

# THE HALTON HILLS WEEKEND

**KEN NUGENT**  
Publisher

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## Spend money on our parks

Dear editor:  
With regard to the Draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan, it has many good recommendations. However, I am disappointed in the low priority given to park development.

By park development, I mean the upgrading of existing parks to include some landscaping with shrubs, pathways, benches and above all trees. I think parks should be attractive but this aspect is not mentioned.

I find it strange our businesses and industries including the garbage transfer station are required to plant trees but our parks don't need any.

People can take pride in their parks if they are attractive such as the parkette created by the Glen citizens. It is a gem! Contrast this to the Mary Street Parkette which

## Letters to the Editor

is nothing but grass and a sign. To remedy this situation the consultants recommend selling it. This is a cop-out.

Another example is Remembrance Park which is totally empty from the parks inventory. Many years ago the cenotaph was moved to it and a few trees were added. Unfortunately, they are dwarf varieties which will never offer any shade. I think this memorial to our war heroes deserves better treatment.

There seems to be a philosophy here that parks are only places to locate sports facilities. I view parks as places we can meet our neighbors, enjoy nature, where walkers can take a break, where kids of all ages can mix and play safely and a

place that makes us feel proud when we pass by.

I think we have been short changed.

In regard to quantity of parkland, the plan indicated deficiencies in nearly all Georgetown neighborhoods. I am amazed at the recommendation that we should therefore lower the standard so that these neighborhoods will no longer be deficient.

In conclusion, I think that the economic realities we face are going to make us reevaluate our priorities. I don't deny that recreation facilities are desirable but in tough times a more cost efficient option would be to invest in parks. Their operating costs don't compare to an arena and they are there for everyone, regardless of age, all the time and for all time.

If you agree that our parks need to be treated with more enthusiasm, please call your local councillor before this Master Plan is approved by council.

Sincerely,  
Jane Fogal

## Wrong call

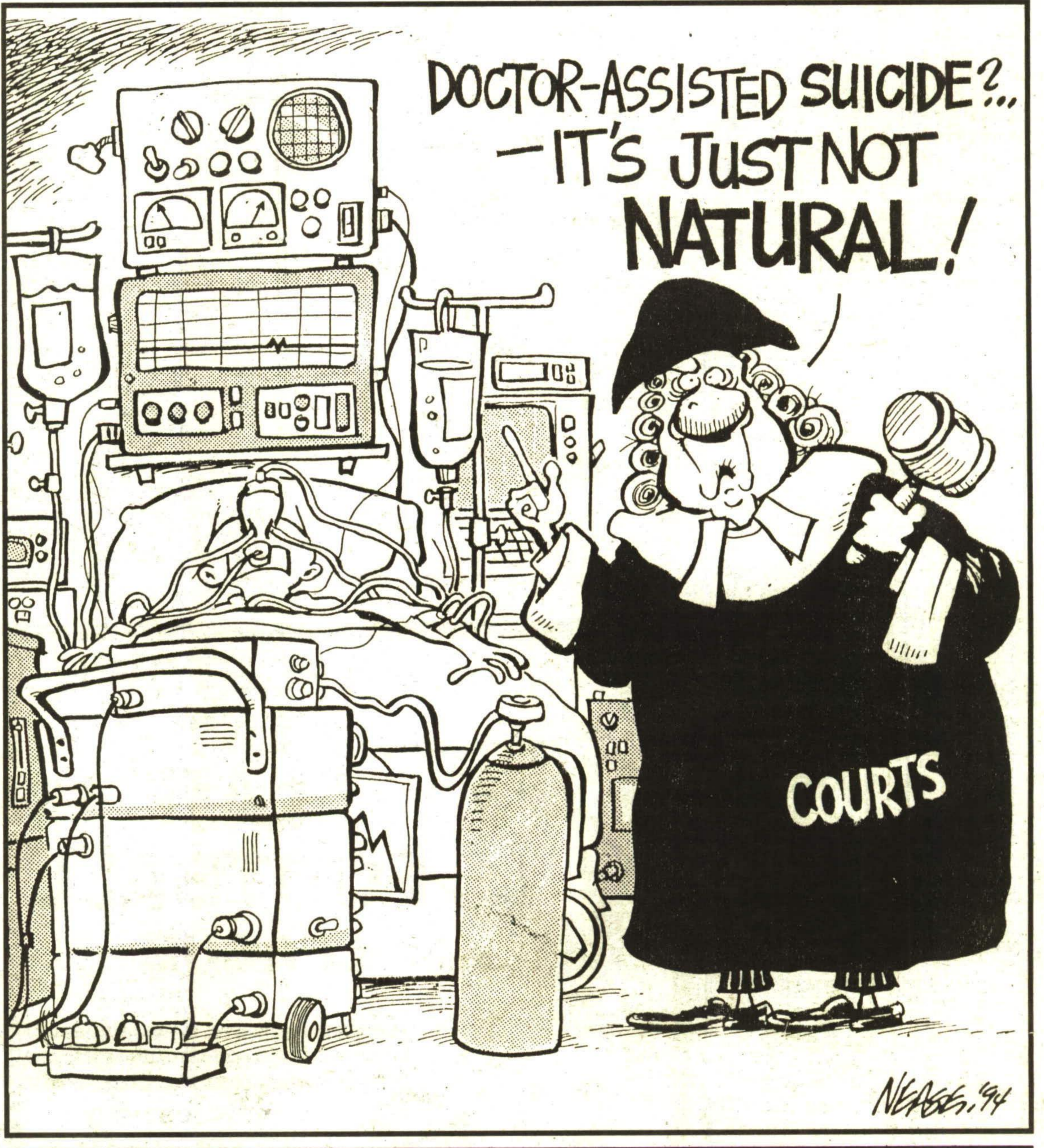
Halton Hills councillors and staff are certainly to be credited this year for making tremendous efforts in keeping costs down, slashing expenses and achieving, tentatively at least, a zero tax increase in the 1994 town budget.

However the eyebrow-raising remarks made by Councillor Norm Elliott during the debate Tuesday can lead to some concern. The Acton councillor suggested that perhaps one program should be cut, as opposed to another, on the basis it would engender less angry calls from the public.

We would not like to think that our elected officials are making decisions based on the percentage of angry or happy phone calls they may get. That is no way to run a town.

## Well done!

Congratulations to MPP Noel Duignan on the success of his private member's bill which passed through the public hearings this week and is on its way to final reading in the Legislature this spring. It is rare that a private member's bill survives this far in the political process, and it is a credit to its validity.



## Which one is the REAL Ted Brown?

It's happened every once in a while.

You know the scenario; I meet people for the first time, and they learn I'm the same Ted Brown from the newspaper.

And it's always early in the conversation, when that stock statement is made to me.

"You don't look anything like your picture."

I usually smile, and make some joke about it being an older photo, and REALLY should do something about it....

And promptly forget it.

But lately, it's been happening a little more than just occasionally.

Like four times in the course of a week is starting to make an impression.

One lady told me I looked much older in my photo, like somebody's

grandfather. (Boy, does she ever know how to win friends and influence people!)

Another fellow said I looked thinner, although I'm still not sure if he met in person or in the photo.

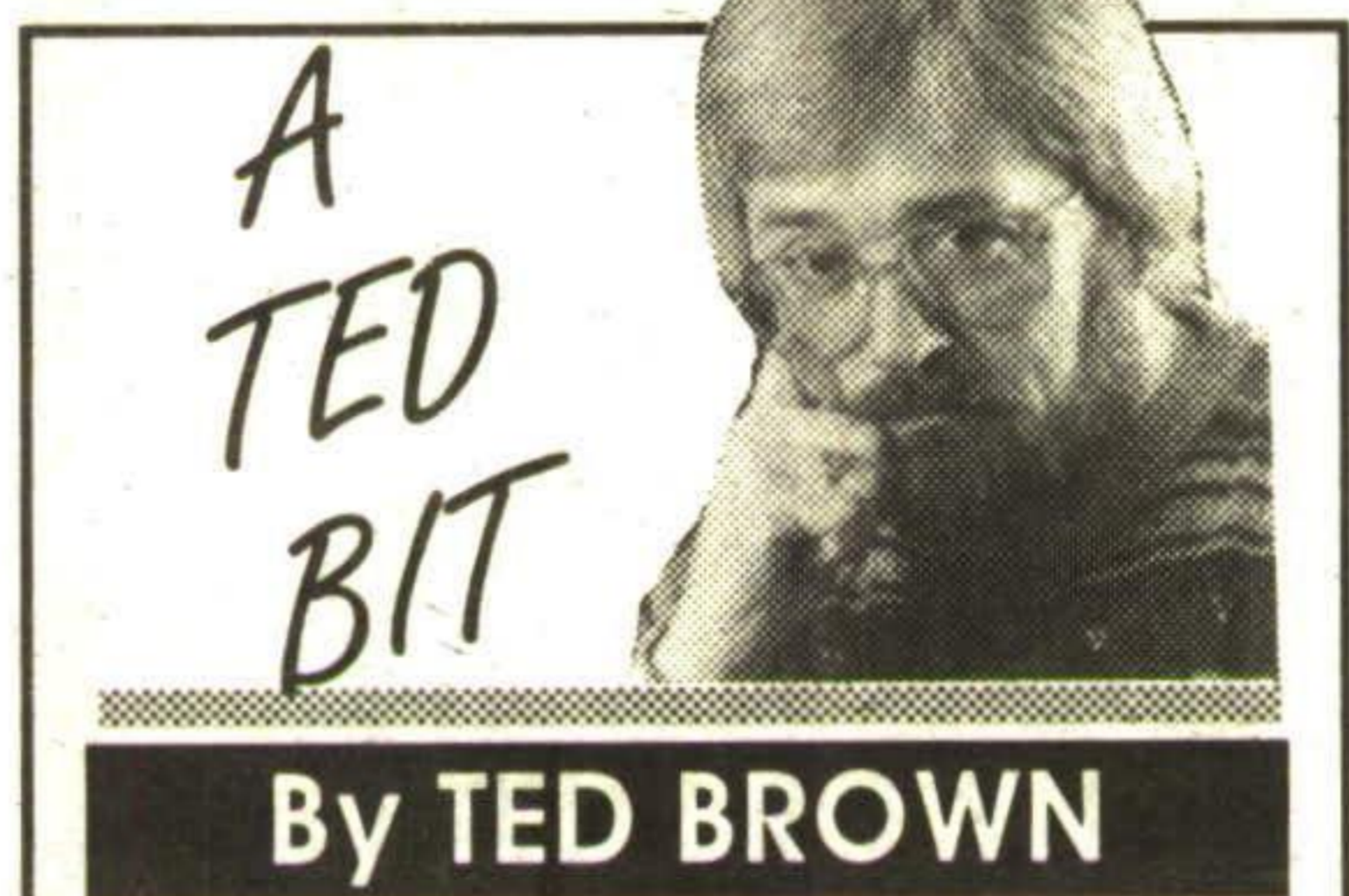
Someone else said I looked tired in my photo, while another told me it was too dark, and my hair was longer than I wear it today.

This whole photo issue was starting to bother me.

I asked my best (or worst) critic, my wife, for her opinion.

"Yeah, Ted," she yawned, "You do need a new photo. The old one makes you look too sinister, and everyone knows you're not like that. You're really lovable, a real Teddy Bear."

I sometimes think that woman is a little too close to me to be able to



make an objective observation.

Sinister? I thought to myself. I'm not sinister, and the photo doesn't make me look sinister. Maybe cynical, or questioning, but I'm a journalist, dammit, I'm supposed to look serious and cynical!

(And I would have been happy to have her say I was actually more virile, or macho than my photo.)

Just to be ready, I went for a fresh haircut, and didn't

mention to Al, my barber, about the importance of this haircut; how millions might be viewing his handiwork. I didn't want to intimidate him.

Fresh haircut acquired, now the quandary begins, for who shoots the photographer when he needs a new headshot. All other staffers in the office come to me for a photo, by who do I approach.

My last photo was taken in our old Main St. office, by local photog Barb Stephens, so I had to find another shooter.

I cast around the newsroom, asking my fellow newshounds who wanted the honor.

No takers. I was being ignored.

I looked in Laura Salverda's direction. Laura shoots our weekend assignments, so she was comfortable with a camera. She

sais she wanted \$25 to shoot it, but I finally talked her down to doing it for a cup of coffee.

I set up the lights and loaded my trusty F3 with film as I prepared for THE PHOTO SESSION.

After an undisclosed number of shots, I shifted through the proofs, and picked a representative sampling of the best (or worst.) I now leave it in the hands of the readers.

Take your pick, and let me know which one is truly representative of the macho, virile, inquiring, cynical, sophisticated, sage and wise, Ted Brown appearing in this space.

I'll accept suggestions until Thursday, and will change it next weekend.

Just remember, this is the last time you will see the old photo, so collectors, stock up on this issue.



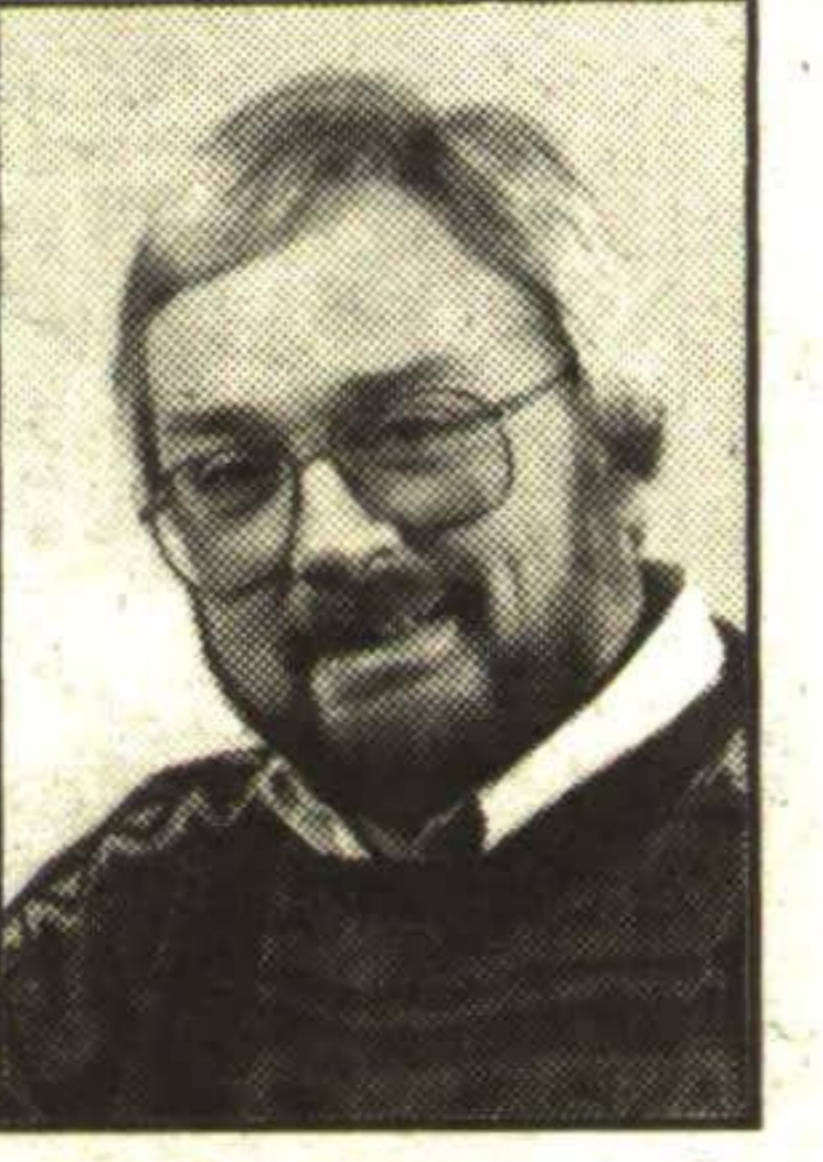
#1 Hear no evil?



#2 See no evil?



#3 Speak no evil?



#4 The Charmer?



#5 The Thinker?