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Raitt told to get back to work in Ottawa

*Prorogation blasted
at town hall forum*

■ By Tim Foran
OAKVILLE BEAVER STAFF

The presents were ready for attendees: Tim Hortons coffee and doughnuts and Canadian maple leaf lapel pins "compliments of" Halton MP Lisa Raitt.

But some of those who turned out to Raitt's town hall forum Saturday afternoon in Oakville wanted to send the federal representative back to Ottawa with a gift as well — a message for her government to get back to work.

"I think Mr. (Stephen) Harper has been shocked by the reaction of the public," said Mississauga resident Bob Stuart, referring to growing public criticism of the Prime Minister's decision late last month to prorogue Parliament until March 3 instead of resuming the legislative session in late January, as originally scheduled.

The government will begin the third session of the 40th Parliament with a new Throne Speech that day followed by the release of the budget the next day.

"There's no question prorogation is undemocratic," complained Stuart to general applause from the approxi-

■ See Raitt page 2

Ceremonial rose



GRAHAM PAINE / OAKVILLE BEAVER

TURNING HEADS: Michelle Eckebrecht receives a rose from bachelor Shawn Wolfe at the Oakville GO station Monday night. Wolfe was one of five tuxedo-clad bachelors presenting roses to female commuters to promote *The Bachelor* on Citytv, which features Oakville resident Jessie Sulidis as a contestant, who escaped elimination in Monday night's episode. Commuters were also given Bachelor cards, which gave them a chance to win an ultimate Bachelor prize pack.

Railway worker killed at Ford plant

■ By John Burman
METROLAND MEDIA WEST

A 42-year-old Hamilton railway worker, crushed between two boxcars at the Oakville Ford Plant late Monday, died at the hospital hours later.

Michael Chiarelli died just after midnight in Hamilton General Hospital where he was transferred following emergency surgery at Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital.

Halton police said the accident happened just after 5 p.m. in a body shop at the Ford Motor Company where a railway line runs through the property near the Highway 403 and Ford Drive interchange.

Chiarelli worked as a brakeman for the Canadian National Railway. According to police, he was pinned between two boxcars while coupling a stationary boxcar to a moving boxcar that was coupled to a locomotive.

The boxcars are used to bring material in and out of the plant.

Chiarelli had been a full-time CN employee since 1990.

Police said an autopsy was scheduled to be conducted yesterday.

Halton police, the Ontario Ministry of Labour and Transportation Canada are investigating, although police said Transportation Canada would be the lead agency because the accident involved a railway employee.

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