## Adwan is No. 2 'recycler' in Canada

BY DOUG HARRISON

The Acton Tanner
Rarely does a student have the opportunity to jump on his desk

and yell in the classroom.

But when the student has just been informed he placed second in a national contest, it is understandable, and perhaps excusable.

This was the case, recently, for Grade 5 student Alex Adwan who shone in the *Race Against Waste* recycling competition, in which students had to make a non-violent toy using recycled materials.

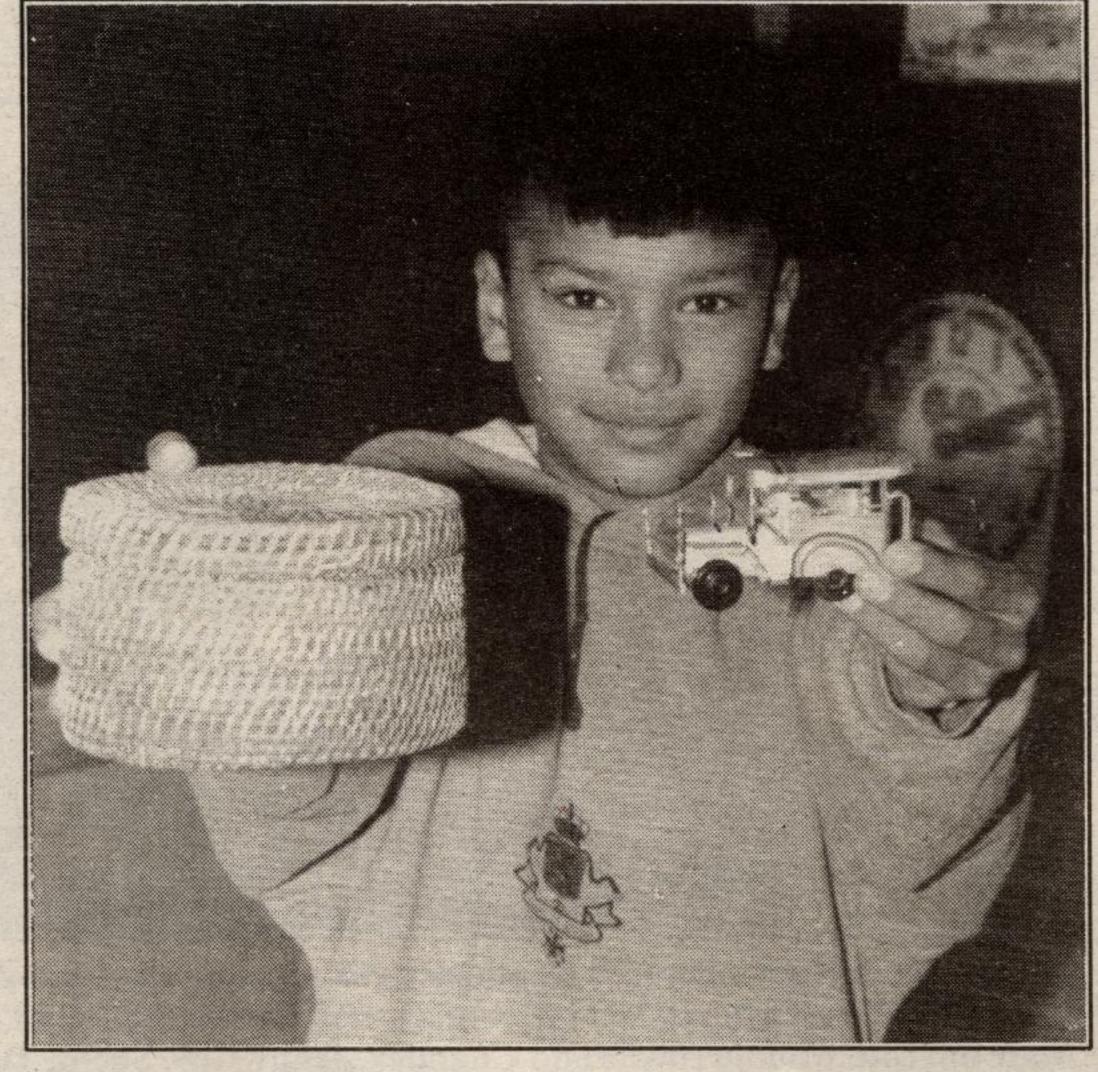
The M.Z. Bennett student constructed a foot-long wooden sailboat entitled *Skullship* using wood from his garage, a magnet to bend the wood, a nail for the rudder, Styrofoam for weight and a white cloth where the skull was drawn.

"I never say I'm going to win, because sometimes I don't," said the 11-year-old, who won a Philippine basket made from rattan and a Filipino jeepney — an old recycled vehicle that is common in the Philippines — from the contest sponsored by the Philippine Development Assistance Program.

"I wish there could have been five winners instead of three because two of my classmates' projects (a sewn doll and a game made out of cardboard) could have won."

Adwan's project has been on display in Kitchener and will soon be moved to Ottawa for another contest. He hopes he can grab either a first, second or third-place cash prize of \$350, \$200 and \$100.

While Adwan would like the



RECYCLING REWARD: Alex Adwan shows off the Philippine basket and Filipino jeepney he won for second-place in the Race Against Waste recycling competition. (Doug Harrison photo)

money to purchase a Sega computer system, he also entered the contest because "water is getting polluted and I don't want to drink dirty water. A contest like this will make more people aware of recycling."

Adwan is known to his teachers as a creative student, so it's not surprising when he mentions the fun he had when building a toy using his imagination.

He also enjoyed lighting the fire on the stove in his garage that aided in bending the wood, using a saw "and getting to stay up later."

"He's a very enthusiastic and creative kid who does detailed work," says Adwan's art teacher Judy Rose, who adds her pupil's second effort helped significantly in him finishing high in the contest.

"He took the project home. He just didn't spend his class time working on it."

"He really focuses on his work, whether it's drawing, cartooning or working with plasticine.

"I'm glad he did well. It's a boost for him," adds teacher Kevin Waitson.

## Public urged to 'make your voice heard'

BY TANYA MARISSEN
The Acton Tanner

Years ago, parents let their children play across town without any worry, a woman was able to walk downtown at night without being afraid and senior citizens were able to enjoy the society they had helped build.

What happened? We can blame it on the politicians, the justice system, or even the police, but according to Michael O'Leary, Acton resident and Tanner columnist, "the fault lays with people who are 30 to 65-years-old who let politicians go ahead with this kind of legislation years ago." It is these people who now have to constantly worry about their children's safety.

Priscilla de Villiers, mother of Nina de Villiers, who was cruelly murdered, is the head of CAVEAT (Citizens Against Violence Everywhere Advocating its Termination). She also believes that it is "the public's own fault for not letting our elected representatives know what we think."

What can the public do now to protect their children from potential harm? de Villiers suggests that the public write and get to know their Member of Parliament. "They are the ones who vote in parliament and they need to know what their con-

stituency is thinking."

Writing or going to see your local MP takes time and energy, but "it's better than doing nothing. If you do nothing, at least you get what you deserve," says O'Leary.

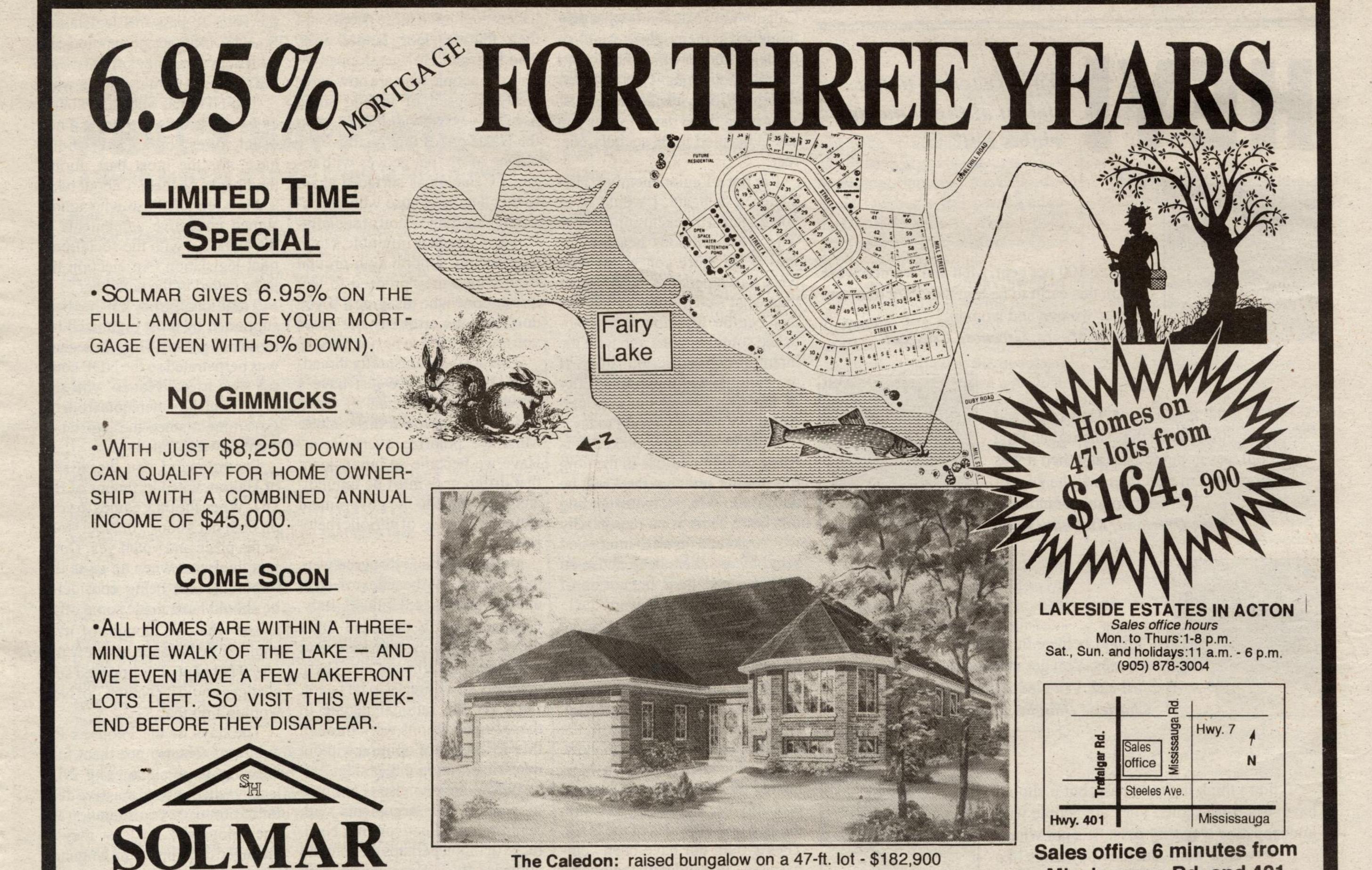
The movement of the public opposing the government is gaining momentum. O'Leary believes the public has been "pushed too far" and that they are tired of not being heard. CAVEAT was created to give the public a voice in government and it has a strong influence in the creation of the National Crime Prevention Council and it was all due to the great number of supporters the group has nationwide.

CAVEAT began with five concerned members around a kitchen table — now it is a national organization with 90 per cent of its membership being part of the public. It receives no official funding and all of its money and skills comes from the community at large.

By supporting groups like CAVEAT and by getting to know your MP you can still have a voice. "There may be a snowball's chance in hell to get it back to the way it was," declares O'Leary, "but at least it can get better than it is now."

You can contact CAVEAT at 905-333-6220.

Mississauga Rd. and 401



Plans include basement layout for future in-law suite.