



John Goy brought along Ron's baby hat, the start of his hat collecting.



A Rams sweater for Ron, presented by Bob Turkosz.

## Honor Citizen of the Year

(Continued from page 4)

municipality and he and Councillor Terry Grubbe gave Ron a blue blazer with the Halton Hills crest on the pocket.

Noting Ron's handicap, Pomeroy said his list of accomplishments makes the rest of us seem like "mental cripples." He concluded he was looking forward to working with Ron for at least another 18 months and they'll be friends "until the bricks fall off the town hall."

Jelinek called the Citizen of the Year a "fantastic choice" who demonstrates the greatness of Canada and what can be done with our freedoms and opportunities.

McKnight has proved a disabled person can make it "really big" in our society and he is a "world champ at everything." He presented Ron with a plaque.

MPP Julian Reed joked he was glad he was on the "right side of the regional government issue." In addition he said he'll make sure he comes to Acton even more often and exercise caution when talking about the town hall.

Acton was a privileged community to have Ron McKnight, a "spirit" all look up to, among its citizens. He said certain examples "rise up, stand above us all, shine as beacons," to make a community like Acton strong. Ron had done all that; stood above us all. Reed gave Ron a plaque from the province.

Representing regional chairman Jack Ruffis, Dave Whiting noted the Citizen of the Year dinner was supposed to be a small affair for about 90 people but the demand was so great for tickets everything had to be revamped in a space of eight hours last Tuesday. The meal, liquor licence, seating; everything had to be changed and the way so many people cooperated was another example of the high esteem in which the Citizen of the Year is held in Acton. He presented Ron with a plaque and region pin.

On behalf of Acton Minor Hockey Bruce Cargill presented Ron with a plaque and called him one of the best

choices in years for Citizen of the Year.

Georgetown's minor hockey organizations paid tribute to Ron too, and Wayne Pries gave him a plaque. The Georgetown referees gave McKnight a set of binoculars. Gerry Perkins noted they don't call him Ron, but Ironside.

Bob Turkosz presented Ron with an Acton Rams sweater, but first made it look like he was giving him a Maple Leaf sweater, not exactly Ron's favorite team.

The NHL referees tried to arrange to have a member of Les Habitants on hand for the night, but had to settle for sending Ron a Guy LaFleur hockey stick. Ablazer with the Canadiens crest on it is on its way. Irene McCauley, wife of new top referee John McCauley, made the presentation. The stick really seemed to delight the Citizen of the Year.

Rotary president Ken Grubbe recalled Ron joined the organization because of its work with crippled children. He

said McKnight has given back to the crippled children "100 times fold." In keeping with the Leathertown theme in Acton the Rotary gave Ron a coat from the Olde Hide House to keep him warm at the rink.

Chamber president John Allinson said in the seven years he has known Ron and been visiting him at his home he's never seen him without a smile.

Ron carries an awfully big load and for a handicapped person to have accomplished what he has shows a lot of "guts." Most people manage to do for their community less than half what Ron does, despite his disability. Allinson gave McKnight one of the Chamber's new Leathertown plaques.

Telegrams and letters were read from the City of Brampton, NHL referee Bryan Lewis, an official of the Easter Seals and the Georgetown Firefighters.

The "voice of Acton" was visibly moved and obviously overwhelmed

when it came his turn to speak. He said it was difficult to find words to thank people for all the kind things they had said about him and his family. The evening was "incredibly delicious."

He said he never got involved in his community for accolades. He got involved because he wanted to pay people back a little for all the help they have given him as a kid.

Ron's attitude hasn't just been what can he do for Acton but what can he do for his fellow man.

"What can you say about the Rotary Club?" Ron asked, noting when he was growing up and money was short the Rotary and Easter Seals always helped with braces and wheel chairs.

"He profits most who serves best," Ron declared, adding he'll serve in Acton, Georgetown, Norval, Glen Williams; anywhere.

His involvement has given him the opportunity to make many great friends and he's

proud of every one of them.

Ron promised to continue working and helping out with sports, Legion, Rotary etc. as long as he is able.

You only get out of community involvement what you put into it, Ron explained, noting he has really enjoyed the past 13 years of service. He puts his heart and soul into working for others.

An evening like Saturday "really shakes you up." He joked his mother will "kill" him because he was bringing home so much hardware and he'd have to have an addition to his room soon.

Looking around the room he said it was "really something" to see so many friends and relatives from around the province.

"I live in Acton, not Halton Hills. I'm proud to be in Acton," he said to another standing ovation.

It has been a long road to hoe he said, but he has so many wonderful memories that it has been all worth it.

"I can't put my feelings into words. I can't believe it."

## Judge orders destroy gun

By Linda Kirby  
A Limehouse gun collector lost his battle to keep a rare Russian sub-machine gun but was granted an absolute discharge in Milton Provincial Court last week on a charge of possession of a prohibited weapon.

Judge John Robinson who described the case as a "can of worms" reluctantly ordered the weapon destroyed at the conclusion of the day long trial.

The change arose when Francis Grant of RR 1, Limehouse, a bonafide gun collector attempted to register his latest acquisition with Milton OPP in December of 1978.

He obtained the 1940 fully automatic machine gun through a "mutual collector's exchange" with the Canadian War Museum in 1978, he told the court.

He was later told in a letter from Ottawa RCMP that the firearm could not be registered under the new law, because it had not been previously registered.

Museums are exempt from the gun laws which require such items to be registered.

Mr. Grant told the court he "assumed" the sub machine gun had already been registered. When he learned it had not, he set about to acquire museum status for his own personal collection under the name of Call To Arms of Canada.

He was charged November 21 last year when Milton OPP found the sub-machine gun at his residence.

Mr. Grant who described his occupation as a museumology consultant, has well over 100 war type items in his collection, including four automatic weapons, six military long arms and two hand guns.

He also has 150 war uniforms and a collection of badges, medals and flags.

Although he has applied for museum status, Mr. Grant has not yet been designated the appropriate status.

Judge Robinson agreed there was a "very confusing set of regulations" but said Grant was guilty of violating the law by keeping the prohibited weapon.

He added there was not the degree of criminality as in other cases and said he was worried about registering a conviction.

Had Mr. Grant been convicted he would automatically forfeit the right to his present collection and would unlikely be eligible for the museum status.

Crown Attorney John Ayre said the case set a precedent and would be of concern to other gun collectors who might find themselves in a similar predicament.

He said he will also be inviting local police officers to make a report on the proceedings to Ottawa Police with particular attention to the fact that the War Museum allowed the exchange to take place.



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Winners of the McKenzie-Smith academic awards, presented last Tuesday evening at the graduation ceremonies at the Legion are front row left to right: Tracey Dunbar, who won the sportsmanship award, Brad Youmans, who won the sportsmanship award for boys, and Lisa Gillis, who won the McKenzie-Smith Bursary for best all round girl. Back row left to right is Steve Hall who won the Lakeside IODE award for the most improved boy, Tiju Jago, who won the Norma Silcock Citizenship award, Sean Heatley who won the Gary Dawkins Attendance award and Melanie Johnston, who won the Legion Ladies Auxiliary for student with highest mark (92.4 per cent).

### Acton 4-H Calf Club

### Learn beef judging

by Shirley Murray  
On June 4 the Acton 4-H

Calf Club met at Scotdale farm, S.G. Bennett.

The meeting was opened by vice president Phil Shea who chaired the meeting for the evening. The meeting was opened with the 4-H pledge. Phil introduced Emerson Clarke who in turn welcomed the members to Scotdale farm.

Clarko gave a demonstration on how to judge a class of beef animals. The members then proceeded to judge a class of yearling short-horn bulls. The seniors gave reasons aloud the first year members presented them to the leaders. Bob Lasby gave the official placings. The members then moved in to conduct the business part of the meeting.



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### Seventh Line separation granted

Walter and Luise Roedger, R.R. 1, Georgetown have been granted a land severance from the Halton Land Division Committee.

Solicitor Bert Arnold attended last Tuesday evening's committee meeting on behalf of the Roedgers. Also in attendance were Albert and Marilyn Genoe, prospective purchasers of the land on the Seventh Line, (Trafalgar Rd) just north of Highway 7.

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