



WHAT A DEAL! Pals 5-year-old Paul Sharples and 6-year-old Robbie Rolph check out the bargains at the Warren Grove Reunion garage sale Saturday on Mason Boulevard. Organizers raised \$1,030 to help with a Wartime reunion slated for Saturday, May 29, 1993 at the Acton Legion. (Frances Niblock photo)

## Ontario Municipal Board to resolve Acton development impasse

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The Ontario Municipal Board will be asked to resolve long-standing objections to a proposed housing development in Acton east. Coscan Development Corporation last week asked Halton politicians to refer its plan to the O.M.B. to deal with years of objections from other Acton developers who are concerned there will not be enough water and sewer capacity for their developments if Coscan's plans proceed. Coscan wants to build a 258-unit residential subdivision with a school site and two parks on its land south of Highway 7 and east of Churchill Road. Thirty-five per cent of the housing will be devoted to affordable housing — houses with a market value of \$168,000 or below. Coscan lawyer Gordon Petch

told Halton politicians last week that discussions to try and overcome objections to the plan have not resolved the impasse so sending the proposal to the O.M.B. is the only answer. Acton Councilor Rick Bonnette agrees. "I think there will be a few more developers going to the O.M.B. There have been a lot of meetings over the years and there were a lot of negotiations. There was some give but there was more take. There's a lot of money involved when a development finally goes ahead so it doesn't surprise me that the O.M.B will make the final decision — it's really the best way to go," Bonnette said last week. Coscan's request to go to the board received unanimous approval from regional council Wednesday.

## Proposed tree cutting law has Acton businessman up in arms

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The NDP's proposed new tree-cutting law has Acton businessman Don Dawkins hopping mad and in a letter-writing mood. In a scathing missive to Mayor Miller and the Tanner, Dawkins said the temptation to scream over the legislation is real but it "no longer adequately describes the negative impact the misguided mental midgets at Queen's Park are having on the socio-economic wellbeing of Ontario." "The reason to invest in this province is simply going to disappear for many people who would otherwise be creating jobs and promoting economic activity," Dawkins said in an interview. "People are simply not going to want to do business in this province because there is no prospect of profit or success. It's not all the NDP's problem. I lay blame with anyone who has a government position at any of the four levels of government. I think government today is at a situation that is absolutely tragic. The quality of government we get in Canada is getting to the point where it would prompt political assassination and

armed rebellion in many countries in the world. In many countries they wouldn't take this kind of crap," Dawkins said. Dawkins wants the mayor to oppose the law and promote some degree of protection over the rights of private land ownership in the province. "When you consider what we've done on the Blue Springs Golf Club property, our tree planting and tree transporting program over the last four years have cost us \$300,000 to \$350,000. When you consider we have over two million trees you can see what this

proposed tree-cutting law would mean. In the hands of the empire-building bureaucrats out to make a name for themselves, it could mean every time we need to cut one tree we'd have to go and get a permit from the municipality," Dawkins fumed. "If we go ahead and cut one tree by mistake we are subject to a fine of \$500,000. I have dealt with too many government agencies where well-intended, reasonable legislation has been distorted to the point where it is hardly recognizable. This legislation should be trashed," Dawkins said.

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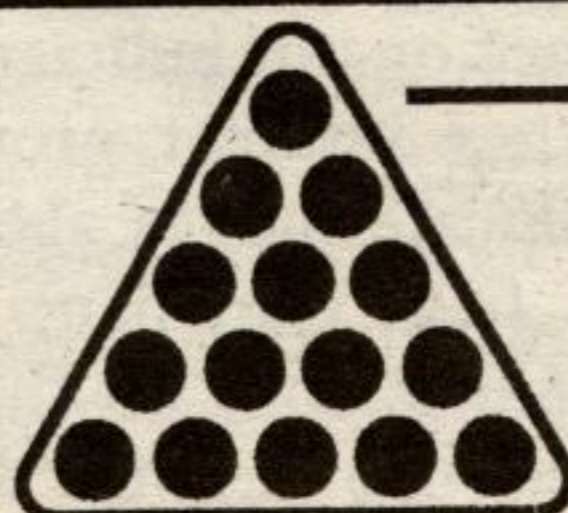
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