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Graduates 'DARE' to say no to drugs

By **KAREN SMITH**
The Champion

About 120 Sam Sherratt School students are graduates of a Halton Regional Police program which teaches kids how to say no to drugs.

Grade 6 students were presented certificates and T-shirts during the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) graduation ceremony held at the Laurier Avenue school last week.

"It is one of the programs that has the strongest impact on kids that age," says Chris Logan, vice-principal of the school. "I see kids from two years ago that still wear their T-shirts."

D.A.R.E. focuses on giving young people the self-esteem required to combat the peer pressure that goes along with drug use. Through a variety of exercises and projects, the students learned ways to avoid becoming involved in alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs including cocaine and crack.

Constable Stuart Flaming of D.A.R.E. met weekly with Grade 6 classes since September. He presented the students their well-earned graduation certificates Jan. 12. During the morning ceremony, 20 students read aloud specially-chosen stories and poems they wrote about the popular program.

School officials hope D.A.R.E. will return for future Grade 6 classes at Sam Sherratt, said Mr. Logan. He added that students voiced concern when the program wasn't offered at the school last year.

DATELINE

Dateline is a free listing of coming events only, available to local community groups to assist in promoting their future events. Only charitable or non-profit community groups may use this service. We can only guarantee one issue of publicity closest to the date of the occurrence although more insertions are possible if demand is low.

Notices for Dateline should be written and handed in at the office of The Champion, 191 Main St. E., mailed to us at Box 248, Milton, Ont., L9T 4N9, or faxed to 878-4943. The final deadline is noon Friday for Wednesday's edition and noon Wednesday for Friday's edition. No items for Dateline will be accepted by telephone.

Wednesday Jan. 20

Women interested in **breastfeeding information and support** are welcome to attend the next meeting of the Milton LeLeche League. The topic is "The Advantages of Breastfeeding to Mother and Baby."

The meeting takes place at Grace Anglican Church at 8 p.m. For information, call 878-4803 or 878-6387.

Ladies are invited to attend **Neighbourhood Coffee Hour** from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in the main auditorium of Halton Centennial Manor, 125 Ontario St. The special feature is "Healthy Lifestyles" by Barry Glass. The event, hosted by the Milton Christian Ladies Coffee Hour, also features an interlude of musical selections with guest speaker Mary Ann Dixon. Admission is free. Babysitting is provided.

Bereaved Families of Ontario, Halton-Peel, hosts a **family support night** focusing on "The Grief of Other Family Members." The event takes place at Century Gardens Recreation Centre, 340 Vodden, in Brampton. Extended family members and friends are welcome. For more information, call 507-2200.

Pine School, a non-profit elementary school for children with learning disabilities, presents a **series of four lectures by experts in the field of childhood education.** The first presentation, at Knox Presbyterian Church (461 Elizabeth St. in Burlington), deals with assessing children with learning difficulties. The guest speaker is Heather Holden from the Ontario Association of Children's Learning Disabilities. Admission \$5 per session or \$15 for the series. For tickets, call 637-9285.

The Canadian Mental Health Association, Halton branch, and Family Place present an **information evening on step parenting** at Bishop Reding Secondary School at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome. No registration is required.

Thursday Jan. 21

The **Living with Cancer Group** meets at the Milton branch of the Canadian Cancer Society, 751 Main St. E., from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Group discussions provide emotional support and practical guidance to patients, family, and friends. For information, call 878-5228 or 878-1876.

The Victorian Order of Nurses holds a **foot care clinic** at Milton District Hospital's emergency department from 6-8 p.m. The cost is \$15. For further information or an appointment, call 875-4636.

The **Milton Historical Society** meets at Hugh Foster Hall at 7:45 p.m. The meeting includes a "show and tell" program where members describe personal possessions which are historical. Visitors are welcome.

Friday Jan. 22

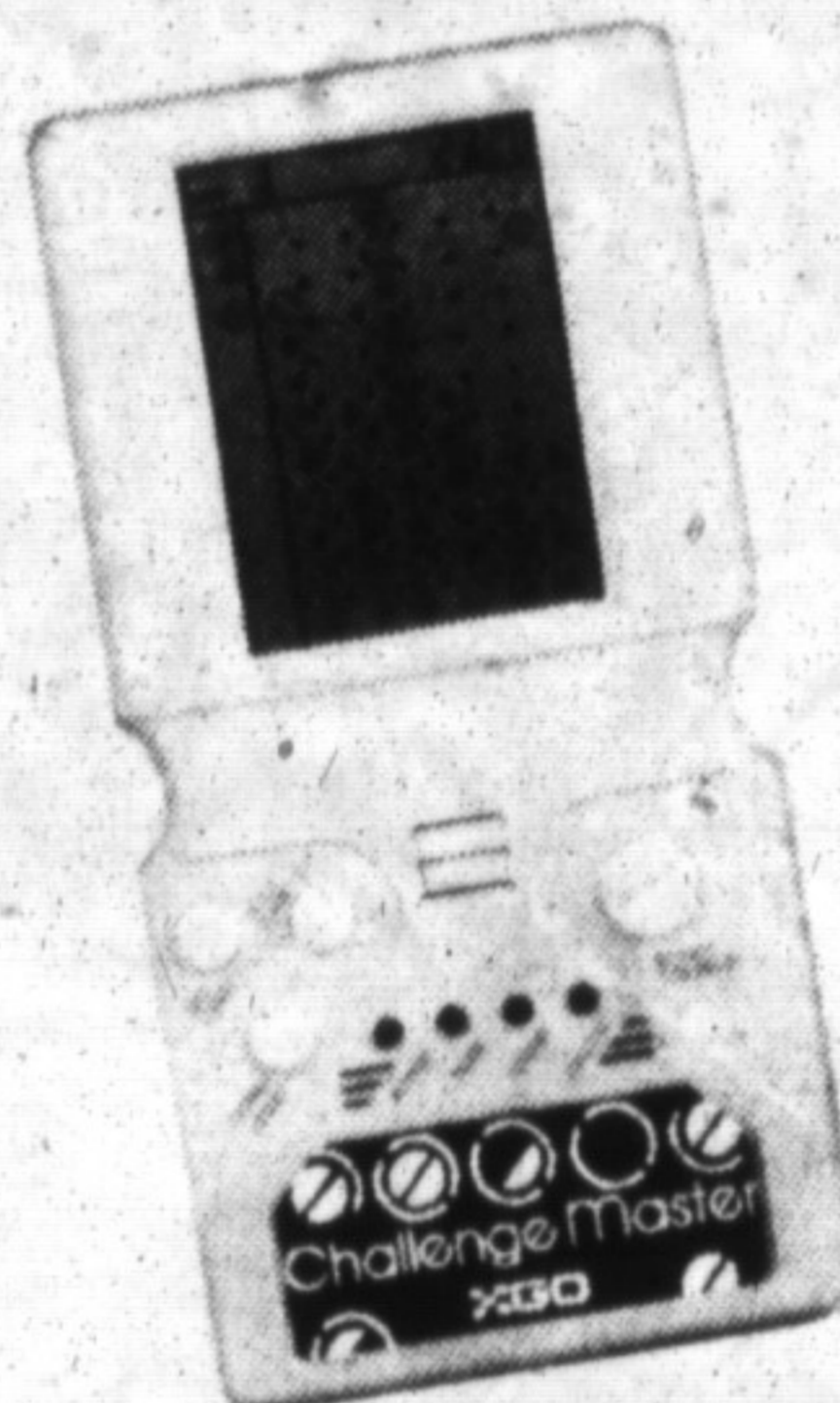
Robbie Burns Dinner and Entertainment takes place at Boston Presbyterian Church at 6:30 p.m. The event includes a traditional dinner of haggis and mushy peas, Scottish dancing, piping and singing. Tickets cost \$7.50. Call 878-9406.



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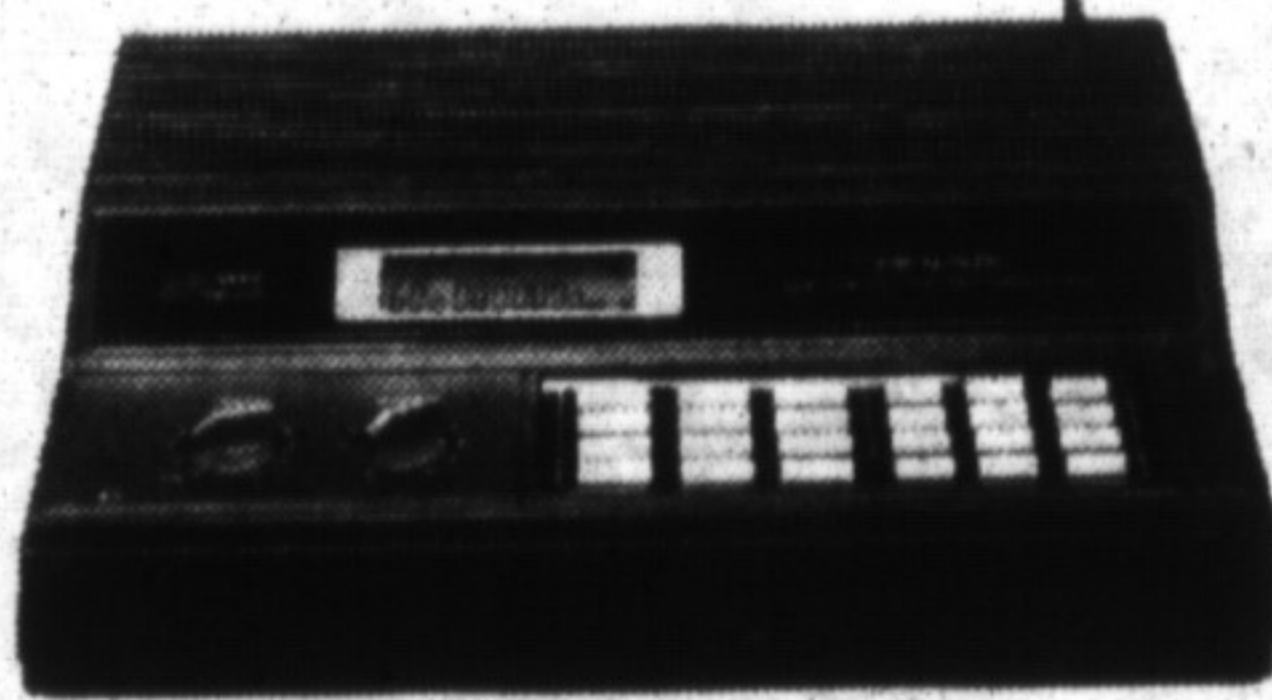
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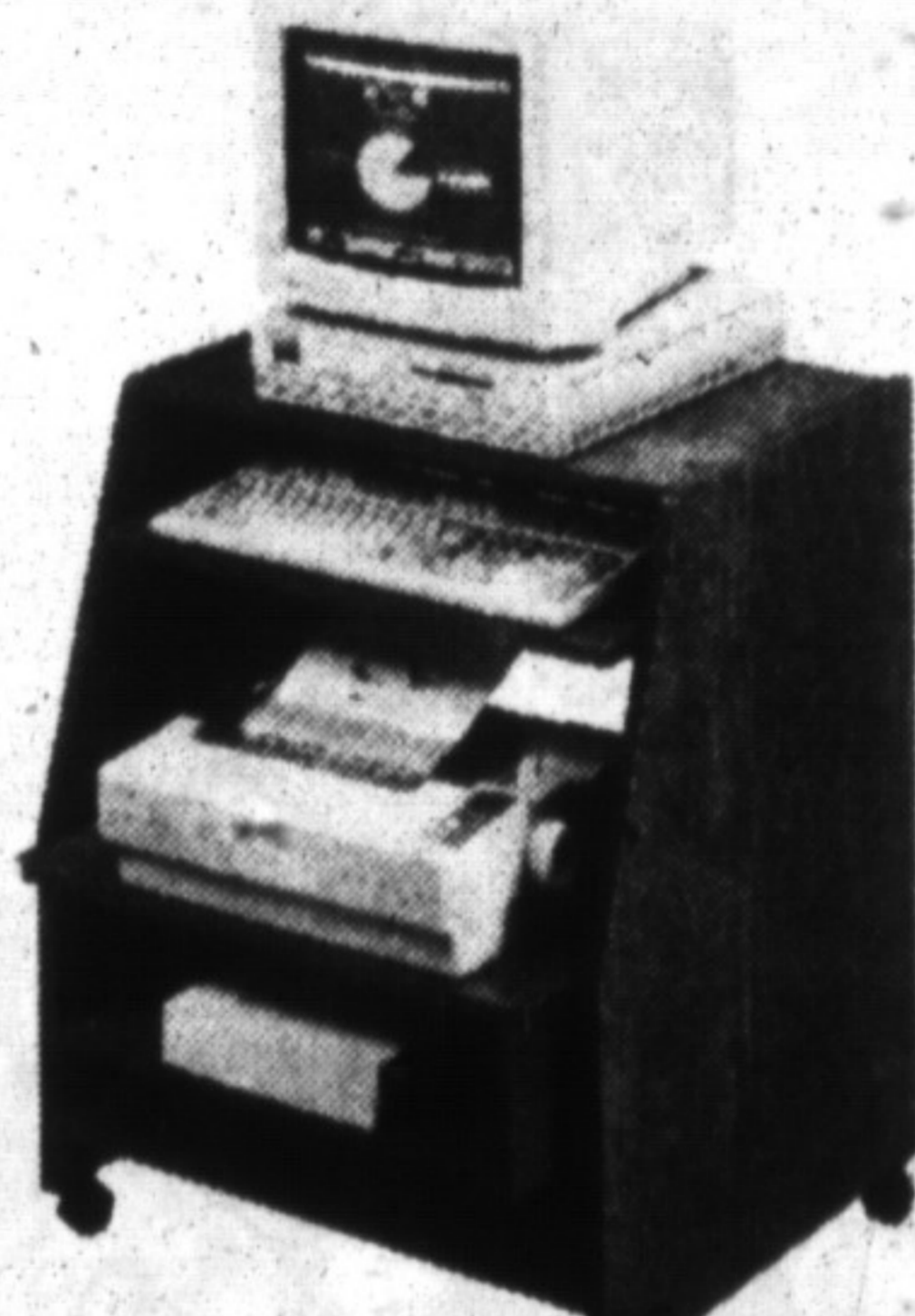
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