

Photo by STEVE LeBLANC

Martha Gleeson celebrates with husband Pat after being named 1997 Citizen of the Year Saturday at the Chamber of Commerce's Community Awards Gala.

Gleeson chosen top citizen

By STEVE LeBLANC

Special to The Champion

Tartha Gleeson has scored countless victories IVI for Milton's youth and elderly over the years. Saturday night the entire community gave one back.

The highly decorated basketball coach netted top prize at the Chamber of Commerce's annual awards gala, where she was named the 1997 Citizen of the Year.

Also nominated were Brad Clements and Judy and Bob Wallace.

In true team-player fashion, the Campbellville mother of four was quick to redirect some of the spotlight, adding "this award is much more than Martha Gleeson."

A sizable chunk of the town's population was thanked during her acceptance speech — everyone from fellow Cancer Society canvassers and teachers at Our Lady of Victory to immediate members of team Gleeson.

She described her husband Pat — the other driving force behind Monarch Basketball — as the advisor, consultant and visionary of the family, which was unfortunately missing one member this year.

"My mother recently passed away. I wish I could

Hipgrave

moves on

moving on.

Milton's chief administrative officer is

David Hipgrave will become executive

director with the Society of Management

Accountants of Ontario — the governing

body for all 13,000 management accoun-

He tendered his resignation yesterday

"They (the accounting group) sought me

out through a professional recruiter. It's a

great opportunity, one that's too good to

pass up." said Mr. Hipgrave, who's certi-

fied as both a management accountant and

ships over the years and will remember

"I feel I've built a lot of strong relation-

morning and will officially end a five-and-

tants across the province.

professional engineer.

a-half year stint as CAO May 1.

town council and staff fondly."

share this award with her," said Ms Gleeson afterwards. "My parents helped me develop a strong work ethic and taught me that there is some good in every-

Fundraising for the Cancer Society, singing with Our Lady of Victory Church's choir and working towards establishing a senior's complex are among Ms Gleeson's many selfless acts.

She said she was completely taken aback by the honour and that her hands were shaking during the entire presentation.

Misty eyes only turned to full-fledged tears afterwards when dozen of well-wishers began circling her

These same supporters were likely among those who voted her in since, for the first time in the Community Awards' history, the public chose their top citizen.

Said Ms Gleeson, "I think in some ways it means even more that the community got to vote this year."

Topping a class with Antero Gomes and Ren Siblock, Betty Bassett and Roy Metcalfe were chosen as the Business People of the Year.

Their commitment to supporting local artists — as

see AWARDS on page 23

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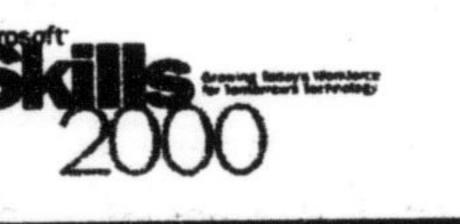
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Mr. Hipgrave is particularly proud of his see CAO on page 23

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