

GRAPE VINE

kitchens and replacement windows and doors.

Preparations are currently under way for the Grand Opening which is scheduled for mid-October — watch for details.

The showroom is located on Highway 25, just south of Acton.

Parade results

Congratulations to the winners from the Acton Fall Fair parade.

The Acton Fall Fair honours all the participants; without your enthusiasm the parade would not be the success it is.

The top prize of \$100 went to Acton Co-op Nursery School, while the Star Thru Squares square dancers claimed the second prize of \$50. Suit Yourself Costumes presented costumed characters who delighted children of all ages and picked up the \$25 third prize.

Honourable mentions went to the Acton Soccer Club, Acton Aqua Ducks and Acton IGA.

The Fair extends its thanks to all those who participated making Acton's fair the envy of all the fairs in Ontario.

New flooring shop

An old business with a new twist will be officially open soon in the Acton area.

Longtime Acton residents Rob and Gisele Charette have purchased the Lakeview Centre business from former Acton resident Don Perry. The new business, a division of A Touch of Class Kitchens, is called Lakeview Flooring.

The business will offer a wide range of floor coverings and window treatments in a one-stop re-decorating showroom. The showroom will also feature sample

Autumn festival

Crawford Lake Conservation Area is holding its seventh annual Autumn on the Escarpment this Thanksgiving weekend. There are many great activities to take part in. Enjoy a cup of hot apple cider while listening to lively folk music, or take a wagon ride to the Nassagaweya Canyon lookout.

It's the perfect time to take a family trek along one of the many nature trails and witness the wealth of autumn's beauty. For the kids there will be a scavenger hunt and a pumpkin raffle is also featured.

Crawford Lake Conservation Area is located at the corner of Guelph Line and Steeles Avenue about 5km south of the 401. Admission is \$2.50 for adults, \$2 for students over 13, \$1.50 for seniors and children under 12. Preschoolers are admitted free.

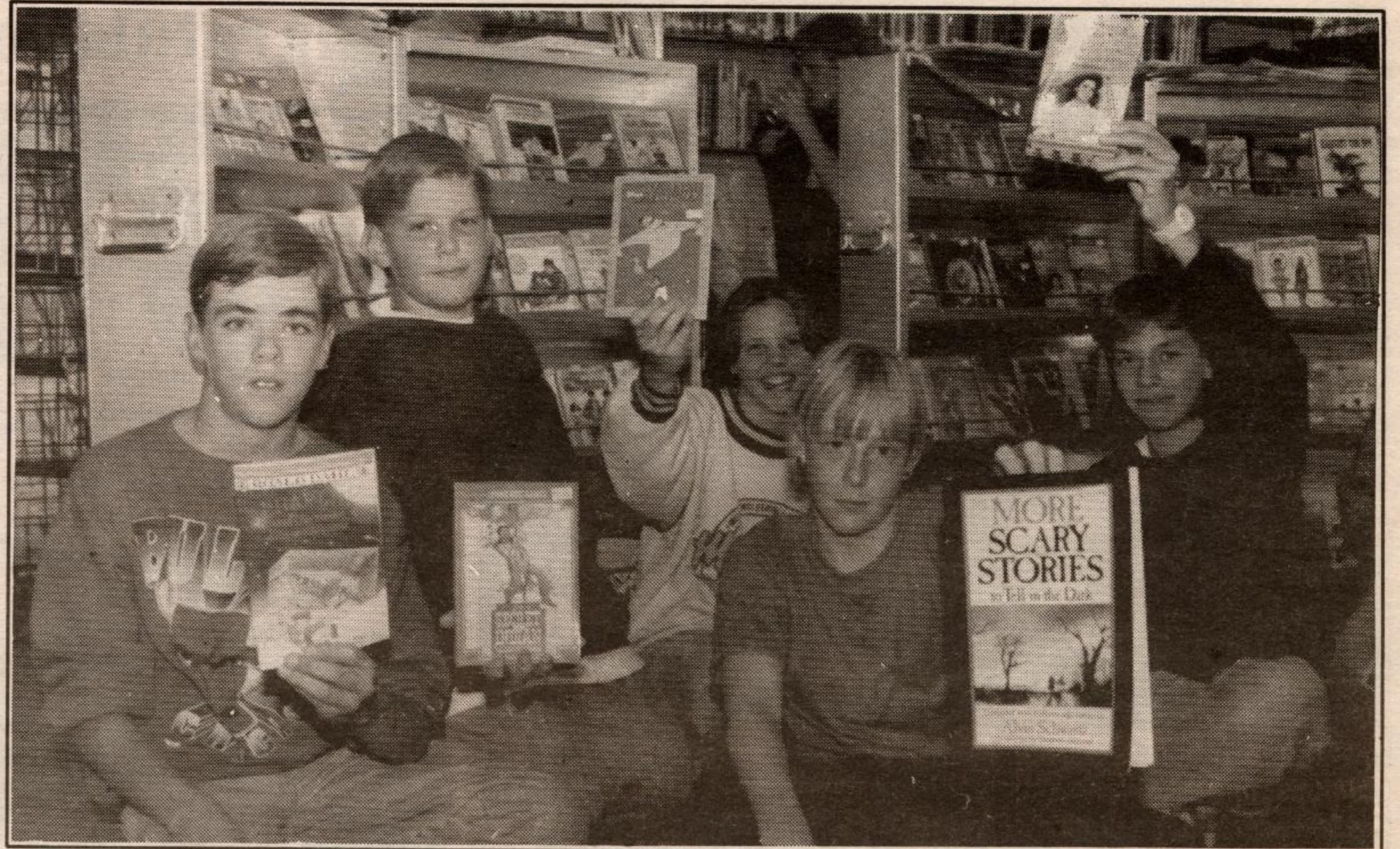
Tot skating

Are you looking for activities for your pre-schooler?

There are still spaces available for the Town's daytime "Learn to Skate" program for tots.

The program is held at the Community Centre on Friday mornings from 10 until 11 am. It starts Oct. 15, so register soon to avoid missing out.

To enroll call the Recreation and Parks Department at 873-2600, ext. 268.



McKenzie-Smith held a book fair as part of Student Council Day on Thursday. Showing off some of the works on display were back row, left to right, James Mashinter, 11, Rachel Ancomb, 13, and Maya Barbir, 12. Front row: Adam Ahearn, 12 and Kim Lindsay, 10. (Doug Harrison photo)

In praise of ballots — not bullets

I had prepared a clever article regarding our current election campaign. The happenings of Sunday night and Monday morning, however, made it seem trivial. I'm referring to the tragedy in Moscow.

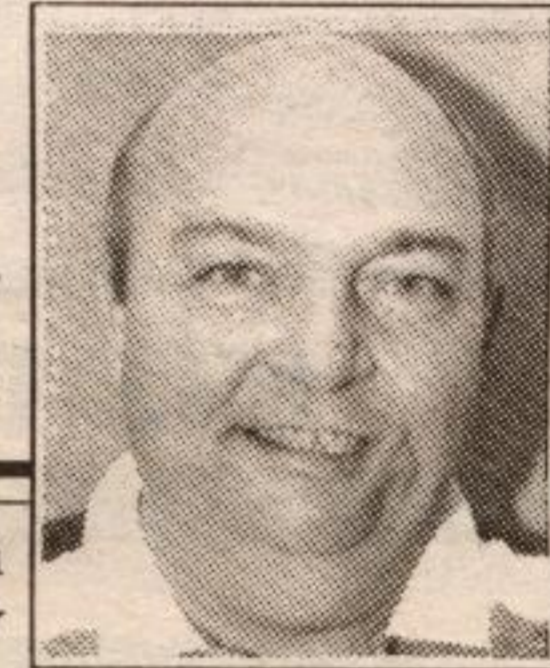
Many of us were riveted to our televisions. I was stunned by the happenings in and around the Russian parliament building, better known as the Russian "White House." To me, the entire episode seemed almost surreal. I had to keep reminding myself that this was not some Rambo movie gone amuck. As the hours rolled by, I reflected on how fortunate Canadians are and I was struck by how naive most of us are with regard to Eastern European affairs.

The notion of our houses of Parliament being seized by a group of radicals, armed to the teeth and ready to shoot, would be unthinkable. Even more incredible would be the image of a tank squadron and battalion of commandos coming out of Petawawa to confront the invaders.

I wondered what the average Russian thought about the events of the last few days. I watched a few interviews but these were people near the "White House" so I presume they would be enthusias-

The Way I See It

With Mike O'Leary



tic supporters of one side or the other. I wondered what someone like me would think, were I Russian. Would they be as surprised as I that such a violent resolution to this standoff had occurred. The more I watched, the more I became convinced that Russians didn't see these events being as outrageous as I did.

I think this is where our naiveté comes in. We tend to define world problems and their solutions by our own socio-economic perceptions. Can we really understand the root problems here?

I have a friend who is from Eastern Europe. For the past five years he's been telling me how volatile the whole area is. He contends that Communism fell too quickly. He doesn't think that you can reverse a system that has endured for 75 years, or more, in a year of two. He's not a communist. He's anything but. He has a

passionate interest in those people being free. He still has relatives there. Amongst other things he forecast the return of the Communist Party in Poland, he told me Russia is a powder keg and he says that Westerners don't understand the hatred that drives the war machines in the former Yugoslavia.

My friend doesn't have the answer on how to build the bridge between communism and democracy. If we are to help these people make this transition, we have to send them more than money and McDonalds. Somehow we have to convince these people that the democratic streets are not paved with gold. To do this, we have to understand the pressures these people live under and I'm not sure we do. As I watched these tanks shell Russia's parliament, it was apparent that not only don't I have an answer, I'm not sure I even know the question.

We're involved in a bitter election campaign. It's important that we send the best person to Ottawa. Some people have told me they've given up on the system and aren't going to vote. I agree we have problems. We should be thankful, however, that we settle our disputes with ballots — not bullets.

HEY!

Will the Blue Jays repeat as World Series champs?



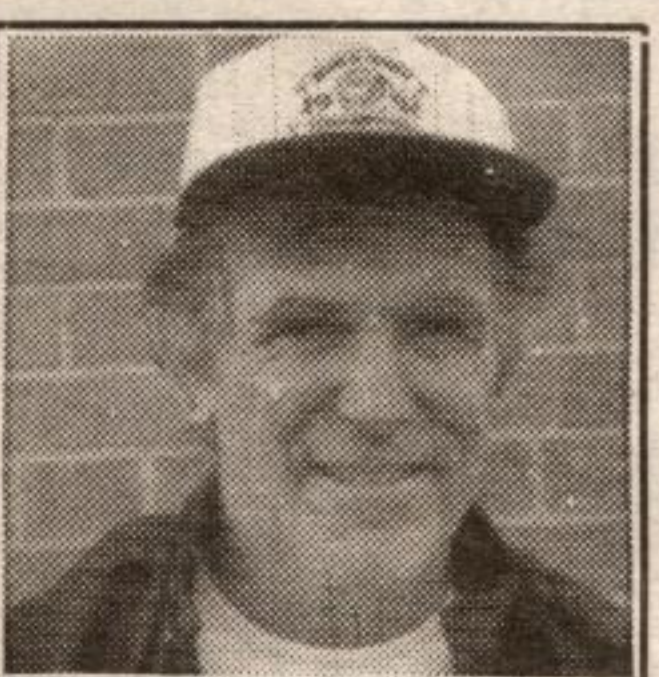
"Yes. They're doing better than last year. Their pitching has been good lately and I think it will stay that way. I think Joe Carter, John Olerud and Tony Fernandez will carry them through the playoffs."

Chris Rickerby, Gould Crescent

"I hope they do. I think they have what it takes. I like the team as well as last year's, but not better. I like Alomar, Molitor and Ward to carry them through the playoffs.

Playing the Braves again in the World Series would be interesting."

Kathy Everson, McDonald Boulevard



"Yes. They have Joe Carter and he will lead them through the playoffs. If they keep hitting home runs they will be all right. Their relief pitching — Mark Eichorn — will have to improve to make it easier."

Al Kurtz, Rockwood

"With Cito Gaston as manager I don't see how they can go wrong. Everybody complained when Dave Winfield left and Paul Molitor was signed and when Tony Fernandez came back, but they have been successful. It has to be a team effort."

Pat Gudgeon, Division Street

