

Quiet welcome home for two local soldiers; no reception as per request

'Time Capsules' are gems of information extracted from past issues of the Champion and other publications in order to provide a window into Milton's past. Explanatory comment is sometimes provided to place the situation in context.

December 1917

Sgt. Major Fred Taylor and Pte. Fred Durman, wounded, got home to Milton last Friday evening, but there was no reception. The boys were modest, did not want one, and sent no notice of their coming. They got to their houses quietly and their welcome was from their parents and other members of their families. Sgt. Major Taylor enlisted here and went over seas in the second contingent. Pte. Durman, though a Milton boy, enlisted in the west, at Calgary. Both have seen a great deal of fighting and have been wounded. Sgt. Major Taylor has been transferred from the 20th Battalion to the C.A.M.C., and sent to Canada as an instructor of maimed soldiers. Pte. Durman, whose wound was in his foot, will be discharged as it is weak.

The new school at Milton Heights will hold their Christmas concert.

Union government's great majority. Except in Quebec, where only three Unionists were elected, all in Montreal and none of them French, and in Nova Scotia, where the figures were 8 to 6 in favor of the Opposition, the Union Government swept Canada in last Monday's election. The final Government majority is figured at about 60. Dr. Anderson won all but three Halton polls.

On Monday evening, after the voting returns had been received from all except a few of the Halton polling subdivisions and it had been learned that Canada had saved her honor and sustained the Union Government, a congratulatory meeting was held in the town hall, which was well filled by electors, with a large representation of women voters. Sam Harrop, Liberal-Unionist, was voted into the chair. In his opening address he spoke of the far-reaching effects of Canada's answer to the attempt to make her a slacker nation, in encouraging the Allies generally and particularly in the example set Australia, where a

Milton Time Capsules



referendum on conscription is about to be taken. Dr. Anderson got a rousing reception on mounting the stage. He began with kindly remarks about his opponent, Mr. Gregory, who, he said, had conducted himself as a gentleman through the campaign, abstaining for personalities.....

Delco light plants supplied by WJ. Agar of Milton supply electric light for dwelling and barns and power for all kinds of small machinery. It is run by coal oil and has storage batteries. It does away with the use of lanterns. S. Harrop and Peter Hartley, of this neighborhood, have Delco plants.

W.H. Reid, turnkey has resigned after about 12 years of faithful service. His resignation will take effect on January 1. He has bought out a business at Shelburne.

Colour Sgt. Major Charlton is on his way home to Milton and is probably among the 2,000 Canadians who have just landed at New York. He went overseas with the third Canadian contingent and has been on the firing line, in the 19th Battalion, in France for a year and nine months. Before enlistment he was employed by the Milton Pressed Brick Co. Ltd. It is presumed that he is to act as an instructor in Canada. His name was sent in by his commanding officer with the recommendation that he receive the Russian decoration for his good service generally and particularly for his "splendid behavior in the Vimy Ridge operation and his initiative in taking command of A Co'y during a counter attack after all his officers became casualties.

This material is assembled on behalf of the Milton Historical Society by Jim Dills, who can be reached through the society at (905) 875-4156.

ReadersWrite

Email your letters to editorial@miltoncanadianchampion.com.

Top-tier indoor soccer facility more useful than velodrome

DEAR EDITOR:

First of all, here's the up-front soccer parent disclaimer. On balance, I also have a very nice carbon road bicycle.

The proposed velodrome has certainly created community buzz, most of it less than complimentary. I'm a little worried about this project for two reasons. If every other municipality has backed away from this facility, then why are we jumping at it? Could it be that the return on investment doesn't seem to be there, either from a political capital or community usage point of view?

Speaking of return on investment, this comes to the second point. We all know that there's only so much money to go around. Milton is growing and yes we have added a new pool, ice pads and attendant infrastructure, but Milton still doesn't have a top-tier indoor soccer facility. There's the Hershey

Centre in Mississauga, the Pinegrove facility on Oakville, the twin bubbles in Burlington and the converted Acton arena in Halton Hills. As an aside, there does seem to be an interesting correlation between successful soccer teams and towns with top-tier indoor soccer facilities.

With more than 3,000 youths in this town playing the game, perhaps the town councillors should look at building a facility that has a ready clientele instead of removing several million from the current budget and spending it on a facility with dubious post-event usage.

I'm sure that upon review, the return on investment from a political and community usage point of view is much better for a soccer facility than it is for a velodrome.

DONALD KNOWLES
MILTON

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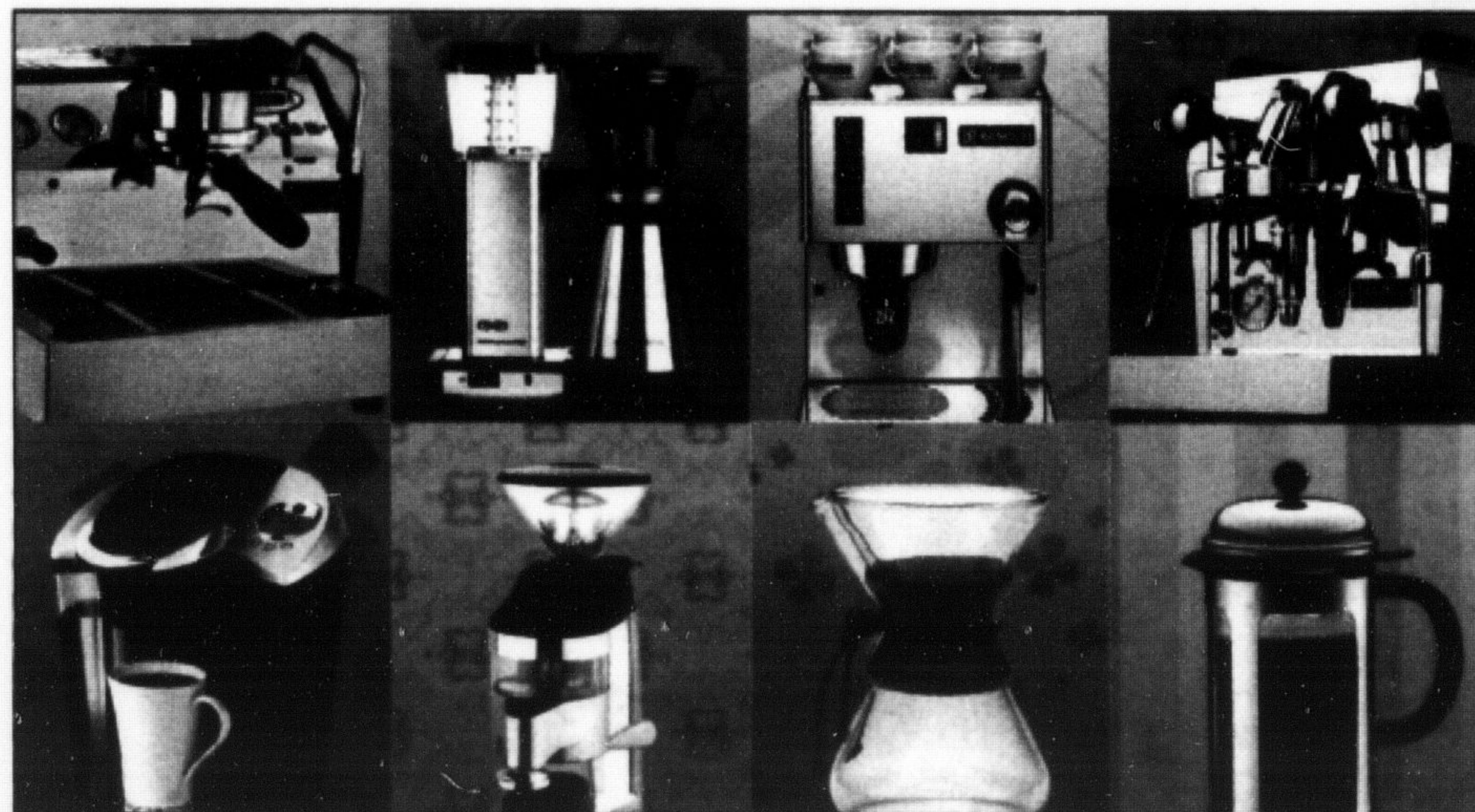
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