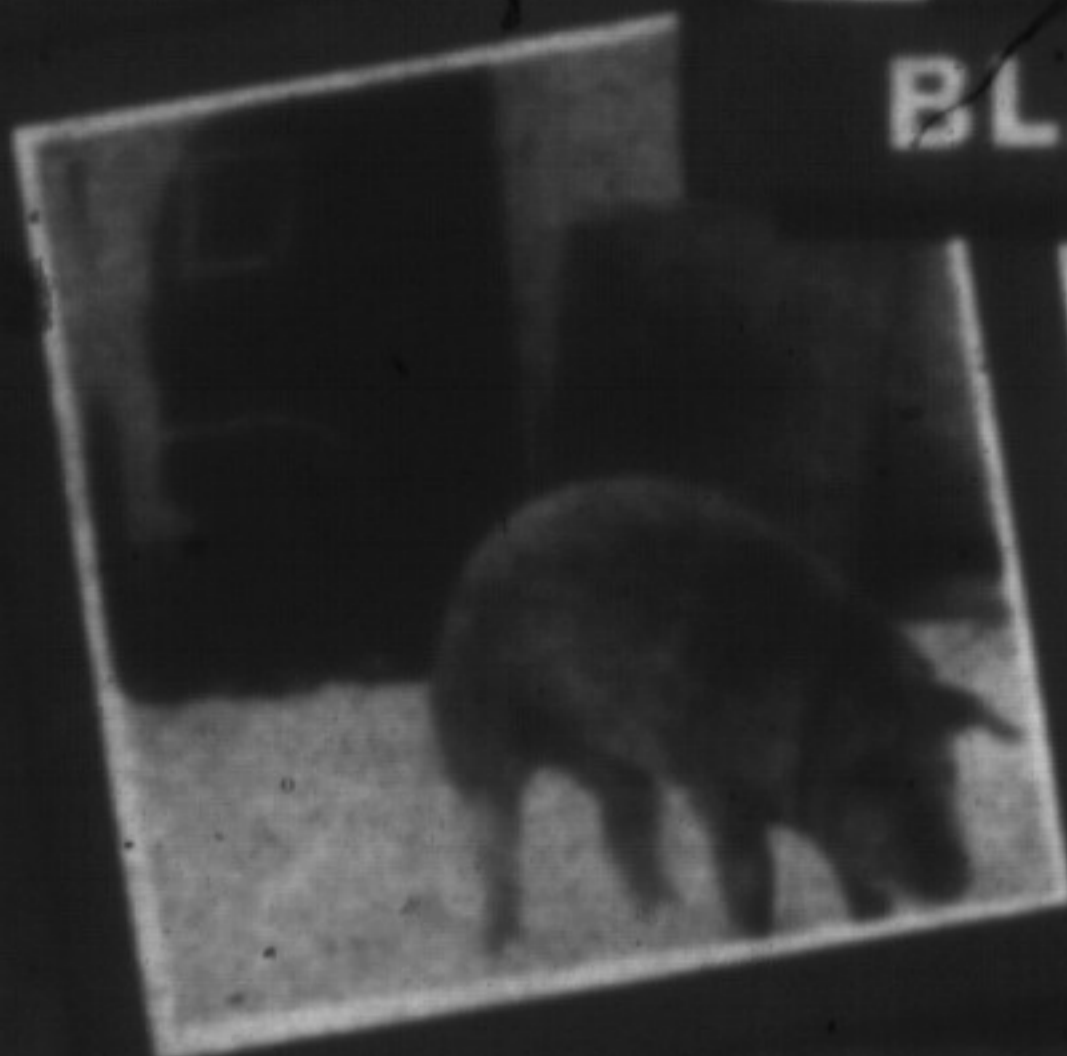


## BLAZE

One of four  
fires in  
four days  
— 5

## TOP COP

Milton  
has a new  
police  
inspector  
— 8HOSS WOOD  
was honoured  
on the weekend  
— 23

# The Canadian Champion

Wednesday edition

A Metroland Community Newspaper  
serving the town of Milton

MILTON  
HONDA  
A hand is a present to give yourself  
Robert Louis Stevenson  
We're Fun To Deal With  
310 Steeles Ave. 875-4748

VOLUME 130 NUMBER 27

MILTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 1989

30 CENTS

48 PAGES



Photo by JOHN WARREN

## Barn burner

Firefighters battled this blaze Saturday afternoon but the barn was destroyed and most of the owners' livestock perished.

The farm located on Steeles Ave. east of James Snow Parkway, is owned by Umberto and Albini Giangrande. The couple had insurance on the building and contents. See story and more photos on page 3.

## Ambulance officers will be back on the job Jan. 23

By LISA TALLYN

After five months the strike at the District of Halton/Mississauga Ambulance Service is finally over.

Striking ambulance officers voted Friday night to accept a two-year offer putting an end to the strike. Sixty members of Local 207 of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) voted 71 per cent in favour of the deal which will see a wage increase of 5 per cent in the first year.

Officers will be making an additional 70 cents per hour when they start back to work on Jan. 23. That is a far cry from the \$2.75 in-

crease they were demanding when the strike began on Aug. 18. They were fighting for parity with their Metro counterparts.

The officers received the same increase that Ministry of Health ambulance officers received in their last contract. Halton/Mississauga officers will get the same increase as Ministry officers next year.

"That is the best offer we could get out of the company," said disappointed union president Gord Armes. "You could hear a pin drop when the results of the vote were announced."

Union executive reluctantly recommended that membership ratify the deal, as was

stipulated when the agreement was initially struck with management.

"We did however make some gains in other areas."

Mr. Armes says under the new contract short-term disability has been raised from \$275 to \$340 per week. Officers were awarded a 25 cent per hour night premium also.

"We settled because our backs were against the wall," Mr. Armes said that after six months of a strike the Ontario Labour Relations Board can authorize the hiring of replacement employees while negotiations between the two parties continue.

"If we didn't settle we could all be out of a job."

Despite the few gains made Mr. Armes says the strike was worth it.

He estimates the 20-week strike cost the union approximately \$240,000.

"We took on the Ontario government. It was a long battle and we did achieve some goals. We told them we are not going to sit back and let them walk all over us. But the battle will continue."

Mr. Armes says union membership will continue to lobby at the provincial and municipal

• see VOTE page 7

INSIDE: POLICE 5 — DATELINE 20 — CLASSIFIED 26-31 — REAL ESTATE RE1-RE12