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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1995

## Gutted house to be levelled

Owners may build extension to 'Ed's' plaza

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The Acton Tanner

Owners of the fire-ravaged house at 10 Main St. S. in Acton plan to level the building and hopefully, build an extension to the existing plaza immediately to the south of the property.

Five tenants escaped without injury when the house was gutted by a major fire, which did \$160,000 damage last Wednesday morning.

The cause of the fire has been listed as accidental and fire officials suspect the blaze started on the stove in the ground-floor at the back of the house.

George Georgiadis, son of owner Harry Georgiadis of Toronto, said it is unlikely they would rebuild the house because they only had \$85,000 insurance.

"To rebuild is out of the question. I think we will level the building and then maybe sell the lot or build an addition to the plaza and have two stores with two upstairs apartments," Georgiadis said in

an interview on Saturday.

Georgiadis said his family owned the house for 20 years and lived in it until 10 years ago, when they also sold the restaurant next door.

Georgiadis said that his father had spent \$18,000 several years ago to upgrade the electrical and heating system as well as the plumbing in the house.

Georgiadis said no firm decision will be made about what to do with the property until the insurance company settles the claim.

The fire call went out at 7:38 am and at the height of the blaze 27 fire crew were on hand trying to douse the stubborn blaze that was fanned by high winds.

## Reps worried about tannery property

A recent case of arson at the former Beardmore complex prompted Acton Councillor Norm Elliott to recommend that the Town get involved in a "fairly intense review" of the status of the Acton property.

"I have immediate concerns that we have an abandoned industrial complex that is centuries old and 90 per cent wood," Elliott said in an interview on Saturday.

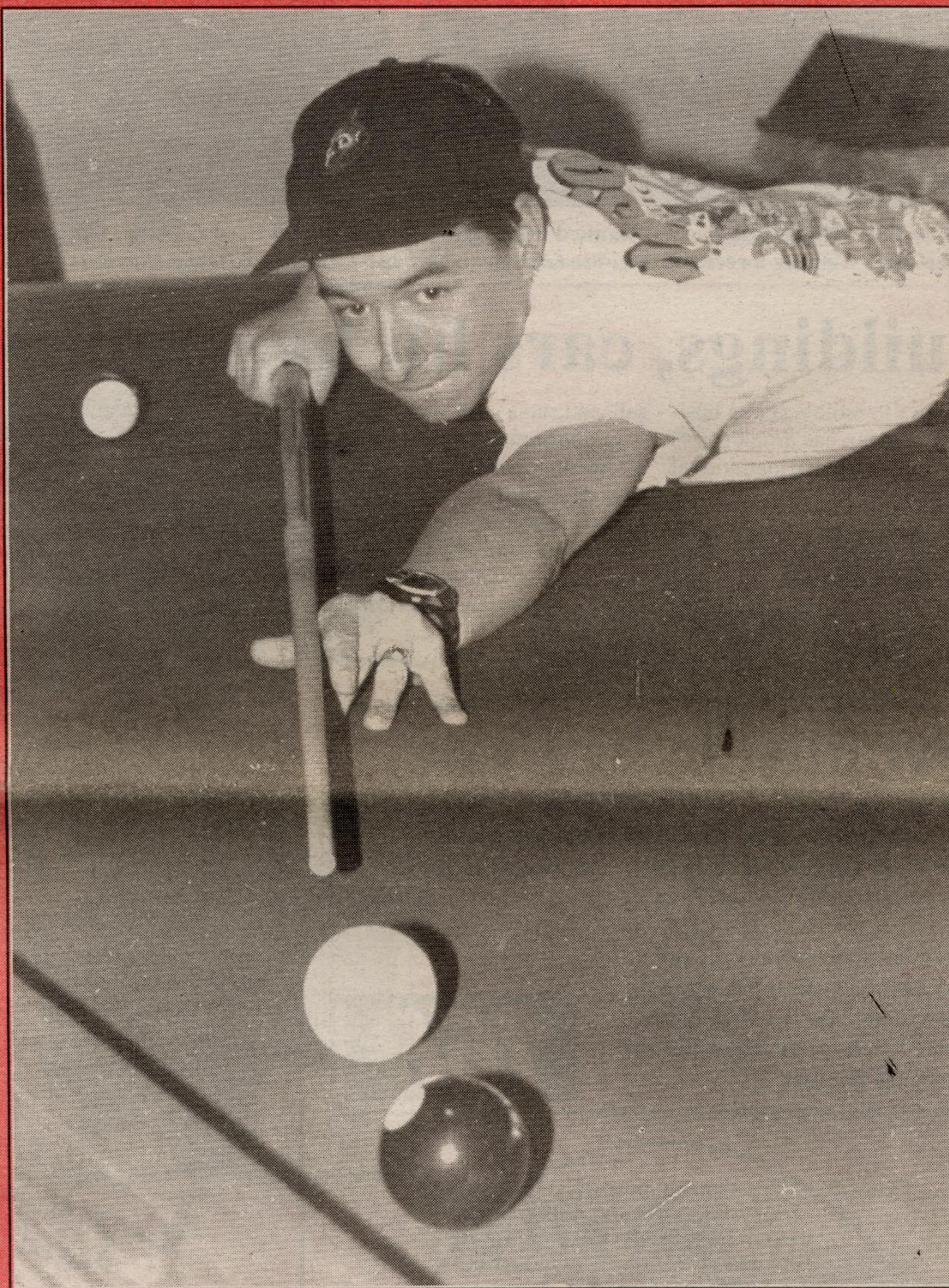
"Suppose there was a big fire there. We were fortunate that it was only a small blaze several weeks ago and that it was quickly

contained, but I think that we ignore this situation at our own risk."

Elliott said he also has "huge" long-term environmental concerns with the property, which was recently owned by Canada Packers, whose Canadian operations were just purchased by McCain Foods.

"We need to sit down with the owners and discuss long-range plans for the property. The Town may have a risk of holding the financial bag on this property if the owner abandons it," Elliott

See CONTAMINATED, Page 20



### THE FIRST GAME!

Scott Rowsell (shown here), along with his brother Chad and father Junior, were the first Actonites to try out the pool tables at the opening of "Hoops, Pockets & More" on Mill Street Thursday. Said 22-year-old Scott: "It looks like a classy establishment. I wouldn't mind coming here rather than going to Guelph or Toronto." (Doug Harrison photo)

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