

# Bad feelings likely to linger at hydro

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"It was the only responsible thing the commission could do," he said.

Mr. Thorne said with no cost increases the agreement is a good one.

"I think it's a good deal for customers of Milton Hydro," he said. "It doesn't add to their costs."

The contract covers a period from October 1, 1995 to December 31, 1996, so negotiations for the next contract are not far off.

"We could be right back in trouble again December 31," Mr. Davy said.

Also as part of the agreement, the union dropped an unfair labour practice suit it filed with the Ontario Labour Relations Board against the commission.

However, assault and theft charges against a Power Workers' Union member from another local remain before the courts.

The charges allege a picketer squeezed a management employee in a doorway and grabbed a key from her as she entered the building.

Management eventually sought a court injunction to control picketing outside the hydro building. Management was successful in limiting delays to five minutes, but failed to control the number of picketers.

The commission hired a security company and required legal assistance during the turmoil, but brought in no contract workers. Management handled the entire workload, which included two major electrical

storms. "The vast majority of customers saw no difference in the level of service," Mr. Thorne said.

Mr. Thorne said he feels numb following the heated dispute and he's glad it's over.

"It's been a very difficult time for all of us — management staff and students," he said from his office. "I certainly feel for the people that were out there, too."

He said management is prepared to move forward and work co-operatively to implement its restructuring initiatives in January.

"We know we have to work together to put things back together," Mr. Thorne said. "I'm optimistic everyone's going to feel that way."

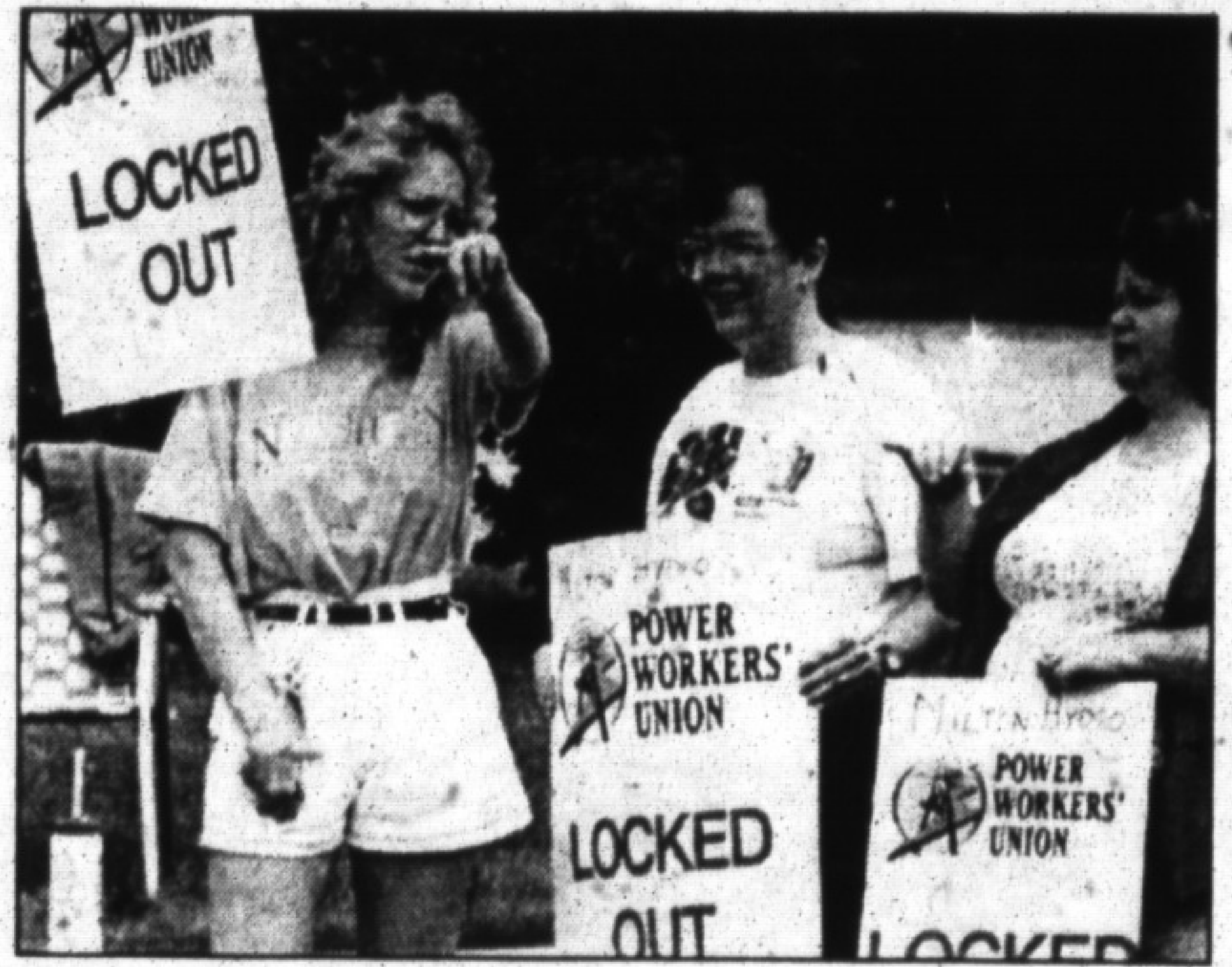


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Picketing is now a thing of the past for Milton Hydro workers, following a settlement last Wednesday night.

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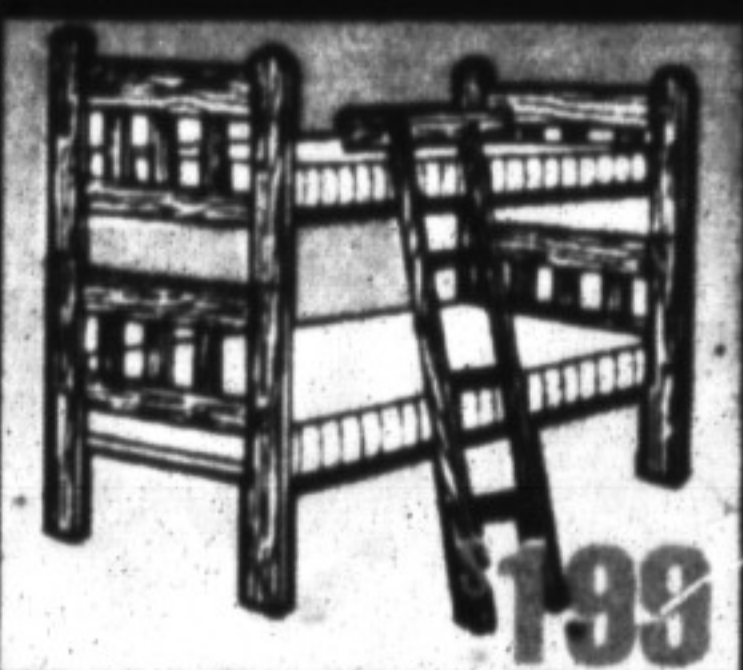
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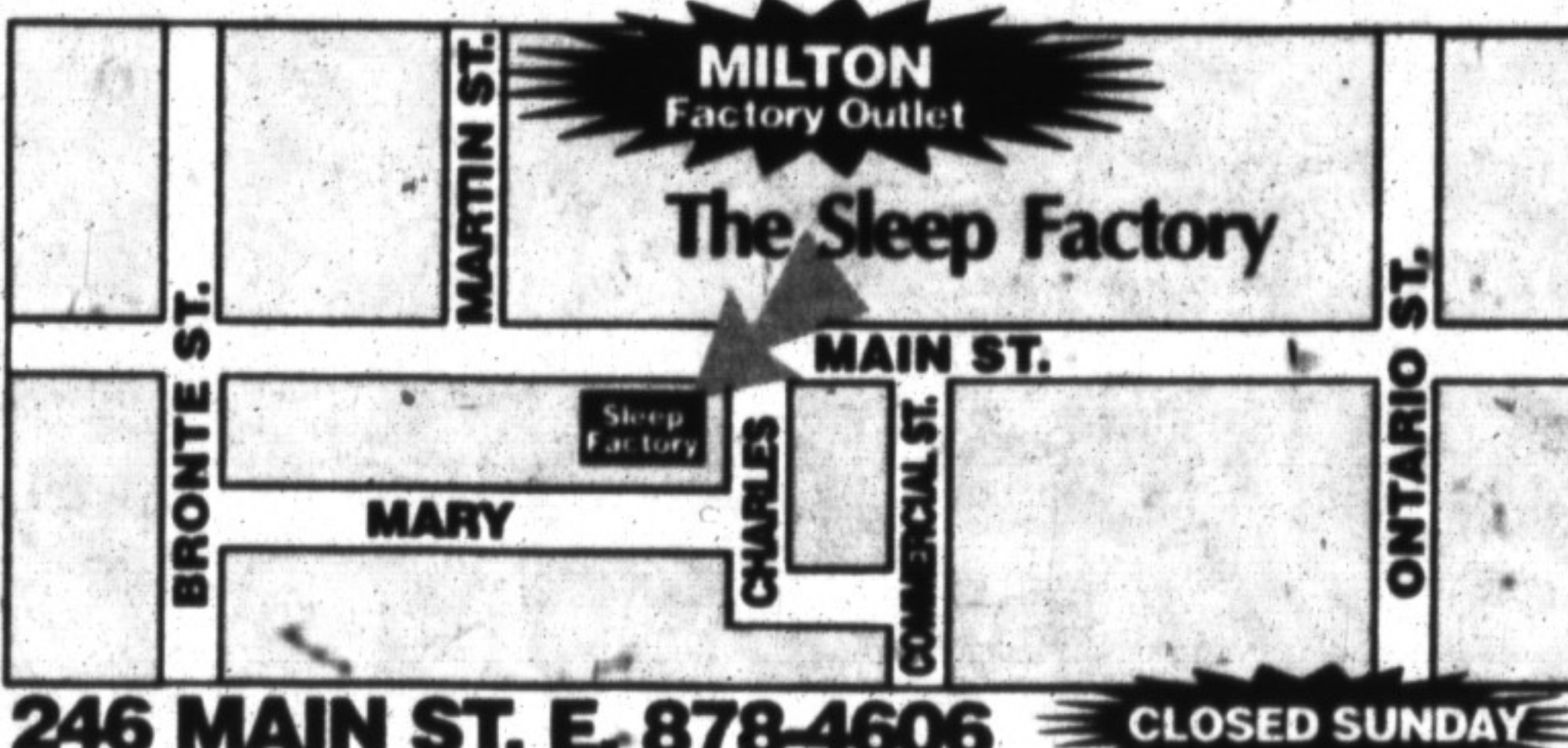
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CLOSED SUNDAY

## Alert citizen halts runaway road machine

An alert Milton man may have prevented damage to the downtown core after a group of youths pulled a foolish prank.

Some youths started up a rolling machine at the Main and Martin Street construction site and sent it moving southbound on Martin Street Friday at 11:30 p.m.

### Police Blotter

However, a 37-year-old man who saw the incident jumped onto the machine and brought it to a halt, Halton Regional Police said.

"That's a pretty big machine," said Acting Staff Sgt. Joe Martin. "That could cause a lot of damage."

The youths fled west on Millside Drive.

### Tractor-trailer unit stolen

A Milton man lost his \$158,000 tractor-trailer unit to thieves overnight August 20.

The 1995 unit was stolen from a Nipissing Road compound sometime between 8 p.m. August 20 and 5 a.m. August 21. The culprits cut the lock on the fence's gate to gain entry. Tracks indicate the truck was driven away northbound on Thompson Road, police said.

### Stolen car recovered

A Chrysler New Yorker stolen from a Campbellville Road home overnight Saturday was recovered in the Hamilton area.

The thief entered the house through an unlocked rear door and found the car keys on the kitchen table, police said.

### Thieves target Kelso gatehouse

A telephone and a portable cassette radio were stolen overnight Friday in a break-in at the Kelso gatehouse.

The culprits slid open a window of the conservation area building to get in.

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