

Reform is key to Manning's vision of Canada

By ANGELA BLACKBURN
Special to The Champion

Economic reform must begin with the government and big business, says Reform Party of Canada leader Preston Manning.

Speaking in Oakville, Tuesday morning, Mr. Manning called for major cuts in the federal civil service, funding to social programs and private business subsidies.

"If it doesn't start at the top, it won't happen at all,"

said Mr. Manning, the Albertan leader of the four-year-old Reform Party. "If the people at the top aren't showing restraint how can we expect civil servants or anybody else to?"

Manning also targeted constitutional reform — with or without Quebec — after the next federal election and parliamentary reform.

He called for Parliament, historically established in medieval Britain to monitor the spending of kings, to be reformed and given the power it should have.

But the focus of his speech Tuesday, was economic reform.

"Fiscal responsibility is everybody's problem. These issues are beyond left and right. Fiscal responsibility moves beyond that barrier," said Mr. Manning.

The leader's breakfast meeting, sponsored by the Oakville-Milton Reform Party Riding Association, filled the Le Dome Banquet Hall to capacity with 550 guests — some from as far away as St. Catharines —

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Preston Manning

The Canadian Champion

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Pomeroy calls Bob Rae's TV address a 'rerun'

By ROB KELLY

Premier Bob Rae may have finally gotten free television time for his fireside chat Monday night, but it was probably pay TV as far as Halton residents are concerned, because it could cost each one of them about \$1.50 each in extra regional property taxes!

That's not to say it won't cost more in other areas — there's virtually no doubt it will — but that was the immediate impact of the announcement that provincial transfer payments to municipalities will be held to a one per cent increase in 1992.

Halton Region had budgeted for a three per cent increase in what are called unconditional grants. The Region gets about \$13 million a year. So the one per cent increase means Halton has to make up a two per cent shortfall, or about \$260,000.

• see HIGHER TAXES on page 5

Challinor calls for freeze

By ROB KELLY

Town councillor John Challinor will be calling for a municipal budget freeze at 1991 levels given Premier Bob Rae's recent announcement that transfer payments to municipalities will be held to a one per cent increase.

"I will be advocating a zero per cent increase and I may not be the first (councillor) to ask for it," Mr. Challinor said Thursday.

"I think a freeze is realistic. I don't believe the property taxpayers can incur an increase," Mr. Challinor warned that there will undoubtedly be provincial tax hikes in the offing given the state of Ontario's finances.

"These guys have a major financial problem." Therefore Milton must attempt to hold the line, he reasoned.

Mr. Challinor was quick to reassure municipal employees that he had no plans to go after any of their jobs. "I don't think anybody should be concerned about layoffs in the Town of Milton." But, "we've got to be very careful about how we manage our money."

The Ward 2 councillor said he had discussed budget issues privately with some other elected officials, such as councillors Colin Best, Ron Furik and Brian Pezman. With inflation running at about 2.5 per cent, some of his colleagues have advocated at minimum hitting that mark, he said.

• see BUDGET FREEZE on page 8

Leisure Centre opens Thursday

The leisure centre opens with a splash next week with an official opening ceremony Thursday, followed by public tours and free swims in the days to follow.

Pick up free swim passes during tours of the two-pool facility next Thursday and Friday (Jan. 30-31) from 6-10 p.m.

A variety of instructional programs are being offered as well as numerous public and adult swims. For information call the centre, located on Main Street east of Thompson Road, at 878-SWIM.

Inside today's Champion is a flyer outlining the special events around the opening.

Organization of the Year



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Paul Lingen, 1991 Citizen of the Year, brought Scouting to Milton among many other contributions to the community.

Dedication pays off with town's top award

By KAREN SMITH

It seems wherever Paul Lingen goes, he leaves behind a lasting impression.

Dedicated, diligent, and out-going are the words those who know him use to describe the 43-year-old consultant who for 25 years has worked in the field of education for the deaf.

His reputation for helping others in the community has led to one of the highest honours a resident of this town can achieve — Citizen of the Year.

Mr. Lingen learned the Milton Chamber of Commerce award was his Tuesday afternoon during a meeting with John Lawrence, general manager of the organization.

"The initial reaction I suppose was numbness," said Mr. Lingen from his Elmwood Crescent home Wednesday morning.

He added reality set in later while announcing his accomplishment at a meeting of the Milton Rotary Club, for which he is president.

The Chamber received not one, but several nominations from different parties recommending Mr. Lingen be awarded the honour, said Mr. Lawrence.

"Mr. Lingen has been recognized for his lengthy and extensive involvement in different aspects of the community," he explained.

Indeed, from Scouts and the Rotary Club to the

• see TOP CITIZEN on page 3

DEALS OF THE WEEK



SIZE & TYPE	LIST	PAIR INSTALLED
P17580R13 NW VECTOR	136 ¹⁵	90 ⁰⁰
P18580R13 NW VECTOR	141 ⁴⁵	120 ⁰⁰
P18570R14 WW ARRIVA	101 ⁰⁰	120 ⁰⁰
P21570R15 BLK EAGLE GT+4	207 ⁰⁰	130 ⁰⁰
P21575R15 NW INVICTA	163 ⁴⁰	130 ⁰⁰
P23575R15 NW INVICTA GL	180 ⁰⁰	158 ⁰⁰

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