

**ELECTION CENTRAL**

**Patience pays for Acton's Whiting**

By MAGGIE HANNAH  
Herald Special

Persistence paid off for Acton's Dave Whiting Monday evening when he defeated incumbent regional councillor Ed Wood in his third election campaign in two years.

Mr. Wood served only one term on council.

Mr. Whiting, a real estate salesman, polled 694 votes to Coun. Wood's 507. He will represent Ward 1 (Acton) at regional council as well as at Halton Hills council. Mr. Whiting was defeated in his bid for a Ward 1 local council seat in 1978 and again in a by-election in Ward 1 in 1979.

In Ward 2, (Esquesing) incumbent Russ Miller soundly defeated his two opponents chalking up 1,485 votes as compared with 380 for Dolly Moulden, a housewife, and 298 for Peter Branch, a sheep farmer. This is Mr. Miller's third term on regional council.

Voter turnout in Ward 1 pleased Mr. Whiting, who commented that the 1,201 voters who turned up Monday was a higher percentage than showed up for the by-election last year. A total of 4,026 voters were eligible to cast ballots in Ward 1.

Mr. Whiting felt the fact that the regional deficit provided an issue of interest to voters helped him win. As a former Royal Canadian Mounted policeman, Mr. Whiting is interested in deficiencies in policing in Acton and said he would be interested in the vacancy on the Halton regional police commission created by the defeat of Milton mayor Don Gordon.

Defeated councillor Ed Wood said that he was "sad at not being re-elected, but at least" he "had the privilege

of being on council for one term".

"I found that in a small community anything you want to do is open to you," he said, "and people will accept you for what you are. I'm not a loser because I had the chance to serve this community and I'm glad I had that chance."

Mr. Wood said he'll go back to his family and his business now, as well as taking up activities he enjoys like the beautification committee which has recently been formed in Acton. He wouldn't speculate on what he'll do when the next election rolls around.

Mr. Miller, beaming with pleasure at his win, gave full credit to his supporters.

"There's a lot of wonderful people out there," he said. "I didn't do anything. They did it all. I'm glad it's over. Now we can go back to work to get

the region back on its feet."

Mr. Miller said the deficit is past and now councillors should work on making the region the best possible form of government for Halton Hills.

Mrs. Moulden said the results plainly show the region's \$700,000 deficit is not important to them.

"Obviously they're happy with the status quo," she said. "I have no regrets. I'm glad I did it. I came out a winner even if I didn't win because the voters voted on their belief in my ability. I'll be back."

Peter Branch also expressed his intention to be back for the next election.

"It was a good, clean fight," he said, "and not a harsh word between any of the candidates. I'm happy it went that way. Of course I'm a bit disappointed but there's always a next time."

Next time around, he'll make a better job of his campaign, he vowed. He should have put more money and far more effort into it. He has not been publicly active in the past two years and that too went against him, he said. He said he'll continue to follow the issue of the regional deficit until it is resolved and offer whatever help a non-elected person can offer in the matter.

**McCauley wins RC seat**

Georgetown resident Irene McCauley defeated Acton's Vince Whelan by 169 votes to become Halton Hills' representative on the Halton Separate School Board.

Mrs. McCauley will take over the seat from Hartley Sherk, who is retiring after 13 years on the board.

Only 843 of the estimated 2,300 separate school supporters in Halton Hills turned out to vote. In Ward 4, the separate school race was the only choice open to voters, as all the rest of the candidates were acclimated.

Mr. Whelan said probably the only way Acton could overcome Georgetown's larger population would be by having a seat of its own on the board, something he intends to work towards. "You haven't seen the last of us," he said.

Mrs. McCauley said she is very happy with the results, and she expressed her appreciation to her family and friends for their help in her campaign.

A new building for St. Joseph's School is at the top of her list of priorities, she said, and she hopes to work towards getting the building started as soon as possible.

"I know that now the hard work really begins, and it is my intention to get input from parents and teachers so I can

make a worthwhile contribution to the board," she said.

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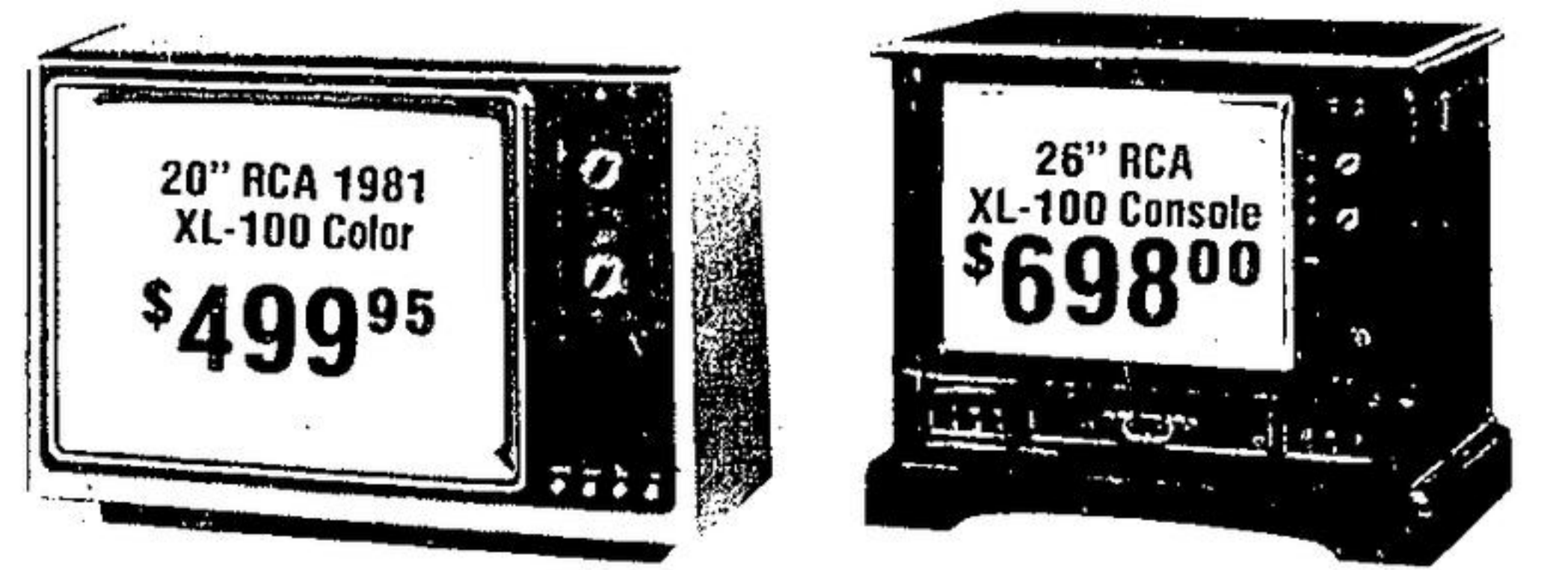
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Ward 1 regional councillor Ed Wood, shown here at his inauguration two years ago, was defeated Monday in his bid for a second term. Dave Whiting defeated Coun. Wood by a margin of 181 votes. Coun. Wood said he doesn't consider himself a loser "because I had the chance to serve this community." (Herald photo)

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