

New computer system reproduces old photos

The Georgetown library is on the "cutting edge" of data base technology, says assistant librarian Walter Lewis.

Mr. Lewis unveiled a computer system that reproduces photographs to about 70 members of the Esqueing Historical Society Wednesday night at the library.

A Lindsay library is the only other in the province that has such an index system, said Mr. Lewis.

The Photo Disk Index System, Mr. Lewis said, will eventually give the people of Halton Hills access to more than 5,000 historical photographs, literally at the press of a button.

The photographs are alphabetically stored, he said. To call up a photograph of the McGibbon Hotel in 1960, Mr. Lewis would press a key and a list of photographs listed under the Ms would appear on the screen. He would then scan the photographs until he found the one he wanted, and then hit another key instructing the computer to reproduce the photograph. And presto, the searcher would have the next best thing to visiting the McGibbon in 1960.

The Esqueing Historical Society and the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee has donated the photographs that will be stored in the computer, said Mr. Lewis.

The computer is currently the technological home to about 1,700 photographs and Mr. Lewis said the indexing process will continue as long as there are photographs available that record the town's history.

The computer system was made possible by a \$10,000 provincial grant, said Mr. Lewis.

The provincial government has made money available to the province's smaller libraries through its Automation Program for Small Libraries over the last three to four years, said Mr. Lewis.

The program was established "to integrate libraries serving populations under 50,000 into the province-wide Ontario Public Library Information Network," according to a recently released provincial government press release.

Mr. Lewis said the \$10,000 grant was some of the last money available through the program.



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Artisans hold one-day workshop

Credit Valley Artisans is holding a one-day workshop in the art of calligraphy on Sunday, April 22, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., at the Cedarvale Cottage. The course instructor is Susan

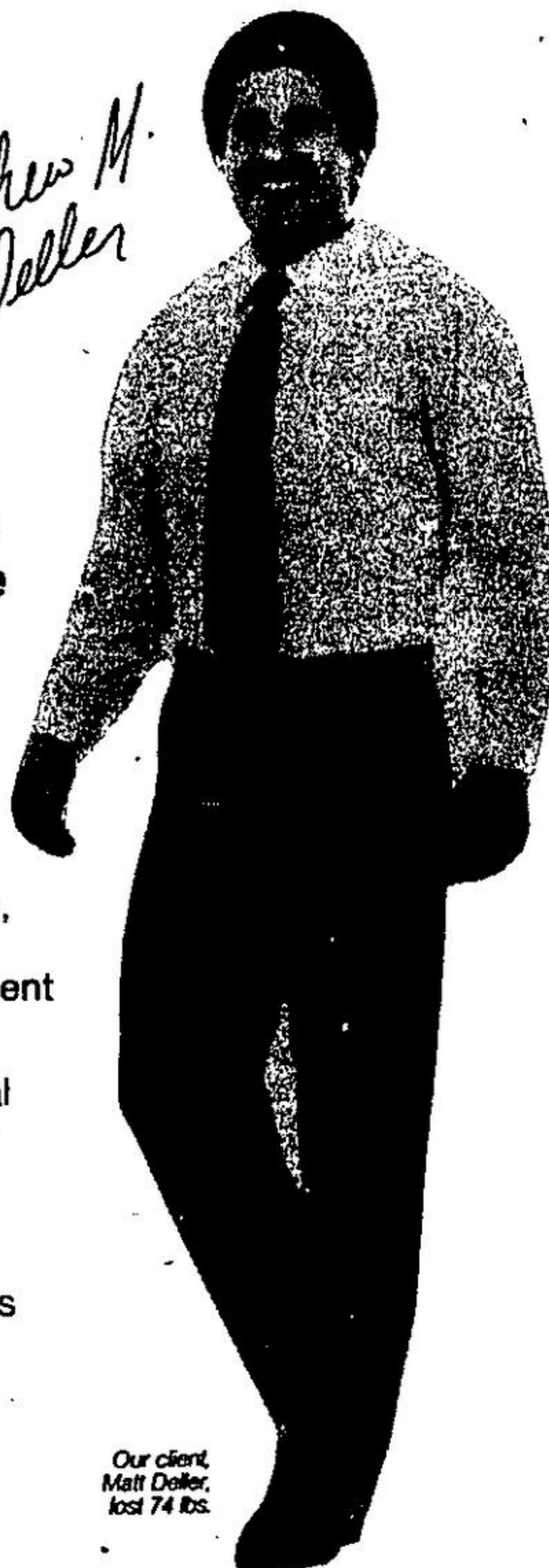
Nelson, a well-known professional calligrapher and artist from Guelph.

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