



Farm Service

Annual **OSPRINGE**
Open House

Saturday, May 25th ~ 9 am-4 pm

- Residential
- Commercial



Junction of
Hwy 24 & Hwy 25, Ospringe
(519) 833-9332 1-800-685-3835



It's time to enjoy that fenced-in feeling

Good fences do much more than just make good neighbours. They can also add curb appeal and value to your home.

For those who grew up with two kinds of fence— chain link and stockade— in their neighbourhood, you've got to see what the fencing industry has come up with these days. Designs, materials and prices have all changed over the last decade, resulting in attractive fencing for any purpose.

Before shopping for a fence, check all of your local municipal codes, and if you have a neighbourhood homeowners' association, they might have a few words on the matter. Usually there are set-back and height requirements, though there may be aesthetic or material limitations as well.

Next, figure out just what you want the fence to do. Is it strictly for beauty, or to keep toddlers in the yard, as well as your beagle? If you're thinking security, often a fence alone won't do the trick, and fences that neighbours can't see over can actually be a good thing for a burglar.

Finally, look at your home, and envision what kind of fence will complement or enhance its architectural design and color scheme. You wouldn't want a low cedar stockade around a Victorian-style home, for example.

Metal fences come pretty much in two styles, chain link and aluminum. Chain link makes a great backyard fence; it's durable, low cost and not too difficult to install yourself with the proper instructions and tools. It can even offer privacy with the addition of plastic slats, available in several different colors. Ornamental aluminum fencing is beautiful, long lasting, comes in lots of colors and styles ranging from contemporary to

antique...and is the most expensive (often as much as \$25 per foot installed). However, it will certainly add to the value of your home, and make the neighbors green with envy. They're terrific as whole yard fences, and are beautiful around pools.

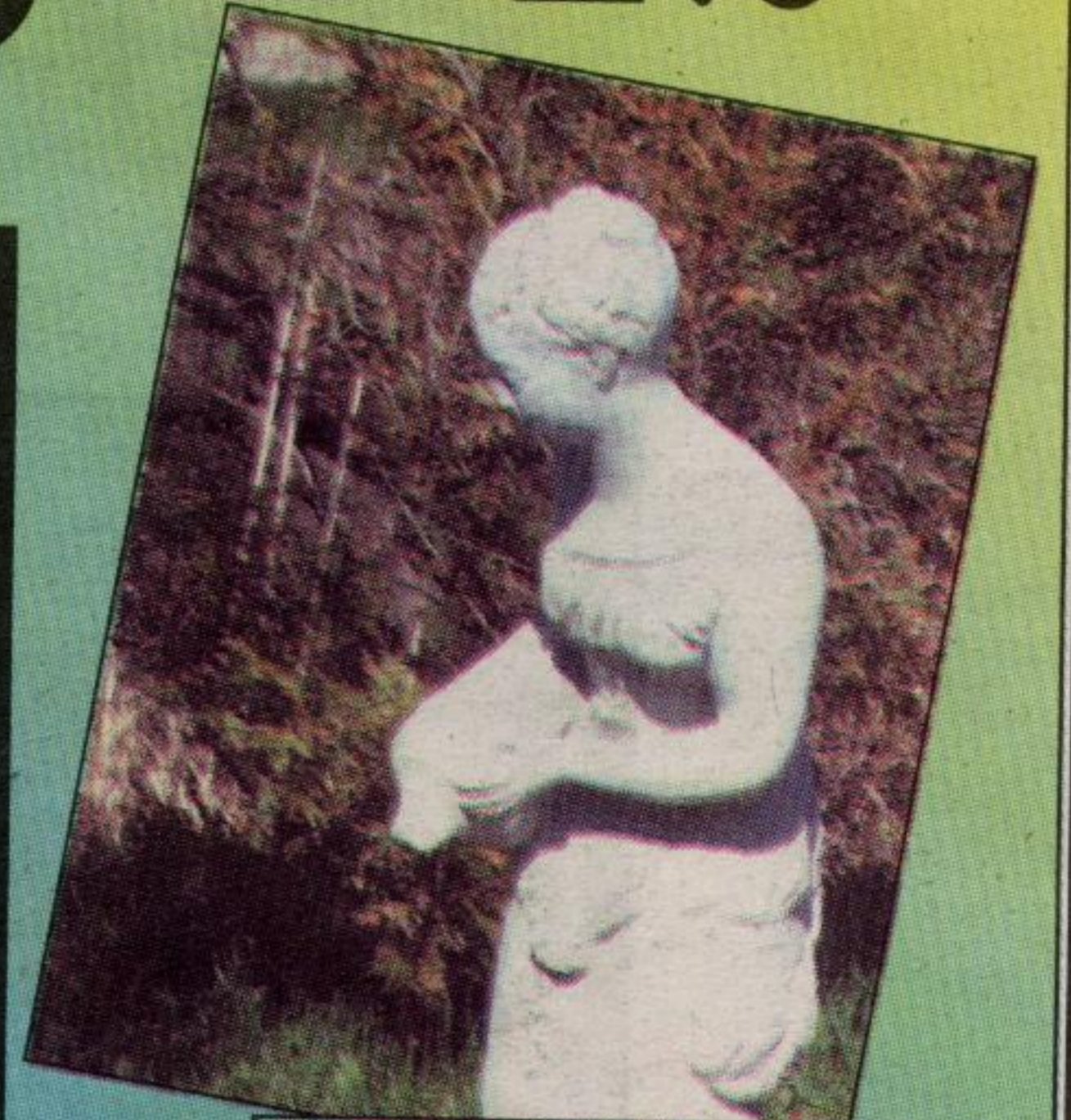
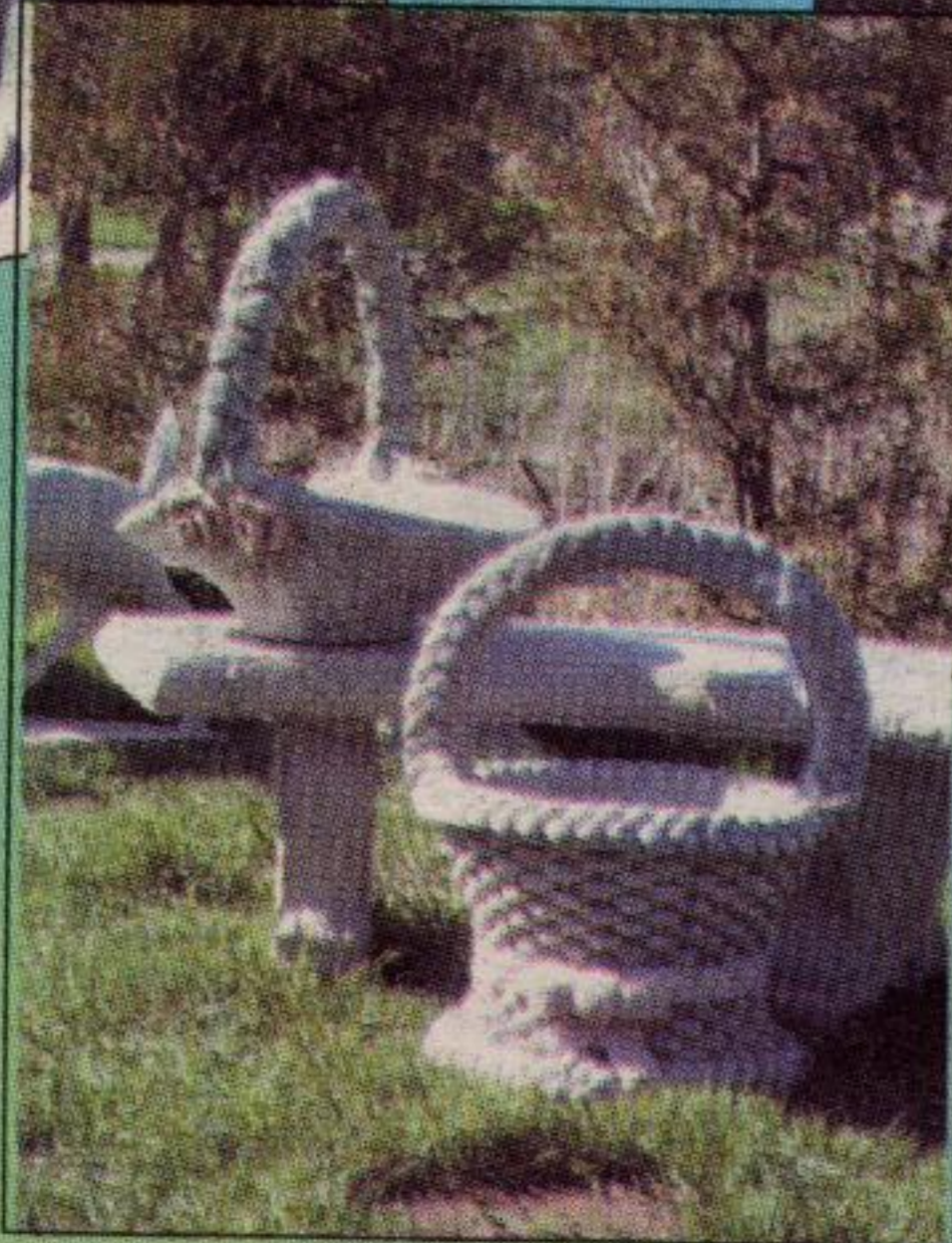
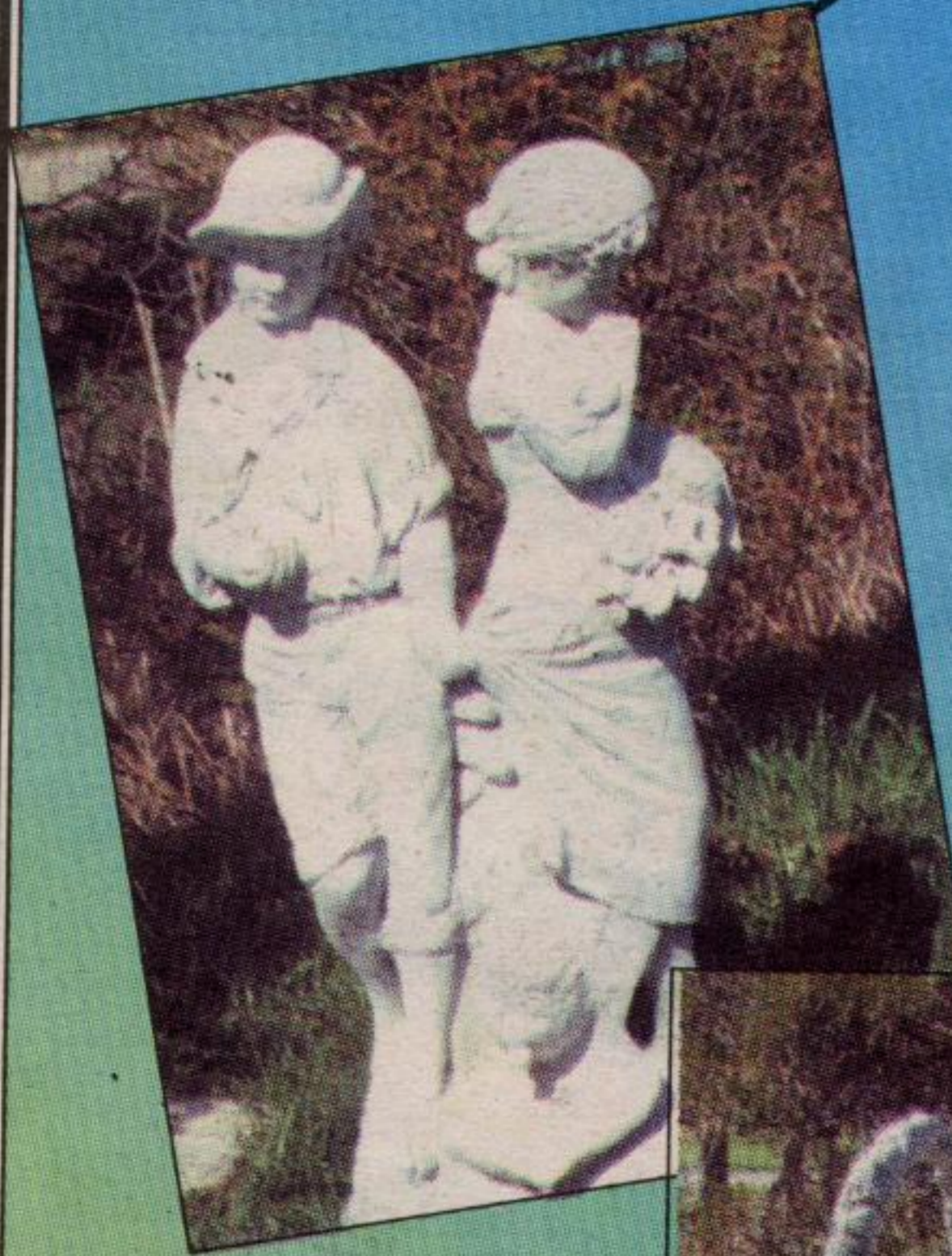
Vinyl fencing is a fast-growing segment of fencing sales, with good reason. Available in many styles and colors, it is affordable and easily installed if you can set the posts correctly. Most manufacturers offer warranties of 10 to 20 years, and in that time you'll never have to paint it. Practically every style of wood fencing is now recreated in vinyl, including ranch style, pickets and full privacy panels. Prices usually range from \$15-\$20 per foot for open styles.

For certain home styles, nothing but a wood fence will do. Actually, wood fences look just as great around a suburban ranch-style house as they do around a chalet-style home with a shake shingle roof. They're especially attractive on property with mature trees or next to wooded areas. They're sold as panels, pickets and rails, with some decorative pickets and lattice panels commonly offered.

Cedar and redwood are popular for their beauty and resistance to insects and disease, but are the most expensive natural materials. Pressure-treated wood (usually pine) is economical, and impregnated with chemicals to repel insects and molds. Fairly durable, it will stay looking nice for years with reapplications of water-resistant stain. Untreated woods are fine for those who don't mind the staining process more frequently, or who can cope with replacing deteriorating boards from time to time.

—By Daniel Aspell, special

Mother's Day Sale May 4-12



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