

Candidacy applauded

The municipal elections promise to be exciting contests everywhere this fall, but nowhere so much as Tiny Township. In particular we must acknowledge the candidacy of Tony Lancia and Peter Stubbins.

Lancia is going to run for reeve again this year. We applaud that decision. Whatever you might think of Lancia's policy statements - for far too long he maintained that he would not accept a dump in Tiny under any circumstances, for instance - he is an individual that speaks his mind and has the guts to face the resulting criticism when he says too much.

What's more, he emphasises open government and an effective council that works together and not against each other. Municipal issues are rarely delineated by ideology. Party labels don't mean as much because the issues are defined in more pragmatic terms.

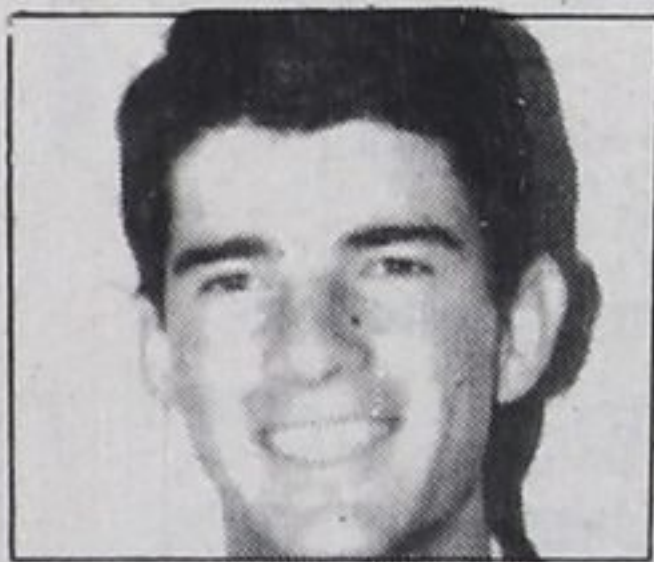
What's important is that candidates exude energy and confidence in their municipalities. Lancia certainly does this.

He would offer Tiny council a fresh burst of exuberance, some good common-sense ideas and a strong sense of cooperation.

We might say the same for Peter Stubbins, who's running for council. Tiny would benefit from some rejuvenation.

Maybe you don't agree with everything either of these men say; we don't either. But they do make suggestions and their enthusiasm should be awarded with the voter's support.

SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND? SEND US A LETTER!



As I See It

Tourism industry redefines image of labor

by David Krayden

While attending a reception sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism last week, the thought occurred to me that we are a society of tourists.

Some of the figures quoted by Tourism Minister Hugh O'Neil were fascinating. The money and employment generated by the "industry" is amazing.

I find the use of this word - industry - particularly fascinating. We speak of tourism like we'd speak of textiles. Tourism has no factories, generates no tangible product and has no effects that can be empirically measured, except for the fact that it makes money.

Yet it is a revenue maker that might become the number one industry in the western world by the year 2000.

Heaven forbid that I should criticize tourism or tourists. Everyone loves both, right? Visitors come into our town and stay

at our hotels, eat in our restaurants, shop in our stores. They buy things and spend money and the local merchants like that.

Of course they do. They should. Conservatives, liberals and socialists can all agree that we like tourism; it's good for the economy; it benefits the local merchants in particular; it's the major growth sector for job creation and it's where the future lies.

Take last week's gala event at the Highland Inn. I talked to politicians from every party. Tourism is non-sectarian dogma.

But if we examine this trend and extrapolate from there, I think it reveals some disturbing trends. I think tourism is possibly the best example of the way in which the word "industry" has been redefined in the last two decades to reflect a labor that reorganizes instead of creates.

Let's put it this way: Canada and the United States are rapidly becoming nations of people who sell Big Macs to each other.

Is this bad?

At the very least, it's curious.

For instance, industry is fast becoming identified with the leisure world. We make money on tourism in Canada from Americans; subsequently we spend money in the United States when we vacation there.

They entertain us and we entertain them. Goods are exchanged.

Labor, as something contingent upon sweat and grime, is almost evanescent. Machinery is replacing workers at an increasing rate.

Sometimes the consequent layoffs are rectified by job retraining.

But what are they retrained for?

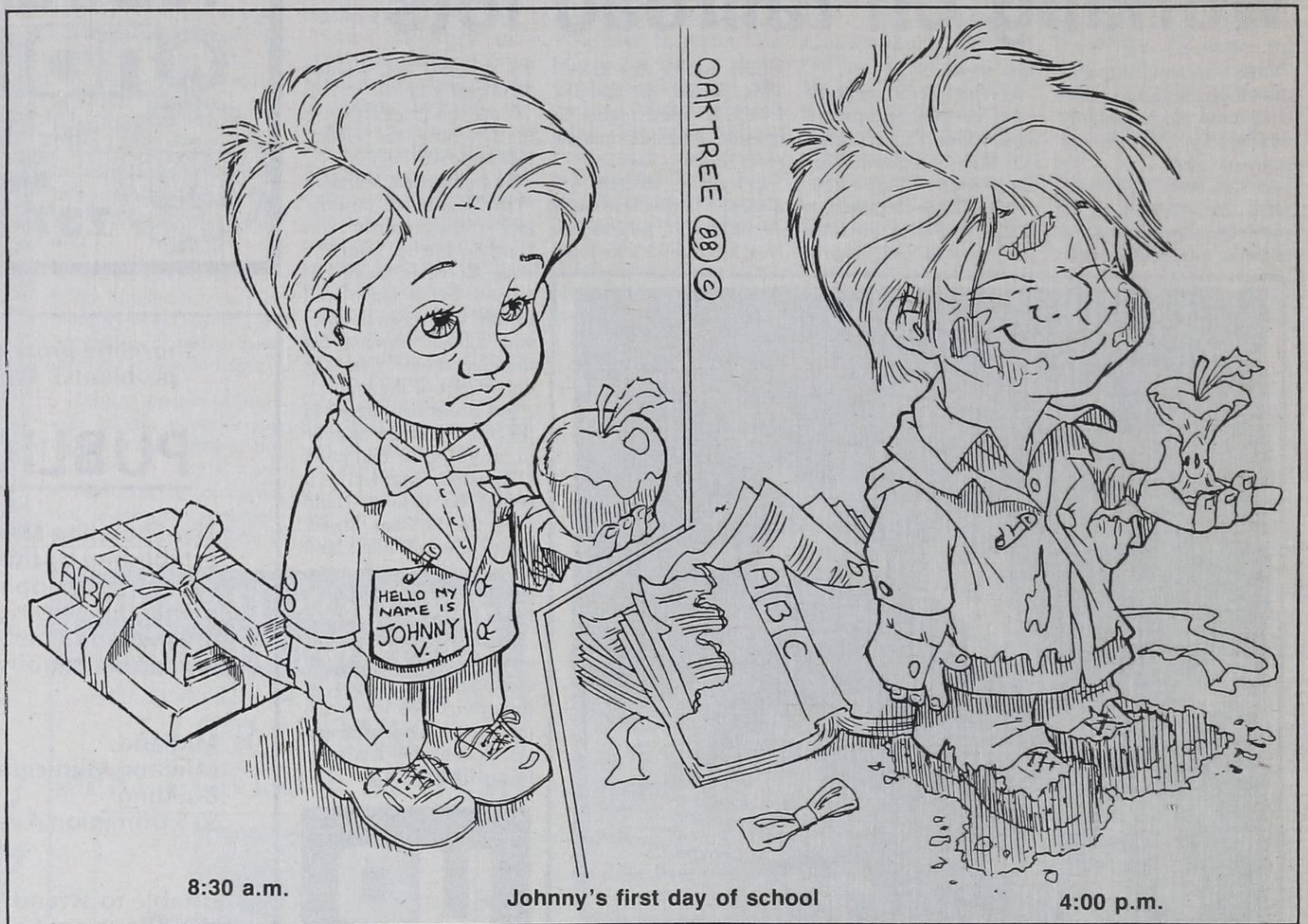
Computers now dominate the world. Labor

is largely conducted on terminal screens.

What about the factory workers who will inevitably lose their jobs to continued modifications in technology? Will they be retrained for other tasks? Can they be retrained from the world of hardware to the world of software? Or will the unemployed increasingly be directed into the hospitality and tourism trade?

The central paradox is this: as industry becomes synonymous with leisure, the pace of the world quickens. Computers, fax machines, conference calls: everything is designed to eradicate the barriers of time and space. We must work faster and produce more.

The fabric of society is changing before our eyes and so quickly that we are at pains to acknowledge it.



Letters

This reunion took team work

Dear Editor:

After a number of months of planning, the Midland Indians Reunion is now history. The response to the reunion on Aug. 19 and 20 was beyond our wildest dreams. The number of players that returned was so great, four teams had to be made up to play Saturday's slo-pitch game.

It was so great to see many players, executive, families and fans that weekend. We are sure many memories of the great Indian teams of the past were brought back, and so it should be.

Besides the chance to get together, the people who returned were here to honor Bernard

"Bunn" Deschamps. For many years, this man was the key driving force behind the success of the Midland Indians. His tireless efforts on behalf of baseball in the town of Midland were rightfully recognized that weekend.

From all accounts, the weekend was a tremendous success. The committee wishes to thank all participants and especially the group on the following list for helping us bring about this successful reunion weekend: Ron Thomlison, MSS, Huronia Office Services, Scott Printing, Midland Centennial, Arena, CKMP, Rick Lemieux, dis jockey, Little General/Armco Foods, Orr's Jewellers,

Midland Free Press, Gamma Signs, Benoit Landscaping, Woods Ice, Midland Parks and Recreation Department, MacLean Hunter Cable, Bayshore Travel, TRW trim division, Ken Black, MPP, Molson's Brewery, Emery Cadeau, Randy Brown, artist, Royal Canadian Legion, Midland Times, Jeff Mitchell, video, Penetang Bottling, The Hunters and Anglers.

Yours sincerely,
Midland Indians
Reunion Committee
C. Graham, J. Faragher,
T. Moore, J. Greene.

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Member



Member

Letters

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