

Your choice

Richard Forster
Staff Reporter

Was it the man or the party? That was the question many voters answered to their own personal satisfaction as they cast their ballots last Thursday.

Perhaps several things stood out in the minds of people when it came time to consider the area candidates for the new riding of Halton Burlington. The stubbornness of Julian Reed in keeping the Norval School issue alive in the minds of so many could not help but attract favour whether or not they agreed with the issues at hand.

It was this strength and determination of the man that focused attention to Julian Reed.

As the polls checked in throughout the night it was clear that Julian would become the first member of the provincial legislature for this new area. Clear leads were evident in many of the polls that had one time been considered "Conservative".

Many residents felt it was time for a change from Bill Davis to perhaps a Liberal or NDP government and the decision was then to select a true representative of the people. Since Norval school was closed Mr. Reed gave many hours trying to save the school and satisfy the needs of the Norval people.

His recognition of those needs made him the ideal choice.

With each victorious poll that came in Reed headquarters shook as the resounding cheers of loyal supporters echoed through the halls that until Julian announced his candidacy had been empty.

Georgetown favoured the local personality giving him the necessary votes to lead in the final results. Of the 41 polls in Georgetown area Reed dominated in all with the exception of the four polls at Centennial Senior Public School which favoured the Acton candidate, Gary Dawkins.

There were a few tense moments as the 500 vote lead depicted on the tote board dwindled to less than 200 but with each telephone call the lead began to spread back to the 500 mark that gave even clearer indication of who would be representing the people of Halton.

During the day as the votes were cast Julian and his wife Deanna visited many of the 157 in the Halton-Burlington riding and as the ballots were tallied, a return visit to each of the campaign offices was made until the final votes were in and a return visit was made to the Norval school.

Julian was speechless as he arrived amidst a crowd of supporters, fans reporters and photographers. On the way to Norval an announcement on the radio made it clear that he had won.

Less than an hour before the final results were in the analytic computers of the major network indicated Julian's victory as the provincial picture began to change bringing the NDP in as the official opposition.

With the only spot in the cramped quarters being a deaf top where Julian could be seen and heard above the cheers and the chatter as the television set revealed the provincial scene.

In a brief speech Julian thanked everyone who was responsible for the victory that will give him the chance to represent the people of the area he calls home. "It wasn't me that got myself elected, it was you that elected me."

Following that, a night of celebrating with a few choruses of "I Saw the Light" to indicate the new feeling that many former conservatives felt when they decided it was time for a change.

Julian kept issues alive in the interest of the people he had chosen to represent in Norval now he will represent the rest of Halton Burlington and its people with their important issues.



A RESOUNDING CHEER as the Norval polls registered an overwhelming majority in favour of the native candidate.



ALWAYS A SMILE. Fran Baines, president of the Halton-Burlington Progressive Conservative Association gives a smile and a few encouraging words to PC candidate Gary Dawkins after his defeat last Thursday evening.

The tallies

	Dawkins	Johnson	Reed
Poll 39: Stewarttown PS	94	48	119
Poll 39A: Stewarttown PS	63	49	93
Poll 40: St. Paul's Norval	80	41	140
Poll 41: St. Paul's Norval	33	28	18
Poll 42: Lorne Gavin's RRS	93	84	154
Poll 42A: Lorne Gavin's RRS	62	42	75
Poll 43: St. Alban's Glen Williams	44	38	88
Poll 43A: St. Alban's Glen Williams	83	94	134
Poll 44: Ross Ballantine's	30	34	103
Poll 45: Limehouse PS	6	17	17
Poll 45A: Limehouse PS	58	47	105
Poll 46: Knox, Acton	80	51	91
Poll 47: Joseph Gibbons PS	57	31	62
Poll 48: Joseph Gibbons PS	91	76	113
Poll 49: Joseph Gibbons PS	69	59	74
Poll 50: Joseph Gibbons PS	30	37	40
Poll 51: Joseph Gibbons PS	49	66	65
Poll 52: Georgetown DHS	33	26	22
Poll 53: Mrs. I. Kearns'	32	53	35
Poll 53A: Mrs. I. Kearns'	25	19	29
Poll 54: Knox Church, Georgetown	53	51	115
Poll 55: Knox Church, Georgetown	67	34	86
Poll 56: Knox Church, Georgetown	53	29	61
Poll 57: Knox Church, Georgetown	65	17	48
Poll 58: Knox Church, Georgetown	53	4	38
Poll 59: Fire Hall, Georgetown	28	35	66
Poll 60: Fire Hall, Georgetown	48	35	50
Poll 61: Holy Cross Church	49	45	81
Poll 62: Holy Cross Church	44	44	74
Poll 63: Harrison PS	62	45	63
Poll 64: Harrison PS	60	65	70
Poll 65: Harrison PS	65	57	81
Poll 66: Holy Cross Church	39	16	36
Poll 67: Holy Cross Church	83	57	75
Poll 68: Harrison PS	39	20	30
Poll 69: Harrison PS	65	65	97
Poll 70: Harrison PS	70	65	90
Poll 71: Centennial SPS	56	65	95
Poll 72: Centennial SPS	70	70	116
Poll 73: Harrison PS	66	56	83
Poll 74: Centennial SPS	65	41	41
Poll 75: Centennial SPS	90	39	75
Poll 76: Centennial SPS	111	41	103
Poll 77: Centennial SPS	65	41	41
Poll 78: St. Andrew's	51	37	65
Poll 79: St. Andrew's	115	65	107
Poll 80: St. Andrew's	38	16	27
Poll 81: St. Andrew's	38	25	77
Poll 82: St. Andrew's	47	60	56
Poll 83: George Kennedy	76	65	99
Poll 84: George Kennedy	64	63	53
Poll 85: George Kennedy	96	44	66
Poll 86: George Kennedy	108	54	99
Poll 87: George Kennedy	34	35	70



BILL JOHNSON, NDP candidate, is flanked by two staunch supporters, (left) Archie Brown, (right) Alec Petrie and vows that the fight has just begun.

Bill Johnson

The battle continues

By Colin Gibson
Staff Reporter

As the returns were posted at Bill Johnson's NDP campaign headquarters in Milton last Thursday night and it became increasingly obvious that he was running third, the NDP candidate resolved to put this election behind him and concentrate on the expected future battle.

Reed took the election polling 10,998 votes to Gary Dawkins 10,535 and Bill Johnson's 6,587 and although their was satisfaction at the NDP showing, there was some bitterness in the camp as the party had been realistically pointing at a second place finish. Johnson had expected to collect a majority of the area's uncommitted vote and it was in this area where the biggest defeat was felt.

Although not willing to point the finger for this failure, Johnson did admit that if the campaign had to be run over again, certain changes would be instituted.

The atmosphere at the campaign headquarters was relaxed and although the returns showed the party lagging behind in this riding, there was a definite lack of recriminations or defeatism and in fact the feeling that dominated was that this was merely the first round in what will be a continuing fight. Bill Johnson was in no way disconsolate over his defeat and indicated that if the party so desired he would once

again stand as a candidate. The feeling of the NDP people at the headquarters was that Bill Johnson was the man for the party in this area and would in all probability carry the banner in the next election.

Alec Petrie, who has worked for the NDP party in this area for years and who acted as Johnson's campaign manager in this election felt that his man was the hardest worker the NDP has fielded for quite some time and voiced the opinion that once the people of this riding became more aware of his candidate and what he stands for there could be a significant change in the area's voting pattern. The majority of the people at the NDP campaign headquarters felt that the Liberal victory by Julian Reed was a good sign for them, as this area has traditionally been Conservative and now that the mold has been broken, anything is possible.

With a minority government now in power in Queen's Park, the general feeling is that another provincial election is not that far off. Both Bill Johnson and Alec Petrie echoed this opinion and as far as Johnson is concerned, his campaign has already begun. Prior campaign mistakes will be eliminated, lessons learned implemented and the mood of the area NDP organization is such that they feel they will put up a much stronger showing when the next "call to the polls" is heard throughout Ontario.

Gary Dawkins

A disappointing election night

By Doris Lindauer
Staff Reporter

It was far from a happy, jubilant optimistic atmosphere at Georgetown's Progressive Conservative headquarters last Thursday evening. As each polling station revealed their results the atmosphere became more and more pessimistic. However, after working so hard, for so many months, none of the volunteers or PC boosters were willing or ready to face a defeat.

It became more and more obvious as the tally board neared completion that Gary Dawkins was not to become victorious in the Georgetown area. The constant communications between the Georgetown headquarters and the returning office kept the PC followers up-to-date in the riding results.

With each phone call either June Magnuson or Judy Goebelle, who were posted at the phones the entire evening eagerly picked up the receiver in hopes of obtaining some encouraging news. One phone call in particular practically raised the roof. The returning office posted their latest results which showed that the PC's were in the lead for the riding. Needless to say, this was one of the few joyous moments experienced by any of the Gary Dawkins boosters.

With Gary at the main headquarters in Milton, the disheartening results were a little easier to take without having to face the defeated candidate.

Watching the television broadcast closely, all those at the headquarters became aware of the overall political picture in Ontario. It

proved apparent that the PC strength was not as sturdy as expected.

However it wasn't until shortly after 11 o'clock that June Magnuson received the final phone call telling of Gary's defeat. With a forced smile and an attempt to sound not too let down June announced that Gary had conceded. Thus with a 'smile no matter what' attitude and 'let's give Gary a smile' the volunteers and faithful voters proceeded to Acton Legion to give Gary their best.

It wasn't until well after 12 o'clock that Gary arrived. Cheers, claps and 'He's a jolly good fellow' welcomed him as he entered the room. With a brave smile Gary stated that he was not going to give a speech but, no matter what the outcome showed, felt and run the best campaign with the hardest working volunteers of the three parties. One by one, each friend, acquaintance and well-wisher approached Gary, shook hands and gave some encouraging words.

Near the close of the evening, the sound of bagpipes were heard and in marched a true blue PC'er playing the pipes. It wasn't until 'Amazing Grace' was played that the atmosphere reflected the true feelings of the crowd. A few tears and bowed heads revealed that all those who supported Gary were indeed feeling the sorrow of their loss.

No one held the 'oh, well win some lose some' attitude. For Gary the many many volunteers and the PC voters it was a 'we lost it all' attitude which clouded the halls of the what was to be the victory party for the Progressive Conservatives of Halton-Burlington.



A HEARTY CONGRATULATION was received by Julian Reed from campaign organizer Bill Sykes.

A quiet Thursday night

The heart of the Halton-Burlington election scene last Thursday night was a relatively quiet place. The riding returning office, located in the Milton Curling Club, occasionally caught the atmosphere of election night excitement as deputy returning officers from throughout the riding arrived with their ballot boxes and forms and

stayed a few moments to catch a glimpse of the overall riding picture. But for the most part the office under the constant watch of returning officer Ray Coulter was a low-key scene of people keeping track of numbers.

The only murmur of the evening arose at 9.12 when the total board showed Gary

Dawkins in the lead by one vote over Julian Reed. But in a matter of five minutes the lead had switched back to Reed with 79 polls in. With an oh-so-narrow 5,219 to 5,200 lead the Liberal trend was beginning to show.

By 9.30 Reed's lead had grown to 88 votes with 93 polls reporting. Bill Johnson at that point was relegated to a strong

third having accumulated to this point 4,036 votes. With 100 polls reporting and the results two-thirds in Reed's lead had slipped by 22 votes, now down to 66 votes.

But at that point Georgetown polls began to be tallied and the Liberal lead began to strengthen once again. Ten o'clock saw Dawkins trailing now by 148 votes with 110 polls

heard from. The final result was still very much in doubt. With 114 polls in Reed had built a 190-vote lead, that stretched by 10.30 to 275 votes with 120 polls in.

Then the returns began to slow down. It wasn't until nearly 20 minutes later, with an additional three polls heard from and Reed in the lead by

329 votes, that Canadian Press and the CBC finally proclaimed Reed the winner in Halton-Burlington.

It wasn't until approximately 11.30 that the final tally was arrived at. It showed Julian Reed had drawn a total of 11,078 votes across Halton-Burlington's 157 polls and Bill Johnson was third with 6,645 votes, 4,432 votes behind the winner.