



Photos by LISA CARTWRIGHT

Don Bell, owner of Shoppers Drug Mart on Main Street (left), accepts his award for Businessman of the Year. At right, Businesswoman of the Year Edwina Doddington, operator of Safe and Sound Children's Centre, stands with her sons Bill, 7, and Ben, 9.

All nominees honoured at annual Chamber awards

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lists how much each community in Ontario raised. And each year, Milton — despite having fewer people — places in the top 20, she

"This is proof positive that this is the best community of a town of upwards of 30,000. And as we about to grow, we have the head start of being the best community in the Ontario with a population of upwards of 80,000."

The couple not only thanked the community for its support, they also thanked the Terry Fox organizing committee — many of who had joined them for the evening for all their hard work and dedica-

The awards presentation began with Fred Johnson who accepted his Lifetime Achievement Award.

Master of ceremonies Father Mark Curtis compared Mr. Johnson's life to the movie 'Planes, Trains and Automobiles'. Father Curtis said the long-time Milton resident missed the train to go overseas to fight in the Second World War twice, he worked on famous airplanes and, at 91, is still

driving.

Father Curtis spoke about how Mr. Johnson has volunteered all his life and still takes children through the war museum at the Legion and sells poppies in November.

Mr. Johnson received a standing ovation from the crowd.

Named Businessman of the Year, Mr. Bell thanked his staff for all their hard work. He also thanked his family. "I would like to thank my family who are with me tonight for all of the late dinners and for putting up with a businessman for the last 30 years."

Doddington also thanked her family as well as her staff, both past and present, for making her successful.

new title."

John Gates, plant manager of Meritor Suspension Systems Co., accepted the Business of the Year Award (26 employees or more). He thanked the people of Milton.

Giving back to the community is something the company takes seriously, he said.

"It is something we'll cherish forever. Thank you."

Dale Devlin, owner of Halton Automotive and Industrial Supplies, also thanked his staff for his business's success. Mr. Devlin and his wife Mary took home the Business of the Year Award (25 employees or less).

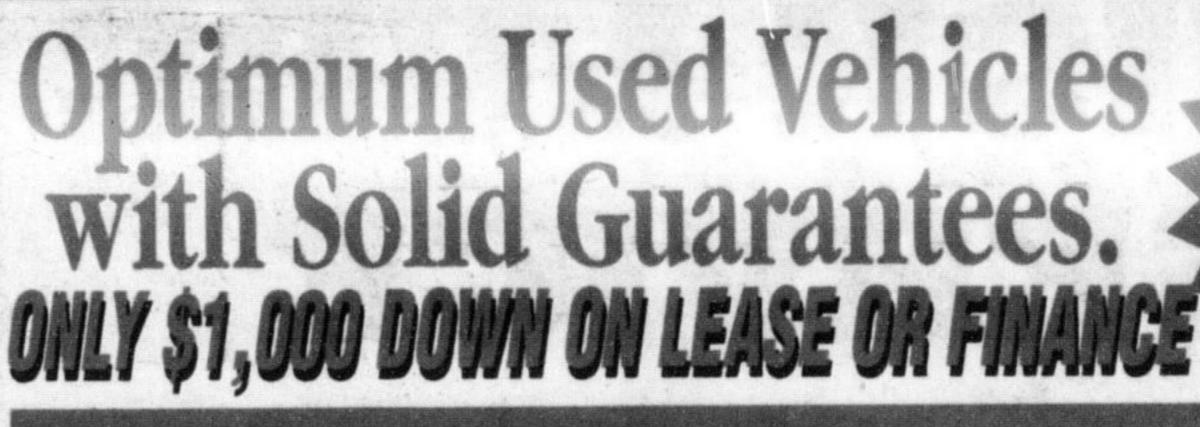
"On behalf of (the staff) who make this company, I accept this award. Thank you."

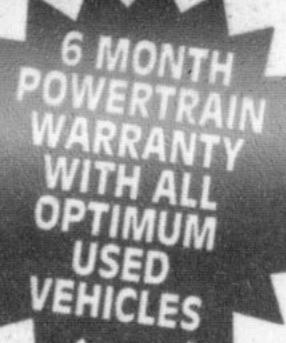
All the nominees received plaques honouring their achieve-

The other nominees included: Businesswoman of the Year, Ms Doug Kocher of McKersie Kocher Funeral Home for Businessman of the Year, Melissa De Brouwer of Security Financial Bick She said being presented with the Corporation for Businesswoman of award will make her work even the Year, Derlan Aerospace harder. "I hope I can live up to my Canada and Loblaws for Business of the Year for 26 employees or more and Great Canadian Bagel and Koski Glass for Business of the Year for 25 employees or less.

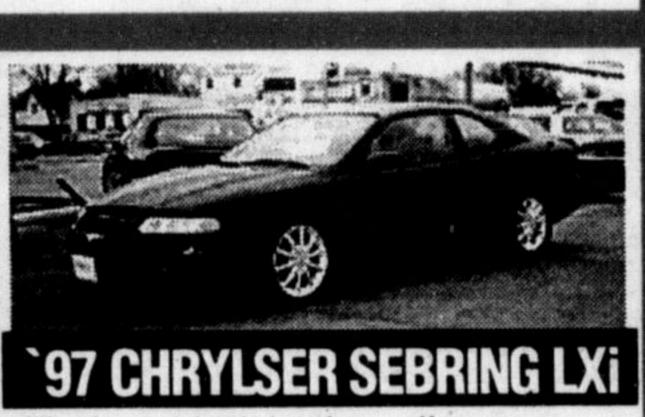
> Michael O'Gorman, president of the Milton Chamber of Commerce, congratulated all the nominees.

"It's people like you that make this town great."









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