstructive and plastic surgery.

A Milton welder, Charlie Speck, spent more than two hours cutting machinery metal away from Mr. Schrader's foot to free him. At the time, Milton firefighter Dave Krantz, who was also on the scene, said that but for Mr. Speck's efforts, "we'd be looking at an on-site amputation."

## INSIDE



The famous Halton Plowing Match was held last weekend on Fifth Line in nice weather. For all the results,

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