

UAL appeals to Premier Harris

'Company is caught in nightmare of red tape'

By LISA TALLYN
Staff Writer

As a result of a charge laid by a local citizen, United Aggregates Ltd. (UAL), its union, and the Aggregate Producers' Association of Ontario have appealed to Premier Mike Harris to clarify the duplication of legislation that governs the aggregate industry.

"Our company is caught up in a nightmare of red tape created by bureaucratic duplication," said Bill Burkart, executive vice-president and chief operating officer of United Aggregates in a press release issued Wednesday. "We have a valid licence that dates back to 1972. I hope that when all the facts are placed before the court it will be clear that our licence is valid and our operation is lawful."

UAL is facing a charge of alleged illegal quarrying activities laid by local resident Rita Landry against the company last month. Landry said UAL has carried on its quarrying operation without a permit from the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC).

UAL is to appear in Milton court August 12 to set a court date.

Burkart said if the quarry was forced to shut down it would mean a loss of jobs and great financial

hardship to the regional economy.

Local 488D of the Cement, Lime, Gypsum and Allied Workers Division of International Brotherhood of Boilermakers has also informed the premier that 70 direct jobs would be lost if the quarry was forced to shut down.

The aggregate industry is seeking clarification of acts administered by the Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of the Environment and the NEC.

"Although the government of the day has always agreed that legislation, in respect to quarrying, needs to be clarified we still find ourselves caught up in a host of overlapping rules and regulations," said Burkart.

Burkart said the company has been placed in a very "frustrating situation" and is urging clarification so UAL "would not be subjected to this kind of legal action."

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— Bill Burkart, UAL

Harrison pleads guilty to charges

Craig Harrison pleaded guilty Tuesday to assault level two in Milton Provincial Court Tuesday. The charge was laid in May after what police called a racially motivated attack of Georgetown businessman, Michael Wong.

Harrison, 29, will be sentenced on Sept. 23.

Harrison also pleaded guilty to uttering a death threat against a family member and to assault level two. The second assault charge was in connection to a February incident at the Halton Hills Animal Control Shelter in Limehouse.

Harrison has been in police custody since turning himself in to the OPP in Fergus and chose to remain in custody at his bail hearing. A 30-day psychological assessment found him fit to stand trial.

Monday's storm plays havoc with hydro

About five hydro transformers were struck by lightning in Monday night's storm and Halton Hills Hydro crews worked from 10 p.m. through to the middle of Tuesday to restore power.

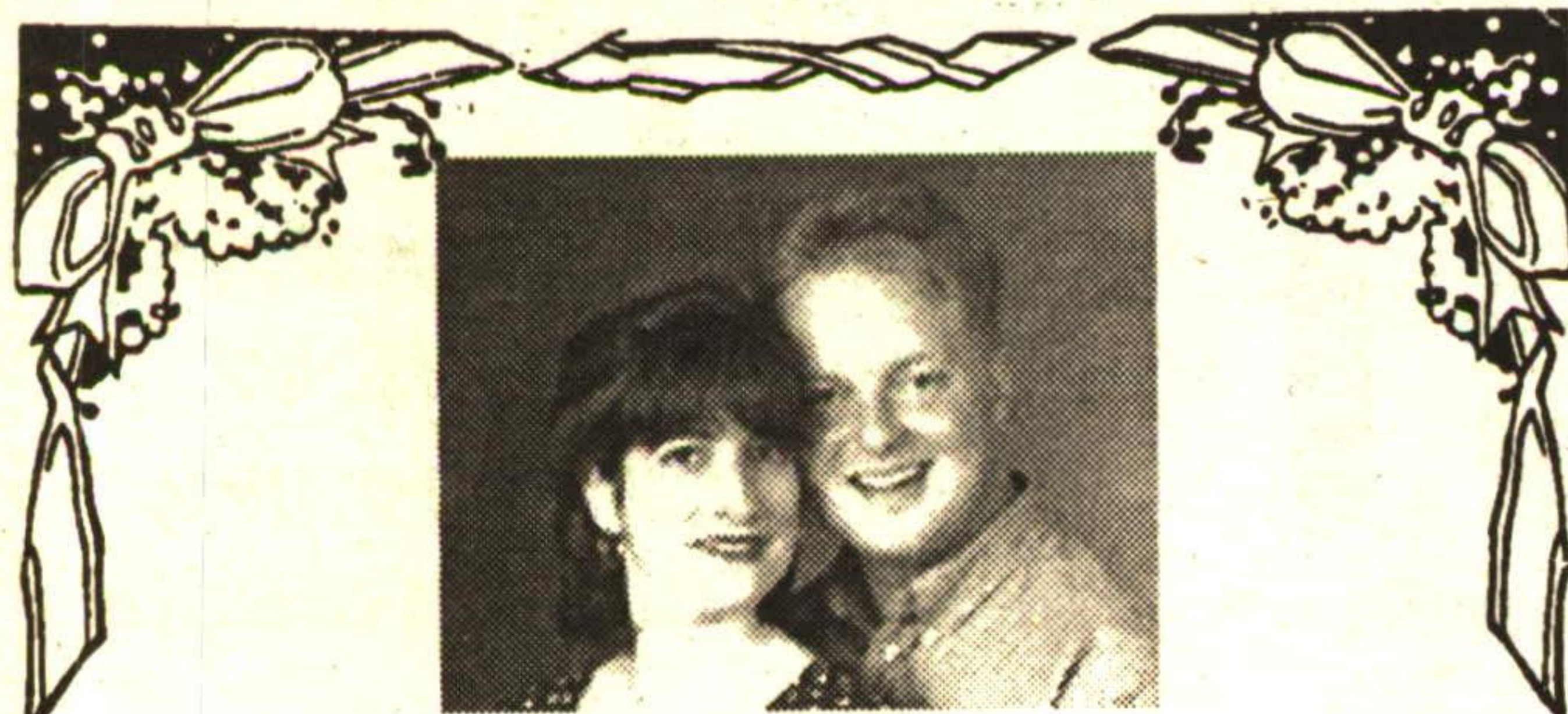
"No particular area was hit. There was far less damage than I would have expected," said Dan Guatto, the engineering manager at Halton Hills Hydro.

No substations were hit, but the transformers were scattered throughout Halton Hills affecting a variety of areas both in town and in

the rural areas. It takes time to bring the transformers back, so power was expected to be fully restored by mid afternoon (Tuesday), he said.

"People have been working on this problem since 10 p.m. Sometimes customers fail to call in, they think we know, but especially in rural cases people should call as soon as possible so we know. We will call back to verify that their power has been turned on," Guatto said.

Halton Hills Hydro faces this situation a few times a year, he added.



Ted and Susan Barrow are proud to announce the upcoming marriage of their son David to Julie Turgeon of Joliette, Quebec on August 26, 1996 in Kingston Ont.

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Leanne is a graduate of Wilfrid Laurier University, Honours Bachelor of Music, Performance. Also, congratulations on receiving a full scholarship to pursue your Master of Music at Florida State University. Best wishes Mom and Dad, Ron and Carrie Atkinson, brother, Mark and grandparents, Phyllis and Harry Thompson, Cliff and Jean Atkinson.

LEANNE RUTH ATKINSON