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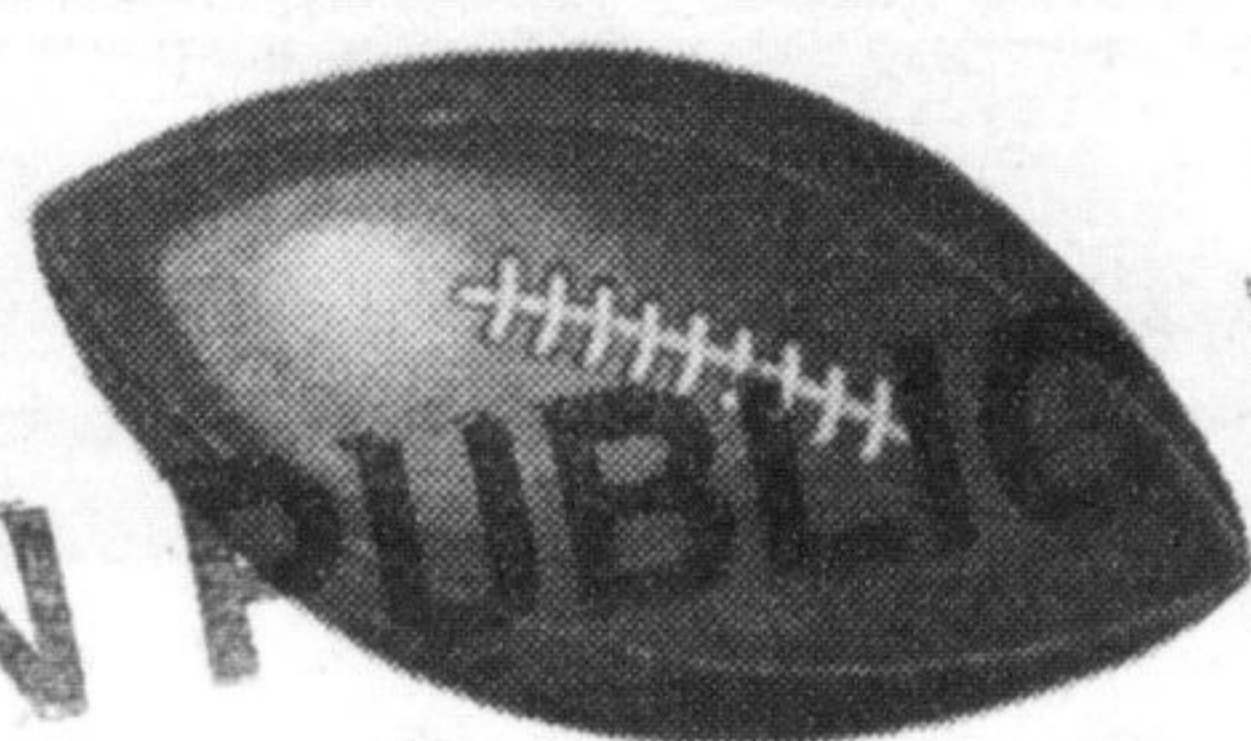
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A & E

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GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

TEED UP: The 14th annual Ladies Drive 4 Cancer fundraising tournament took to the links of Granite Ridge Golf Club Tuesday afternoon. A total of 32 foursomes teed up, with proceeds going to breast cancer research. Here, Sandra Taylor celebrates sinking her putt on the 18th hole.

Compromise reached

*Development charge
solution seems to satisfy
councillors, Mattamy*

By Tim Foran
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Regional council agreed unanimously Wednesday to approve an extra \$8,000 charge on residential developers in north Oakville and new Milton.

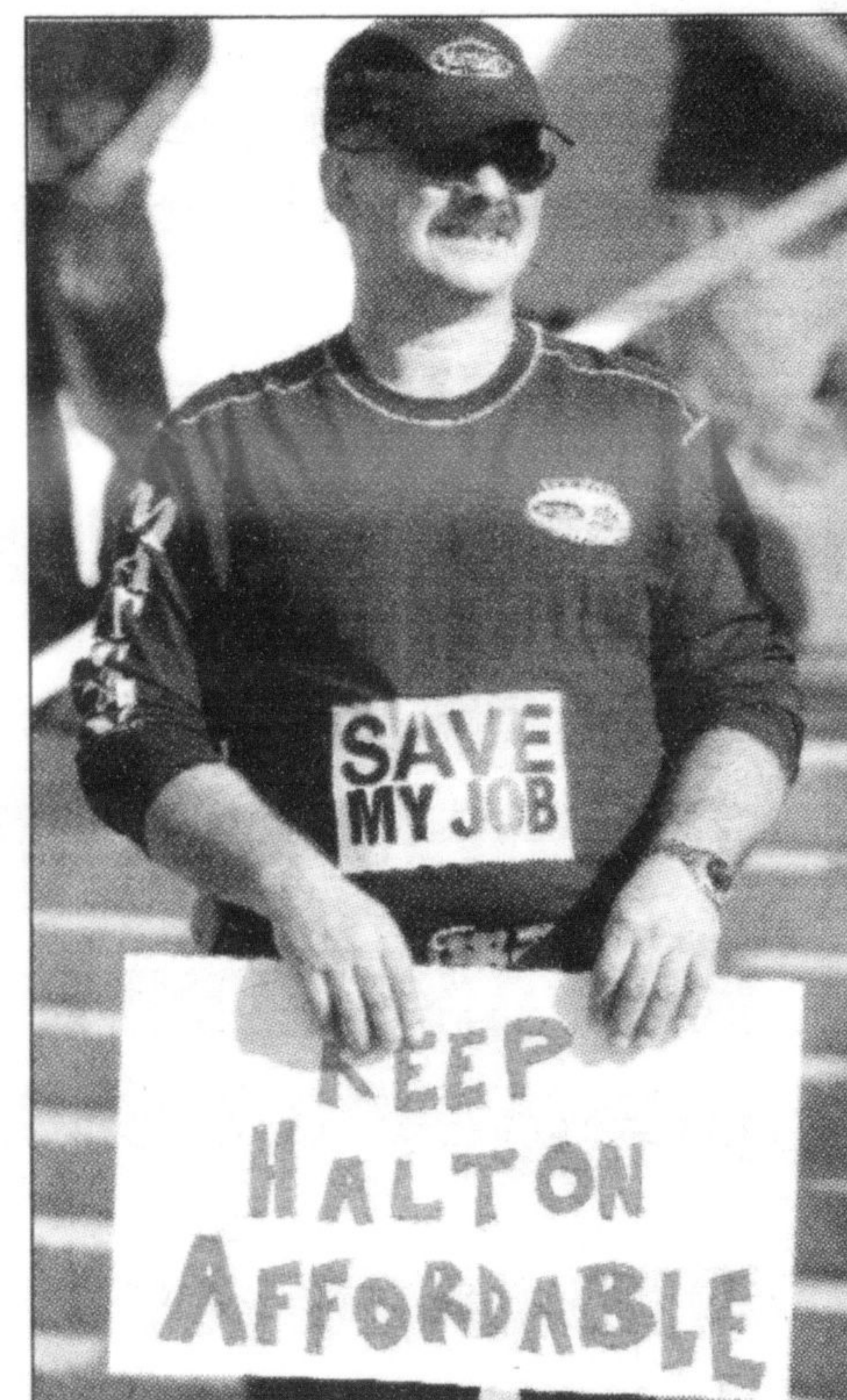
But the resolution passed also gave those developers 30 days to come up with a way to convince residential developers in other parts of Halton and non-residential builders to share the costs, the majority of which cover roads and water and sewer pipes for non-residential developments.

The compromise solution that united a fairly split council came after a full day of delegations and debate in front of hundreds of housing industry workers based in to watch the proceedings. A spokesperson for Oakville-based Mattamy, Canada's largest homebuilder, said about 650 Mattamy employees, sub-contractors and builders attended regional headquarters.

"I'm really pleased Halton council decided to direct staff to take the time to get it right and with public consultation," said Mattamy president Peter Gilgan following the late afternoon vote. "There seems to me, I really hope, to be an intention to have some real dialogue."

Halton Regional Chair Gary Carr said he was satisfied that council didn't vote to defer implementing the extra charges, but also allowed for developers to come back to the Region with their own suggested solution — one that won't have an impact on the property tax base.

However, he said he would be surprised if the development community could achieve a consensus on splitting up the



LIESA KORTMANN / METROLAND WEST MEDIA GROUP
Waldemar Molenda was one of hundreds of spectators protesting a development charge recommendation at Halton Regional headquarters in Oakville Wednesday.

costs, as Regional staff have already looked for such a solution over the past six months. Two local environmental groups, OakvilleGreen and BurlingtonGreen, voiced that same opinion and urged council to push through the charges and not postpone a decision.

Gilgan wouldn't speculate on the likelihood that the developers would reach an agreement.

Immediate history would suggest, however, getting developers to split up the costs in what could be seen as a fairer manner will be difficult to achieve. Halton's two school boards recently passed their

• see DEVELOPERS on page A3

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