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Jubilant Reed takes riding in easy victory

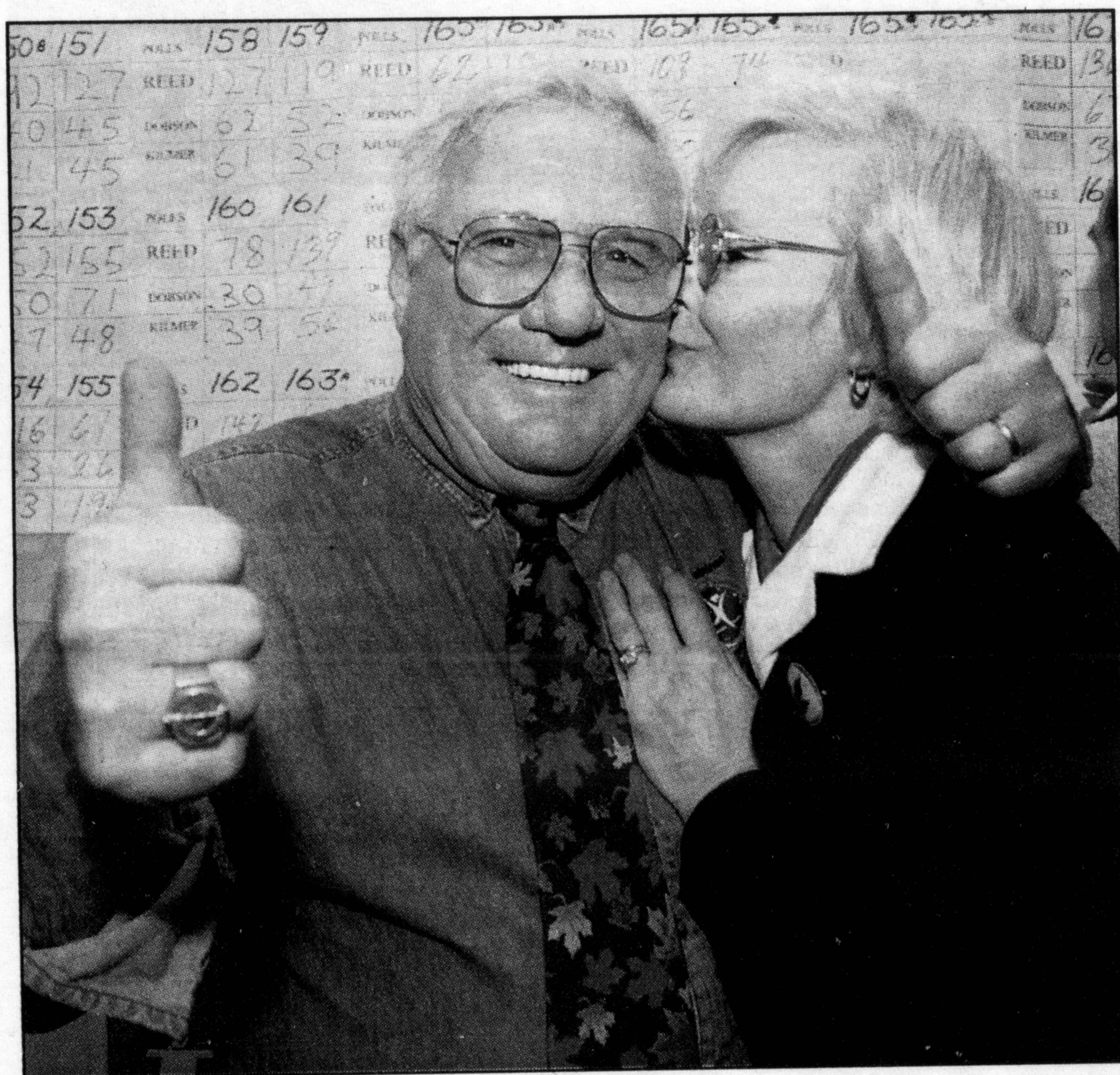


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Victorious Liberal incumbent Julian Reed gets a kiss from wife Deanna at his Main Street campaign office. Mr. Reed, elected to his third straight term in federal politics, had no problem retaining his seat.

HALTON RIDING RESULTS (UNOFFICIAL)

Julian Reed (Liberal)	28,270 (47.3 per cent)
Tim Dobson (Canadian Alliance)	15,664 (26.2 per cent)
Tom Kilmer (PC)	12,114 (20.2 per cent)
Brenda Dolling (NDP)	2,633 (4.4 per cent)
Tom Adams (Green Party)	1,019 (1.7 per cent)

Liberals hang on to majority government

By STEVE LeBLANC

The Champion

The Liberal red tide steam-rolled its way to another majority government last night, and Julian Reed went along for the ride.

The actor turned politician pulled off the three-peat, once again winning the lion's share of votes in Halton and remaining firmly entrenched as the riding's MP.

While early results strongly suggested a convincing victory, the 64-year-old Norval resident kept his emotions well guarded until local NDP flag bearer Brenda Dolling dropped by his Main Street campaign office to offer congratulations.

At that point it was nearing 11 p.m. and both media and supporters were becoming anxious for Mr. Reed to recognize his win.

So in keeping with past days spent on stage and screen, he gave the audience what they wanted.

"This is very satisfying. The people of Halton have been very good to me, I just hope I can live up to their expectations," said Mr. Reed, who took all but one of the first two dozen polls showing and won many by more than twice that of the Alliance Party's Tim Dobson and Progressive Conservative Tom Kilmer.

About the only difference once the polls closed last night — compared to the country's 1997 election — proved to be a favourable one for Reed's Liberals.

The party made significant headway in previously Liberal unfriendly Atlantic Canada — which, according to campaign manager John Day, was a good omen for the night ahead.

Said the Georgetown regional councillor, "This speaks well to a majority (government) in Canada. At this stage, it bodes well."

Mr. Day gave high praise to the more than 100 volunteers who helped return Mr. Reed to Ottawa.

The incumbent was equally apprecia-

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JULIAN REED

tive, stating, "It (support) was a little slow with the municipal election, but it was there when we needed it and the phone gang was fabulous today (Monday).

"Elections are not won by one person, but a dedicated group of people. I'm just the medium at the present time."

Taking an overview of the first few dozen polls, Mr. Reed said he was somewhat surprised by the support for Mr. Dobson, explaining that door-to-door calling indicated "a lot of people were worried about the Alliance."

Halton's MP credited a stable and credible platform with delivering his party back into power.

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TIP OF THE MONTH:

Does Your Pet Have Healthy Teeth; and Why You Should Be Concerned?

Periodontal "gum" disease is one of the most common health problems seen by veterinarians. In fact 85 to 90 percent of all dogs and cats over six years of age have periodontal (gum) disease. The signs of periodontal disease are bad breath, bleeding, inflamed or receded gums, infection, changes in appetite, difficulty chewing or tooth loss. Periodontal disease can be painful and can contribute to kidney, liver and heart disease. If you have noticed any of these signs, schedule a consultation for your pet. Because pets do not care for their teeth the way people do, dental problems can be extremely severe and life threatening. Fortunately most dental problems can be prevented or if they develop they can be treated by your veterinarian.

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