

Get in the swim!

Registrations are now being accepted for summer swimming lessons for sessions Aug. 1 to 12 and Aug. 15 to 29.

You can pick up registration forms at the Acton Indoor Pool, or call 873-2600.

For parents: The Prospect Park wading pool is a perfect cool-down; it is only two feet deep and is open Monday to Friday from 1:30 to 4 and weekends from noon to 4.

HAPPY 16TH BIRTHDAY



AMANDA

Love Mom, Dad, Corey, Rusty and Junior.

Acton nears century mark in lottery wins

BY DOUG HARRISON
The Acton Tanner

The No. 99 is not only famous in Los Angeles, but Acton, too.

Ninety-nine Actonites have won or shared in major — \$10,000 or more — lottery prizes worth a total exceeding \$2,315,800 since the Ontario Lottery Corporation's inception in 1975.

"That's a fair number of major winners and money put back into the community," says OLC coordinator of media relations Melanie Kurzuk, who adds that 84 per cent of the province's adult population have played or are playing lotteries.

From April 1993 to March 31 of this year, total lottery sales in Acton were more than \$1.8 million. Lotto 6/49 sales here last year were more than \$800,000, Encore sales surpassed \$119,000, more than \$103,000 were Lottario sales and Instant about \$425,000.

For every dollar spent on a lottery ticket, about 50 cents is awarded in cash prizes, approximately 32 cents is profit and around seven cents is retailer commission. The remaining 11 cents is direct costs and operating expenses for the OLC.

Local merchant Helen Jocque has sold her share of big winners over the years, the latest being a whopping \$219,060.10 to 41-year-old Acton resident Mark Jones.

For any sale of a winning ticket over \$100,000, Jocque cops \$1,000.

"I think I was more nervous

than Mr. Jones was," she remembers. "I went to make out the claim and I was shaking."

The co-owner of the Smoke Shoppe recalls selling \$5,000 Encore tickets, a \$100,000 Wintario ticket, a \$25,000 Lottario ducat and one of two winning lottery tickets of a car.

"There have been a few winners, but not nearly enough. There are a lot of winners in Georgetown and Guelph, but the luck seems to pass Acton."

Independent research tracking the experiences and spending hab-

its of lottery winners is conducted on an on-going basis for the OLC. Here is a sample of the research on major winners conducted between January 1991 and March 31, 1994.

- 86 per cent put some or all of their money in the bank;
- 46 per cent shared their winnings with family or friends;
- 31 per cent took a vacation;
- only eight per cent either retired, gave up their job, changed jobs, went to school or opened their own business;
- almost half of all lottery winners sought professional financial

advice.

However, Jocque is one convenience store owner who isn't thrilled about the number of lotteries that exist.

"People aren't spending any more money on them (new lotteries). They're just taking \$2 from their Lotto 6/49 tickets and purchasing others," explains the 23-year store owner, who explains that no one has yet to match all seven numbers in the new Super Seven lotto.

"We need new lotteries like we need a hole in the head."



HARD LABOUR: Tara Kirk, 11, left, and friend Teri McCaslin, 10, spent part of Saturday soaking up the rays and refreshing themselves with freezies. (Lori Frechette photo)

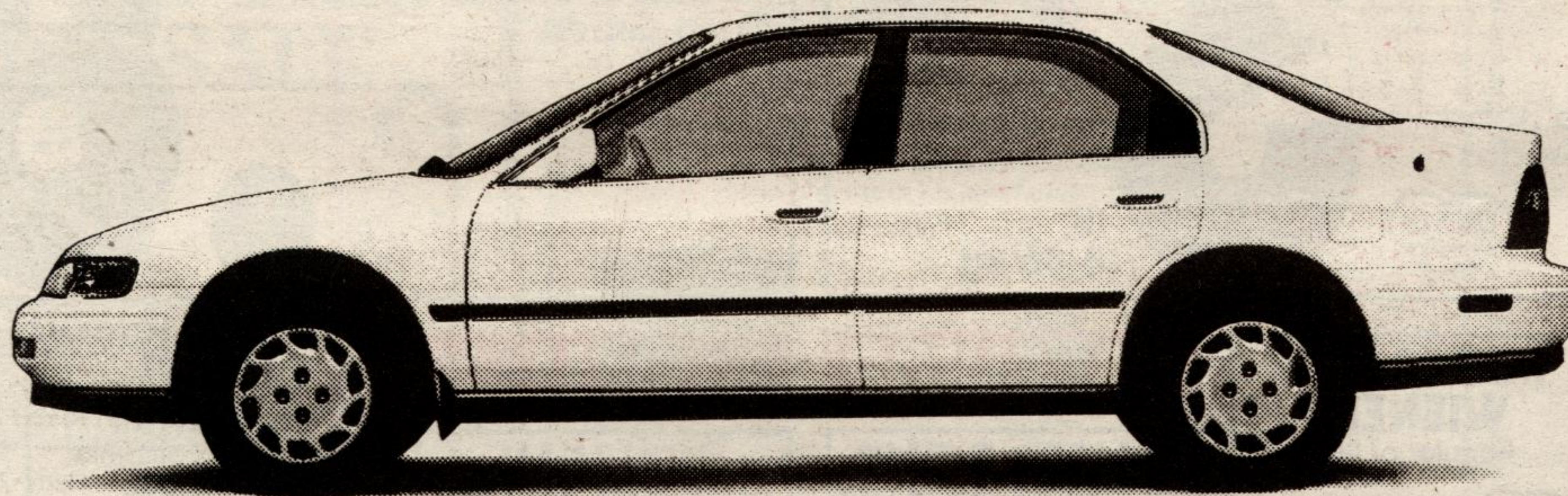


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