### OPINION

# Hold your head up high and be proud

It's understandable that we feel disappointed that The Champion's Salvation Army Christmas Bureau Fund didn't quite meet its \$25,000 goal by the original deadline Thursday afternoon.

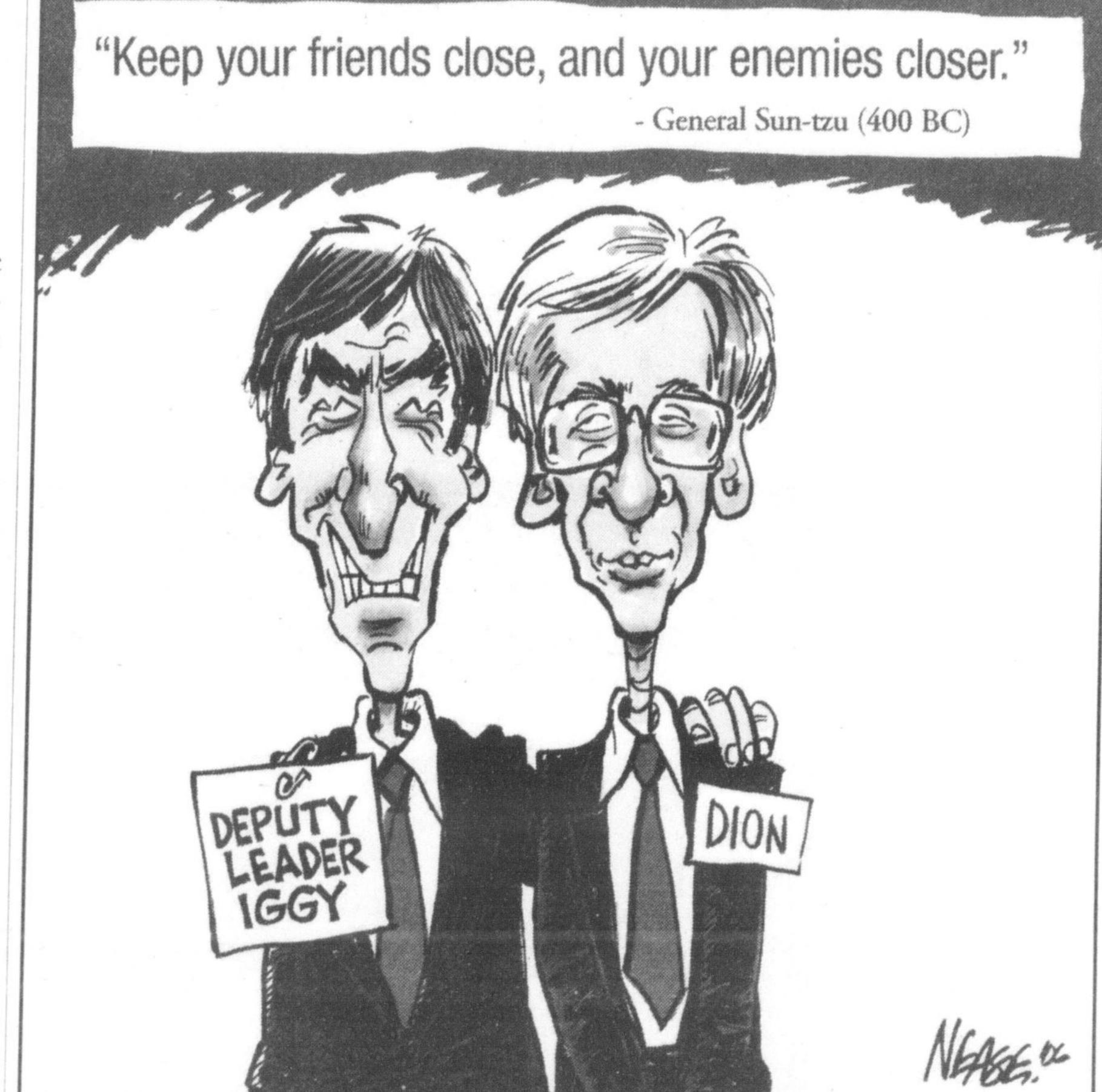
However, the thousands we did raise — thanks to private citizens, community groups and businesses — in such a relatively short period of time is still a great feat and one we're proud of.

And who knows, maybe the extension of the fund by a day may have ended up bringing us to our goal. This was written Thursday — the deadline for our Boxing Day edition and the original deadline for the Christmas Bureau Fund. The fund, which was extended a day, wrapped up Friday.

Nonetheless, the final tally will be a significant amount and do well to help the Salvation Army continue its humanitarian work for local families over the holidays and throughout the year.

So let's hold our heads up high and be proud of what we accomplished.

Thank you to everyone who donated and see the final tally in this Friday's Champion.



#### The Canadian Champion

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## Woman's help in car wash accident much appreciated

**DEAR EDITOR:** 

On December 16, I was involved in an accident at a local car wash.

I was with my three young children and decided to get our truck washed, since it was a beautiful day. Little did I know what horror was ahead of me.

About two-thirds of the way through, my vehicle was suddenly jerked to the left and taken off track. I grabbed the steering wheel and tried to get us back on track when my front tire dropped into a hole in the floor. There we were stuck in the car wash.

My reason for writing is because I want to say a huge thank-you to the lady in the vehicle behind me. She was more than willing to do whatever she

could to help my children and I out of the situation. She went above and beyond what I expect of others, and I want her to know how much I appreciated her assistance.

This wonderful woman gave me her name and phone number as a witness to the event, but in all the chaos it got misplaced. All I know is that she lives in Milton and her first name is Gwen.

So Gwen, if you happen to read this, thank you, thank you, thank you. You were there for me with an extra set of helping hands when I needed it most. Please contact me through the paper so I may thank you in person.

AINSLIE SERNE MILTON

### Volunteer appreciation event was great

**DEAR EDITOR:** 

Thank you to all of those volunteers who attended the Red Cross Volunteer Appreciation Event November 28 at Hugh Foster Hall.

This event was a huge success judging from the happy, smiling faces, the compliments on a job well done and the awards handed out to many of our wonderful volunteers.

The food, catered by the E.C. Drury Cooking School, was excellent and much appreciated, as were the gifts donated by local businesses.

Thank you to Terra Cotta Cookies, Ned Devine's, A Country Mile, Scott's Car Care, Mark's Work Warehouse, Home Hardware, Harrop House Restaurant and Gallery, The Olde Hide House, Ruffins Pet Store, Crawford's, Troy's Diner, Cogeco, The Pampered Chef, Subway, The Basket House and Kelso/Glen Eden Conservation Land Services for their donations.

To our volunteers, thank you for another year's dedication, and we look forward to celebrating with you all again in the summer.

JUDITH DOBBS, JACQUI STOKES
AND ALLISON GOERTZEN
NORTH HALTON BRANCH,
CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

### Thanks to Sobeys for generous donation

DEAR EDITOR:

In November the board of directors of United Way of Milton became aware that the local food bank was in need of funding in order to provide fresh produce to the 160 families in need of assistance to put food on their tables during this holiday season.

This fresh produce was needed in addition to the non-perishable items collected through the annual Firefighters Food Drive. In response, a \$2,500 allocation of funds was quickly approved by United Way.

Bruce Gottzmann, senior director of operations, Sobeys Retail Support Centre, and Scott Allen, Sobeys Express Milton store manager, were approached to arrange for the purchase of the produce needed. Sobeys then very generously agreed to a request, to match the \$2,500 allocated by United Way with an additional \$2,500 worth of produce — and the shopping began!

This donation, over and above the close to \$12,000 already pledged to United Way from the employees of Sobeys during the 2006 campaign, resulted in United Way being able to provide over 3,256 pounds of carrots, onions, apples, potatoes, acorn squash and clementines, as well as over 500 packages of instant oatmeal, cookies, crackers and canned apple juice to the local food bank operated by the Salvation Army of Milton for the Christmas hamper program. Additional produce will be delivered in 2007 to assist over 100 families a month who use the food bank.

United Way of Milton staff and volunteers wish to thank Sobeys Express and Sobeys Retail Support Centre staff, for their assistance in the organization of this donation and for their continued support of the work of United Way in this community. They truly live up to the Sobeys mandate and are 'Ready to Serve'.

ANNE EADIE,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
UNITED WAY OF MILTON