



Liberals led again in Penetang voting

by PETER SPOHN

Voter turnout in Simcoe Centre riding in last Thursday's provincial election was up slightly from the last provincial election, held in March, 1981.

Of 66,952 eligible voters, 40,695 cast ballots in the election last week. That's about 60.8 percent. Four years ago, the voter turnout was just over 59 percent.

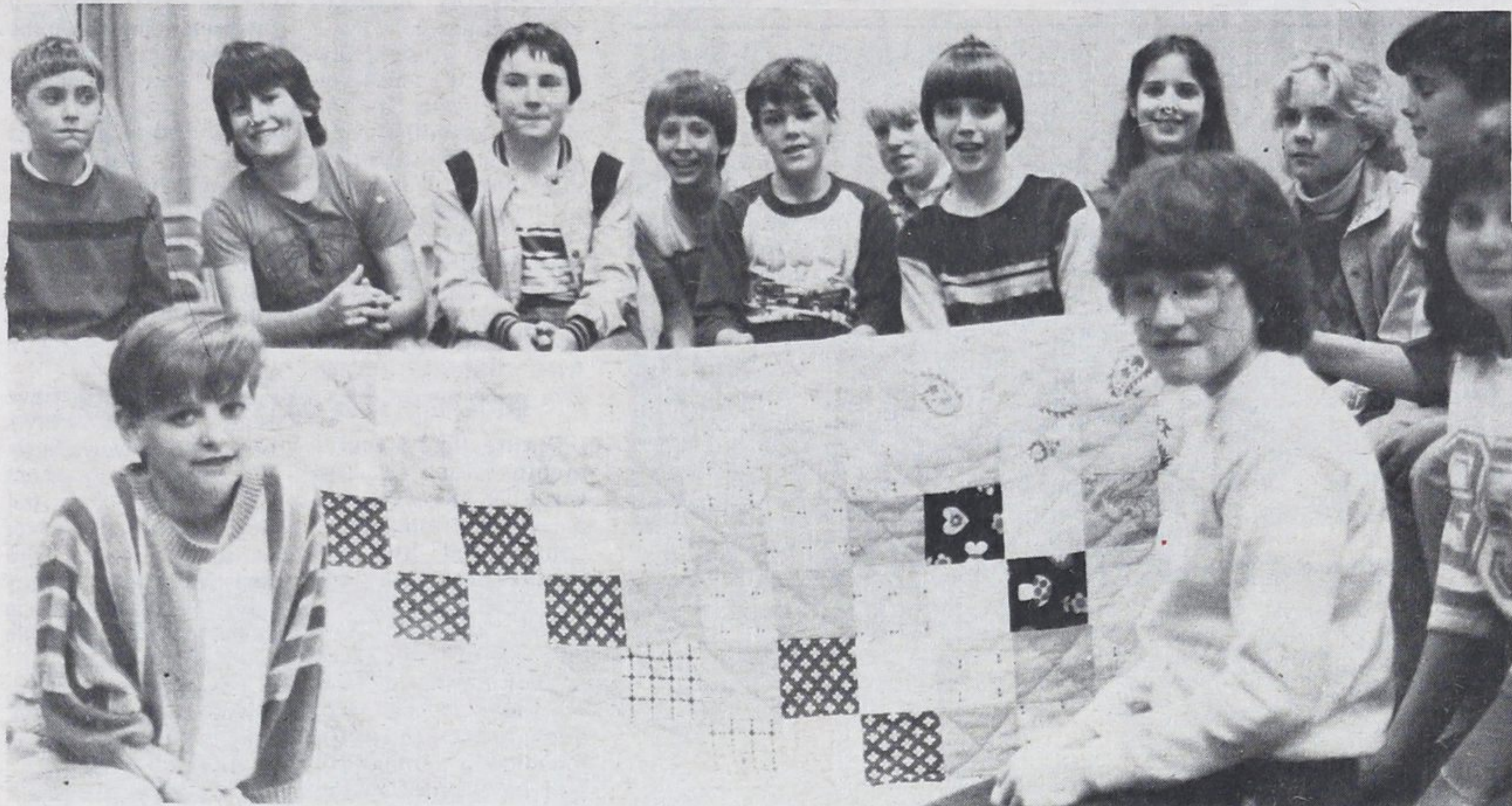
The official totals for the four Simcoe Centre candidates in last Thursday's vote were: Earl Rowe (PC) 15,379; Ross Whiteside (Liberal) 14,845; Paul Wessinger (NDP) 9,639; Steven Kaasgaard (Independent Green) 566.

As in 1981, the Liberal candidate in last Thursday's vote won the Town of Penetanguishene. With a strong swing to the Liberals province-wide this time, the Liberal candidate in the town's 14 polls fared much better than the Liberal candidate fared in 1981. In Penetang, the Liberals' Whiteside took 1,002 votes, the NDP's Wessinger followed with 662 votes, the Conservatives' Rowe took 507, and the Green's Kaasgaard took 47.

In '81 in Penetanguishene, Liberal Bruce Owen took 1,048, the Conservatives' George Taylor took 713, and the NDP's Gaye Lamb took 448. All figures were provided by Simcoe Centre returning officer Cliff Goodhead.

Poll by poll results in Penetanguishene for the 1985 provincial election are as follows:

Poll	Kaasgrd.	Rowe	Wessger	Whiteside
122 (Knights of Columbus)	6	58	64	122
123 (K of C)	7	25	88	84
124 (Legion)	2	34	55	82
125 (Legion)	-	38	46	85
126 (Legion)	3	41	54	80
127 (Burkevale P.S.)	5	45	62	54
128A (Burkevale)	2	36	42	97
128B (Huron Lodge)	-	6	1	12
129 (Burkevale)	5	36	61	44
130 (Burkevale)	-	48	39	54
131 (Corpus Christi P.S.)	5	35	45	83
132 (C.C.P.S.)	8	56	43	79
133 (C.C.P.S.)	3	39	57	95
134 (Georgian Manor)	1	10	5	31
TOTAL	47	507	662	1,002



Their handiwork

Grade five and six students at St. Louis school in Penetanguishene started making a patchwork quilt a couple of weeks ago to

help celebrate Education. The quilt is finished now and some of the students who had a hand in making it pose with their

handiwork. The quilt is to hang in the school's sick room.

-photo by Cathy Dupuis

Recycling manager confident of no delays in implementation

by PETER SPOHN

Ted Walker, the manager of North Simcoe's waste recycling program is confident there will be no delays in getting the program started now that members of the North Simcoe Waste Management Association's recycling committee have met with the Ministry of the Environment official who is processing the association's application for funding of the program.

Last week it appeared the program, originally scheduled to get underway this month, would be delayed until September because the association's application for funding hadn't been sent yet to the ministry. It usually takes a minimum of one month for the ministry to process the application and to go over items listed in it.

Recycling programs are fully funded by the ministry for the first three years of their operation. Adam Cuilini, the M O E waste management branch official who handles recycling applications, had informed NSWMA the spring start-up date could not be met since he required time to assess the application. Last week, Walker told

the Citizen that it would probably be a month before an application would be ready for the ministry.

Yesterday Walker said Cuilini has studied the association's recycling feasibility study and suggested Cuilini may be able to handle the application more quickly than originally thought. (The

study advises municipalities that spring and fall are the best times of year to start up recycling programs.)

Walker said Cuilini needs a budget projection from the recycling committee and that a contractor needs to be hired for the collection of wastes for recycling. Notices for

tenders are to go out shortly, Walker said.

The recycling program will involve a monthly curbside collection of cans, bottles and newspapers in the waste association's six member municipalities.

The feasibility study also advises inclusion of local industries in the program.

Downtown lot to be fenced off

By the end of this week or early next week, no longer will it be possible to park a car in the vacant lot beside Centre D'activites Francaises on Main Street in Penetanguishene.

The owners of the lot are erecting a chainlink fence from Main Street to Peel Street down the side of the lot. It will run parallel to the road right of way which links the two streets.

One of the partners in the numbered Ontario corporation that the lot is registered under said Monday the fence is being put up to prevent cars from using the lot. Drummond Peet said the partners are concerned about the liability aspect of having the lot open to public use. He said the town office has been notified of the decision and

that the fence should be up by the end of the week.

Peet noted the owners have not found anyone interested in buying the lot and that ongoing negotiations with the town have failed to produce any purchase offers. Peet said he has "some hope" the town may be interested in buying the lot sometime.

Parking authority chairman Brian Murrant said "No Comment" when asked questions specifically dealing with the impending closure of the lot. He said a study of downtown parking problems should be ready for the next town council meeting May 27, but that it focuses more on the parking picture last summer than on the impact of a fenced lot.

OSSTF sees 'vigorous' debate of school funding question with election of minority government

by PETER SPOHN

It didn't take long for Conservatives to start laying the blame for their poor showing in last Thursday's provincial election squarely on the issue of extending public funding to separate schools.

On election night, Simcoe East MPP Al McLean said the issue dogged the Tories from day one of the campaign. Premier Frank Miller said much the same thing the morning after the election during his campaign post mortem. Political commentators have said the same thing since.

The separate funding question lurked in the background during the early part of the campaign. The Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF), which opposes the funding extension, ran a few

newspaper ads in the first weeks of the campaign, but waited until April 20 before taking out 60 second TV spots. Then, an Anglican archbishop likened former premier Bill Davis's pronouncement last June of the funding extension to the way in which Hitler announced decrees.

OSSTF Simcoe district president Gail Kingsley said yesterday she is not sure how much of an impact the issue had on voters but believes the funding question will finally be the subject of "good vigorous debate" once the legislature is recalled.

OSSTF believes all three Ontario party leaders have dealt with the funding question unsatisfactorily, particularly the Conservatives. The federation also is on record as saying it believes minority government

offers the best opportunity for the funding issue to be dealt with to its satisfaction.

"We believe that with a minority government, the issue will definitely be brought forward and discussed," Kingsley said. If it had been a majority government?

Kingsley said she isn't sure the issue would have been dealt with adequately by a majority Conservative government. "Up until then (the day the election was called) it had been a decree," she said.

Kingsley said OSSTF wants the legislature to "honour commitments made by Bill Davis" concerning non-discriminatory implementation of public separate school funding. OSSTF says if separate schools are publicly funded, non-Catholic teachers must have free access to Catholic schools. But at

the same time, Kingsley noted, OSSTF seeks a so-called constitutional referral "of the question of the legality of the funding extension."

"It must be made abundantly clear that any extension legislation is not in conflict with the equality and non-discriminatory provisions of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms," says OSSTF.

Kingsley said that during the campaign, the local OSSTF office in Barrie had at least one OSSTF member at the all-candidates meetings in Simcoe Centre and Simcoe East to ask the candidates their views on the funding extension.

Their party leaders were graded on their stand on the issue by OSSTF, and all leaders stands were deemed "most unsatisfactory."