

Crimes get solved

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less than 27 per cent.

The officers act both as a deterrent and as investigators, keying on known criminals and delving into cases that may be months old in an attempt to link suspects with organized crime sprees, such as burglary rings.

Similar task forces are operated in other Halton areas and police hope they will be as effective as they have proved in the past there too. Once the task forces have swept through other districts, it's expected the crime clearance rate will jump elsewhere as it did in Milton.

But inspector Sullivan made it clear, in answering a question about police response times, that if there is a major occurrence on any given shift it's tough enough just to maintain a reasonable level of service, much less draw officers away from regular patrols for weeks to join task force campaigns.

"Each platoon has seven (uniformed) officers. They average five on any given (12-hour) shift. When it gets busy, it does not take a whole lot of calls to tie up those officers."

Another problem in north Halton is that while population densities are comparatively low when judged against Oakville and Burlington, the northern patrol areas are large. In north Halton, "a major issue is the down time in getting from point A to B because of the distance that has to be travelled," Inspector Sullivan noted.

Measures taken since last year have been successful to the extent that average response times in the Milton area for priority calls have gone down from almost 11 minutes to less than eight minutes.

Leisure centre wins at Las Vegas Night

500 take part in special fund-raiser

A winning hand was dealt to the organizers of Las Vegas Night and the fund-raising campaign for the new leisure centre.

Although the proceeds have not been tallied, it is believed the second annual Las Vegas Night at Pineland Farm on Saturday was a financial success. Organizing committee chairperson Rose Harrison credits good planning, volunteer and community support as well as an "extremely generous" donation of food for the evening from M & M Meat Shops in Milton.

Also contributing to the happy ending to months of planning was the contribution of the facilities at Pineland Farm in Hornby by Barb and James Snow as well as table sponsors and draw prize contributors, she said.

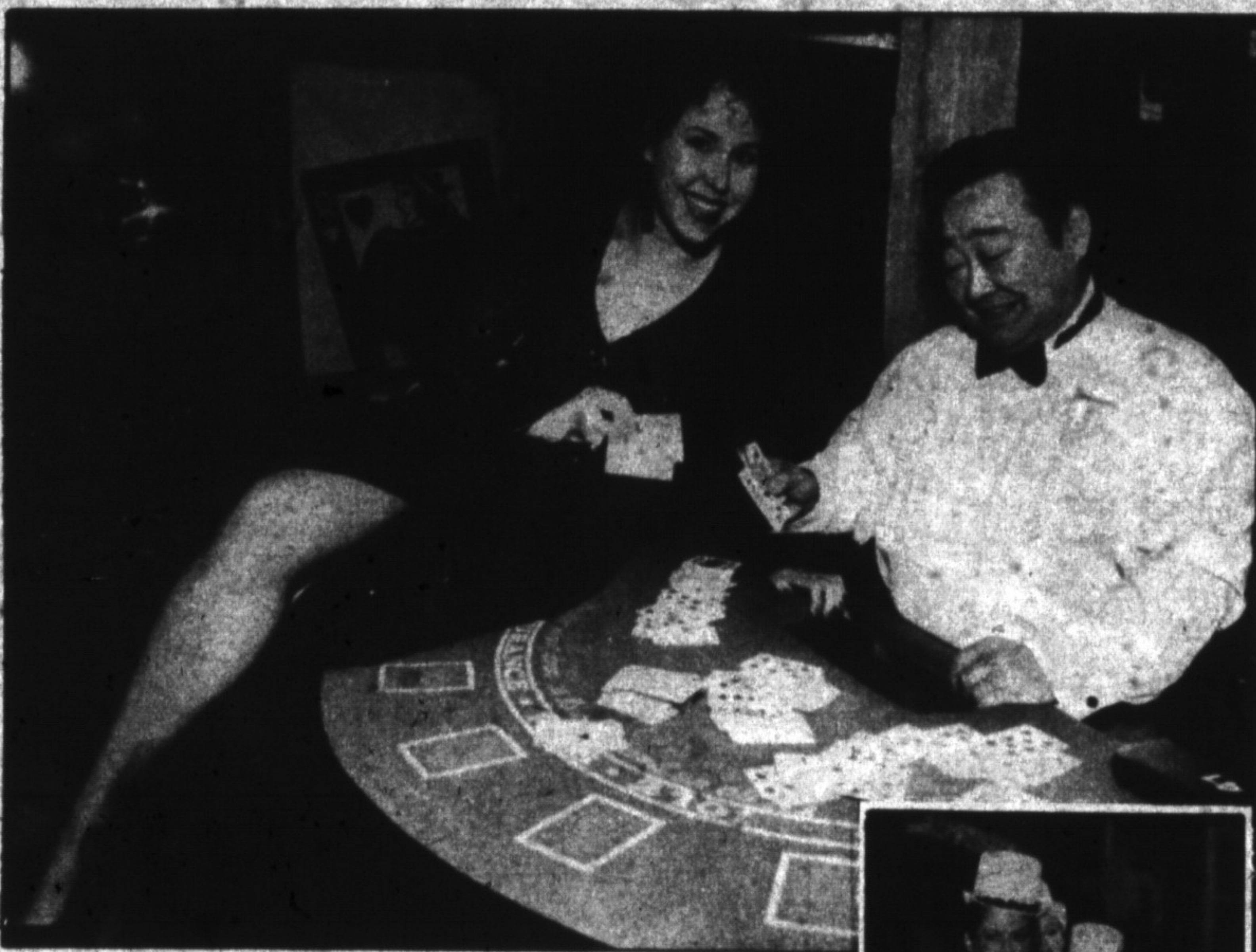
Master of ceremonies Lorne Greenwood kept the shows moving while providing some local humour along the way. Vocalist Lesley Andrew raised the roof of the large barn with renditions of show tunes while the Audrey Meredith Dancers kicked up their heels in Las Vegas style.

Rounding out the entertainment was the jazz sax of Glen Wicks who entertained along with daughter Judy Hunter on keyboard. Mrs. Hunter also accompanied Ms. Andrews.

"The shows were wonderful," said Mrs. Harrison.

An added feature at this year's night of games of chance and stage shows was a fortune teller. Joan Cooper looked ahead in the lives of more than 40 patrons that evening.

The Milton Las Vegas Stakes final horse race was won by Hornby James, an entry by Jamie Snow. He's



Photos by GRAHAM PAME
Singer Lesley Andrew gets another black jack from dealer Austen Hirabayashi at Las Vegas Night on Saturday. Keeping things lively on the stage were the Audrey Meredith Dancers (photo below).



now a two-time winner of the race which features the winner from six qualifying runs. Horses were purchased and named by their owners. They progress along the "track" based on numbers determined by the spin of a wheel.

An estimated crowd of more than 500 had a chance to win a trip for two to Las Vegas courtesy of Uniglobe CanTravel but only one ticket could win and it was held by Debbie Charlton of Milton.

Other tickets were sold for draws throughout the night. Items won and winners included: four framed

prints, Barb Snow; wooden ducks, Ralph Hall; Richard Warnock print, Sylvia Bursey; brass ceiling fan, Mary Wilson; dinnerware, Mike Leworthy; wine basket, Amy Hayden; rocking chair, Helena Donaldson; library table, Ruth Bousfield; balloon ride for two, Diane MacDonald; trip to Atlantic City, Bill Currie.

Three draw items were not claimed and ticket holders are asked to check their numbers and contact town hall at 878-7211 if they've got winners. The winning numbers are: 0372357; 0371941; 0582439.

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