

# Man found guilty in car crash that killed Acton man last year

A repeat drunk driver has been found guilty of causing the death of a 20-year-old in a motor vehicle crash. The decision came on what would have been the victim's 22nd birthday.

"This is not how I wanted to spend Allen's birthday," said Tineke Douglas yesterday as she planted flowers at the crash scene near Morriston while waiting for the verdict.

Her 20-year-old son, Allen Vryenhoek, died of massive injuries when his small Ford Escort was struck July 27, 2003, by a pickup truck driven by Guelph man Roland Page, 48, on Concession 7 in Puslinch Township. Page later registered more than twice the legal limit of alcohol in his system. Page faced a charge of impaired driving causing death.

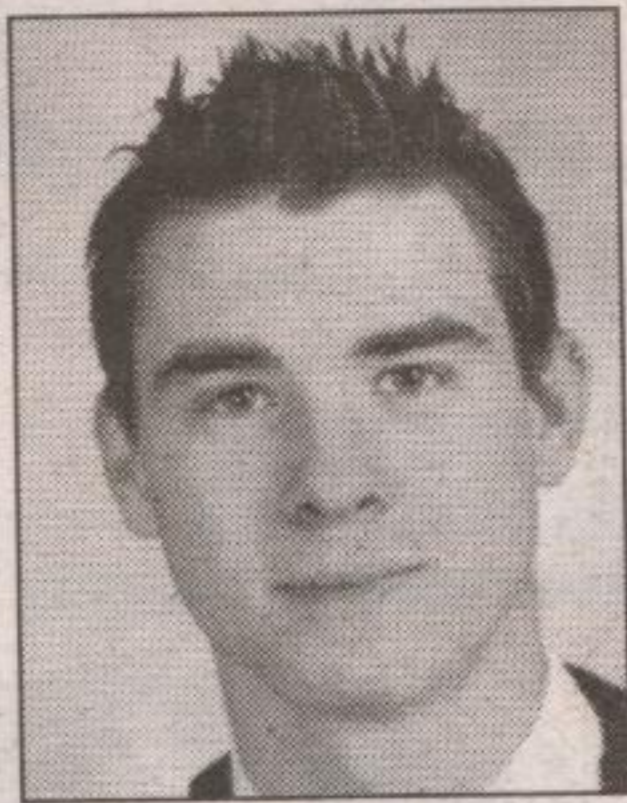
After a three-day trial at Guelph's Superior Court, Justice Cas Herold ruled that "the only reasonable explanation" for the collision was that it was caused by Page's significant impairment by alcohol.

He rejected the argument by defence lawyer Gerry Punnett that the Crown had not proven his client caused the accident. Punnett had said in court there were no measurements proving that Page crossed the centre of the road into Vryenhoek's path.

"Just because an accident occurred doesn't mean that the accused person, because he's been drinking, is guilty," said Punnett.

Herold said it is well known that on dark country roads drivers can see the lights from the headlights of approaching drivers, even when there are hills obstructing visibility, and a reasonably prudent driver would be prepared to take evasive action.

Herold also found Page guilty of driving with more than the legal limit of alcohol in his system



**ALLEN VRYENHOEK**  
Killed by a drunk driver

and impaired driving causing bodily harm to Janice Bott, Page's fiance and a passenger in the pickup. She sustained serious leg and facial injuries when she was thrown into the windshield.

Herold allowed Page to remain free on bail so he could "arrange his affairs" prior to sentencing on Nov. 26.

Vryenhoek's mother said after court that she was relieved at the guilty verdict, but shocked that Page was not taken away in handcuffs.

"I do not understand the law. He can still drive drunk for six weeks and kill someone," she said.

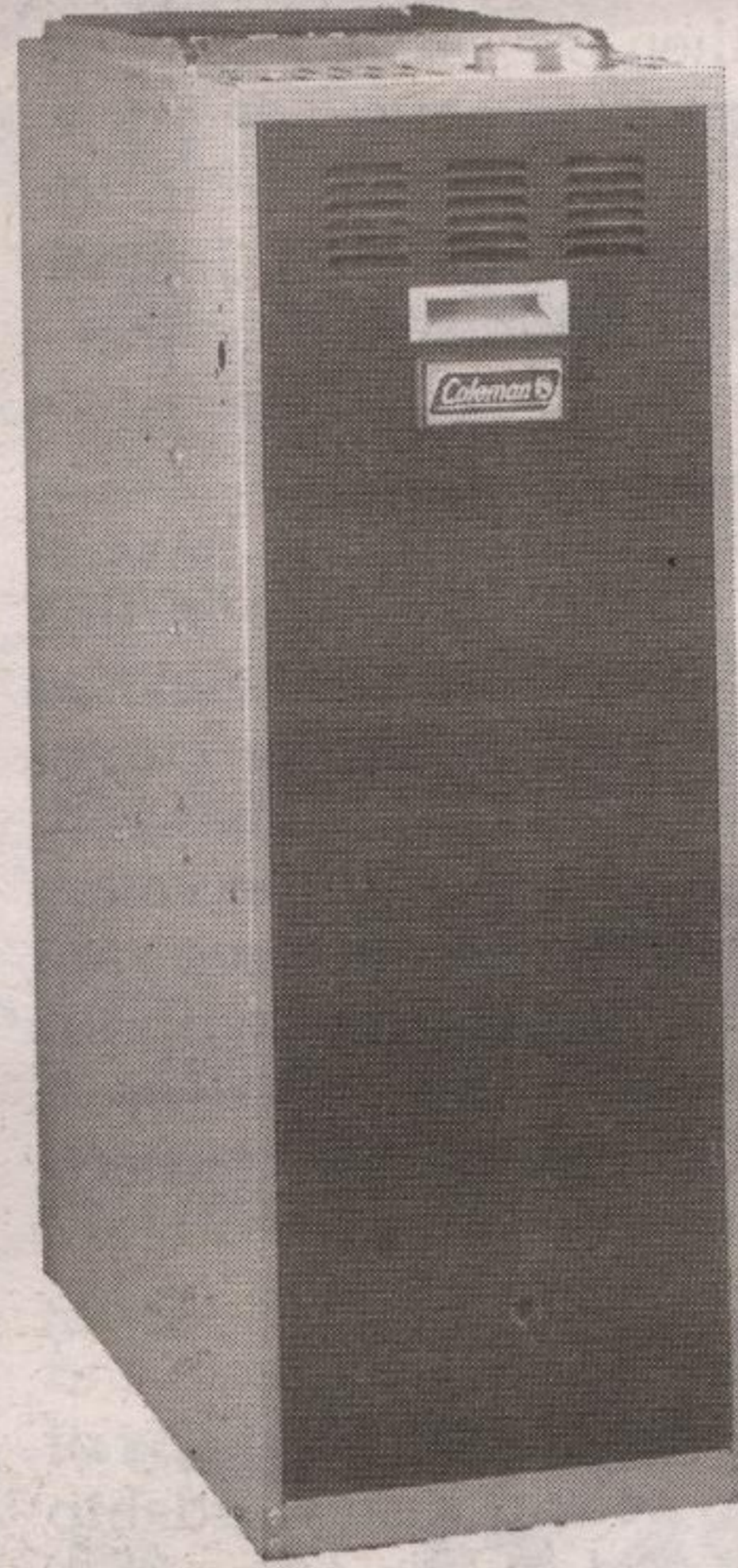
Assistant Crown attorney Steve Hamilton said after court he will be asking for a significant penitentiary sentence. Punnett said yesterday an appeal of the conviction is not being considered.

After court yesterday, Stephanie Dooley of the Halton chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving said she hopes the judge will impose at least four to six years in prison. "There's a lot of cases getting a slap on the wrist these days with community service and house arrest," said Dooley.

Amy McBride, a 16-year-old air cadet from Acton, was in tears in court yesterday as she listened to the closing submissions from Punnett and Hamilton. She met Vryenhoek when she was 12 and he picked her as his partner in air cadets.

See FAMILY, pg. 11

## WILL YOUR FURNACE LAST ANOTHER WINTER?



Replace it now and receive a factory system rebate of up to \$650.00

- Lifetime Warranty
- Up to 96% Efficiency
- Ultra quiet operation
- DC motor saves you \$200-\$300 per year in electricity costs

Call now for your furnace & fireplace maintenance  
• Qualified mechanics • Quality Workmanship



**APPLEBY SYSTEMS 877-8990**

Fireplace, Heating & Air Conditioning Sales & Service  
118 Guelph St. Georgetown (at Maple)

Hours: Monday - Friday 9-5; Saturday 11-4; Appointments available after hours upon request

## REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

### RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (RRAP)

#### CMHC Financial Assistance for Landlords in Ontario

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) is providing an opportunity for Landlords under the Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP).

Limited funds are available in 2004 to repair or rehabilitate a rental or roominghouse property to a minimum level of health and safety or to convert non-residential properties into affordable rental or roominghouse accommodations.

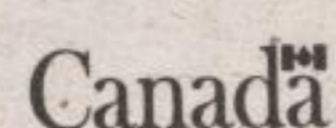


Landlords must submit applications by **4:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, October 25, 2004**. Applications received after this time will not be considered.

To obtain an application package:  
**Call: 1-800-704-6488 or e-mail: rrap\_ontario@cmhc-schl.gc.ca**



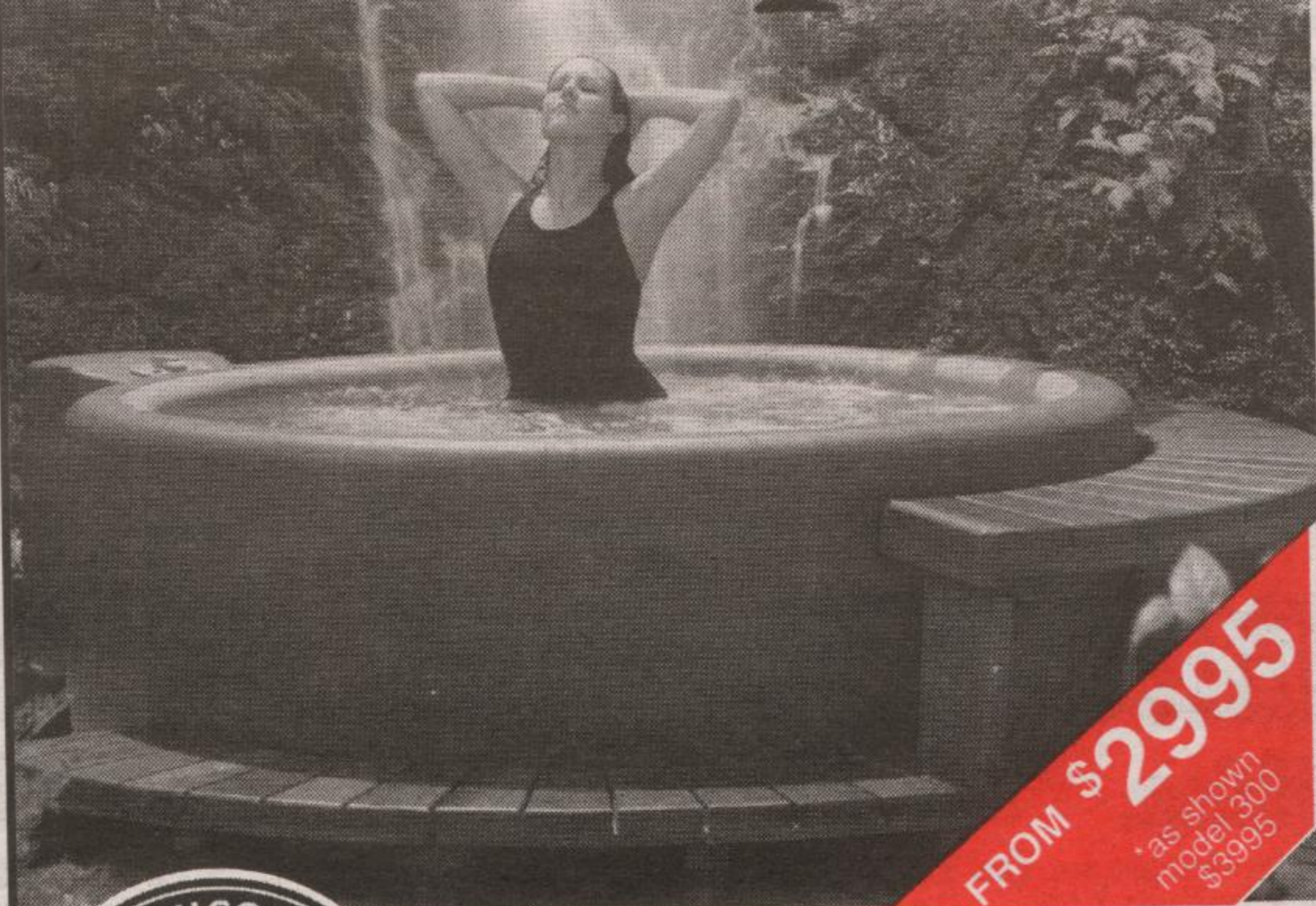
Please note: Application submission does not guarantee financial assistance.



# Just add water. Escape.

**\$300 INSTANT REBATE**

- Easy set-up
- Inexpensive to operate
- Truly portable
- Extremely durable
- 5 year limited warranty



FROM \$2995  
\*as shown model 300 \$3995



## BEACHCOMBER HOT TUB & HOME

318 Guelph Street **Georgetown** 905.873.8835

HOURS: Mon- Fri. 10 am - 6 pm; Sat. 10 am - 5 pm; Sun. 11 am - 4 pm

**Softub**  
www.softubcanada.com



HOT TUBS | GAS GRILLS | POOL TABLES | PATIO FURNITURE | POOL SUPPLIES | SAUNAS