

Tories try to rebuild at Milton gathering

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before the luncheon, Ms. Cunningham informed the association she would be in Dundas the day of the luncheon.

"You can take (her absence) for what you want," Mr. Bourke told the audience.

Mr. Jackson said "big government is bad government." And it is the Liberal practice of big government that has created a "long list of problems in the province."

This list includes high taxes, a fragile health care system, and a religious-free educational system.

Mr. Jackson expressed concern that prayer will no longer be allowed in the public school system as a result of a recent court decision on the issue.

Turning to the health care system he said people are dying while waiting months for an operation. That shows that the province's health care system is in trouble, he said.

He wants to eliminate the employee health tax. It taxes businesses which hurts the economy, he explained.

He proposed a shelter subsidy instead of the employee health tax. The subsidy would be provided for people who can't afford health care. The amount a person paid for health care would be determined by the person's income, he said. As well, everyone would be sent a year-end list of why and when they visited the doctor, said Mr. Jackson.

People should know if they are abusing the system, he said.

The Liberals are giving money to social service groups to handle problems such as increased crime and drug abuse but they should be looking at the family and how it contributes to solving these social ills, Mr. Jackson told the audience.

Mr. Harris also made reference to the family in his speech. The government should be run similar to a family, he said. "My family values form the roots of my belief (and that is) being responsible for yourself."

"That's why I find no fault insurance so offensive," he added.

"You pay today for what you consume today."

Mr. Harris said Liberal revenue minister Robert Nixon is proud

that the government increased welfare spending in the last budget. "But I see this as a sign of failure," he said.

"Good government is like good parents. You give your children the opportunity and education to go out on their own," he said.

Both candidates said the Conservatives have been good in the past at identifying the province's problems but it's time for the party to offer solutions.

In response to a question by Milton Mayor Gord Krantz about the provincial government's offloading of responsibilities on the municipalities, both candidates said changes are needed.

If the province continues to increase the responsibilities of municipal government then the province will also have to increase the municipalities' tax base, said Mr. Harris.

The provincial government has to consult the municipalities before offloading any new programs, said Mr. Jackson.

On the issue of Sunday shopping Mr. Jackson supports a common rest day, while Mr. Harris would support wide-open Sunday shopping. It's the "fairest" of the two possibilities, said Mr. Harris.

But they both agreed that the provincial government should take back the responsibility of Sunday shopping from the municipalities.

The North Halton Riding Association will have an opportunity to show who they think can best lead the Conservatives by voting May 12 in Acton.



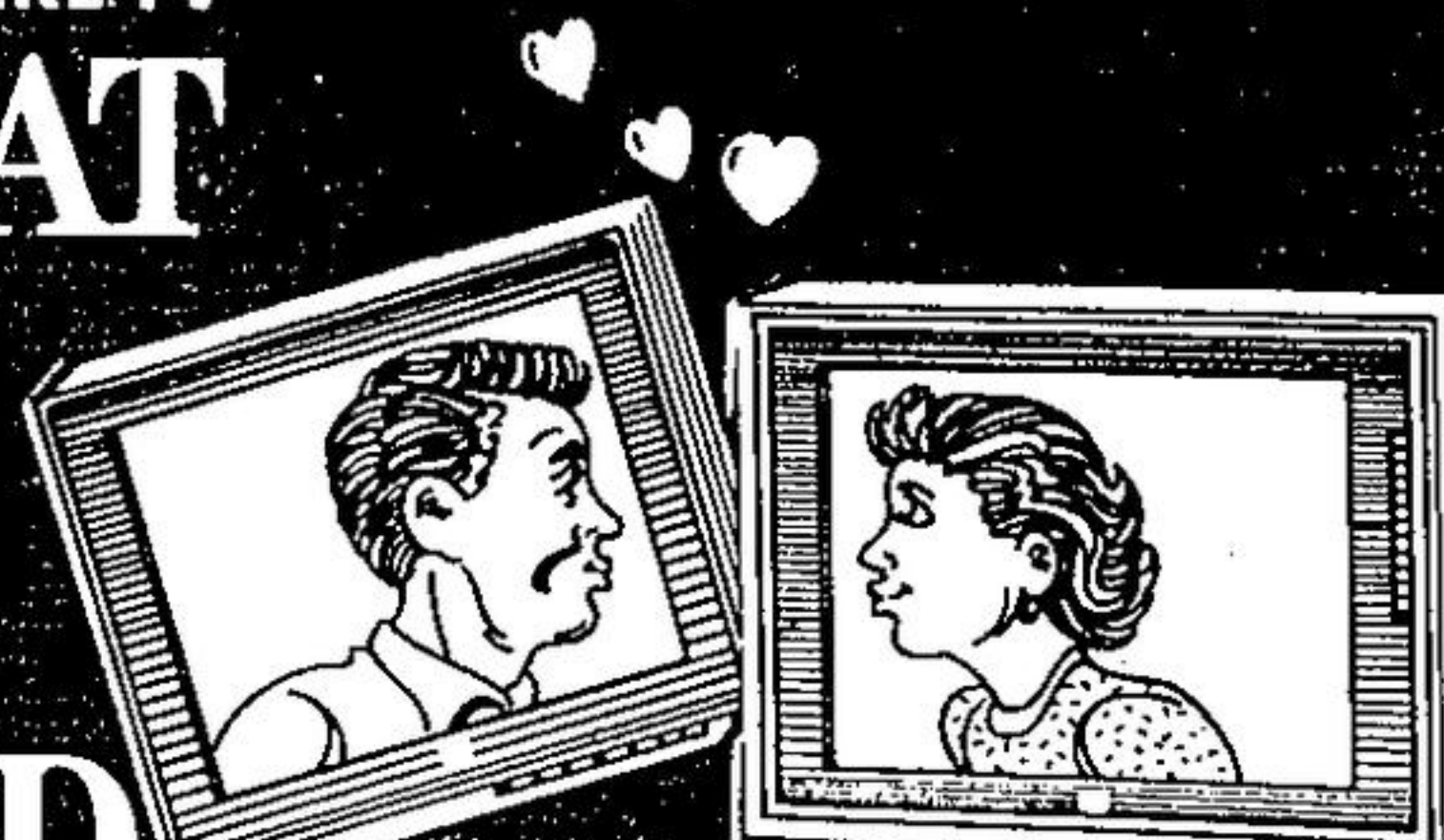
Major check

Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital executive director Mark Rochon (far right) was on hand at the grand opening of the new Major Video store on Guelph Street in Georgetown last Saturday to accept a \$1,500 cheque from the chain store's presi-

dent Vic Knox (far left). The money will go towards the hospital's capital grant fund, said Mr. Rochon. Also in attendance were Halton North MPP Walt Elliot (second from the left) and Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller. (Herald photo)

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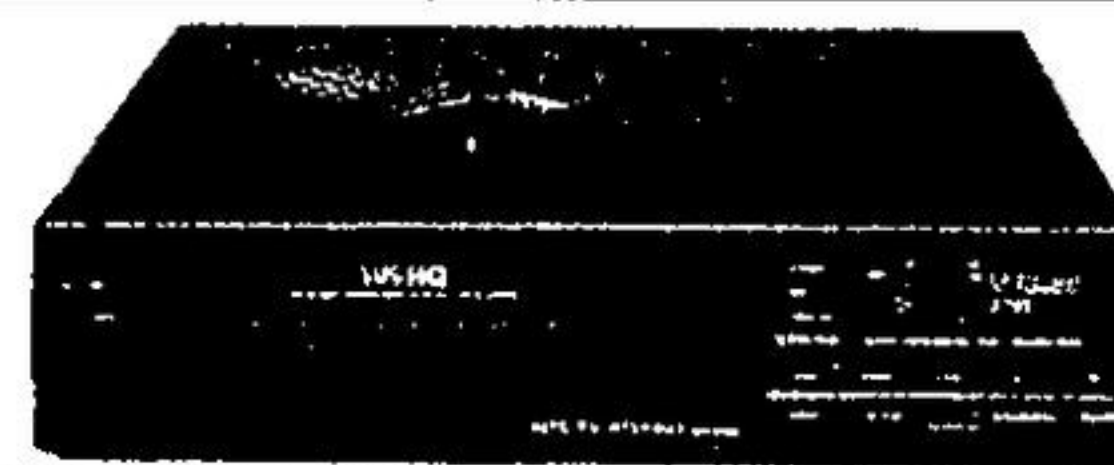


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