

Challinor proposes 'constructive' slashing to trim provincial debt

By **ROB KELLY**
The Champion

Although he harbours few illusions that the provincial government will embrace it, Ward 2 municipal councillor John Challinor has prepared an alternative method for curing Ontario's financial woes.

Monday night at town council's general committee meeting Mr. Challinor outlined a strategy for not only balancing the provincial budget this year, but moving toward a multi-billion dollar surplus.

Mr. Challinor told councillors there has been an "acute shortage of constructive ideas and an overabundance of rhetoric on all sides" in dealing with the provincial NDP plan to slash Ontario's 1993 deficit from an anticipated \$18 billion to \$10 billion.

Mr. Challinor's proposals include no new taxes or spending increases and no reductions in municipal, school board or hospital provincial transfer payments.

Queen's Park has sparked loud protests by stating those sectors will endure major cutbacks.

Instead, however, Mr. Challinor goes after some programs that are near and dear to the NDP provincial government, such as subsidized housing and pay equity.

While council endorsed Mr. Challinor's plan, Ward 2 representative Colin Best felt the thrust of it was just too contrary to current provincial thinking for it to gain acceptance at Queen's Park.

"I cannot see them ever doing some of these types of things," Mr. Best said. "It goes against all their party policies. We're asking Pink Floyd (treasurer Floyd Laughren) to change his stripes. Some of these (proposals) just have too much common sense."

As a starting point, Mr. Challinor assumes a \$17 billion deficit this year, lower than NDP projections but not out of line with opposition party estimates.

The proposed \$4 billion provincial expenditure control
• see DEBT on page 9



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

W.I. Dick music instructor Jeanette Wilson was named Teacher of the Year by a Toronto newspaper after being nominated by student Brian Lidstone and former student Cheryl Conneau of Milton District High School. Ms Wilson is admired and respected by both students and staff.

Students nominate noteworthy music teacher for award

By **KAREN SMITH**
The Champion

Being named teacher of the year came unexpectedly for Jeanette Wilson, but it was no surprise to her students.

The W.I. Dick Middle School music teacher is in tune with her pupils in more ways than one.

"She is just wonderful. That is how all of us feel about her," said student Brian Lidstone.

Mrs. Wilson, 45, of Oakville found out Monday that she is among the educators named Teacher of the Year by the *Toronto Sun* newspaper for 1993.

A teacher at W.I. Dick for the last four years, she described the honour as a pleasant surprise. "I had no idea it was going on (the contest)."

Mrs. Wilson's ability to motivate her students to reach their potential and make it fun while she's doing it is appreciated by her pupils. She builds their confidence and inspires them, said Brian.

"In our winter concert at W.I. Dick School, after we had played, Mrs. Wilson said to the audience, 'If these children are yours, you should be proud of them, because I sure am.'"

"She always makes us feel like we have done the work and not her."

The nomination sent to the Sun by Brian and former pupil Cheryl Conneau included a petition signed by teachers, parents, and students of W.I. Dick, Milton District High School and E.C. Drury High School.

W.I. Dick principal Shirley Scott wrote a letter recommending Mrs. Wilson be granted the honour.

"She expects the best from all of her music students and has the know-how to help them achieve this success," she wrote.

One parent credited Mrs. Wilson for her son's new found interest in music.

"Because of Mrs. Wilson's interest and caring and because of her rapport with him, she gave him the baritone to play. He worked at that instrument so hard — this from a child who hated music."

The grades 6, 7, and 8 music instructor said she believes it's her down-to-earth approach to teaching that the students respond to.

"I'm not afraid to let them see the real me," she said. "I'm not afraid to make mistakes, and I admit them."

Mrs. Wilson began teaching in 1970 and plays the French horn. She prefers to be a conductor, however, which she does for the Halton Junior Jazz Ensemble.

At W.I. Dick, she leads three groups including the jazz and concert bands, and organizes school concerts.

She and other teachers who are being recognized by the Sun will be honoured June 4 at a special reception in Toronto.

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