

Editorial

Right must unite

For those who lean to the right of the political spectrum, Christmas may come two weeks early this year in the form of a ratification vote which would see the federal Progressive Conservative Party unite with the Canadian Alliance Party.

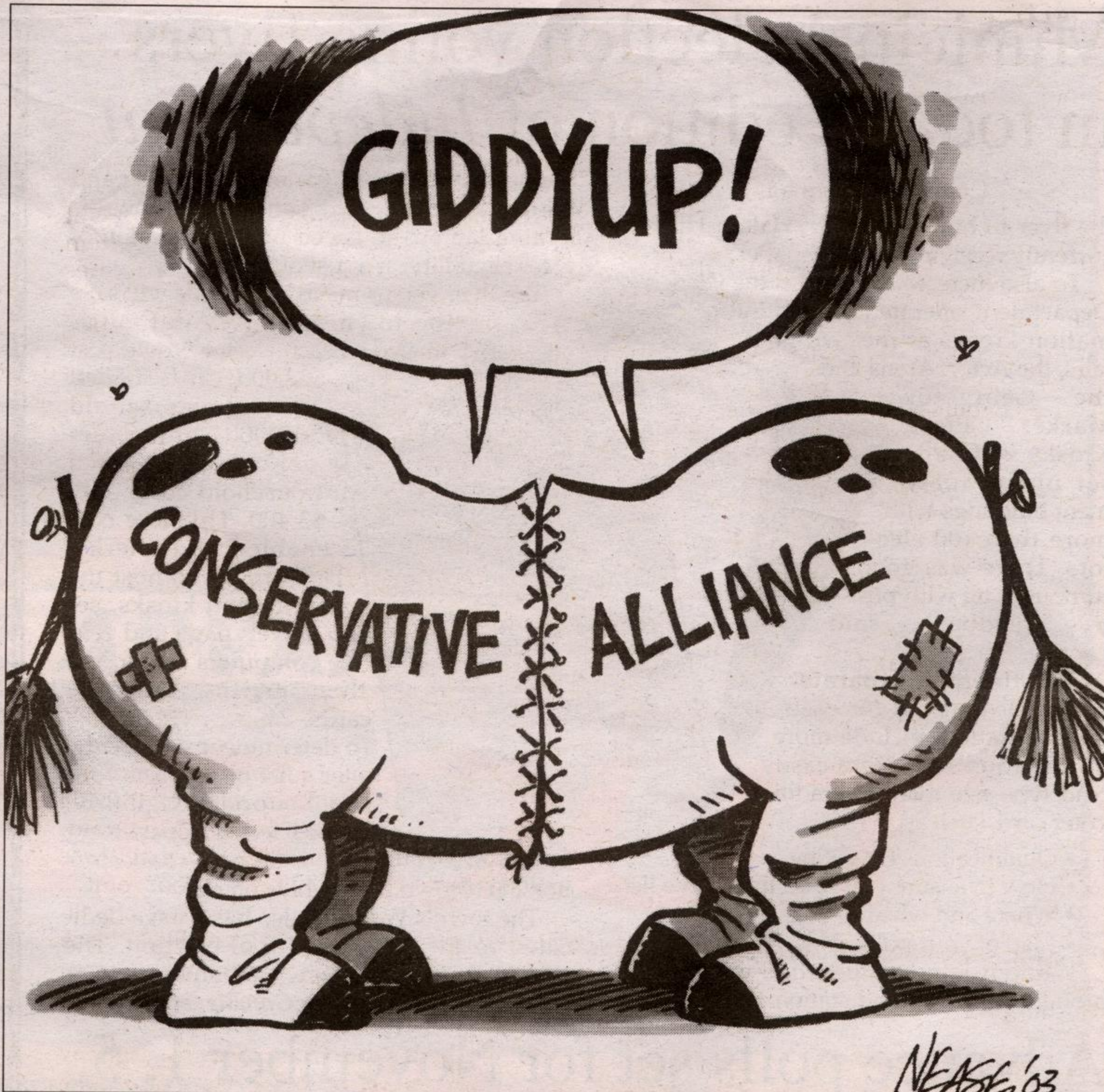
In what has been a bitter 16-year feud, the two parties— led by Tory Peter McKay and the Alliance's Stephen Harper— announced yesterday a tentative deal for a unified party had been reached and would be put before grassroots members of both parties for a Dec. 12 ratification vote. PC members must okay the plan with a two-thirds majority while Alliance supporters need only a simple majority.

While there are some— particularly those in the PC party— who do not favour a merger, it is hoped they will soon recognize what has been blatantly obvious to observers for years— that a non-united right wing is doomed forever to political failure.

A splintered right wing has allowed an arrogant federal Liberal Party to run this country virtually unchallenged for more than a decade. True, spirited opposition is a cornerstone in any democracy but has been sorely lacking in Canada since the Tories disintegrated after the Brian Mulroney era.

With PM-in-waiting Paul Martin expected to call a federal election next year, time is of the essence for both right-wing parties to ratify this deal and select a leader (expected March 21) before we head to the polls.

Vote-rich Ontario will undoubtedly be the prize in the election and perhaps a rejuvenated Conservative Party of Canada will succeed where the Reform and Alliance failed— to convince Ontarians there is an alternative to the Liberals.



Letters to the editor...

Senior finds people funny...but not always

Dear editor,

I am a senior and have lived in Georgetown for 35 years and find it a great town to live in, but there

are some who do not feel this way.

There are the litterbugs who toss their empty coffee cups etc. out the car window. The ones who put their newspapers out on garbage day and don't bother to tie them or bag them and as a result they often end upon someone's lawn. The ones who have a little drink and toss the empty beer bottle or can wherever.

The ones who walk their dogs and don't bother to clean up after them, also the ones who let the dog wander in on someone's front lawn and urinate against their shrubs.

The ones who put up garage sale notices and never bother to gather them after the sale is over.

The ones with a shopping cart full of groceries and a couple small children who walk beside the yellow crossing lines instead of in them when they are there for their convenience and safety.

It's also surprising how many nice new cars have no signals

when they are making a turn.

Recently I drove through the mall parking lot and there was someone standing in the middle of the road talking on his cell phone. I waited and finally beeped the horn. He walked slowing away but turned and gave me the finger.

Yes people are funny, but not always.

Ethel McEachern,
Georgetown

More letters page 7

Parking woes downtown

Dear editor,

Do you—or do you not— want to encourage people to visit lovely downtown Georgetown? The question is fast becoming no longer a moot point.

The parking downtown has become a much greater problem since half the parking has been removed from the Mill Street location— and replaced with paid parking.

It is no fun driving all over town trying to find a place to park and if it happens to me many more times, I shall simply have to consider going elsewhere.

Marian Ritchie, Georgetown

Council ignored road conditions for sake of re-election

Dear editor,

Re: surtax for road repairs

The message from the Town of Halton Hills and council is pay now or pay more later. Too bad they didn't tell us that when they managed to hold property taxes at a ZERO per cent increase for a number of years and were extremely proud of that feat.

Those repairs could have been done over the last 10 years at a cheaper rate than over the next five years.

Obviously councillors don't drive over the same roads I do or they would have noticed the terrible conditions. But let us not forget that they wanted to get re-elected term after term and a tax increase was bad news.

Too bad they can't be held legally responsible for unnecessary or early repairs to our vehicles.

Michael James, Glen Williams

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor must be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Unsigned letters will not be published. Letters should not exceed 200 words and may be edited.

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