

Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Campbellville's Tim Hansell is giving aid to victims of Hurricane Mitch, which recently caused chaos and destruction through much of Central America.

As the storm finally ebbs, a silence of despair lingers

By IRENE GENTLE
The Champion

One thing Hurricane Mitch taught Tim Hansell is that despair can speak in whispers.

As a relief worker for the hurricane that devastated much of Central America, the Campbellville resident stood on the barren ground that once had been Nicaraguan villages and crop lands.

At last count, thousands had died from the floods and mudslides caused by the hurricane. About half a million lost their homes to the storm.

Yet in its aftermath, there was mostly silence.

"Everyone talked matter-of-factly about horrible things," he said. "I saw people with their skin torn off. I saw a little boy with his legs broken. He'd been

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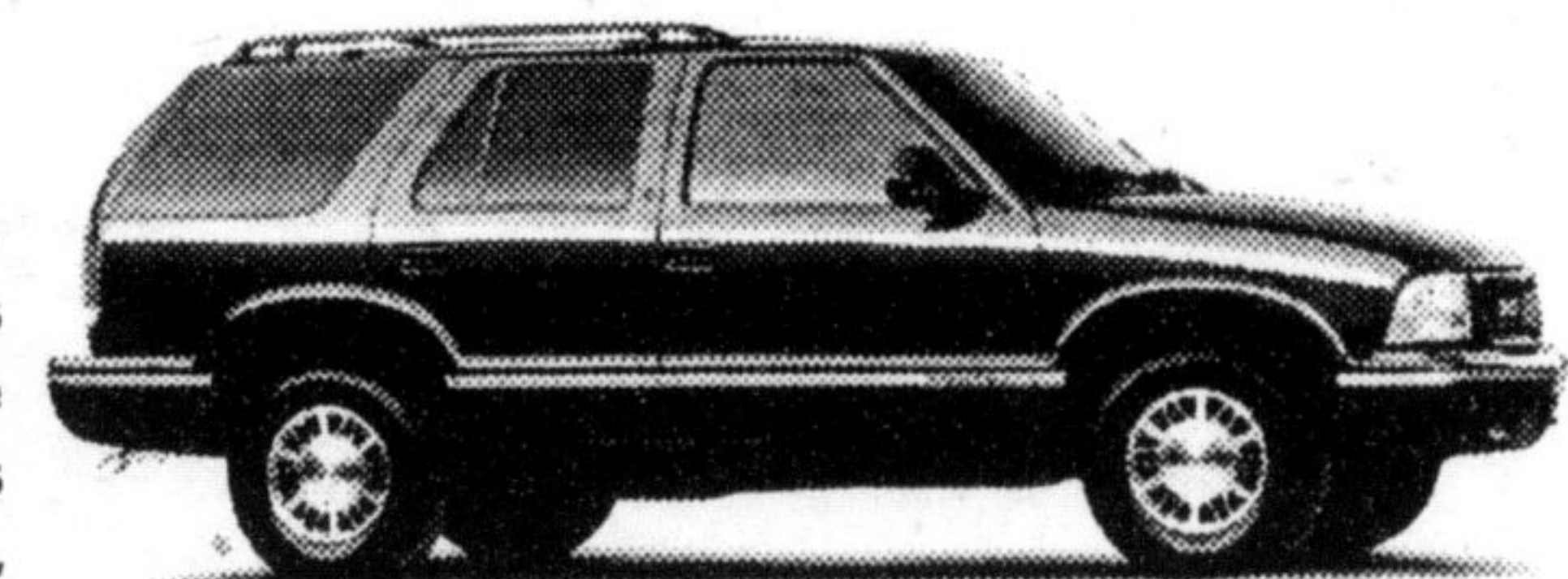
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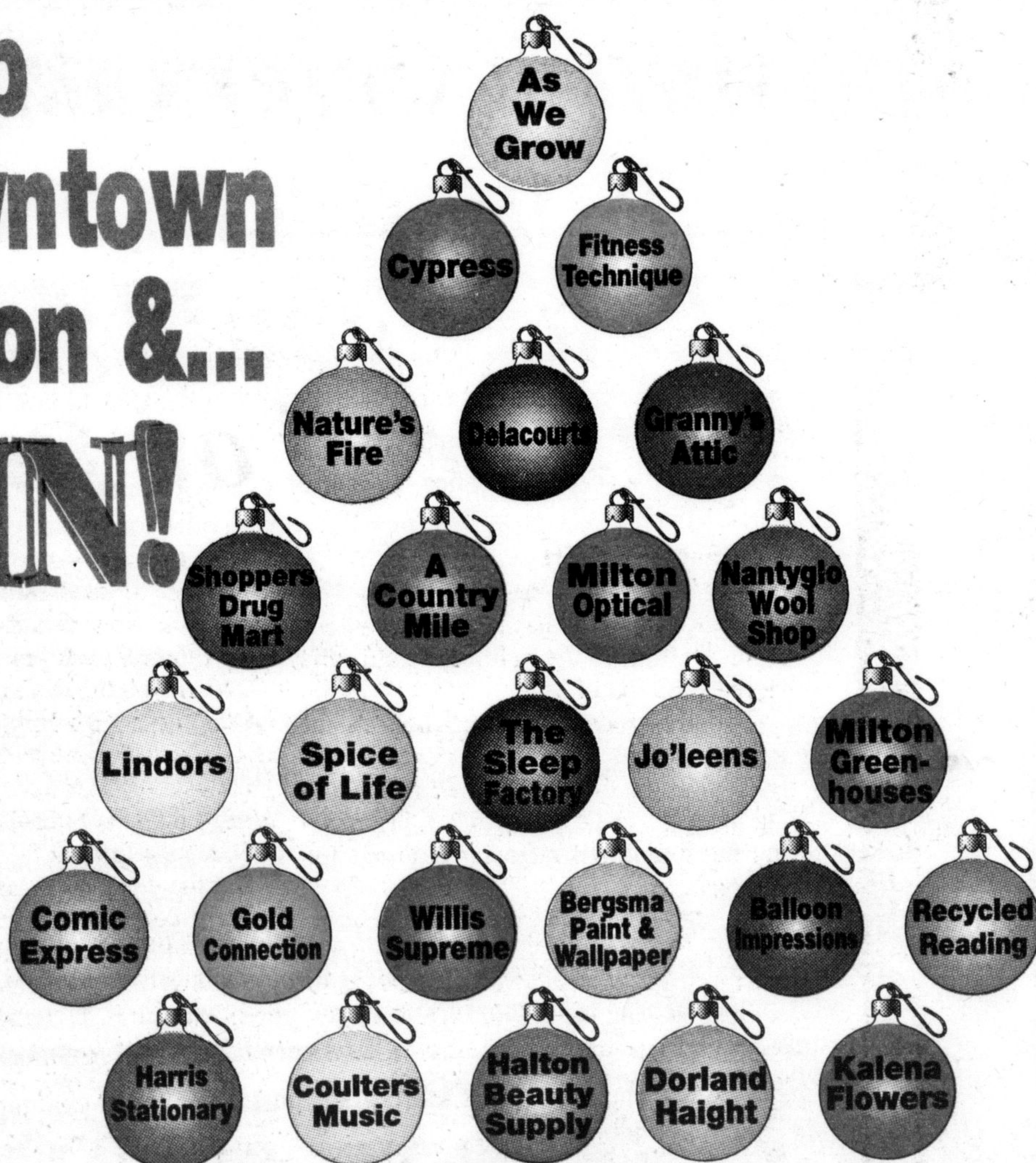
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