

More channels coming to cable

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Acton Tanner

The sale of Halton Cable-systems Inc. to Western Co-Axial Limited will mean Acton and Rockwood subscribers will have 25 more cable channels to watch.

One immediate benefit from the sale, recently approved by the Canadian Radio and Telecommunications Commission, is the addition of CBC's Newsworld to the existing 40 channels local cable subscribers can access.

Western Co-Axial vice president of marketing and programming, Bill Custers, said although they are still seeing how the Acton operation runs, they are committed to making major improvements in the near future.

"Our long-term game plan includes a complete rebuilding of the system hardware and an increase in channel capacity to 65 from 40 channels," Custers said on Friday.

"Now we begin the process of getting in there and running the shop on a day-to-day basis so we can see what's going to happen in the long run.

"Over the next six to eight months we will rebuild the cable system in Halton so we can add services like pay-per-view, the Movie Network and some more super stations because we have a policy that will try to carry every licensed available service and bring it to our customers," Custers said, noting that the next year will be "phenomenal" in terms of growth.

Custers said there will not be any immediate changes to the existing 20 staff in Acton, but they will supplement the staff with some of their own people so they can learn the local operation.

"We haven't had an opportunity to meet with the staff there in any depth — we've talked to them one-on-one and as a group to let them know who we are, but we haven't gotten into the real operational issues at all yet."

Western Co-Axial is a family-owned company which operates two cable companies in Hamilton, one in Fergus and one in Grimsby.

Custers said former Halton Cablesystems owner David Hastings, a Guelph lawyer, will remain on Western Co-Axial's Board of Directors.

ASSIC party tonight!

Don't forget ASSIC's 20th anniversary celebration tonight (Wednesday), at 7 pm at St. Alban's Parish Hall.

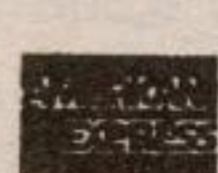
The annual general meeting will follow.



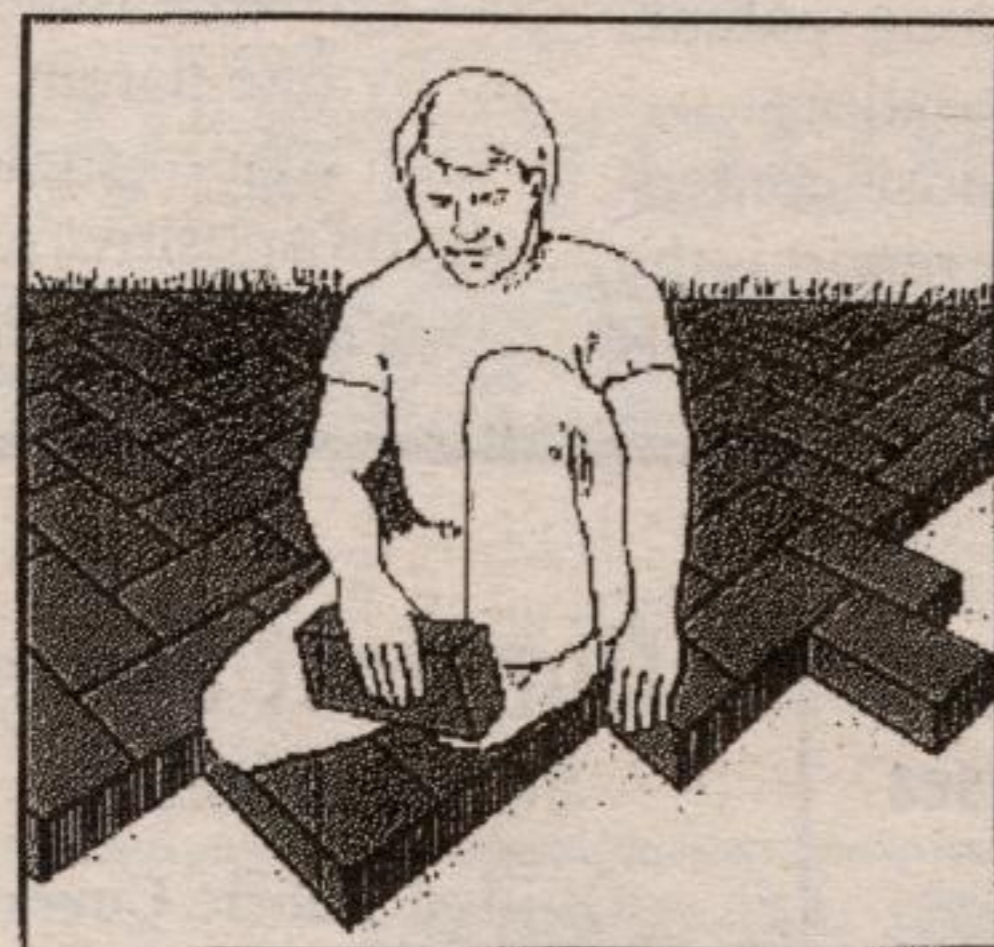
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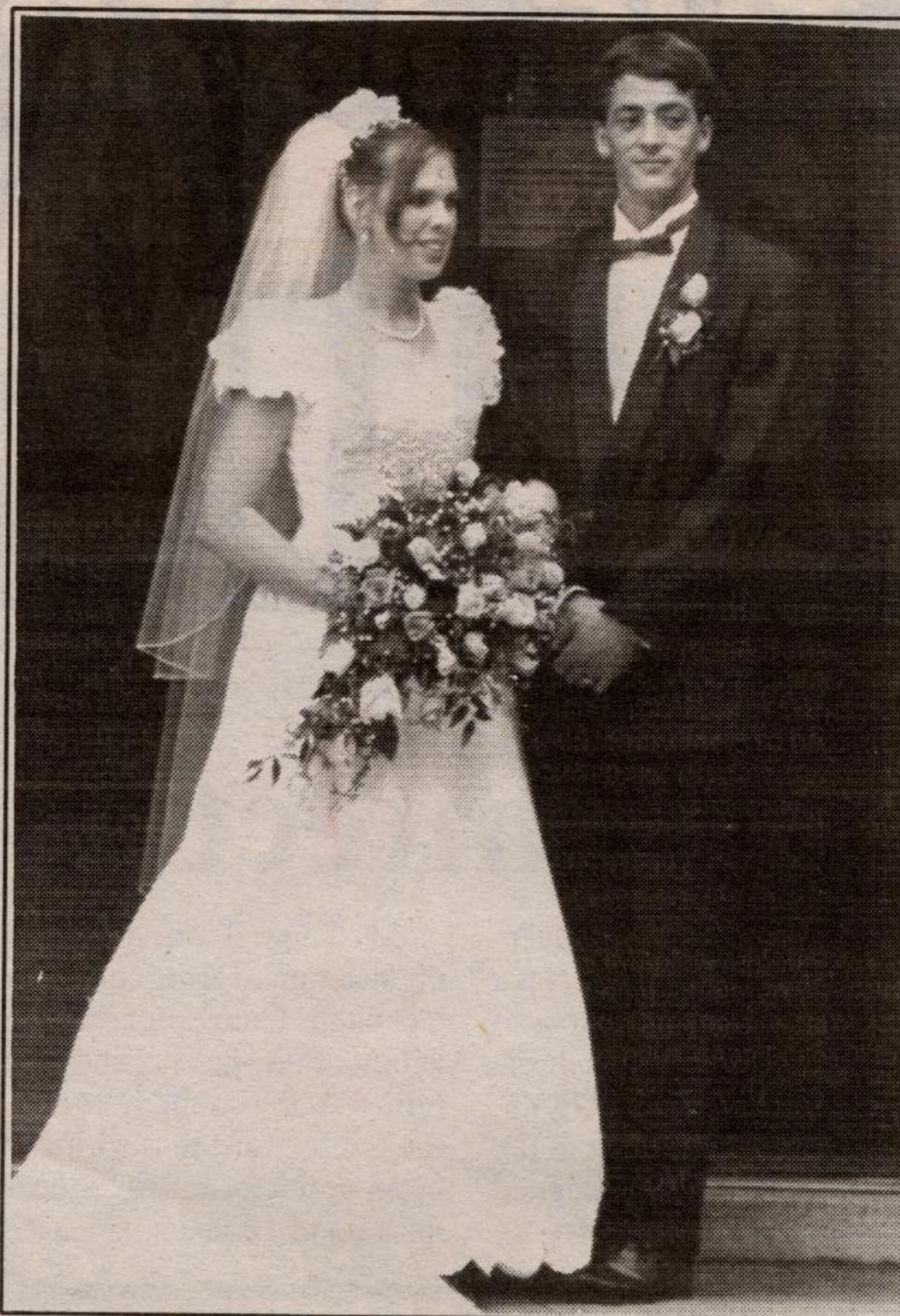
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SPRING WEDDING: Lifelong Acton residents Judy Eaton and Chris Van Dam were married last Saturday at Trinity United Church. The weather may not have been very spring-like, but at least the rain held off long enough for some outdoor photos. (Eve Martin photo)

Committee presents new education ideas

Continued from Front Page

Other recommendations in the report include closing 10 to 12 schools and selling the "surplus acreage" surrounding five schools, including McKenzie-Smith Bennett.

Also included is a plan to save 25 per cent from the administrative services budget by reducing staff and purchasing high-tech software and reducing the workload.

Bob Williams, Director of Education, said he hopes the recommendations will be

approved before the end of June so they may be implemented by September '97.

Many at the meeting felt it was a done deed, and these recommendations would go through with or without parents' approval. Sensing skepticism in the crowd, trustee Dick Howell cautioned:

"Mr. Williams and Ms. Rankin can recommend and suggest all they want but it is the trustees who will vote on these recommendations. And I, for one, have not decided."



Mr. and Mrs. Henry Venema are pleased to announce the graduation of their daughter Karen, who recently graduated from McMaster University, Hamilton with a degree in Kinesiology/Physical Education. Formal graduation took place Thursday, June 6, 1996.

NEWS SHORTS

Collision claims life

A Rockwood man died and an Acton man was seriously injured following a three-way motorbike collision last Saturday.

Ryan Morgan, 22, succumbed to his injuries at Sunnybrook Hospital after being transferred from Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital. A second man involved, Sean Sears, 24, of Acton was seriously injured and also transferred to Sunnybrook.

The incident took place on what police termed "an abandoned drag strip" on the Sixth Line north of Hwy. 7 between 9 and 9:30 pm. A third rider, Jason Luedee, 22, of Acton, was treated for minor injuries and released from hospital. The investigation is continuing.

Commuter survey on

Greater Toronto area commuters will be asked to have their say when it comes to highway safety. Milton OPP, in conjunction with Commuters to Reduce Accidents for Safer Highways (C.R.A.S.H.), will stop motorists on highway ramps to distribute short questionnaires on highway safety. Surveys will be collected the day after they are handed out.

Next Monday (June 17), surveys will be given to motorists at the Hwy. 25 exit; June 19 at James Snow Parkway and June 24 at Trafalgar Road. The surveys will be distributed and collected between 6 and 7:30 am.

Funny money in town

Police are cautioning store owners in particular regarding several counterfeit \$10 bills which have been located in the Acton area. A suspect has been seen regarding the money and is described as a white male, 5'6", heavysset, early 20s, with brown curly hair, wearing jeans and a black t-shirt.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"[MPP Ted Chudleigh] should get the message that he can't speak out of both sides of his mouth."

— Kathy Gastle, Ward 2 Councillor, Page 5

DID YOU KNOW?

Square watermelons were developed in Japan — probably because they stacked easier in the produce section and took up less space.



The MAIN EVENTS

FRIDAY JUNE 14-VALERIE SHEARMAN

SATURDAY JUNE 15-D.J. "THE COYOTE"



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