

THE INDEPENDENT

Gymnasts end season
with Oshawa meet

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Region trying to attract
tourists— chair

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FRIDAY...

"Phishing" season is under way but e-mail users don't want to get hooked, say local police officials. See details in Friday's edition.

For breaking news go to:
www.independentfreepress.com



It's hot... but not THAT hot!

Okay, so it wasn't quite hot enough to fry eggs (or bacon) on the pavement, but Ares Restaurant owner Sam Govas was willing to give it a try Monday as the temperature reached 36C. Some relief is expected for the rest of the week with the temperatures settling into the high-20s with the chance of thunderstorms.

Photo by Ted Brown

See TAKING, pg. 3

**CHECK OUT THESE
Hot Deals on Wheels**

ON PAGE 10

FROM GEORGETOWN CHEVROLET

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Councillors' attendance rates an 'A'

CYNTHIA GAMBLE
Staff Writer

With five meetings remaining in the 2003-2006 term, the attendance record of the 11 members of council is generally good.

There have been 64 council meetings so far (from Dec 1, 2003 to July 10, 2006), and only Ward 3 Councillor Mike Davis had perfect attendance. His ward mate, Moya Johnson has the worst attendance record, missing seven regularly scheduled meetings (three in 2004, three in 2005 and one so far in 2006).

There are, on average, 25 meetings per year during the three-year term.

In an interview, Johnson said the meetings were missed for a number of reasons: major surgery in 2004, business meetings and out-of-the-country vacations.

"It's a sensitive issue," Johnson said. "People think you don't care if you don't attend a meeting, but nothing could be further from the truth. We (councillors) don't take missing a meeting lightly."

Johnson says if she knows that a missed meeting is unavoidable she works with her ward mates (Jane Fogal and Davis) to ensure her views are known on an issue, or that it is deferred to the following meeting.

"We are a team, and as councillors as a whole, we are respectful of each other's need to be away at times, for whatever reason. ... I do feel the community understands that and that I represent them well."

Mayor Rick Bonnette has missed two meetings (one in 2004 and the other this year).

Wards 1 and 2 Regional Councillor Clark Somerville missed only one (in 2006) while Wards 3 and 4 Regional Councillor Jane Fogal was absent for three—one in each of the three years.