

# The Canadian Champion



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## No conflict on party money, say winning rural-area councillors

By KAREN SMITH

*The Champion*

Recently-elected rural councillors say there's nothing wrong with three prominent local businesses sponsoring their community party this Friday.

Asked by *The Champion* if it was wise to allow three companies that could have future dealings with local government to financially support their gathering, the party hosts said they see no problem.

"We wouldn't have done it if there was even the remotest possibility (of a conflict of interest)," said Wards 1 and 3 regional Councillor Barry Lee, who is co-hosting the social event with Lieven Gevaert and Cindy Lunau.

"There's nothing to it."

Ms Lunau denied that the move could put her in a compromising position later on if one of the sponsoring companies came to council with a problem or a request.

"Whatever the issue was, I would judge it on its own merit," she said.

She added that none of the hosts will benefit directly from the event because the party is for the community.

Mr. Gevaert couldn't be reached for comment.

The free 'Thank You Celebration' at the Halton Country Inn from 5 to 9 p.m. is supported by Leaver Mushrooms, Terratec Environmental, Thorburn Penny Ltd. and other local businesses.

Leaver Mushrooms is a large mushroom growing and processing company in the Campbellville area. Terratec Environmental spreads processed sewage sludge on rural agricultural land, a Halton Region program. Thorburn Penny is a Milton engineering firm that bids on municipal government work.



Cindy Lunau

The party is advertised as a celebration of community spirit for those who participated in the municipal election either as a voter, campaign worker, candidate or election official.

"I think it's a wonderful idea," Ms Lunau said.

Complimentary chili and cider will be served and entertainment will be provided by a comedian.

Both Ms Lunau and Mr. Lee said they didn't know how much money the companies were donating for the party. Mr. Lee said it would depend on how many people showed up.

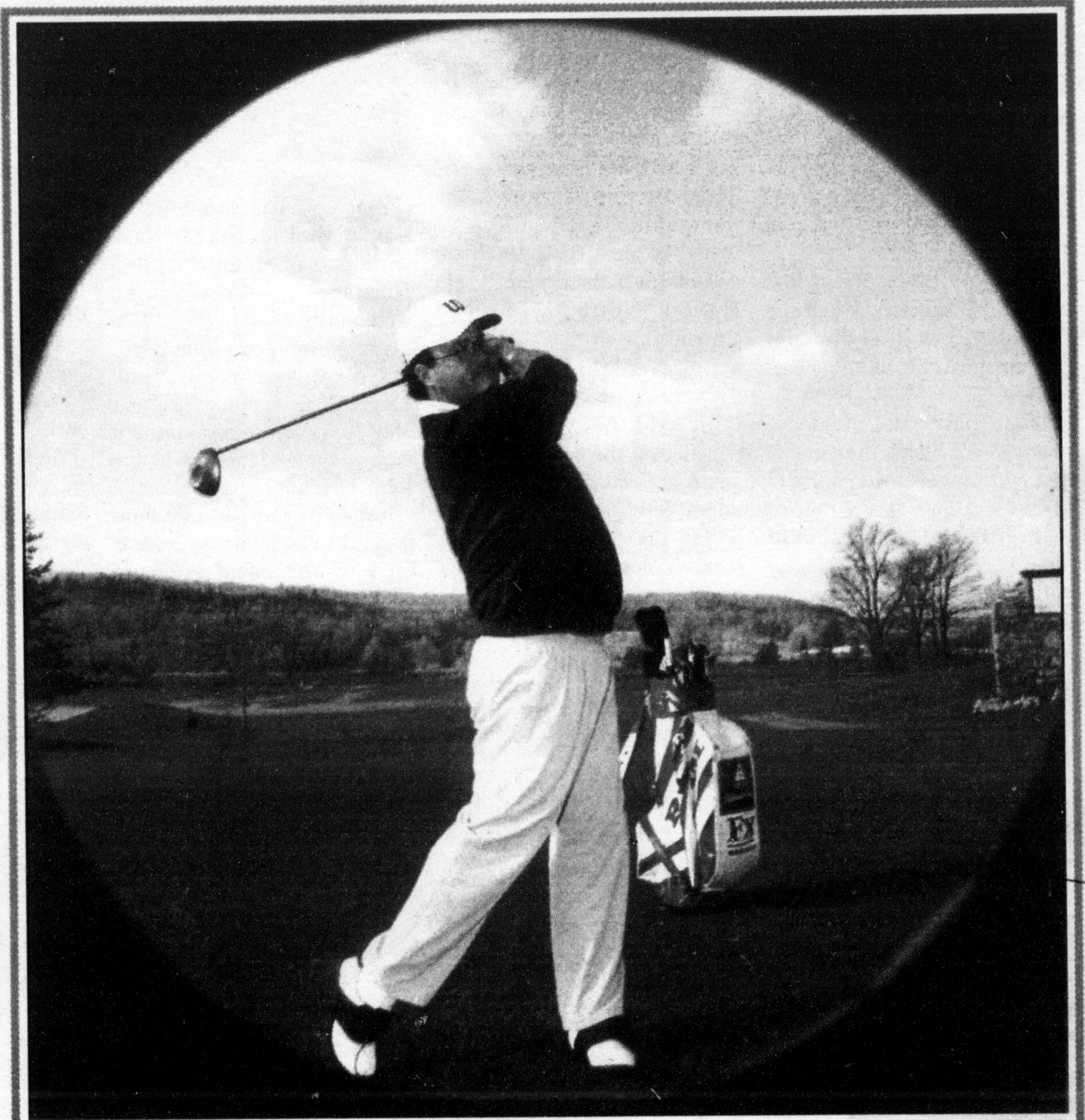


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

## Season-ending swing

Amid Saturday's sunny skies and unseasonably high temperatures, Granite Ridge's Jeff Davis couldn't resist getting in a few last swings before closing up the pro shop for the winter.

## Local posties are disappointed

By KAREN SMITH

*The Champion*

The probability of being legislated back to work brings disappointment and frustration to local postal workers.

"We're all upset that they couldn't negotiate something," said Jim Cassidy, a picket captain for Milton local 223 of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW), outside the Brown Street post office.

At press time yesterday, the federal government was expected to introduce back-to-work legislation in time for the Christmas rush after mediated negotiations between Canada Post and the CUPW were far from a settlement.

If the legislation came to light, Mr. Cassidy said he believes Milton's 35 mail carriers and wicket clerks would comply and return to their jobs.

"We don't like it, that's for sure. But there's not much we can do. It's legislation. We could face fines."

Miltonians have been without mail service since the postal workers walked off the job November 19.

Canada Post and the CUPW are reportedly at loggerheads over how to update the mail delivery service.

Among the bones of contention is how the routes of letter carriers are measured and the amount of time

• see MAIL on page 4

### NEWSLINES Fund has a long way to go

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The Champion's Christmas Bureau Fund is moving along as it enters its third week. To date, \$3,430 has been donated to the Salvation Army fundraiser. But there's still a long way to go as this year's goal has been set at \$20,000.

To contribute, drop off donations by cash or cheque (payable to Christmas Bureau Fund) at The Champion office, 191 Main St. E.

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