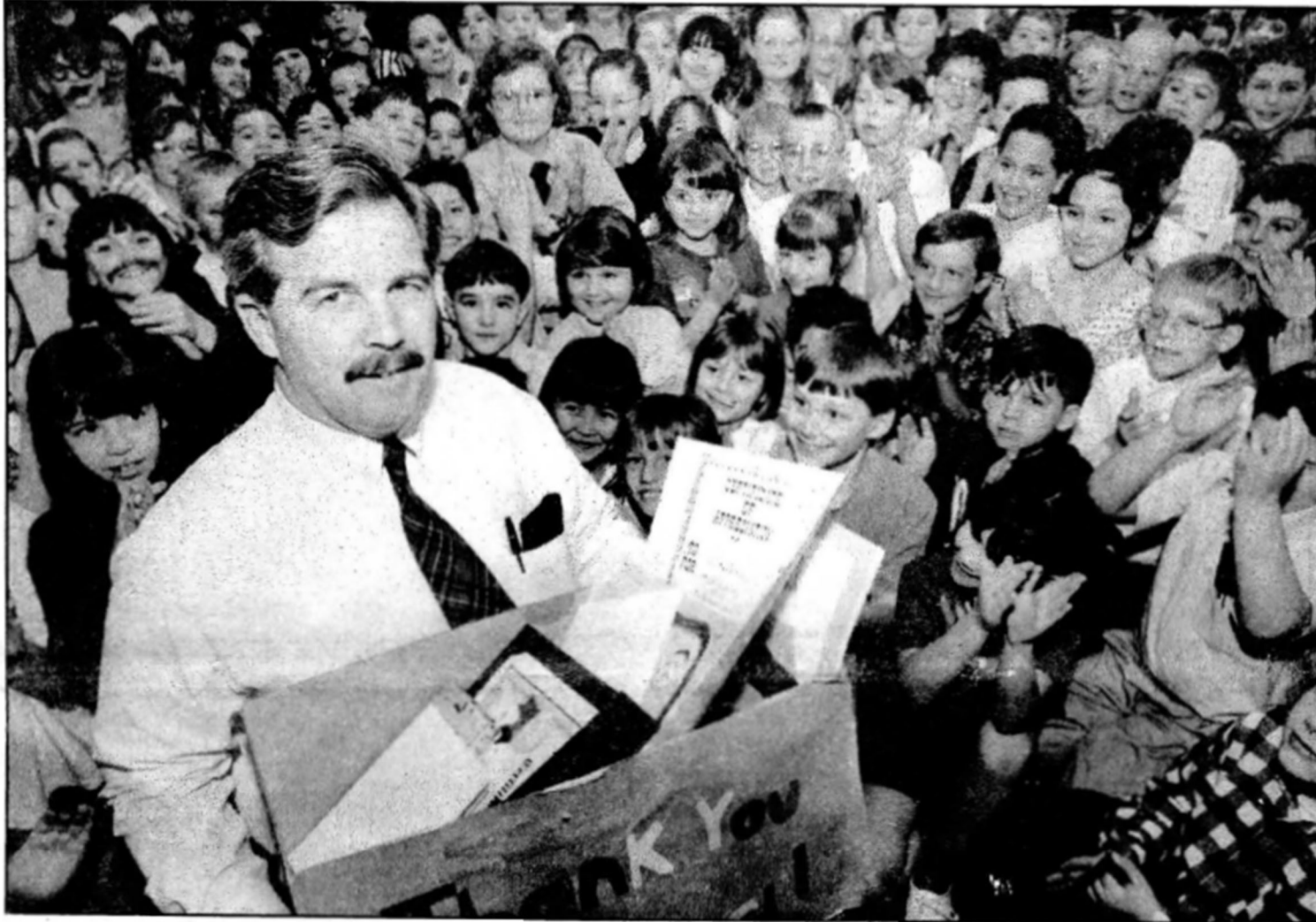


## Three cheers for their favorite principal



Northwood Elementary School students crowded around Principal Dr. Mark Crawford Friday afternoon to show him how much they appreciate him and the work he has done for the school. Some students

donned construction paper glasses and/or mustaches to mimic their favorite principal. A box of handmade thank-you cards and notes was presented to Crawford.

Photo by Steve Desmond

### Northwood pupils honor Dr. Crawford

by CHERYL KRAJNA

Northwood Elementary School students showed their principal just how much they like him Friday with special presentations, proclamations and much clapping.

Every student in the school was ushered into the gym to await the arrival of Dr. Mark Crawford, who had no idea what was brewing. He was brought to the gym under false pretenses, told there was an emergency. As soon as he walked into the room students erupted into applause and cheers.

"They say imitation is the sincerest form of flattery," said teacher Sharon Siraguse as she took note of the many youngsters who had donned construction paper mustaches and eyeglasses for the occasion. "There's only one Dr. Crawford. We have a whole box of cards and letters from the kids. We think you're pretty wonderful."

Members of the Sixth Grade Spirit Club, under the direction of teacher Suzanne Murphy, each held up a letter of Crawford's name — including "doctor" and said a little something. "D," for example, stands for his dedication; "O," he looks out for students; "C" for caring; "W" for works hard; "F" fair and always friendly; and "R" responsible. Students in Elizabeth "Liz" Dolce's class presented "A special quilt made especially for Dr. Crawford"

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## Principal

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assembled from construction paper.

Congressman Jack Quinn gave Crawford a Congressional proclamation.

"You're very lucky to have this young man in charge here," Quinn told students. "Some day when I'm done doing what I'm doing I'm going to get back into teaching and I'm going to ask for advice from this guy."

Deputy Town Supervisor Jerry M. Hicks presented Crawford with a town proclamation.

Carol Jarczyk from the school's PTA presented Crawford and his wife and daughter — who were in attendance, as were Crawford's parents — with gifts the whole family can enjoy.

"I almost don't know what to say," Crawford said. "I'm touched. I was saying to someone just today how much I love being here."

"One of the greatest joys of my working life is to work with all you children," he said. "I am what I am because of the influence of everyone in this room. I will never forget this day as long as I live."

As students headed back to their classrooms Crawford, his family and some of the dignitaries gathered in the school cafeteria for refreshments. Joanne and Ron Hortman, whose daughter is in sixth grade at the school, complimented the work Crawford does.

"He does so much," Joanne

said. "He enjoys what he does."

"The faculty does innovative programs because of his influence," Ron said.

A framed print entitled "Priorities," presented to Crawford by Northwood faculty members, said it best.

"A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in or the kind of car I drove. But the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child."

## Seniors set craft show, raffles

The West Seneca Senior Citizen Center will host its annual flea market and craft show, including a ceramics raffle and baked goods sale, Saturday, May 11.

Admission is free; tables are \$5.

Call the senior center for more information.

