



CCP Liquidators
burns down in
\$1 million blaze

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Georgetown's
Adam Bennett
drafted 6th by
Chicago Hawks

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Michael Wilson
comes to town to
defend the GST

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THE YEAR 1989 IN REVIEW

A big challenge lies ahead in the nineties

Last year in this space we said: "In the years to come, the people of Halton Hills will look back on 1988 as a year of transition."

That prophecy has indeed been fulfilled and in 1989 we can clearly see the tangible results of that transition.

Without a doubt the major issue discussed in Halton Hills throughout 1989 was how we use our land. Developers wanted to build - houses, condominiums, an asphalt plant, business parks, a garbage dump.

And charges were laid against several people who appeared before Halton Region's land division committee asking for land severances.

Even the citizens group POWER has moved from simply fighting the proposed landfill in the Acton quarry, to fulfilling the role of an environmental advocacy group.

No longer do people all over town ask: "When are those houses going to be built at Hungry Hollow?"

The houses are there. More than 500 of them in the first phase with hundreds more to come. And we've learned that Mountainview Road will likely have its slope reduced to the tune of \$7.8 million.

We've watched Georgetown's skyline altered. No longer does the gracious white watertower stand alone. Now a condominium building on Hall Road grabs the view from the town's rural roads.

And there's plans for more of those too. Two for downtown Georgetown and another soon to be finished on the east end of town.

In 1989 we told you that Halton Hills Village Homes, the developers of Georgetown South, threatened to take any water allocations by the town to other developments to the Ontario Municipal Board. The firm wants to be at the front of the line - and it will probably get there.

'No other development in town can be as ominous or as telling as the opening of the new civic centre'

On Carruthers Road in Georgetown the co-operative will soon be ready for occupancy. Although it doesn't dominate the skyline, its very nature - affordable housing - is a sign of the times.

But perhaps no other development in town can be as ominous or as telling as the opening of the new Civic Centre in August. The \$6.1 million building sparked waves of civic pride as donors gave to make sure the centre is appropriately decorated.

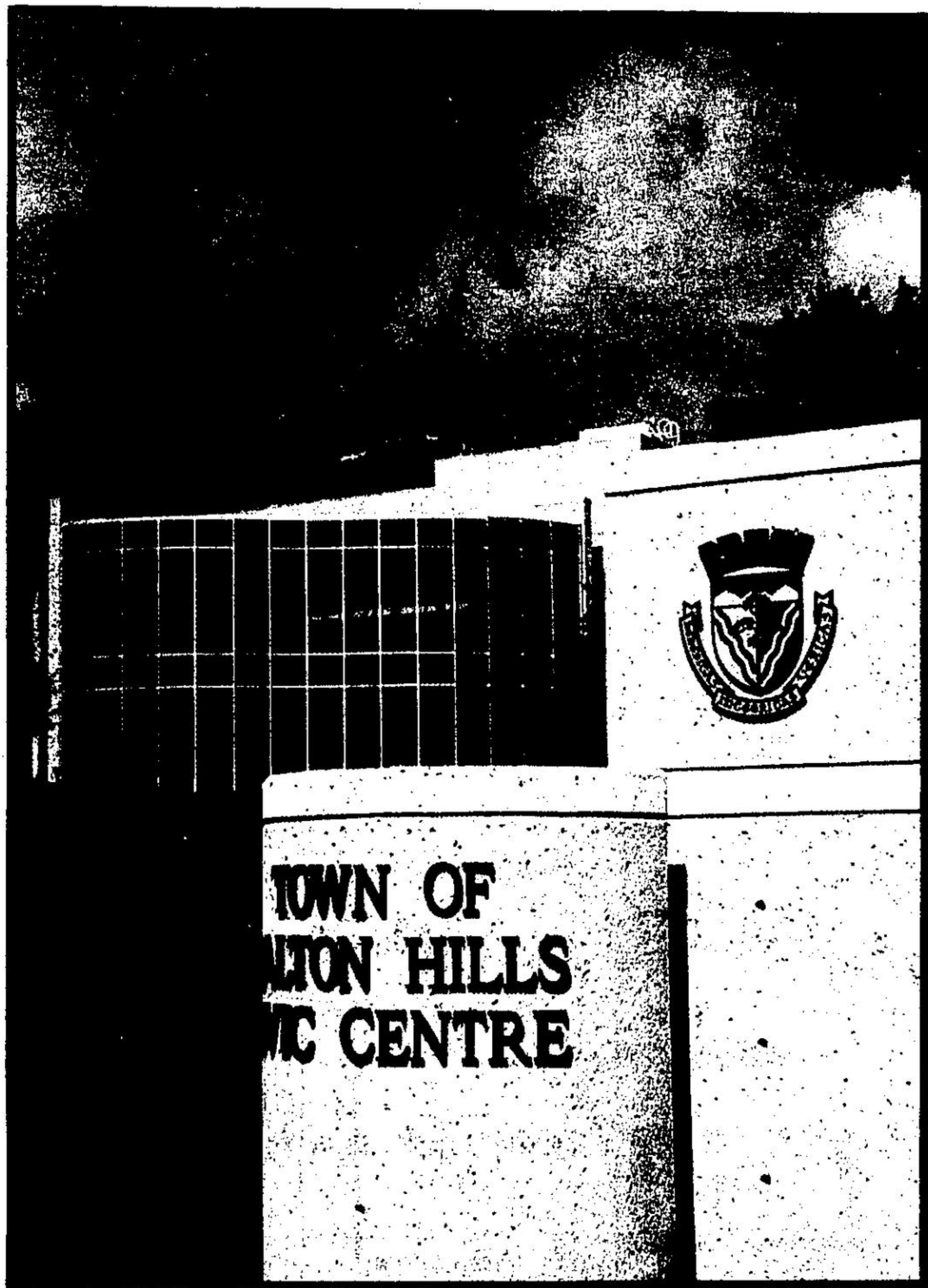
But it's the reason for the Civic Centre that gives us a look at the future. To handle the increased workload from burgeoning development, the town had to get its employees together and give them the space to work.

We've seen what can happen when development pressures such as the ones Halton Hills now faces overrun planners.

Houses, industrial parks, highrises and plazas are jammed together in Brampton and Mississauga.

Will Halton Hills' dedicated planners and its leaders - the politicians - be able to avoid that?

A quick scan of the development on Mountainview Road shows they're trying but we definitely have to wonder if a quick glance east doesn't show us what we're in for when we turn the calendar to the year 2000.



Sign of the times

Halton Hills' new Civic Centre, officially opened on Aug. 28, is perhaps the most significant symbol of the town's future. The town's employees migrated from several buildings throughout Halton Hills to the Civic

Centre culminating in the gala opening ceremonies. With all their employees now under one roof, the town will be better able to cope with the rush of development expected in the coming years. (Herald photo)

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