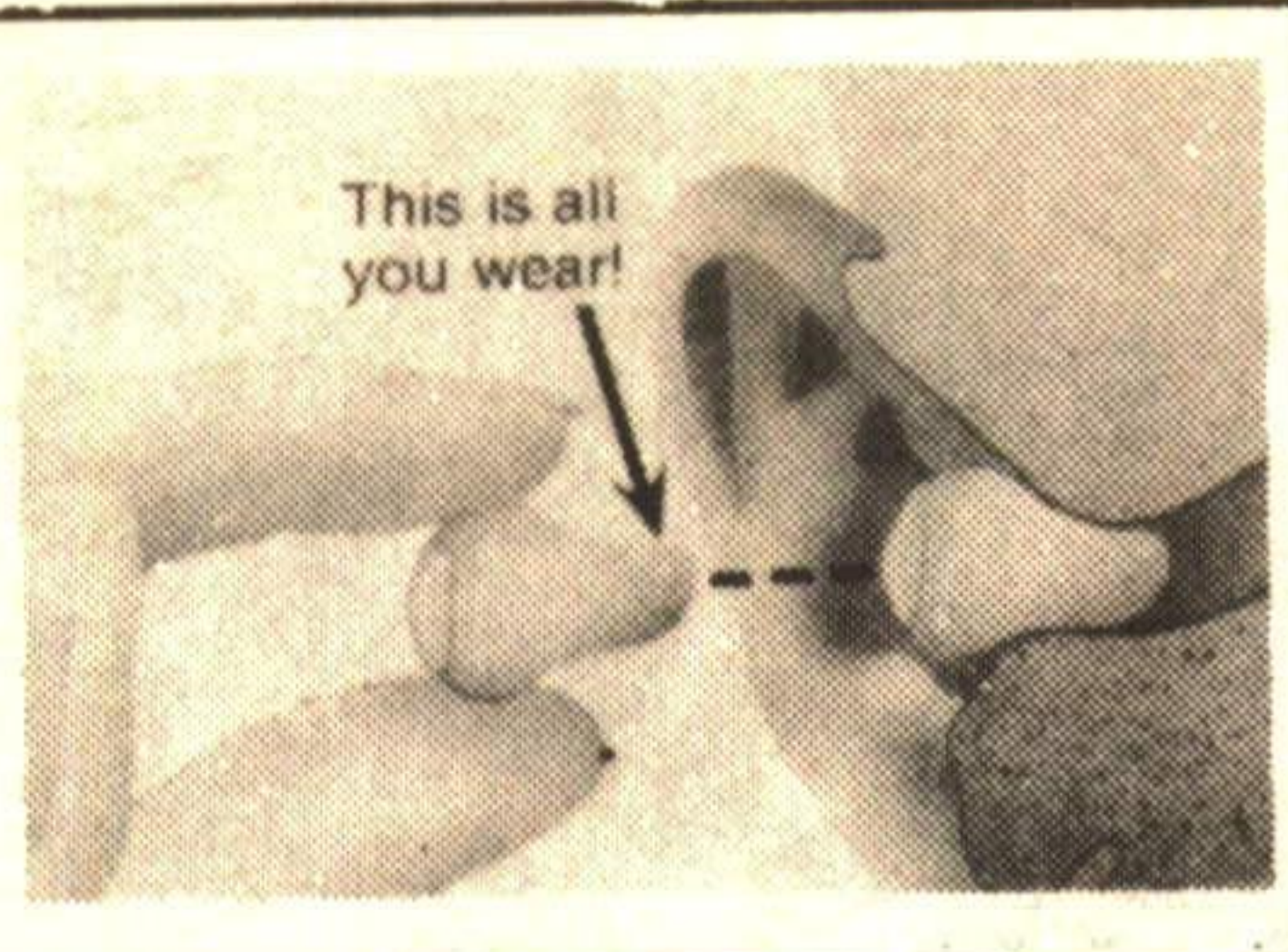


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Rural land severance denied

Continued from Page 1

since they're seen as exceptions to the rule. Otherwise, regional policy is clear - no rural severances or development except in defined settlement areas, like Milton's Brookville or Hornby.

The Gibsons hired a consultant to plead their case. Bruce Donaldson told council that various agencies had agreed the Gibsons were farmers, including the Ministry of Agriculture and the Town of Milton. Donaldson argued that the "key to the whole question"

was the position taken by the Ministry of Agriculture. They said the severance "would have little or no impact on agriculture."
 Art Gibson told council he had "worked hard" in his hometown and been active in community betterment activities. Mrs. Gibson then said she too had been done volunteer work for more than a decade. She added that the couple "don't want to pull out and start in another community" at this stage of life.

"We've been through this so many times," said Burlington Mayor Roly Bird. A severance application can't be granted, he stressed, on the basis of a "warm feeling." Why council was even considering overturning the appeal "is beyond my comprehension."

"I hope council won't bend to emotional arguments," added Burlington Councillor Walter Mulkeiwich. "We have not been presented with any extraordinary circumstances". Councillors must "defend the Region's best interests," he added.

"We don't work on a reward system," Burlington Councillor Ralph Scholtens said. "It's never been that way."

Johnson scorned the southern councillors who opposed abandoning the appeal (no northern representatives did). He said they have already "covered their own lands in asphalt."

The motion to drop the appeal lost 13 votes to 10. The matter goes to the Ontario Municipal Board for a ruling.

School trustee elected to Ontario school lobby group

Former chairperson of the Halton Board of Education, Pat Hillhouse, was elected executive vice-president of the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA).

OBSBA represents 91 public school boards of all sizes and from all regions of Ontario. The association represents the interests of public school boards to the Provincial government, Ministry of Education and other provincial ministries and agencies.

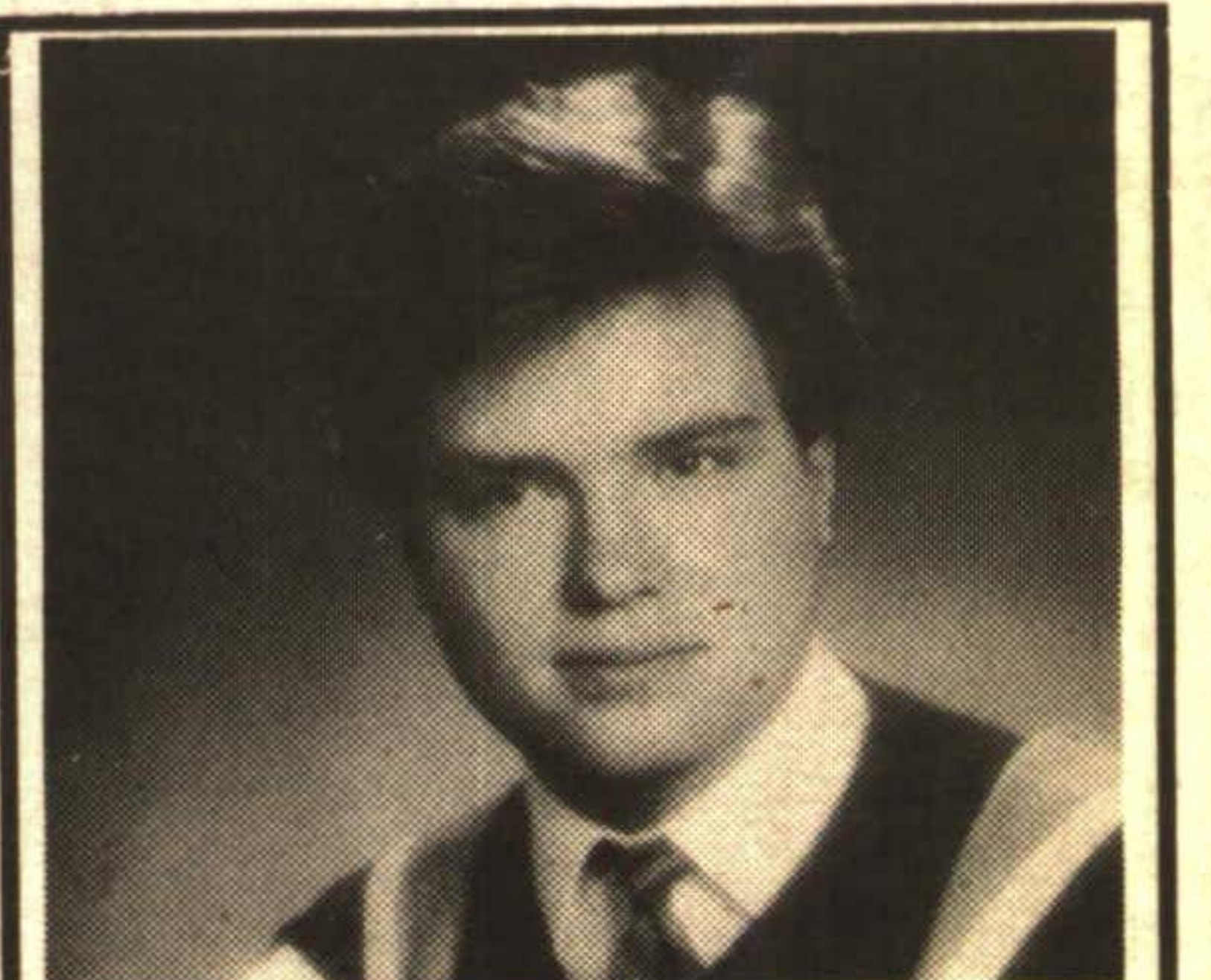
Over the last 12 months, Hillhouse has served as chair of the association's Central West region, a vice president of the association and chair of the policy committee. She has been a Halton trustee for nine years.

Correction

A story in Wednesday's Georgetown Independent inadvertently stated a 100th birthday party for Gilbert English would be held on Sunday (tomorrow).

The party is slated for next Sunday, July 14, at Branch 120 between 2 and 6 p.m.

We regret the error.



Walter and Helena Murdock are pleased to announce the graduation of their son Garry, with the degree of Bachelor of Radio & Television Arts from Ryerson Polytechnical Institute. Graduating in the top of his class, Garry is now looking to further his studies in the west. Proud parents wish to congratulate Garry on a job well done.

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