



COMMENT

Please say bell hasn't tolled for agriculture

Has the bell finally tolled for agriculture in the region?

That question was unexpectedly posed through a Regional golf course study aimed at protecting prime agricultural land from being swallowed up by the seemingly insatiable demand for local links.

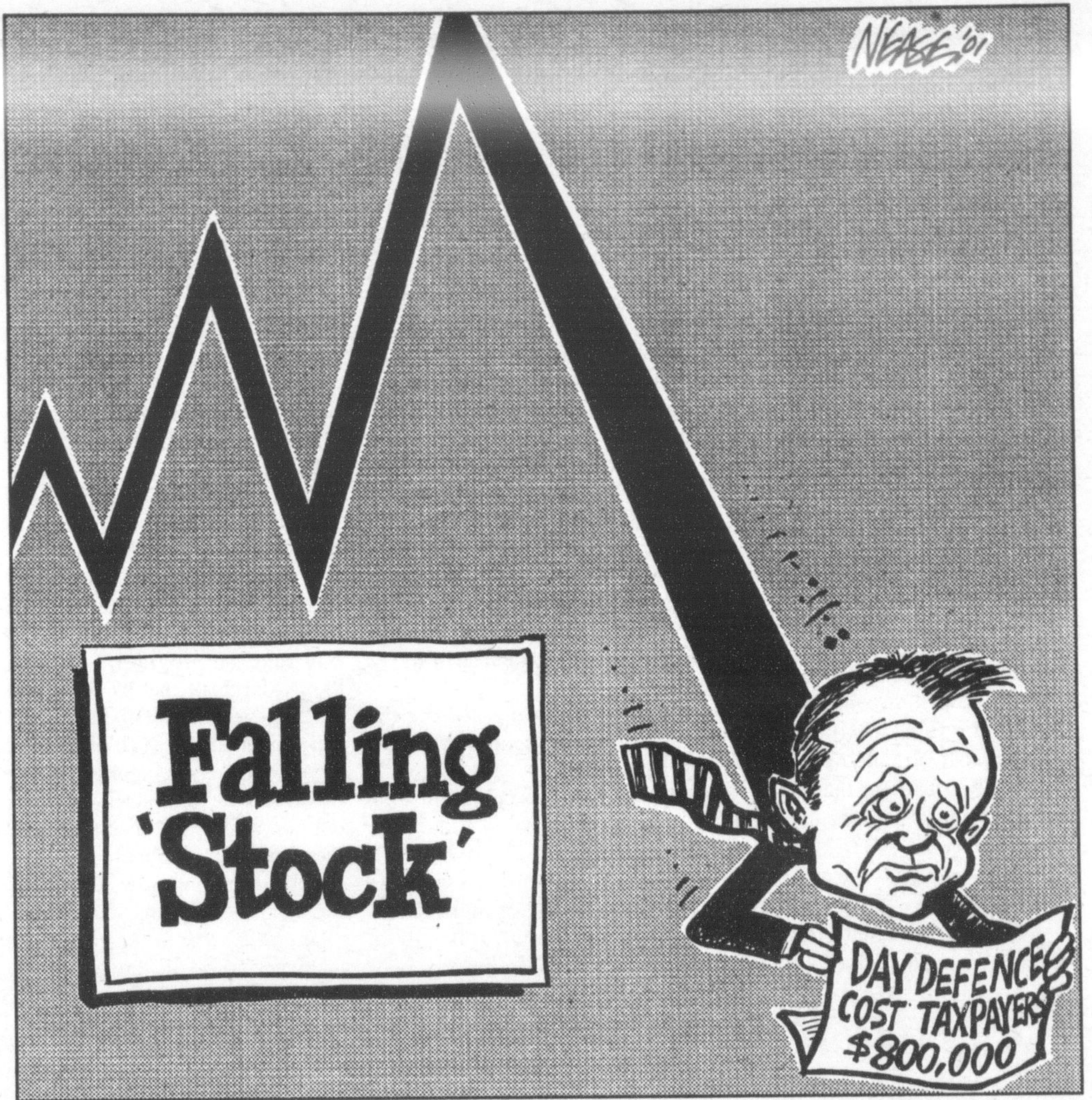
Though endorsed by the Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee, local farmers turned out in surprising numbers to speak against the study at a recent regional planning committee.

They seemed to feel that Halton agriculture is going the way of the dodo and the best that can be done is give farmers the courtesy of selling their land to rich golf course developers at the twilight of their careers.

How ironic that the Region has come out with its dukes up to fight for farming at a time when those who till the soil and tend to the animals are ready to bow out with barely a whimper. So long as there's a pot of gold waiting for them, of course.

After spending years scrabbling to make a living from the land without the government subsidies colleagues from other countries enjoy, farmers are justified in desiring a solid return on their investment.

But there must be a way to sell the land without selling it out. Especially by those who have been its guardians for so long.



OUR READERS WRITE

Coyotes close by, warns reader

Dear Editor:

I walk my daughter to Sam Sherratt School every morning then continue around the block for a walk with my small dog.

On Thursday, we encountered five coyotes in the field on Thompson Road between Derry Road and Laurier Avenue.

You might want to warn locals again about leaving their dogs and cats out unattended.

I went back and took several pictures of them hunting, between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m., from the safety of our minivan.

**Bonnie Lutz
Hayward Crescent**

Letters welcome

The Canadian Champion welcomes letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit, revise, and reject letters. Letters must be signed and the address and the telephone

number of the writer included. Mail letters to: The Canadian Champion, Box 248, Milton, Ont., L9T 4N9, or leave them at our office, 191 Main St. E.



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Robert Latimer isn't a murderer, says man

Dear Editor:

I watched the Supreme Court trial of Robert Latimer on television the other day. Hearing all the detail finalized in my mind what I knew anyway — that Mr. Latimer isn't a "murderer".

My brother went to school with him and we know he's a compassionate man of high deportment and a fine citizen in the community.

The Latimers had reached such a level of frustration with the medical system and with the agony of their daughter's pain, which most of us cannot even imagine. They sought help for some sort of pain relief that Tracey could tolerate,

but only hit dead ends.

It's my personal belief that Robert's love for his little girl was so strong, so overwhelmingly powerful, that he reached a peak that could have been termed "temporary insanity" and perhaps should have pleaded that way. It had nothing to do with her being handicapped; we're all handicapped sooner or later.

I put myself in his shoes many times as I, too, am a very compassionate person.

I remember hunting rabbits as a kid, on my cousin's snowmobile. I never had the heart to actually shoot them but I accidentally ran over one once and hurt it badly. I

then killed the rabbit to end its misery, but I will never forget that moment.

And when I hear of a hunter losing a doe with an arrow in it knowing it will suffer agony before dying, I don't sleep that night.

Yes, I have to admit that if I were in Robert Latimer's shoes I would only hope to have the strength to do what he did.

Of course, it would be wrong, but it would be more wrong to let her die in the agony she was in... and she was dying anyway.

Robert Latimer shouldn't be in jail.

**Ross Hingston
Hornby**

Milton really could use more wheelchair taxis

Dear Editor:

I work for senior citizens. Some of them are in wheelchairs.

Sometimes I have to take them to the doctor and to the hospital here or in Oakville.

I have to take a taxi or a wheelchair taxi, which you have to book about 24 hours ahead of time, but they keep on breaking down.

We need more wheelchair taxis to put people in and take them to

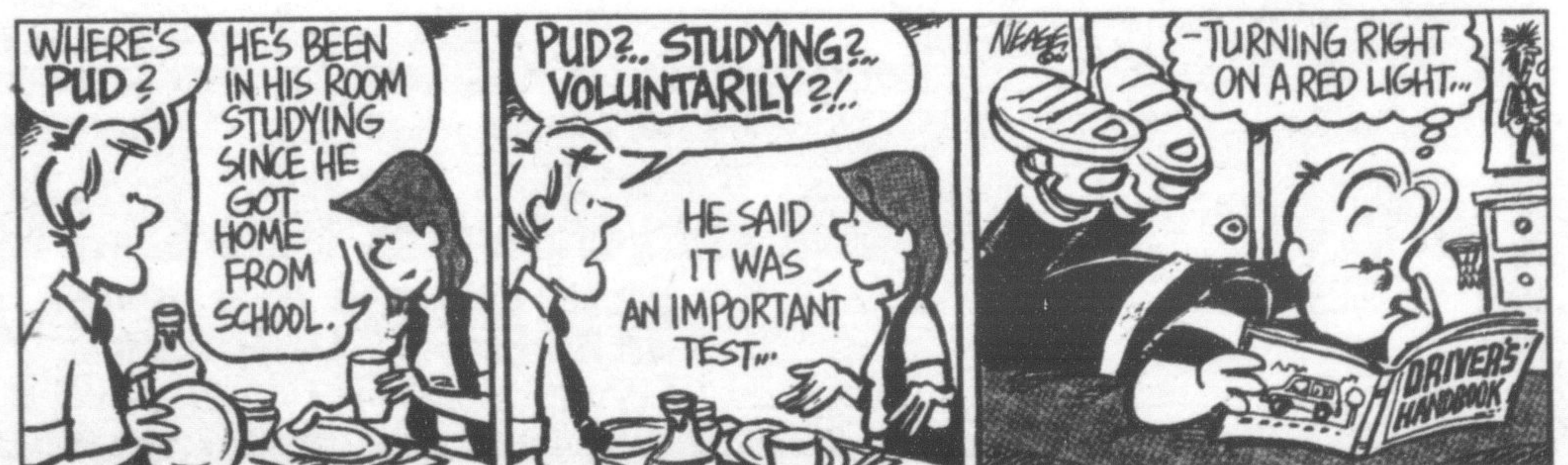
the doctor or to the hospital.

I think everyone in Milton will agree with me.

Thanks a lot.

**Arthur Baker
Milton**

Pud



by Steve Nease