

FREEDOM FLYER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FREEDOM PARTY OF ONTARIO

JULY 1995 - Vol. 5 No. 4

**Freedom Party
ELECTION '95**



Election Results...

ONTARIO VOTERS TAKE NO CHANCES

ONTARIO (June 8, 1995) - Ontario voters took no chances on having to endure another term with **Bob Rae's New Democratic Party** by voting for the most electable alternative that seemed the furthest removed from Rae's policies: **Mike Harris' Progressive Conservatives**.

For **Freedom Party**, the Conservative victory was the bittersweet consequence of an election that, from the very beginning, left voters with few options. With the PC platform sounding more and more like **Freedom Party's** with each passing day approaching election, the Conservative majority clearly affected potential votes for **Freedom Party**, resulting in the lowest vote average in **Fp's** four-election history (See chart at right).

Freedom Party's 12 candidates averaged a vote return of 1.14% in Election'95, down almost a third from the 1.70% Election'90 average. Though disappointing, this compared favourably against the nearly 50% loss in votes collectively suffered by Ontario's other alternative parties (See bottom of chart, at right). When viewed against the backdrop of the NDP's destructive fiscal and social policies, the voter's shift towards Harris' "Common Sense Revolution" was not entirely unexpected. Both Liberals and New Democrats suffered vote losses, each contributing to the doubling of the vote garnered by the PCs.

SETTING THE AGENDA

On the brighter side for **Fp** supporters, the PC victory was a sign that Ontario voters are starting to look for the kinds of policies that **Fp** has been consistently advocating since its founding in 1984. Whether or not the PCs are philosophically willing or able to deliver on their promises is another matter. Many of the policies in their "Common Sense Revolution" represent a direct turnaround on past PC policies, indicating a total lack of philosophical consistency for the party.

As **Fp** vice-president and London Centre candidate **Lloyd Walker** continually reminded voters in his riding: "The PCs, Liberals, and NDP brought us here. Does anyone believe they will solve the problems they created?"

Fp ELECTABLE?

With 45% of the popular vote, the PC victory once again demonstrated the principle that only a minority of voters are required to elect a majority government under a "first-past-the-post" electoral system. Voters also made it clear that unless a political party fields enough candidates to form a government, they are not likely to risk their vote on such a political party --- even if that party's policies are in full agreement with the voter.

This was reflected in calls to **Fp's** offices about its Election'95 platform. Though received very warmly, and often enthusiastically, those same

voters expressed both regret and frustration with their having to vote for the PCs, since **Fp** could not form a government with only 12 candidates on the slate.

Needless to say, between now and the next provincial election, **Freedom Party** will be hard at work to establish a full slate of candidates (99, if the PCs reduce the size of provincial parliament as they promised; 130 if no changes are made). We invite all interested readers to get involved by contacting **Fp** headquarters as soon as possible. The time to begin campaigning for Ontario's next election is NOW!

<END>

Fp ELECTION RESULTS AT A GLANCE

RIDING	1985		1987		1990		1995	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Don Mills ***	-	-	475	1.75	413	1.45	227	0.87
Elgin	-	-	546	1.68	1104	3.29	560	1.70
Fort York	-	-	174	0.83	-	-	-	-
Halton Centre	-	-	-	-	731	1.89	-	-
Lambton	-	-	-	-	-	-	398	1.43
London Centre	403	1.58	587	1.36	491	1.41	519	1.70
London North *	566	1.49	534	1.34	601	1.37	338	0.77
London South	614	1.27	430	1.01	614	1.61	336	0.83
Middlesex	-	-	499	1.46	895	2.34	448	1.21
Mississauga East	-	-	767	2.37	453	1.48	-	-
Mississauga South	-	-	707	2.16	-	-	-	-
Nepean	-	-	-	-	-	-	283	0.78
Oxford	-	-	-	-	341	0.93	148	0.42
Perth	-	-	-	-	-	-	427	1.40
Scarborough North	-	-	-	-	-	-	657	1.97
Welland-Thorold **	-	-	-	-	396	1.23	285	0.95
TOTALS / AVERAGES	1583	1.45	4719	1.55	6039	1.70	4626	1.14

* 1988 Byelection: # 548 / 1.67%

** 1988 Byelection: # 260 / 0.90%

*** 1993 Byelection: 0.92%

Votes per party

	1995	1990	1987
PC	1,854,298	994,564	931,473
Lib	1,281,119	1,302,134	1,788,214
NDP	847,759	1,509,508	970,813
Others	142,382	261,875	86,611
Total	4,125,558	4,018,079	3,777,311

Working For Freedom...

FREEDOM BRIEFS...

GROUPS MEET WITH HARRIS

TORONTO (March 28, 1995) - Fp president Robert Metz and Fp vice-president Lloyd Walker were among a small group of organizational leaders, writers, and public advocates who participated in a closed-door meeting with PC leader Mike Harris at the campaign office for the Progressive Conservatives. Most of the attendees at the meeting were representatives of the various groups mentioned in our last issue (Freedom Flyer, April/95, pg. 3). Also present were authors Joe Armstrong and William Trench.

Co-ordinated by Craig Chandler of the Progressive Group For Independent Business, the meeting was ostensibly held to give attendees a direct opportunity to discuss their main concerns and issues with PC leader Mike Harris. However, most of the meeting was taken up by PC organizers Gerry Redman, Leslie Noble, and Tom Long outlining PC election strategy and expectations.

PC organizers repeatedly emphasized that their "Common Sense Revolution" was strictly a FISCAL plan and presented meeting attendees with copies of their PC "Ammo" document, a five-point plan listed as: "(1) Lower Taxes, (2) Cut Spending, (3) Remove Government Barriers to Job Creation, (4) Doing Better For Less, and (5) Balanced Budget." When asked questions about issues that were included in their "Common Sense Revolution", the PCs were quite clear that they would eliminate employment equity laws and kill Bill 40. However they were incredibly vague on social policy, referring only to a "sharing of common values" that were left undefined.

John Furedy of the Society for Academic Freedom and Scholarship noted the PC's silence on Ontario's Human Rights Commission (HRC). He joined with Dick Field of the Voice of Canadians Committees in asking Harris what the PC policy on the HRC would be. Harris stated his SUPPORT for the HRC, arguing that it was a handy mechanism to "keep the courts unclogged" and to "prevent discrimination." {Ed: During Election'95, the PC's, in direct contrast to Fp's policy of abolishing the HRC, campaigned to STRENGTHEN the HRC, apparently continuing in the direction already established by the NDP.}

Most attendees left the meeting quite disappointed with the Harris' lack of commitment to conservatism. Although PC organizers stressed that "we believe in something", Harris proudly boasted that the PCs have people who are "far-left from time to time, but that's the beauty of politics." Mixed signals such as

these are a warning sign that there is still a great philosophical division within the ranks of the PC party. Voters beware.

MONTGOMERY TAVERN SOCIETY FORMED

TORONTO (May 13, 1995) - At a meeting chaired by Fp president Robert Metz, leaders of the various lobby and educational groups who first met in January (see Freedom Flyer, April/95 pg. 3), voted to accept an informal name under which they could meet to discuss common goals and concerns without sacrificing their own separate agendas and identities. After much discussion and a round of votes, the name agreed upon was "The Montgomery Tavern Society", in reference to the 1837 meeting place for rebel leaders called the Montgomery Tavern, just north of (then) Toronto.

The name choice (suggested by John Thompson of the Mackenzie Institute), coupled with agreement on other organizational matters discussed at the meeting, have cleared the way for the groups to work together in greater harmony on an on-going basis. The next meeting, the fourth since January and the first under the new name, is planned for September/95.

BILL BOLT REMEMBERED

AGINCOURT (June 12, 1995) - It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of Bill Bolt at his home in Agincourt. Bill was an enthusiastic supporter of Freedom Party and many other freedom-minded groups and individuals. Bill leaves his wife Hazel and their four children. He will be sorely missed.

70 ATTEND ELECTION'95 DINNER

LONDON (May 26, 1995) - Seventy Fp members and supporters attended Freedom Party's \$50-per-plate Election'95 fundraising dinner to hear leader Jack Plant, party secretary Robert Vaughan, and ten of Fp's other candidates offer their unique perspectives on the election and their campaigns. Hosted by Fp president Robert Metz, all the speakers managed to deliver their insights, anecdotes, experiences, and feelings in a fast-paced forum condensed into one hour and fifteen minutes.

The event was one of the lead stories on the BBS television network that evening, and a taped interview at the dinner with Plant was aired on CFTO television in Toronto the

following week. It was clear from the response of attendees that everyone had a great time.

ARMSTRONG TO ADDRESS Fp SUPPORTERS SEPTEMBER 30

"Canada is no longer the peaceful kingdom," says Canadian author and historian Joe C. W. Armstrong in the introduction to his monumental 746-page work, *Farewell the Peaceful Kingdom* (Stoddart Publishing, 1995). "In less than half a century, without a military conquest, a civil war, or a natural catastrophe, the northern half of the North America continent has devoured itself in a conflict over values," he continues. "Canada is a nation in name only."

Armstrong's book is a chronicle of "the seduction and rape of Canada, 1963 to 1994," and is punctuated with the wit and wisdom of the author, making the bad news about Canada easier to bear. It is with great pleasure that we are able to announce:

Author Joe Armstrong will address Fp members and supporters on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1995 at a \$50-per-plate reserved dinner event in London. Readers are encouraged to watch for more details of the event in an upcoming mailer, or to contact us by phone now to reserve. Copies of *Farewell the Peaceful Kingdom* are available now through Freedom Party at \$35 each. Contact us for details! (1-800-830-3301)

Election'95...

FREEDOM PARTY FIELDS DOZEN CANDIDATES

ONTARIO (April 28 - June 8, 1995) - Freedom Party fielded 12 candidates in Election'95, each campaigning on Fp's 1995 election platform promoted as the "Top 10 Reasons to vote Freedom Party." (See summary on page 5.)

Freedom touts less government

The London-based party wants more individual freedom.

By Jane Sims
Free Press Election Team

Choice, as we know it, does not go far enough for Robert Metz.

The president and chief policy adviser of the London-based Freedom party says individual choices are restricted by too much government.

What you want individually is important and acting in your own self-interest, without government intervention, is not a bad thing, Metz says.

"If we want to have a society where people can co-exist with different beliefs and different opinions, we must, above all, protect our right to disagree with each other," he says.

This is the underlying philosophy of the 10-year-old Freedom party, which embraces a conservative ideology, some of it outlined in the work of novelist Ayn Rand. While political pundits try to peg the party on a political spectrum, Metz says what makes the Freedom party different is that it defies political labels and exists outside the scale.

"If people perceive us as right-wing, they would only do so because of our economic policies," he says. "If they looked at our social policy... they certainly wouldn't see (us) as right-wing."

"We see ourselves on the road towards freedom, not away from it. We regard both right and left philosophies as moving toward more government."

PROPERTY RIGHTS: The Freedom party wants less government and more individual freedom — private property rights, freedom of association, freedom of speech — "fundamental freedoms which each of the parties is systematically dismantling."

The message of individual freedom is spreading, party organizers say. With 12 registered candidates and a slick campaign plan, Metz says their message is getting stronger through their constant political action, including tax fights.

"We've been involved in everything from human rights issues to labor issues to tax issues to censorship and freedom of speech issues," he says.

The Freedom party has kept up a presence between elections through newsletters and activist causes. "The day after the election, we are still going to be here campaigning. We've got about 20 issues on the burner right now."

Metz says the party has no unrealistic expectations about being elected. "When we started the party in 1984, we figured it would be 20 years before we would be a credible party in the electable sense. We knew that not being elected, it's hard to gain credibility."

CANDIDATES

Representing Freedom Party in Election'95 were our following outstanding candidates: (1) **Jack Plant** (party leader) in London North, (2) **Lloyd Walker** in London Centre, (3) **Maureen Battaglia** in London South, (4) **Barry Malcolm** in Middlesex, (5) **Ray Monteith** in Elgin, (6) **Jim Montag** in Oxford, (7) **Wayne Forbes** in Lambton, (8) **Robert Smink** in Perth, (9) **Paul Blair** in Scarborough North, (10) **David Pengelly** in Don Mills, (11) **Barry Fitzgerald** in Welland-Thorold, and (12) **Cathy Frampton** in Nepean.

Over 150,000 pieces of Fp election literature were delivered throughout the twelve Ontario ridings, but they did not take the form of a traditional election brochure. Fp's message was instead delivered by first-class mail in the form of a personalized letter to voters, with a synopsis of Fp's 10-point platform, candidate photo, and background summary on the back of the letter.

POSITION OF INFLUENCE: Instead, the party has lobbied and networked with other parties to pick up on their agenda. "We're quite happy to have any party steal our platform," Metz says. "We figure as a position of influence, we tend to get very much more deeply involved with issues than what you would get from a political party. We don't do it on a surface level, we get right into it."

"What we find unique in this election is that the other parties are talking like us," he says. "The last election they weren't."

While voters ponder their choices on the ballot, Metz says, his party will continue its fight for universal choice. Success, he says, will be a growth in the party's mailing list and vote total and a legacy after the election. "The election after this is the one where we're going to get very serious in the sense of actually expecting some of our candidates to get in."

ABOUT THE PARTY

Leader: Jack Plant, a London fire prevention inspector.

Philosophy: Libertarian in the classical sense, the party believes in freedom of choice in almost every area of public policy and a minimal role for government but with greater public accountability. Key policy positions include a balanced budget law; electoral reform; privatization of many government services; an end to universality in social programs; spending cuts to quickly wipe out the provincial deficit; tax increases only with voter approval by referendum; and freedom for people to choose the type of education and health-care coverage they want rather than being limited to Ontario's publicly funded options.

Track record: Formed in 1984, the party won 0.2 per cent of the Ontario popular vote in 1990, with candidates in 10 of 130 ridings, six in the London area.

This campaign: More than a dozen candidates are expected to run, including eight so far in the London area.

Quote: "The Ontario Human Rights Commission (which the Freedom party would scrap) is basically the government's Gestapo," says party president Robert Metz of London. "They exist to violate human rights — not to uphold them."

Information: 681-3999 or 1-800-830-3301.

AT RIGHT, ABOVE: Election'95 coverage from the *London Free Press*, Friday, May 12, 1995, pg A3.

In addition to the delivery of literature, each candidate's campaign included Fp election signs bearing the candidate's name and party logo. Candidates attended "All Candidates' Debates" in their respective ridings, and campaigned door-to-door whenever possible.

Without exception, each Fp candidate carried **Freedom Party's** message to the electorate with a combined sense of professionalism and commitment to principle that was sorely lacking in the candidates of the other parties.

EXPECTATIONS

Although Fp candidates were all well aware that their chances of "getting elected" were negligible, their hard work combined with the warm responses received from voters nevertheless caused expectations of at least twice the vote percentage than the 1.14% achieved. Past election trends certainly indicated that votes for alternative parties were up dramatically, and polls early in Election'95 showed support for the alternative parties as high as 7%.

However, those same polls showed a dramatic drop in support for the alternative parties in the final two weeks of the election. By that point, it was becoming clear that the Conservatives were pulling votes from those parties perceived by the sympathetic public to have a "conservative" leaning, parties like Freedom Party, the Family Coalition Party, Confederation of Regions Party, and the Libertarian

Election '95...



FREEDOM PARTY LEADER JACK PLANT:

Many have been feeling cynical and helpless about the political situation in Ontario. Yet, by consistently voting for the 'lesser of three evils', we have continually elected the governments that produced the problems we find ourselves facing today.

I want to offer Ontarians a choice they can be proud of --- a different philosophy, platform, and attitude --- one that supports what they believe in: freedom with responsibility.

It's time to make a change for the better.

Instead of encouraging voters to vote AGAINST the choices of the past, I will be encouraging them to vote FOR the choice of the future --- Freedom Party.

Freedom Party's 1995 election platform is tough, comprehensive, and principled; that's why I support it.

Ontario can too.

ABOVE: Freedom Party's Election '95 message to Ontario voters as delivered by Fp leader Jack Plant.

ABOVE RIGHT: A summary of Fp's Election '95 platform.

AT RIGHT: A list of Fp's candidates and their respective provincial ridings.

Fp

TOP 10 REASONS TO SUPPORT FREEDOM PARTY

- Freedom Party supports the equal treatment of all individuals before and under the law, effective law enforcement standards, impartial courts which dispense punishments that fit the crime, and judicial/provincial respect for private property rights.
- Freedom Party advocates a Taxpayer Protection Act that incorporates maximum tax limits, a flat-rate tax system, a binding referendum on tax increases, and balanced budget legislation.
- Freedom Party endorses lowering personal income taxes and retail sales taxes by reducing government spending and directing social assistance only to those in demonstrable need.
- To ensure that government is able to guarantee health care accessibility and prevent catastrophic loss due to illness, Freedom Party supports health care reforms by emphasizing an insurance-based, actuarially sound system of health care funding.
- Freedom Party supports the right of taxpayers to direct their education taxes to the school(s) of their choice, including private options. Within the public system, we propose clear education standards and objective student evaluations, with an emphasis on the basics, including: direct instruction, the systematic use of phonics to teach reading, standardized testing, and effective standards of discipline.
- Freedom Party advocates a reduction of suffocating bureaucratic red tape and regulations of the business sector, and an end to forced union membership as a condition of employment.
- Freedom Party supports the elimination of government grants, funding, subsidies, and preferential legislation for special-interest groups, multiculturalism, and business.
- Freedom Party advocates the repeal of Bill 79 (Employment Equity Laws), Bill 40 (labour legislation), and Bill 8 (French Services Act), the elimination of Ontario's Human Rights Commission and its political tribunals, and an end to the censorship powers of Ontario's Film Review Board.
- Freedom Party advocates the privatization of government owned businesses including Ontario Hydro, the LCBO, and Worker's Compensation. We also encourage private sector replacement of services currently provided by government (e.g. daycare and public transportation).
- Freedom Party advocates eliminating MPP "super-pensions" and replacing them with pensions in line with the private sector. We would also implement a process of MPP recall, and fixed election periods.

FREEDOM PARTY CANDIDATES IN ELECTION '95

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| → London North: Jack Plant | → Lambton: Wayne Forbes |
| → London Centre: Lloyd Walker | → Perth: Robert Smink |
| → London South: Maureen Battaglia | → Scarborough North: Paul Blair |
| → Middlesex: Barry Malcolm | → Don Mills: David Pengelly |
| → Elgin: Ray Monteith | → Welland-Thorold: Barry Fitzgerald |
| → Oxford: Jim Montag | → Nepean: Cathy Frampton |

(...DOZEN cont'd from page 4)

Party. Combined with the fear that the NDP or Liberal parties would hasten the demise of Ontario much faster than the Conservatives who were at least preaching "fiscal restraint" and the repeal of some extremely unpopular policies (Bill 40, employment equity, etc.), these voters understandably opted once again for the "lesser of three evils."

Needless to say, Fp's reduced vote totals were disappointing for most Fp candidates, but the disappointment soon wore off and was replaced by a stronger commitment to help establish a full slate of Fp candidates for the next provincial election.

Moreover, with the Conservatives now in power, it will become that much easier to emphasize the differences between them and **Freedom Party**. When positioned against the NDP and Liberals, fundamental differences between Fp and the PCs are negligible to most voters. However, with the Conservatives in power, Fp will be better able to differentiate itself from them, much in the same way that the federal **Reform Party** was able to do when positioned against the federal Conservatives in power --- something that would not have been possible for Reformers had there been a Liberal or NDP government in power.

✉ GET INVOLVED!

The next election will represent a tremendous opportunity for Fp. With four to five years to prepare, anyone interested or even just thinking about getting involved with our plans is encouraged to contact Fp headquarters today!

<END>

"Other."

Fp

Bad Press... ..is NO press!

MEDIA BIAS HAMPERS CAMPAIGN EFFECTIVENESS



GORDON SANDERSON
READER'S ADVOCATE
The London Free Press

RIDING PROFILES: The Free Press was quick off the mark last Saturday, one day after the election call, with the first four in a series of riding profiles giving readers a quick look at candidates nominated so far in this region.

Using these snapshots showing who is running and where is a great idea, but it quickly resulted in cries of, "Hey, we've been left out" from Freedom Party candidates.

"We're noticing a lack of coverage (of our party)," said Robert Vaughan, Freedom Party secretary, after profiles of London Centre and Elgin ridings appeared without their inclusion.

The omission was due in part to the fact the Freedom Party doesn't hold formal nomination meetings and the names of two of its candidates were sidetracked at the paper.

The information on those missed has now appeared in the daily Election Digest column.

The riding profiles that have appeared to date are really a kind of "status report", subject to later additions which arrive by the May 25 deadline for nominating election candidates.

Each riding profile will be repeated in an election tabloid shortly before the June 8 polling day.

ONTARIO (April 28 - June 8, 1995) - There is no doubt that the most difficult challenge facing new political parties during an election is getting adequate media exposure to let the public learn about party platforms, policies, and accomplishments. The importance of this cannot be understated, since perceptions of a party's electability are formed primarily through --- and by --- the media.

While readers may be led to believe that Fp media coverage reproduced in this newsletter is abundant, it must be borne in mind that compared to last election (1990), media interest in **Freedom Party** during Election'95 was greatly diminished and this disinterest was often highly suspect. From the very start of the election campaign, media coverage of Fp was skirted, inaccurately portrayed, or evaded altogether.

This was the case even in the London area where Fp has had a relatively high profile between elections. Despite faxed and delivered media releases, candidate participation in all-candidates' debates, election signs, distribution of tens of thousands of pieces of literature to the London-area ridings, and polls initially indicating support for alternate parties as high as 7-8%, the media was surprisingly deficient in helping the public learn more about its political alternatives.

✉ VAUGHAN RESPONDS

Fp secretary Robert Vaughan was quick to challenge coverage about **Freedom Party** in the pages of the **London Free Press** by calling the paper to account for dismissing **Freedom Party** as a "fringe" party and for its omissions in announcing Fp's candidates in certain London-area ridings, despite having been informed of their candidacy.

In a May 6, 1995 column addressing Vaughan's complaints, *London Free Press* Reader's Advocate, **Gordon Sanderson**, while admitting that the names of Fp's candidates "were sidetracked at the paper," nevertheless attempted to deflect responsibility for the paper's shortcomings onto **Freedom Party** for not having "formal nomination meetings".

(MEDIA... cont'd on pg 17)

✉ **AT LEFT:** -from the Reader's Advocate column in the **London Free Press**, May 6, 1995.

✉ **AT RIGHT (pg 7):** -from the **London Free Press**, May 11, 1995. Fp secretary Robert Vaughan criticizes the paper's coverage of Freedom Party.

FREEDOM PARTY OF ONTARIO

Credible election platform insulted with 'fringe' label



Robert Vaughan is secretary of the Freedom Party of Ontario and is a trustee on London board of education.

The policies are based on principle and not cooked up by the pollsters just to get elected this time.

By Robert Vaughan

It's time again for Ontarians to choose representatives at Queen's Park and again The London Free Press has chosen to play king-maker, endorsing the big-three political parties at the expense of democracy, fairness and voter choice.

SINCE 1984: The Freedom Party of Ontario has been registered as an official political entity since 1984. Since that time, we have gained the support of thousands of Ontarians dissatisfied with the excessive government intrusion into their lives by all three of the "elected" parties. Whether Conservative, Liberal or NDP, the voters have had their fill of vacant promises, oppressive taxation and outright incompetence when it comes to managing our finances.

Voter dissatisfaction makes for great copy in every edition of The

Free Press, for the paper and Queen's Park reporter Greg Van Moorsel continue to relegate credible choices like the Freedom party to a one-sentence comment about other "fringe parties." More attention was given to the Natural Law party's "Yogic Flyers" and the Reform Association for Ontario, which isn't even a registered party.

What follows is the Freedom party's platform for this election. I challenge The Free Press editorial staff to tell their readers exactly what they would call "fringe" about it and how it deserves to be lumped in a paragraph with the "Yogic Flyers" and the "no-government" Libertarians.

Freedom party supports the equal treatment of all individuals before and under the law, effective law enforcement standards, impartial courts which dispense punishments that fit the crime, and judicial/provincial respect for private property rights.

Freedom party advocates a taxpayer protection act that incorporates maximum tax limits, a flat-rate tax system, a binding referendum on tax increases, and balanced budget legislation.

Freedom party endorses lowering personal income taxes and retail sales taxes by reducing government spending and directing social assistance only to those in demonstrable need.

To ensure government is able to guarantee health-care accessibility and prevent catastrophic financial loss due to illness, Freedom party supports health-care reforms that emphasize an insurance-based, actuarially sound system of health care funding.

Freedom party supports the right of taxpayers to direct their education taxes to the school(s) of their choice, including private options. Within the public system, we propose clear education standards and objective student evaluations, with an emphasis on the basics, including: direct instruction, the systematic use of phonics to teach reading, standardized testing, and effective standards of discipline.

RED TAPE: Freedom party advocates a reduction of suffocating bureaucratic red tape and regulation of the business sector, and an end to forced union membership as a condition of employment.

Freedom party supports the elimination of government grants, funding, subsidies and preferential legislation for special-interest groups.

Freedom Party advocates the repeal of Bill-79 (employment equity laws), Bill-40 (labor legislation) and Bill-8 (French Services Act), the elimination of Ontario's Human Rights Commission and its political tribunals, and an end to the censorship powers of Ontario's Film Review Board.

Freedom party advocates the privatization of government-owned businesses including Ontario Hydro, the Liquor Control Board of Ontario and Workers' Compensation. We also encourage private sector replacement of services currently provided by government (for example, day care and public transportation).

Freedom party advocates eliminating MPP "super-pensions" and replacing them with pensions in line with the private sector. We would also implement a process of MPP recall, and fixed election periods.

If it's not our platform that is "fringe" perhaps it's the fact that our London-area candidates consist of a firefighter (our leader, Jack Plant), entrepreneurs (Rob Smink, Wayne Forbes), a retired railway employee (Ray Monteith), a computer consultant (Lloyd Walker), a pollution-control plant employee (Barry Malcolm), and a retail salesperson (Maureen Battaglia). Not a son or daughter of an ex-premier among the lot. Not a lawyer. No leaders of special-interest groups at the government trough. Just normal, average working folk who know the value of a dollar.

Perhaps we can be labelled "fringe" because our party platform is based on principle and not cooked up by the pollsters just to get elected this time around. Unlike the big three, our principles do not change to the public's mood at any given election time. We consistently base our positions on the following principle: Every individual in the peaceful pursuit of personal fulfilment has an absolute right to his or her own life, liberty and property. A hundred years ago, newspapers would have defended such a principle to the death. Today they scoff at it as being "fringe."

DISSERVICE: The Free Press is doing readers a disservice by continually supporting, through unbalanced reporting, the big-three political parties, the very parties that continue to spend taxpayers' money with reckless abandon and play favorites with special interest groups.

It is incumbent on all of the media to treat all candidates and parties with the same respect and credibility they give only to the big three. Anything less is partisan, undemocratic and disrespectful of the tradition the media have had for being standard-bearers for fairness and openness.

Reproduced
from the
London Free
Press, May
11, 1995.

Candidates and Campaigns...

Fp WELL REPRESENTED IN SOUTHERN ONTARIO

BELOW: -from the *London Free Press*, June 3, 1995. With Freedom Party headquartered in London, it should come as no surprise that the London area was the best represented in terms of fielded candidates during Election '95. Eight geographically connected ridings radiating out from the London area were all represented by an Fp candidate, creating an awareness of Fp in the area that as yet does not exist in other areas of the province. Our eight London-area candidates appear below.



**Lloyd Walker
Freedom**

Age: 41
Occupation: Technical support analyst at Kellogg's.

Community work: Middlesex-London Optimists, member/past director; Neighborhood Watch, captain; Freedom party vice-president since 1986; Canadian Society for Production and Inventory Control, executive member of the London Chapter.

Personal achievement: Working with and watching Freedom party grow over the past 10 years; being a part of nearly every party activity during that period. Greatest personal strength: Standing up for what I believe in and working hard to achieve it.

Why voters should elect me: In a word: consistency. Over the past 10 years I have been working with Freedom party promoting less government and more individual freedom and responsibility. That message hasn't changed. The voters know what I stand for. Even Joan Smith (then solicitor-general) said: "If people elect a lot of people from Freedom party they'll get less regulation." That thought was true in 1984, when the Freedom party was founded, and it's still true today. Many of our platforms — fiscal responsibility on the part of the government, the need to remove regulations that are damaging the economy of Ontario, and the desire of people to make more of their own choices — have all come to the forefront. It's time to make a change for the future.



**Rob Smink
Freedom**

Age: 44
Occupation: Self-employed businessperson in recycling and entertainment.

Community work: London Chamber of Commerce, member; active in pet therapy for seniors; founding member of Freedom party (1984).

Personal achievement: Honors BA in philosophy and history (University of Waterloo). I have started four successful businesses from scratch, including a viable wood recycling business.

Why voters should elect me: Government isn't part of the solution any more, it's part of the problem. It's now to the point where taxpayers need protection from socialist politicians who think government has all the answers if we only let them spend more of our money. Since all issues eventually become money matters, Freedom party would protect us with a Taxpayer Protection Act that incorporates maximum tax limits, a flat-rate tax system, binding referendum on any future tax increases and balanced budget legislation. Freedom party also supports a voucher system for education. Money is always the most important issue in any election, however it might be disguised. We would like to see more of it spent by those who earn it, not by governments that only confiscate it.



**Maureen Battaglia
Freedom**

Age: 40
Occupation: Sales representative for a Canadian wine company.

Community work: Past day camp leader at a community centre; HALT and London Middlesex Taxpayers' Coalition supporter; founding member of Freedom party.

Personal achievement: Extended and improved the quality of life for my mother by being personally involved in her palliative home care.

Why voters should elect me: People are demanding a positive alternative to the three main-line parties this election. Taxpayers have been left a \$100-billion debt that we'll have to live with for decades! As your candidate, I represent ordinary working people who are angry about what's happened in Ontario. I want to start unravelling the mess politicians have made of government. My top 10 reasons to vote Freedom party include: effective law enforcement standards and objective courts, reduction of bureaucratic red tape to business — meaning fewer restrictions and costs; a taxpayer protection act, choice in where your education dollars are directed — public or private — elimination of MPP super pensions and more. In my opinion, ordinary people striving to improve the government is the future for Ontario.



**Jack Plant
Freedom**

Age: 43
Occupation: Fire-fighter.

Community work: I have worked very hard for seven years within the Freedom party for the rights of the smallest minority in society — the individual; opposing the intrusion of special interest groups and government into their lives.

Personal achievement: Becoming the leader of the Freedom party and helping it become a credible political alternative.

Why voters should elect me: I am vehemently opposed to the overwhelming intrusion of government into our lives. The advocates of such intrusion can no longer claim humanitarian motives now that we have seen the results it has produced. Multiculturalism, official bilingualism and employment equity are but three of the most noxious government policies. Innocent, law-abiding people are being ever more consistently persecuted by unjust and restrictive legislation and regulation, while criminals are literally getting away with murder. I encourage everyone who is fed up with politics as usual and voting for "the lesser of three evils" to support Freedom party, a principled political party. We believe the purpose of government is to protect the individual's freedom of choice, not to restrict it.



**Barry Malcolm
Freedom**

Age: 40
Occupation: Supervisor in pollution control operations.

Community work: Supporter of the Strathroy Minor Soccer League; ad hoc volunteer.

Personal achievement: Still striving to become the best father and person I can be.

Why voters should elect me: Middlesex voters need an effective, principled politician to restore policies that promote prosperity and freedom with personal responsibility. To buy votes for themselves, the big three parties have practised back-room politics in regards to which region, group, or special interest will get taxpayers' money. The big three use universality to bribe taxpayers into believing that the government is providing a net benefit. Taxpayers must be allowed to retain as much of their incomes as possible to provide for their families, their communities and their choices, not to provide for a political strategy implemented to win the next election. I will continue to work for Middlesex voters' right to choose for themselves during, and after, this election.



**Wayne Forbes
Freedom**

Age: 54
Occupation: Businessperson.

Community work: Founding member of Grand Bend Taxpayers Coalition; past member of chamber of commerce; past candidate for Grand Bend village council.

Personal achievement: I have been successful at any endeavor I have been involved in.

Why voters should elect me: I am a practical, common-sense person. I talk with people all the time about our problems and find that 98 per cent of them are saying what I believe. I don't listen to special interest groups, but I listen to the common people. Like them, I am disgusted by the abuses of our welfare system and groups that take advantage of the generosity of Ontarians. The major parties have had their chance to run our province and have essentially run it into the ground. It's time for a change. Freedom party and I believe the individual deserves an opportunity to fight back against the excesses of big government and we intend to offer them that chance.



**Ray Monteith
Freedom**

Age: 74
Occupation: Retired Conrail conductor.

Community work: Local tax fighter and activist; charitable welfare work in community.

Personal achievement: With wife Doris, who passed on in 1988, I was a foster parent to 175 children over a period of 20 years.

Why voters should elect me: Voters who are sick and tired of the established political parties should know that the Freedom party is an intelligent alternative. The waste of taxpayer dollars is staggering, and politicians should be held accountable for making laws that are so unnecessary in today's society. The more laws we have, the closer we get to becoming a police state. Let's all stand together and oppose these infringements on our fundamental freedoms or we may end up all falling together with a lot of unjust laws unacceptable to all of us.



**Jim Montag
Freedom**

Age: 65
Occupation: Retired telecommunications technician.

Community work: Founder and chairperson of London Middlesex Taxpayers Coalition.

Personal achievement: Thirty-nine years of uninterrupted work in the same occupation.

Why voters should elect me: I would make every effort to eliminate the waste of taxpayers' dollars. I have signed the taxpayers' protection pledge. I believe any tax increase should be subjected to a binding referendum. I believe in freedom of choice with responsibility. The biggest problem in Ontario is the debt of \$100 billion and I would undertake any effort that could reduce and eliminate this debt. I believe in equality for everyone and special status for no one.

Candidates and Campaigns...

ON THIS PAGE: -from the *London Free Press*, May 31 and June 1, 1995. Fp candidates field questions and debate issues during LONDON NORTH, LONDON CENTRE, and LONDON SOUTH all candidates' debates held at London's Convention Centre and aired simultaneously on radio and Cablecast.



STEVE RUSSELL / The London Free Press

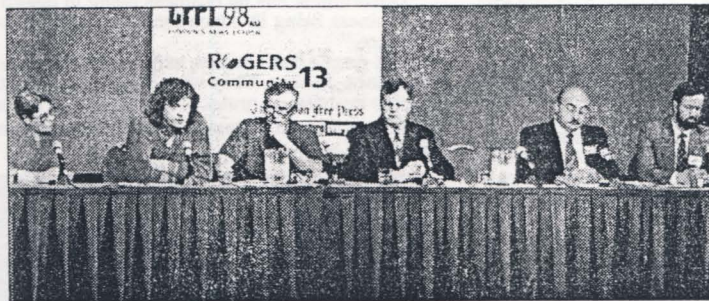
London North candidates smile as NDP candidate Carolyn Davies (second from right) tries to answer a question from the floor above outbursts from spectators at the debate held at the London Convention Centre Wednesday. The candidates are, from left, Greame Benedetti (Family Coalition), John Beverley (Green), Larry Crossan (Liberal), Dianne Cunningham (PC), Davies, and Jack Plant (Freedom).

SUMMARY

Riding: London North

Participants: Dianne Cunningham, PC; Larry Crossan, Liberal; Carolyn Davies, NDP; Jack Plant, Freedom; Graeme Benedetti, Family Coalition; John Beverley, Green party

Key issues: Proposed amalgamation of Victoria and University hospitals, employment equity, jobs, the economy, the deficit.



STEVE RUSSELL / The London Free Press

Candidates from London Centre, who met in a debate Wednesday, are, from left: Marion Boyd (NDP), Jeff Culbert (Green), Mike Dwyer (Family Coalition), Patrick McGuinness (PC), Ron Postlan (Liberal), and Lloyd Walker (Freedom).

SUMMARY

Riding: London Centre.

Participants: Marion Boyd, NDP; Ron Postlan, Liberal; Patrick McGuinness, Progressive Conservative; Jeff Culbert, Green; Lloyd Walker, Freedom; Michael Dwyer, Family Coalition.

Key Issues: Non-profit housing; work for welfare; job creation and deficit reduction.

Worth Repeating:

"I know of no particular issue at this time. But if I did, I would research the issue . . . to see what the people want." — Benedetti

"My word of advice is don't listen to promises . . . If you're expecting something from (political parties) you should not count on it, period." — Plant

Worth Repeating:

► "They don't have the time to look for work; they don't have the energy to look for work." — Boyd, referring to the experience in U.S. southern states in trying to use welfare as an incentive to get people off welfare and into paying jobs.

► "The PCs, Liberals and NDP brought us here. Does anyone believe they will solve the problems they created?" — Walker, in his opening statement.

"We introduced this plan when we were at 15 per cent in the polls. This is not an election play." — McGuinness, on the Tory party platform that was released more than a year ago, taking an apparent dig at the Liberal plan released during the campaign.



MORRIS LAMONT / The London Free Press

Maureen Battaglia of the Freedom Party shares a word with Sven Biggs of the Green Party at a London South all-candidates meeting at the London Convention Centre Tuesday night.

SUMMARY

Riding: London South

Participants: Joan Smith, Liberal; David Winninger, NDP; Bob Wood, Progressive Conservative; Maureen Battaglia, Freedom; Sven Biggs, Green; Rudy Polci, Family Coalition.

Key issues: Dearness Home non-profit housing, workfare, job creation, NDP anti-strikebreaker law, financial climate.

Worth repeating:

► On what makes him qualified for the 'job' of MPP: "I don't have any qualifications at all, but I do have a party offering a platform that makes sense."

— Polci

► On Ontario's climate for job growth: People "come here to go on welfare and they leave here to go into business in Alberta or the U.S."

— Battaglia

JUN 1 1995

FP

Robert Smink: government 'is causing more problems than it's solving,' Candidate: Freedom Party would guard individuals' freedom of choice

To help readers learn more about the Perth candidates for the June 8 Ontario election, Beacon Herald reporters have done in-depth interviews with each of the contenders. Following is the last of those profiles.

By Donal O'Connor
staff reporter

Robert Smink describes himself as a Randian, after Ayn Rand the author of such tributes to laissez-faire capitalism as *Atlas Shrugged*, *The Fountainhead*, and *Capitalism: The Untried Ideal*.

A founding member of the Freedom Party of Ontario, the 44-year-old businessman and St. Marys resident is seeking election to the Ontario Legislature as representative for Perth riding.

The party's basic premise is that rights are held by individuals and not by groups or special interests and that government is there to protect the individual's freedom of choice, not restrict it.

"The growth rate in everything that government does has just escalated to the point where it has become obtrusive and is causing more problems than it's solving," he said during an interview at his Victorian mansion where several portraits of Winston Churchill are displayed. His admiration for the British wartime leader spills over into the naming of his three-year-old son, Winston.

Consistent with his party's disdain for big government, ever higher taxes and more and more regulations restricting freedom of enterprise, Mr. Smink's election platform supports a flat-rate tax system as opposed to the current system in which higher earners are taxed at proportionally higher rates.

As well, the Freedom Party advocates privatization of various government-owned businesses — Ontario Hydro, the LCBO and Workers' Compensation Board among them — and calls for a privately owned, insurance-based health care system.

The party supports the individual's right to direct education taxes to a school of choice, including private schools, and would have anyone seeking social assistance take a means test to determine whether there's a demonstrable need for such assistance.

It would end government grants and subsidies and all preferential funding for special-interest groups, would repeal employment equity laws, official bilingualism and labor legislation which forces individuals to join labor unions in unionized workplaces. The party would introduce binding referendums on tax increases and balanced budget legislation.

"Our position has not changed in 10 years on anything," says Mr. Smink, a former pro basketball player and winner four years ago of the World Pop-a-Shot Championship held in Chicago, "because we believe that everything we do is consistent with principles that the party is founded on. Ten years ago people thought that we were coming from outer space. Now, all the candidates are starting to sound a little bit like us."

But that's great, he adds, "because we love people to steal our platform."

You don't have to have political power, per se, to influence things, he points out. "What we want is for people to take our ideas, similar to what the NDP has done federally. They haven't had power, ever. But for the last 30 years the Liberals and Conservatives have been tripping over themselves trying to implement NDP policies."

A progressive tax system is counterproductive, he contends. "What it does is it penalizes people for being profitable and successful and it rewards those who are unproductive." Like the overtime worker who is taxed higher on his extra earnings and who therefore takes home less than his regular pay for his overtime work, he suggests, the current tax system kills the initiative for people to be more productive.

For those who have a legitimate reason for not working, Mr. Smink said his party has no problem with a social safety net. "But the thing is, if you want to keep a sustainable safety net for those who either can't or won't look after themselves, you have to have a system that has some limits to it."

Although the Freedom Party advocates "a reduction of suffocating bureaucratic red tape and regulation of the business sector" Mr. Smink acknowledges it's government's job to set "reasonable guidelines so that people don't abuse each other or the environment." But he emphasizes that the individual's rights

to life, liberty and property are fundamental and notes that under current laws the government can expropriate land and there are really no limits to how much tax money the government can extract.

As far as medical care in the province is concerned, he laments that doctors have been forced into being essentially employees of the state instead of the free enterprisers they once were. He notes as well that the province is now spending hundreds of millions on education for doctors and nurses who are heading south. "This is a prime example — health care — in which the government has absolutely no business," he says. "We'd be better off having mandatory health insurance and returning the health care system and doctors back to the private sector as it was prior to 1967."

"You don't create a whole system to look after everybody when only a few people need your help," he argues.

"Government has no business being in health care, they have no business being in education, they have no business being in day care."

Most people don't realize why governments were set up in the first place, he says. They were set up to defend the country from outside invasion, to protect citizens from criminal actions and to institute a judicial system to settle disputes among citizens.

See "h" — page 11



Robert Smink relaxes with a coffee at his St. Marys home.
Photo by Donal O'Connor

Candidates and Campaigns...

- ☞ **AT LEFT AND BELOW LEFT:** Article in the *Stratford Beacon Herald*, May 27, 1995, profiles Fp Perth candidate Rob Smink.
- ☞ **AT RIGHT:** Article from the *Scarborough Mirror*, June 3-4, 1995 features a brief overview of election expectations in Scarborough North, where Fp candidate Paul Blair drew the largest vote total for an Fp candidate in Election '95.
- CENTER:** Fp candidate Paul Blair becomes Fp's first candidate to be featured in a Chinese newspaper, *Ming Pao*, May 28, 1995.
- ☞ **LOWER RIGHT:** Photo from the front page of the *Ottawa Sun*, May 30, 1995 features Fp Nepean candidate Cathy Frampton. More on Frampton's campaign is featured on the next page.

Paul Blair
安省自由權利黨
(Freedom Party of Ontario)

現年四十一歲，曾任倫敦市教育局創辦成員，父母參與學習環境組織成員，全國納稅人協會成員，高中畢業，並曾自修。



Scarborough North



ALVIN CURLING (L)



TAREK FATAH (NDP)



MICHAEL THOMAS (PC)



PAUL BLAIR (FP)

It'll be tough to beat Curling

By STUART GREEN
Staff Writer

With 10 years of representation under his belt, Scarborough North's Liberal incumbent Alvin Curling is going to be tough to beat...and no one knows this more than his Conservative and New Democratic Party opponents.

Like Gerry Phillips, his neighbor in Scarborough Agincourt, Curling, a former housing minister, was one of the few Liberals to survive the 1990 election beating the NDP challenger by almost 4,000 votes.

The riding, which used to include Phillips Scarborough Agincourt riding until 1987, is home to the largest urban park in North America, the Rouge Valley Park as well as the Metro Zoo.

Despite this, the environment has not been one of the key issues in this, or any other, riding. The issues here are universal ones like taxes (especially property tax reform), jobs and social services.

Bounded by a CN Rail line to the west, Steeles Avenue to the north, Pickering Town line to the east and Hwy. 401 to the south, this area is as ethnically diverse a riding as you're likely to find in Scarborough.

Curling acknowledges that while he's got the inside track, he's not letting that stop him from taking the party message of tax cuts for small business, welfare reform and the protection of social services to the electorate.

He sees jobs, or the lack of them, as one of the

key issues that needs to be addressed as well as protection of health care for the ridings elderly population.

University student Mike Thomas is hoping that his youthful outlook (although he's only 21, he's a seasoned politico) on the issues will give him the edge when taking Mike Harris' Common Sense Revolution to the public.

Massive tax cuts and huge reductions in government spending are just some of the things a Tory government hope to achieve, Thomas says.

He also sees the need for job creation and training programs to help get people off welfare.

New Democrat Tarek Fatah says his years of political experience from college on make him ideal to represent the riding. He is no stranger to the NDP either as he works as an events co-ordinator in Premier Bob Rae's office.

He says the government's record of cutting government spending while protecting jobs during one of the worst recession in the province's history is something he hopes to continue if elected.

Representing the Freedom Party of Ontario is Paul Blair, a resident of the riding and 14-year fire-fighting veteran.

His party advocates less government and more freedom and prides itself on accountability through binding referendums and flat-rate taxes.

Also running is Fred Fredeen of the Natural Law Party and Rina Morra from the Family Coalition Party.



Suggest to him that the reasons governments became as involved as they are in matters such as education and regulating business practices were because those private institutions were not necessarily doing the job of schooling or protecting the environment as well some like to think they were, and he says those arguments are "red herrings."

"What you're buying into is that governments can create wealth, can create jobs, can create a standard of living for a community. Well, if that's true, why don't they just pass laws which give everybody a car, three meals a day, free medical care, free education."

"All governments can do is confiscate other people's money. It's called taxation. And what they're trying to sell you is a bill of goods that says you can rob Peter to pay Paul and make everybody's life better." He argues that without private ownership there is no responsibility and that freedom and responsibility work hand in hand. "When everybody owns something, nobody owns it."

"The Freedom Party believes that private enterprise can do anything the government can do at least twice as well and usually at half the cost," he says.

Mr. Smink ran as a Freedom Party candidate in the 1984 provincial election when he was a London resident. But this is the

first time the London-based party has run a candidate in Perth riding. "The whole issue of any election is who is going to spend the money," he suggests. "Is it going to be government or is it going to be the individuals who earned it?"

Mr. Smink owns two business. One is a wood recycling enterprise in Lambton which makes wood chips used in landscaping, and animal bedding. The other is The Fabulous Forum strip bar, a business he converted from a money-losing sports bar which he had established in London about 10 years ago.

Mr. Smink and his party reject the idea of the government subsidizing cultural groups or institutions (such as the Stratford Festival) and any justification for such funding based on educational value or "public interest" such as promoting tolerance or understanding of cultural differences.

Funding various cultural groups, he contends, fosters racism rather than promoting tolerance. "It actually institutes a government policy of racism that we're trying to avoid... It pits one group against another group. I believe in individual rights, not in group rights."

"You can't legislate culture," he says. "Culture happens by the people who live it."

And why should taxpayers subsidize people who want to go to see a Shakespearean play, he asks. "Why should the Festival get \$3 million (the reference was to a recently-announced federal grant to the Festival matching a

provincial grant for a major capital project) because it generates so much tourism? I generate tourism with The Forum. The government doesn't give me any money. They just take it. They take over half of what I bring in."

Mr. Smink says he believes it's reasonable to balance the pro-

vince's budget within four years.

Married to Sylvie, he has an honors BA in philosophy and history from the University of Waterloo. But he says he learned more from reading Ayn Rand's book on Capitalism than he did during his four years at university.

FP



Fight all in the cards

Nepean Tory candidate John Baird holds up his crib notes during a debate yesterday after Freedom party candi-

date Cathy Frampton called the plastic-coated cards damaging to the environment. See story on Page 16.

TURN
to Page 16-17
Vote '95

ERROL MCGHON, SUN

Candidates and Campaigns...

Nepean's 'five' clash at all-candidates meeting

By Steve Newman
Independent Staff

Andrew de Jong of the Green Party of Ontario definitely made the most mileage among those the five politicians participating in the May 16 all-candidates for the provincial riding of Nepean.

But it wasn't while in front of a quiet audience of nearly 80 people, some of whom left before the 2 1/2 hour session was over.

De Jong, who doesn't own a car but admits he would if he lived in Barrhaven, cycled 20 kilometres from his Ottawa home, to attend the all-candidates debate at Kennevale Public School.

There was no clear winner among the five candidates, who included Hans Daigeler, the incumbent Liberal, as well as John Baird (PC), John Sullivan (NDP) and Cathy Frampton (Freedom Party).

NO CLEAR WINNER

While there was no clear winner at the Barrhaven Community Association-sponsored event, a couple of spirited responses from the audience were reserved for Baird, a communications consultant who has taken two months off work to run. He focussed on the Conservatives' promises to cut the heavy taxes and bureaucracy he said the New Democratic Party has become renowned for during its term of office.

Frampton quickly pointed out that it took telephone calls to three different numbers before she was able to contact Baird's of-

fice.

"I don't believe the PCs have the ability...to decrease bureaucracy at Queen's Park," said Frampton, who also expressed concern about the illiteracy rate among Ontario students.

Daigeler focused on defending his second of two terms in office, noting his accomplishment included obtaining recent \$100,000 funding for the Quilicum/Graham Park Community Centre and fighting for the early completion of Highway 416.

Baird spoke several times about Conservative leader Mike Harris's intentions to right the wrongs of Premier Bob Rae's NDP.

Sullivan primarily supported decisions of the Rae government and its "record of achievement... and taking action when it was needed."

DeJong criticized past governments for pumping million of dollars into what he termed "sinkholes," instead of into renewable resources such as the educational system.

"PUTTING WORDS IN MY MOUTH"

The most spirited candidate response came from Daigeler, who accused Frampton of racist remarks. He was alluding to Frampton's observation that western society functioned more competently than other societies, including those run by communist regimes.

• Daigeler (Lib): Five per cent tax cut over next mandate of the government; drop five per cent tax on car insurance; cap rehab benefits except for serious cases.

• Baird (PC): Repeal Bob Rae's taxes to extent that Nepean families save an average \$170 per month; eliminate welfare for 16- and 17-year olds.

• Sullivan (NDP): NDP government created or maintained 60,000 jobs. These included 20,000 formerly on social assistance, 2,000 in Ottawa-Carleton.

• DeJong (Green): Tax non-renewable resources, but other resources such as bicycles should be tax-free.

• Frampton (Freedom): "I don't expect the Freedom Party will form the next government, but I'd like to keep the other parties on their toes."

Frampton had earlier rejected the notion that Ontario needs racially-balanced curriculum in the schools.

"I was talking about an equality of values, not an equality of cultures, please do not put words in my mouth," said an indignant Frampton.

In her handout entitled *Body of Knowledge*, she wrote: "Many immigrant come to Canada to make a better life for themselves than they are able to find in their native country."

"To suggest that western civilization must treat as equal to dictatorial cultures, or cultures that abuse or treat women as possessions, is to give the ultimate insult to the immigrants that have chosen by their own free will to come to Canada for a better and, yes, Western life."

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION FUNDS

Daigeler, responding to questions about the delayed provincial funding expected

for Barrhaven-based secondary schooling, strongly suggested the public school would be built by the fall of 1997-98 and the Roman Catholic one for the fall of 1996.

Close to \$15 million has been received for the building of a Barrhaven-based Roman Catholic secondary school, to which Daigeler responded: "I think they (the Roman Catholic School Board) is right that it will not be able to accommodate the student population it has and will have (without the extra \$6 million)."

DEFENDING NDP'S TERM

Sullivan, a 26-year-old education officer with the Public Service Alliance of Canada, spoke about the NDP's "unparalleled record of successful maintenance and creation of jobs in Ontario." He said the NDP government, despite the impact of Free Trade, trained and then created or maintained 60,000 Ontario jobs.

See FIVE, Page 4

Supplement to Netmar

ABOVE, AT RIGHT: Coverage in the May 27/95 *Barrhaven Independent* provides clear evidence of the fundamental difference between Fp and the others.

FRAMPTON DEFLECTS ACCUSATION OF RACISM

NEPEAN (May 16, 1995) - Fp candidate Cathy Frampton clearly distinguished herself from her political rivals by being the only candidate in the riding of Nepean critical of racially-balanced curriculum in the schools. She also went on record as the only candidate not pleased with Ontario's education standards.

To support her position, Frampton had earlier written and distributed an article entitled "Body of Knowledge" which refutes the philosophy of official multiculturalism. Her position prompted Liberal candidate Hans Daigeler to accuse her of racism, but as the article above and at right illustrates, Frampton deflected the accusation with ease. Readers may be interested to note that Frampton's article, "Body of Knowledge" will be featured in the next issue of *Consent*.

<END>

Five

From Page 1

"There were at least 20,000 on social assistance now working and living with an average income of \$21,000, of which 2,000 are in the Ottawa-Carleton region."

Frampton directed several comments at the past Liberal and NDP government and Ontario's "suffering through 24 progressive tax hikes."

De Jong, after cycling into the debate, talked about us living on a finite planet with finite resources and the need to re-examine how we use sustainable and unsustainable resources.

One of 60 Green Party candidates, de Jong called construction of Highway 416 unnecessary and a terrible waste of money.

"What the Green party is all about is looking at a green economy and not a grey economy," said the 39-year-old

school teacher.

Baird promised the PCs' repealing of Bob Rae tax hikes would amount to \$170 a month savings for the average Nepean family. He also called for the elimination of welfare benefits to 16- and 17-year-olds.

"If Manitoba and B.C. can balance the budget, so can Ontario," said Baird, who pointed to Manitoba's example of replacing its MLA pension plan with a RRSP plan.

"No members of the legislature should get 30-year pensions," he said.

PRESSING CONCERN

One of the more pressing concerns of members in the audience was the lack of funding for Barrhaven-based high schools, particularly for the Separate School Board, which has already received \$15 million toward what it says is a required total of \$21 million.

Daigeler, reading a letter received May 12 from the Ontario Ministry of Education, said the

NDP government indicated that all requests for capital funding for schools will be carefully evaluated.

In responding to one question about Ontario's standards of education, all candidates except Frampton generally applauded the Ontario education system. Frampton, in her earlier remarks, expressed concern about high rate of illiteracy among students.

She also said there should be more efforts to have children within walking, instead of busing, distance of their schools.

Baird criticized what he called the exorbitant number of non-teaching employees in the education system and the need to down-size administration and focus more spending on activity in the classroom.

Sullivan defended the NDP government's employment equity policy. He called it one best types of such legislation in the world and denied preference is given to minorities when filling jobs. "There is no quota," he said.

Fp



Barry Fitzgerald

Fitzgerald would deal with issues if elected

By BRIAN PRICE
For The Tribune

WELLAND — Welland-Thorold Freedom Party candidate Barry Fitzgerald says if he was elected, his strategy would be to form coalitions with other members of the legislature.

Running for his third time the 41-year-old Port Colborne native admitted yesterday he has no illusions of forming the next government expectantly since he's one of only 13 Freedom Party candidates in Ontario. But, if elected to a seat, Fitzgerald said he could do certain things to effect change.

"The way parliament is set up one member can do very little," he said. "They have almost no power and the party and leader is, in effect, the dictator."

"The best I could hope for would be to form coalitions and deal on an issue basis rather than the party line type of thing. It would be the only realistic goal given the situation."

In the last provincial election, Fitzgerald received two per cent of the vote and called response this time "not too unfavorable."

The Freedom Party's mandate is to provide government that protects individual rights, rather than restrict them.

"Every policy is a question of whether it supports individual rights or infringes upon them," he said.

Fitzgerald, who worked 14 years as an electrician for Atlas Steels, was critical of what the NDP government has not done for labor. All the legislation has been geared to increasing the power of union leaders, he felt, and done nothing good for the individual worker.

Candidates and Campaigns...

Nasty boys

Candidates fire off barbs at debate

By BILL SAWCHUK
Tribune Staff Writer

THOROLD — With the election a little more than a week away, the candidates in the Welland-Thorold riding appear to be starting to feel the heat — and the exchanges are becoming more personal.

Most of the hour-long discussion during Tuesday's radio debate on CHSC centred around the all-too-familiar party platforms, but on a number of occasions, the discussion threatened to degenerate into a verbal free-for-all.

First, New Democrat Peter Kormos questioned the integrity of Conservative Greg Reid.

Reid told the radio audience Kormos has compared the call-centre industry (which the City of Welland is actively recruiting) to sweat shops. Kormos hotly denied it.

"You're resorting to sleazy politics," Kormos said.

Then Liberal Bob Muir, a high school principal, resorted to his best teacher's voice and fended off an interruption by Reid.

"Cool it, Greg, you've had your chance," Muir said.

Kormos went after Liberal Bob Muir's record as a city councillor in Welland.

"Where were you on Wacky Wednesdays, Bob?" Kormos asked when the discussion turned to sticking up for working people. "You were laying off working people."

Wacky Wednesdays were Welland council's way of dealing with the social contract. Muir replied the decision was made to save jobs.

Freedom Party candidate Barry Fitzgerald even got into it with Kormos on agricultural issues, causing Kormos to reply, "Barry, I've visited a few farms and I have stepped in some of the stuff you are spreading around here...That's why I wear boots."

Fitzgerald said the New Democrats are spending most of the money Ontarians earn and that government itself must get back to the basics.

"There are no limits now to what government can't do," he said, referring to all areas of legislation. "Constitutionally it can take away any right under the notwithstanding clause or section on reasonable limits."

Fitzgerald said Premier Bob Rae has put the province in quite a mess and getting out of it will be a major challenge.

"As far as engineering social policy is concerned he has changed the face of society without our consent."

Fitzgerald also spent three years in the Canadian Armed Forces in land ordinance engineering before working at Spar Aerospace in Toronto. He currently works as an electrical technician for Arvin Automotive near Etobicoke.

He lives in Welland with his wife, Carole and daughter, Crystal.

Freedom party fields candidate in Welland

By BILL SAWCHUK
Tribune staff writer

WELLAND — A ballot cast for the Freedom Party is a vote for less government, Barry Fitzgerald, the party's candidate in the Welland-Thorold riding says.

"We believe in letting people make their own decisions," says Fitzgerald, one of 13 Freedom Party candidates running in the province. "We need a government that knows the value of the taxpayers dollar."

Fitzgerald, a 41-year-old electro-mechanical technician and native of Port Colborne who worked for 14 years at Atlas Steels, has run in three previous elections in Welland but never drawn more than two per cent support.

"We're not a very popular movement, but we have had a lot of influence," he says. "Our policies have been partly implemented in the past couple of years by the other parties."

"In this election, Mike Harris has stolen a great part of our platform."

Key planks in the Freedom Party platform include the elimination of government grants and subsidies for special interest groups, multiculturalism and business; privatization of government owned business such as Ontario Hydro and the LCBO; and repeal of Bill 40 (labor legislation) and Bill 79 (employment equity).

With no budget and limited free time to campaign, Fitzgerald, who works in Toronto and says he lives in Etobicoke and Welland, admits he's at a severe disadvantage.

"Our budget is zero, and that traditionally has been seen as a disadvantage, but that is starting to change. The defeat of the Charlottetown Accord is the first evidence that you can't necessarily buy an election with a big budget."



Fitzgerald

Freedom Party hopeful enjoys philosophy

ETOBICOKE — Barry Fitzgerald may have grown up in the 60's but his music and his ideals are right up to date.

The Welland-Thorold candidate for the Freedom Party of Ontario enjoys action movies, rock concerts and literature that is "indicative of my beliefs."

He also cooks what he calls "a mean lasagna" once in a while.

But Fitzgerald doesn't get the chance for lasagna or a lot of other things when his employment is 70 miles from his Welland home.



Fitzgerald

➡ **ON THIS PAGE:**
Coverage from the
Welland Tribune
(May 18, 29, 31,
and June 6/95)
features Welland-
Thorold Fp
candidate Barry
Fitzgerald, whose
opinions were
apparently too
much for
incumbent Peter
Kormos to handle
(see above).

Candidates and Campaigns...

MONTEITH PROVOKES CONTROVERSY

ELGIN (April 28 - June 8, 1995) - Freedom Party's candidate in Elgin, Ray Monteith, was already known for his ability to stir controversy. In the last Ontario election, Monteith was Fp's star candidate, drawing over 1100 votes and becoming the first Fp candidate to break the 3% vote percentage.

Disappointingly, this election his vote total and percentage were halved, in keeping with the over-all trend for alternate party votes. But what breaks the trend in Elgin is the fact that the winning candidate, Peter North, is Ontario's only elected independent. However, North's victory may be less a sign of the public's willingness to vote for something besides the big three, than it is an illustration of the principle that people vote AGAINST.

As a past NDP MPP who rejected his affiliation with that party in the middle of his term, North became an ideal candidate through which Elgin voters could express their vote AGAINST the NDP, which they readily did. This placed Monteith in the same relative situation as the rest of Fp's candidates whose vote totals decreased, but Monteith was the only Fp candidate to lose votes to a NON-Conservative. (Fp candidates performed better only in those ridings where a Conservative candidate was not seen as being electable, such as London Centre where incumbent NDP Marion Boyd easily retained her seat.)

Despite his reduced vote total, it is clear that Ray Monteith had a definite impact on voters and the media during his election campaign, as can be evidenced by the reproduced news coverage on this page and next. There were far more all-candidates' debates in Elgin than in most ridings, and Monteith often found himself attending two or three functions in a single day.

From observed reactions and responses to Ray's outgoing style and personality, Fp supporters can rest assured that they are being well represented in Elgin.

<END>

☞ **AT RIGHT:** -Reproduced from the St. Thomas Times Journal, May 10 - June 16, 1995.

Freedom's star of '90 returning to the polls

■ Ray Monteith becomes fifth name

BY ERIC BUNNELL
TIMES-JOURNAL STAFF

There's going to be a fifth name on the ballot June 8 in Elgin.

Ray Monteith of St. Thomas said Tuesday he'll stand for the Freedom Party for the third time in a provincial election.

Mr. Monteith, 74, a retired railway conductor, said the party wants to cut government down to size.

"I know the system isn't working. We're wasting our money. We have too much bureaucracy, too much red tape. It's time to act sensibly."

The Freedom Party's platform includes planks to chop government programs and reduce taxes.

The party opposes universal health-care and social services. It says health care should be paid through insurance and welfare should be needs based.

Although he lost his \$200 deposit in the 1990 election when

he failed to capture 10 per cent of the vote in Elgin, Mr. Monteith did pick up 1,104 votes, or 3.24 per cent.

That made him the star of the party's 10 candidates in the '90 election, Freedom Party president Robert Metz said Tuesday.

The Candidate

Campaign HQ: 8 County Rd. 45, St. Thomas.

Telephone: 631-7712.

Heading campaign: Self.

Official agent: Robert Metz, London.

Personal: Age 74; life-long St. Thomas resident; widower; father of 4, grandfather of six.

Employment: Retired Conrail/Amtrak conductor.

Education: Declined by candidate.

Political experience: Freedom Party candidate in 1987 and 1990 provincial elections.

The issues: Is running on Freedom Party platform that government is too big and too involved in lives of Ontarians. "I believe the purpose of government is to protect us as individuals and not restrict us." Freedom Party advocates budget reform, and tax- and spending cuts; health-care funding through insurance; needs-based social services; privatization of Crown corporations and public services.

Quote: "The system isn't working. We're wasting our money. We have too much bureaucracy and too much red tape. It's time to act sensibly."



RAY MONTEITH

Just call him 'Mad Dog'

BY TIMES-JOURNAL STAFF

Gaining notoriety...

Freedom Party's Ray Monteith is (pictured, right) the only candidate so far recognized by his peers with a nickname. After telling the crowd at St. Joe's May 17 all-candidates meeting he would be a watch dog at Queen's Park if elected, incumbent MPP Peter North referred to him as "Mad Dog Monteith".



Bottom line... In response to a recent question about third-party liability (eg., tavern owners) in the event of an accident involving a drunk person, Ray Monteith had a simple answer: "You're not supposed to be drinking and driving in the first place."

HOT ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Waste not, want not...

Freedom Party candidate Ray Monteith isn't one to mince words. When he was asked why people should vote for him he said why not? "I voted for all the other parties for years before I realized it was a waste of time," he said.

* * *

Was it the medicine?...

Mr. Monteith, after explaining to the Golden K Kiwanis Club about a recent injury and subsequent pain, said individuals should be able to bypass physicians and walk into a pharmacy and sign for their own prescriptions.

"This would save OHIP millions of dollars, and that's just in my case alone."

* * *



THE AYLMER EXPRESS



SECTION B - 18 PAGES, No. 23, June 7, 1995
390 TALBOT ST. EAST, AYLMER, ONTARIO PHONE: 773-3126



Ray Monteith: signed up for Freedom Party.

Monteith: controversial and provocative

Ray Monteith's entry into politics was an accident waiting to happen, he says.

"I saw an advertisement in the newspaper for the Freedom Party accidentally and called. Once I heard what they were about, I knew it this party made sense," ous laugh.

Now running in his campaign as a Freedom Monteith is becoming his outspokenness, geous comments. He to be considered than a legitimate candi- of a provincial political time, more and more personality and disty's platform.

Monteith, who will celebrate his 75th birthday this summer, talked about some of the party's platforms with this reporter in his home just outside of St. Thomas's city limits.

The Freedom Party was founded in 1984 on the principle that every individual, in the peaceful pursuit of personal fulfilment, has an absolute right to his or her own life, liberty, and property. It believes the purpose of government is to protect individual freedom of choice, not to restrict it, says the party literature.

Monteith supports the party's stance on education taxes, which states each taxpayer should be able to direct taxes to the school(s) of their choice. The Freedom Party also would repeal employment equity laws, labor legislation making it illegal to hire replacement workers during strikes, and official bilingualism.

"We'd end grants and funding for special interest groups and cut spending. The other parties have nothing to offer but debt. We should be ashamed of ourselves to have the debt we have. People have to pinch their pennies and live more carefully," says Monteith.

He believes he's a better choice than Independent candidate, Peter North, because he has a party to back him and says he's prepared to win, should that happen. He acknowledges, however, that it's unlikely.

"If I did...boy, I would really go to town. I want to be a watchdog and I'd get busy!"

Monteith senses an general attitude of frustration among voters, some of whom have told Monteith they're "sick of the three (main) parties."

"The NDP walk around saying they did all these things for us, but they did it all on credit."



NANCY SHEPPARD

third provincial campaign candidate, well-known in Elgin for and at times out- says he isn't offended "comic relief" rather date while in the threes campaign. He feels in people will see past his cover the freedom Party's platform.

Where it will stop, no one knows Election wheel is spinning

by Rob Perry
of The Aylmer Express

➡ AT LEFT,
BELOW:
-Reprinted
from *Our
Community
News*, St.
Thomas.

➡ ABOVE, AT
RIGHT:
-Reprinted
from the
*Aylmer
Express*,
June 7, 1995

Monteith--Freedom

Elgin, in the last election, showed a willingness to vote for an unusual candidate.

Ray Monteith, who ran for the Freedom Party in Elgin in

1990, garnered 1,104 votes, the largest number for any of his nine party candidates in Ontario.

Mr. Monteith is an effusive fellow who blasts away at all three mainstream parties with equal vigour, saying none of them is doing a good job.

Despite his criticism, he is well-liked by all the other candidates in this year's election. Eye-rolling at some of his suggestions, such as increasing speed limits on highways and eliminating photo-radar, has turned into admiration for his bravado, good humour and open heart.

Mr. Monteith has been a popular figure at the nine all-candidates forums in Elgin during this election, with his personal anecdotes, straightforward talk and the sheer joy he exudes at just being part of the democratic process.

Mr. Williams said that while Mr. Monteith was critical of the mainstream parties, there was nothing mean-spirited in what he said.

He admitted he was surprised at how easy he found Mr. Monteith to take, since he could himself be an intense campaigner on the political trail.

"It's neat to take some of his statements and think them through, and see where that

leads," said Mr. Williams.

"It's been excellent running with Ray," said Mr. Fitzgerald. Mr. Monteith provided some badly-needed levity at the all-candidates forums.

Mr. North said he always tried to sit beside Mr. Monteith at political meetings. "He really enjoys it," and, while Mr. Monteith was sincere about the messages he wanted to convey, "He doesn't take himself too seriously."

Mr. North credited Mr. Monteith with running what was virtually a one-man campaign, and doing so quite successfully.

Mr. Monteith, who is making his third run at MPP, said he has been pleased how audiences have accepted his words about how government was getting too big and controlled too much in the private lives of Ontario's people.

"I think I got just as much response as anyone," he said. "I'm doing quite well for a one-man band."

"It's fun. I make it fun for everyone else, even if I get carried away sometimes."

He said he was afraid that in this election, he would lose some of his traditional protest votes against mainstream parties to Mr. North, but expected to take at least as many new ones from the other candidates.

Monteith

Continued from page 16

Monteith sees himself as a hardworker, personable and a good listener and says he is encouraged by the response he's been getting, particularly since the all-candidates meeting hosted by Chamber of Commerce and London-St. Thomas Real Estate Board.

His non-conventional outlook on life and sometimes controversial comments were considered highlights of the event by many. An example would be his belief that television is the way of the future for education.

"I think we should be using TV to teach children. They'd learn more off a TV than some teachers and let's face it, we can't afford more teachers. This way one teacher could teach the whole province!"

Controversial, yes. Amusing, certainly.

But his comments are often provocative too.

Candidates and Campaigns... Don Mills

Hopefuls try to wrest seat from Johnson

David Pengelly

"You may have noticed there are not too many jobs around," commented David Pengelly, who is running under the Freedom Party banner.

He said the party seeks a peaceful, harmonious society that's not based on force. The purpose of government, he argued, is to protect individual rights, adding this is a moral society and it works. "Freer societies work better," he declared.

Pengelly charged the NDP has brought in tax hikes and racist laws, as he stressed the need to get government back to basics. He called for tax cuts to leave more money to individuals so they can support the causes they choose. Social programs, he added, are not the job of government and are responsible for tax hikes that destroy jobs. These programs can be run by private charities.

"What we need are plenty of jobs, not plenty of legislation," he declared.

Pengelly called for an end to rent controls, noting they just discourage people from building good, affordable apartments.

He also opposed the province mandating programs for education. The Freedom Party would allow people to direct taxes to the schools of their choice. "Those schools will be able to have any kind of program that you want," he said.

He also opposed government involvement in day care. "The government's job is to protect individual rights, not to baby sit their kids," he remarked.



DAVID PENGELLY (FP)



DAVE JOHNSON (PC)



J. BALA-KRISHNAN (NDP)



RICHARD GOSLING (L)

4 — St. Thomas Times-Journal, Friday, June 9, 1995

■ LOCAL NEWS EDITOR R. MARK BUTTERWICK
PH. 631-2790 EXT. 251 - FAX: 631-5653

Election of independent may aid Freedom cause

■ ... 'You don't have to belong to a big party'

BY TOM FROESE
TIMES-JOURNAL STAFF

The man known as Mad Dog to some and the "star" of Elgin's election campaign to others was his usual colorful self Thursday.

Dressed sharply in a pinstriped blue suit and white tie, and without an election office to call his own, Freedom Party candidate Ray Monteith walked in and out of his competition's headquarters enjoying the company and showing no regret while conceding sound defeat.

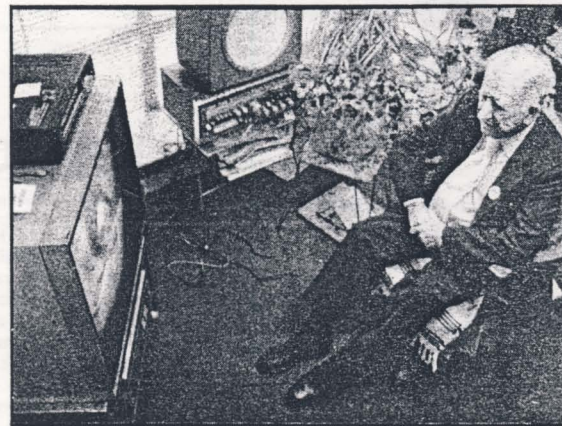
And he says having an independent MPP in Queen's Park may eventually help the Freedom cause.

"In some ways this has proven that you don't have to belong to a big party to win. It means my party has a better chance to make it big," he said.

In his home poll (#78), Mr. Monteith received three votes, and his numbers never broke double digits at any poll. He got less than two per cent of the vote, less than the 1990 election.

As polls were closing he was at his County Road 45 home watching pre-election analysis, before making his way to the returning office on Talbot Street.

"I don't think people know how good this party is," he said



(T-J photo)

CHECKING OUT ANALYSIS... Freedom Party candidate Ray Monteith sits in his County Road 45 home, watching election analyzes on Thursday night.

as the low numbers showed by the Freedom Party.

He also said not having his own office made him feel "cheated" by the system.

Mr. Monteith's team consisted of one volunteer, a Freedom candidate from London who helped get him put some of his 40 signs up.

"I think I put my best foot forward, and came across as

good as anyone did."

Mr. Monteith was the first to concede defeat to incumbent MPP Peter North.

But win or lose, Mr. Monteith said he was still in the party spirit. He planned to join other Freedom party candidates at a gathering with party leader Robert Metz in London.

"I'm glad it's over. It was a hard grind."

☞ **ABOVE:** Coverage of Fp Don Mills candidate David Pengelly from the *Leaside Advertiser*, June 1, 1995. Photos of Don Mills candidates with headline above from the *North York Mirror*, June 3-4, 1995.

☞ **AT RIGHT:** Post-election reflection from the *St. Thomas Times-Journal*, June 9, 1995 features Ray Monteith at his home in St. Thomas.

(...MEDIA cont'd from pg 6)

In fact, all registered political parties and candidates must go through a formal nomination and registration process with both **Elections Ontario** and the **Commission on Election Finances** before they can be regarded as official candidates on the ballot. Even if the media was not informed by the party of who their candidates are, this information is readily available through either of the two registration bodies.

On the very page opposite Sanderson's column addressing Vaughan's concerns, **Freedom Party** was once again dismissed as an "established fringe party" by Queens Park Free Press reporter **Greg Van Moorsel** ("Party strategies to watch"). There was no mention of Fp's platform, record of action, or campaign strategy, while attention was given to the **Family Coalition Party**, the **Natural Law Party**, and the **Reform Association**. (Van Moorsel was the reporter whom Fp president **Robert Metz** challenged to produce an audio tape of alleged racist remarks made by London landlord **Elijah Elieff**. The tape proved not to exist, but the Free Press has yet to correct its reporting of it. See back issues of *Freedom Flyer* for details.)

This prompted Vaughan to write the *London Free Press* a long letter challenging its lack of coverage on **Freedom Party**. To his surprise, Vaughan found his complaints reprinted in the paper as an editorial column, complete with photo and by-line (see page 7).

Unfortunately, despite improved expectations following the appearance of Vaughan's editorial, Free Press coverage was the same or worse.

✉ HOW COME WE NEVER HEAR ABOUT Fp IN THE MEDIA?

Any one of the 300 people attending May 15th's all-candidates' debate on health care sponsored by the **Thames Valley Placement Coordination Service** would have expected news coverage of the event to give prominent mention to Fp's presence. Two Fp candidates (**Plant** and **Walker**) were on the discussion panel and contributed a great deal to the debate, while two other Fp candidates (**Battaglia** and **Malcolm**) were on hand to greet people. With all four relevant riding candidates present, and with an impressive information display at the event, **Freedom Party** had a high profile and was the best represented party in attendance. However, the only mention of Fp's presence at the event in the Free Press on May 16 was that **Plant** and **Walker** happened to be "other members of the panel."

At a June 5 all-candidates' debate chaired by the Reverend **Susan Eagle**, and participated in by representatives from the Free Press and other electronic media, **Freedom Party's**

three London candidates (**Battaglia**, **Plant**, **Walker**) virtually monopolized the debate with powerful arguments and personal insights directed at an audience that was predominantly hostile to Fp's point of view. Most of the questions asked were directed at Fp's candidates.

Sponsors of the debate included the **Cross-Cultural Learning Centre**, **Students for a Green Society**, and **Life Spin**, a group that had just received \$250,000 from the Rae government. Their questions to the candidates were geared towards social and environmental issues --- and continued funding of their groups. Several personal attacks were directed at Fp leader **Jack Plant** in an attempt to demonstrate some sort of conflict between his support of privatizing municipal services and his employment as a London firefighter.

After the event, Fp president **Robert Metz** remarked, to the disbelief of many present, that "Freedom Party's candidates did so well that you can bet there won't be any coverage of this event in tomorrow's paper (Free Press)." True to his prediction, the Free Press did not report a single word on the event, but did manage to add insult to injury by running a lengthy editorial the following day by a member of *Life Spin* (one of the groups that sponsored the debate).

✉ NO TIME FOR FREEDOM

Resistance to giving **Freedom Party** exposure by the media often took unexpected and proactive forms. During the last week of the election, Fp president **Robert Metz** was informed by a **TV Ontario** representative that although the network was aware of **Freedom Party**, and acknowledged that its program 'Studio 2' had already featured interviews with the leaders of ALL the other alternate parties, **Freedom Party** would not be granted the same privilege. The reason given was that "other stories" were more pressing.

In London, **Radio Western's** **CHRW** has long had a record of displaying a particularly cool reception to **Freedom Party**. When Fp president **Robert Metz**, as a representative of **Freedom Party**, appeared as a guest speaker on at least three separate past occasions, program hosts incorrectly introduced him as "a community member interested in this issue" and it was left to Metz each time to clarify his position with respect to **Freedom Party** and to properly introduce himself to the listening audience.

On May 25, 1995, the station hosted an all-candidates' debate for the riding of London North and invited all the candidates of all the parties excepting **Freedom Party's** candidate, party leader **Jack Plant**. Since the debate was a call-in radio program, **Plant** took advantage of the situation by phoning in and introducing

himself as the candidate from **Freedom Party**. The conversation went like this:

RADIO WESTERN: "Mr. **Plant** do you have a point you'd like to add to our conversation?"

PLANT: "Yes I would. I'd actually like to know why I wasn't invited tonight."

RADIO WESTERN: "I must say I don't have a good answer for you on that one but if there is an ISSUE that you'd like to raise, that you'd like to have aired in this forum while you're here with us..."

PLANT: "Yes there is an issue, actually. We're finding that there's quite an evasion of the **Freedom Party** out there by the local press, by the radio, and by some of the groups that are holding all-candidates' meetings. We find this happening quite a lot. We



MORRIS LAMONT / The London Free Press
Jamie Harris of the Family Coalition, left, listens to Freedom Party candidate Barry Malcolm answer a question during the Middlesex all candidates meeting.

ABOVE: -from the *London Free Press*, May 31, 1995

have to phone up and invite ourselves or whatever, but it's the job of the media to present these alternatives. We sent you a FAX yesterday. We're in the phone book. We've been around in London for eleven years and we have quite a track record in the London area. I don't know how anybody up there cannot be aware of us, but I was wondering if you had any advice or comment on that?"

RADIO WESTERN: "Actually, the purpose of this show is to provide candidates with an opportunity so I would invite any of the candidates who are here with us tonight if they want to respond to Mr. **Plant's** comments..."

There was, of course, no response to the question and an attempt was made to deflect the conversation to other topics, but **Plant** persisted in getting his point across by asking the other candidates if they might have any advice to offer with regards to getting some semblance of equal treatment by the media.

(MEDIA... cont'd next pg)

(MEDIA cont'd from prev. pg.)

Once again, their silence was broken by the host suggesting that everybody was still waiting for Fp's "literature to hit the streets", although no attempt was made to explain how this had any bearing on Plant's question.

"Mr. Plant," concluded the program host, "I regret to say that I'm going to have to offend you all over again and move on to another caller so thank you for your contribution to the show tonight and best wishes in your campaign..."

On June 1, only a few days after Plant's conversation, Fp secretary **Robert Vaughan** was tuned into Radio Western to listen to commentary about the election. One of the speakers repeatedly tried to bring up **Freedom Party**, against the objections of the program host who successfully cut off any discussion of Fp.

Other media disappointments involved expectations based on past election experiences which did not repeat themselves in 1995. During the last election in 1990, **Rogers Cable** in Toronto featured a province-wide leaders' debate between the leaders of all the alternate parties. Radio stations like **CFRB** and **CBC** in Toronto conducted extensive and well-researched interviews with then **Fp** leader **Robert Metz**. None of these opportunities were extended to **Freedom Party** in 1995.

We have been asked by a number of our London-area supporters why **Freedom Party** was not featured on **CKSL Radio's "Jim Chapman Show"** during the election, which is London's only local phone-in talk show. We can offer no explanation, particularly in light of the station's publicized commitment to bring all the alternatives to the attention of voters, and in view of Chapman's awareness of **Freedom Party**. Once again in contrast to past experience, this was the first time in four elections that **Fp** was not offered an opportunity to appear on an open-line talk show in the London area.

In Toronto, **Global TV** featured a series on Ontario's alternate political parties and **Freedom Party** was well represented by **Chris Balabanian**. Unfortunately, **Global** had its own agenda, leaving anyone who watched its coverage of the alternate parties completely in the dark about what those parties may represent.

Experiences such as these are continual disappointments, and hard learning experiences, about the power --- and bias --- of the media. It may well be that much of the dramatic decline in support for the alternate parties was due, not only to the majority Conservative victory, but to dramatically-decreased media exposure, and thus, dramatically-decreased public awareness. <END>

THANK YOU!

Fp leader **Jack Plant** and our candidates wish to extend a hearty "THANK YOU" to the following people whose contributions and volunteer help made their Election'95 effort a success.

Jeffrey Adam, Bob Adams, Jim Allan, Eugenia Allen, Marc Baker, Chris Balabanian, Ted Banks, David Bawden, Elizabeth Bendell, Ron Bendell, Tom Borrowman, Mike Braley, Michael Brandt, Bruce Braund, Carol Bridgelal, Harold Burrows, Noemi Byrnes, Vaughan Byrnes, Joe Byway, Kathy Byway, Sara Byway, Bob Cape, Franz Cauchi, Craig Chandler, Sandra Chrysler, John Cossar, Mike Davidson, Gord Deans, Sylvie Desrosiers, Frank Doberstein, Lynda Doberstein, Gordon Domm, Erich Donisch, Bill Downe, Elija Elieff, Marc Emery, John Ferguson, Dick Field, Sandra Forbes, Jay Forhan, Dave Fortner, Bill Frampton, Morris Gates, John Gaul, Edward Gil, Morris Goldenberg, William Goodman, Frank Gue, Mary Lou Gutscher, Lyle Halverson, Andrea Hanington, Stephen Hayhurst, Ken Hilborn, Murray Hopper, Shirley Hopper, Helen Irwin, Greg Jones, Ivan Kasuriak, Doreen Kimura, David Kohlsmith, Dusan Kubias, Paul Lambert, John LeBlanc, Rick Leir, Ken Lewis, Steven Lotz, Lou Lumani, Paul Magder, Kim Malcolm, Joel Mayne, Paul McKeever, Dan McRae, Bill Metcalfe, Mary Metcalfe, Danielle Metz, Frances Metz, Kathy Metz, Gary Milani, Rick Minto, Gordon Mood, Laurie Mood, Trudy Moody, Brad Morosan, Sheila Morrison, Barbara Newham, Ivor Nixon, Dorothy Nother, Tom Ofner, Sandra Paquet, Lynn Payen, Sieg Pedde, Gary Penn, Patti Plant, Conrad Ranzan, Rick Redman, Ken Reffell, Mavis Reffell, Joe Renaud, David Rodman, John Runge, Linda Runge, Jack Sands, Karen Selick, Peter Sergautis, Steve Sharpe, Dave Southen, Jack Southen, Louise Spanics, Philip Spicer, Todd Spurrell, Craig Stevens, Frank Stevens, Barry Swane, Joan Swane, Maurice Temoin, Adam Toth, William Trench, Stephen Turner, Silvio Ursomazo, Greg Utas, Andrew Vandenberg, Carol Vandenberg, Peter Vandenberg, Ted VanKool, Jeanette Vaughan, Robert Vaughan, Wally West, Peter Zathey.

Don't blame me...
...I voted Fp

Freedom Party...

ONTARIO ELECTION

Alternate parties deserve voters' attention



**RORY
LEISHMAN**
NATIONAL AFFAIRS

The Freedom party and Family Coalition offer contrasting and well-considered views.

By Rory Leishman

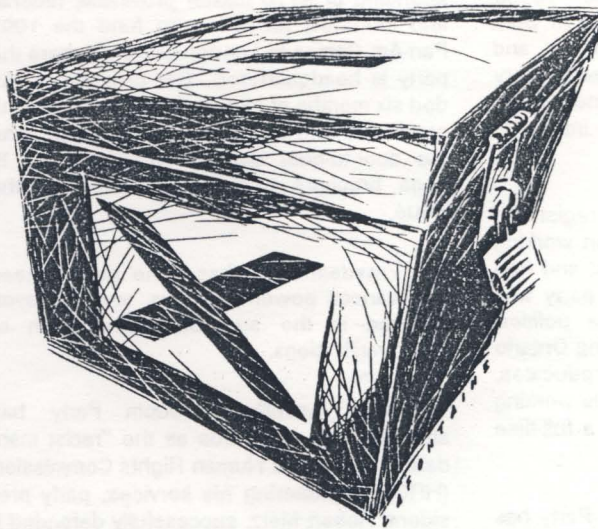
Although the three main political parties in the Ontario election campaign get most of the attention, and properly so, voters might well also ponder the well-considered and contrasting views of the Family Coalition Party (FCP) and the Freedom Party of Ontario (FP).

Two of the leading candidates for the FCP and FP are running in Middlesex: Jamie Harris for the FCP and Barry Malcolm for the FP. Irene Mathysen is seeking to hold the seat for the New Democrats, Doug Reycraft is attempting a comeback for the Liberals, and Bruce Smith aims to regain the riding for the Progressive Conservatives.

POSITIONS: At an all-candidates meeting in Strathroy last week, all five demonstrated an impressive ability to articulate the respective positions of their parties. But since the general policies of the NDP, the Liberals and the Conservatives are generally well known, this column will focus on the contrasting viewpoints of the FCP and FP as represented by Harris and Malcolm.

On many issues, the two parties are indistinguishable. Both, for example, are profoundly skeptical of government job-creation programs.

Harris suggested to his Strathroy audience that the NDP's JobsOntario program is, at best, "an interesting token" for the chronically unemployed that provides only hugely expensive and temporary benefits. To generate more, lasting jobs, he insisted, "basically, we need smaller government, we need less intrusive



government, we need less government spending and ultimately reduced taxation."

Malcolm could not have agreed more. If government-funded job creation really works, he asked, why did the NDP not hugely expand JobsOntario with a view to wiping out unemployment altogether, instead of piecemeal?

In Malcolm's judgment, taking money out of the pockets of taxpayers so it can be funneled through a team of government bureaucrats and back into a so-called job-creation program is a hugely wasteful and inefficient procedure. He holds that government can only solve the problem of unemployment, by taxing less and allowing consumers to spend more on things of their own choice.

Malcolm also insisted that, "What we need is a limited government that will put its fiscal house in order in a responsible manner." On this point, too, Harris concurred. "To promise any

kind of tax reduction is irresponsible," he contended. "We must balance the budget as soon as possible because as Barry (Malcolm) was saying, all we are doing is deferring taxation for every dollar we borrow."

Harris and Malcolm also agreed on the merits of workfare for able-bodied welfare recipients, the evils of employment-equity discrimination, and the desirability of giving parents freedom of choice in education through a voucher system.

Likewise, the FCP and the FP both favor abolition of the Ontario Human Rights Commission.

MORAL ROLE: Where these parties part company is on the moral role of government. Harris, for example, said the FCP is horrified by the casino gambling business and would shut it down, because it fosters gambling addiction, destroys families and undermines the work ethic. Malcolm said the FP would also like to see

the Ontario government get out of the gambling business, but would sell off the Windsor casino to the private sector.

That's typical of the Freedom party. It maintains, as Malcolm explained, "that the purpose of government is to protect individual freedom of choice, not to restrict it. We believe," he emphasized, "that everyone has the right to life, liberty and property, and that these rights should be protected from fraud or physical force on the part of any individual or group, including any government."

On this basis, Malcolm said the FP would close down the censor board of Ontario, legalize the sale of marijuana and license private-sector brothels. In the judgment of the FP, government should not coerce people into doing, or refraining from doing, anything solely for their own good.

Harris and the FCP fundamentally disagree with this laissez-faire, individualist, libertarianism of the FP. They also scorn "the weathervane morality" of the Conservatives and the "progressive" morality of the Liberals and New Democrats. Alone among the parties, the FCP insists that government should consistently promote marriage, the procreative family and the sanctity of human life.

While the FCP and the FP would both abolish funding for abortions, the FP is otherwise pro-choice. Only the FCP resolutely upholds the right to life of all innocent human beings from conception to natural death.

"The one factor that has led to moral decline, more than anything else in this province and in this continent, for that matter, is disrespect for life," insists Harris. The educational three Rs will not save us, he warns: "We are going to turn this province into L.A. (Los Angeles) north," unless future generations of children can learn once again to appreciate what he aptly calls, "the fundamental three Rs — responsibility, right and wrong and respect for life."

Rory Leishman's column appears Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. You can reach him by calling 519-679-1111, ext. 2108.

ABOVE: from the London Free Press, June 1, 1995. National Affairs columnist Rory Leishman's editorial comparing Freedom Party with the Family Coalition Party provides an accurate assessment of POLICY similarities and differences between the two parties. However, Leishman's assessment of Fp's position on the "moral role of government" reflects a fundamental misunderstanding of the principles on which Freedom Party is based. His implication, by comparison, that Fp's "laissez-faire, individualist" philosophy has no base in "morality" is, unfortunately, a false impression shared by many today — and publicly admitted to by the FCP. Because this belief does a great deal of damage to the cause of individual freedom and ultimately, to morality itself, it will become an issue we must critically address in future Freedom Party efforts. Watch for our response to this perception in an upcoming issue of *Consent*!

Freedom Party...

PARTY MISSION TO RESTORE FREEDOM AND PROSPERITY TO ONTARIO

"Restoring freedom and prosperity to Ontario is our fundamental mission," says Freedom Party Leader Jack Plant. "To do that, we have to be able and willing to work with people from every walk of life and political background. People have every good reason to be suspicious of new political parties. We respect that. We intend to EARN their support."

Freedom Party is an officially-registered Ontario political party that has been working for individual freedom, lower taxes, and free enterprise since 1984, when the party was founded. Far more than "just a political party" which fields candidates during Ontario elections, Freedom Party lobbies, educates, and supports groups and individuals working towards these common goals on a full-time basis.

Since its inception, Freedom Party has been documenting its record of action in its official party newsletter, Freedom Flyer. A sister publication, Consent, is the party's forum for opinion, discussion, and debate on many controversial issues and ideas. Because the party likes to demonstrate that it practises what it preaches, back-issues of both newsletters are always available to members of the public and media.

In its first public campaign in 1985, Freedom Party successfully prevented the spending of \$110 million provincial, federal, and municipal tax-dollars to fund the 1991 Pan-Am Games in London Ontario, where the party is headquartered. The campaign included six months of intense lobbying of federal, provincial, and municipal governments, and the door-to-door delivery of the party's 8-page brochure outlining its stand on the issue.

Freedom Party has gone head-to-head with various powerful unions, and has even assisted in the successful prevention of union ratifications.

Most recently, Freedom Party has attacked what it regards as the "racist mandate" of Ontario's Human Rights Commission (HRC). Volunteering his services, party president, Robert Metz, successfully defended a London landlord who was falsely accused of "discrimination" before an HRC Board of Inquiry in 1993. During the course of hearings, the Board of Inquiry placed a publication ban on one of the party's newsletters which reported details of a deal the Commission tried to make with the landlord in exchange for dropping the complaint against him. Despite the ban, the party has continued

to distribute the information, and is now preparing to go on the offensive in bringing the dangers of the HRC to the attention of Ontarians.

Freedom Party believes that the purpose of government is to protect individual freedom of choice, not to restrict it. Founded on the principle that "Every individual, in the peaceful pursuit of personal fulfilment, has an absolute right to his or her own life, liberty, and property," the party has taken its philosophy to the streets by leading and supporting many successful campaigns favouring lower taxes, freedom of association in labour relations, freedom of speech, choice in education, and objectivity in the administration of justice.

"Regardless of your political affiliation," says Party Leader Jack Plant, "Freedom Party has something to offer you. Check us out. Surprise yourself."

For more information, call or write:
FREEDOM PARTY OF ONTARIO P.O.
Box 2214, Stn. A., LONDON, Ontario
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FREEDOM FLYER

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FREEDOM PARTY OF ONTARIO

Freedom Party of Ontario is a fully-registered Ontario political party. Contributions are tax-creditable. **Statement of Principle:** Freedom Party is founded on the principle that: *Every individual, in the peaceful pursuit of personal fulfillment, has an absolute right to his or her own life, liberty, and property.* **Platform:** that the purpose of government is to protect individual freedom of choice, not to restrict it. **Annual Membership & Support Level:** \$25 minimum (tax-creditable); **Provincial Executive:** Ontario President: Robert Metz; Vice-president, Ontario: Lloyd Walker; Ontario Secretary: Robert Vaughan; Regional Vice-president, Eastern Ontario: William Frampton; Chief Financial Officer: Patti Plant; Executive Officer: Barry Malcolm; Party Leader: Jack Plant.

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