

Herb Colling named Lajeunesse recipient

BY BILL GAY

CBC Radio's Herb Colling is the winner of this year's E. J. Lajeunesse award for his contributions to local history. His selection was announced Oct. 26 by the Essex County Historical Society at Roseland Golf Club.

Colling is a veteran CBE (1550 AM) radio personality who is well known in local history circles. He is the author of several historical works, including 90 Days: The Ford Strike in Windsor, and the co-author of Pioneering the Auto Age. Colling's latest book,

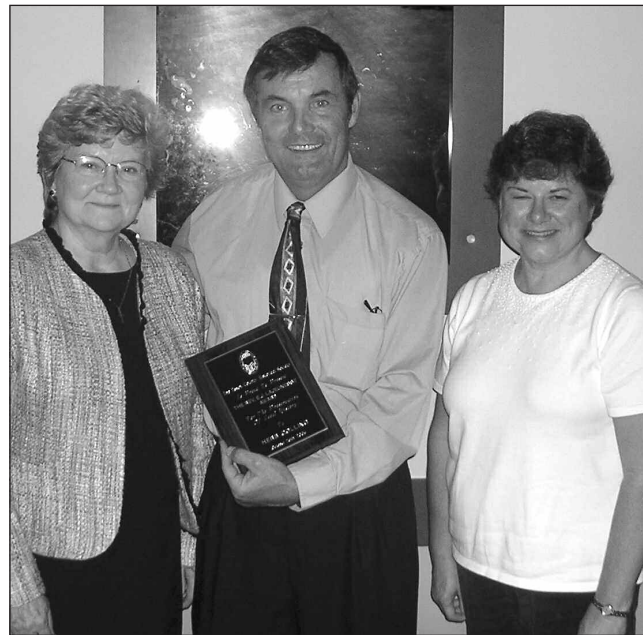
Turning Points, deals with the Detroit riots of 1967 and the aftereffects felt by both border cities. On Sunday, July 23 of that year a raid by Detroit police on an after hours club on 12th Street set off days of looting and violence that caused city and state officials to ask President Johnson to send in federal troops.

In the lawlessness that followed, Colling says colour became blurred, and both whites and blacks became victims. He noted that 100 Windsor firefighters went to Detroit to help stem the tide of fires that seemed to break out over

the city.

Colling states that when Coleman Young became Mayor of Detroit in 1973, his insistence that the events were an insurrection and not a riot caused Detroit to lose state and federal funds that would have been available to help the city rebuild.

The Lajeunesse award is named in honour of Reverend E. J. Lajeunesse, author of The Windsor Border Region (1960), the definitive work on the early French period in Southwestern Ontario. Heritage Essex captured the award in 1997.



Anita Colley, president of the Essex County Historical Society, left, and program convener Linda Kennette congratulate Herb Colling on his selection as the winner of this year's E.J. Lajeunesse award.

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