Martin says he wants tax cut Selection '97

By BRAD REAUME The Champion

Nobody wants a tax cut more than federal Finance Minister Paul Martin. Just ask him.

Mr. Martin made the comment at a Friday morning fundraiser for local Liberal candidate Julian Reed. However, he said he wouldn't fund the tax cut by closing hospi-

tals or reducing education financing.

"The days of over-spending, over-reaching, and over-taxing governments are over," said Mr. Martin. "Money comes from the hard work of Canadians. We need to spend money on things that are important. We have chosen to invest in health care, education, and old age pensions."

In an impassioned speech explaining his approach to deficit reduction, Mr. Martin slammed both Jean Charest, leader of the Progressive Conservatives, and Preston

Manning, leader of the Reform Party. He also took time to praise Mr. Reed, saying he has steered Liberal efforts in agriculture, ethanol fuel and the "new economy."

Paul Martin

Mr. Martin received several standing ovations from the partisan Liberal crowd. The event, held at E. C. Drury High School, coincided with a similar visit by Mr. Charest in Milton.

Mr. Reed introduced Mr. Martin by reminding everyone of the state of the Canadian economy when the Liberals took power in 1993.

"At the time we had been called a Third World country by the Wall Street Journal," said Mr. Reed. "The transformation since is nothing short of a miracle and is due to the vision of Mr. Chretien

Mother charged with impaired after crash that hurt kids

A Guelph woman faces impaired driving charges in Wednesday's van-truck crash that injured her two children.

The crash occurred on a known problem curve on Guelph Line near the Leaver Mushroom plant at 4:30 p.m.

A southbound minivan occupied by a woman and two children crossed into the northbound lane and collided with a tractor-trailer, said Halton Regional Police spokesman Sgt. Frank Phillips.

"Fortunately, the tractor-trailer driver saw the van approaching and took evasive action that in the investigator's opinion prevented one or more occupants in the van from being killed."

Two people in the tractor-trailer were unharmed, however the woman, a six-year-old girl and a five-year-old boy, who was ejected, were rushed to Milton District Hospital.

The six-year-old girl was later transferred to Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto.

None of the injuries are considered to be life threatening, police said.

Charged with driving with over the legal limit of alcohol in her blood and two counts of impaired driving causing bodily harm is a 46-year-old Guelph woman.

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and Mr. Martin."

Mr. Reed said Canada is expected to lead industrialized nations in growth for 1997.

"When we were first elected, our financial backs were against the wall," said Mr. Martin. "Now we are being held up as an example of what a country can do."

Mr. Martin admitted high unemployment is a matter of great concern to the Liberal Party. He claimed recent job statistics that showed a slight rise in unemployment were due to a stronger economy and have encouraged those who gave up to begin looking for work again.

"Very clearly, as a country we have come a long way and very clearly we have a long way to go," said Mr. Martin. "That's what this election is all about. Who is going to complete the job?"

Mr. Martin said Progressive Conservative Party financial numbers are wrong and added that now is not the time to make an error. Examples of Reform Party mathematics explain why Mr. Manning is so interested in improving education, he said.

and to their aspirations for their children," Mr. Martin said. "The difference between Liberals and others is a belief in a better future."

After his speech, Mr. Martin said Mr. Charest is not credible on his call for balanced budgets coupled with tax cuts. He also said that Mr. Charest had called for an \$8 billion cut to provincial transfer payments, but is now objecting to that strategy used by the Liberals.

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Inning is so interested in improving education, he said.

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