



## 1988: Year of 'Store Wars'

JIM QUANTRELL, AT A GLANCE

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*Cambridge archivist Jim Quantrell takes our readers back for a glance at events which occurred 10, 15 and 20 years ago.*

### EVENTS FROM 20 YEARS AGO

#### *Third week of July 1988*

City council wasted no time in getting a new Hespeler arena project underway. In a special meeting, council voted to go directly to tender on the new arena and community centre complex after seeing the preliminary plans.

The estimated cost of the new complex that could eventually be expanded to a twin pad ice facility was \$5.7 million. That was \$1.2 million more than the \$4.5 million already allocated to the project. The higher cost came as a result of a number of features incorporated into the preliminary design and the architect's estimates of potential tax, labour and inflationary costs. Among the features of the complex was an Olympic-size ice surface with seating for 710 spectators, a 300-seat community hall and a large glazed lobby. Tenders were to be received by the end of August and the project was to be completed by September 1989. The old Hespeler Arena was to be closed in October and demolished.

It was beginning to look likely that Cambridge's "Store Wars" would enter its second year of hearings. City officials announced that the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) hearings into the city's decision to approve the construction of the Cadillac-Fidra mega mall at Pinebush and Hespeler roads would continue into the fall. The OMB hearing had been initiated by an appeal launched by Glenarin Acres Ltd. the owners of the John Galt Centre after council turned down its application for the multi-use designation of its Hespeler Road property, now Cambridge Centre.

### EVENTS FROM 15 YEARS AGO

#### *Third week of July 1993*

After years of waiting, west side residents got a grocery store when Sobey's Food Village opened in the newly refurbished Westgate Centre on Cedar Street. The plaza owners rebuilt much of the existing plaza expanding it to approximately 63,000 square feet.

### EVENTS FROM 10 YEARS AGO

#### *Third week of July 1998*

The concept for a proposed Economic Development Corporation designed to promote Waterloo Region and Guelph was unveiled. The proposal included a recommendation that at least \$750,000 be spent annually to support staff, office space and core programs. A spokesperson for the City of Cambridge noted the proposal could be very beneficial to the city. That being said there were a few areas of concern regarding the proposal and most of them concerned "who did what".

For the second straight year Kirk Maltby of the NHL championship Detroit Red Wings brought the Stanley Cup to the city for a visit. Maltby and the cup were at Cambridge Centre where about 400 local residents had their photos taken with Maltby and "Stanley". Maltby then took the cup to the pediatrics ward at Cambridge Memorial Hospital.

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