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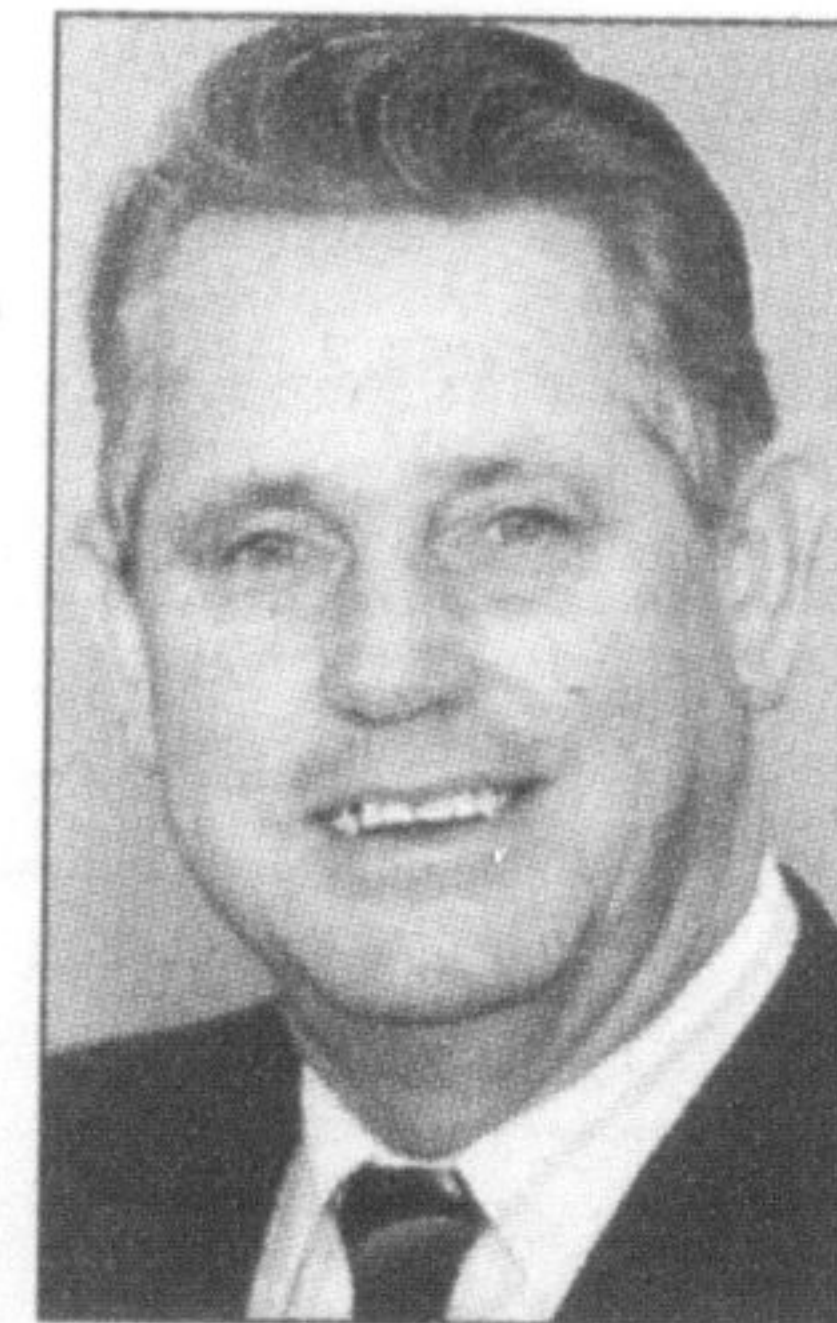
GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

WHOOPS: In just his third time on skates, two-and-a-half-year-old Charlie Eagle takes a tumble just as dad David reaches out to catch him. The two were taking in the free holiday skate — sponsored by Tim Hortons — at Memorial Arena Wednesday afternoon.

'07 will see more gridlock: Krantz

But mayor says east end should get some relief

By Melanie Hennessey
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF



Gord Krantz

Bronte Street will start to face the same growth-related issues and challenges the east end has dealt with.

And for anyone who thinks growth isn't going to continue to happen locally, Krantz said they're wrong.

He pointed to the Province's Places to Grow plan, which designates the region as an area that will be heavily developed in the coming decades.

He said the fact the Ontario plan recently won an award from the American Planning Association "tells me what's being advocated for Milton

• see EXPANSION on page A3

Looking into his crystal ball, Mayor Gord Krantz says he sees gridlock continuing to tie up Milton's roads in 2007.

That was one of the predictions the head of council had when chatting with The Champion about what he sees happening around town in the coming 12 months.

He acknowledged the biggest challenge facing Milton right now when it comes to growth is the "perceived and real" gridlock it creates.

"The tremendous amount of (road) construction compounds it," he remarked, adding that with many other roads projects on the horizon, "it'll just move the gridlock around for probably the next five years."

Getting people out of their cars and onto buses is key to eliminating traffic congestion, Krantz said, pointing out that ridership numbers for Milton Transit are continuing to climb.

He also said there should soon be traffic relief in some areas of town. For example, he said construction on Derry Road should be finished by early next year and work on Thompson Road is expected to wrap up by the end of 2007 or in early 2008.

"That portion (the east side) of the community will be pretty much finished by the end of 2007," he noted. "Things should start to open up in that area."

With several large developments slated for the west end of Milton, Krantz said he thinks the area west of

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ASK DOLLY

Dear Dolly, My humans heard that there have been increasing incidents of dogs stolen from their yards or gardens, in Ontario. Is this true? What can us pets' do, to keep safe? Signed "Ted" Black Lab.

Dear Ted, It is true my friend, there are some horrible, ruthless humans out there. They do not care that you love your family, or that you may need medication for an ongoing illness. Just make sure you are micro-chipped, and get your humans to keep an eye on you, not leaving you unattended outside for long periods. And to you dog thieves....Shame on you. We hope that you are caught, then severely punished.
Signed "Dolly" Hawkins.

IF ONLY PETS COULD SPEAK.

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