



Honored for efforts

The Town of Halton Hills handed out their Recognition and Honor Awards at the John Elliott Theatre on Wednesday evening, honoring outstanding achievements for 1993. Among those honored for their efforts were the Ontario

silver medal winning Georgetown Rookie Baseball team, with coaches Naomi Shepard and Rob Mossop. For full details on the recipients see next Wednesday's edition of *The Independent/Free Press*. Photo by LAURA SALVERDA

Balanced budget for hospital

By JANET BAINE
Staff writer

Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital passed a balanced operating budget even though they're expecting 5.4 per cent less funding than last year.

This is the fifth year that hospitals in Ontario have been required to have balanced budgets. The \$14 million budget is laid out in the 1994-95 operating plan which was approved by the hospital board. The Ministry of Health hasn't yet

announced the exact funding it will be sending to the hospital, Monique Porlier, assistant executive director of finance said.

The hospital is expecting \$634,000 less than last year, but inflation means expenses will go up about \$260,000, which means the hospital has had to cut \$895,000 out of the expenditures.

Originally the operating plan had to be submitted to Halton District Health Council and the Ministry of Health by the end of February, but because the funding

allocation have not yet been finalized, the operating budget may have to be changed. It won't be finalized and sent to the District Health Council until six weeks after the province makes its funding allocations.

The operating plan was developed with an extensive consultative process to review programs and services.

Even though cutbacks in funding are expected, there will be no cut in services offered to the community, executive director John Oliver said.

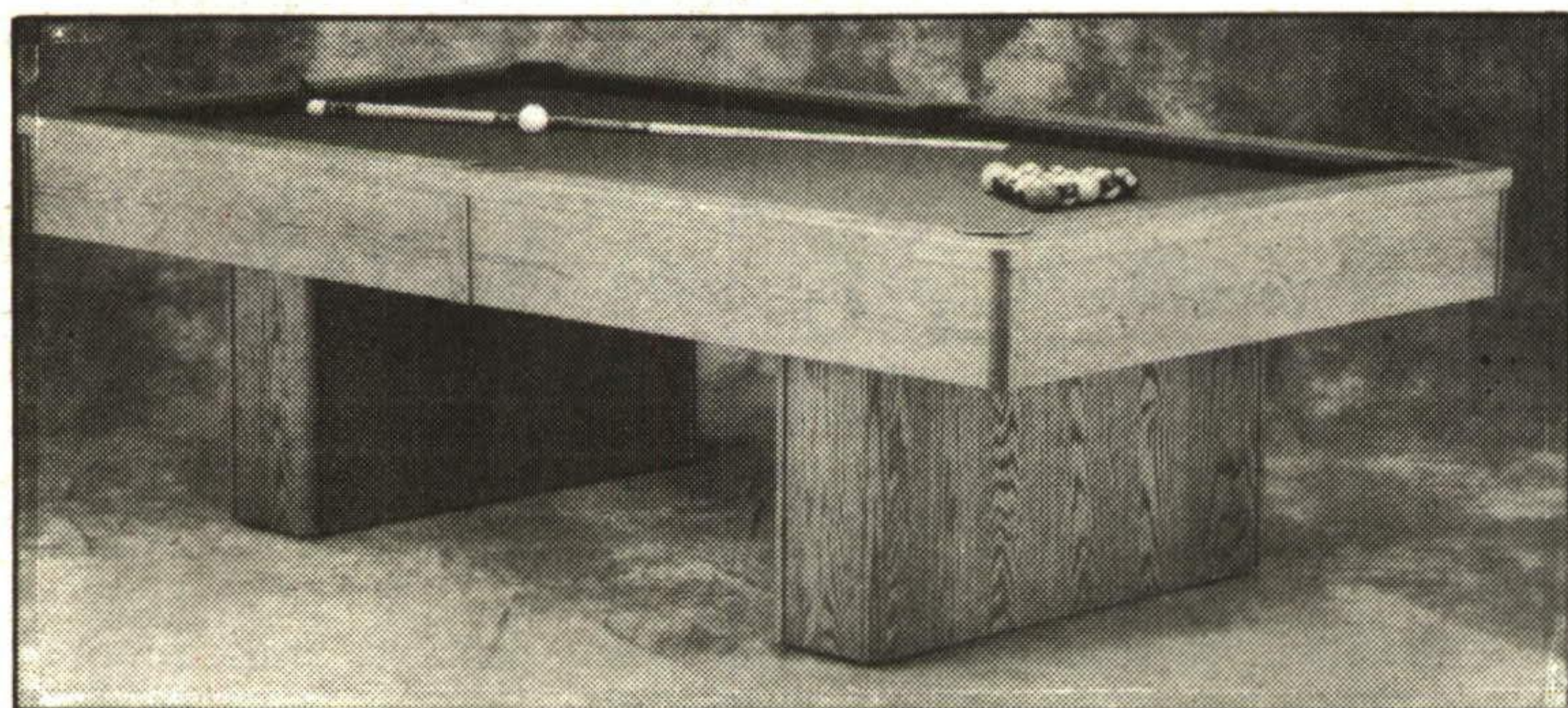
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