



# Champion COMMUNITY Page



## Report card is in for municipal councillors

By **BRAD REAUME**  
*The Champion*

With municipal elections right around the corner, and the current Milton town council's tenure at an end, it's time to review their performance.

It is important to note that councillors do, or at least are supposed to do, much of their work outside council chambers.

It's also worth noting that those who don't perform well at council have been known to use their extracurricular efforts as an excuse.

In the end the real judgment is made at the polls every three years. This year's election is slated for Monday, November 10.

**Colin Best**

Mr. Best has taken steps to improve his image as the poster child for tardiness. Still spread a little too thin, given his interest in numerous community committees, Mr. Best seems unable to drive the agenda despite good ideas and a very open mind.

However he is good at ferreting out the seemingly minor but ultimately important details. His constituents love him because of his personal involvement. He is a team player at council.

**Gerry Brooks**

The councillor from Campbellville constantly rises on "a point of clarification" but those clarifications never seem to lead anywhere. Mr. Brooks is almost always swimming against the current at council.

Sometimes this serves to highlight the differences between Milton's various factions. Other times it opens necessary debate on important issues, which many councillors seem content to duck.

**John Challinor**

Mr. Challinor usually drives the agenda. On a council devoid of true leaders he is perhaps the closest thing. However, a born bureaucrat, Mr. Challinor's furious and prolific letter writing binges cloud issues as often as they illuminate.

Mr. Challinor is not above carrying long-last-

ing grudges and bringing party politics into the council chambers.

**Rick Day**

As an Oakville horse trader in the court of Krantz, Mr. Day is something of an outsider. Despite his long, long service as a councillor he appears remarkably youthful, a political Dorian Gray.

Mr. Day is plain spoken, impolitic and as entertaining as he is correct. Railing against big government, he provides council with a benchmark of what they wish to say and how not to say it.

**Ron Furik**

Ron Who? Mr. Furik is a one-issue councillor. He is keenly interested in recreation and leisure issues but merely fills a seat for most other discussions. He seems a man capable of more, but content to let others do the talking.

**Marion Howard**

A study in screaming diplomatically, Ms Howard tilted against the system, her colleagues and bureaucrats from inside the figurative beltway, although rarely speaking as plainly as she clearly would have liked to.

Her considerable talents were largely ignored by council, to the loss of the citizens of Milton. Ms Howard's perspective, combined with Mr. Day's chutzpah, would probably have made for the best politician in Halton.

**Wally Hunter**

Perhaps the brightest light on council. Mr. Hunter is capable, concerned and able to cut through the clutter. His political and negotiation skills are still developing but already he carries the ball on sev-

eral important issues. Despite his youth and lack of experience, he's the man.

**Gord Krantz**

Mayor Krantz presides like a medieval English mayor. He's a great master of ceremonies and keeper of the flame, however, many and ever more vocal are those questioning his leadership abilities.

The mayor has managed to keep growth issues on the table while not completely alienating business interests, a considerable task that is nearly complete.

**Barry Lee**

Regional councillor for Milton's rural constituency, Mr. Lee's local performance is the antithesis of his regional one. Quiet at regional council because his constituency is perhaps the farthest removed from issues and concerns, Mr. Lee is quick to immerse himself in local debate and capable of substantial insight.

**Art Melanson**

Apparently, Milton council has 11 members, although a casual observer could perhaps be forgiven for thinking there are only 10.

Mr. Melanson is like a fog; he's there, but not fully tangible. He only rises to commend business initiatives, but seems unconcerned with balancing business and public interests.

**Brian Penman**

Mr. Penman can always be counted on to provide balance, insight and fresh thinking.

A potentially invaluable member of council, he has his hand in so many other pies one has to wonder why he bothers with town council.

He has become less vocal in recent years, and has taken to pithy commentary on issues, rather

than offering substantive ideas. However, given his experience, observers can take some comfort that if pushed by serious problems, he would probably apply himself to their resolution.

### Here's the list

Final nominations for candidates in the November 10 municipal election were filed last week and now the stage is set.

The candidates are (acclaimed candidates in bold):

Mayor — Colin Best, Gordon Krantz

Ward 1 and 3 regional councillor — Gerry Brooks, Barry Lee

Ward 2 and 4 regional councillor — **Rick Malboeuf**

Ward 1 local councillor (two to be elected) — **Rick Day, Brian Penman**

Ward 2 local councillor (two to be elected) — **Wally Hunter, Art Melanson, Frank Wilson**

Ward 3 local councillor (two to be elected) — **Joe DiPalma, Lieven Gevaert, Irene Grier, Cindy Lunau, Frank John Wilson**

Ward 4 local councillor (two to be elected) — **John Challinor, Ron Furik**

Ward 1 hydro commissioner — **Sharon Barkley**

Ward 2 hydro commissioner — Sherry Mehlenbacher, Bill Rowney

Ward 3 hydro commissioner — **Murray Inglis**

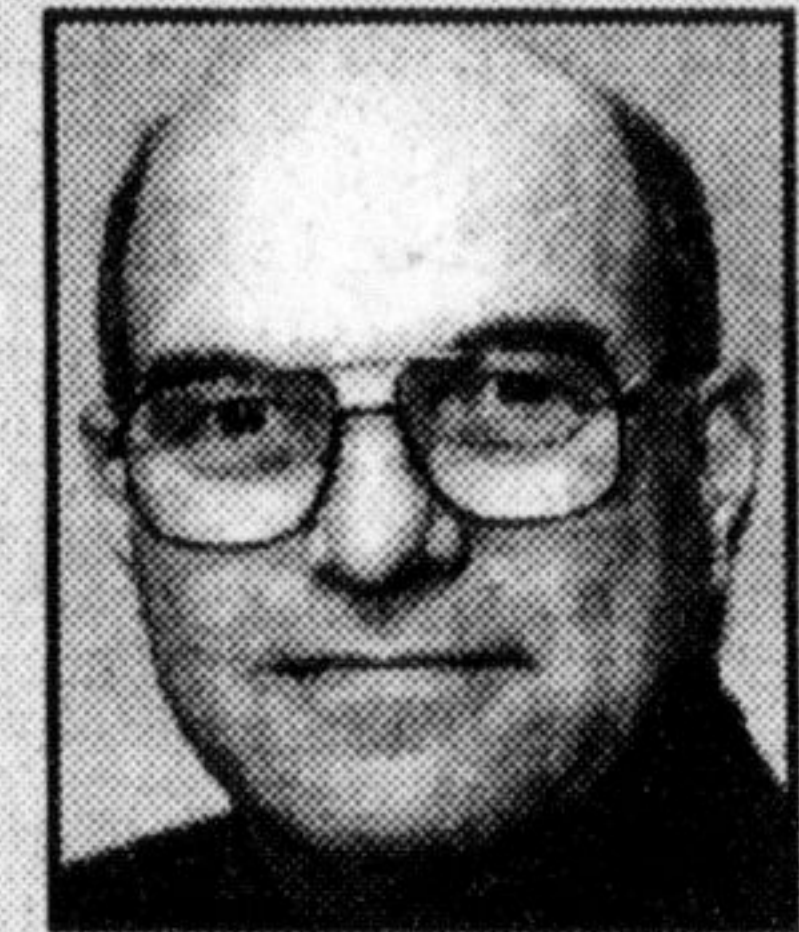
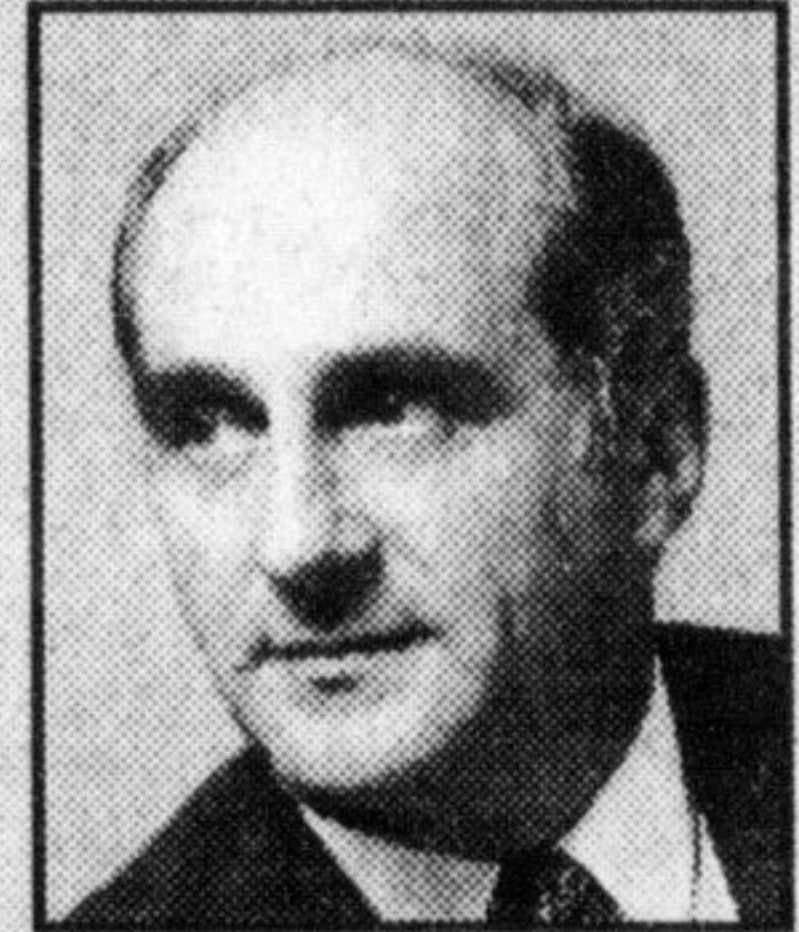
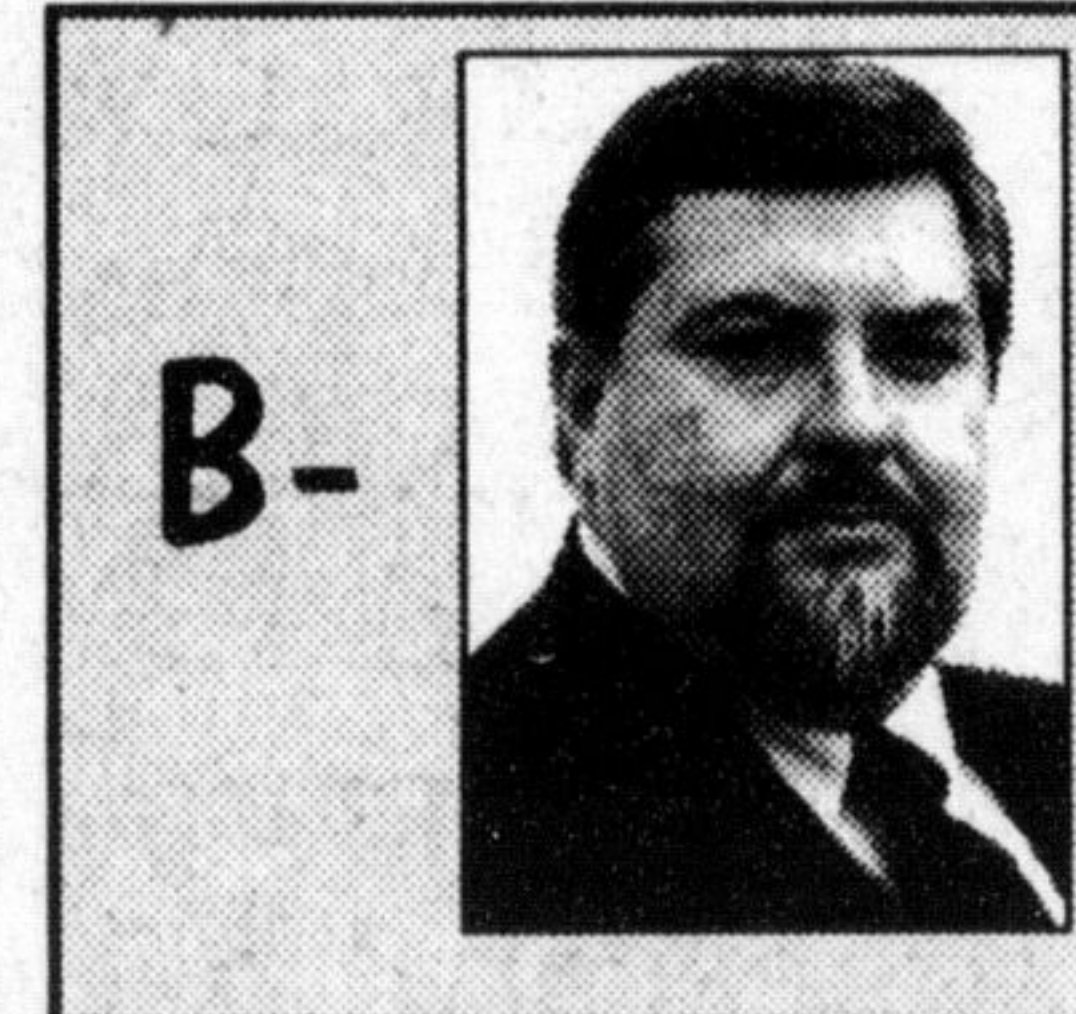
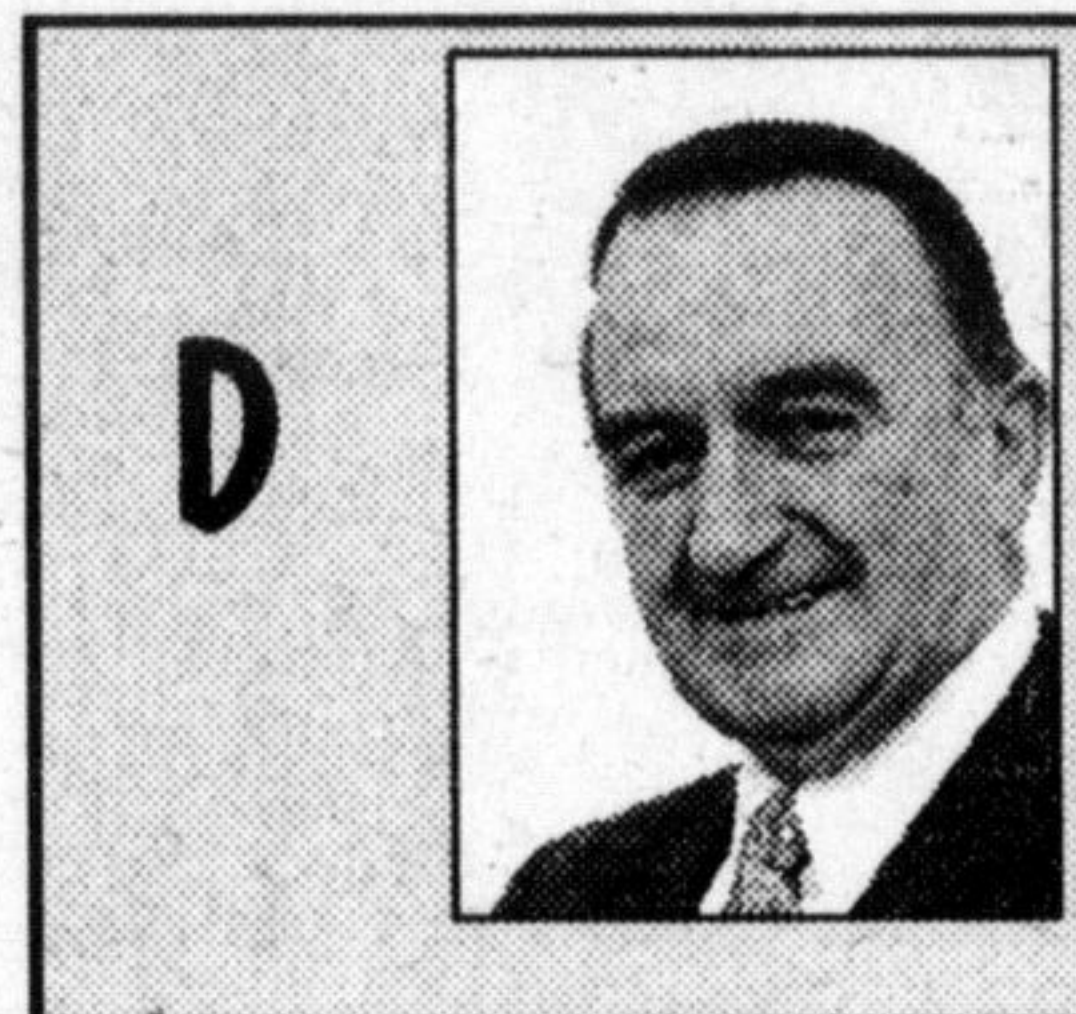
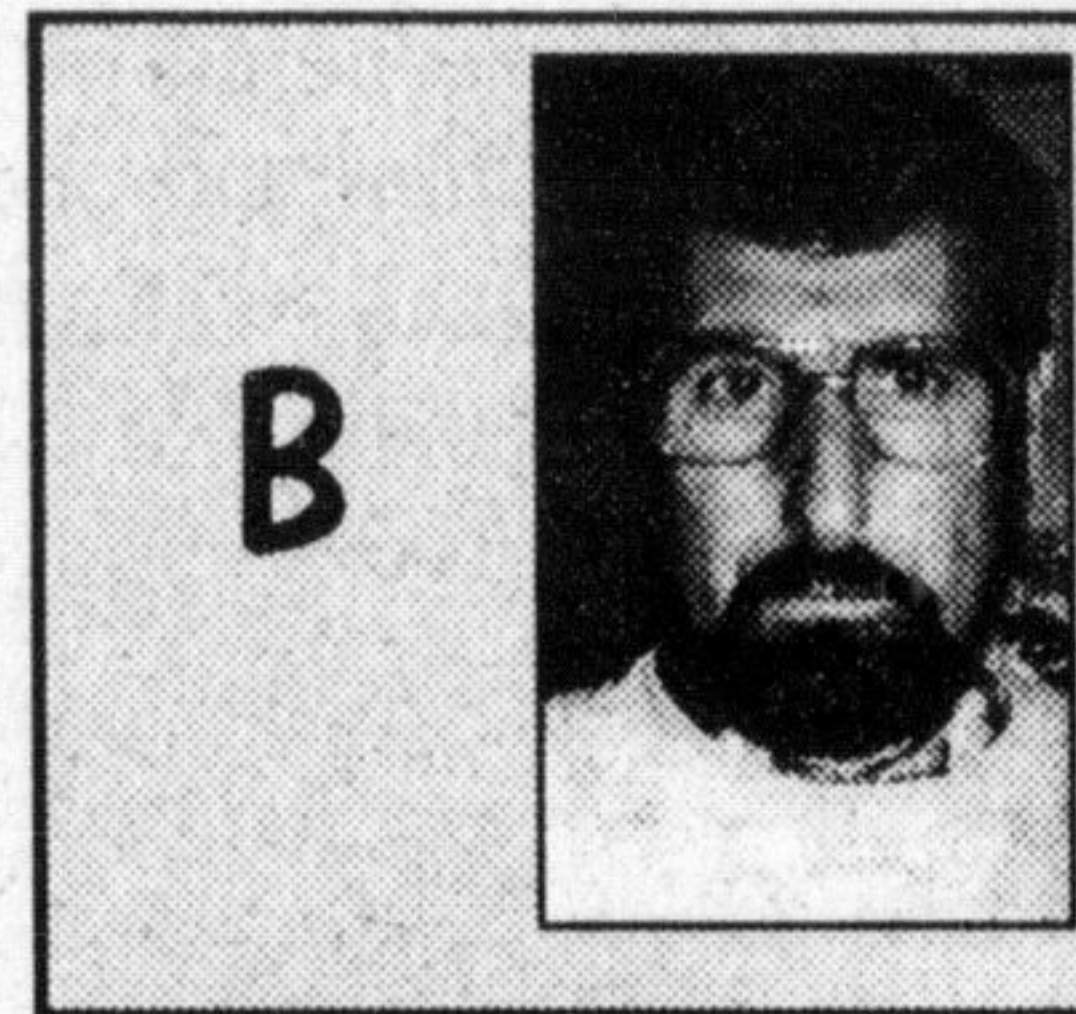
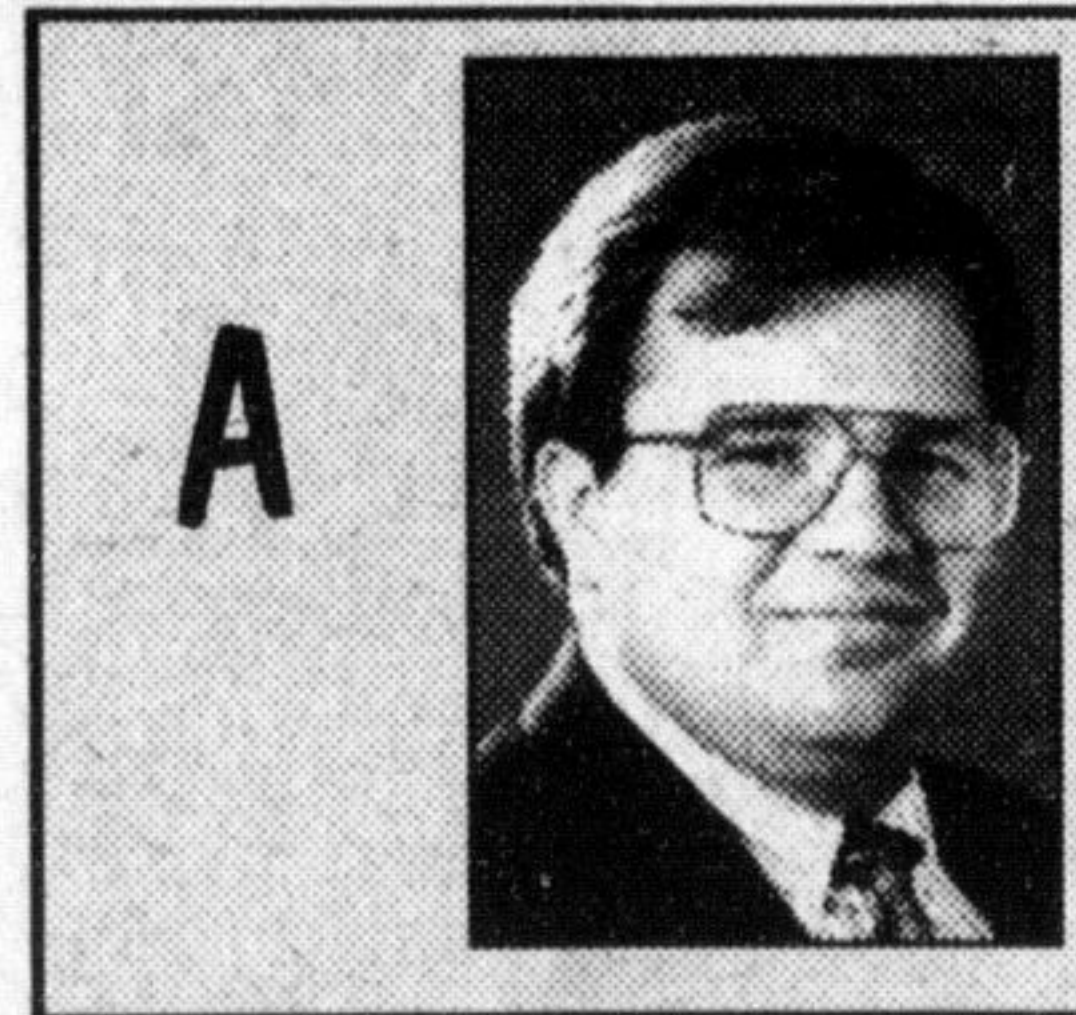
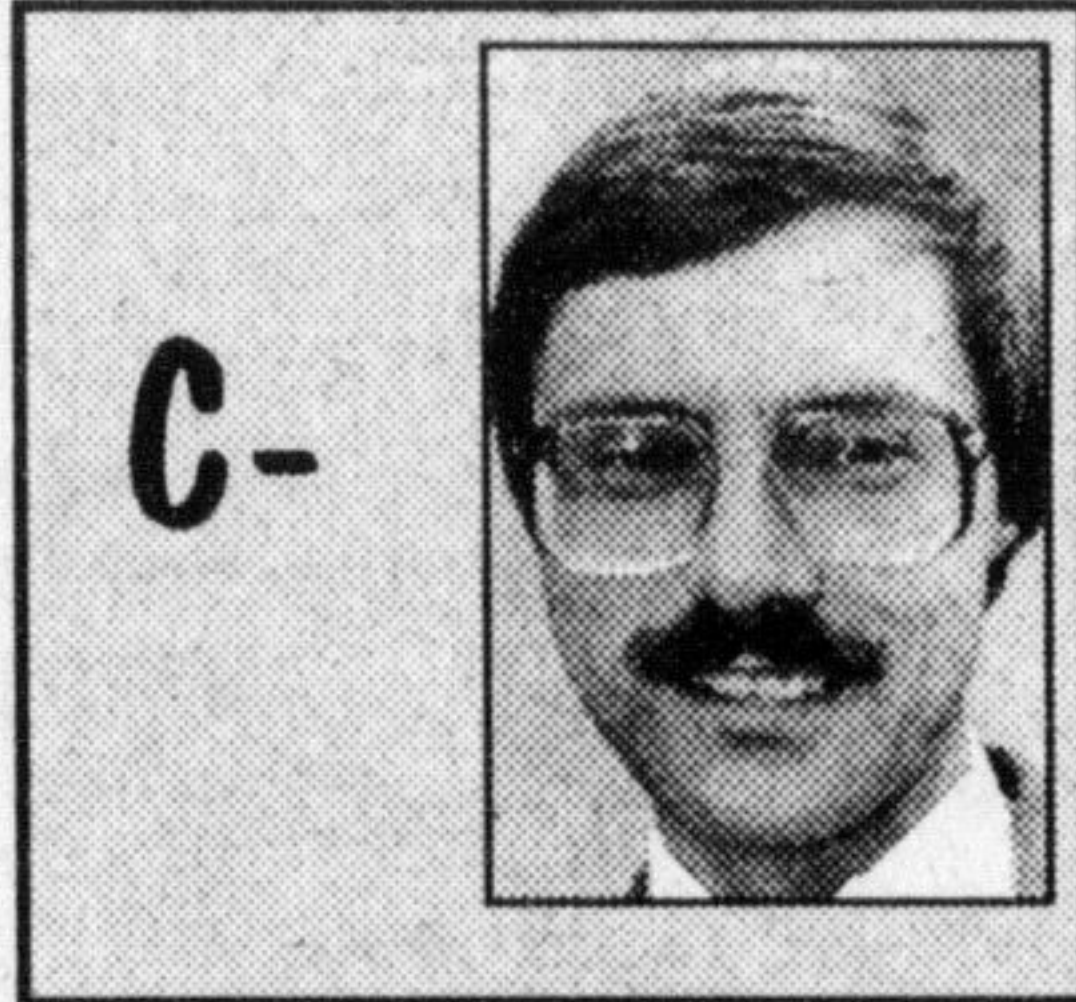
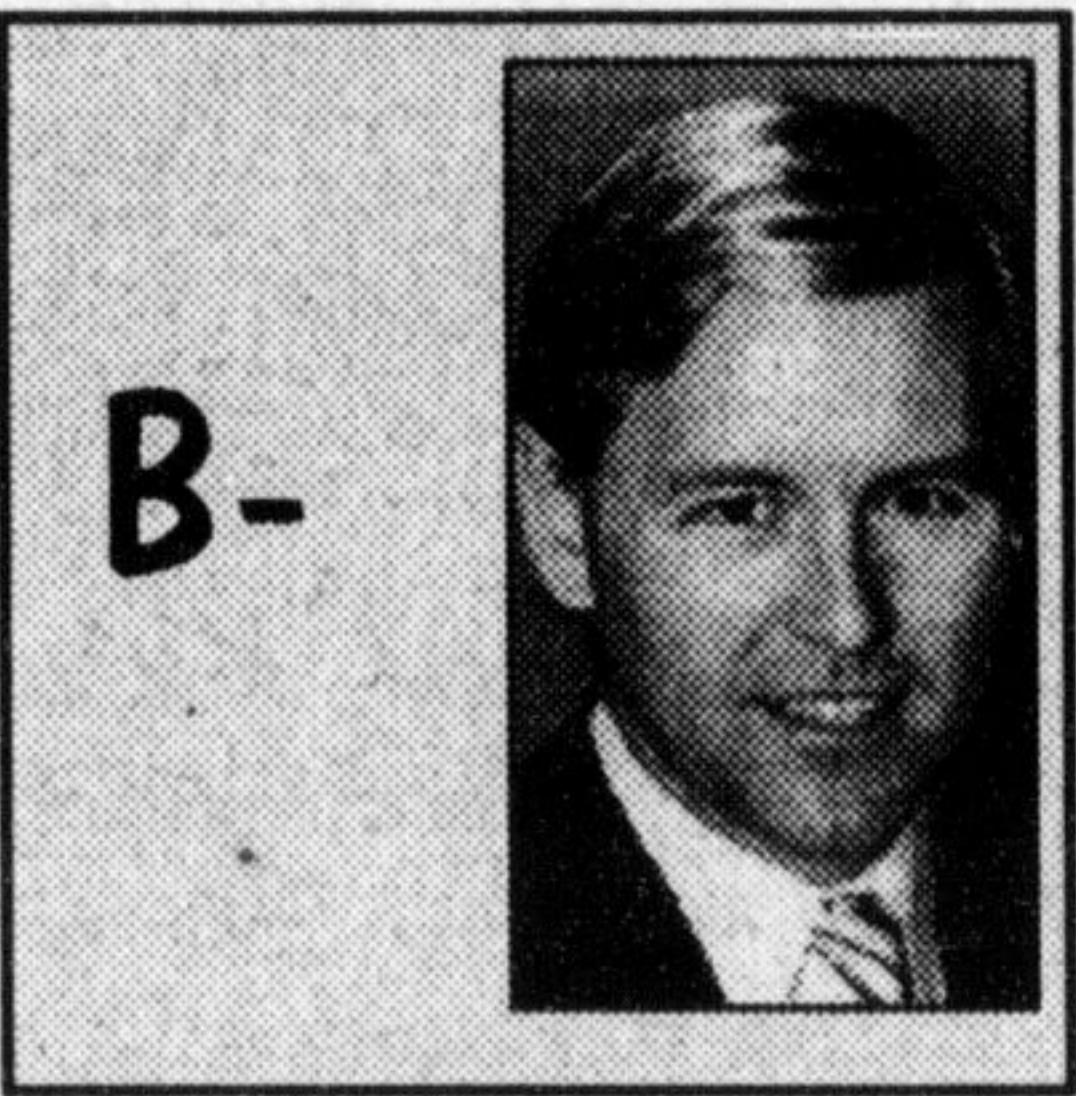
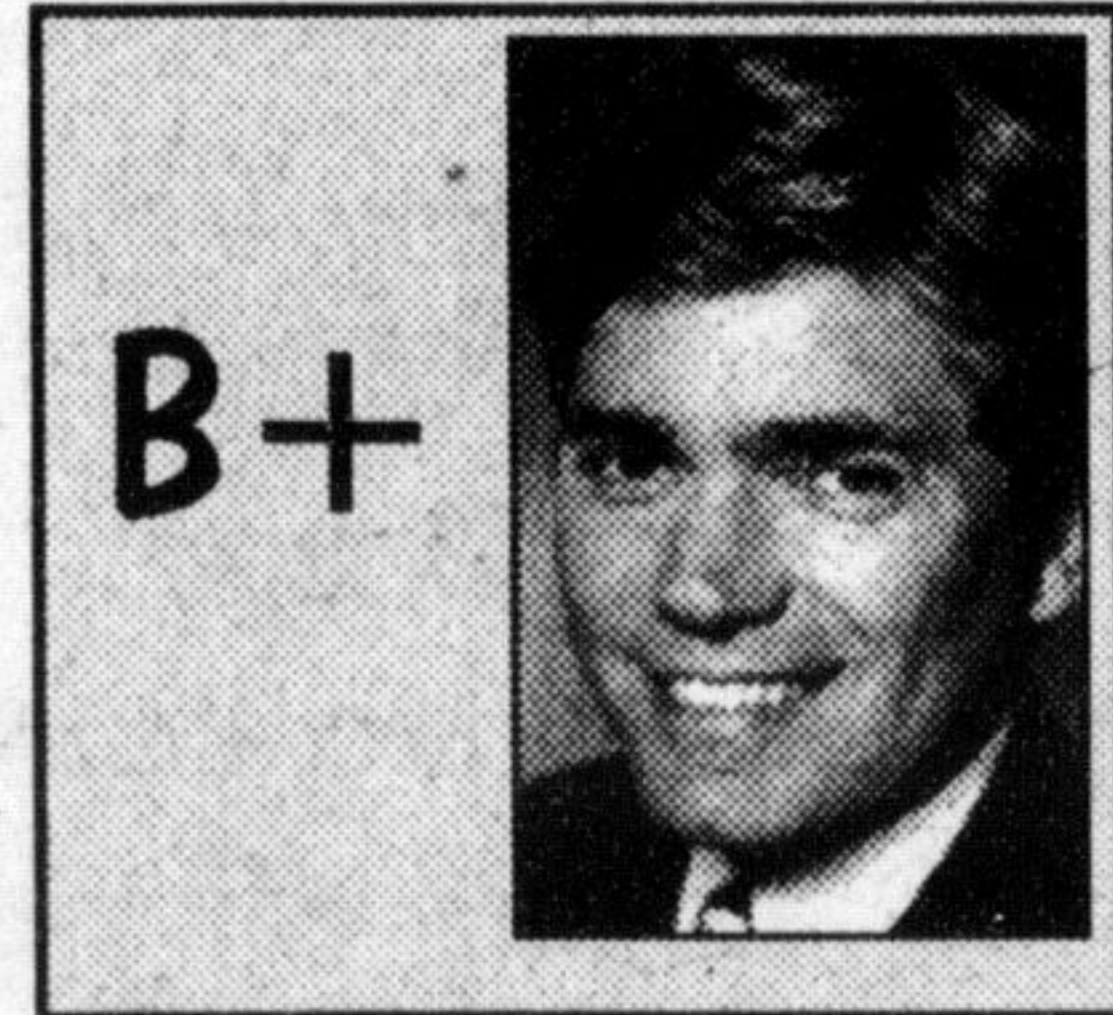
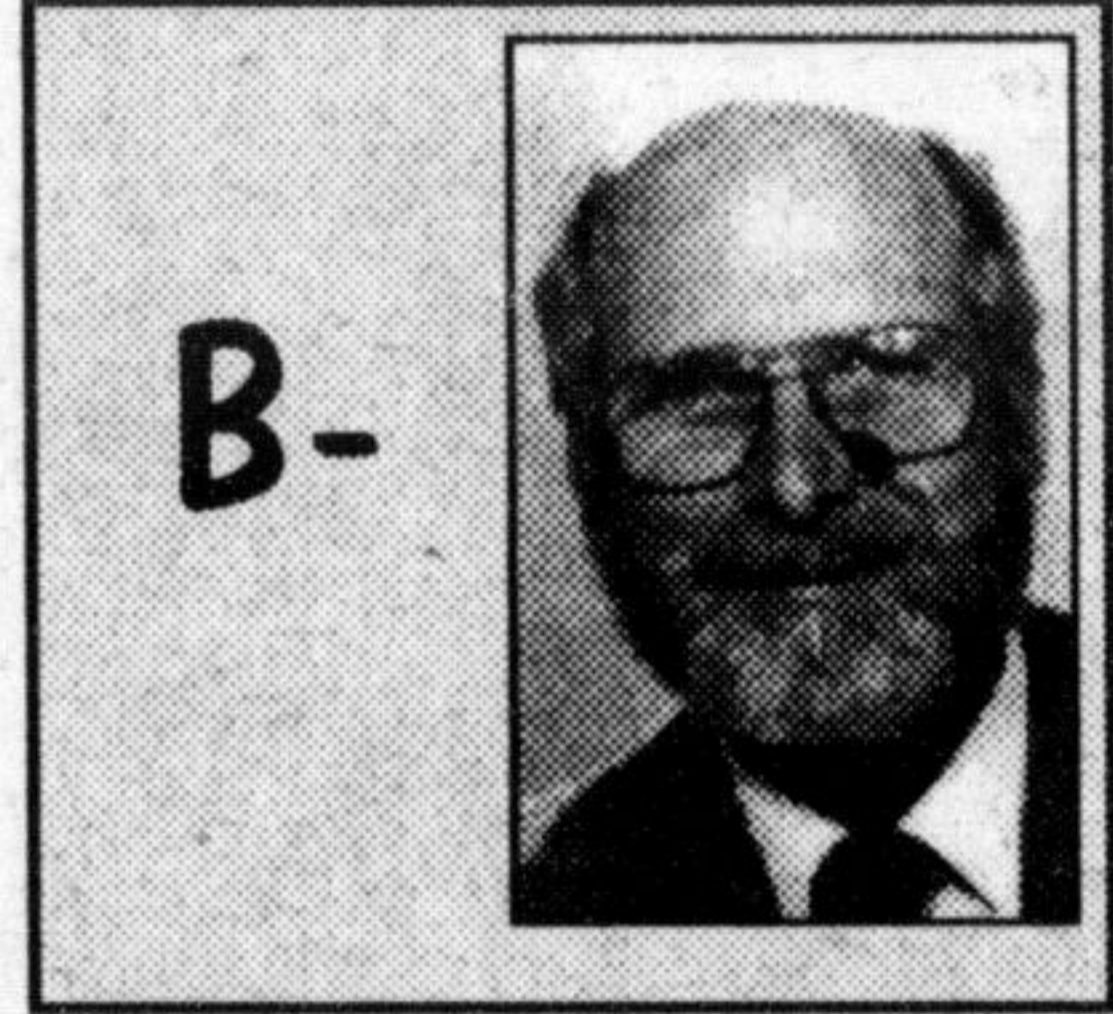
Ward 4 hydro commissioner - Loretta Mulligan, Jack Robertson

Public school board trustee — Erica Andrew, Ken Campbell, Paul Tate

Public School board trustee (French) — **Sheila Frame** (Burlington)

Separate school board trustee — **Joe Deoni**

Separate school board trustee (French) — **Pat Picknell** (Burlington)



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