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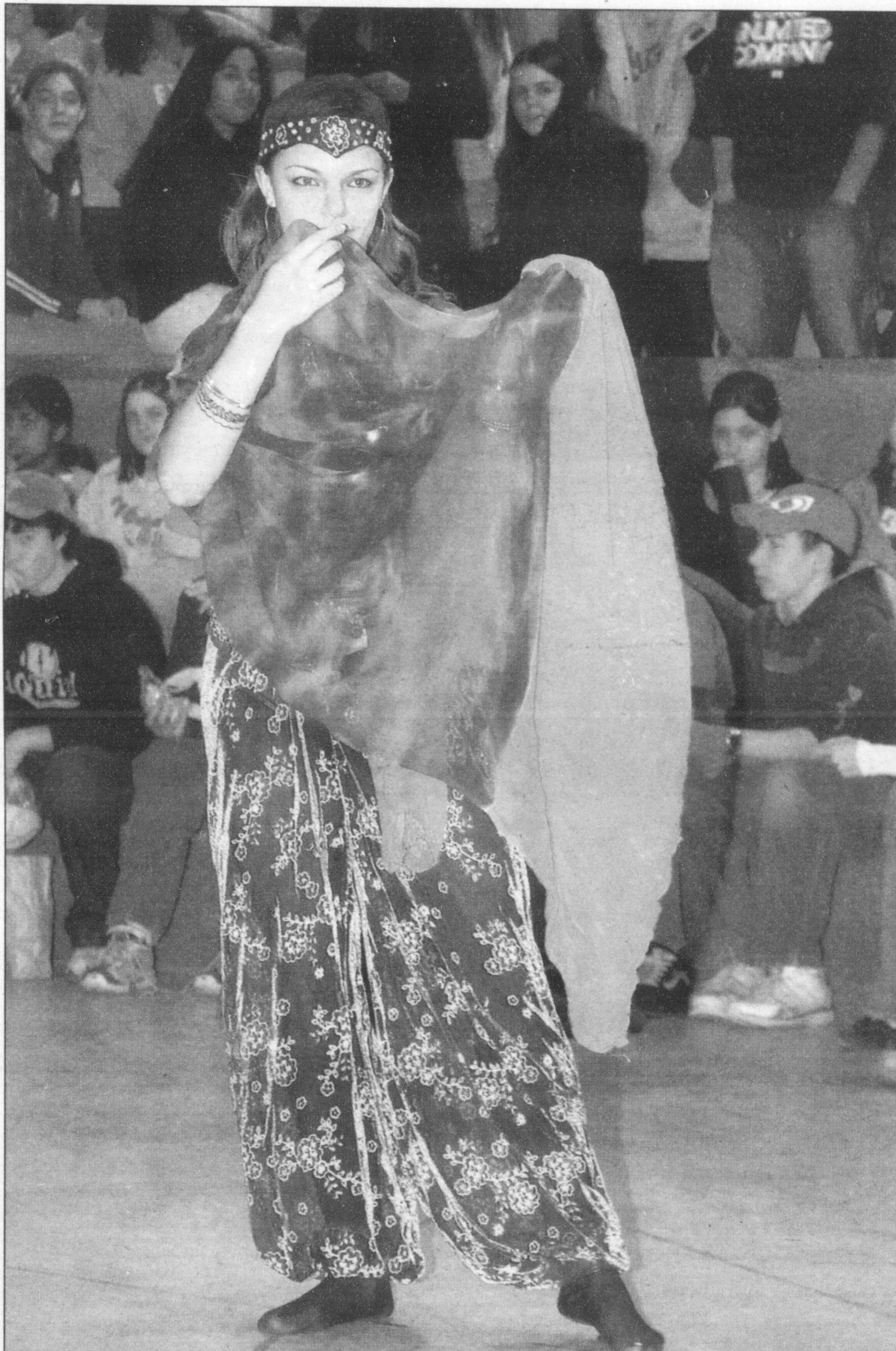
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GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY: E.C. Drury student Ashley Carlisle models Egyptian clothing Monday during Culture Fest, the high school's week-long diversity celebration.

Proposed waste strategy costly

By Melanie Hennessey
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

A proposed plan that aims to maximize the life of Halton's landfill has left at least a few Miltonians less than impressed, especially when it comes to how much it may cost taxpayers.

Called the 2006-2010 Solid Waste Management Strategy, the draft document was the subject of a public open house at Hugh Foster Hall last week.

It contains 10 key components — ranging from implementing a Region-wide curbside compost pick-up program to enhancing waste diversion rates in apartments, condominiums

and townhomes — and an ultimate goal of increasing the current waste diversion rate from 41.6 per cent to about 60 per cent.

Achieving that higher rate will also increase annual diversion program operating costs from the current \$21.7 million to \$28.5 million.

The jump in expenses is something that concerns local resident Gary Ellis — in particular, the costs associated with implementing the GreenCart program across the region. This would mean that every household could have its kitchen scraps collected separately at the curb.

"(I think) there is no financial benefit to the GreenCart, even at full participation," he said. "It's not enough to justify a GreenCart program because it's a good thing to do, or because the Province has set an arbitrary goal.

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Award winners and nominees announced

The list is in for the 2005 Milton Community Awards recipients and nominees.

Announced Tuesday by the Chamber of Commerce, brothers Greg and Mark Ollerenshaw have been named Citizen of the Year, while the Lifetime Achievement Award goes to Walt Elliot.

Taking the Chamber's Volunteer Member of the Year honour is George Takaki of Kwik Kopy Design and Print Centre, with Jim Powers and Mike and Linda Ricker earning the President's Award.

Up for Business Person of the Year are Carolyn Anstey of Main St. Yarns, McCuaig Insurance Limited's Melissa Janjevich and Troy Newton of Troy's Diner.

Halton Pools 'N Spas Ltd., Miltowne Collision Inc. and Scotiabank's Main Street branch are in the running for

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