



The candidates

Regan avoids student press in re-election bid

By RICK JANSON

Gerald Regan, Liberal candidate in Halifax riding, has been running a low profile campaign in this election. Campaigning door to door and on the streets, Regan's approach has sharply contrasted with the high-profile effort of his Progressive Conservative opponent, Stewart McInnis. In fact, his campaign remains so low-key that he even refused to make time available to talk to us.

On Aug. 23 *The Gazette* caught up with Regan at a Liberal youth rally. When we asked if he would briefly answer at least a few short questions on education, he said he had to go and mingle with the crowds, but would try and get back to us before our deadline. He never did. Regan also refused to debate with the other two major candidates in an education forum that was supposed to happen at Dalhousie. *The Gazette* has attempted to set up an interview with Regan since the beginning of the campaign.

Regan's campaign centers on his performance in the past and not on



Regan diffuses discussion of energy policy by stating "no part of the NEP is sacred."

Photo: Peter Katsihtis, Dal Photo.

what he and his party plan to do in the future.

Regan took over from Jean Chretien as energy minister just prior to the

election call. Although he wasted no time in criticizing the Tory energy platform unveiled before the election, he has diffused the energy issue by stating "no part of the NEP is sacred," and promised changes to be announced after the election.

His campaign literature focuses on federal dollars spent in the riding on projects he readily takes credit for.

"I find tremendous irony in (Prime Minister) Turner today calling down Brian Mulroney about buying people with their own money, when you have Gerry Regan playing Santa Claus here the past few days," said McInnis in an interview with the *Halifax Chronicle-Herald*.

NDP candidate Tessa Hebb agrees.

"I think people really resent that kind of feeling that they're being bought out by holding out this sort of ... whether it's a threat or a promise, I can't tell," she also told the *Herald*.

The Halifax riding is considered to be a bellwether riding, traditionally voting for the winning party nationally.

Liberal candidate Gerald Regan on the campaign trail. Photo: Peter Katsihtis, Dal Photo.

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