



# COMMENT

## Milton showed what it's made of last week

Miltonians should be proud of how they pulled together in the midst of 'Blackout 2003' Thursday and Friday.

To help get people home safely Thursday, ordinary citizens directed traffic at intersections in the blistering sun.

In neighbourhoods Thursday night, people checked on each other and offered assistance where needed.

And businesses did their part. In particular, the Fifth Wheel Truck Stop provided free food and drinks.

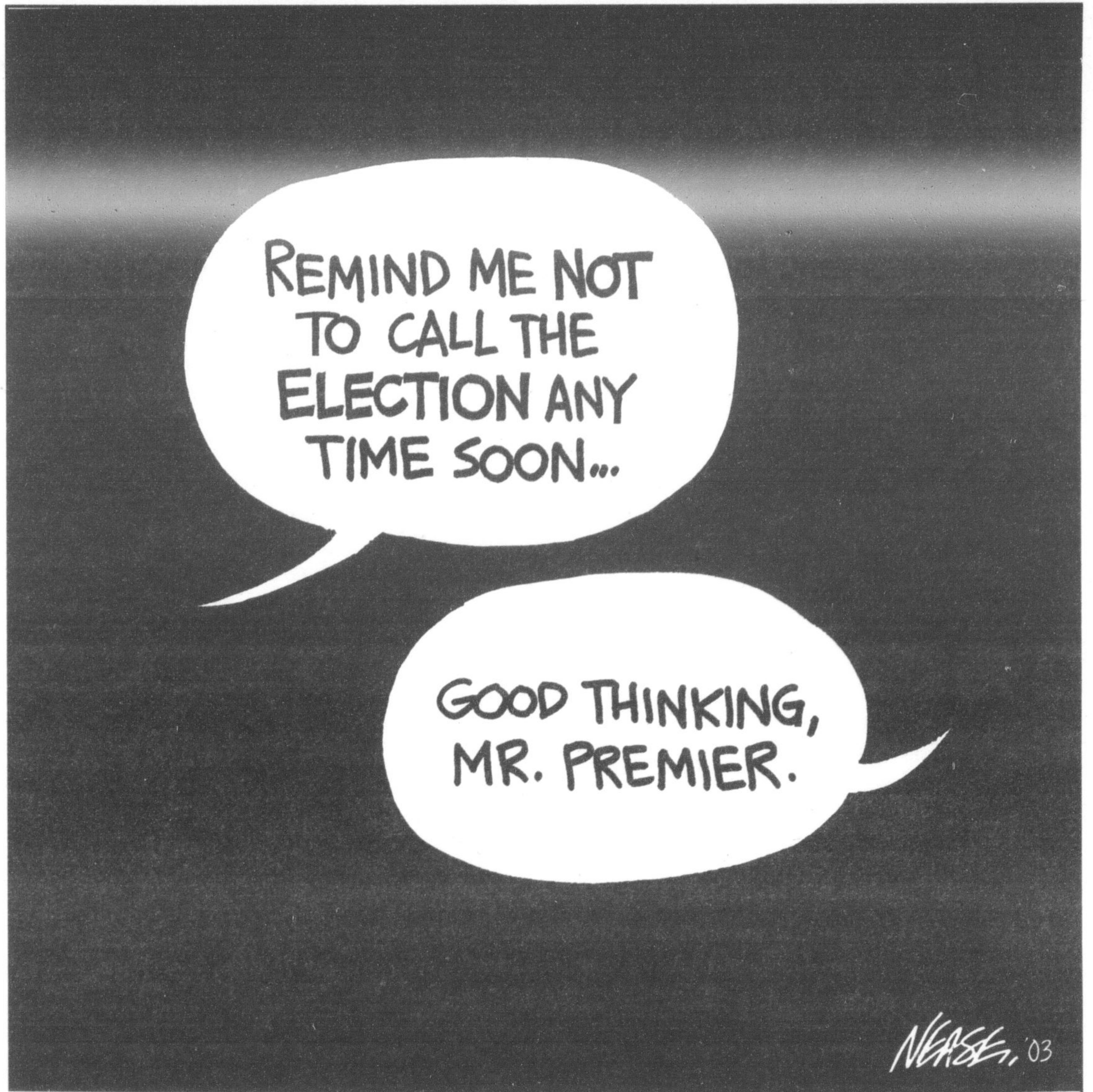
And our police, fire and ambulance personnel worked long hours to ensure everyone was safe and secure.

But it's still not over yet as there's more work to be done.

Residents are asked to reduce energy and water consumption. Actions include adjusting all building systems to conservation mode, including air conditioning, as well as reducing lighting, making sure office equipment is off when not in use, curtailing lawn maintenance and keeping sprinklers and outdoor water fountains shut off.

Businesses are being called on to make similar adjustments.

If we all work together we can reduce the possibility of further blackouts and the associated aggravation.



## OUR READERS WRITE

### Lack of support for Zellers upsetting: reader

Dear Editor:

In response to Sonya Sheppard's letter regarding the opening of WalMart, I'm appalled that for someone who was born and raised here she doesn't support her own community.

For those who don't know, Zellers is a strong supporter of many causes such as Halton Women's Place and Cystic Fibrosis. I find it upsetting that this woman can badmouth Zellers, which I'm sure has fitted the needs of her children at one time or another.

Zellers has created many employment opportunities in our community, offering jobs to both parents and children.

People have to remember that Zellers won't suffer as much as the small businesses in the heart of Milton.

As a community, we should try to protect the interests of everyone, including the small store owners who'll feel the hit once WalMart arrives.

I think Ms Sheppard owes an apology to Zellers — a store that has been there for her and many others over the years.

If she's not satisfied with the shopping facilities here, perhaps she should consider a move to a town closer to her shopping needs.

Karen Rae  
Milton

### Last week's blackout brought out good and bad in Milton residents, says reader

Dear Editor:

In light of the recent power failure, I feel compelled to write about both roses and ragweeds that I observed while out and about town.

Roses:

Thank you to all the drivers who kept their cool and approached intersections with care and did the four-way stop routine — taking turns with patience and understanding.

Thanks to the merchants who did all they could to sell much-needed items to customers, such as Angelo DeMedicis and his unselfish staff at Home Hardware for providing service above and beyond what's already excellent service. Well done.

Thanks to the local police for focusing on the tasks at hand without being too picky about the small

stuff.

Thanks to the emergency response teams. I live near the hospital and I know the number of calls you people got.

Finally, thanks to the people of Milton in general for proving that we can all get along in the dark.

Ragweeds:

To the occasional driver who took his/her turn at the traffic lights out of order. I hope putting yours and other lives at risk was worth the extra 10 seconds you gained by blasting through the intersection.

To the culprits who thought it would be a good time to get away with things they normally couldn't. Shame on you.

To whatever level of government is responsible for allowing a traffic light on Dundas Street and Postmaster Drive in Oakville to

function even when there are no houses or feeder roads for this stupid interruption in traffic flow that does nothing except waste precious electricity, fuel and add to the already high air pollution. This is bad even when all is normal.

As an observation in general, I have to ask, since I actually travelled through town easier and quicker without exceeding any limits, why do we have so many traffic control lights in the first place?

It would appear that the only way to control traffic is to bring it to a stop. Seems it would make more sense to adjust the timing of the lights to coincide with posted speed limits allowing drivers who obey the limit their free flow through town.

Michael Labencki  
Milton



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### Pud

by Steve Nease

