

# McTavish left disappointed after board refuses recount

By JASON MISNER

The Champion

Unsuccessful Milton public school board trustee John McTavish is disappointed he won't be getting a recount, but he vowed to run again in 2006.

With 6,000-plus votes cast for the trustee's position in the municipal election, Mr. McTavish asked the Halton District School Board for a recount after losing by 20 votes to Paul Tate.

The board Wednesday ruled 6-3 against it, citing money as the main reason.

The recount would have been conducted by the Town of Milton, but the board would have had to reimburse it for the costs, estimated to be between \$2,000 and \$4,000.

Mr. McTavish wasn't able to attend the board meeting because of out-of-town business commit-

ments. But in an e-mail to The Champion, he thanked the thousands of people for their support, and said he will vie again for the trustee's seat that narrowly eluded him.

"I'm sorry that the board was not able to grant the recount. I wish all the best to the new board members, and I exhort them to always maintain quality education for our children as their top priority. I'll be back in three years to try again."

Mr. Tate said he's relieved a decision has been made about a recount and that he knows where he stands as Milton's new public school board trustee.

"I'm happy that I know exactly what's going to be happening in my future," he said, noting he attended the board meeting last week.

He said he hopes the public does-

n't question the results, as close as they were, given there will be no recount.

"I didn't mind the thought of having a recount if there is any doubt that I shouldn't be there," Mr. Tate said. "I've done some research on it and the history of election results being overturned by recounts are extremely rare."

"I think if some (at the board) thought it would change, they would've voted yes."

Mr. Tate is already off and running on the job. In addition to fielding steady phone calls from parents, he has a number of meetings set up over the next week to discuss school issues.

The new school board will be sworn in December 3.

Jason Misner can be reached at [jmisner@miltoncanadianchampion.com](mailto:jmisner@miltoncanadianchampion.com).

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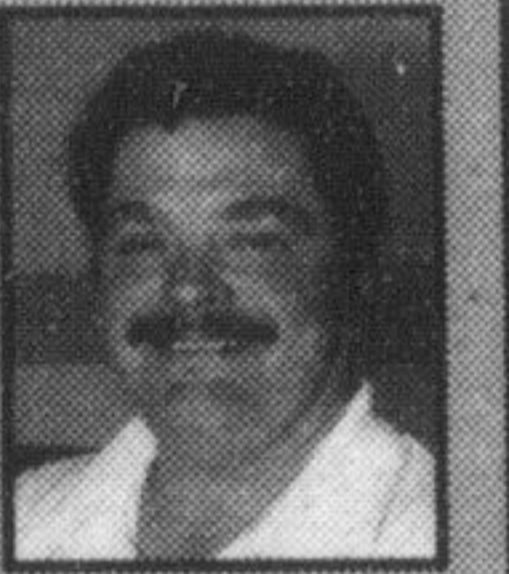
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