

THE RECORD

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St. Francis students raise \$900 for cancer research... P. 3

70 CENTS

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MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2004

Fire in Waterloo likely accidental — SQ

By Tom Peacock

The provincial police are saying the massive fire in Waterloo Friday night which destroyed a large auto parts dealership appears to have been accidental.

"There were no elements found to lead us to believe the fire was criminal, but we have not reached a definitive conclusion just yet — the investigation is still underway," said Gilles Mitchell, spokesman for the Sûreté du Québec, yesterday.

The Waterloo fire department received the call around 5:30 p.m. Friday night that a warehouse separating the Garage GM Viens and Pièces d'Auto Waterloo was on fire. The fire started in the warehouse between the two businesses, located at 6195 and 6199 Foster Street, a few metres from the Route 112 intersection.

The Waterloo firefighters soon called in colleagues from Shefford Township, Lac Brome and Granby, as well as a ladder truck from Bromont, to help them battle the giant blaze.

At one point, the firefighters were forced to retreat after several large explosions threaten to engulf them.

"The fighters were left unharmed but moved back after the close call," said Record photographer David Anderson. "I shook the camera as well because it all happened so quickly and surprised the hell out of me."

After the explosions ceased and the flames settled, the Garage GM Viens, owned and operated by Gaetan Viens,



DAVID ANDERSON/SPECIAL

Firefighters battled a fire in a warehouse separating the Garage GM Viens and Pièces d'Auto Waterloo on Friday.

had received some damage, but it is expected to reopen shortly.

The auto parts store next door and its adjoining warehouse were both totally destroyed. Mitchell said the estimated value of the business was \$900,000.

Pièces d'Auto Waterloo first opened in 1960, and moved to its current location some years ago. The store, owned and operated by local business partners Normand Côte and Daniel Gagné, underwent major renovations just a few years ago.

Côte said yesterday he is determined to reopen the store in a newly constructed building right next door to the old one.

"It's official," he said. "We will rebuild and reopen our store as soon as we can."

Galt parents concerned about choice

By Leah Fitzgerald
LENNOXVILLE

A tense meeting on Thursday evening finished off a week of consultations with parents by the administration of the Eastern Townships School Board.

Parents and teachers at Alexander Galt Regional High School didn't even allow the administrators to get through the prepared presentation.

The presentation, which was also given at meetings at Massey-Vanier and Richmond Regional earlier in the week,

covered questions asked during the Feb. 24 Council of Commissioners meeting question period.

The Thursday night meeting, in the Galt auditorium, was attended by over 100 parents and teachers, as well as the directors from the ETSB and a number of commissioners, who sat in the back taking notes.

Microphones were set up in the aisles, and after a brief informal question period where people in the crowd yelled out questions, lines formed at two microphones set in the aisles.

Students, parents and teachers lined up, about 10 at a time, with a constant stream of questions directed to Director-General Ron Canuel. Canuel answered many, but also handed them to other administrators present at the meeting when the questions fell into their territory.

Questions about a teacher at Galt teaching math in French were answered by Gilles Ribaux and human resources director Jeff Pauw. The teacher was brought up because of parents' concerns about staffing favouring 'bilingual'

teachers rather than teachers qualified for the subject matter.

"We hire based on qualifications," insisted Pauw.

"Language development takes time," Ribaux said. "They have not necessarily mastered a particular language. Let's not equate the Language Initiative with this person."

Ribaux acknowledged the students' concerns about learning history, or social studies, or physical science in a second language.

SEE MEETING, PAGE 5

BU principal off to McGill

Bishop's University principal Janyne Hodder will be heading to McGill. Hodder will take on the role of vice-principal of inter-institutional relations at the Montreal university.

In this newly created position, Ms. Hodder will lead McGill's Office of Governmental and Institutional Relations and be McGill's chief liaison with Quebec government and public institutions, including universities and the City of Montreal.

Reporting to the Principal, she will work closely with Vice-Principals, Deans and others in promoting McGill's strengths within Quebec and building a greater understanding and appreciation of its contributions to Quebec society.

In addition, she will contribute to McGill's relations with the Government of Canada and advance active relationships with counterparts across the higher education system in Quebec and Canada.

A McGill alumna, Ms. Hodder is a well-known leader, teacher and administrator in higher education circles in Quebec. She currently is finishing her second term as Principal and Vice-Chancellor of Bishop's University, a position she has held since 1995.

Prior to joining Bishop's, Ms. Hodder served as the

Assistant Deputy Minister, Services to the English-speaking Community, in the Quebec Ministry of Education, and occupied other senior positions within the department.

At McGill, Ms. Hodder earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1970 and a Master of Arts [Educational Psychology] in 1982. In 1986, she completed coursework toward a PhD in Educational Psychology in the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.

She began her career as a primary school teacher in Nassau, Bahamas, and then as a lecturer and department head in the Teacher Education Division at the College of the Bahamas.

During her time in graduate school at McGill, she was a Research Assistant in the Faculty of Education's Department of Administration and Policy Studies and in the Department of Educational Psychology in the Faculty of Education.

BRIEFS

Runaway found

Sherbrooke police found Jasarevic Amra, who was sought as a runaway, Thursday night on Boisés Street in the borough of Ascot, in the city of Sherbrooke. She was taken to the Val du Lac juvenile detention centre. The police thanked the public for providing information as to the girl's whereabouts.

Old Age Security Benefit Rates to Increase on April 1

Social Development Canada announced Old Age Security (OAS) benefit rates will increase as of April 1, 2004.

The basic OAS pension, paid to people 65 years of age and over, will be \$463.39 per month. This is an increase of 0.2 percent over the rate for the previous three months.

The maximum Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) and Allowance payments, which are based on the recipient's family income during the previous year, will also increase by 0.2 percent. Increases in OAS rates are based on changes in the average Consumer Price Index (CPI). Since 1973, all OAS benefits have been adjusted quarterly (in January, April, July and October).

Former SQ officer pleads guilty to charges

A former provincial police officer from Coatcook pled guilty last week to three of seven charges he was facing, including two counts of sexual contact with a minor.

Denis Longpré was a member of the Sûreté du Québec in September, 2001 and January, 2002, when the incidents took place.

He pled guilty to groping a nine-year-old girl,

illegally storing a fire arm, and assaulting a driver he had pulled over while on duty.

Longpré's sentencing hearing will take place in September.

Burnt supper at Motel Lennoxville

Witnesses may have seen fire trucks from the Lennoxville Fire Department pull up in front of the Motel Lennoxville Friday night, but as volunteer firefighter Brent Sutton explained to The Record, the call was a false alarm.

"It was nothing very exciting. Somebody burnt their supper," Sutton said.

The motel rooms are equipped with kitchenettes. When a guest smelled something burning in the hallway, the fire department was called in.

"It's automatic," Sutton said. "Those calls always come straight to us."

Reduced sentence for Morneau

Four years after being sentenced to life in prison for the murder of Yvan Lallier, Yvan Morneau has had that sentence reduced to manslaughter.

Morneau's life sentence for first degree murder was struck down last month and a new trial ordered. Thursday, Morneau, 45, appeared in court and pleaded guilty to manslaughter, garnering a 12-year sentence.

On the night of Sept. 28, 1998, Morneau and three accomplices beat and stabbed Lallier to death, leaving his body in a ditch in Granby Township. The murder was apparently an attempt to silence Lallier, who knew of the group's involvement in a string of armed robberies.

The accomplices in the killing, all young adults, were all eventually sentenced to between one and five years in prison.

LOTO QUÉBEC		Results	
SUPER 7		WINNERS	PRIZES
Draw	2004-03-26		
08 11 17 21 26 28 34		7/7	0 \$10,308,402.20
Bonus: (27)		6/7+	3 \$153,297.10
		6/7	193 \$2,085.00
Total sales: \$25,263,698		5/7	9,950 \$144.40
Next grand prize: \$14,000,000		4/7	211,344 \$10.00
		3/7+	193,361 \$10.00
		3/7	1,747,745 Free play

LOTO		Results	
649		WINNERS	PRIZES
Draw	2004-03-27		
07 19 31 43 45 49		6/6	2 \$2,500,000.00
Bonus: (36)		5/6+	14 \$38,317.00
		5/6	438 \$979.80
Total sales: \$14,227,022		4/6	18,076 \$45.50
Next grand prize (approx.): \$2,000,000		3/6	282,590 \$10.00

Québec		Results	
49		WINNERS	PRIZES
Draw	2004-03-27		
10 11 28 33 40 43		6/6	0 \$1,000,000.00
Bonus: (41)		5/6+	0 \$50,000.00
		5/6	16 \$500.00
Total sales: \$621,216.00		4/6	915 \$50.00
		3/6	18,660 \$5.00

Extra		Extra	
Draw	Draw	Draw	Draw
2004-03-26	2004-03-27	2004-03-27	2004-03-27
NUMBER PRIZE	NUMBER PRIZE	NUMBER PRIZE	NUMBER PRIZE
735899 \$100,000	018082 \$100,000		

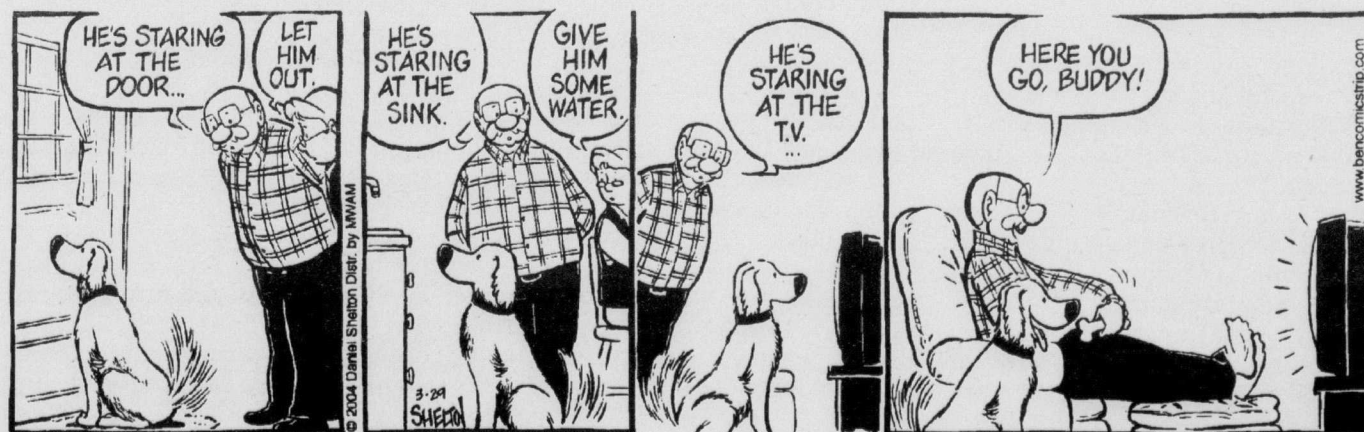
Claims: See back of tickets. In the event of discrepancy between this list and the official winning list of L-Q, the latter shall prevail.

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Weather

Today: Sunny. High 12. UV index 4 or moderate.
Tuesday: Sunny. Low minus 5. High 11.
Wednesday: Sunny. Low minus 1. High 10.
Thursday: Sunny. Low minus 2. High 10.
Normals for the period: Low minus 6. High 6.

Ben by Daniel Shelton



Defect caused sudden airbag deployment

By Maurice Crossfield

A judge has ordered a Sherbrooke car dealer and Ford Canada to reimburse a driver whose automobile's airbags deployed without apparent reason.

Quebec Court judge Pierre Bachand's ruling said that on Aug 14, 2002 Sylvain

Morin's leased Ford was left running in a large parking lot in Sherbrooke. The vehicle was locked, with the air conditioning on to keep the interior cool.

When Morin returned to his car the airbags had deployed. The force of the deployment was enough to break the front windshield. However there was no

evidence that the car had been hit while Morin was gone.

Airbags, also referred to as supplemental restraint systems, are supposed to deploy when there is a front end impact. Sensors on the front bumper control the bags.

Morin had the car brought to Automobiles Val Estrie to be checked. The garage's verification showed an impact code on the car's computer. Saying that there must have been an accident, the matter was then referred to Morin's insurance, AXA Assurances.

However a physical examination of the car by an independent body repair technician showed absolutely no evidence of an impact. Bachand noted that the Styrofoam under the plastic bumper covering wasn't even de-

formed. AXA Assurances told Morin that since there was no accident there could be no insurance claim.

Morin was then faced with over \$3,000 in repairs, not covered by the guarantee or the insurance. He took Automobiles Val Estrie, Ford Canada and AXA Assurances to small claims court.

"The court considers that it was most likely that the airbags deployed due to a defect in the vehicle," Bachand said in his recent judgment.

While AXA Assurances was let off, Bachand ordered Automobiles Val Estrie and Ford Canada to pay Morin at total of \$3,440.47, plus \$75 in court costs. The payment covered the replacement of the airbags and windshield, as well as two months of the lease in which he could not drive the vehicle.

St. Francis students walk for cancer

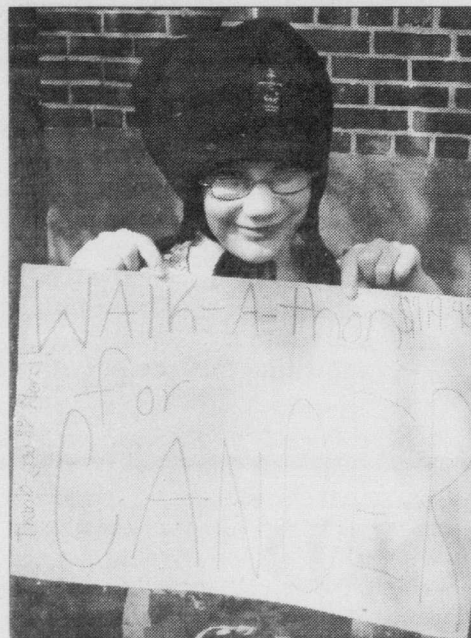
By Stephen McDougall
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD
RICHMOND

Spring brought out more than just the birds and a few rays of sunshine on Friday. It also brought out 22 grade four students from St. Francis Elementary School in a walk-a-thon for cancer research.

The students walked from the school down to Richmond's Principal St. and back, raising over \$900 in the process.

The walk-a-thon was motivated by Health, Fitness and Nutrition month at the school and in memory of children's author Phoebe Gilman, an American writer who moved to Canada but passed away in 2002 due to cancer.

"The children get to do something constructive in these events and the teachers, parents, friends and neighbours get to contribute to a good cause," said grade four teacher Jennifer Perkins.



STEPHEN MCDUGALL/SPECIAL

St. Francis students raised \$900 for cancer research.

Yamaska floods its banks

Homes evacuated in Brigham

By Tom Peacock

Several families in the village of Brigham were forced to leave their homes after the Yamaska River burst its banks over the weekend.

Fortunately, after a cool Saturday night, the situation in the village appeared to be improving.

"Right now the river level is dropping," said Eric Houde, spokesman for Quebec's Ministry of Public Security, Sunday afternoon.

Houde said that on Saturday afternoon at around 3 p.m., 15 inhabitants of seven different homes in Brigham were forced to evacuate due to the rising waters. By Sunday, one family had returned home.

"In all, 30 homes on Fortin-Decelles Street and Choinière Street were

touched by the flooding," Houde said, adding that most of the flooding was restricted to basements. The low-lying area of the village is often affected by spring floods.

As long as temperatures remain cool and there is no rain, Houde said it is unlikely the river will once again begin to rise. Officials from the Ministry of Public Security were in Brigham yesterday, but they left once it appeared town officials had the situation under control.

Municipal officials put the town's emergency plan into effect, and opened a co-ordination centre Saturday morning, so people had somewhere to go when they were driven out of their homes.

Municipal Councillor Normand Delisle told Radio-Canada that the town was urging its citizens not to drink water from their wells, since some of them might have been contaminated by the flood waters.

Car Collides With Scooter



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

An elderly lady driving a car and the rider of a Yamaha Riva scooter collided at the intersection of 13th Avenue and Conseil Street in Sherbrooke yesterday afternoon. The driver of the scooter was taken to hospital with minor injuries. The police had not released the accident report by press time yesterday, but the sun being low in the horizon may have been a factor in the collision. One of the drivers arriving at the four-way stop may have been blinded by the 4 p.m. sun.

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Company donates 16 motors to RRHS club

By Claudia Villemaire
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD
RICHMOND

The school day began as usual Friday but almost as quickly as students arrived, a buzz of excitement began to build out in Green House.

The news around school was that the motors from Briggs and Stratton were now in the mechanics' club shop.

And sure enough, they were. Once the heavy covers were removed, 16 brand new 5HP utility motors were exposed, each one nestled in its own small space.

There were 28 shop manuals, two instructional videos and a letter announcing this well-known company's generous donation to Richmond Regional High School's Mechanics' Club.

"This is truly amazing," said O'Leary Hennessy, the staff monitor who keeps an eye on things in the resurrected shop-class that initially closed several years ago.

"We have to thank Tony Taylor, a one-time mechanic in a local business where small motors such as these were sold and repaired. He was able to reach a former contact in the company, and, in his words, happened on the right per-

son at the right time."

Taylor hardly misses a noon-hour at the school. Club doors open at 11:30 a.m. with motivated kids ready to learn in attendance.

"Sometimes you see a student — a sandwich in one hand and a wrench in the other, totally engrossed in the workings of these combustion engines," said Charlie Hodge who first proposed this activity and rounded up the volunteers willing to share their knowledge and experience with interested students.

Added Hennessy: "The arrival of this equipment puts a new light on our effort to interest our students in the mechanics of combustion motors. "With the videos and manuals, we will be able to organize a more structured environment here. The interest has never waned since we first began thinking about starting up this shop again. With the generosity of Briggs and Stratton, you could say this Mechanics' Club will probably turn into a regular class once again."

Taylor said the help is amazing.

"There's probably around \$4,000 value here," Taylor said. "Just about everybody has heard of these motors. You find them on lawn mowers, generators and a variety of small motorized equipment. Perhaps the company is look-



CLAUDIA VILLEMAIRE/SPECIAL

The Mechanics' Club at Richmond Regional received 16 brand new 5HP utility motors.

ing for a new generation of mechanics too, but there's no doubt their name will be highly respected in this region."

Next on the club's agenda will be formulating a proper thank-you letter to Briggs and Stratton.

"Support like this can only be de-

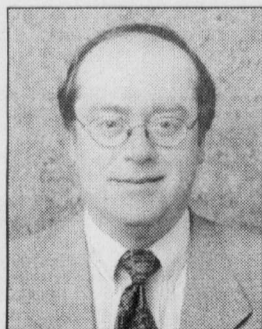
scribed as priceless. Finding the tools and equipment for a shop club such as this is an ongoing challenge. Local folk have been very generous, but such a large number of new motors is a giant boost for the club and especially for these students," concluded Taylor.

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Michel Duval



Jo-Ann Hovey



Yves Robert

MEETING:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

"It will be a challenge," he said. "However, I do believe the acquisition of a second language does not hinder mother tongue learning."

Ribaux spoke of his experience teaching the "6+" program at Lennoxville Elementary School, where parents had the option of enrolling their children in an extra year of elementary school for a year of full immersion in the French language.

"I believe you can learn two languages and learn them both well," he said.

Questions continued, with the Power Point presentation from the Feb. 24 meeting still at Question 1 on the projection screen.

"Is this a done deal?" asked Mark Nichols, a parent at Galt and LES, who was present at the Feb. 24 school board meeting. He had asked the same question then.

"No," Ron Canuel said. "We will be going back to the council of commissioners. They will have to decide."

"We've heard very clearly the issue of choice. The commissioners are hearing it."

Canuel said no decisions could come from any of the consultation meetings because the council has to sit, as a council, and vote on any decisions.

"If council removes the resolution from the table, we can look at ways to implicate the governing boards," ETSB secretary general Chantal Beaulieu said. "We can go directly to all parents who haven't been surveyed."

"How do we get that information from all parents?"

Beaulieu said increasing French as a second language classroom time is a governing board issue — time allocation is decided every spring by the governing board. In the high schools, this was already decided to allow the school principals to ready the time tables for course selection, which were already released.

One parent pointed out to Ribaux that science for Secondary 1 was already offered in French next year.

"That was when we had implementation next year," he said. "That's changed now."

The parent pointed out no notice had been sent home to make parents aware of the change.

"Where you would teach French is a governing board issue," Beaulieu said.

But, as pointed out before by parents at previous meetings with the school board and at the other consultations, changing the language of instruction to French in a class other than French as a second language should be the parents' choice.

ARTICLE 24

Questions were asked about Article 24, including why parents weren't asked to choose extra French for their



BRUCE PATTON/SPECIAL

Maggie Faulks.

students in elementary school, where many students are already subject to at least one extra subject taught in French.

"The governing board decides the number of hours for a course," Arshad Tanseem, who sits on the Galt governing board, said. "The governing board has not right to change the language."

Beaulieu reiterated that Article 24 is a form of discrimination against the school board, since the section in question applies only to the English school boards and not to the French.

The article reads:

"For students admitted to an English language school, French as the language of instruction for subjects other than French as a second language may be used with the parents' authorization."

Peter Langford, president of Appalachian Teachers Association, which represents the teachers of the ETSB, told the Record Sunday that the school board never actually said parents would have a choice.

"They skated around it," he said. "Someone asked 'shouldn't I have been asked about my kids at the elementary school?' and they never answered."

At one point, Beaulieu did mention the school board had decided that giving governing boards the option of implementing several levels of French time, beginning at 450 minutes per week. Core French is closer to 300 minutes per week.

The Language Initiative, Canuel pointed out, is already in its final year of implementation at the elementary level.

"There was a majority of francophone parents that wanted this," Canuel said. "They wanted their children to study at a French high school. They were ecstatic to get more French at the elementary level."

Canuel said some parents were making sure their children got English instruction for the early years, and then were moving their children to the French system as early as fourth or fifth grade.

"Enrollment is increasing," Canuel said. "Parents want to keep their children in the English system without jeopardizing their needs."

NUMBERS ARE UP

Canuel implied that schools serving primarily French communities, including Sherbrooke Elementary, which is the biggest primary school in the board, were benefiting from increased enrollment due to the Language Initiative.

Director of special education, Josée Rourke, said the school board has done as much as they can to help students with special needs.

"Much to my surprise, it does not hinder. In fact, it's helpful," she said. "It all depends on how its done."

Joan Sangster, who has three children in the ETSB, two with autism, had read some of the research offered up by the school board to address the concerns of the parents. The report, French Immersion, the success story told by research, was the keynote address at the French Immersion in Alberta: Building the Future conference in 1998.

"It says that the amount of time for French instruction is in the range of 100 to 50 per cent," she said.

Canuel interrupted to add, "if you're talking an immersion program."

"If you want proper language acquisition," Sangster finished.

Bruce Durrant pointed out that all of the studies referred to by the ETSB refer to immersion programs from "homogeneous populations."

"You're taking a heterogeneous mix, French and English, and trying to apply one solution," Durrant said. "It's not going to necessarily reap the same results."

Sangster also referred to the problem of comparing the ETSB students to ones in other provinces whose parents have chosen to send their children to French Immersion.

"The parents here may not be able to help," she said. "They may not know enough. My boys are both disabled, and they are learning French. The person really helping is me. They need more time in French and I'm giving it."

Canuel said the goal of the Language Initiative is not to improve French, but to improve overall literacy.

"Learning a second language does not harm nor hinder mother tongue language acquisition," he said. "Second language learning is the most researched topic in education."

Galt teacher Richard Goldfinch, who also has a child at Galt, asked why teaching more French was their move to improve literacy.

"I did a bit of research of my own,



BRUCE PATTON/SPECIAL

Chantale Beaulieu.

and went to many literacy council Web sites," he said. "I looked at their recommendations for improving literacy, and there are many techniques out there. I had a hard time finding that one. Learning a second language is not even in the top 20."

Goldfinch stood up again later in the meeting to discuss the idea of increasing the opportunity for more French instruction.

"One thing that always comes up, assuring any success: The word option," he said. "Parents are given the option. Go back and consider that."

Beaulieu and Canuel both acknowledged the idea of an option form, allowing parents to do what they have all along: Choose.

At Massey-Vanier, French immersion is offered in grades 8 and 9. At Galt, additional courses are offered in French, and have been for several years. Richmond Regional was the only school not offering a choice, and it has the highest scores on the Minister of Education's French as a second language exam: 95 per cent of students passed in 2003, with an average grade of 82.6. The ETSB overall saw 86 per cent of students pass with an average grade of 76.2.

"You say you're listening," said parent Laurie Hall, who has children at Lennoxville Elementary School. "We have no veto. What do you want from us?"

Hall took issue with Beaulieu saying their voice is through the council of commissioners, saying they were only elected once every four years and were often acclaimed to their position.

"There must be some mechanism in the interim," she said. "We can't stop anything. We don't have the ultimate authority, as we should."

"The way this is being implemented is hurting parents, it's hurting the community at large," said Tanseem.

Community Forum

EDITORIAL

Getting everyone on the same page

In addition to the pedagogical issues raised in the current debate over the Eastern Townships School Board's language initiative, another dimension to the debate worth considering is the longterm survival of the English-speaking community of the Eastern Townships.

Will the community be strengthened by ensuring that a new generation of English-speakers can function fluidly in both languages, or does the community's future lay in the protection of the institutions that define it? More importantly, is it possible to do both?

The school board has the dual responsibility of acting as guardian of the institutional network of schools built and maintained by the English-speaking community, while providing an evolving educational product that will put its students not only on an equal footing in Quebec, but anywhere in the world.

This is a monumental challenge in a changing demographic, and one that should be uniting, and not dividing, the community in a search for solutions.

Three years ago, the Missisquoi Institute, a federally-funded policy body tasked with gathering data on the English-speaking community, carried out a comprehensive study on the attitudes and experiences of English-speaking Quebecers throughout the province, noting that 66 per cent of anglophones surveyed felt the future of the English-speaking community in Quebec is threatened.

More recent Statistics Canada figures confirm the fragile nature of this regions' English-speaking community which now represents a mere six per cent of the overall population. Statistically, English-speaking Town-

shippers are older, poorer, less educated and have a higher rate of unemployment than their French-speaking counterparts.

The Stats Can report also indicated that 55 per cent more English-speaking Townshippers than their francophone counterparts aged 25 and 44, have not had a job in the last 12 months. As well, young, English-speaking women in the Townships have the highest rate of unemployment of any group in the region, at nine per cent. Part of that can be explained by the fact many women are opting to remain at home with their young children. But it should also be considered that a number of young women have neither the education nor the language skills to enter the workforce.

Just last week, provincial education results indicated that only 55 per cent of students in the Eastern Townships school board graduated after five years of high school, and many never will.

In a nutshell, Houston, we have a problem.

And unless we want to self-destruct, everyone had better erase the lines in the sand and begin a more constructive dialogue on the challenges facing the English-speaking community.

Not since the political landscape in Quebec changed 25-years ago, has there been a greater need to rally the community around a new set of realities.

We know Quebec's English-speaking population has become increasingly bilingual over the past generation and the number of children coming from two-language homes has increased dramatically, altering the composition of our schools.

This presents a new set of challenges – and opportunities – for our school system. It also rules out the status quo.

In the Missisquoi Institute study, a full 80 per cent of English-speaking respondents said they received their primary and secondary instruction in English, yet only one-third of those polled said the French instruction they received prepared them to be successful in Quebec. About 14 per cent of English-speaking respondents indicated a member of their household was attending a French elementary or secondary school to become bilingual.

Clearly, ETSB showed more than a modicum of educational vision in formulating a response to this pressing need. But in spite of its best inten-

tions, it's a somewhat simplistic – and dated – solution to a new and far more complex situation.

The language initiative as proposed by the board will no doubt achieve its desired goal of producing a generation of bilingual Townshippers.

But shouldn't there be more?

If ever there was an issue that should engage the entire community in constructive dialogue, with all the facts at its disposal, it is this one.

And if ETSB chairman Ms. Faulks believes there is a lot of misinformation floating around about the board's good intentions, she needs to be reminded that misinformation is like ivy: it only spreads in the space provided.

SHARON McCULLY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Seek spiritual guidance elsewhere

DEAR EDITOR,

Re: More Security/Anglican Church

It seems lately, that every time you turn around, there is a dispute of some kind or another within the Anglican religion in the area.

These people act like a bunch of preschoolers, rather than supposed Christians. Could all this in-fighting be a reason for the recent decline in church attendance?

If these people are disenchanted with their fellow parishioners, then I say, leave and seek spiritual guidance elsewhere. As for filling the pages of one remaining daily newspaper with this pettiness, I say, "Air your differences in the Anglican Journal or Quebec Diocesan Gazette!"

BEVERLY NOBLE
Danville

Smaller than small

DEAR EDITOR,

Ross Murray, in his column of March 25, has inferred that the leader of The New Conservative Party, Mr. Stephen Harper, has a brain "smaller than a walnut".

I would suggest that if we compared the achievements of Mr. Harper to those of Mr. Murray, that we would all conclude that Mr. Murray's cogni-

tive powers are clearly inferior to those of Mr. Harper.

Does this make Mr. Murray the original "pea brain"?

PETE GIDDINGS
Fulford

RRHS wants to explore options

DEAR EDITOR,

Colin Channell of Magog invited me to make a clarification, to a reference he made about the Richmond Regional High School governing board in his open letter to the Hon. Pierre Reid in the March 26 Sherbrooke Record. He stated that "the three governing boards in the ETSB have voted to postpone agreement with the school board regarding this (language) initiative."

He obtained his incorrect information about RRHS from a parent, who is not a member of our governing board.

In effect, on Monday, March 22, a motion to approve an increase in time allotment for English and French instruction was defeated at our regular governing board meeting.

A subsequent motion to hold a one-year moratorium on any changes to language of instruction for the 2004-2005 school year was also defeated.

By voting this way, our members want to explore options that could best serve our school and our communities.

PETER GRIFFITH,
Chair Governing Board RRHS

THE RECORD

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Townships Life

INSIDE
Preparing an
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... see Page 8



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MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2004 PAGE 7

Harold Munkittrick: A man for all seasons

By Cec Blenkhorn

SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

I doubt that there are many in the Townships who do not know Harold Munkittrick.

Many have benefited from his kind nature and goodwill. Most took their children to his sports shop to buy or to trade-in: Motorcycles, bicycles, snowshoes, skates, skis, or other sporting equipment.

Rich or poor one always found Munkittrick accommodating. One could always find 'the right thing, at the right price'. Our Premier, Jean Charest, was heard to say that his dad bought young Jean's first bike from Munkittrick's.

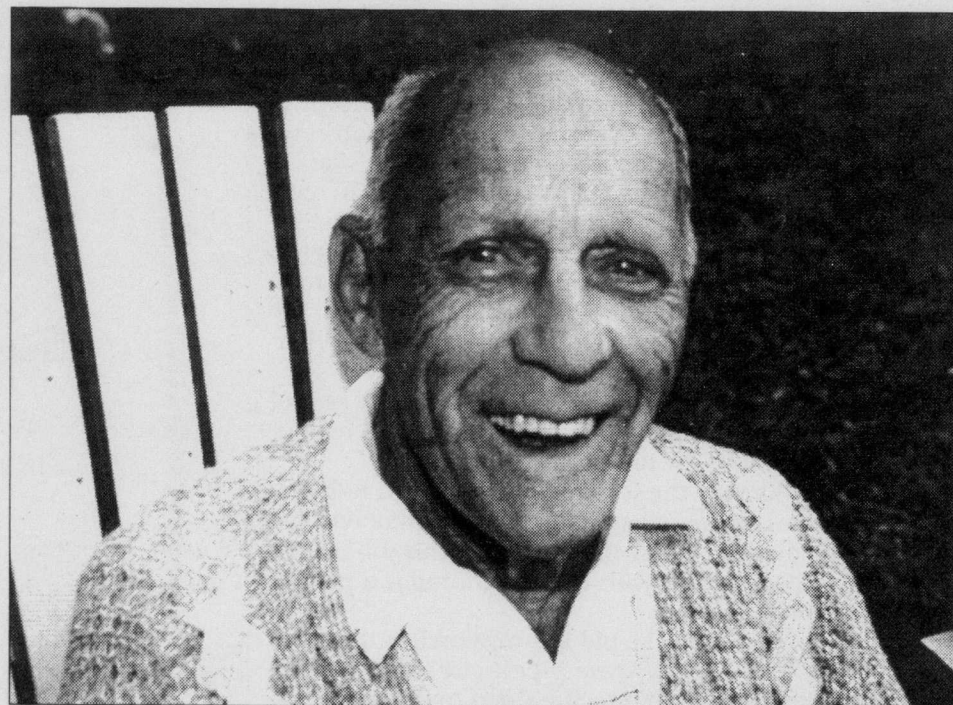
Munkittrick was a champion cyclist. At one time he considered turning professional and competing in Europe. At his funeral, his grandson Danny told the story and showed a Silver Cup that his grandfather had won at a 500-mile bike race — Sherbrooke to Quebec City and back.

This was 1939 — roads were not in the condition that they are now, and many were unpaved. In 1937, Munkittrick went to England with the adherents of "Moral Re-armament." On his return he started attending church at Grace Chapel and eventually fell in love with young Peggy McLeod.

He gave his heart to his Lord, established his bicycle business, and married Peggy in 1940. Before they were married, when Peggy was in Montreal, Munkittrick would bicycle from here to Montreal, visit Peggy, and be back here in time for his evening chores.

Both of the Munkittricks had a strong desire to work with young people. They were in good company: Dr. Bill Klinck, Dr. Arthur Hill, Arnold Reynolds and many others felt that God had placed a burden on their hearts to 'help those in need'.

In those days, before today's Welfare State, little was done to help needy folk, young or old. One enterprise that had attracted doctors was looking after orphans and neglected children.



COURTESY CEC BLENKHORN

From 1942 to 1945 Munkittrick helped in organize and prepare Camp Pioneer. He was a cabin counselor and a swimming instructor.

In Cookshire, they started Marymount Home, a home to look after young orphans and other neglected children. Peggy was on the Board and her husband assisted wherever and whenever possible. With up to 30 kids, from babies to teens, there was plenty of work to be done.

When the Home moved to Huntingville, Munkittrick was even more eager to assist. At Grace Chapel, he was anxious to introduce children to Sunday school. He had bought a used wartime surplus vehicle.

He used it to start a 'pick up and deliver' service to local folks who wanted to send their children to Sunday school.

Many applied, and over 300 young people attended that Sunday school.

At Grace Chapel, Munkittrick was Chair of the Deacons. He was on the Building Committee and saw that necessary repairs were completed, many times doing them himself.

He was also organizer of the Men's Prayer Breakfasts at the King George

Hotel. In summer time Munkittrick, always looking to help young people, got interested in Camp Pioneer, a summer camp for young boys sponsored by the IVCF (Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship).

From 1942 to 1945 he helped organize and prepare Camp Pioneer. He was also a cabin counselor and a swimming instructor.

These camps were held at the Y's Men's Camp at Little Lake Magog. In late fall 1944, Grace Chapel bought land at Lake Wallace from which to develop a Christian Youth Camp.

At the same time, many members of the Chapel, including Munkittrick and his wife, also bought nearby land even though the road past Lake Wallace was not much more than a muddy trail. Munkittrick used his truck to convey goods and people to camp, and to do all those jobs necessary around the camp including bringing campers and their luggage to and from camp, which was named Frontier Lodge.

Since 1946, thousands of young people have attended that camp, many have become leaders in their churches and communities many are doctors, lawyers, and executives in corporations.

Many leaders have participated at the camp, and Munkittrick and his wife were always there. To most, they exemplified the spirit of the camp. In many minds, they were Frontier Lodge.

Munkittrick donated water skis, loaned his boats and motors (some are still at the bottom of the lake), canoes and paddles, even brought in a little submarine which the children could hang on to for a ride. One year, he had arranged for professional water skiers equipped with kites to put on a show for the camp.

For many novice campers, Munkittrick and his wife were a refuge from loneliness or fear, strength to turn to in times of distress and role models for young minds.

Frontier Lodge has now more than 15 acres of land on the lake, there are 13 cabins, a new kitchen and dining hall, a large recreation hall, a shop and a health centre. Munkittrick would be proud.

Munkittrick was not a military style leader. He led by example. No job was too small, none too tiresome. If a job was long and tedious it mattered not. Munkittrick trusted people, was willing to let young people try their hand, was willing to let them make mistakes, and to show them how they might do it better next time.

He seemed able to boost egos when needed, and yet to encourage those with superior ability to share their knowledge with those less capable.

It was not only the Christian community that recognized Munkittrick's contributions. When the velodrome was being built for the Montreal Olympics, Munkittrick offered his expertise.

Also, service clubs in the Sherbrooke area gave him recognition and honor.

NATURE'S WAY

Creating an emergency water supply

Even though last year was one of our wettest summers ever, we need to realize that during the last decade we have watched as our summer weather soar to record breaking temperatures, making it the hottest decade ever and creating some extreme draught conditions.

It maybe normal for wells to go dry, and cities to ration the use of water in places south of the border or if you lived in Australia, but severe draught is almost unheard of in Quebec.



ANNA MAY KINNEY

For many of us it was a challenge to keep both flower and vegetable beds alive. While it is possible to have another summer like last year, odds are that our challenge will be having enough water to keep our gardens alive. Scientists predict that global warming is responsible for the

extreme weather we have seen both during the summer and winter.

They also say that our future weather will remain unpredictable and that we could see more extreme conditions before patterns stabilize. Some say that eventually Southern Quebec and Northern New Hampshire will have temperatures and climate conditions similar to the state of Virginia. Now I don't know about you, but I could live with that.

We all know there is nothing we can do to control what Mother Nature sends us, but we can reduce the effect extreme weather conditions have on our lives by taking a few simple steps and preparing ourselves ahead of time. And what better time for a garden project than before the summer rush of planting, weeding and harvesting begins?

WHAT WE CAN DO TO PREPARE

Looking out the window this weekend, the last thing on your mind is getting prepared for summer draught conditions, and other than starting a few plants indoors most people believe that there are few if any other things they can do to ready their gardens for planting time.

Actually with all this rain, and snow melt, this is the perfect time to walk outdoors, stand away from your home, barns, garage and other outbuildings and assess which roofs have the most amount of water running off, which of them would be the best places to establish a water recovery system.

During times of draught many living in the country have seen wells get extremely low or even run dry, while city dwellers face water restrictions, the sensible solution is to create your own emergency water supply. An emergency watering supply can be incorporated into most landscapes, does not have to be costly, it takes little effort to put together and al-

most no effort to maintain.

The first thing to figure out is which roof has the greatest runoff. Do you mind if the system is visible, or do you want to hide it behind the building you're using?

Most property is not level, and many homes are built on a slightly raised area, so you must now look for a water storage area that would be slightly downhill from your home or which ever building you are using.

HOW TO BUILD A BACKUP SYSTEM

There are a few ways that you can create a water storage area, but the one I prefer is the barrel method. You can purchase two or three large, heavy plastic barrels that are used to transport food products.

Place them in or near your garden area. I have mine at the back of my greenhouse, which makes them available for watering both the garden and the greenhouse plants.

You'll need to dig out a hole about two feet deep for each barrel. Doing this helps lower the height of the barrels, which helps gravity direct the water running off the roof and into the barrels. Each barrel must be slightly higher than the one next to it so that when the first barrel is filled it will run into the next barrel and so on. You will need to fashion a spout that will go from the higher barrel to the lower one.

Back at the selected roof you need to build an inexpensive gutter system that will be able to redirect the water. For this job one of the handiest tools to have around is a pair of metal cutters.

You can take old six- or 8-inch in furnace or galvanized stove pipes, cut them in half length wise and secure them to the roof with pieces of sheet metal cut into two inch wide strips long enough to fit around your newly made gutter while letting it hang a few inches from the roof.

As you install the half pipes, start at the end where you are not placing the holding tank, the gutter at this end will start off higher than the other end and go at a slow decline.

At the other end you will need to build a small support platform that goes almost up to the gutter. Here you can place a holding tank; I use an old washing machine tub.

You'll need something that has a hole at the bottom so that the water can drain out easily. Attach a piece of hose to the drainage hole, then an adapter if necessary and then your garden hose to that. Run the garden hose from the holding tank to the first barrel, once you have tested this system out and



ANNA MAY KINNEY

Barrels are the key when building a water storage system.

know it works, most of the hose can be buried. Leave enough hose out at the end to move for times when a particular garden area is in need of extra water.

That is when you can sit the end of the hose from the house in a vegetable bed, and the next light rainfall will supply extra water to the area.

Remember: In a real water emergency, this water can be used to wash clothes, or bathe, and it can be boiled to wash dishes, which is a lot better than having to buy bottled water or haul it from town.

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THE RECORD

TECHNOLOGY AND YOU

Text messages fast, or so they say

By Peter Wilson

Text messaging on a standard-sized mobile phone just became as simple as ABC, along with DEFG – not to mention the rest of the alphabet.

No more tapping frustratedly three times on the 2-key just to type the letter C or twice on the 8-key for the letter U.

No more being forced to send cryptic messages to business colleagues like “Yes” or “Talk Later” or “Tomorrow,” because it’s simply too tough to type in anything longer.

Or so says Telus Mobility.

Production of the world’s first Fastap-enabled mobile phone – with individual letters neatly arranged on the keypad – was announced by Telus last week.

With partners Digit Wireless and LG Electronics, Telus will tell the CITA Wireless 2004 conference in Atlanta that the phone will be available to Canadian consumers later this year, likely in time for the traditional Christmas peak mobile phone selling period.

Telus Mobility is the first wireless provider in the world to commit to the Fastap technology from Digit Wireless, in which Telus Ventures has invested directly.

The industry buzz about Fastap has been positive but it has taken Digit, founded in 2000, a few years to get it accepted by a major phone company.

Digit’s president, Chris Hare, said in an interview before the announcement that everyone over the age of 14 has been frustrated by the limitations of the current phone keypad – which requires both a major display of manual dexterity and expenditure of time just to type out a simple message.

“The 12-key keyboard has been around for about 50 years,” said Hare. “And, as such, it’s a bit like QWERTY (the standard typewriter keyboard) – if it’s been around and it’s accepted then people stop challenging it.”

“But last time I checked there were more than 12 letters in the alphabet.”

He said that every other element of the mobile phone has been altered – the display, the shape and size of the phone, the colour, the functions – but the fundamental thing that has stayed the same is the keypad.

Now, he says, with the phone companies coming to realize the large amount of revenue to be made from messaging, that’s all about to change.

“People who are serious about using their device and being remote say they either are not doing it at all



CANWEST NEWS SERVICE

Production of the world’s first Fastap-enabled mobile phone has begun.

right now or they go out and buy something like a Blackberry, which is a supplemental device,” said Hare.

He said that Sierra Wireless’s new Voq phone, with its flip-out keyboard and the Blackberry, are actually a great reason for phone makers to adopt Fastap.

“Because they show that lots of companies are trying to fix this problem and there’s a lot of people out there who are spending a lot of money to do this,” said Hare. “But there’s a relatively small market of people who are doing so with those devices.”

Hare said that LG Electronics and Telus have been very supportive, “but they’re no means the only people we’re working with; it’s just that they happened to get first to the punch.”

Telus vice-president products and services Robert Blumenthal said that the Fastap keyboard was a natural for his company.

“When we initially saw the technology we thought it was something that would be outstanding from a user experience perspective.”

Blumenthal said he had used a test model.

“And it’s certainly much easier to interact with for text entry than anything that’s out there today.”

—CanWest News Service

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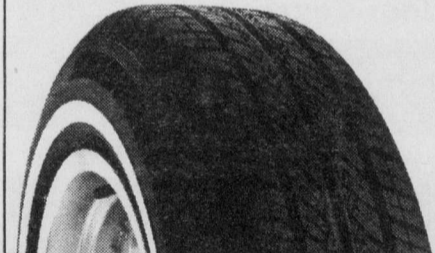
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HEALTH

A little flex time can boost your performance

By Jenny Lee

Flexibility not only helps reduce aches and pains, it also improves athletic performance.

A longer muscle is a more powerful

muscle, says Nancy Coles, an athletic therapist and trainer of personal trainers.

Increased flexibility means you'll be able to run faster, Coles says. After all, if you can lengthen your muscle a good

distance before contracting, you've got a whole lot more power.

Flexibility "is actually a determining factor in how well you can run," Coles says, so don't skimp on your stretching.

You can stretch any time your muscles are warm, Coles says, but that doesn't necessarily mean you have to go for a run first.

SEE STRETCH, PAGE 11

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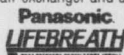
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PM too complacent with Canada-US relations?

By Jason Fekete

John Manley took shots Saturday at Prime Minister Paul Martin's foreign policy with the U.S., saying his government has been too complacent with Canada-U.S. relations since coming to power.

Speaking at the Canadian Institute of International Affairs conference in Calgary, Manley also sent a strong message to Alberta Premier Ralph Klein that provinces should have little say on matters of federal jurisdiction, such as foreign policy.

Manley, a former foreign affairs minister and deputy prime minister with the federal Liberals, said Martin and his cabinet must build upon Canada's relationship with the U.S., rather than constantly bickering about issues such as border security, mad cow disease and missile defence.

"Go and pay a visit to Washington, D.C., and meet with the president as soon as he will see you. No more dilly-dallying," Manley said during a speech on how Canada can strengthen ties with the U.S. "Little in international affairs moves without U.S. concurrence. So if you ever hope to have an international legacy you will need U.S. co-operation."

Manley said Martin should appoint a Canadian ambassador to the U.S. — a job

he turned down in December — that will be a force in Washington, D.C., rather than a puppet of the federal cabinet.

"Give him or her real clout, including the ability to tell your ministers to smarten up when they decide to tee off on the United States without being able to see the big picture," he said. "He or she should sit at the table, not merely in the room when your cabinet committee on U.S. relations meets."

Some of the country's foremost foreign policy experts — in Calgary with Manley for the conference — also dumped on Canada's immediate relationship with the U.S.

Andrew Cohen, a Carleton University journalism professor and international affairs author, said Martin's political honeymoon is over and he must now begin some of the grunt work.

"You may not want to go to (Bush's) ranch, but you do want to go to the White House and you want to go now," Cohen said. "Presidents and prime ministers always meet and you're overdue for that."

Cohen also insisted Martin must better manage his MPs and cabinet when it comes to U.S. relations.

"Improve the tone. End the chatter from the cheap seats. Idle criticism does us no good in Washington," he said.

"Discipline your caucus and cabinet and ensure you're singing the same tune."

Manley and Cohen both scoffed at Klein's suggestion Friday that the provinces should have increasing say in international affairs.

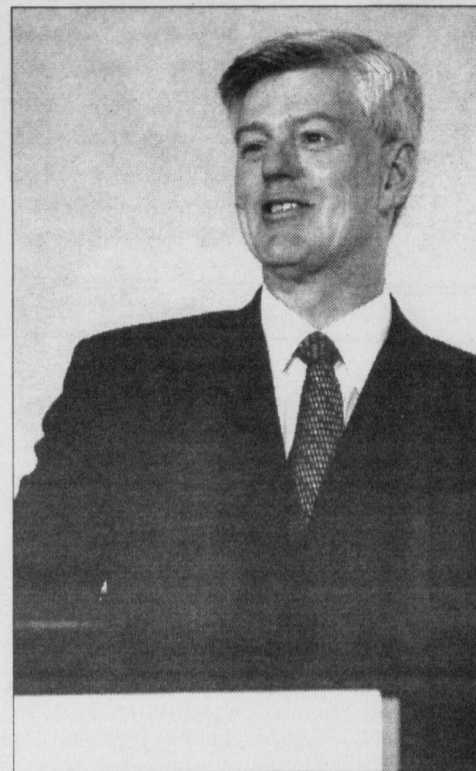
"Provinces object vociferously to any real or perceived incursion into their jurisdiction by the federal government. It's time we did likewise when a premier intends to be an international statesman seeking to parley with the U.S. federal government at a senior level," Manley said, referring to Klein's recent trip to Washington, D.C.

Roger Gibbins, president of the Canada West Foundation, was also critical of Martin and Liberal ministers for taking for granted the importance of U.S. ties.

"Despite what we may think of America or George W. Bush, we need to repair our relationship with the U.S.," Gibbins said. "We can't afford cheap shots. We have too much at stake. The dependency on the U.S. markets is real and growing."

But unlike Manley and Cohen, Gibbins said the provinces, particularly Alberta, must play a role in negotiations with the U.S.

"We can't risk leaving the articulation of Alberta's interests to the federal government," he said. "Alberta must be



CANWEST NEWS SERVICE

Former foreign affairs minister John Manley.

at the table when we hammer out a continental energy policy.

"We can't say it's international affairs — it's not."

—CanWest News Service

Authorities downplay first case of avian flu

By Charlie Anderson

Health experts say the public shouldn't be alarmed at the first case of a Canadian contracting avian flu.

Officials disclosed Friday that a man involved in cleaning up slaughtered birds at the second Fraser Valley, B.C. farm infected with avian flu had tested positive for the H7 virus, the same flu that has proven deadly to chickens.

The results were distributed among health professionals on Wednesday, and on Friday were made public.

The flu was contracted in a mild form of "red eye" or conjunctivitis by a man helping clean up chickens in the second of five barns contaminated. He has since recovered fully and is no longer under observation.

Dr. Monica Naus of the B.C. Centre for Disease Control said while the final tests have not been completed it was likely the flu was "the identical virus to the one that caused serious disease in chickens."

But she said that avian flu has not been shown to transfer itself from human to human, and that the variant found in B.C., H7N3 is relatively benign.

It is not the same H5N1 virus that has killed 24 in Asia, or even the H7N7 variant that led to the death of a vet-

erinarian in the Netherlands.

"When you put enough chickens into an enclosed space in large enough numbers, put humans around them a setting like this, it wouldn't be unusual to have some human illness," said Naus.

"What would be unusual would be for the virus to mutate and for it to become a humanized virus, with the ability to transmit person to person. That could cause serious disease."

Health officials have been recommending people working with the birds take flu shots.

Dr. Andrew Larder of the Fraser Valley Heath Authority said the positive diagnosis won't change any of the any procedures.

"Our recommendations were based on the assumption that people might get this infection anyway," said Larder.

Larder said the unusual circumstances surrounding the infection were such that there is virtually no health risk to the general public.

The economic effects on B.C.'s poultry industry have proved more severe.

Federal restrictions on moving birds out the Lower Mainland to markets in other parts of B.C. mean freezers are full and there is nowhere for the next crop to go. Up to 800,000 birds will now be slaughtered and thrown away.

These are birds other than the 375,000 that are to be slaughtered within a five-kilometre wide "hot zone" near Abbotsford, east of Vancouver, as a disease control measure.

The Lower Mainland generates some 90 per cent of B.C. chicken, with 40 per cent of its volume typically going to other regions of the province.

Processors and farmers are seeking

some compensation for their economic loss from the federal government.

Currently the government is offering compensation only to farmers whose crops they are destroying, which all fall within "hot zone."

Ambrose estimated the loss to the industry from the discarded chickens is about \$2 million per week.

—CanWest News Service

STRETCH:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 10

You can stretch when you get out of a bath or warm shower. You can even stretch while you're still in the shower.

"Stretch while you're shaving your legs — get your hamstrings. Put a foot up on a wall or bathtub edge," Coles says. "It's time management."

Stretch after walking the dog, while you're watching the news in the morning. And of course, stretch after your run.

"When doing your workout, you shorten your muscles," says Coles who is also a sports first aid, post-rehabilitation and CPR instructor. "If you don't take them back to the way they were before, they will stay short. Short muscles are just asking to be injured."

Runners need to pay particular attention to their calves, hamstrings, quads and hip flexors. When working your core muscles, pull your belly button into your spine and pull your shoulders back as though you're wearing too-tight pants all day. Remember to breathe. Don't forget the pelvic-floor muscles.

If you're stretching after a run to take a muscle back to its regular length, aim to hold for about 20 seconds or until you feel the muscle release tension. Ideally, do each stretch twice. If you feel a strong pull, your muscle is actually contracting to protect itself in anticipation of injury. Ease up.

If your goal is to improve flexibility, hold that stretch for 30 seconds or more.

—CanWest News Service

THE RECORD Sports

INSIDE

Jennifer Robinson retires
from amateur skating
... see Page 14

PAGE 12 MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2004

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Canadiens need a healthy Souray for playoffs

By Mike Hickey

SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

The Montreal Canadiens finally clinched a playoff spot Saturday night, but it didn't happen exactly the way they wanted.

Montreal gained a point with a 3-2 overtime loss to the Boston Bruins while the ninth-place Buffalo Sabres tied their game against Pittsburgh.

The two results guarantee the Habs at the very least an eight-place finish in the National Hockey League's Eastern Conference, and with three games left in the regular season Montreal has a four-point lead over the New York Islanders.

The two clubs meet in Uniondale, N.Y. Wednesday in a game that would most likely determine the final two-playoff spots.

Montreal clinching a post season berth was a formality, but coach Claude Julien can't be happy with the team's inability to win a game in which they allowed a 2-0 lead to evaporate and then saw the Bruins score the game winner with just 27.6 seconds remaining in overtime.

Sergei Samsonov's second goal of the game completed the Bruins' rally and left a bittersweet taste in the Canadiens' post-game dressing room.

Montreal had taken a 1-0 lead in the opening minute of the game between the two Original Six teams on a penalty shot by Jason Ward.

Ward, hooked by defenceman Sean O'Donnell on the game's opening shift, switched to his backhand and tucked a shot under Boston netminder Andrew Raycroft's right pad to give the visitors a 1-0 advantage.

It was the first penalty shot goal by the Canadiens since Martin Rucinsky scored against Tampa Bay on March

29, 2001.

Defenceman Stéphane Quintal made it 2-0 with a second period goal before Boston fashioned another come-from-behind victory. Boston cut it to 2-1 on Sergei Gonchar's power-play goal 11:39 into the second period and Samsonov's third period tally sent the game into overtime.

The Bruins dominated the extra period, outshooting Montreal 5-0 and scoring the winner when the Canadiens failed to check Samsonov in front of goaltender Jose Theodore.

The inability of Montreal to put away the Bruins when they had a 2-0 lead or to come away with a least 2-2 tie may have repercussions when the playoffs begin next week.

If the standings remain the same through the final week of play, and there is a good chance they will, then the Canadiens will meet the Bruins in the first round. Boston's come-from-behind Saturday win will undoubtedly give the team confidence if they tangle with the Red, White and Blue in the quarterfinals.

Regardless of which team they play in the first round, Montreal will need a healthy Sheldon Souray and Patrice Brisebois if they expect to advance in the post season.

The Canadiens were the hottest team in the league with a 11-1-1 record heading into last week's play but with the two veteran defencemen injured, the team has dropped three in a row.

Souray is the key. Prior to a mid-season injury he was a strong candidate for the Norris Trophy and remains the club's best blueliner, a strong defensive player who can score goals and hits everything in sight.

Ice chips: Sherbrooke native Yanic Perreault, the subject of trade rumors prior to the trading deadline, was on fire during Montreal's winning streak with six goals and five assists in nine games... Perreault has failed to register a point in the last three games... the Canadiens return home Thursday to play the Philadelphia Flyers and wrap up the regular season against the Buffalo Sabres Saturday night at the Bell Centre.



CANWEST NEWS FILE PHOTO

To be successful in the playoffs, the Montreal Canadiens will need defenceman Sheldon Souray (44) to play tough in his zone and to contribute on the power play.

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CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Haskins' release a gift in disguise

By John MacKinnon

When Edmonton Eskimos head coach Tom Higgins released running back Thomas Haskins late last week, he gave the athlete an extraordinary gift, if only Haskins could recognize it.

You hope Haskins does see it before he makes a dreadful, potentially catastrophic mistake and plays another football game.

Coaches release players routinely for all kinds of reasons, mostly to do with roster issues like ability, payroll concerns, compatibility with the team, age, on and on. But now and then, a coach delivers a life-changing message through this difficult process. Higgins has done Haskins a great kindness in an unavoidably cruel way.

Haskins, as all Eskimos fans know, joined the club last off-season, but never played a down for the CFL club following brain surgery to remove a benign, fist-sized tumour.

He was around the team most of the season, recovering, keeping fit, motivated by a burning desire to resume his football career when he was healed.

Healed. As if brain surgery were akin to having a knee rebuilt, a wonky shoulder re-habbed, a particularly gnarly case of turf toe to be sorted out.

For elite athletes, strangely, part of the problem with accepting that a malady of the brain can be career-ending — even life-threatening — is that there is no neat, tidy cause and effect for the mind to hook onto.

Basketball players Sean Elliott and Alonzo Mourning both had basketball careers ended by the same kidney disease, Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Michael Irvin left football after a herniated disc led to tests that revealed he had a congenital narrowing of the spine that meant he was at grave risk playing football in the first place.

Haskins' medical problem, real as it is, arrived invisibly, mysteriously. It can be hard to impossible to conjure with.



CANWEST NEWS FILE PHOTO

Thomas Haskins left the Alouettes to join Edmonton before last season. Because of a medical condition, the valuable offensive weapon has yet to play a down for the Alberta team.

All athletes think they're indestructible, until a traumatic on-field — or sometimes off-field — injury sets them straight. The examples are plentiful, but Bo Jackson's case seems particularly apt. Here was a two-sport superstar, a slugging outfielder for the Kansas City Royals and a fast, bruising running back for the Oakland Raiders, whose career was foreshortened by a hip injury in 1991.

After hip-replacement surgery, Jackson came back to play parts of two seasons in the majors, homering in his

season-opening at-bat with Chicago the first year. At season's-end the following year, he retired, walked away from pro sports and moved on. He no longer follows sports.

"A lot of your athletes — I'd say about 95 per cent of your athletes out there — don't know but one thing, and that's what they're doing, whether it's football, basketball or baseball," he told the Associated Press. "They're one-dimensional people.

"Once that's over, they don't know what to do after that."

Haskins, a multi-dimensional offensive threat as a football player, doesn't seem like the stereotypical athlete with few other marketable skills. A graduate of Virginia Military Academy, Haskins said Friday he had one job offer to work in marketing for a U.S. firm and would consider a position in sales with a pharmaceutical concern.

Still, he insists his football career is not yet over and it's hard not to view that as simple, human denial. The best of them struggle with that — Irvin did when his time came in July 2000.

"I tried to rationalize it: 'Any hit can be your last hit. You've been doing that all your life,'" Irvin said at the time. "I like to think of myself as a warrior.

"I wanted to be dragged off the field — and I was."

Haskins' didn't get that chance. He should count his blessings. If he continues on — and some pro team ill-advisedly permits him to suit up, Haskins may well be dragged off a field somewhere, tragically, once and for all.

The message from Higgins, buttressed by the medical authority of Dr. Karen Johnston, the Montreal neurologist who examined Haskins two weeks ago, is simple: "He may not realize it, but he's lucky to be alive."

Perhaps Higgins isn't mean enough to deliver that message so it sticks the first time.

Former Baltimore Orioles manager Earl Weaver once said that when he saw that a player simply had no future in professional baseball, he did his best to release the player as coldly, abruptly and harshly as he could. Maybe then, he reasoned, the athlete would not waste several years of his life pursuing an unattainable goal.

You hope Haskins, whose health has been compromised in a profound way, takes Higgins' message to heart and swiftly comes to accept the reality of his situation before he spends even one more day in uniform on a football field.

—CanWest News Service

SPORTS SHORTS

Garciaparra could miss season opener

Boston Red Sox shortstop Nomar Garciaparra will probably not be ready for opening day because of inflammation in his right Achilles tendon.

"I think it's more unlikely as time goes on," team doctor Bill Morgan said Saturday. "We wouldn't rule it out, though."

Garciaparra was injured three weeks ago when he was hit in the right heel by

a ball during batting practice. He has not played since March 17, going hitless in eight at-bats in four games this spring.

METS SEND OUTFIELDER TO SOX

The New York Mets traded outfielder Timo Perez to the Chicago White Sox on Saturday for right-hander Matt Ginter.

Perez is a .276 career hitter with moderate power. He was one of five Mets com-

peting for playing time in right field this spring, along with Karim Garcia, Shane Spencer, Roger Cedeno and Raul Gonzalez.

FORWARD NICHOL SUSPENDED

The NHL suspended Chicago Blackhawks forward Scott Nichol two games without pay Saturday for slashing Minnesota Wild defenceman Filip Kuba.

Nichol will miss back-to-back games against the St. Louis Blues on March 27 and 28. He's eligible to return March 30 at Nashville.

The incident occurred late in the third period Thursday, when Nichol delivered a slash to the hand of Kuba.

Nichol was assessed a minor penalty for slashing on the play.

—CanWest News Service

SPORTS NOTEBOOK

Hanell captures Madeira Island Open

Sweden's Christopher Hanell won the Madeira Island Open on Sunday after Australia's Brad Kennedy faltered twice on the 18th hole.

Kennedy mistakenly signed for a quadruple-bogey 8 instead of a 7 as he completed his third round at 7-over-par 80 to fall five shots off the lead. But after a superb final-round comeback in gale-force winds, the 29-year-old then bogeyed the 18th to miss out on a playoff by a single stroke.

Hanell closed with a 71 on the Santo da Serra course for a 4-under 284, claiming his first European Tour title.

Athens: Stadium will be ready for test

The main Olympic stadium will be ready to host a test event in mid-June and will have a roof for the Games, Athens organizers told track and field's world governing body on Sunday.

During its two-day meeting in Athens, the International Association of Athletics Federations focused on preparations for the Olympics, including the troubled main stadium for the Aug. 13-29 Games.

A steel-and-glass dome for the stadium has been delayed, and the International Olympic Committee wants it ready by the end of June - weeks ahead of its July 20 delivery date.

IAAF president Lamine Diack said Sunday the stadium should be ready by the end of June, although he initially said July and corrected himself.

The showcase roof has two large metal arches that must be moved into place by the end of April to allow translucent strands and glass panelling to be installed.

On Sunday, the roof for the nearby velodrome was pushed into place.

**On TV
MONDAY**

- **TENNIS: 1 p.m.;** ATP, Masters Tennis Series: NASDAQ, TSN.
- **BASEBALL: 1 p.m.;** MLB Grapefruit League, Minnesota Twins at Toronto Blue Jays, Sportsnet.
- **HOCKEY: 7 p.m.;** National Hockey League regular season, Ottawa Senators at T.B. Lightning, Sportsnet, RDS.

TUESDAY

- **TENNIS: 1 p.m.;** ATP, Masters Tennis Series: NASDAQ, TSN.
- **BASEBALL: 7 p.m.;** Major League Baseball regular season, N.Y. Yankees vs. T.B. Devil Rays, Sportsnet.
- **HOCKEY: 7:30 p.m.;** National Hockey League regular season, New York Rangers at N.J. Devils, TSN.

WEDNESDAY

- **TENNIS: 1 p.m.;** ATP, Masters Tennis Series: NASDAQ, TSN.
- **BASEBALL: 1 p.m.;** Major League Baseball regular season, N.Y. Yankees vs. T.B. Devil Rays, Sportsnet.
- **BASKETBALL: 7:30 p.m.;** National Basketball Association regular season, Golden State Warriors at Toronto Raptors, Sportsnet.
- **HOCKEY: 7 p.m.;** National Hockey League regular season, Montreal Canadiens at New York Islanders, RDS. **8 p.m.;** Edmonton Oilers at Dallas Stars, TSN.

Around Town

To submit your sporting event, fax it to (819) 569-3945, email newsroom@sherbrookerecord.com or contact Mike Hickey at (819) 569-6345.

FIGURE SKATING

J-Ro calls it quits

By Terry Bell

As Jennifer Robinson finished her long program in Germany Saturday a voice from the crowd yelled 'We love you Jennifer.'

And the girl at the centre ice, the girl who has given so much to Canadian skating for the last 11 years, cupped her hands, looked up and yelled 'I love you back.'

J-Ro called it a day here. After her skate she announced her retirement from amateur skating.

Canada has had better skaters. But few have had more class, elegance and grit.

"I'm extremely happy," said Robinson, who finished 15th here. "I skated a strong performance and now I'm officially retired. I'm announcing that right now.

"To skate such a big program and not to try to make too much of it as the moment was happening was really incredible. It's been a really great 14 years with Doug and Michelle," she said, referring to her Barrie, Ont.-based Mariposa School Skating coaches Doug and Michelle Leigh.

Robinson, 27, made the decision after Friday's short program. She sat in the stands with her husband, Mariposa coach Shane Dennison and her brother Jason Robinson, a hockey player who's playing pro in England this season. He's only seen her skate three times.

It seemed like the right time to call it a day.

"It's kind of always been in the back of my head, that this was probably going to be my last worlds," she said, fighting to choke back tears. "I was talking to Shane and my brother and I said, well, we should probably just tell everybody tomorrow."

For Robinson, a six-time national champion and the winner of five straight until Cynthia Phaneuf and Joannie Rochette beat her this January in Edmonton, it's been a tough year.

She finished third at nationals, behind the then 15-year-old Phaneuf and Joannie Rochette, who's just 18. But she got to come to Germany because her coaches and Skate Canada felt Phaneuf was too young to compete here.

Robinson said the decision she made here was about this week, not what happened in Edmonton. She feels she has skated well. She wanted to go out on a high.

"Three strong skates," she said when asked why now? "It's OK, I did it and let's get out while I feel so great and so happy. To finish on such a high, it's the perfect way.

"I kind of had a small nugget of knowledge that this would be the year but I didn't want to talk about it too much because then redemption gets bigger than you want it to be."

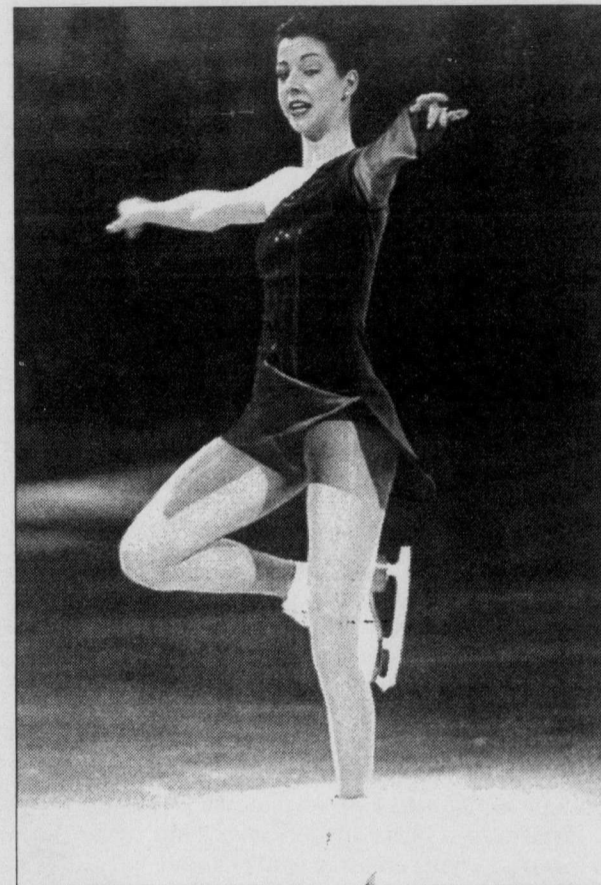
Robinson skated a solid program Saturday. She got 4.7s to 5.4s for technical content and 4.9s to 5.5s for presentation.

She wound up 15th but when she left the ice the ordinals had her in first place.

Coincidentally, Robinson began her senior international career about 200 miles from here, placing 13th in the Blue Swords in Chemnitz in 1993. In between she has been to eight world championships, won all her national titles and one Olympics, 2002 in Salt Lake City, where she was seventh.

That was the highlight.

"I was coming home last night on the train and



CANWEST NEWS SERVICE

Six-time Canadian champion Jennifer Robinson, 27.

people said 'we were so proud of you at the Olympics,'" she explained. "It always comes up and it was definitely a big highlight for me."

Robinson has done a little choreography and she has a deep vault filled with a wide range of experiences. She certainly has a lot to offer young skaters. Journalism is an interest.

Robinson will also continue to skate. She'll join the 12-show HSBC Stars on Ice tour which will end up its 2003-04 season on May 2 in Vancouver.

"She's the most wonderful person, a wonderful role model for all the young skates coming up in Canada," said Ben Ferreira, who trains with Robinson. "She's a 100-per-cent class act. She's very special."

"She's pushed that envelope to where's she's at right now and it's time to go," said Doug Leigh. "Chapter finished, chapter done. It's ready to get on to the next step."

"She's not the most talented," said Michelle Leigh, her voice cracking. "But day in, day out from within she got the most herself... more than we imagined, more than her parents imagined, more than she imagined. She's the ultimate over-achiever."

"Robinson started skating when she was eight and moved to Barrie when she was 13. Her only regret is that she didn't get into the sport a little earlier, which speaks volumes about how much she loves it.

She grew up in Windsor, Ont., playing t-ball and soccer.

"My mom didn't want me in anything that was cold," she said. "I loved T-ball and soccer. I was a rough little girl."

A rough little girl who grew up to be so elegant.

—CanWest News Service

Missisquoi County Women's Institutes

The Missisquoi County meeting was held March 9, 2004 at the Dunham Anglican Church Hall. The county President, Margaret Cummings, welcomed the members from the three Branches and guests from Brome County W.I. Everyone was happy to see Betty Needham at the meeting. The Collect and salute to the flag was repeated in unison. We stood in silence to remember our deceased members, Noella Smith, Esther Mason and Elda Martin. Tributes were paid to these members.

Roll Call: Dunham: 9, Fordyce: 12, Stanbridge East: seven and six guests.

The county president book is finished and was viewed. A vote of thanks to June Lamey, for inscribing the names in the book. It was suggested to do the same for Branch presidents.

Judy Page gave a detailed report of the QWI Cairn in Dunham. It had been well cared for and decorated for any special holiday. The Canadian flag has been stolen a few times. A copy of the report was sent to QWI provincial office.

The W.I. sign that signifies the home of Mrs. George Beach, founder of Q.W.I., is in dire straight of repair.

The Missisquoi County Women's Institutes name is on a brick under the "Tree of Life" at the B.M.P. Hospital.

A letter came from Marciel W.I. Branch in Shigawake, Gaspé County. They are requesting for our support on the resolution they had sent to Q.W.I. provincial office, in regard to eliminate the GST on heating fuels or financial relief be granted directly to low and moderate income families, elderly and handicapped persons living in their own homes.

An FWIC report from Jean Furcall was read.

Margaret explained what it cost to print the QWI Newsletter and a questionnaire was filled.

The deadline for any request for Abbie Pritchard Throws is April 20th. Treasurer's report shows a substantial balance. The four Committee chairpersons presented their reports.

Cynthia Rhicard of Stanbridge East, our bursary winner of 2003, was the guest speaker. While studying for her Bachelors of Social Work from McGill University she came across a package of materials put out by the Cultural

Human Resources Council. The children here do not have the same exposure to cultural activities as those in Montreal. She started the "Culture Club" and has been ongoing since October 2003. The "Culture Club" includes activities and outings for 12-15 year olds. They lean various types of culture such as theatre, media, writing, publishing and heritage, etc. To help fulfill her goal as part of her course requirements she works out of the Community Centre in Stanbridge East supervised by a social worker from the CLSC la Pommeraié. She has obtained funding from the Pacte Rural program of the MRC de Brome-Missisquoi. This funding has enabled the Stanbridge East Sports Association to hire a part-time coordinator at the Community Centre. Cindy had a Social Work Bingo; the three winners were Betty Perry, Betty Telford and Maggie Cummings.

June Lamey installed the new executives and Committee Chairpersons. They are:

Past President - Shirley Vaughan; President - Margaret Ann Cummings; 1st vice President - Norma Sherrer; 2nd Vice President - Judy Jones; Secretary - Jean Scott; Treasurer - Shirley Vaughan.

Agriculture Committee Chair - Carole Phillips; Education and Personal Development Committee Chair - June Lamey; Health and Community Living Committee Chair - Christine McLaughlin; Publicity and Awareness Committee Chair - Dianne Rhicard

Bursary Chair - June Lamey.

There was a discussion for a county picnic in the fall. Branches are to report back to the president.

The resolution from the Stanbridge East Branch pertaining to large mirrors on school busses to the left of driver side, which causes poor visibility for the driver to see on coming traffic, was presented to the county. A motion was made to pass this resolution. Carried. This resolution will be forwarded on to QWI resolution committee chair Joan Griffith and copies to all county presidents.

There were many door prize winners and Jean Scott won the early bird draw.

Publicity and Awareness Chair
Dianne Rhicard
(450) 248-3616

Death

REID, Benjamin (Ben) - Passed away at the Brome-Missisquoi Perkins Hospital, in Cowansville, Que., on Saturday, March 27, 2004 in his 84th year, after a lengthy battle with leukemia. Beloved husband of Dorothy Ingalls Burnett of Abercorn. Step-father of Janie (Lester Hawley), Barbara (Christopher Frame) and Grant (Pauline Demers). Cherished grandfather of Jeffery, Pamela (Aaron) and Kelly Hawley; Olivia and Christa Frame and Kyle Burnett. Great-grandfather of Paige Hawley. Half-brother of John (the late Mae), Clarence (Anna) and Stanley (Carmen), half-sister of Dorothy (Jim Westcom). Predeceased by his half-sister, Charlotte (Florian Duchesne). He will be missed by his many nieces, nephews and friends. The family will receive condolences on Monday, March 29, 2004 from 2-4 p.m., and 7-9 p.m., at the Désourdy Wilson Funeral Home at 31 Main St. South, Sutton, Que., JOE 2K0, tel.: (450) 263-1212, fax: (450) 263-9557, e-mail: info@desourdywilson.com, Dignity Memorial. The funeral service will be held at 2 p.m., on Tuesday, March 30 at the Calvary United Church, 6 Maple St., in Sutton. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Brome-Missisquoi Perkins Hospital Foundation, 950 Principale, Cowansville, Que., J2K 1K3, or for the Canadian Cancer Society, Section Cowansville, C.P. 131 Cowansville, Que., J2K 3H1, or any other charity of your choice, would be greatly appreciated. (Forms available at the funeral home)

Card of Thanks

GARDNER - We wish to express our sincere appreciation to all our friends and relatives for the food, flowers, sympathy cards, many donations to the Owl's Head Cemetery, the many friends who visited Maurice while in the hospital. Rev. Rick Allen and Rev. Walter Stairs for their support and lovely sermons; Russell Coates for the lovely hymn he sang; Jean McNeil for playing the organ; the doctors and nurses for the wonderful care he received while a patient at the C.H.U.S. Thanks to the Fosters for the lovely meal after the funeral. May God bless you all.

THE GARDNER FAMILY

Death

STEVENSON, Janet (nee Wallace) - After a lengthy illness, passed away at the Domaine de la Sapinière, East Angus, Que., on Friday, March 26, 2004, in her 97th year, beloved wife of the late Ernest Stevenson, loving mother of Nioma (the late Josaphat Audit), Dawson (Doris) and June (Peter Matheson); cherished grandmother of Jerry (Lucy), Shirley, Lorraine (Klaus), Sherry (Steve), Julie and Jo Ann (Bruce). Janet also leaves to mourn four great-grandchildren, several nieces and nephews. The family would like to thank the Dr. J.P. Habel and the medical staff of the clinique Médicale D'East Angus as well as the staff of the Domaine de la Sapinière for the exceptional care and loving support given to Janet during her prolong stay. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Lakeside Cemetery, c/o Marie James, 92 Principale St., Bishopton, Que., JOB 1G0 or the charity of your choice, would be greatly appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the Cass Funeral Homes Inc., 564-1750.

In Memoriams

STEEL, Jean Catherine (nee Watts) - In loving memory of a dear wife, mother and grandmother who left us two years ago today.

Forever in our hearts and sadly missed by
GARNET (husband)
ALISON & ROB
(daughter)
CHRISTOPHER, HOLLY, SARA
(grandchildren)
AND FAMILIES

WHEELER - In loving memory of a dear aunt Florence Wheeler who passed away March 29, 2000.

Always remembered by
BRUCE and SHARRON KIRBY
KARYN and KAROLYN

RATES and DEADLINES: ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES

BIRTH & DEATH NOTICES, CARDS OF THANKS, IN MEMORIAMs, BRIEFLETS:

Text only: 32¢ per word. Minimum charge \$8.00 (\$9.20 taxes included)

Discounts: 2 insertions - 15% off, 3 insertions - 30% off

With photo: additional \$18.50. DEADLINE: 11 a.m., day before publication.

BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY & GET-WELL WISHES, ENGAGEMENT NOTICES:

Text only: \$7.00 (includes taxes)

With photo: \$20.00 (\$23.01 taxes included) DEADLINE: 3 days before publication.

WEDDING WRITE-UPS, OBITUARIES:

\$19.50 (\$22.43 taxes included) WITH PHOTO: \$29.50 (\$33.94 taxes included)

Please Note: All of the aforementioned (except death notices) must be submitted type-written or neatly printed, and must include the signature and daytime telephone number of the contact person. They will not be taken by phone.

DEADLINES FOR DEATH NOTICES:

For Monday's paper, call 819-569-4856 between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday.

For Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday's edition, call 819-569-4856 or fax 819-569-1187 (please call to confirm transmission) between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. the day prior to the day of publication. The Record cannot guarantee publication if another Record number is called.

St. Andrew's Ladies Auxiliary

INVERNESS

A meeting of St. Andrew's Ladies Auxiliary was held on Thursday evening, March 18th at Lorraine's home with 8 members present.

Mildred Robinson, devotional leader used the reading for this date, "Material Gods" based on Mark 8:36 from the book, "Hope For Each Day" by Billy Graham.

The secretary, Janet Dempsey read the minutes of the January meeting. It was noted that the request to the Beef Festival Committee for a donation to assist with the maintenance of our church will be taken care of by the congregation not the ladies group.

The reports were received from the convenors. Mildred reported that 28 people enjoyed the luncheon prior to our congregational meeting on February 1st. The Valentine dinner held on February 14th was very successful with 170 people attending and receipts amounting to \$2113.50. We extend a sincere thank you to everyone in our community and beyond who supported this event.

Correspondence consisted of thank you notes from Joy Nugent for get well wishes and from Ruth Graham for birthday greetings. An invitation was received from the MCDC for our group to send one or two representatives to a

workshop entitled, "The provincial Government, Funding and the Community Sector." This workshop will be held on March 29th in the Thetford Mines United Church Hall.

Donations will be sent to the United Church Presbytery to assist with their youth work program and to the Presbyterian Presbytery to assist with camp activities at Camp d'action biblique.

A request was received from the MCDC asking if our group would consider serving the noon luncheon on May 1st when the MCDC Community Forum will be held in the Inverness IOOF Hall. After discussion it was agreed to serve this lunch with a similar menu as we do

for a bus group.

Our senior member, Margaret Dempsey, who has been confined to her home because of a fall will be remembered with a sunshine box and good wishes. We hope she will be able to attend the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned. The president closed the meeting with the readings, "An Easter meditation" and "Little Springtime Prayer" and the Lord's prayer was repeated. Light refreshments were enjoyed while visiting.

Submitted by
Lorraine Learmonth

Tuesday Activity Group

SALLE CARRIER, COATICOOK

As 40 seniors came through the door of Salle Carrier, they were welcomed by B. Bellows and S. Desmisseaux for the fifth meeting of the year. The next half hour was spent exercising with J. MacKinnon, moving through fairly rigorous movements, some of us doing only what we could muster. Jennifer is always encouraging and supportive of our attempts; like the one we do to strengthen flabby stomach muscles!! Tapes music camouflages our groans and ouchs!!

Following our usual chat-time we brought ourselves into a semi-circle for our sharing. E. Mayhew read an article from the Toronto Globe and Mail that was sent to her by former Coaticook resident, Warren Andrews describing the family assistance plan that the municipality has, costing us some thirty thousand dollars a year. In our days of raising our families, we didn't have these incentives. One wonders if these types of band-aids really improves the quality of life for these persons! Several others share and readings.

Next, our guest was Mike MacDonald, of big pumpkin fame, introduced by L. May. His topic was plants and seed engineering, bio-genetics, etc., as experienced by "hands-on". We have evolved over time when it was believed each human needed 10 sq. mile of land to provide food for himself. Gradually we were able to feed ourselves much more efficiently. Hybridizing plants was a giant step forward making crops uniform. Mr. MacDonald explained a bit about GMO tinkering and questions were posed to him. S. Desruisseaux thanked him and invited him to lunch with us, around of applause was evidence of our appreciation.

M. McIntyre and D. Cunningham drew two donated door prizes.

Lunch of soup, salad, main course and dessert was enjoyed. P. Hurley entertained us with several piano selections and we layed dominoes, and cards before leaving, after an interesting day. Next meeting on the March 16, see you there!

Thirty seniors attended their day at Salle Carrier. We commenced exercises with J. MacKinnon and our regular routine for three-quarters of an hour. We were sorry to hear that J. Caron had undergone on op. for a defibulator in Quebec City and will return to the CHUS in a few days; bon chance Jean! Following our liquid break, S. Desruisseaux asked us to arrange ourselves in a semi-circle. M. Miller gave a reading of modern day Noah's Ark, very apt. indeed! S. Desruisseaux shared a story of shoes. L. May

asked a question. What item do we have in our house that can withstand a pressure of 78 lb. and still not break? Answer next meeting.

Our guest, A. Grenier brought us an opportunity to see how coloured, scented glycerine soap was prepared, into delightful shapes. She has been making this product for about 2 years for sale. her five year old son accompanied her and afforded we seniors much delight with his antics. We thanked her and she and Justin lunched with us. Green shamrock plants

decorated our luncheon tables and were drawn as door prizes, as well as several other door prizes.

Lunch as usual, was tasty and enjoyed.

Keep in mind - we are invited to a sugar-camp meal on April 1, at Salle Carrier. let M. Dumais or M. McIntyre know if you're interested in attending. We departed early, some had errands to do. See you April 6, same time, same place, till then, "may the wind be always at your back."

Submitted L. May

Marriage is compromise

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: Many years ago, I suffered a traumatic event that changed my life. While I thought I had gotten over it, I really hadn't. One result was excessive drinking, several times a week. I was drowning my pain, and no one, not me, not my doctor and not my friends, put two and two together.

Last year, my mother read in your column about a free alcohol screening that was going to be held in my community. She asked me to go because she was worried about my drinking. That screening opened my eyes.

I was amazed at how friendly and helpful the people were. I learned a lot and had the opportunity to talk privately with someone. As a result, the connection between the traumatic event and the onset of my excessive drinking became clear to me, and I was able to take control.

Today, I feel healthier than ever and I am also more educated about alcohol. Did you know that women shouldn't have more than seven drinks in a week, or more than three in a single sitting? I didn't, and I don't think most people do.

Please tell your readers again about National Alcohol Screening Day. It really helped me. Perhaps my letter will encourage others to take advantage of this free screening. — Reader from New Jersey

Dear New Jersey: Thank you for giving us the opportunity to mention National Alcohol Screening Day, which this year will take place on April 8. The screening, which is free and confidential, provides everyone with the opportunity to assess his or her drinking habits and get the facts about alcohol consumption. Those who need further evaluation will be directed to the right people for help.

Alcohol is the most frequently used and abused substance in the United States. Nearly 100,000 deaths occur each year through alcohol-related crashes, injuries and alcohol-related disease. Pregnant women who use alcohol can give birth to babies with fetal alcohol syndrome. Alcohol has been linked to a number of cancers, including stomach, colon, rectal, head and neck, and breast cancer.

Anyone who has a drinking problem, has questions about alcohol or knows someone who needs assistance should call 1-800-697-6700 (TDD 1-800-206-6100), or visit the Web site at www.NationalAlcoholScreeningDay.org to locate a free screening site in your area. The lines are open today. Please don't wait.

Dear Annie: I am a 42-year-old male, married, with three children. My only

hobby is fitness — running, weight lifting and swimming, which I do every day. Over the years, I have incorporated different ideas from fitness magazines into my routine, partly for practical reasons, and also to spice up what could become a boring routine.

This has led to problems between my wife and me. She does not like my running tights, my Speedos or the idea of removing any body hair. She insists I must be doing this because of another woman. Believe me, there is no one else.

I spend all of my off time with my family doing what they want to do so they are not neglected. Exercising is the only thing I do for myself. My wife insists I must dress the way she wants. I think she has overstepped her authority. She said to ask anybody and they'd agree with her. So, Annie, I'm asking you. — No Answers in Alabama

Dear Alabama: Your wife thinks your workout clothes show off too much of your "assets." Marriage is compromise. See if you can find workout clothes snug enough to suit you, yet modest enough to suit her. We believe, however, that you're entitled to decide what to do with your own body hair.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another. Today's clue: I equals Y

"JZL JM CXL TGHTZCTYLO
UJVPZY XTO JHLE YJNM PO
CXTC IJW OLNJR NJOL T
UJVPZY UTNN."
- UJVPZY KEJ GJZ ATECLE

PREVIOUS SOLUTION - "Nothing is more irritating than not being invited to a party you wouldn't be caught dead at." - Bill Vaughan
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KIT N' CARLYLE

lwright@ic.net



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3-29
LARRY WRIGHT
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HERMAN



3-29

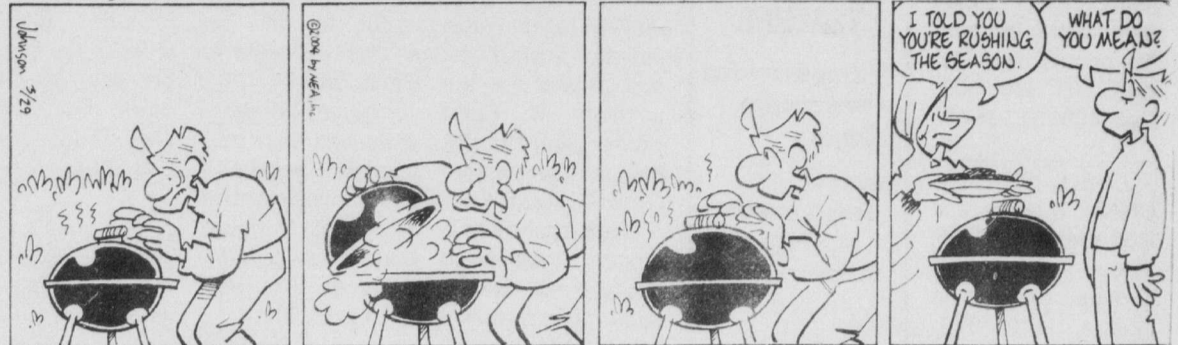
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"Separate checks, please."

ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



GRIZWELLS



SOUP TO NUTS



CLASSIFIED

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OR KNOWLTON: (450) 242-1188 BETWEEN 9:00 A.M. AND 4:00 P.M.

DEADLINE: 12:30 P.M. ONE DAY PRIOR TO PUBLICATION
OR MAIL YOUR PREPAID CLASSIFIED ADS TO
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16237

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SALES REPRESENTATIVE - ALL-DATA CANADA. The country's leading supplier of DVD and On Line automotive repair information is accepting applications for the position of **Field Sales Representative** for the Eastern Quebec region. Candidates must have a proven direct sales background, knowledge of automotive repair, basic computer skill, be bilingual and possess the desire to earn a high level income. Alldata offers a base salary, generous commissions and future growth. **Please respond by e-mail to gary@alldata.ca.**

STABLE HAND needed in Sutton for quiet Morgan barn. Cleaning once a day, feeding 2 times a day for 10 horses until they are let out to pasture in June, after that, only 2 horses in the stable to clean and feed. Full time, 7 days, starts May 1. Must be dependable. Call Lynda (450) 538-3387 after 6 p.m.

130 Courses

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150 Computers

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155 Travel

JOIN STAN & CAROL Soule... Daniel O'Donnell / Carmel Quinn in Rochester, N.Y. by bus August 25 and 26/04. Magdalene Islands, by bus and ferry, September 6-13. Alaska Cruise, inside passage, September 21-29. Information: Carol at Bedford Travel, Quebec license. Tel: 1-800-363-4545.

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1993 FORD ESCORT, 2 door, 5 speed standard, 212,000 km. but runs fine. Priced to sell, \$1500. (Moving out of province). (819) 564-2303.

275 Antiques

BUYING STERLING SILVER CUTLERY, sets or single pieces, gold jewelry, silver tea sets, napkin rings, Moorcroft, Gouda, figurines and porcelain, silver plate. For private appointment, 1-800-267-2732, 514-684-3528.

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290 Articles For Sale

WHITE WHIRLPOOL STOVE, only three years old. Asking \$350. Call (819) 563-8700.

BERNINA 830 sewing machine with cabinet (4 drawers), electric machine, jersey seam, overlock seam, embroidery, button holes, etc. Asking \$650. Call Lynda (450) 538-3387 after 6 p.m.

MOVING OUT SALE - Swing set, end table, coffee table, fridge, single bed and dresser, etc. See on April 3 at 562 Prescott, Bury or call before at (819) 872-3716.

440 Miscellaneous

290 Articles For Sale

STEEL BUILDINGS FINAL CLEARANCE!
25'x32' \$6150,
25'x40' \$6500,
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VOLKSWAGEN 16" ALLOY wheels, Jetta VR6 GLX 2000-01 model, with touring performance Michels, MXV4 Plus, 205/55/HR16, A/S, like new, fits on all 5 bolt, 5x100 Volkswagens. \$800. Call (819) 566-0446.

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TO GIVE AWAY to good home: male kitten, born October, white with dark spots, good with children, healthy, litter box trained. Call (819) 346-3403, leave message.

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440 Miscellaneous

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440 Miscellaneous

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440 Miscellaneous

THE DAILY COURIER 100 Year Staff Reunion

If you are a past employee of The Daily Courier and would like to attend our 100 year celebration on June 27th. Please visit www.kelownadailycourier.ca and fill out the reunion form and we will send you an invitation, or reply by mail with your name, address, phone number, date of employment and occupation held to:
The Daily Courier
550 Doyle Ave. Kelowna B.C.
V1Y-7V1
Attention: Human Resources Department.

Your Birthday

Monday, March 29, 2004

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Continue to devote as much time and effort as possible today to your core desires, whether that be your family, job or a personal endeavor. With earnest application, you'll get what you want.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Valuable information can be amassed today through conversations with your colleagues and associates who are in the same field as you. Put your e-mail to good use.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Bargains galore are to be found today through your regular sources, so if you have the time and/or inclination, this is a good day to go shopping for both essential and nonessential items.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Personal interests can be advanced today if you can spend some time on your own affairs. Try to schedule things in ways that free you up and allow you to take care of your concerns.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — You're not necessarily one to rely too heavily upon your hunches or intuitive feelings, but if that voice keeps needling you today, pay heed to what it is trying to get through to you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Pal around with friends or associates who are positive and upbeat, because those with whom you hang out today will have a powerful influence over your attitude, objectives and suc-

cess.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — You can achieve what you set your mind to today regardless of the obstacles you may encounter. They might slow you down a bit, but they won't defeat you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Your logical assessments will be seasoned with sensitivity today, making you an excellent person to give advice. Don't hesitate to speak freely if someone seeks your counsel.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Most anything in which you get involved today should eventually work out well for you. This is because you'll know how to use to your advantage the resources you have at your disposal.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Although you are usually more of the lone worker, don't attempt to do on your own things that can be done more effectively with competent allies today. Play the hand that's dealt you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — This should turn out to be a rewarding day for you because you'll be geared to productivity and you're not apt to allow frivolous issues or activities sidetrack you from your goals.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Although this is the start of the workweek, which can depress some people, you'll be in a sociable mood and turn even the most tedious jobs into fun and games. Your attitude is a winner.

Monday, March 29, 2004

The unusual is hard to consider

By Phillip Alder

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, a Swiss-born French philosopher and political theorist, wrote, "It is too difficult to think nobly when one thinks only of earning a living." That does not apply to bridge professionals competing in rubber-bridge or Chicago. If they do not think nobly, they will fail to make a living.

It is the fourth and last deal of a Chicago chukker. You need to score 600 points or more to have sufficient money for dinner. Will you go to bed that night with a full stomach or an empty one?

You are South, the declarer in three no-trump. West leads his fourth-highest spade. East wins with the king and returns the spade nine. Over to you.

I like North's response of three no-trump. It is usually easier to win nine tricks than 11.

Many players, and especially those wealthy enough to know from where their next meal is coming, would play the spade queen (or jack) at trick two. They should go down. West, who has no semblance of an entry card outside spades, should duck this

trick to keep communication with his partner. Then, when South attacks diamonds, East wins with the king and fires back his remaining spade. West collects three tricks in that suit to defeat the contract.

A bridge expert who knows how to get his next meal would play his remaining low spade at trick two. Then, no lie of the cards can kill the contract (except a highly unlikely ace-king-fifth of spades and diamond king with East). South will lose at most three spades and one diamond.

Did you think of the trick-two duck for dinner?

North 03-29-04			
♠ 7			
♥ 8 4 3			
♦ A Q J 8 6			
♣ K J 9 8			
West		East	
♠ A 10 8 4 3		♠ K 9 2	
♥ J 7 6		♥ Q 10 9	
♦ 7 5 2		♦ K 4 3	
♣ 6 4		♣ 7 5 3 2	
South			
♠ Q J 6 5			
♥ A K 5 2			
♦ 10 9			
♣ A Q 10			
Dealer: South Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass
Opening lead: ♠ 4			

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Make suitable
- 6 Hard to find
- 10 Killer whale
- 14 Port of Iraq
- 15 Neighbor of Iraq
- 16 Old geezer
- 17 In progress
- 18 Effervesce
- 19 Guitar clamp
- 20 Pompous gait
- 21 Turning centerpiece
- 23 Venetian magistrate
- 25 ___ Beach, SC
- 26 Hubbub
- 29 Govt. agents
- 31 Radames' sweetheart

- 32 Snake: pref.
- 34 Old anesthetic
- 39 Burl on a tree
- 40 Ketchup company
- 42 Small amount
- 43 ___ chloride (refrigerant)
- 45 Pay to play
- 46 Bow notch
- 47 Former acorns
- 49 Actress Danner
- 51 Sacred Egyptian beetle
- 55 City south of Moscow
- 56 Ordinary gal
- 59 Dominant male
- 63 Attain
- 64 Eastern leader
- 65 Bannister or Coe, e.g.

- 22 "Auld Lang ___"
- 24 "Rhoda" co-star David
- 26 Birthday dessert
- 27 Dryer trappings
- 28 19th-century actress Menken
- 29 Dilutes
- 30 Primo condition
- 33 Reach an optimum
- 35 Edward Albee play
- 36 Owl sound
- 37 Incise deeply
- 38 Gather leaves
- 41 Domesticated ox

- 44 Type of shark?
- 48 Wretched
- 50 Andes critters
- 51 Burn up the road
- 52 Bow or Barton
- 53 Burr or Copland
- 54 Washer cycle
- 55 Succinct
- 57 Indian nursemaid
- 58 Baseball team
- 60 Hydrant
- 61 Queen of the gods
- 62 Asian inland sea

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

A	C	A	D	E	M	I	C		D	I	S	M	A	L	
P	A	L	O	M	I	N	O		E	S	C	A	P	E	
B	R	A	N	D	N	E	W		S	L	U	R	P	S	
S	P	I	N	E	D		B	A	K	E	R	I	E	S	
			I	N	R	O	A	D		T	R	O	T		
S	P	E	E		E	U	R	O	S		I	N	I	T	
L	O	X		M	A	I	N	S	Q	U	E	E	Z	E	
O	R	C	H	I	D				U	L	S	T	E	R	
S	T	E	A	M	E	R	C	L	A	M		T	R	I	
H	O	L	M		R	A	R	E	R		T	E	S	S	
		F	L	A	T			T	U	X	E	D	O		
I	C	E	C	R	E	A	M			D	R	O	G	U	E
M	A	N	T	E	L			B	L	E	A	K	E	S	T
A	L	C	O	V	E			E	X	A	M	I	N	E	E
C	L	E	R	I	C			D	I	L	A	T	E	R	S

DOWN

- 1 Arabian cloaks
- 2 Loony
- 3 Hebrew lyre
- 4 Riverboat of song
- 5 Body art
- 6 Long gun
- 7 Opera highlight
- 8 Heckle
- 9 Biochemical catalyst
- 10 Take place
- 11 Oven-cook
- 12 Fossil resin
- 13 Make amends

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	
14						15					16				
17						18					19				
20						21				22					
			23		24				25						
26	27	28					29	30							
31						32	33				34	35	36	37	38
39						40				41		42			
43					44		45					46			
					47	48				49	50				
51	52	53	54						55						
56							57	58			59		60	61	62
63						64					65				
66						67					68				
69						70					71				

By Eugene R. Puffenberger

3/29/04

