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# Spring & summer recreation

PROGRAMS

**New this season!**

- One week from Community Services Guide delivery to registration
- One registration for spring & summer starting February 28
- Internet & phone registration for:
  - March break programs
  - P.A. day programs
  - Summer camps
  - Fitness courses

Spring & Summer 2004  
Community Services Guide

Coming your way in The Canadian Champion on Friday, February 20 or pick up a guide at:

- Milton Leisure Centre
- Milton Public Library
- Milton Sports Centre
- Town Hall

Or, download the guide at:  
[www.milton.ca](http://www.milton.ca)

**Registration dates**  
Starts at 9:00 a.m. on February 28  
(Non-residents: March 3)

**Register on the Internet or by phone**  
1. Set up your account at Town Hall, Milton Leisure Centre or Milton Sports Centre.  
2. Register online at [www.milton.ca](http://www.milton.ca) or by touch-tone telephone (905-875-5400 or 1-800-418-5494, ext. 2430)

Milton Online Registrations opens for browsing on February 20 at [www.milton.ca](http://www.milton.ca)

**Register in person**  
Saturday, February 28, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
(Non-residents: March 3)  
• Town Hall, 43 Brown Street  
• Milton Leisure Centre, 1100 Main Street East

**Register by mail, fax or drop-off**  
See your Town of Milton Spring & Summer 2004 Community Services Guide for details.



Additional registration information  
Call 905-878-7252, ext. 2440 or send an e-mail to [recreation@milton.ca](mailto:recreation@milton.ca)  
[www.milton.ca](http://www.milton.ca)

# Council looks at banning picture-taking cellphones from municipal facilities

By JASON MISNER  
*The Champion*

Milton politicians are looking at banning those popular cellphones with built-in cameras from change-rooms, washrooms and other sensitive areas in Town buildings to protect the public's right to privacy.

Milton's community services committee unanimously passed a recommendation Monday night that would prohibit picturing-taking cellphones from fitness classes, cardio/weight rooms, swimming pools and day camps, in addition to washrooms and changerooms.

These cellphones can even hook up to the Internet wirelessly, allowing for pictures that have been taken secretly to be sent out instantly at the click of a button.

The ban would also apply to well-used devices like the Blackberry and Palm Pilot, technically called personal digital assistants (PDA).

There are 10 Town facilities, like the Milton Leisure Centre, that would be included in the ban. It will go before town council for ratification at its February 23 meeting.

"It's a sad statement when we have to start banning things that are convenient," said Ron Furik, Wards 2 and 4 regional councillor and community services chair. "But when you have these little gadgets and people abuse this privilege, that's sad."

A staff report stated, "the Town of Milton is committed to providing a comfortable, safe and private environment for customers."

Milton is among a few Ontario

municipalities that have taken steps to address camera cellphones, which have been on the market since late 2002. The City of Guelph and the towns of Pickering and Ajax have instituted bans.

Countries around the world have also been dealing with camera cellphone issues relating to privacy and voyeurism concerns.

The Town of Milton hasn't received any complaints about the misuse of camera cellphones, said Community Services Director Jennifer Reynolds. The ban recommendation was brought forward because of problems, perhaps a picture snapped of someone changing, that could result from the ever-evolving devices.

The Town must still determine the best and most appropriate way to enforce the ban, but Ms Reynolds said the idea is public decency and responsibility would ultimately drive compliance.

"We hope it will be more of a public awareness program," she said, adding the Town doesn't want to prevent residents from enjoying Town facilities. "It's to let people know to be aware of this and to be on guard. It's a heightened awareness."

Sports associations in town will be notified about camera cellphones, and "they will hopefully take up some education with their groups," Ms Reynolds said.

A major concern with picture cellphones is many people wouldn't even know they're being photographed because it looks like the person is dialing. And when it's zipped out via an e-mail, there's no

trace of the photo.

An alert was sent by the Ontario Recreation Facilities Association Inc. (ORFA) to municipalities in December. It stated "The potential exists for deviant behaviour of camera-phone users photographing other patrons undressing or showering in locker rooms. It's a violation of personal privacy."

The alert also pointed out that camera cellphones are exploding in popularity, stating 8.6 million units globally were sold in the last three months of 2003, up from 5.2 million units.

"Cellphones already take better pictures than most video cameras," it stated.

Mayor Gord Krantz said the ban makes sense.

"It's about being proactive and not reactive," he said after the Monday meeting, noting school boards and the like will probably be dealing with the issue soon.

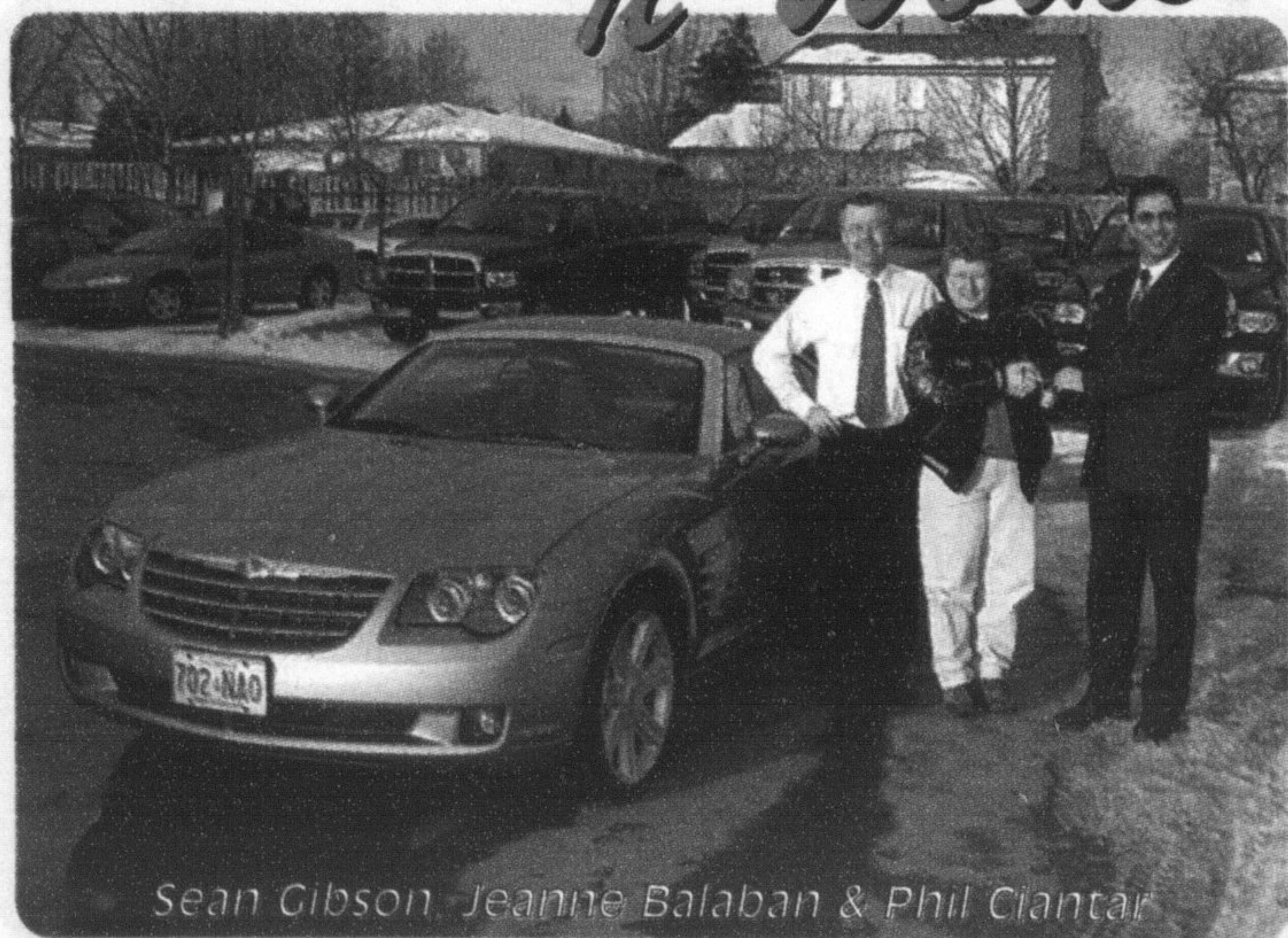
John Millington, who took his two kids to Milton Leisure Centre to swim Tuesday night, said the ban idea is "great."

"I've never really thought about it before," he said, his kids anxiously waiting to change to swim. "I don't see any negative consequence with that."

Bob Spence, communications co-ordinator with the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario, said the issue of camera cellphones is decided at the municipal level. "It doesn't fall under our legislation," he said.

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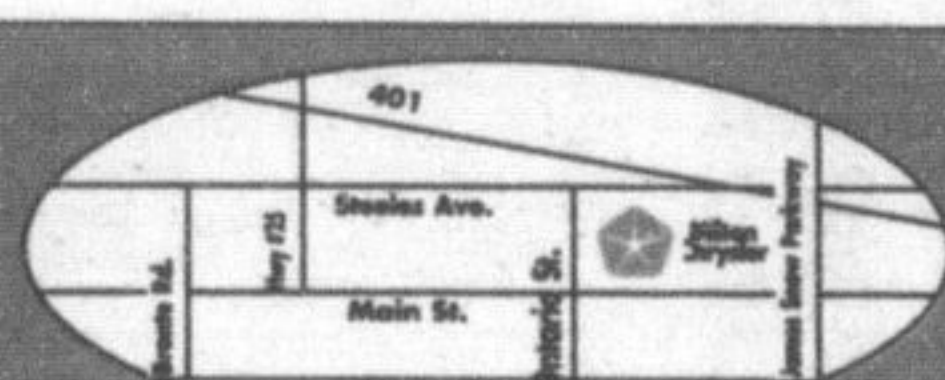
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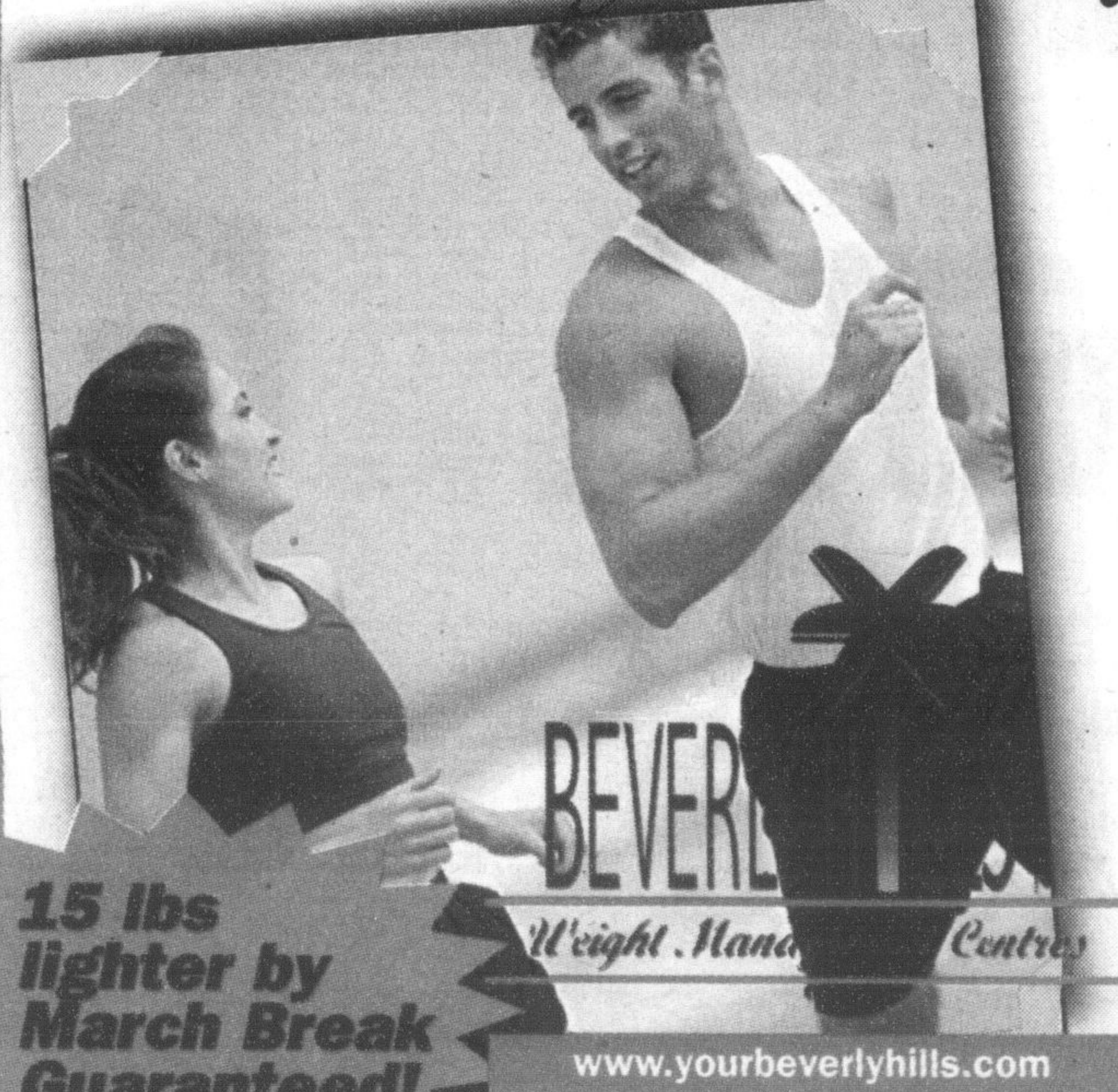


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