

# THE HALT HILLS WEEKEND

**KEN NUGENT**  
Publisher

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## A beautiful part of town

Autumn is usually the favorite time of year for most people due to its splendid fall colors that seem to bring a vibrance to everything. But the people of Acton have managed to bring this vibrance to its downtown without the aid of Mother Nature. A major renovation of many buildings in the downtown core at Main and Mill Sts., recently, has led to a polished sprucing of the area.

Acton, traditionally, has kept its downtown buildings and streets neat and clean. During the summer months, the Acton Horticultural Society add to its charm by maintaining real hanging flower bouquets and during the winter, the Christmas lights and decorations make it look like the streets in the movie, *It's a Wonderful Life*.

But despite the tough days of the recession, many of the building and store owners have gone that extra step to enliven their front facades and windows giving Acton an additional facelift. Their actions are a credit to this town and should be admired by all.

Perhaps the 'architects' studying revitalization in downtown Georgetown could take a walk through downtown Acton — talk to the owners, talk to the local shoppers and talk to the visitors. That could lead them down a better road to a revitalized Georgetown Main St.

We compliment Actonians on their downtown and encourage everyone in all parts of Halton Hills to go and see what can be done to brighten a community in spite of a dark recession.

## Last minute clarifications

Dear editor:

My congratulations to you on an excellent edition this week dealing with all aspects of Monday's referendum. You've helped a lot of people understand what it is they'll be voting on.

But not everybody has all the facts.

Several letter-writers to the paper put forth some serious bits of misinformation, which I'd like to clear up:

- Quebec is not getting guaranteed seats in the Senate. In fact, it is agreeing to give up 75 per cent of the seats it has now, and be equal with the smallest provinces. Quebec's current 25 per cent of seats in the House of Commons (equal to its population) will be maintained.

- Quebec is not getting a veto over any bill in the House of Commons. Nobody has a veto like that. Quebec - and all the other provinces - will have a say over

## Letters to the Editor

future changes to Parliament or the Supreme Court. Future amendments to those institutions will need consensus - the agreement of all provinces.

- The referendum is non-binding in a legal sense because there's no way that the constitution can now be changed by a popular vote. But the vote on Monday will be politically binding. In Halton-Peel I'm giving my commitment to vote in Parliament as the majority does. Furthermore, I expect the federal government to do the same on a national basis.

- There is no social charter in the Charlottetown accord. Instead, there is a social union which simply sets out some national goals. This social union cannot be enforced by the courts and will not cost taxpayers anything.

- There is no commitment to

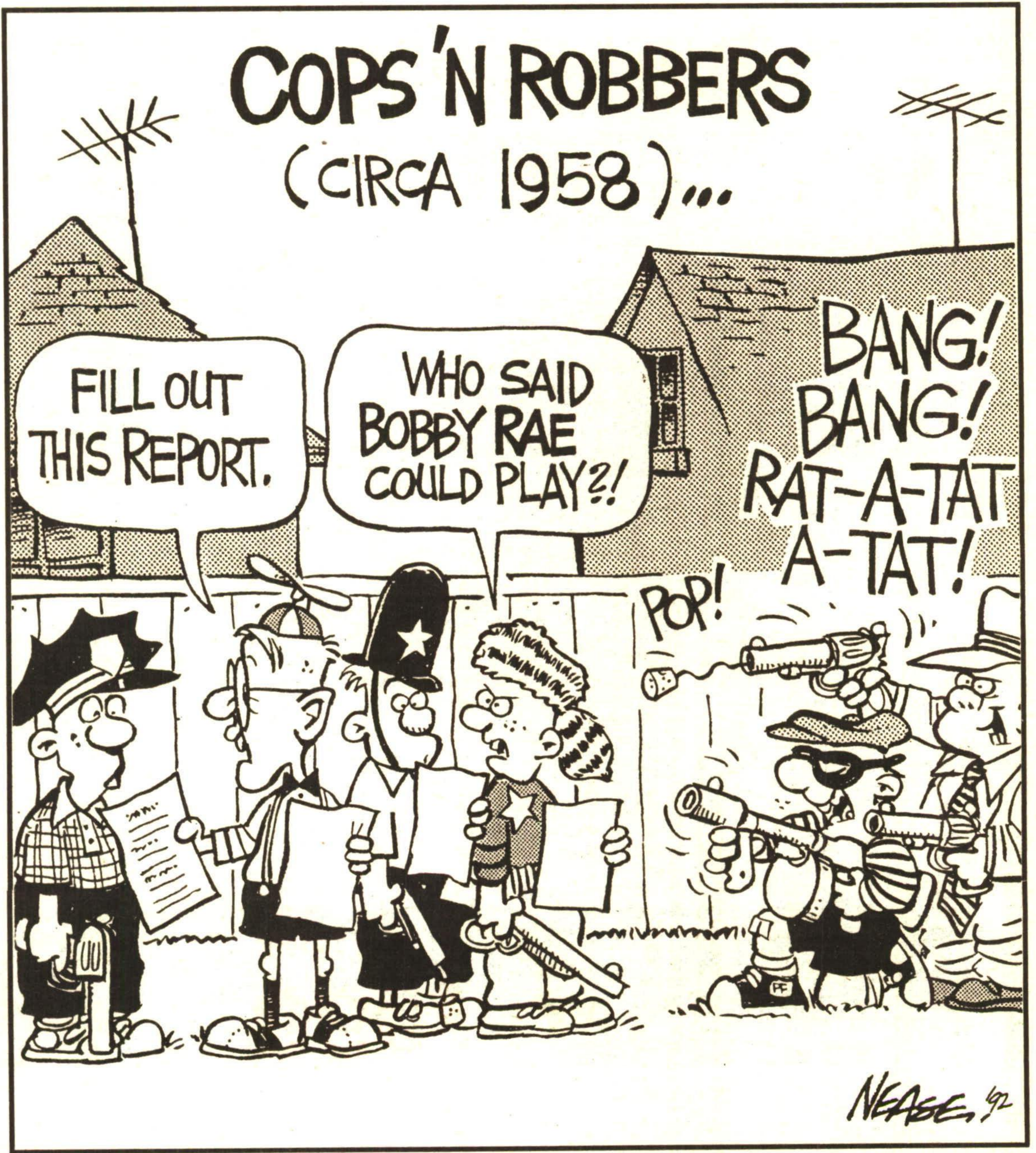
spend more money on aboriginal self-government. Not a cent. The accord says current levels of funding for native people will be maintained, not increased.

- There will not be additional politicians in Ottawa as a result of this accord. Instead, the Senate is being reduced in size and the House of Commons increased, so Ontario can have fairer representation-by-population. The total number of people in Parliament remains as it is today.

- The accord uses the word "should" many times, instead of the word "will" simply because it has not yet been ratified by the people. If that happens on Monday, then the legislation which will be entered into Parliament will have no "shoulds" in it. It will be firm and binding.

If anybody has further questions about what's in the accord, then call me this weekend at home. It's my job to try and make sure everyone knows exactly what it is they'll be voting on in the next few days. I'm in the book: 873-8745.

Sincerely,  
Garth Turner, MP  
Halton-Peel



## It's tough eating crow but sometimes necessary

I have a declaration to make. And though it pains me to no end, I'm compelled by my high ethical standards to come clean and make it public.

I will eat crow. Admit I was wrong.

During the past months, co-worker Stuart Johnston and I have been carrying on an in-office dialogue about the Blue Jays.

Stu's support of the local birds has been bordering on fanatical, and I've taken great delight in repeatedly suggesting Toronto Blue Jays would never, ever make it to the "Fall Classic" otherwise known as "The World Series."

I kept saying, "Stu, face up to it, they will choke; they always have. Furthermore, the Americans won't allow it; it's sacrilege, like insulting "Mom and apple pie" to have the World Series played in Canada."

But Stuart was determined to ignore me, and still cheered his beloved Blue Jays in the face of adversity. I've had to admire his

dedication.

He always came back with something like, "Oh Ted, you of little faith, when will you ever realize they're going all the way?"

Last week, as the Jays snatched the American League top honors from the greedy little fingers of Oakland, I was on vacation, sitting at home watching the game. As the final out signaled a Jay victory, I sat looking at the telephone.

When would it ring? Why was it taking Stu so long?

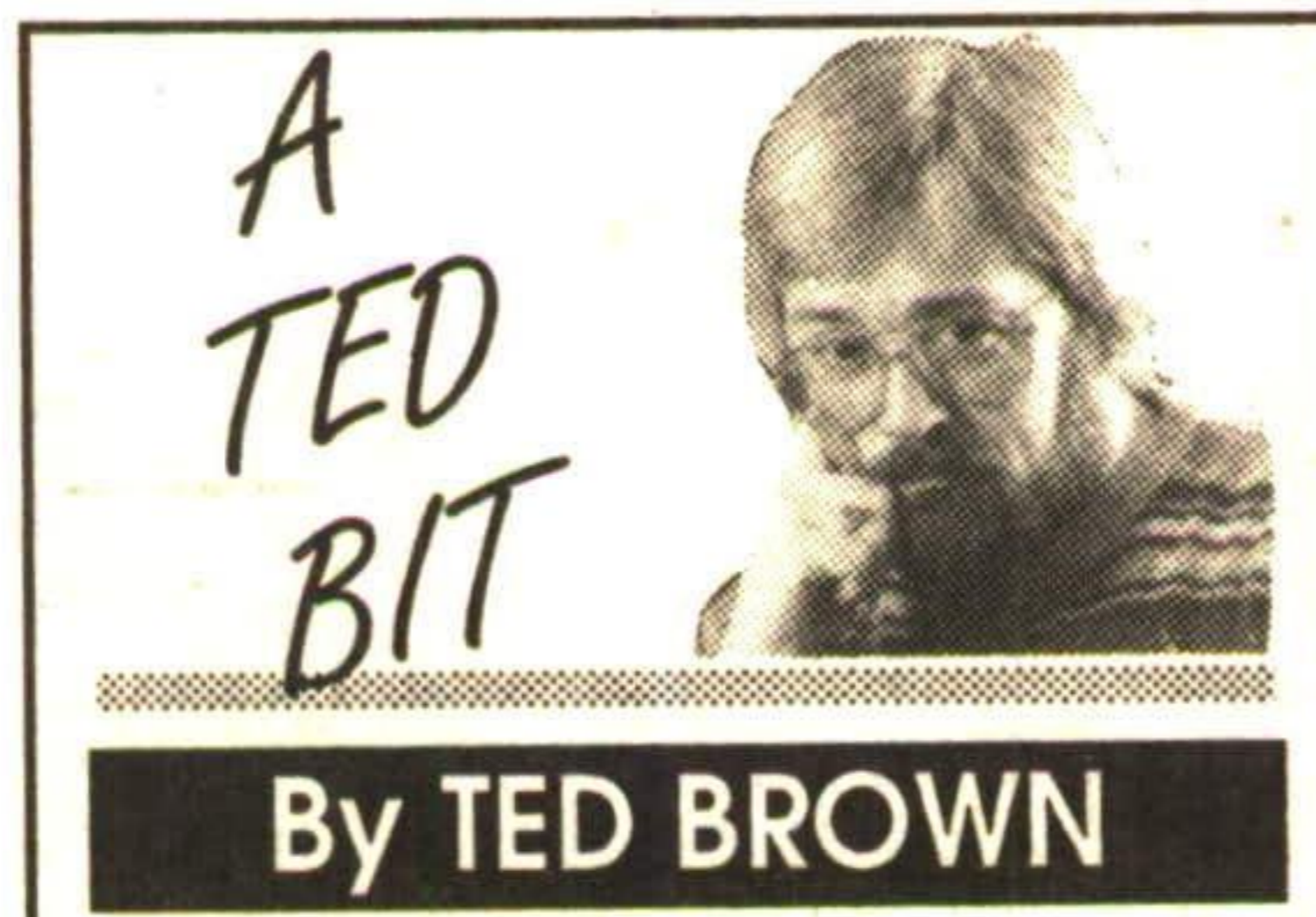
Silence. Not a ring.

The next day, my kids came home from school saying, "Dad, has Stuart phoned yet? Have you heard from him?"

I fully expected to hear him berate me, with something like, "So Ted, did you hear the Jays are the American League Champions? You know Ted, those same Jays you said would choke!"

It took him until last Monday, when I returned to the office.

He was subtle, and ever so



smug.

"Ah Ted," he started, grinning to himself, "While on vacation, did you happen to notice the Jays were in the World Series? You know, Ted, the Jays, that same Canadian team you said would never be allowed to make it to the World Series?"

I was tempted to say something like "Oh really? No Stu, I hadn't heard. I guess I've spent a little too much time hiding under a rock."

But I didn't, rather admitted I was wrong and apologized to Stuart, on behalf of all the Brown family.

The Jays were indeed in the

World Series.

It was time to try and save face, so I started secretly hoping maybe, just maybe, they would prove me right and lose a couple of games to Atlanta.

The first game, they did it, falling to the Braves. "Ah ha," I thought, "Here's where it happens. Now Stuart will see I'm right."

But Game Two proved me wrong, and I must admit, I got a little caught up in the whole thing. Hmmm, maybe the Jays were indeed going all the way.

I managed to catch the last six innings of Game Three, (the first World Series Game to be played outside of the United States as Stuart kept reminding me,) and watched a smiling Robbie Alomar (not "Bobbie" as that stupid CBS announcer repeatedly said) chop chop as he jogged home with the winning run.

This was getting serious, these guys could sew the series up on their home turf with this kind of

baseball.

To make it worse, Stuart attended Game Four.

"Did you hear the Jays are up three games to one, Ted?" he said the next morning, smirking. (I won't say he was becoming obnoxious, but close.)

But Jack Morris' gift to Atlanta's Lonnie Smith in Game Five had a slight, (ever so slight) sobering affect on him, although he will never admit it.

By the time this column is printed, the outcome of the 1992 World Series will be decided, in Atlanta, on American soil.

So it's official; Ted Brown states he was wrong, (boy is that hard to type!) and the Jays have indeed made it to the World Series, in spite of the fact they're a Canadian team.

But I've done it, I've eaten crow, and admitted I was wrong.

So let's get on with more important things.

Stu, any predictions on the Leafs?