



## 75 years of street cars

Halton County Radial Railway recently celebrated the 75th anniversary of five rail cars and the dawn of radial or inter-urban service in Ontario. Joan Johns, curator of the Halton Radial Railway Museum and club member Jason Whyte get ready to cut the special cake that given to visitors to the special celebration.

## School board wants input on budget

In preparation for the development of the 1991 budget, the Finance Committee and trustees of the Halton Board of Education invite presentations from interested groups or individuals. The presentations will be heard on Monday, Nov. 19, starting at 7:30 p.m. at the J.W. Singleton Education Centre, 2050 Guelph Line, Burlington.

Notes Chair of the Board, Pat Hillhouse, "Our Board has made a commitment to do all it can to minimize the impact our budget has on the local mill rate. This meeting will provide an opportunity for the members of the community to share with us their views on budget priorities. This is a critical part of the 1991 budget process."

Those wishing to make a presentation should provide a brief summary to the Office of the Director by Wednesday, Nov. 14. Presentations will be up to 10 minutes in length. A schedule of the presentations will be set and presenters will be notified of the time of their presentation by Friday, Nov. 16.

Director of Education, Bob Williams, adds that, "The public are also most welcome to attend our open finance meetings in which we'll review our budget by function on both Monday, Oct. 22 and Monday, Nov. 5, at 7:30 p.m.

at the J.W. Singleton Education Centre. This is clearly an excellent opportunity for people in our

community to familiarize themselves with the Board's current expenditures."

## New support group helps families of schizophrenics

For the first time in North Halton, a program is underway to help families of schizophrenics.

Run by the North Halton Mental Health Association, the six-week sessions, which started last week, are being run out of its Milton office.

"The goal of the program is to assist family members in coping more effectively with the relative who has a schizophrenic disorder," said Halton medical officer of health, Dr. Graham Pollett.

The aim of the program is to provide information, reduce anxiety, increase ability to cope with the affliction, and also to provide a support network for family members.

Previously, said association supervisor Mae Vaivods, families had to seek support in Oakville, Burlington or Hamilton.

Weekly sessions, she said, cover a wide range of topics, including: signs and symptoms of schizophrenia; mediation and

side effects; impact on the family; and community support.

At an upcoming session, she said, a presentation will be made by a support group called Friends of Schizophrenics. With chapters in Oakville and Burlington, she said there will be an opportunity to form a chapter in North Halton if the families wish it.

Vaivods said similar six-week sessions will be arranged as the need arises.

Schizophrenia is a biological brain disease, characterized by impaired thinking, delusions, hallucinations and changes in emotions, behaviour and functioning.

Although affecting only 1 per cent of the population, the illness accounts for more than 50 per cent of all admissions to psychiatric facilities.

In about 25 to 30 per cent of the cases, the illness develops into a chronic longterm disorder.

About 2,800 Halton residents suffer from schizophrenia.

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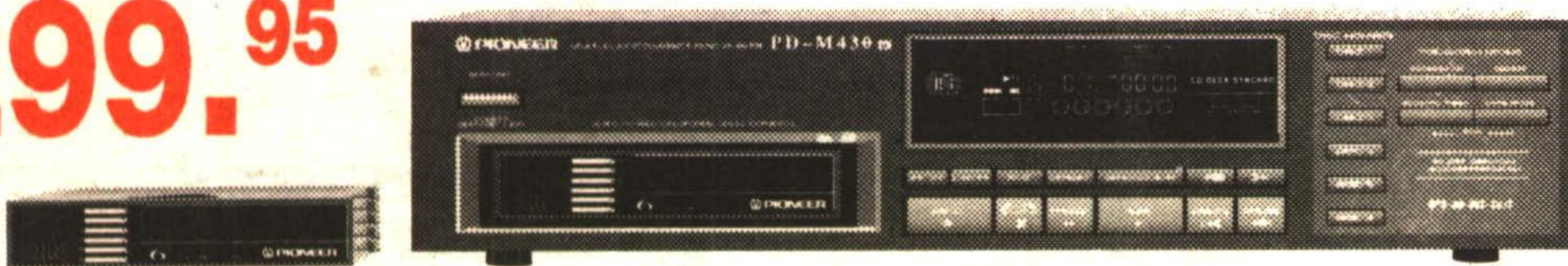
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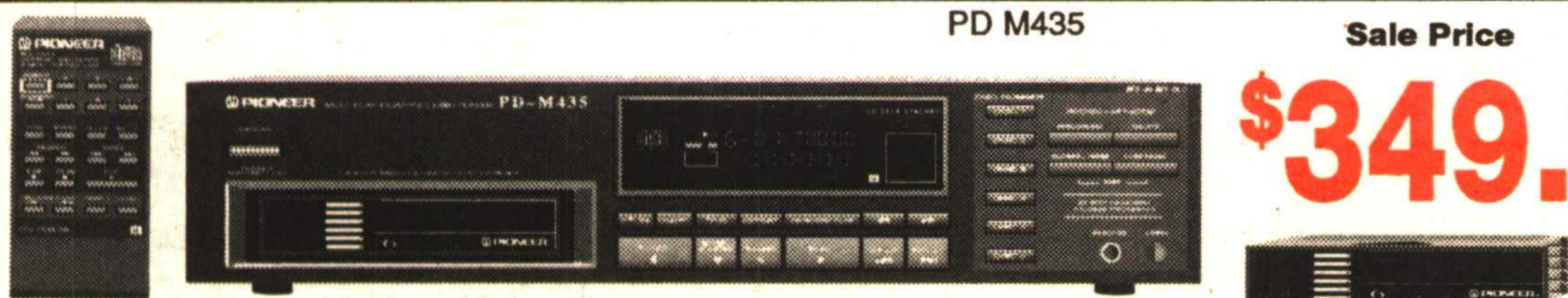
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