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**Crown will appeal judge's Shell Park decision**

After reviewing a recent decision to toss out videotaped evidence in last year's Shell Park scandal, the Halton Crown Attorney's Office has launched an appeal of the ruling.

Earlier this month Provincial Court Judge Douglas Latimer determined the use of a video camera to monitor homosexual activity in the men's washroom at Shell Park was an invasion of privacy and had infringed Section 8 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Judge Latimer threw out the videotaped evidence against five of those charged and stayed the charges against them. They were among a total of 46

men arrested during the July 1993 operation which took place just days before the law changed requiring a judge's authorization to conduct such video surveillance.

Halton Crown Attorney Brian O'Mara said litigation is necessary to determine whether the operation constituted an unreasonable search - an issue which should be defined by an appellate court.

O'Mara would also like to see clarified the issue of whether police must consider imminent alterations in the law before determining how to proceed with their investigations.

A total of 61 sex acts were captured on tape. In only one instance did a man wear a condom. A 53 year old man whom investigators said had AIDS killed himself a short while after his arrest by leaping off a bridge.

In previous investigations regarding anonymous sex acts in public places in town police had difficulties obtaining convictions. When the prob-

lem re-surfaced at Shell Park and members of the public complained,

**Robbery suspects left in van**

(Continued from page 1)  
wearing masks - fled eastbound in a dark green 1993 Dodge Caravan, then possibly south on Winston Churchill Boulevard. The vehicle - thought to have been stolen from a hotel near Pearson Airport some time after July 15 - was later recovered at the Five Drive-in on Ninth Line.

Police have issued descriptions of each of the suspects:

Suspect One - 5' 10", 160 lbs, wearing a dark hooded pullover, blue jeans, grey hat and white mask.

Suspect Two - 6', 160 lbs, wearing a red hooded pullover, dark colored pants, dark footwear, a white mask and armed with a

police set up their surveillance - this time armed with video equipment.

Suspect Three - 5' 8", 160 lbs, wearing a dark sweatshirt, dark pants, white runners, a black balaclava and armed with a semi-automatic handgun.

Suspect Four - 5' 10", 190-200 lbs, wearing a light colored jacket or sweatshirt, dark pants, white runners and carrying a straight edged weapon believed to be a machete.

Investigators are comparing this latest crime with last year's robbery at Aikenhead's which occurred at 7:30 a.m. on Christmas Eve morning.

In this instance, four armed men described as non-whites - three brandishing handguns, a fourth carrying a machete - barged into the store and ordered approximately 24 employees and customers to lie on the floor. After taking money from the cash office they fled in a silver minivan. The faces of all the suspects were covered with hoods and scarves.

While the investigation into Tuesday's robbery continues by members of District No. 2 CIB, anyone with information - including anyone who observed suspicious activity at the Five Drive-in - is asked to contact police at 825-4777 ext. 22216 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-668-5151 or 825-8477.

**Me and Mom program at Parent-Child Centre**

The Oakville Parent-Child Centre is holding a four-week program designed for parents and children, 18 to 30 months called 'Me and Mom'. Spend time together sharing new adventures, songs, and play, as well as, socializing with new found friends. Parents will learn how to encourage the development of their child's natural curiosity and sense of discovery.

Pre-registration is required for this program which will commence on Friday, Aug. 12th, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Please call the Oakville Parent-Child Centre (849-6366) for more information, or drop by to see us at 337 Kerr St.

**Thieves take basket-fate of birds unknown**

Vandalism has no bounds, apparently, after a nest filled with baby birds vanished from outside a local business over the weekend.

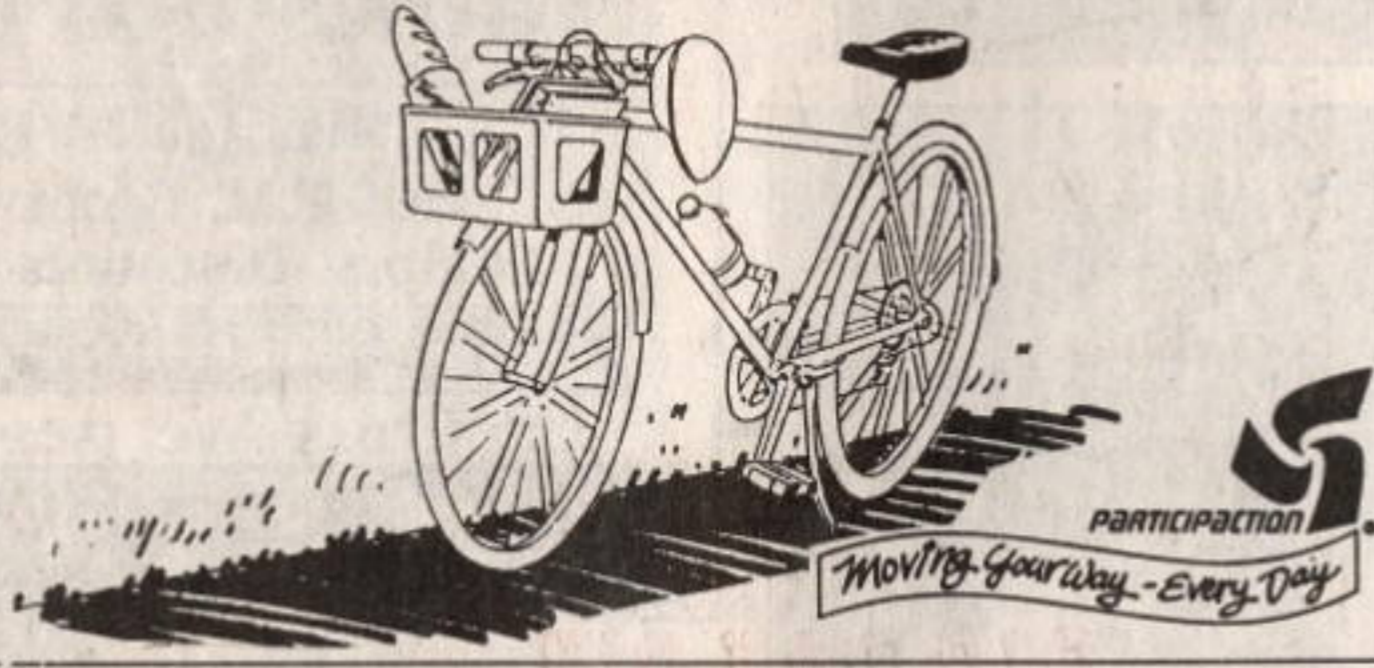
According to Mary Spriggs of Spriggs Insurance Brokers Ltd. on Church Street, the nest and its living contents was gone when employees returned to work Monday morning. All that remained was a distraught mother flying frantically around the area.

Spriggs explained that the house finches had set up shop in the basket filled with purple flowers earlier this year. Eggs were laid and later four chicks hatched which were well on their way to maturity. Feathered and almost ready to fly, the birds had become mascots of sorts for the staff, said Spriggs.

"We watched their progress all summer and became quite attached to them," she said.

As late as 2 p.m. Saturday the basket was still in place but sometime over the weekend wires holding it in place were wrenched loose or cut and the entire piece taken.

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