

Don Gordon Milton mayor



THE RESULTS were in when regional councillor Jim Watson (right) arrived at the Lions Hall to discuss the race with Milton Mayor-elect Don Gordon.

Councillor Don Gordon defeated Mayor Anne MacArthur in what has to be described as one of the tightest races in the history of the town. Gordon squeaked to victory with a narrow margin of 145 votes.

Gordon never held a substantial lead during the evening and in fact lost that lead at points. More than 200 people watched results come in at election headquarters in Milton Memorial Arena Monday night.

For much of the evening the two were within a dozen votes of each other and each new posting of results from another poll carried with it the possibility of a change in leadership.

In 1974 Mayor MacArthur rode into office with what seemed a nominal margin of 233 votes. Now, three years later she has been defeated by an even more undecided electorate.

Gordon brings with him three new faces to the council table. Brian Penman will hold Gordon's old seat, representing ward one while Rose Harrison and Emmerson McCready will fill the two vacant seats in urban Milton.

Gordon credited hard work as the key to his success. In contrast to the MacArthur campaign he ran a low profile campaign without even a campaign manager.

He and his wife hit the streets three weeks ago and conducted an exhausting

door-knocking campaign, rapping on more than 4,000 doors. Gordon said he had five or six people he met with and accepted advice from but he reserved the task of door knocking for him and his wife.

No butterflies
Gordon said he had been confident but not over-confident going into Monday night. "It's my sixth election. This might sound odd, but I never had any butterflies."

Asked if he would take a different approach at the regional level, Mr. Gordon said he would want to discuss the industrial amendment with new members of council before taking a stand at the region.

He said he would continue to support Milton's position, opposing a major landfill site in Milton and he would also oppose any move to abandon the chargeback system. Both Milton and Halton Hills officials have opposed moves towards equalized assessment.

It was midnight before Mrs. MacArthur appeared at Election central. Many of the people who had been there for the evening had left by then to go to victory parties or home to bed.

The defeated mayor made no effort to conceal her bitterness. After thanking campaign manager Doug Foley and others who campaigned for her she told those who remained that she felt the electorate had voted for change for change's sake and that she didn't feel it would be a change in Milton's best interest.

"It is obvious to me now that it is not what you can do, what you are able to do or what you have proven you can do that counts."

"It's a case of change for change's sake and a change that is not particularly in

Milton's best interest. I ask councillors to work hard for me to keep Milton on the path we so ably put it on."

Unified Milton
"I still say no one could have unified Milton the way I did."

She said she felt she had been right on the stands she took and hoped that council would carry on her philosophy. "Milton is still my home, not my new home. I have a rest coming to me. I've been working since I was seven years old and this is probably the best thing that could have happened to me."

On her way into the room the mayor did not congratulate Gordon but she shook his hand and then moved quickly to a spot in the room to speak. She left quickly, acknowledging supporters as she left. In all she wasn't at the hall more than 10 minutes.

Most councillors chose not to publicly support either candidate during the campaign but it was generally felt that most of the incumbents supported the re-election of the mayor.

Get behind him
Nassagaweya area councillor Russ Powadiuk had campaigned for the Mayor during the election. When the results were known he said councillors would have to get behind the new mayor.

"I hope Gordon can come as close to excellence as Anne did. She took on an impossible task both at the region and with the town financially. She moved the town ahead and spent a lot of time in administration to do it."

The urban ward swung the election for Gordon with a 2,013 to 1,599 win in that ward. Mrs. MacArthur won Nassagaweya with 1,000 votes but she gave up 464 in her home ward.

Voting at a glance

MAYOR	
*Gordon	3036
*MacArthur	2891
REGION	
Ward 2	1340
*Goutouski	2159
*Kerr	
Ward 1 & 3	954
McMillan	1218
*Watson	

COUNCIL	
Ward 2	1029
Cartwright	1293
*Harrison	1165
Hinton	1977
*Krantz	931
Lambert	747
McColeman	1862
*McCready	2038
Melanson	690
Russell	973
Wood	
Ward 1	653
*Day	107
Lawrence	439
*Penman	225
Saunders	
Ward 3	416
Carney	842
*Clements	492
Newton	721
*Powadiuk	

BOARD OF EDUCATION	
Ward 1 & 3	734
*Armstrong	710
Johnson	484
Knoflach	
Ward 2	2021
*Lawson	809
Richards	

Gordon won in his home ward, capturing 505 votes but he gave up 292 votes in the ward.

Mrs. MacArthur won all 12 ward three polls while Gordon won six of the seven polls in his home ward.

Gordon won 25 of the 32 urban wards and it was the urban ward serving as neutral territory that told the story.

Don't slip up

Don't wait for spring to clean up around the house or at work.

Many serious accidents and health hazards are caused by poor housekeeping, cautions the Industrial Accident Prevention Association.

Materials and scrap scattered around, liquid cleansers or tools left within the reach of small children; all these things could cause injuries, damage, and less

productive work. Take a closer look at your housekeeping, says IAPA. Clean up, don't slip up.

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Incumbents back

With the exception of Milton Mayor Anne MacArthur, all sitting members of Milton Council who contested positions were returned to office in Monday night's election.

Veterans Art Melanson and Gord Krantz topped the urban contest polling 2,038 and 1,977 respectively. Emmerson McCready and Rose Harrison will join the incumbents at the council table.

McCready won with 1,862 votes, almost 600 votes ahead of Mrs. Harrison. Blanche Hinton ran a close fifth followed by Gord Cartwright, Don Lambert, Lester Wood, Don McColeman and Vee Russell.

Area councillor Jim Kerr was successful in his bid to move up to the regional level, defeating Gus Goutouski 2,159 to 1,340. As an area councillor Kerr had been popular, topping the polls in ward two.

Bill Lawson retained his ward two seat on the board of education with no difficulty, defeating Paul Richards 2,020 to 809.

Top polls
Incumbent Rick Day topped the polls in ward one with 673 votes.

Brian Penman, Irene Saunders and John Lawrence competed for the second ward one seat. An educator, Penman is one of the three new faces that will come to the board table in January.

Incumbent Jim Watson withstood a challenge from Don McMillan, winning 1218 to 954. Watson defeated McMillan three years ago in the first regional race.

Armstrong in Ivan Armstrong won his bid to return to the board of education. Armstrong served as an urban Milton trustee on the board of education in 1973 but lost his seat to Bill Lawson in 1974.

Rather than challenge Lawson this time out Armstrong ran in wards one and three and will fill a seat vacated by veteran trustee Doug Woods.

Neil Johnson gave Armstrong a close run for his money, losing by 21 votes.

Rosemarie Knoflach also ran but polled well below Armstrong and Johnson.

Brad Clements topped the polls in a four way race with 842 votes, followed by Russ Powadiuk with 729 votes, Elva Newton with 492 and 416 votes for Howard Carney.

Both back
Both Clements and Powadiuk were acclaimed in the last election. Mr. Carney had attended council meetings on a regular basis since September and had put up what observers thought was a creditable fight.

Elva Newton campaigned largely on her desire to secede from the region. The fact that she ran as well as she did might be an indicator of the animosity people in Nassagaweya feel for regional government.

Hobby farmers study horses

by Mark J. Leahy

The December meeting of the Halton Hobby Farmers' Association was held at the Agricultural Office, Milton, 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 2nd. Guest speaker was George Coverdale from Kilbride. Mr. Coverdale discussed conformation in horses and suggested ways to avoid being taken when dealing with an experienced horseman.

A general discussion followed concerning the feed-

ing and management of horses.

Biggest upset in region

Mary Munro upset Burlington Mayor George Harrington ending Harrington's nine year stint in the mayor's office. That was probably one of the biggest upsets in the region.

Mental health

The Ministry of Health has approved a proposal for funding a community mental health service for Milton and Halton Hills.

The proposal was prepared and submitted by the Halton Regional Health Unit who will

administer the service. The mental health service will be operated over an initial trial period from January 1977 to March 1979. The continued operation will hinge on full evaluation at that time.

Cheques out early

The federal government's income security cheques for December will be issued earlier in the month than usual. Family Allowance cheques, which would have been delivered Dec. 20 are now scheduled for delivery around Dec. 10.

Canada Pension Plan, Old Age Security, Guaranteed Income Supplement and Spouse's Allowance cheques are scheduled for delivery around December 22, approximately one week earlier than normal.

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