

# The Canadian Champion Weekend

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## NEWSLINES

### Skate for a good cause tomorrow

Those who haven't got pledge forms can still join in the fun at tomorrow's 11th annual John D'Amico Skate-a-thon for Easter Seals.

Any donation will allow local residents the opportunity to skate along side veteran NHL linesman and Hockey Hall of Famer John D'Amico, Hockey Night in Canada commentator Don Cherry, Mayor Gord Krantz and a host of other celebrities.

Pledges raised at the family event sponsored by the Ministry of the Solicitor General and Correctional Services will help provide essential services and programs to children with physical disabilities and their families across the province.

The skate at Milton Memorial Arena runs from 10 a.m. to noon.

### Check your blood pressure today

Interested in getting your blood pressure checked? Well, today's the day.

As part of Heart and Stroke Month, the local chapter of the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario is holding a blood pressure clinic in Milton.

The clinic runs from 1 to 7 p.m. at National Trust at Milton Mall.

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## Golden Report doesn't work for Halton: Savoline

By BRAD REAUME

The Champion

Most of Halton's political leaders were on hand yesterday morning to lend their voices to a discussion on the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) Task Force report.

The mayors of Burlington, Halton Hills and Milton along with Halton Regional Chair Joyce Savoline and Halton North MPP Ted Chudleigh discussed municipal reform and field questions from the business community focusing on taxation, governance and local autonomy.

"If you have a corporation with five divisions, like the five regions in the GTA, and four of them are working well and only one is not working, do you wipe out all five divisions?" asked Ms Savoline at the Milton Chamber of Commerce breakfast.

"That's what the Golden Report proposes. The report focuses on fixing Metro Toronto. It doesn't work for Halton."

Milton Mayor Gord Krantz said that each person's perspective on tax reform depends upon their situation.

"It all depends upon whose ox is being gored," he said at the Muddy Duck Restaurant event. "We will get your bucks anyway. The discussion is on how we will do it."

Huge tax hikes for business



Joyce Savoline

and residential taxpayers were put on the table, with municipal politicians saying hikes would be even higher than outlined in the report.

In a speech to kick off discussion, Mr. Chudleigh called the hikes a worst case scenario, however local politicians were content to leave the figures unqualified.

Only after prodding from the audience did the local politicians admit the figures, compiled by the Region of Peel, were a worse case scenario. The figures were taken from 1994 tax information, which is now outdated due to imple-

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## Drugs seized

A simple driving infraction turned into a drug arrest last week in Campbellville.

Shortly after midnight January 31, Halton Regional Police stopped a motorist at Guelph Line and McLaren Road for driving without authorized plates.

Upon inspection of the vehicle, police found a small quantity of drugs believed to be marijuana.

A 39-year-old Burlington man was charged with possession of a narcotic and will appear in Ontario Court (provincial division) in Milton March 11.

## Four cases of 'flesh-eating disease' reported in Halton

By PAUL MITCHISON  
Special to The Champion

Halton had four cases of the "flesh-eating disease" including one death last month, according to the Halton Regional Health Department.

However, Mary Anne Carson, manager of communicable disease programs for the department, said the January numbers aren't alarming

in the medical community. In fact, the number of cases are slightly down from last year.

Invasive Group A streptococcus, as the disease is medically known, is a rare and frightening form of a common infection, the same illness that cost Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard his leg.

Health authorities said the public is at little

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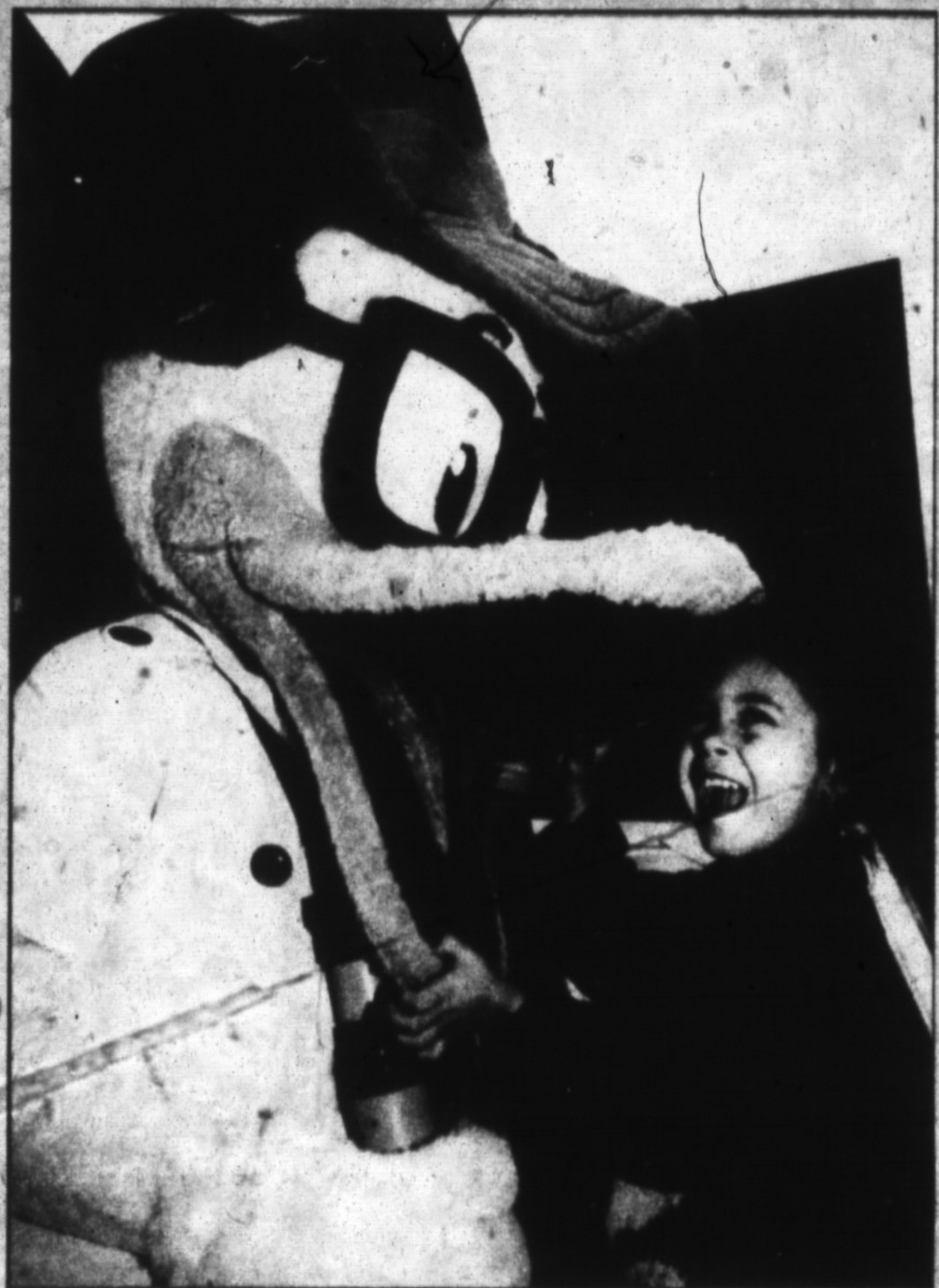


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

## Quacking up the crowd

Three-year-old Shanese Steele was thrilled by the Ducks Unlimited mascot at Milton Mall Saturday. The mascot was at the mall drumming up — or rather quacking up — ticket sales for the annual Ducks Unlimited dinner-auction at Halton Hills Place April 4. The wetland preservation group was also selling tickets for its limited-edition print draw February 13.

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