

# Winter driving presents some unique challenges to motorists

It is important to remember winter driving presents some unique challenges.

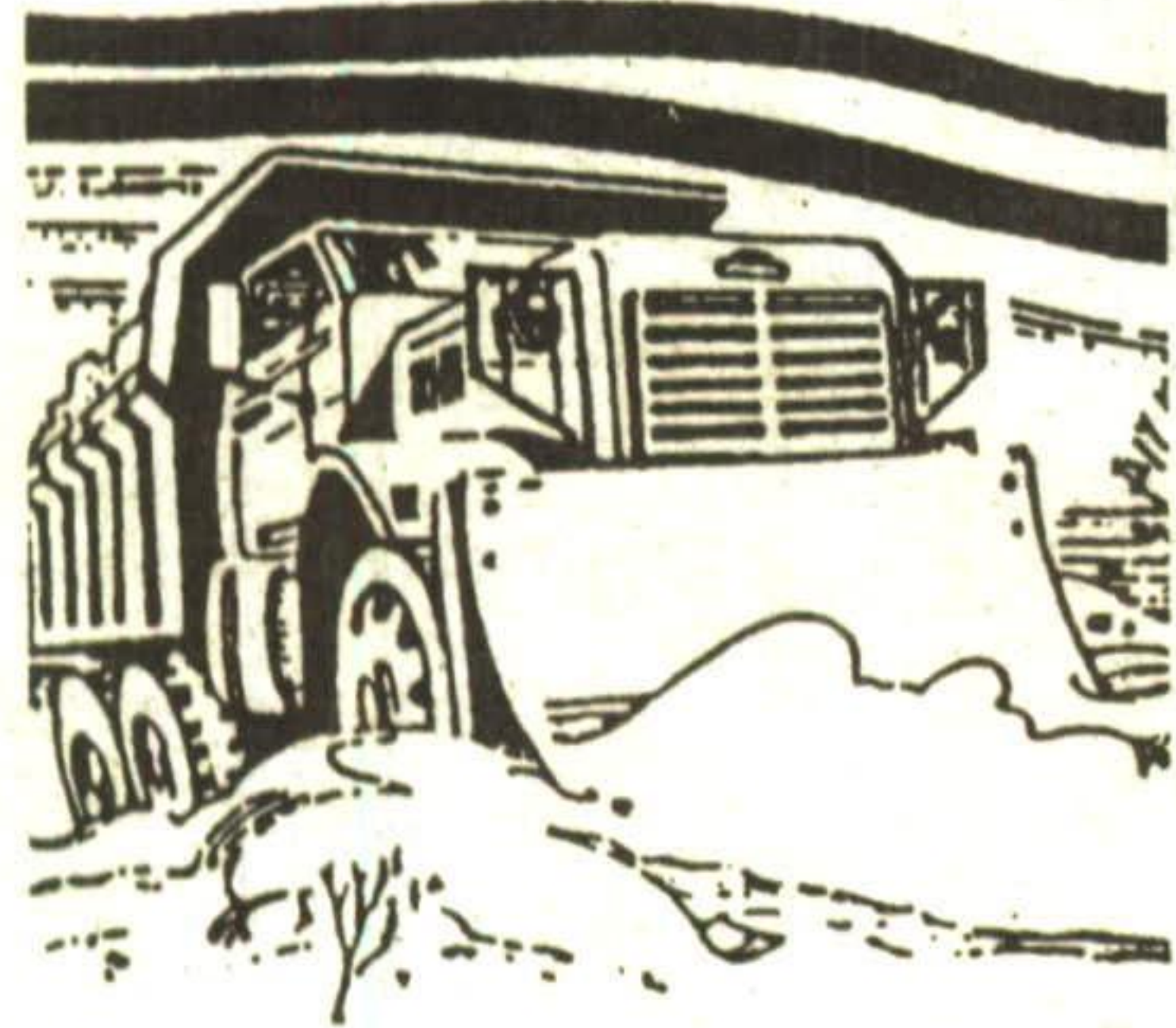
For example, keeping your gas tank topped-up is even more important in the winter — especially in the north where service stations are fewer and farther between.

Other concerns include traffic volume: the chances of getting help quickly from a passing motorist in the event of a breakdown are probably slimmer in remote areas than along a busy route such as Highway 400 in the Barrie area.

Here are some tips for drivers who might be thinking about a road trip this winter.

**Play it safe:** If anything about driving conditions makes you nervous, uncomfortable or fearful, stay off the road.

**Be prepared.** Make sure you've got enough of what you need to keep you going — and that means everything from windshields washer anti-



freeze to warm clothes, food, prescription drugs, candles, snow shovel, booster cables etc.

Think about installing a block heater. It will pay for itself the first time you wake up to -30 C temperatures — and every time from then on.

Make sure someone knows approximately when you're expect-

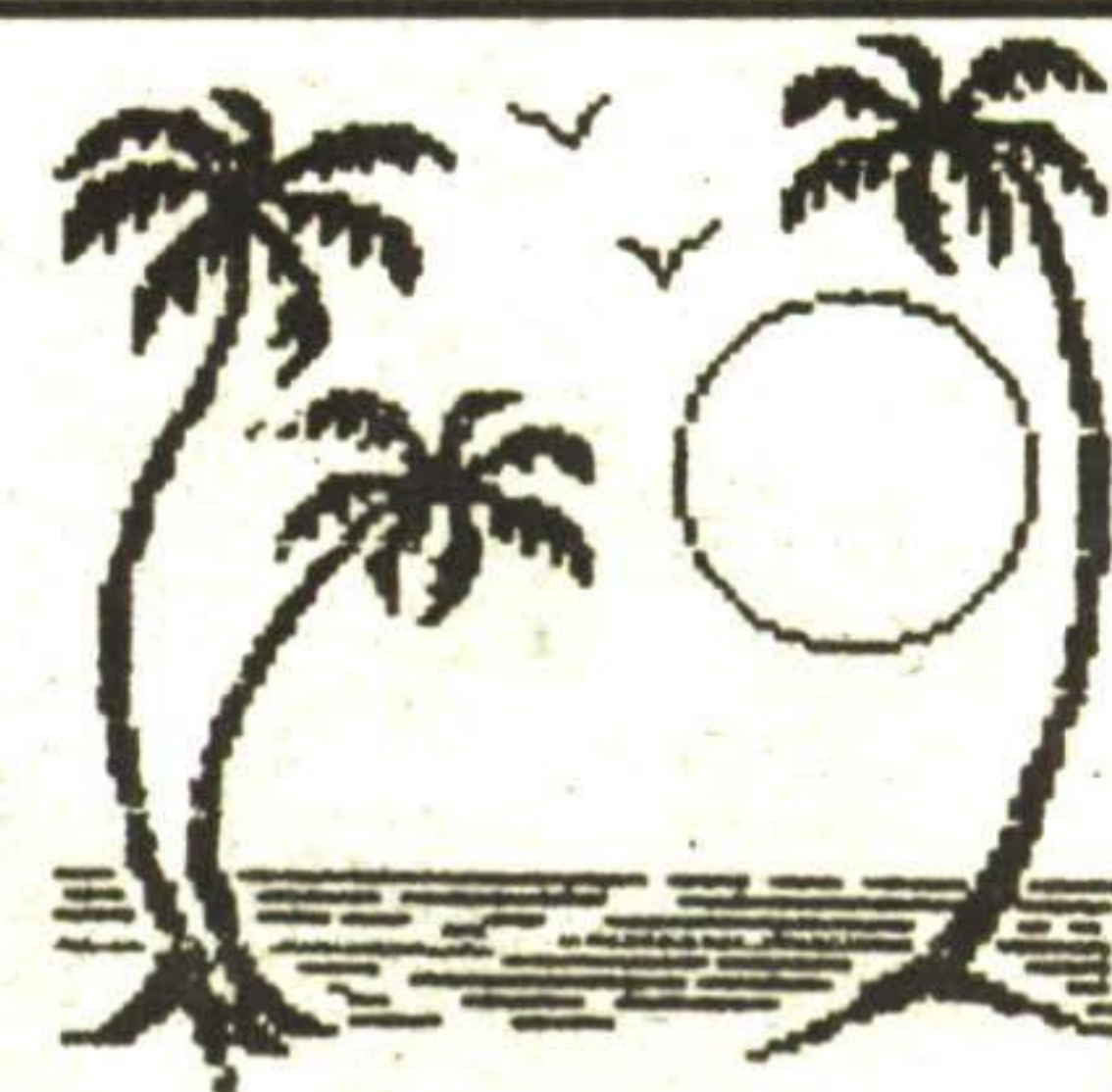
ed at your destination. Leave yourself lots of extra time. You'll probably need it.

Exercise caution when encountering plowing and sanding equipment as these operators are out providing a service usually in inclement weather conditions.

Call ahead for road conditions. The Ministry of Transportation operates a year-round service that provides a good description of road conditions wherever you might be going in Ontario. The local Toronto number is 416-235-1110.

Your local Ministry of Transportation offices will usually have detailed local information. In the 705 area, call 705-461-9523 or 1-800-461-9526. In the 807 area, call 1-800-465-5032.

A pamphlet thoroughly describing good winter driving practices is available at the Ministry of Transportation offices.



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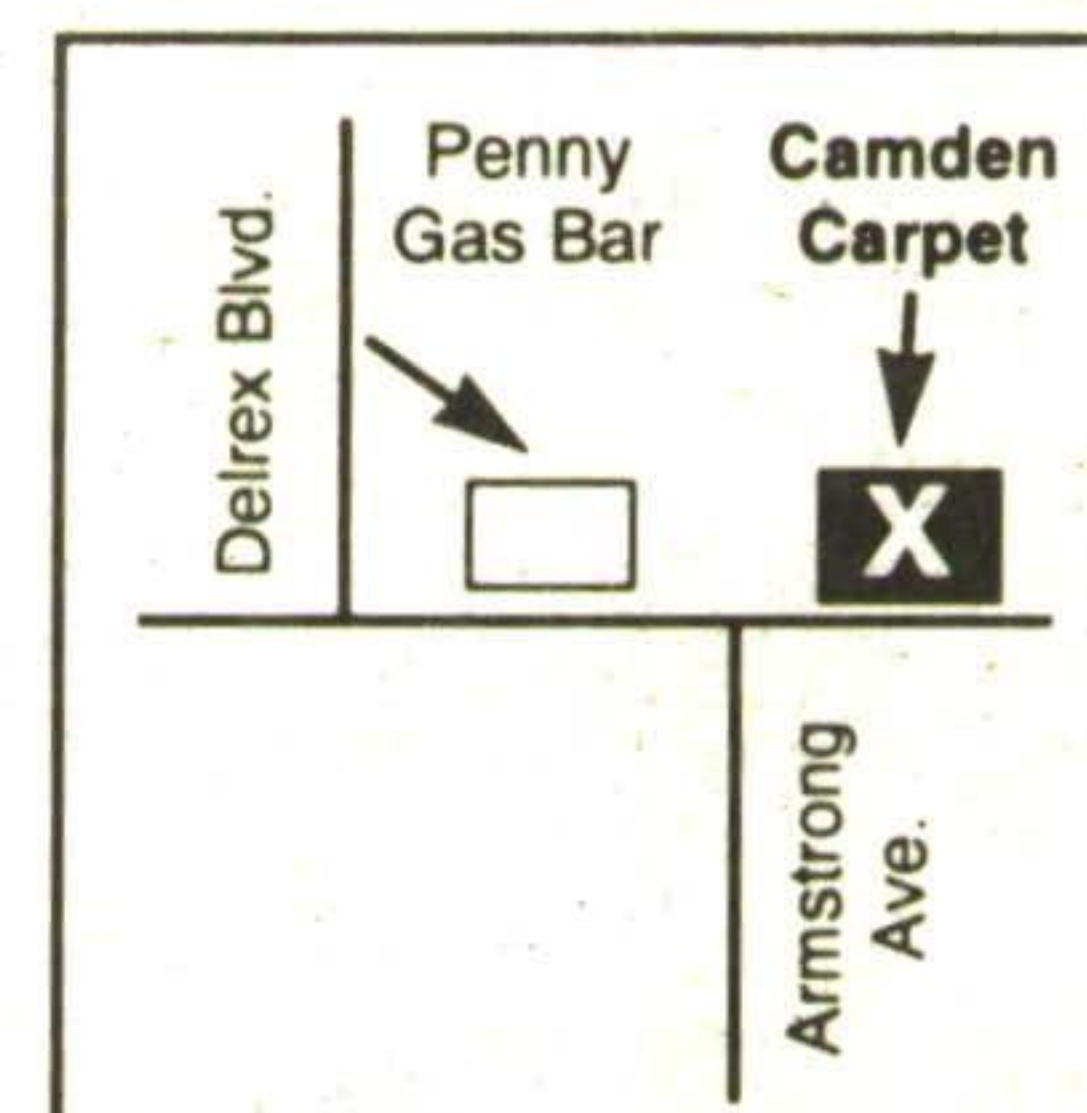
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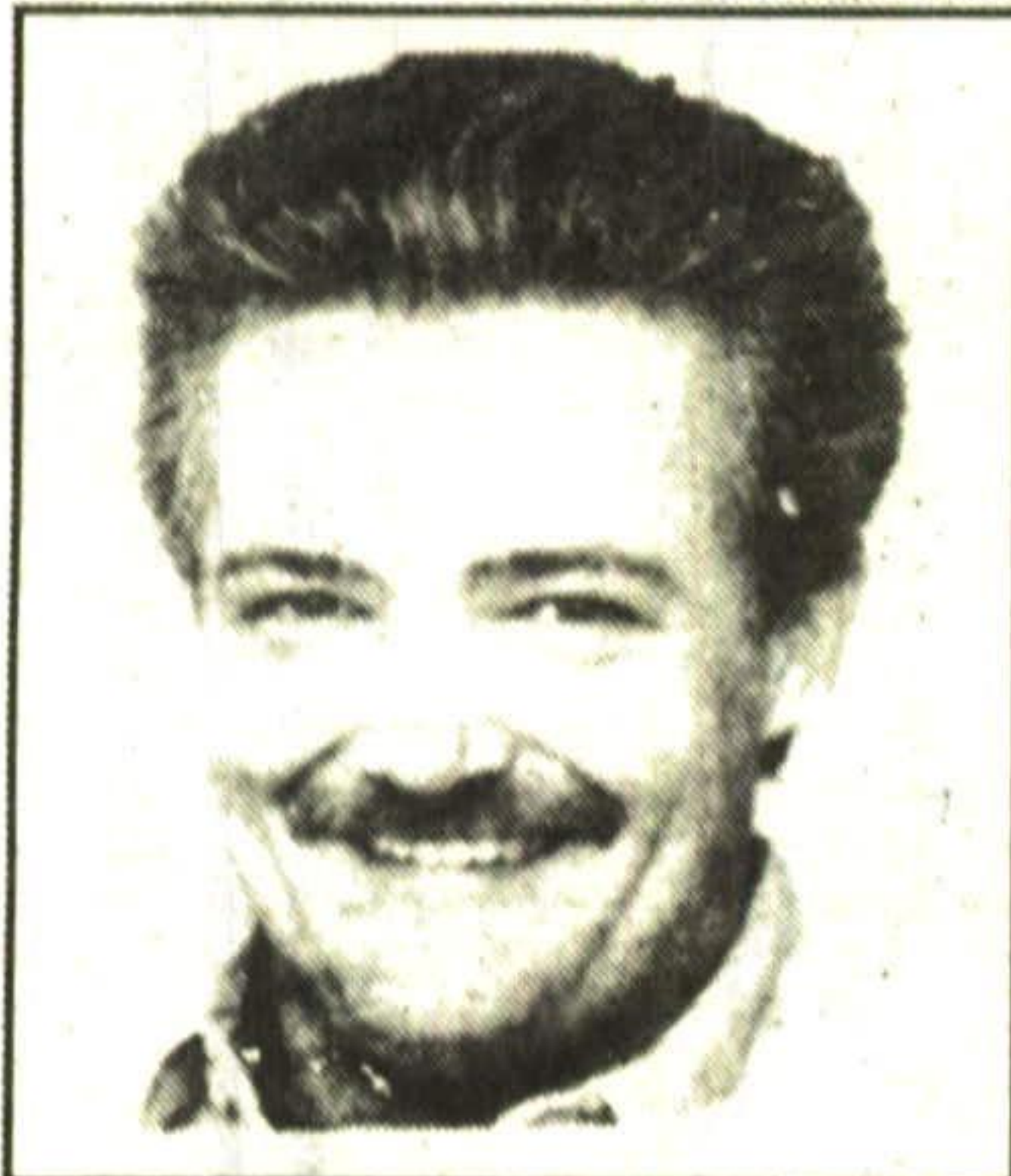
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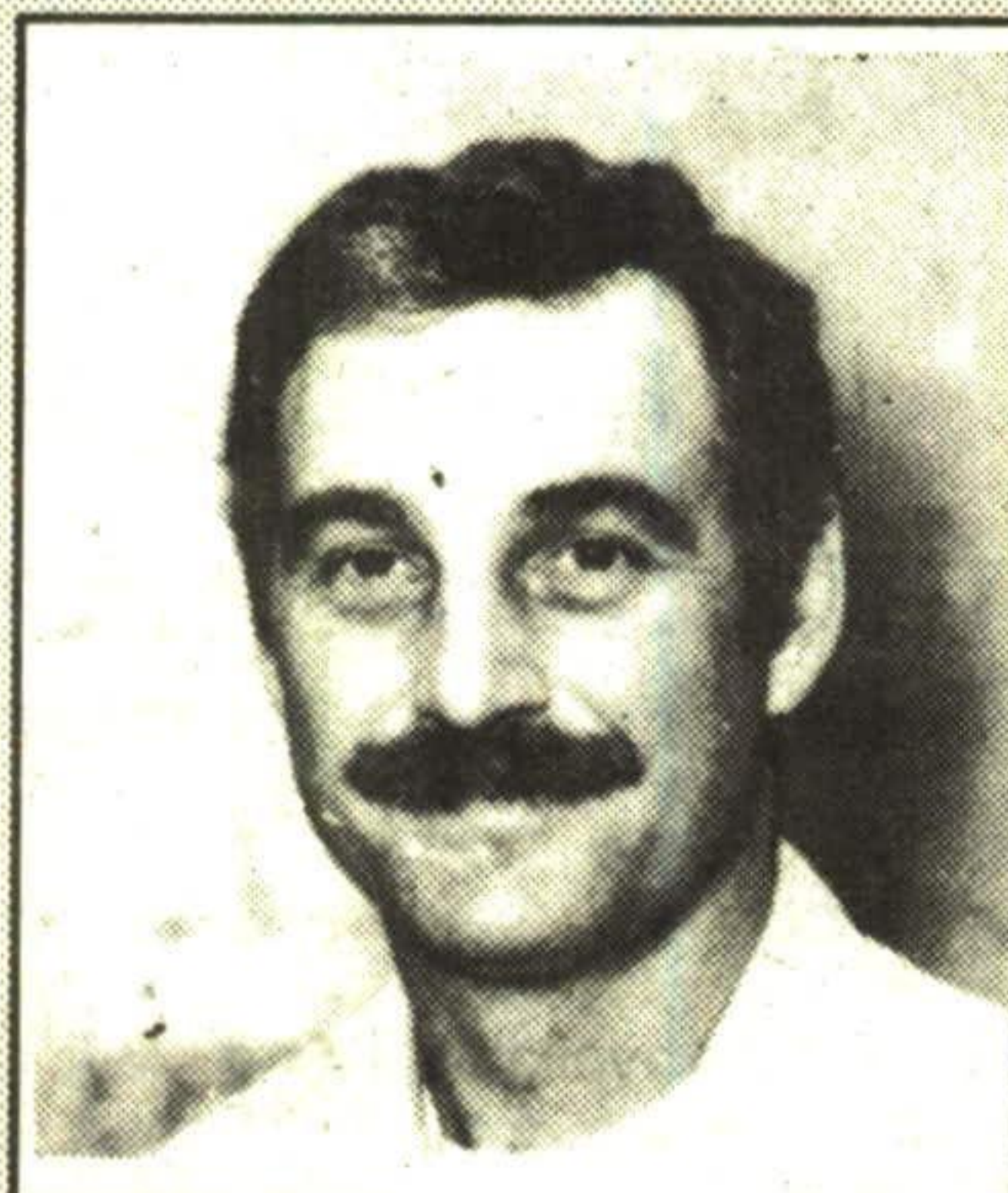


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