Despite objections, Brookville development a go

By BRAD REAUME

The Champion

Despite objections from local residents the hamlet of Brookville will get a third and final phase of new homes. Several residents spoke at last week's town council meeting, outlining their objections, however council pushed the 16-lot subdivision forward.

"We have been trying to move this thing for 8-9 years," said property owner Jerry Janik. "We have dealt with all of the issues that I'm hearing tonight."

Much of the u-shaped Janik property is wetland and modifications to the subdivision would keep development well away from the environmentally sensitive areas. In addition, each wetland area would be attached to a specific lot in order to assign specific responsibility.

Jim Williams, the owner of the property inside the u-shaped Janik parcel, suggested the area was very wet. Other local residents agreed, some complaining of a very high water table which leads to flooded basements and septic problems.

"It's wet. They want a subdivision come hell or high water," said Elizabeth Norrington, who

farms an adjacent land parcel. "Well, we already have the high water."

Mr. Janik called the development "fill neutral" saying the sloping nature of the property would not be disturbed by grading or bringing in fill. He said there would be a minimum impact on trees, calling the trees an asset to development.

Rural councillors Rick Day, Barry Lee and Gerry Brooks voted against the development. Mr. Brooks said he could not convince himself that the project was not an artificial expansion of the hamlet boundary.

"We have gone on record saying this kind of

development is crazy and we keep approving them, thinking each is the last," said Mr, Day.

Milton director of planning Mel Iovio suggested Mr. Day was referring to rural estate subdivisions, which aren't attached to any settlement community or hamlet, and called the Janik proposal a different thing. Mr. Day-said the only difference was that one type of development was inside an artificial boundary and the other was not.

Mr. Iovio stressed that the town has stringent controls on current hamlet boundaries. The land in question is west of Guelph Line and north of current residential development.



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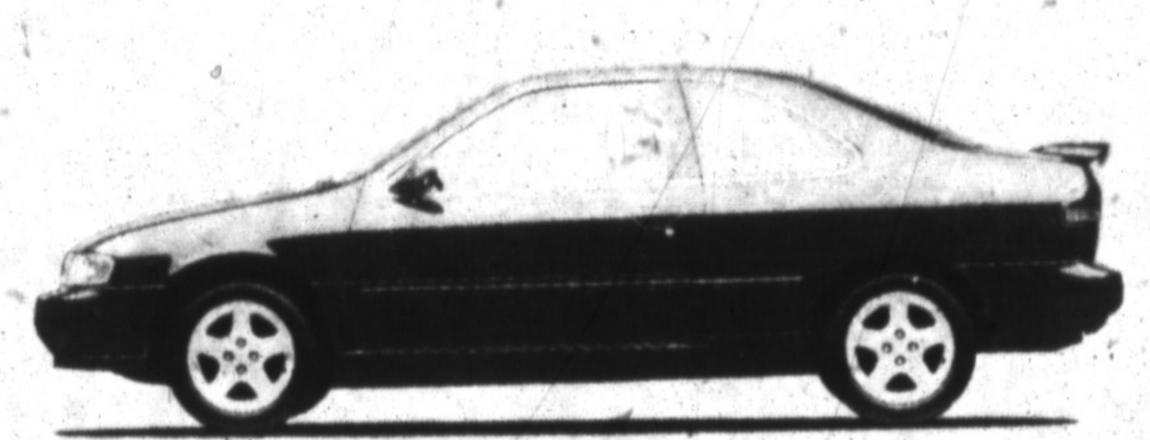
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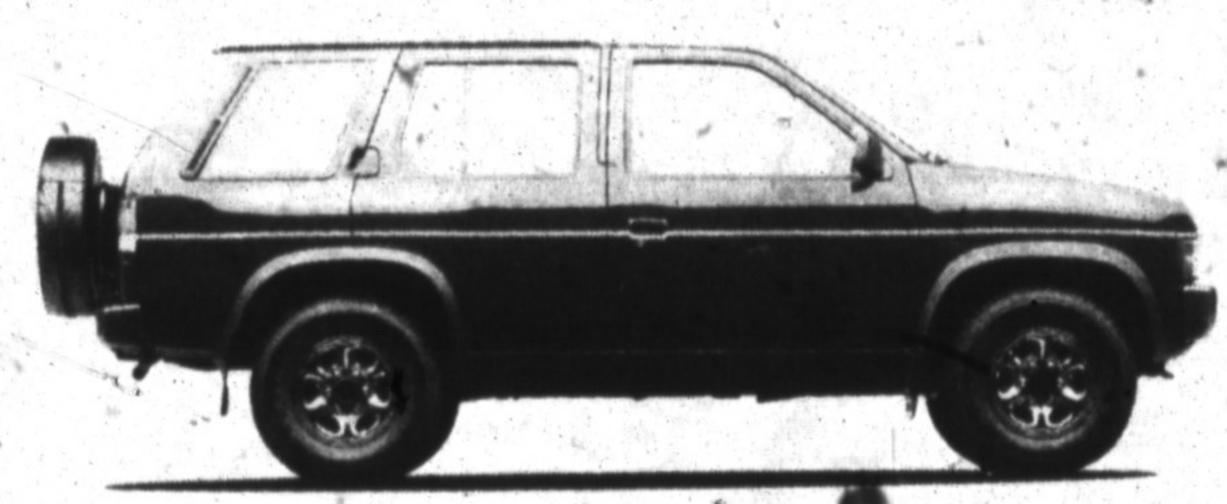
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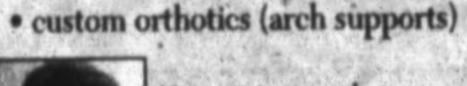
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