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Townships
Entertainers:
Shopping:
Brome Closet:

Births, deaths 14
Classified 12
Comics 13
Editorial 4
Education 5
Farm & Business 7
Living 6
Sports 15
Townships 3

WEATHER
Page 2

Canadians are using less gasoline — study

By Dennis Bueckert

OTTAWA (CP) — Canadians cut their gasoline consumption substantially from 1980 to 1990 even though the number of cars rose by almost a quarter and people drove further each year.

The reduced demand, welcomed by environmentalists, is attributed to improvements in the average fuel economy of cars. Gasoline demand dropped 12 per cent during the decade, while the number of cars increased 23 per cent and the average distance travelled by car increased 11 per cent, the Energy Department figures show.

"Despite the increased number of automobiles and the longer distances driven, a significant increase in automobile efficiency resulted in a reduction in average fuel consumption," says the report.

Car exhaust is a major factor in pollution problems including urban smog and global warming.

"If overall gasoline consumption drops that's definitely a plus for the environment," said Ellen Schwartzel of Pollution Probe in an interview Tuesday.

Meanwhile, a new Library of Parliament Report says car efficiency could be improved by an additional 30 per cent by the year 2000 without any reduction in the average size of cars, by using better technology.

But it warns that manufacturers probably won't introduce the new technology unless required to do so by governments.

"The bottom line is that it is still technically possible to vastly improve upon the fuel efficiency of the automobile but consumer preference alone will not spur automakers to realize this potential," says the report.

"Only much higher fuel prices or mandated improvements . . . will accomplish this task.

Environmental groups have been pushing for more stringent fuel economy standards.

Improvements in fuel economy in North America in the 1980s came after new fuel-economy standards were introduced in the mid-1980s, and there's been little progress since.

U.S. gasoline demand rose 10 per cent from 1980 to 1990, says the Energy Department report.

In 1990, Canadian drivers used about 200 litres less fuel per year than American drivers.

The greater fuel efficiency is partly due to higher gasoline costs in Canada, said Deirdre Hetherington of the Energy Department.

Ottawa promised in its 1990 Green Plan to introduce a new round of standards but these are on hold as Canada waits to see what the new U.S. administration does.

Stop blaming us — Mulroney

OTTAWA (CP) — Prime Minister Brian Mulroney is urging Canadians to stop blaming politicians for their problems and take more responsibility for their own future.

Mulroney... 'You can't always blame us.'

"When am I going to stop blaming my neighbors and my leaders and say I too have a personal responsibility," Mulroney said in an excerpt from a year-end interview with CBC-TV, which was broadcast Tuesday.

"You can't always blame politicians," said Mulroney, who is approaching the end of his second term as prime minister. He is expected to call an election next year.

"You can't always blame your leaders."

He said people should feel privileged to be in Canada.

"At some point in time you have to look at yourself in the mirror and say I am a very privileged person. I'm a Canadian. I've been given the greatest country, the No. 1 country in the world. To keep it together requires generosity by me."

Banished Palestinians running out of time

MARJ AZ-ZOHOUR, Lebanon (Reuter) — Palestinian deportees, cut off from relief aid and running short of drinking water, said Tuesday they were losing hope of returning home from their encampment in southern Lebanon.

Many of the 415 Palestinians, trapped in no man's land since Israel expelled them Friday, said they knew Israel's High Court would not help them in a hearing which ended Tuesday.

The court said it did not want to get involved. Israeli army chief Ehud Barak earlier told the court that Israel's forces were prepared to shoot again to prevent the Palestinians returning.

Two deportees were wounded by shrapnel Monday when the South Lebanon Army, Israel's militia allies in southern Lebanon, fired warning shells to stop them approaching Israeli territory.

An Israeli official said Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told members of parliament Tuesday that he ordered the shells fired as a warning.

Israel says the deportees are members of Islamic Jihad and Hamas, groups responsible for killing five Israeli soldiers this month.

Conditions in the deportees' tented camp deteriorated Tuesday. The Lebanese army to the north stopped a United Nations tanker bringing in fresh supplies and blocked all other aid.

Deportees filled water tanks from a stream, cut down on meals and started rationing drinking water.

"Dying in Palestine is better than staying here. But I feel that we are never going back because I know the Israelis," said Mohammad Abu Zein. "They don't easily change their minds."

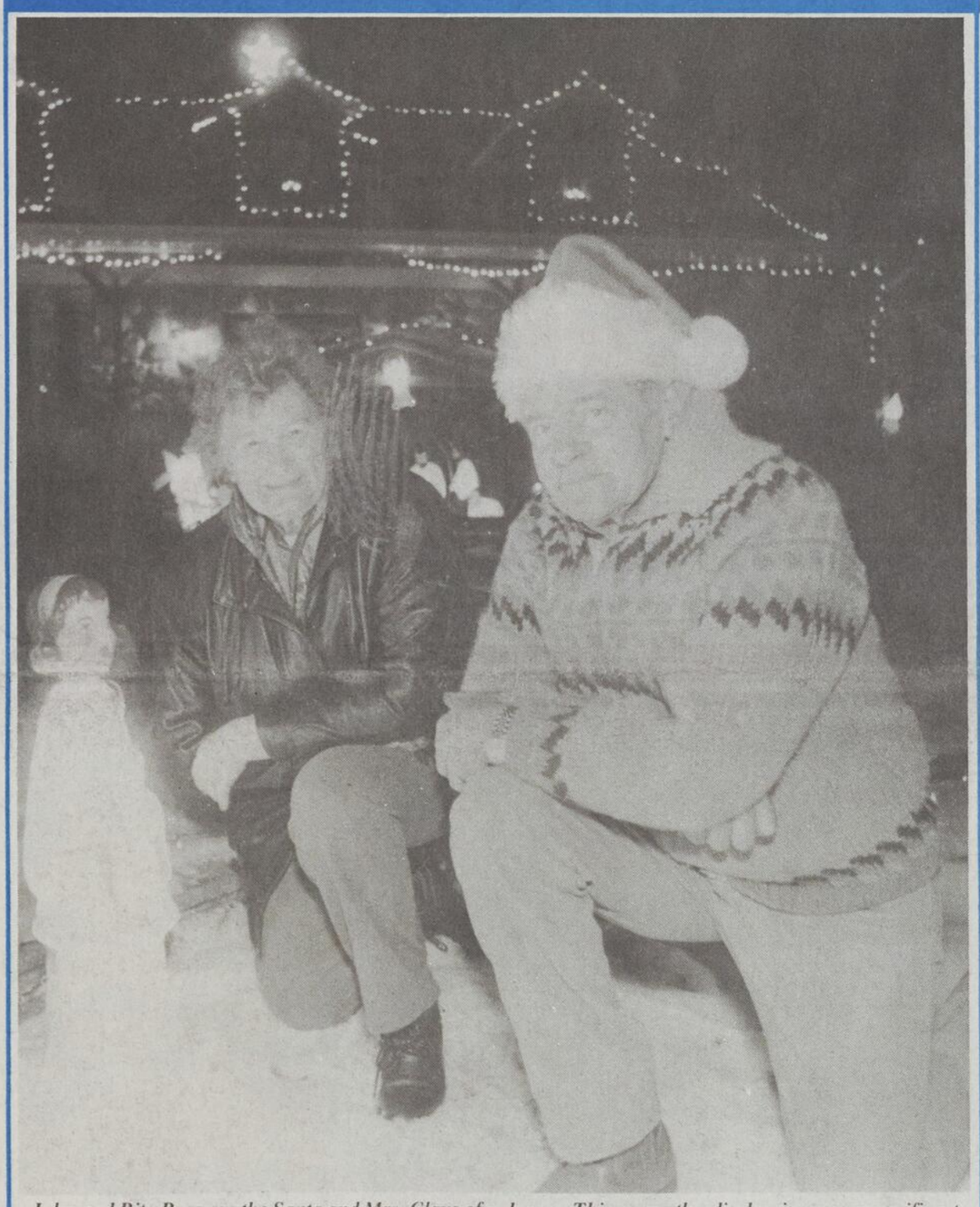
Abu Zein said he was surprised that Lebanon decided Monday to stop all humanitarian aid from reaching the deportees.

"We agreed with Lebanon on steps against Israel but there must be a mimimum level of humanitarian treatment for us. We want a minimum of aid to help us to be steadfast," he said.

The Lebanese government says the deportees may not enter territory it controls.

Lebanese President Elias Hrawi said the "firm decision" was taken both for the sake of Lebanon and the Palestinians.

Lighting up Christmas


John and Rita Brus are the Santa and Mrs. Claus of Ayer's Cliff. Each year, they create a magnificent display of holiday light and sound in front of their home. This year, the display is more magnificent than ever. For more, turn the page.
RECORD/GRANT SIMEON

AIDS orphans to double by 1996

CHICAGO (AP) — The number of healthy American children orphaned by AIDS will double by 1996 and reach more than 80,000 by the turn of the century, threatening to cause a social catastrophe, researchers say.

Thirteen per cent of all U.S. children who became motherless last year, and nine per cent of those ages 13-17, were newly orphaned because of AIDS, researchers estimated.

Those proportions will rise to 30 per cent and 22 per cent, respectively, by the year 2000, the researchers reported in today's Journal of the American Medical Association.

"Even if we were able to stop all new infections tomorrow, through some magic wand, almost all the children we're projecting to be orphans would still be orphaned," said the chief author, David Michaels.

"These numbers will just keep growing," he said from New York, where he is an associate professor at City University of New York Medical School-Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education.

Since no data on U.S. orphans exist, the authors said, they used related statistics to develop a mathematical model for estimating and projecting the number of AIDS orphans and their proportion in the orphan population.

Transport officials face corruption charges

MONTREAL (CP) — Two former senior engineers with the Quebec Transport Department face charges of breach of trust following a probe into highway construction contracts.

Rene Lacroix, 53, of Montreal, has been charged and is to appear in court Jan. 14. An arrest warrant has been issued for Jean Cote, 41, of Masson, Que., who now lives in Germany.

They are suspected of seeking kickbacks from companies dealing with the Transport Department.

The case prompted a seven-month investigation which included police raids on businesses in Montreal and the Quebec communities of Hull and Drummondville and electronic bugging of Lacroix's conversations in a Montreal-area restaurant, court documents show.

Lacroix did not return phone calls Monday.

Telephoned in Lahr, Germany, Cote denied any wrongdoing.

"The police can think what they want. You're wasting your time," he said, hanging up.

Lacroix was responsible for approving engineering plans for highway projects west of Montreal between 1987 and November 1991 when he moved to the ministry's high-speed train task force.

Cote headed the department's construction office in Hull from 1987 and met Lacroix when the latter worked there.

The department fired Lacroix last June, saying he placed himself in a conflict of interest. He is fighting the dismissal, spokesman Yvan Paquette said.

Cote was on a sabbatical in Germany when he quit last August after learning he would be fired for conflict of interest.

Cheap suds brew war as beer companies soak up cost

AMOS, Que. (CP) — Michel Lavoie's decision to celebrate the third anniversary of his gas bar and convenience store in this remote community led to a Quebec beer war.

Starting Nov. 20, Lavoie and his partner decided to celebrate by selling the suds at cost in their all-night store they rent from Sonerco, an independent oil company base in Victoriaville.

As a result, people throughout the entire region of Abitibi-Temiscaming and as far away as Quebec City and St-Jean near the U.S. border can buy a case of 24 beers for $19.91, $5 below the usual price.

"I'm a little surprised it's gone as far as it has," Lavoie admitted in a telephone interview from his town more than 500 kilometres north of Montreal.

"It certainly brought in the customers," he said. "It didn't do a lot for my profits."

Alain Fortier, who runs the local Loeb Club Plus supermarket affiliated with IGA, decided to follow suit.

"The beer companies came up with their annual Christmas promotion," Fortier said. "They offer stores a certain number of free cases in return for the heavier volume. We decided to pass the benefits on to our customers by selling beer at $19.91 plus tax.

"The consumer benefits and we benefit because we're making more profit from beer than we do in a year."

This is not a war, he said.

"We have an agreement with the breweries to sell beer to our customers at a good price. Whatever the convenience stores decide is up to them."

And the breweries, he said, seem prepared to absorb the cost.

Sonerco wants to make it clear it is not in the beer business.

"We're in the gas and oil business," said Sonerco general manager Marcel Letourneau.

The company owns 41 gas bars in Quebec. About 10 of them are attached to convenience stores while the rest are with car washes or garages. Operators are charged rent and have to sell a minimum amount of gas each month.

"As long as they sell our gas, each operator is free to buy and sell whatever else he wants from and to whomever he chooses,' Letourneau said.

Alban Asselin, vice-president of public affairs for Molson-O'Keefe, said breweries have given Quebec distributors free cases of beer at Christmas for years. But this is the first year sales outlets have been allowed to lower their prices.

Quebec provincial police have been monitoring the situation closely.

"The breweries can give as much free beer to sales outlets as they want," said Const. Lucie Boult of the provincial police.

"But the sales outlets must sell it at cost price or higher. We make regular visits to all permit holders to make sure they obey the law.

"So far we have found no infractions."

Alain Bolduc, vice-president of public affairs for Labatt, says the price cutting is a result of a combination of factors.

The volume of beer sold in Quebec has been falling steadily for the last five years. Quebec legislation was changed last year allowing outlets to sell beer at cost or above.

Bolduc emphasized that the so-called price war would not continue past Christmas.

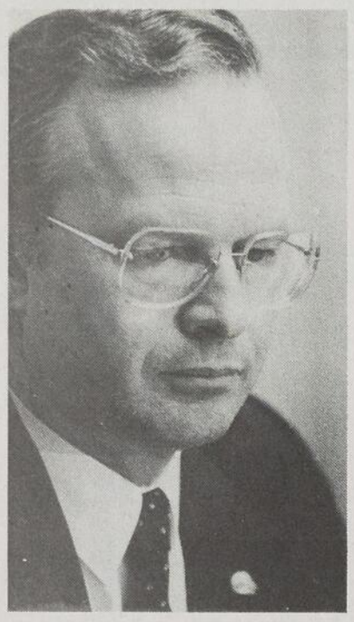
But Richard Loiselle, the reporter for l'Echo Abitibien of Val d'Or, who chronicled the beer war beginnings for his weekly newspaper, thinks the current low beer prices may be a taste of things to come.

"When free trade hits the beer industry next year everybody is going to be allowed to set special prices for beer," he said.

The Townships

the Record

Liberal party candidates confident of election win



Robert Pouliot: Latest Liberal hat thrown into the ring.

By Caroline Kutschke

SHERBROOKE — It's now a three-way race in the run for the federal Liberal candidacy in the Megantic-Compton-Stanstead riding.

A spokeswoman at Liberal party headquarters in Montreal said Monday Ascot mayor Robert Pouliot was the latest candidate for the party.

The other two candidates are Sherbrooke psychotherapist Ruth McKeage and Compton mayor Eugene Naylor.

A Liberal party convention is expected in early 1993.

The riding now belongs to the Bloc-Québecois's François Gérin, who defected from the Progressive Conservative party. Gérin has hinted he won't be running in the next election.

While Pouliot was unavailable for an interview, the other two candidates spoke at length about what they felt their party's chances were in the next election and where the country is headed.

In an interview two weeks ago, McKeage said politicians today are out of touch with ordinary Canadians.

"Maybe it's time for more health professionals to enter politics," because they would understand Canadians' concerns better, she said.

"I've always been concerned about people," said the former nurse of 14 years.

MANY ANGRY

McKeage is optimistic about her chances in the next federal election. Too many people are angry at the government to vote the Progressive Conservatives back into power, she said.

A vocal federalist and longtime Liberal, McKeage wouldn't commit herself to any campaign promises, saying only that if elected, she would set up a committee "to keep in touch with the people."

"We can't solve all the problems, but one thing we can do is try," she said.

UNEMPLOYMENT

High unemployment and social problems such as violence against women would be on her agenda, she said. "I would definitely fight for that. We need more protection for women."

McKeage said she isn't running in Sherbrooke, where she lives and works, because she is more familiar with the riding in which she hopes to run. More of her clients come from the region and she is planning to buy more land in the riding, she added.

She said her involvement with local groups such as the Board of Directors of the CLSC MRC, the University Women's Club and the Educational Committee of the Eastern Townships, as well as growing up on a farm and owning one in Tingwick, make her aware of the concerns of people.

Despite having little political experience, McKeage said life has given her a lot of other experience. "I know I'm a fighter," said the bilingual single mother of two children in their twenties. "I know what it takes to overcome obstacles. This is one more challenge."

McKeage campaigned for Alain Tardiff in the Richmond-Wolfe riding in 1978.

RIGHT TIME

Candidate Eugene Naylor said he has been thinking about running as a Liberal candidate for a long time.

With people approaching him to run, his children grown and a farm business settled, Naylor said he decided this year the time was right.

Naylor has been a Liberal party member since the 1950s, but said his ties to politics and the community run even deeper.

"For as long as I can remember, we've always been a political family," said the former Liberal riding association member.

Naylor, whose father was also Compton mayor, has been mayor since 1985.

His term ends in the fall of 1993.

CLOSE TO FARMING

Naylor now runs a farming equipment business that takes him all over the county. He says it's as "close to farming as I could get," since his health forced him to give up heavy farming.

He is also confident of a Liberal win in the riding despite party leader Jean Chrétien's poor showing in the polls. He pointed to voters' anger over Gérin's defection to the BQ, and to high voter dissatisfaction with the Conservative government.

Like McKeage, Naylor is still developing his platform, however he said unemployment is the issue that needs to be addressed immediately.

"We have to try and get our young people back to work," the father of three said.

DEVELOPMENT

Agriculture, tourism and industry are resources in the area that need to be developed, he said. He added Mégantic and East Angus are towns that could use help in developing.

Naylor, who remembers going to Liberal Party conventions with his grandfather, feels his chances "are very good because I know a lot of people."

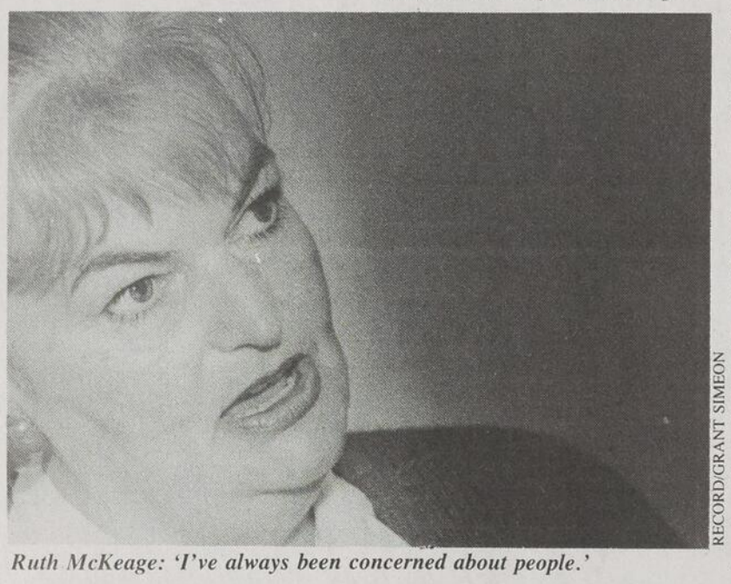
Naylor also pointed to his current business ties within the community as positive factors.

"I've worked in this county for 20 years and with 30 municipalities," he said, adding he's been meeting with as many people as possible to prepare for the upcoming party convention.

"I'm confident I'll do O.K," he said.

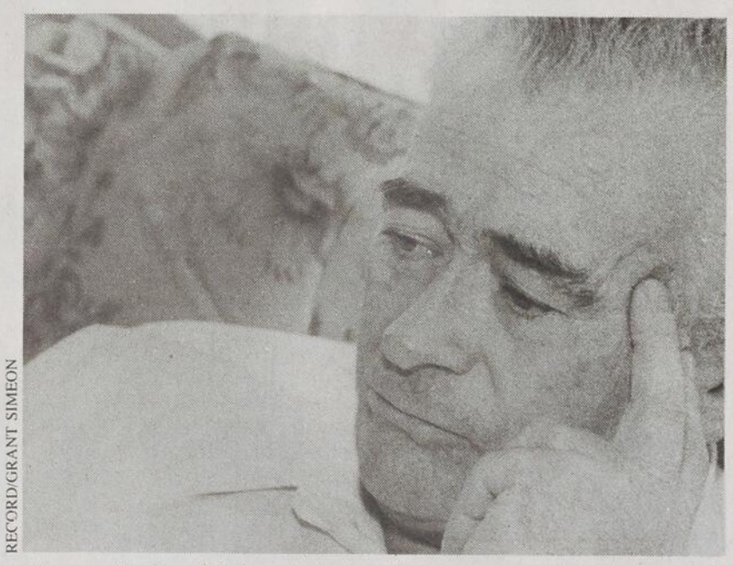
But Naylor hedged his bet a little, saying, "You're never sure from where the votes are going to come — that's the same as any election."

The riding's last Liberal MP was Lac Mégantic's Claude Tessier, who sat in Parliament from 1974 until 1984.



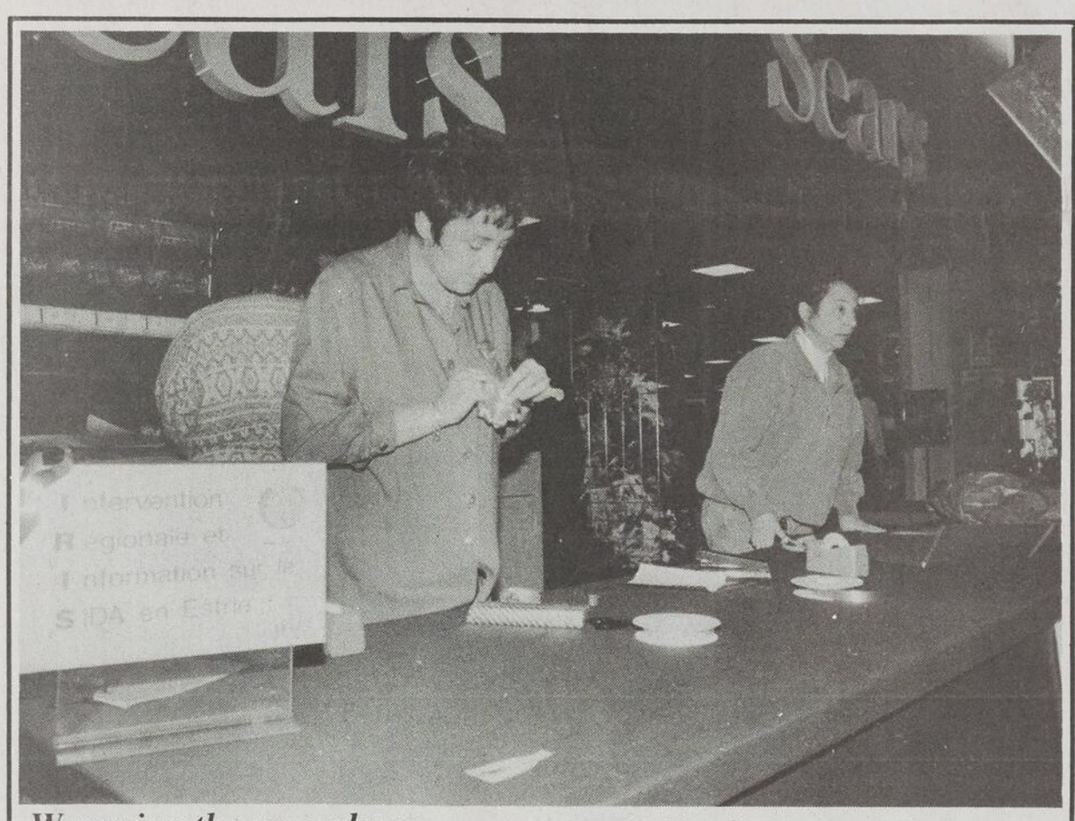
RECORD/GRANT SIMEON

Ruth McKeage: 'I've always been concerned about people.'



RECORD/GRANT SIMEON

Eugene Naylor: 'We have to try to get our young people back to work.'



Wrapping the rewards: *Volunteers Jocelyne Boily and Johanne Dupuis of the local AIDS information and counselling service IRIS wrap Christmas for last-minute shoppers at the mall yesterday. IRIS support program co-ordinator Suzanne Garand said 20 volunteers will have wrapped more than 1,000 gifts by Christmas Eve with the money collected helping AIDS patients in the Townships. Garand said even more important than the $700 the organization will take in for their efforts this Christmas is the exposure the service has brought them. She said they have signed up five new volunteers since setting up in the mall ten days ago.*

RECORD/IAN MACDONALD

UN poised to expand relief

From AP-CP

MOGADISHU, Somalia (CP) — The International force in Somalia is poised to expand its control, with U.S. and French troops preparing to take two towns and Canadian soldiers readying for their first major deployment by next week.

The U.S. Marines and the French Foreign Legion said Tuesday that they planned to take two more central Somalia towns on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Their targets: Bardera, held by the warlord son-in-law of former dictator Mohammed Siad Barre; and Hoddur, until recent days one of the most peaceful towns in this chaotic, famished land.

Col. Fred Peck, U.S. Marine spokesman in Mogadishu, said no opposition was expected in either town. Both are important distribution points for aid to Somalia's starving people. The famine has taken up to 350,000 lives and threatens two million more.

STILL MOVING

After the U.S.-led force takes Bardera and Hoddur, they will move into two more towns. Peck said Belet Huen, near the Ethiopian border in western Somalia, and Gailalassi, about 150 kilometres north of Mogadishu, will be seized Sunday and Monday.

In Washington, Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams said a joint U.S.-Canadian force will occupy Belet Huen and a U.S.-Italian contingent will take Gailalassi.

Canadian troops began deploying in Somalia last week. They set up a base at an airfield in Beli Dogle near Mogadishu, the capital. The bulk of the 900-strong force should be in place by January.

FLYING RELIEF

Canadian Forces have mainly been involved in guarding their base and flying relief aid to other areas. The Americans and the French have been leading the takeover of cities and their ports.

HMCS Preserver, the command centre for Canadian Forces in Somalia, is three kilometres off Mogadishu.

The Preserver has been moving supplies to the capital where they are being stockpiled for delivery to Beli Dogle. The ship also has three doctors and a dentist on board to treat Canadians.

Maj. Barry Armstrong, surgeon aboard the Preserver, said the biggest problem for troops has been the heat. Temperatures in Somalia have climbed to 44 Celcius in recent days.

He also said one Canadian soldier contracted malaria, but he was treated and is OK.

NO INJURIES

Because there have been no military injuries, Armstrong said the Canadians have been able to help out in Mogadishu.

Dr. Heather McKinnon, a doctor aboard the ship went into Mogadishu on Tuesday with a team of engineers and technicians to help a hospital get back on its feet after months of fighting.

But Armstrong said the ship's primary job is gearing up for the arrival of the main body of troops in Beli Dogle.

Meanwhile, U.S. President George Bush will visit Somalia for New Year's. The White House announced Tuesday that Bush will arrive Dec. 31 in time to spend the holiday with U.S. troops.

the Record

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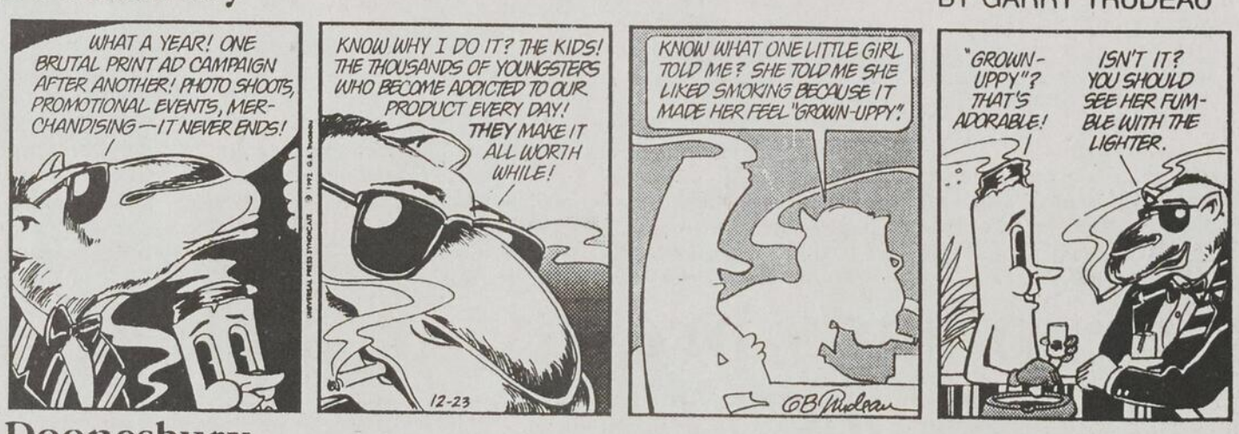
WEATHER

Mild and cloudy Wednesday with a 30 per cent chance of flurries. High: **0**. Sunny and colder on Thursday. High: **-13**, dropping later in the day.

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

the Record

Young anglos are fleeing Townships — study

By Rita Legault

SHERBROOKE — About half of English-speaking Eastern Townships students leaving high school are also leaving the province, says a recent study commissioned by Townshippers' Association.

Mary Mitchell...'Employment is the key.'

The study was conducted by demographer Gary Caldwell, who interviewed 408 English-speaking high school graduates who were in the Eastern Townships in 1981, asking them why the decided to stay or leave.

Caldwell said he found three main factors which had a strong impact on whether or not members of the study group stayed or left: being fluent in French, having a large family network and obtaining a university degree.

"The size of the locally-based family network and cultural vitality will be key factors affecting the future of the English-speaking Eastern Townships community," Caldwell said in a news release accompanying the report's findings.

JOBS AND SCHOOLS

The report says there are three factors critical to the vitality of the English community here: the economy, the educational system and the presence of English language insititutions such as associations, churches, hospitals and other health care centres.

Half of the graduates in the study group left the Townships between 1981 and 1991, with one third leaving Quebec. The main reason they gave for their departure was to find a job. The other main reasons were to be with a partner, to study or because of the political climate.

Although half the group believed their chances of finding a job in the Eastern Townships were good or very good, most considered they had a better chance of finding employment outside Quebec.

More than half the group in Quebec and three quarters of those who have left said they believed that unilingual francophones have a better chance of finding jobs than fluently bilingual anglophones.

ASSET OR NOT

Townshippers' Association spokeswomen Mary Mitchell said the association was not surprised so many youths are leaving the region. But she said the association was surprised youths felt that being bilingual anglophones was not an asset in Quebec's job market.

"That's definitely a perception in terms of the study, but also a reality when you look at the number of anglophone in the provincial public sector."

Despite efforts to increase the number of anglophone civil servants in Quebec, anglophone hold less than 0.8 per cent of provincial jobs. Anglophones make up 13 per cent of the province's population.

"And with a job freeze (in the public sector), we're not looking at a future which offers much hope," she said.

Mitchell said that while students don't perceive bilingualism as an asset here in Quebec, they see it as a benefit outside Quebec.

"Naturally they will follow or go after job opportunities wherever they are," she said.

ACTION NEEDED

Townshippers' Association president Paulette Losier said that while the lobby group has been concerned about the loss of English-speaking youths for many years, the report confirms the need for more action.

"Townshippers' Association will be even more vigilant in promoting and supporting the development of vocational and language training programs to meet Eastern Townships job market needs," Losier said, adding the group will advocate these programs in public and para-public institutions, private agencies and businesses.

She said the association will also continue to support the educational network and build stronger links with other English-language associations and instititions for moral support.

Mitchell said the group's main focus is, "Where do we go from here?"

"How do we use these figures to give our graduates reasons to stay?"

Mitchell said part of the challenge will be to convince members of the English community and the business community at large to offer more opportunities to anglophone youths, she said.

"Every lost anglophone youth is a loss to our community and a loss to the community at large," she said. "Employment is the key to the future."

Jury begins deliberations in Windsor stabbing trial

By Shawn Apel

SHERBROOKE — The jury in the trial of Sébastien Lemieux began deliberating Tuesday night, having to decide whether to find Lemieux not guilty of murder because of a mental disorder.

Judge Raynald Fréchette read from 250 pages of notes as he instructed jurors for five hours on legal matters, spending almost two hours summarizing the testimony of the 33 witnesses in the case.

He also outlined for the jurors the possible verdicts they could reach.

Lemieux, 19, is charged with first-degree murder in the stabbing death of 11-year-old Stéphane Dion in Windsor's Watopeka Park.

He is also charged with the attempted murder of Dion's 13-year-old sister Caroline, who was bicycling with the boy before the stabbings, and with the attempted murder of another woman who tried to help the children.

Frechette said the jury could reach the mental disorder verdict only if it is sure Lemieux didn't understand what he was doing when Dion was killed, and that Lemieux was incapable of distinguishing right from wrong.

UNDERSTAND

"The person accused must be capable of understanding the consequence of his acts," Fréchette said, speaking slowly as he faced the jurors. "In this case, did Sébastien Lemieux understand stabbing Stéphane Dion could cause his death."

Fréchette told the jurors the burden of proof was on the defence — not the prosecution — to show Lemieux was not guilty, or criminally responsible, because of mental illness.

Two psychiatrists testifying for the prosecution said Monday Lemieux knew exactly what he was doing when the stabbings occurred and that he was not suffering form any mental disorder.

But another psychiatrist, who testified last week for the defence, said Lemieux suffered from at least four mental disorders, and could not be held responsible for the stabbings.

Fréchette told the 12 jurors acquittal was not a possible verdcit for any of the charges, because no one was contesting the fact Lemieux stabbed the victims. Lemieux pleaded not-guilty to all three charges.

The jurors can choose between first-degree murder — which requires proof of planning — or the lesser charges of second-degree murder and manslaughter for the first-degree murder charges, Fréchette said. He added they could choose between attempted murder and the lesser charge of aggravated assault for the attempted murder charges.

LISTENED

Defence lawyer Peter Downey and Crown prosecutor André Campagna listened closely as Fréchette drew the distinctions between the possible verdicts.

Lemieux also appeared to watch and listen closely, though he sat as impassively and motionless as he has throughout the 12-day trial. He yawned several times near the end of the judge's instructions.

Céline Dion, the mother of Stéphane and Caroline, sat in the front row of the courtroom next to her husband Richard, who jotted occasionally in a notebook.

At 5 p.m. Fréchette ordered the jury sequestered until it reaches its verdicts. It ended its deliberations at 10 p.m. Tuesday without having completed its task, and it is set to begin working again at Sherbrooke's courthouse this morning at 9:30.

Fréchette gave the jurors the choice Monday of adjourning until after the holidays, but the 12 decided to continue. They will deliberate until they have unanimous verdicts for each of the three charges.

Ayer's Cliff family lights up the Christmas season

By Alan Echenberg

AYER'S CLIFF — The Santa Claus hovering next to John and Rita Brus' home didn't come from the North Pole — he flew up from Florida.

Rudolph and his fellow reindeers came from Florida, too. So did the choir singers and all of the participants in the nativity scene on the Brus front lawn.

"You can't get large figurines like this in Canada," Rita Brus explains. And large is the name of the game come Christmas time at the Brus' Ayer's Cliff house.

For the past five Christmases, John and Rita Brus have turned the façade of their home into an impressive holiday light and sound show — the show gets larger with each passing season.

This year, in addition to the Floridian figurines, the Brus have hung several thousand multicolored Christmas lights on the outside of their house and on every available tree in front of the residence, a giant Christmas star on their roof, bilingual Merry Xmas signs, and a small replica of Ayer's Cliff's St. Barthelemy Church. The replica was built by John, with stained plastic windows by Rita.

The display is rounded out by a constant flow of Christmas music each evening — as well as a constant flow of visitors.

ENTIRE BUSLOAD

"They stop on the roadside every night," says Rita Brus. "Last year, we had an entire busload of people stop by to see."

Some even leave thank you notes in the couple's mailbox.

And the Brus encourage such visits — they welcome family, friends, and strangers to enjoy their creation.

"It's not to be big or to show off — it's to get people in the Christmas spirit," says John Brus, who is currently working on a wooden Santa and reindeer and replicas of a barn and the Ayer's Cliff bandstand for next year's display.

With what he needs to power the display every night from Dec. 1 to Jan. 6, John Brus says he is especially giving cheer to Hydro Quebec. But he and his wife certainly have more than enough holiday cheer to go around.

This year, 27 Brus family members — including six children and 11 grandchildren — will be sitting around John and Rita's Christmas table. The annual display helps make the family members' holiday special.

"It's like a fairy-tale land," says daughter Diane, who comes every year from Montreal. "It's a great place to come for Christmas."

CHEW CABLES

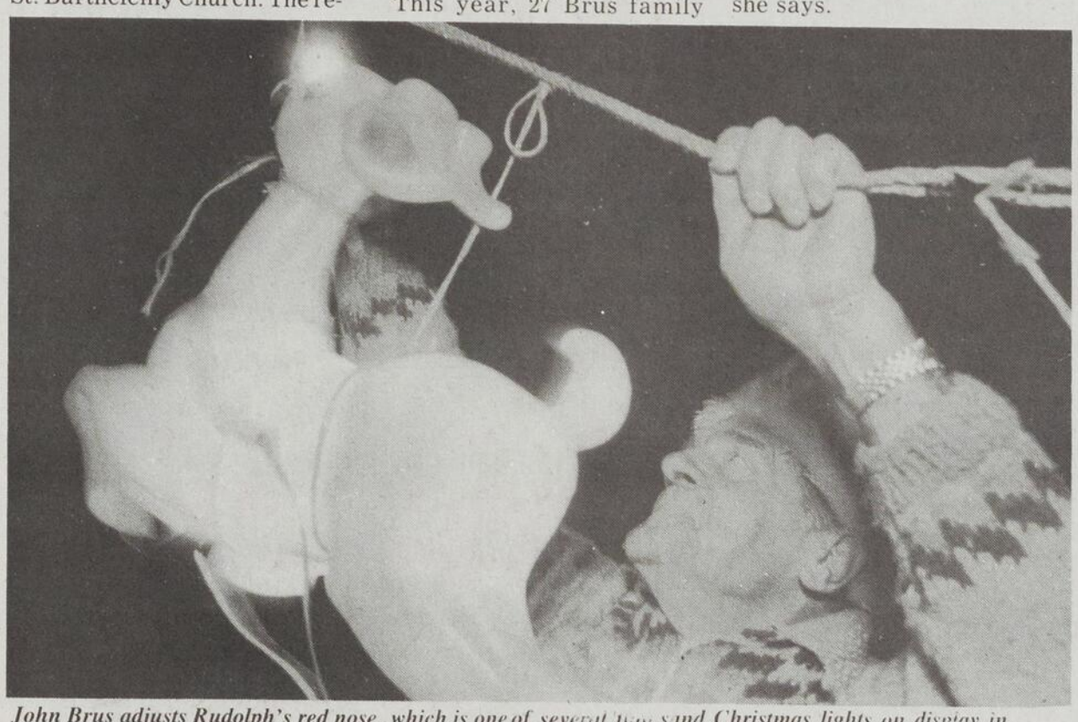
About the only family members who don't get into the spirit of things are two young dogs, who John says "always chew up the cables."

The Brus were inspired to create the display after seeing similar displays on annual trips to Florida. John Brus says that since he retired from cattle farming, he likes to "do things I want to do." The holiday creation is one of those hobbies.

The Brus start putting up the display in the middle of November.

"If you put your mind to it, it doesn't take long to put it up," says Rita Brus. And what about taking it down and storing it?

"We have a large basement," she says.



John Brus adjusts Rudolph's red nose, which is one of several thousand Christmas lights on display in front of his Ayer's Cliff home.

RECORD/GRANT SIMEON

Ho ho ho?: *A Santa Claus of a different sort showed up at federal MP Jean Charest's Sherbrooke office on Tuesday. This Santa, sent by two local welfare groups, came bearing a number of protest gifts — including a bag of coal and a giant card signed by unemployment insurance recipients. The groups hope to convince Charest to oppose his government's plan to change the unemployment insurance benefits program.*
The MP did not happen to be in his office when Santa arrived but his assistant, Suzanne Poulin, said Employment and Immigration Minister Bernard Valcourt would be made aware of the protest.

RECORD/GRANT SIMEON

Nez Rouge sets driving record

SHERBROOKE — A record 422 people were driven home in one night last week by the regional branch of Opération Nez Rouge, the holiday driving service announced Tuesday.

The one-night total for Dec. 18 beats the previous Sherbrooke-area record of 348, achieved last year, like this year, on the last Friday before Christmas, the service announced.

The service, which operates every Christmas season for people who are too drunk or tired to drive their own cars home, has escorted 1511 people in the region so far this season.

Opération Nez Rouge will be out of service Dec. 24 and 25, but will run again from Dec. 26 to Dec. 31.

The service can be reached at (819) 821-7595.

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the Record

The Voice of the Eastern Townships since 1897

Editorial

Pot shots at easy targets

The *Conseil du patronat*, Quebec's largest employers' group, summed up quite nicely yesterday the business community's regard for the working person.

The group said the only positive thing about the Quebec economy in 1993 will be fewer strikes and unions who "see they can't have more money and more fringe benefits."

Sounds like employers are trying to get through the tunnel of economic recession by removing the locomotive's wheels — wages — instead of lowering the smokestack — company profits and bonuses to top executives.

And in an age when having a job — any job — is a status symbol, it is easy for the fat cats of industry to sit back and take pot-shots at the easiest of targets. Coupled with Don Mazankowski's put-up-or-shut-up changes to UIC, workers look at the 600,000 people put out of work since the latest recession began and cower in a corner. Just where the employers' group wants them.

Problem is, this is just the beginning of a storm of excuses as to why wages will have to decline even further in real terms.

Canada has just signed the North American Free Trade Agreement. While ratification still depends on Canadian parliamentary and American congressional approval, business lobbying and related political pressure will no doubt ensure NAFTA passes.

That will open the door to the slave-wage produced goods of Mexico's 2,000 *maquiladoras*, foreign-owned assembly plants strung along the US border. Their numbers are sure to swell when the borders swing wide open.

Does anyone need reminding that Gillette announced the very day following the Conservatives' 1988 free-trade election victory that it was pulling out of Montreal and heading stateside?

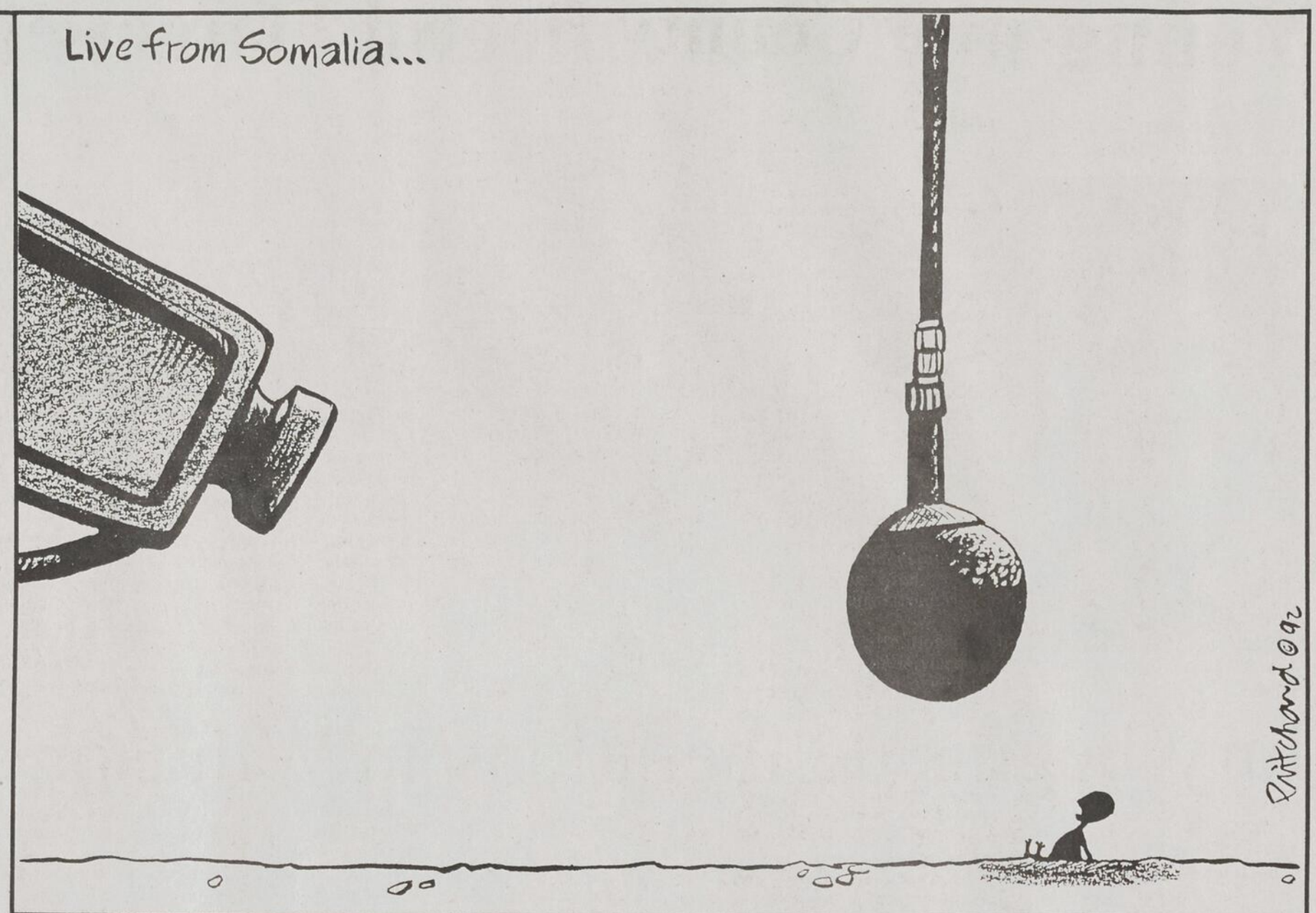
And if union-bashers think that working people are finally getting what's coming to them, they'd better start looking in the mirror at the next victim.

In the name of "productivity" and "competition" — the twin mantras of the downward wage spiral — many of the long-cherished benefits Canadians have come to depend on will not be around in the next few years. Old-age pensions. Adequate unemployment benefits. Adequate universal health care. They're all headed south.

Welcome to 1993.

Have a happy, fat cats.

IAN MACDONALD



Santas worry about sexual abuse suits

By Deborah McDougall
The Canadian Press

Santa Claus nearly fell off his throne when an undercover cop thrust the little girl's picture into his face.

"I was scared," said Tom Powell, nervously twisting his fluffy white beard. "This kind of thing can ruin a Santa."

A Santa was pictured with his gloved hand resting on the tot's crotch and the officer demanded to know if it was Powell's.

But the hand in question belonged to another Santa at the same Toronto shopping mall who was just trying to hold a rambunctious child, said Powell, who runs a Santa Claus agency.

The man was warned to be more careful. So have hundreds of other Canadians who put on red suits and white beards at malls, stores and parties — although police in major Canadian cities say they're not aware of any high-profile abuse cases involving St. Nick lookalikes.

GROWING FEARS

Growing fears of child sexual abuse have hit at the heart of Christmas and have left some companies that employ Santas worrying about lawsuits and criminal charges, some Santas say.

Parents are more likely to report anything remotely questionable about a Santa's behavior, said Dick Nellis, who has a Santa Claus school in Toronto.

"I tell all my Santas they have to know the legal consequences of where their hands are at all times," said Randy Mulder, who hires Santas at Forever Christmas Photos in Winnipeg.

Santas who used to plunk tots on their laps with careless abandon now are cautious about handling children who whisper Christmas lists into their ears.

Agencies that used to gloss over how to touch children have made the subject an important part of training, said Powell.

Powell's McClaus Enterprises tells Santas to pick up tots around the shoulders. When the child is safely on Santa's lap, one hand should be on the shoulder and the other away from the child's lap.

Parents like it that way, Powell said.

Many parents are alarmed by the growing number of authority figures who've been charged with sexually abusing children, said Nicholas Groth, a clinical psychologist in Orlando, Fla., who counsels child sex offenders.

"With recent events like Mount Cashel, even Santa Claus is under the gun because he's also seen as an authority figure," said David Grouchy, a Santa in St. John's, Nfld.

Many companies that hire Santas try to carefully screen them but don't check for criminal records. Most hire on gut instinct and by the person's reputation in the business, said Powell.

Parents can take comfort in the public nature of any Santa's job, he added.

Fran Dowie of Vancouver, who's been hired by department stores to train other Santas, won't put children on his knee, keeps his workshop door wide open and always has Mrs. Claus with him.

"I wouldn't like some joker dressed up in a funny suit mauling my kids," he said.

But some find that kind of worry saddening.

"Santa seems to have lost some of his innocence," said Yvonne Johnston, spokeswoman for the Institute for the Prevention of Child Abuse. "Behaviour that was never questioned by parents is now under scrutiny."

Political correctness sprouts in right wing

From a Student Speak column by Rob Salter in The Gazette, student newspaper of the University of Western Ontario:

. . .Some describe politics as the means for distributing resources.

Whether or not you agree with this simple definition, it helps to explain the explosion of politically correct language.

We have scarce resources such as jobs, money, power, property and knowledge — and a system of thought that allows a small group of men to distribute them. So then, what resource is inexhaustible and can be divided up among the many who are excluded from this distribution process?

Well, my guess is that the most inexhaustible resource I've come across in my existence is language, so I figure that might be why so many people are being encouraged to fight for ownership of it. It's cheap and recyclable, unlike other resources we are encouraged not to question — like economic power, status power and political power.

If you ask average conservatives about political correctness, they will most likely tell you they hate it.

What we must remember though, is the right wing has been controlling resource distribution for almost a decade in Canada and for over a decade in the U.S. — and under these regimes, political correctness has flourished. No mistake.

From What Canada Thinks, a regular feature of The Canadian Press.

Today in History

By The Canadian Press

Marguerite d'Youville, the first Canadian-born saint, died in Montreal 221 years ago today — in 1771. D'Youville founded the Grey Nuns or Sisters of Charity in Montreal and was a pioneer in organized charity. Credited by the Vatican with several miracles and healing powers, she was canonized in Rome in 1990.

Also on this day:

1823 — The poem A Visit From St. Nicholas was first published anonymously in a New York newspaper.

The economy: Is the worst behind us?

By Lary Welsh
The Canadian Press

Kevin O'Leary believes.

"I think we've seen the worst," says the software company president.

Canadians with no jobs, businesses with no vigor, and governments with neither resources nor solutions all hope he's right.

They hope, as O'Leary hopes, that 1993 will be the year the economy finally turns the corner.

Most professional economists certainly believe.

They predict a firm recovery will take hold in the new year after the longest recession in Canada since the Great Depression.

But if that forecast sounds a little familiar, it's because many said the same thing about '92 — and were wrong.

"You just slip last year's statement into the typewriter, press the 'look-alike' button, and you can go home early this afternoon," Lloyd Atkinson, chief economist at the Bank of Montreal, advises one journalist.

ROSY FORECAST

This time, however, some economic signs look a little rosier:

- The Canadian dollar is substantially lower. It fell to 78 cents US late in the year from 87 cents in December 1991. That boosts profits for exporting companies and makes Canadian products more attractive for American customers.
- Inflation is below two per cent, down from 3.8 per cent a year ago, and Atkinson says it looks "as dead as a doornail."
- The U.S. economy, perhaps the single most important factor for the Canadian economy, grew at an annual rate of 3.9 per cent during July, August and September. More than 80 per cent of Canada's exports are to the United States; if the U.S. economy grows, it's hard for Canada not to follow.
- Canada's exports to the United States jumped more than 10 per cent for the first nine months of 1992.

Although the general Canadian economy barely grew at all in 1992, things would have been worse without strong exports.

"To be frank, it if wasn't for those exports, we would not be happy campers," says O'Leary, who runs Softkey Software Products Inc. in Mississauga, Ont.

REVIEW 1992

Despite the positive signs, one big question mark still looms over Canada — what's going to happen to interest rates?

They've been on a roller-coaster for three months and kept the economic picture for 1993 out of focus.

"It will be very difficult navigation to keep our interest rates going down and the dollar from falling out of bed," says George Vasic, chief economist at research firm McGraw Hill-DRI Canada.

After dropping below five per cent in September, the Bank of Canada rate climbed to almost nine per cent in November, pushing up mortgage rates and the prime rate at major banks.

Most economists believe interest rates will fall again in 1993 if the dollar steadies.

But a pending federal election — Prime Minister Brian Mulroney will almost certainly call one before the end of 1993 — could generate more political uncertainty and keep interest raes high.

That would delay any strong recovery.

In 1992, months of attention to the Constitution and a divisive referendum campaign had a chilling effect on the economy.

"Unfortunately, politics has gotten in the way," Vasic says.

Finance Minister Don Mazankowski seems to agree.

INSTABILITY

"The recent instability in financial markets will hurt Canada's fourth-quarter growth numbers," he said in December. "Recovery from the 1990-1991 recession is painfully slow."

That's hit the federal government where it hurts — the federal budget deficit. Ottawa expects weak revenues will push this year's deficit up to $34.4 billion, $6.9 billion higher than forecast in February's budget.

O'Leary said political leaders should have worried more about taxes, internal trade barriers and making Canada competitive.

"We spent a lot of our time worrying about constitutional issues which really have nothing to do with being internationally competitive.

"What good is having a Constitution if we have no economy? The two go hand in hand."

The estimated 1,645,000 people looking for work would likely agree.

The national unemployment rate climbed to 11.8 per cent in November, its highest level since July 1983.

Scars from the recession run especially deep in Ontario where manufacturers bore the brunt of hard times.

CUTBACKS AND LAYOFFS

The toll continued to mount in December as General Motors of Canada, the country's second largest company by revenues in 1991, laid off 1,200 people in Windsor. It also said 800 more workers in St. Catharines, Ont., will lose their jobs unless an axle plant is sold by late 1993.

GM already plans to close a St. Catharines engine foundry that employs 2,150 people by fall 1994.

If a strong recovery is going to take hold in the 1990s, Canada will have to take a bigger slice of growing world markets — not just rely on domestic growth, O'Leary said.

His software company gets half of its sales outside Canada, almost all from the United States. While many firms chopped jobs as sales dried up in 1992, Softkey was a rare success story. Its revenues soared.

O'Leary believes this recession has retaught Canada an important lesson — the country must trade to survive.

"If someone can manufacture or mine at half of what our costs are, obviously in our country those sectors are going to hurt," he said.

COMPETITIVE EDGE

"If it doesn't make sense to dig earth out of the ground and look for ore in it any more, perhaps we should look at the businesses that do have a very competitive edge, i.e., software and high technology."

Until that message sinks in, O'Leary sees only modest economic growth in Canada.

Vasic agrees, forecasting three per cent economic growth in 1993. That would be the strongest growth in Canada in four years, but it would probably be too weak to generate a sharp increase in new jobs.

"That is not going to make people feel really good really quick," Vasic says.

Education

the Record

Sherbrooke County School Fair celebrates Canada

The Sherbrooke County School Fair was held at Lennoxville Elementary School on Saturday, September 12, 1992.

Seeds were supplied for the vegetables and flowers by the Women's Institute of Sherbrooke County. The 535 exhibits brought in by the 87 exhibitors included other vegetables and flowers from the home garden, cooking, crafts, sewing, creative writing and art.

This year being Canada's 125th birthday the theme was used for topics in the creative writing and art as well as flags, posters and balloons to decorate the cafeteria and halls of the school. T-shirts were given to those who participated in the Talent Show. Mrs. McClary accompanied on the piano for a solo, was also given a T-shirt. The names of the judges were put in for a draw. Mrs. Harrison was the winner of a T-shirt.

The Conveners this year were Gwen Parker and Meryl Nutbrown, with help from all agriculture conveners in each branch. Judges who gave their time were: Mr. and Mrs. Richie Harrison (vegetables), Mrs. Beth Lundebourg (flowers), Mrs. Dawn Harkness (sewing), Miss Jean Irving (cooking), Mr. Rick Stymiest (woodworking), Ms. Cheryl Graham (hobbies and crafts), Mrs. Gwen Parker (scrapbooks and creative writing), and Mrs. Frances Pharo (art).

Before the prize giving, Mr. Richard Orzechowski, Principal of LES, gave words of welcome and extended congratulations to all those students who had participated. Top winners of the day were given a cup to keep and a trophy with their names which will be left in the school. Other winners were given a Canada 125 medal along with cash prizes. Gwen Parker, convener and Linda Hoy, County President and Fair Secretary presented the following students with well deserved prizes: 1st overall — Chester Hodge and Marisa Hoy (34 points), LES; 2nd — Kyle Hoy (32 points), Lennoxville Elementary School; 3rd — Mary Ann Dewey Plante (26 points), Sunnyside Elementary School; 4th — Nancy Barnett and Amanda Dewey Plante (24 points) LES and SES.

Special prize in creative writing donated by Mrs. Ella Hoy was won by Joanne Mayhew (LES).

A plaque in memory of W.S. Richardson to the winner of the most points in classes 1, 2 and 3 — vegetables, was won by Matthew Page (SES).

A plaque in memory of W.G. MacDougall to the winner of the most points in class 4 — flowers, was won by Amy McComb (LES).

The afternoon ended with Ascot W.I. serving Canada cake to all as they left the school. This brought another successful school fair to a close. The Sherbrooke County Women's Institute would like to take this opportunity to thank all who participated in making this event such an outstanding success — the exhibitors, parents, teachers, and secretaries of the two schools, the judges and conveners, all who sent cash donations and all W.I. members who helped.

We look forward to seeing you all next year with more exhibits.

The following are the names of top prize winners in all sections:

Section 1 — Beets, K-3: 1. Ashley McComb; 2. Jack Lallier; 3. Steven Aldrich.

Section 2 — Beets, 4-6: 1. Matthew Page; 2. Justin Suitor; 3. Jessica Luce.

Section 3 — Carrots, K-3: 1. Stephanie Broadhurst; 2. Steven Aldrich; 3. Amber Musty.

Section 4 — Carrots, 4-6: 1. Joanne Boudrias; 2. Justin Suitor; 3. Amy McComb.

Section 5 — Cucumbers, K-3: 1. Jack Lallier; 2. Chester Hodge; 3. Matthew Arbery.

Section 6 — Cumcumbers 4-6: 1. Matthew Page; 2. Justin Suitor; 3. Michael Durrant.

Section 7 — Bachelor Buttons, K-3: 1. Carolyn Keefe; 2. Ashley McComb; 3. Victoria Trahan.

Section 7a — Bachelor Buttons, 4-6: 1. Matthew Page; 2. Mry Ann Dewey Plante; 3. Nancy Barnett.

Section 8 — Marigolds, K-3: 1. Eric Branett; 2. Matthew Arbery; 3. Jason Boisvert.

Section 8a — Marigolds, 4-6: 1. Nancy Barnett; 2. Justin Suitor; 3. Joanne Boudrias.

Section 9 — Azalea, K-3: 1. Chester Hodge; 2. Ashley McComb; 3. Stephanie Broadhurst.

Section 9a — Azalea, 4-6: 1. Meaghan McIver; 2. Amy McComb.

Section 10 — Zinnias, K-3: 1. Amanda Dewey Plante; 2. Stephanie Broadhurst; 3. Keith Smith.

Section 10a — Zinnias, 4-6: 1. Nancy Barnett; 2. Amy McComb; 3. Mary Ann Dewey Plante.

HOME GARDEN Section 11 — Corn: 1. Russell Butler; 2. Matthew Page; 3. Alex Butler.

Section 12 — Pumpkin: 1. Chester Hodge; 2. Alex Butler; 3. Russell Butler.

Section 13 — Beans: 1. Chester Hodge; 2. Marisa Hoy; 3. Victoria Trahan.

Section 14 — Potatoes: 1. Eric Barnett; 2. Matthew Page; 3. Chester Hodge.

Section 15 — Onions: 1. Jack Lallier; 2. Nancy Barnett; 3. Matthew Arbery.

Section 16 — Tomatoes: 1. Chester Hodge; 2. Russell Butler; 3. Jack Lallier.

Section 17 — Vegetable Collection: 1. Matthew Page; 2. Chester Hodge; 3. Eric Barnett.

Section 18 — Flower Arrangement: 1. Amanda Dewey Plante; 2. Eric Barnett; 3. Jack Lallier.

Section 19 — Wildflower Arrangement: 1. Kyle Hoy; 2. Marissa Hoy; 3. Justin Suitor.

Section 20 — Sunflower: 1. Nancy Barnett; 2. Eric Barnett; 3. Charles Herring.

COOKING Section 21 — Chocolate Fudge, K-3: 1. Chester Hodge; 2. Catherine Barnard; 3. Kyle Hoy.

Section 22 — Brown Sugar Fudge, 4-6: 1. Nancy Barnett; 2. Joanne Boudrias; 3. Melissa Bowman.

Section 23 — Banana Bread, K-3: 1. Courtney Dowd; 2. Jack Lallier; 3. Laura Buttemer.

Section 23a — Lemon Bread, 4-6: 1. Kim Williams; 2. Melissa Bowman; 3. Amy McComb.

Section 24 — Decorated Cake, 4-6: 1. Genevieve Brodeur; 2. Mary Ann Dewey Plante.

Section 25 — Oatmeal Muffins, K-3: 1. Kyle Hoy; 2. Marisa Hoy; 3. Pamela Vance.

Section 26 — Tea Biscuits, 4-6: 1. Melissa Bowman; 2. Mary Ann Dewey Plante; 3. Jessica Roarke.

Section 27 — Chocolate Chip Cookies, K-3: 1. Kyle Hoy; 2. Jack Lallier; 3. Marisa Hoy.

SEWING Section 28 — Needlepoint: 1. Chantel Gilbert.

Section 28a — Embroidered Article: 1. Amanda Dewey Plante; 2. Nancy Barnett; 3. Eric Barnett.

Section 29 — Cross Stitch: 1. Mary Ann Dewey Plante; 2. Jessica Roarke.

Section 29a — Gimp Friendship: 1. Melissa Bowman; 2. Chantel Gilbert; 3. Amanda Juby.

Section 30 — Machine Sewn Article, 4-6: 1. Mary Ann Dewey Plante; 2. Jessica Roarke; 3. Chantel Gilbert.

Section 31 — Knitted Article: 1. Jessica Roarke; 2. Mary Ann Dewey Plante; 3. Chantel Gilbert.

Section 32 — Hand Sewn Article, K-3: 1. Amanda Dewey Plante.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS Section 33 — Glued Wood, K-3: 1. Amanda Dewey Plante; 2. Marisa Hoy, Stephanie Broadhurst; 3. Chester Hodge.

Section 33a — Wooden Article, 4-6: 1. Matthew Greenland; 2. Mary Ann Dewey Plante; 3. Chantel Gilbert.

Section 34 — Molded Article: 1. Catherine Barnard; 2. Amanda Juby; 3. Chester Hodge.

Section 35 — Decorated Hat/Door: 1. Kyle Hoy; 2. Amanda Dewey Plante; 3. Nancy Barnett.

Section 35a — Fall Decoration/Table: 1. Kyle Hoy; 2. Marisa Hoy; 3. Nancy Barnett.

Section 35b — Christmas Tree Ornaments: 1. Stephanie Broadhurst; 2. Marisa Hoy; 3. Rox-Ann Duchesne.

Section 36 — Seed Picture, K-3: 1. Chester Hodge; 2. Marisa Hoy; 3. Kyle Hoy.

Section 36a — Felt Picture, 4-6: 1. Rox-Ann Duchesne; 2. Chantel Gilbert.

Section 37 — Article Made From Rocks: 1. Kyle Hoy; 2. Marisa Hoy; 3. Chester Hodge.

Section 38 — Magnetic Ornament Made With Seashells: 1. Chester Hodge; 2. Amanda Juby; 3. Stephanie Broadhurst.

Section 39 — Outdoor Snapshots, K-3: 1. Marissa Hoy; 2. Matthew Arbery; 3. Amanda Dewey Plante.

Section 39a — Outdoor Snapshots, 4-6: 1. Jessica Roarke; 2. Mary Ann Dewey Plante.

Section 40 — Tree Leaves, K-3: 1. Amanda Dewey Plante; 2. Kyle Hoy, Marisa Hoy; 3. Victoria Trahan.

Section 40a — 12 Types of Wood, 4-6: 1. Mary Ann Dewey Plante.

Section 41 — Recycled Article, K-1: 1. Victoria Trahan; 2. Kyle Hoy.

Section 41a — Recycled Article, 2-3: 1. Marissa Hoy; 2. Melissa Ford; 3. Terence Greenland.

Section 41b — Recycled Article, 4-6: 1. Mary Ann Dewey Plante.

Section 42 — Pipe Cleaner Article, K-3: 1. Marissa Hoy; 2. Kyle Hoy; 3. Melissa Ford.

Section 42a — Article Made From Nature, 4-6: 1. Nancy Barnett.

Section 43 — Original Creation From Building Set, K-3: 1. Ben Gilbert; 2. Kyle Hoy; 3. Thomas Rowell.

Section 43a — Original Creation From Building Set, 4-6: 1. Matthew Greenland; 2. Rox-Ann Duchesne; 3. Catherine Barnard.

Section 44 — Jewelry: 1. Amanda Dewey Plante; 2. Rox-Ann Duchesne; 3. Kyle Hoy.

Section 45 — Soap Carving, 4-6: 1. Joanne Boudrias; 2. Kim Williams; 3. Samantha Smith.

Section 46 — One Painted Rock: 1. Marisa Hoy; 2. Kyle Hoy; 3. Jack Lallier.

Section 48 — Scrapbook, K-3: 1. Chester Hodge; 2. Matthew Arbery.

Section 52 — Lunch Placemat, K-3: 1. Marisa Hoy; 2. Kyle Hoy; 3. Bryan Marshall.

Section 52a — Lunch Placemat, 4-6: 1. Kerri Gibson; 2. Nancy Barnett; 3. Meaghan MacIver.

Section 53 — Crayon Picture, K-2: 1. Adam Phaneuf; 2. Kyle Hoy; 3. Fiona McKelvie.

Section 54 — Collage, 3-4: 1. Julie Pellerin; 2. Eric Barnett; 3. Bryan Marshall.

Section 55 — Pencil Sketch, 5-6: 1. Chantel Gilbert.

Section 56 — Canada 125 Poster: 1. Kristin Hodge; 2. Joshua Lord; 3. Kristina Hartwell.

Section 57 — Canada 125 Poster: 1. Barbara Rowell; 2. Sarah Scholes; 3. Katie Lowry.

Section 60 — Page From Diary, K-3: 1. Joanne Mayhew; 2. Joey Laramee; 3. Kiel Hudson.

Section 61 — Why I Am Proud To Be A Canadian: 1. Jessica Luce; 2. Rachel Huntin; 3. Jonathan Monty.

Submitted by
Linda Hoy, Secretary
Sherbrooke County
School Fair

Chester Hodge and Marisa Hoy were first-overall winners at the Sherbrooke County School Fair.

Frances Pharo and Elaine Hatcher look over some of the children's work at the school fair.

Keeping distance from students new classroom reality

By Valerie Lawton
The Canadian Press

Hugs for sobbing kids, encouraging pats on the back for students and closed classroom doors have all become no-nos for many Canadian teachers.

"Prudence and caution is the word of the day," says Harvey Weiner of the Canadian Teachers' Federation. "One is fearful of any kind of contact that might be misinterpreted."

Teachers say it's cases like one in Trenton, Ont., last week that have forced them to put distance between themselves and their students.

Last Tuesday, a provincial court judge dismissed charges against a 43-year-old female elementary school teacher accused of sexually exploiting her young students.

In dismissing 18 charges against Susanne Gagne, Judge Stephen Hunter said the teacher had touched some students but there wasn't "one shred of evidence" the touching was sexual.

He said that even though the children were touched in a non-sexual way, they believed the touching was wrong.

But the judge said the case against Gagne, who has 24 years of experience in teaching, shouldn't stop teachers from showing affection.

"We should never stifle the compassion or affections of teachers we trust with our children," Hunter told the court.

"It would be very sad to have teachers frightened over giving warmth to a student who may not be getting it at home."

But Wayne Moyle, vice-principal of an elementary school in Mississauga near Toronto, says a "hands-off policy" for teachers is necessary.

"It's the changing legal world that has brought a new reality to how we work with kids," says Moyle, who offers students handshakes — not hugs.

Weiner says the federation, which studies issues on behalf of teachers across the country, conducted a survey that suggests many teachers worry about false accusations.

Twenty per cent of male Grade 4 to 6 teachers surveyed said fear of legal action often affects the way they relate with students. Nine per cent of female teachers of the same grades agreed.

"In the old days, I'd put my arm around someone and say, 'How are you doing?' But I don't do that any more," a Manitoba high school English teacher said in the survey.

"It takes a lot of the closeness away," he said. "I think that (closeness) helps the student-teacher relationship."

Gene Lewis, president of the Ontario Public School Teachers' Federation, says members of his union representing elementary teachers must protect themselves from false allegations at a time when people have become "sensitized" to the issue of child abuse.

Lewis says children should be taught to speak out if they're touched inappropriately but added that children can misinterpret touches.

His federation recommends teachers:

— Avoid closing the classroom door, especially when alone with a student.

— Where physical affection is appropriate, teachers should keep their hands above the student's waist and off the chest area. Avoid the friendly pat, even with very young children.

— Teachers shouldn't under any but the most necessary circumstances — such as the severe injury of a young child — hold students in their laps.

Wayne Russell, executive director of the Newfoundland Teachers' Association, says his organization has similar guidelines but the change has made close friendships between teachers and students more difficult.

"It may have been a price that all students had to pay in order to protect those who were being abused."

Inquiry into harassment at Carleton U

OTTAWA (CP) — Carleton University will hold an inquiry into allegations of sexual harassment and abuse of power at the school of architecture, president Robin Farquhar said Tuesday.

Farquhar made the announcement following the release of a special committee report describing the architecture department as a hotbed of abuse by faculty.

"(There) are instances involving abuse of power and sexual or other harassment and alleged unprofessional conduct in the form of verbal, not physical, behavior," Farquhar said.

In one case, a pornographic film was shown in a class, and in another, an instructor was accused of pouring a drink over a female student.

Farquhar said he expects the investigation of the five full-time member faculty can be wrapped up quickly, adding disciplinary action will be taken if necessary.

The inquiry follows a review commissioned by Farquhar in July after several letters were received from students complaining of instructors' behaviour.

Some of the committee's findings include tales of faculty members verbally harassing and abusing students — often in front of other classmates.

Suzanne Hunchuck, a former architecture student who was failed out of the program in 1984, said that at a school function she witnessed a professor pouring a drink on a female student's chest.

"It's hard for me to even begin to describe it. Degrading, demeaning and degenerating," she said.

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This ad is sponsored by the Galt Alumni 25th Anniversary Committee.

Living

the Record

Townshippers' helps 15 students graduate

Fifteen students graduated last Friday from the Bilingual Secretarial Programme given by Adult Education of the Eastern Townships School Board and sponsored by Townshippers' Association.

Certificates were awarded and a dinner was held at Le Baron Hotel, with President Paulette Losier, and Executive Director Susan C. Mastine, representing the Association.

Congratulations to all and best wishes for the future!

If you are listening to "Quebec A.M." on CBC each morning this week, you are likely to hear Christmas messages from leaders of English-speaking communities throughout Mainland Quebec.

Paulette Losier will be speaking from the Eastern Townships.

The annual campaign for Townshippers' Research and Cultural Foundation is going very well. So far, $35,000 has been received from private donations, reaching well towards the $50,000 goal, which is half of the total $100,000 campaign goal. The other half is to be raised from corporations.

Campaigning within the private sector is continuing with a recent direct mail appeal to individuals in the community.

Contributions dated 1992 will be eligible for 1992 receipts for tax purposes.

Townshippers' Association still has some copies left of the Bicentennial edition of Crossroads, which has many interesting articles about Eastern Townships history. If you would like some copies, just call the Sherbrooke (819) 566-5717, or Cowansville office (514) 263-4422.

Our offices are closed between December 24 and January 3, reopening on January 4. To all our readers, we would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year!

Keeping in Touch is a weekly column presented by Townshippers' Association.

Keeping in touch

By Townshippers' Association

Home health care stores opened by chain

By Judy Creighton
The Canadian Press

One look at the increasing profit margin in their ledgers made accountants at a major Canadian drugstore chain realize an aging population has special needs for home care.

So in the last two years Shoppers Drug Mart has opened a number of separate stores in Ontario and Atlantic Canada to supply the growing demand for everything from wheelchairs to hospital beds.

"Several years ago, we noticed that customers were going to pharmacists looking for various things such as blood pressure cuffs, blood glucose monitors or bath benches," says Susan Crone, manager of the flagship Shoppers Home Health Care Centre in Scarborough, Ont.

"People didn't know where to buy these things because there was very little around for home care."

Most drugstores in the chain stock "a little of this and a little of that" to make independent living easier for seniors," says Crone. But it took the accountants to see that this "nothing little area of the store" was meeting a tremendous need that was going to get larger and larger.

EXPANSION PLANS

Currently, there are 11 Shoppers Home Health Care outlets in Ontario, three in Nova Scotia, two in New Brunswick and one each in St. John's, Nfld., and Charlottetown.

Plans are afoot to expand to the West, Crone says.

Other large retail pharmacy firms in Canada stock home health care products in their stores. But none has set up separate retail outlets, say spokesmen for the companies.

The aim of the centres is simple, says Crone: to help seniors and the disabled to live independently in their own homes.

"But to live independently and get around, many of these people need special aids."

For example, Crone says the demand is great for bathroom safety equipment such as grab bars by the toilet and tub, raised toilet seats and an extra-long shower hose.

Crone notes the Scarborough centre not only sells or rents wheelchairs, special beds and motorized scooters, but also services and repairs them.

"Now we are considering conducting wheelchair assessments where the chair will be measured for the individual and tested to see how it negotiates ramps and doorways," she says.

Staff also are trained to show customers how to administer tests like blood glucose — used by diabetics — or how to handle a pressure stocking for leg ailments. And there is a small suite where women who have undergone mastectomies are assisted by a specially trained employee in choosing prostheses such as surgical bras.

"A lot of people who come here are not very well," says Crone. "They are concerned and have problems which require a person who cares."

Daughter plays cool for sake of marriage

Dear Ann Landers: For 40 years, our daughter, "Iris," told us how lucky she was to have us as parents. My husband and I have always treated our son-in-law, "Randy," like a son and feel very close to him.

Unfortunately, when Randy turned 40, he had an affair and put our daughter through hell. It went on for two years. Finally, he agreed to go for joint counseling, and now they say their marriage is back on track.

We've been told, however, that Randy feels we have been much too involved in Iris' life and that she has got to cool it with us so she can get closer to him. Now the only time we see Iris and Randy is when they drop their kids off for us to baby-sit.

All Randy seems interested in is what Iris will inherit. We have spoken to several of our friends about this, and it seems they have similar problems with their kids. A few of them have changed their wills. Their estates will be divided among nieces, nephews and worthy causes.

When you recommend "professional help," perhaps you should suggest that therapists not be so quick to lay the blame on parents for everything that goes wrong in a child's life. We suspect our daughter's therapist created the split in our family, and we are saddened by the loss. -- PARENTS ALONE IN IOWA

DEAR IOWA: When people write to me, I am aware that I'm getting only *their* side of the story. I then try to figure out what the other person (or people) might say about the situation.

I suspect Iris' therapist told her she was too involved with her parents and that if her marriage was to survive she would have to cut the apron strings and forge a closer relationship with her husband.

I hope time will heal the rift and that when Iris feels her marriage is more secure, she and Randy will move closer to you both. That would be ideal for all concerned. I'll keep my fingers crossed.

Ann Landers

Dear Ann Landers: I'd love to see this letter in print, even though the person I have in mind will not recognize herself. Here it is:

Dear Pregnant Co-Worker: I'm sick of you sitting around patting your stomach, bragging about how you are going to work up to the day your baby is due.

Actually, you aren't working, you are simply showing up -- late at that -- and leaving after 10 minutes to get something to eat. I'm doing all the things around here that you don't want to do and therefore claim you "can't." If you got paid for the work you did, you'd get about one-third of your check.

Why do you expect me to pick up your slack? It's *your* baby. It was *your* choice and *your* thrill. To top it off, you think you should get even more of a tax break for child care. How about people who choose not to have more than one child because they can't afford it?

I resent the fact that you think everyone should cater to you because you are having a baby. Big deal. People have babies all the time.

Pregnant women who want to keep working should expect no special privileges. I am sick of what goes on around here. -- NO NAME, NO CITY, TENN.

DEAR N.N.N.C., TENN.: Feel better? I hope so. That was quite a blast. You sound like a very angry person. Why so much venom? Envious, maybe?

Community

Did you know *the Sherbrooke Community Center has each week art workshops, including drawing, painting, wood sculpture, and dance. Also available are massage, parasychology, dream analysis, and English and Spanish courses. The nest season of activities starts Jan. 18, 1993. Registration is Jan. 6, 7, and 8, from 1:30 to 8:30. The complete program is available at 400 Galt West. Information:564-7485.*

CLSC holiday *schedule: Thursday, December 24, the CLSC Val St. François in Richmond will be closed at noon. It will not reopen until Sunday, December 27, from 9 until noon. The clinic will also be closed all Christmas Day and all of Box Day. The clinic will also be closed as of noon December 31 on New Year's Eve, until Sunday January 3, from 9 until noon. The clinic will be closed the afternoon and evening of December 31, all New Year's Day and all of the following day. For more information: 826-3781.*

Home care *for cancer patients: a volunteer team from Les Soins Palliatifs la Rose des vents de l'estrie, is offering services for cancer patients and/or for relatives, including support and information. Phone: 823-9996.*

Unicef cards: *are still on sale in most Provigo stores, in all Jean Coutu stores, in Pier Import stores in the Eastern Townships. They can also be bought at regional Royal Banks, and the Boutique Unicef-Estrie at 525 Queen North, Sherbrooke.*

Poinsiettas: *for $12, you can help support the establishment of a group home for terminal cancer patients, sponsored by the Maison Aube-Lumière. Pick up your poinsettias today and Saturday at all hospitals, depanneurs along University, and at Caisse Populaires on St-Jeanne d'Arc, St-Jean-de-Brébeuf, Perpétuel-Secours and Sherbrooke-East.*

Social notes

50th wedding anniversary

Happy 50th wedding anniversary to Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Bowker who celebrate their anniversary on December 24. From family and friends.

Happy birthday wishes

Ella Davidson, Georgeville Road, celebrates a birthday on December 25. Have a happy birthday and a very merry Christmas, Ella, from Connie and Paul.

* * *

Best wishes for a very happy birthday on December 26 to Mrs. Claudette Marcoux of Sutton. Special thoughts from 'Nanny' in Calgary. Hope all your wishes come true in the year ahead.

Belated birthday greetings

Friends and relatives of Doris Nolan wish to extend belated birthday greetings to her as she celebrated her 95th anniversary on December 2nd. Many of her family were present to wish her joy and happiness in person, while those unable to attend had sent beautiful arrangements of flowers to brighten her room for days.

Get-well wishes

Gwen Smith of Graniteville underwent surgery recently. Her relatives and many friends extend best wishes for a fast and complete recovery.

CLSC

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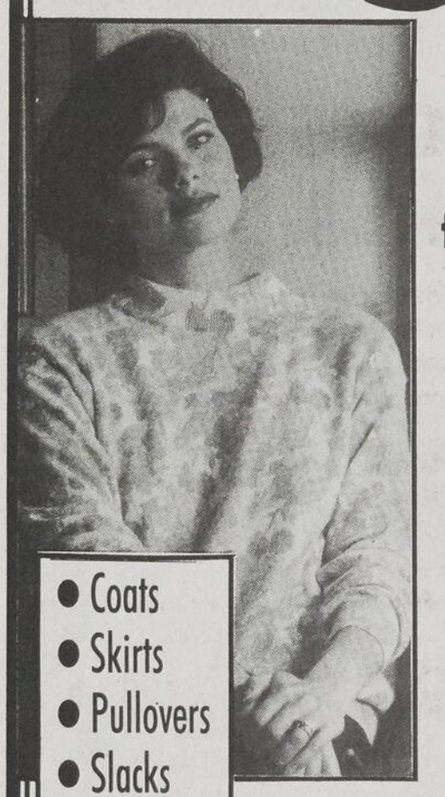

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Farm and Business

the Record

More manufacturing jobs to disappear — report

By Rob Carrick

TORONTO (CP) — Thousands more Canadian manufacturing workers will lose their jobs next year in an economic recovery that is "slow, painful and mean," an influential business group says.

Economic output will grow just 2.4 per cent in 1993 after increasing an expected 1.7 per cent this year, the Canadian Manufacturers' Association said in its annual economic outlook Tuesday.

The manufacturing sector, a leading recession victim, will lose 30,000 jobs next year after a loss of almost 84,000 in 1992, the group said.

The job toll for the recession is now 350,000, with Central Canada bearing the brunt of the losses.

"There is still no clear indication yet that sustained recovery is underway," CMA president Stephen Van Houten told a news conference.

". . .The prospects for manufacturing in 1993 will improve only slightly and the recovery will be slow, painful and mean."

The Royal Bank released a more optimistic forecast Tuesday that predicts real economic growth of 3.5 per cent next year, and 4.1 per cent in 1994.

Still, Earl Sweet, the bank's assistant chief economist, said the recovery will be "much slower than usual with high rates of unemployment and difficult economic conditions facing both households and business well into 1993."

The CMA, whose members account for 75 per cent of Canada's industrial output, said one bright spot for manufacturers is the fall of the Canadian dollar against its U.S. counterpart.

The dollar has actually gained strength in recent days to around the 79-cent US mark, although the currency is still far off the 89-cent US range it reached in the fall of 1991.

Van Houten said a weaker Canadian dollar doesn't increase the quantity of exports, but it does make exporting more profitable.

Exports were the only source of continued growth for manufacturers in 1992, accounting for 45 per cent of goods produced in Canada, CMA chief economist Jayson Myers said.

Myers said exports to the United States are growing while market share has been lost in Europe and Asia.

At least in the short term, the growing strength of the U.S. economy should continue to stimulate exports, Myers said.

Strong evidence the U.S. economy is reviving came Tuesday when Washington reported the economy registered its best showing in nearly four years during the July-September period.

But Myers also said Canadian companies could face increasing protectionist attitudes from U.S. firms as the strengthening American currency makes their exports more expensive and less attractive on world markets.

Major banks slice prime interest rate to 7.25 per cent

By Clyde Graham

OTTAWA (CP) — Major banks continued using a sharp cleaver on interest rates this week, slicing another quarter percentage point off their prime lending rates effective today.

The Royal Bank of Canada led the way, dropping its prime rate to 7.25 per cent from 7.50 per cent — the sixth quarter-point sliver in less than two weeks.

The Bank of Montreal, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and other major banks quickly followed.

Canada Trust is also cutting its prime to 7.25 per cent.

"They are being very aggressive," said Andrew Pyle, economist at MMS International market analysis in Toronto.

The Royal Bank and Bank of Montreal also played leapfrog in cutting mortgage rates.

When the Royal Bank trimmed 0.25 percentage points off its short-term rates, Bank of Montreal responded with a 0.50 point cut.

Royal came back with a further 0.30 per cent cent cut to put its rates 0.05 points lower than the Bank of Montreal.

And then the Bank of Montreal ended the skirmish with a 0.05 point cut.

That left a one-year closed mortgage at both banks at 7.70 per cent, down from 8.25 per cent. Two-year rates fell to 8.20 per cent from 8.75 per cent. The three-year rate slipped to 8.70 per cent.

Toronto-Dominion Bank and Bank of Nova Scotia also annouced cuts of a half to a quarter point in their short-term mortgage rates.

Pyle said the strength in the dollar, which climbed to 79.36 cents US in trading Tuesday, has given the banks room to bring down prime rates.

The dollar closed at 79.20 cents US on Tuesday.

"That's a very bullish move by the buck," said Pyle.

He said investors are moving money out of Germany, where interest rates are also falling.

The latest cuts in prime came hours before the Bank of Canada slashed its key bank rate for the fourth week in a row — to 7.43 per cent from 7.70 per cent.

The prime is reserved for a bank's best customers — usually blue-chip corporations.

But it's also the benchmark for a host of business and consumer loan rates.

Bryan Griffiths, senior vice-president of treasury operations at the Royal Bank, said the reason for the drop in prime is the strengthening Canadian dollar.

"There is also a bit of Merry Christmas and marketing there."

On Monday, major banks announced they would cut their prime rates to 7.50 per cent Tuesday as the Canadian dollar rose nearly half a cent.

The prime rate stood at 8.75 per cent on Dec. 14.

Malenfant finally declared bankrupt

By John Davidson

MONTREAL (CP) — Raymond Malenfant, who was once described as "the Harry Houdini of bankruptcy," was finally declared bankrupt Tuesday by Quebec Superior Court.

Justice Rene Letarte ruled that Malenfant's request for a delay until Jan. 21 to come up with a new financial restructuring plan, was just a bid to stave off the inevitable.

"This court does not believe it necessary to grant another delay," Letarte wrote in his judgment.

"Even Mr. Malenfant and his agents agree it would be almost impossible to come up with a restructuring plan in a reasonable period of time that would have any chance of being accepted by his creditors."

Letarte ordered a meeting of creditors to be held on Jan. 25, at which time a liquidator would begin dividing up Malenfant's considerable holdings.

Malefant was compared to the legendary escape artist Houdini by an angry banker who was unable to take possession of an office tower to pay off a debt.

At the peak of his financial success in the mid-1980s, when he was voted Quebec's entrepreneur of the year, Malenfant employed 2,800 people in Canada and the United States.

He owned 15 hotels in Quebec, the Fort Garry Hotel and casino in Winnipeg plus another hotel in Pompano Beach, Fla.

The showpiece of his Quebec chain was the historic Manoir Richelieu in Pointe-au-Pic which looks out over the St. Lawrence River.

When Malenfant bought the Manoir Richelieu from the Quebec government in 1985, he immediately got into a battle with his workers' labor union and one person was killed after a demonstration.

Malenfant also owned two ski resorts in Quebec, including the Manoir St-Sauveur in the Laurentians just north of Montreal.

In addition, he owned six office buildings in Montreal and other Quebec cities.

The 63-year-old real estate magnate has been dodging bankruptcy for about two years, using a variety of legal manoeuvres.

He has already presented one financial restructuring plan to his creditors in the past year.

Last January, his ordinary creditors voted to accept 40 cents on every dollar they were owed, to be paid off over the next year and a half.

Most were unhappy with the situation and one creditor asked Malenfant where he had put his Lamborghini and Rolls Royce cars — worth about $100,000 each.

Malenfant replied calmly that he still owned them and they were parked in a garage beneath one of his hotels.

But his major creditors were not so lenient.

Letarte made his bankruptcy decision Tuesday at the request of several of those guaranteed creditors, led by Revenue Quebec which is owed almost $6 million in back taxes.

Texaco still holding out on Hibernia project

By Jim Bronskill

OTTAWA (CP) — It's unlikely the Hibernia oil consortium will have a new partner before the holidays, federal officials said Tuesday.

"I really don't expect anything before Christmas," said Joanne Tenold, press secretary to Energy Minister Jake Epp.

"They're still in the middle of negotiations."

Epp said earlier this month that the government had asked U.S.-based Texaco Inc. to respond before Dec. 25 to a federal offer to join the $5.2-billion offshore development east of Newfoundland.

Ottawa has been trying to persuade Texaco to accept $200 million in loans to climb aboard the megaproject as a replacement for Gulf Canada Resources, which abandoned its 25 per cent stake last February.

Texaco has no comment on the negotiations, spokesman Michael Trevino said from Miami.

HOLDING BREATH

Consortium members Mobil Oil Canada, Chevron Canada Resources and Petro-Canada are holding their breath in anticipation of a deal to rescue the faltering megaproject.

Government officials refused Tuesday to confirm or deny a report that Ottawa was considering increasing its financial stake in Hibernia. The federal government is already contributing $2.7 billion in cash and loan guarantees to the project, expected to begin pumping oil in 1997.

However, a senior federal official suggested the government wasn't pinning its hopes solely on the offer to Texaco.

"A number of things are on the table and everything's quite fluid," said the official, who requested anonymity.

"There are a variety of options that are being looked at."

Although Gulf dropped out, it was forced to continue paying its portion of the $1.5 million the corporate partners are spending daily on preparations for the massive undertaking in the North Atlantic.

However, Gulf will stop financing the project some time next month, underscoring the need to find a new partner.

"There's a number of factors, of which that's one," said the senior official.

But the government isn't sticking to a rigid timetable.

"It's probably something that will play out over a number of weeks rather than days."

It also appears Ottawa hasn't ruled out the idea of abandoning the project altogether.

"That's always been a possibility if a partner wasn't found," said the official.

In Calgary, Hibernia consortium spokesman David Hocking said the partners were merely waiting for something to happen. "It's not in our hands."

Last month Epp said the federal effort to find a new partner should succeed by the end of the year.

Canada, U.S. settle plywood tiff

OTTAWA (CP) — The knotty problem of plywood standards that has plagued the Canada-U.S. free-trade deal from the beginning has finally been settled, Trade Minister Michael Wilson said Tuesday.

Wilson said the settlement over the size of knotholes in plywood veneers will pave the way for tariff cuts that have been on hold.

U.S. plywood tariffs will fall to 10 per cent from 20 per cent effective Jan. 1, while Canadian tariffs will drop to 7.5 per cent from 15 per cent.

Even before the 1989 trade agreement was signed, the United States had complained that Canadian standards for construction plywood sheathing were too tough.

Canada had set a smaller limit than the United States on the size of knotholes allowed in plywood veneers.

The United States said it was a trade barrier, while Canadians argued the higher standard was needed to withstand harsh Canadian weather.

In Vancouver, the Council of Forest Industries said the agreement favors U.S. manufacturers.

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QCNA AJRQ

Wednesday, Dec. 23, 1992

NORTH 12-23-92
♠ 9 8
♥ Q 7 6
♦ 3 2
♣ K 8 7 6 5 4

WEST
♠ A K Q 10
♥ 10 5 4 2
♦ Q 7 6
♣ Q 2

EAST
♠ 5 4 3 2
♥ K J 3
♦ J 9 5 4
♣ 10 3

SOUTH
♠ J 7 6
♥ A 9 8
♦ A K 10 8
♣ A J 9

Vulnerable: Neither
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♣	Dbl.	3 ♣	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ K

Making known the unknown

By Phillip Alder

Normally, when you are the declarer, you try to keep your cards "hidden" from the defenders. You don't want them to be able to "read" your hand. But there are times when you want a defender to be aware that you hold a particular card.

On today's deal, South was Bobby Slavenburg, a Dutchman who won the World Open Pairs title in 1966. He was a very imaginative player.

It isn't clear why Slavenburg opened one club rather than one diamond. Over West's take-out double, North made a pre-emptive three-club raise. South's bid of three no-trump, though debatable, was predictable.

West led the spade king. When the dummy came down, Slavenburg immediately noticed the potential blockage in the club suit. It would run only if the queen was a singleton: an *a priori* probability of just over 12 percent. Slavenburg wondered if he could improve his odds, making the contract against a 2-2 club split: a 40 percent chance.

When West continued with the spade queen at trick two, Slavenburg dropped the jack. No longer having to worry that South held jack-fourth in spades, West greedily cashed his other two spade tricks. Slavenburg immediately discarded a club. When the clubs did divide 2-2, Slavenburg had his contract.

A nice play, but when South followed to the third spade, West should have scented a stratagem. If South wanted spades continued, it had to be better for the defense to lead another suit. If West had switched to a red suit at trick four, the contract would have been defeated.

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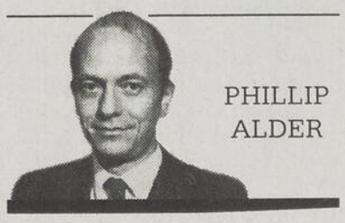

PHILLIP ALDER

Wednesday, Dec. 23, 1992

Your Birthday

Dec. 23, 1992

In the year ahead you might be endowed with more drive and tenacity than you previously experienced. In situations where you were once content to be a follower you will now strive to be a leader.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Ventures or endeavors you undertake now could have promising, long range effects. Plan tomorrow with great care. What you envision is reachable. Capricorn, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for Capricorn's Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $1.25 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) New life can now inspire an enterprise that looked like a lost cause. You believed in it previously and soon you may believe in it again.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Contacts you make now can do a great deal to advance your personal interests. It looks like you'll become involved with a new crowd who are doers rather than dullards.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You've entered into a promising cycle that will last for the next few weeks; you can advance your status in life if you apply yourself. Set realistic objectives and pursue them.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Beginning today, experiences you gain could help broaden your outlook and perspective. A happier and wiser you may result from your new slant on life.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You might be invited to join an endeavor at this time with someone you know and trust. The foundation already has been established, but you can still make effective contributions.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Partnerships which you enter in this cycle could be beneficial for both you and your allies. There is strength, as well as opportunity, in these unions.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) There are indications you might be given a larger range of responsibility where your work or career is concerned. Perform to the best of your ability, because rewards will be proportionate.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Happy changes could now be available to you regarding your social life and popularity. Present relationships may also become more meaningful.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Influences that affect your home and family life could undergo constructive changes in this time frame. Harmony will replace discord.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Listen carefully to ideas or proposals brought to you by others, because they might provide you with constructive elements that you can incorporate into your immediate plans.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Your chart indicates a marked improvement in your financial trends. Be alert, because profitable new channels or situations might open up for you over the coming weeks.

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Golden Age Club news

MANSONVILLE — Thirty-four regular members met at noon on Tuesday, December 15, at the Hooters Restaurant, where the club treated them to a turkey dinner with all the trimmings. These regulars keep this club alive by their attendance and support, so this is our way of thanking them.

December birthdays were celebrated today: Porter Knowlton (12th), Rita Marcoux (13th), and Flora Drouin's was today. She was unable to attend, so we brought dinner to her as well as a piece of cake, which by the way were Christmas logs with sparklers to blow out. Having sung the birthday song to Porter and Rita we then proceeded to finish our dinner.

President Rita Mossa thanked Judy, Marian and Jerry for their excellent meal and on behalf of the group, presented them with the gratuities collected for them.

Treasurer Mary Schoolcraft paid the bill and we then went back to our usual haunt, the town hall. The rest of the afternoon was spent playing games and socializing.

Several people not able to be present were Flora Drouin, George Hamelin (our Vice-President is again a patient at La Providence Hospital in Magog.)

Cards were signed for George and Ken Jones, our former postmaster, who is also a patient at the same hospital. Thelma Wilkins is out with a couple of broken ribs, Silvia Côté with a doctor's appointment, and Pearl Greenham. We hope to see you all back and healthy in the New Year.

Door prizes were given by the club: Mary Schoolcraft, Bertha Smithers, Rita Marcoux, Elsie Knowlton, and Berton Bailey. Evelyn Dubuc gave a money donation for future needs. All are much appreciated.

Door prize winners: Julienne McDuff (the special plate set), Juliette Laliberté, Elsie Knowlton, Ethel Haggerty, Mary Schoolcraft, Huguette Levoy, Flora Jersey, Jeanne D'Arc Carrier, Toni Lamothe, Jackie Jersey, Rose A. Pouliot, Dot Woodard, Rita Marcoux, Mildred Atyeo and Rita Mossa.

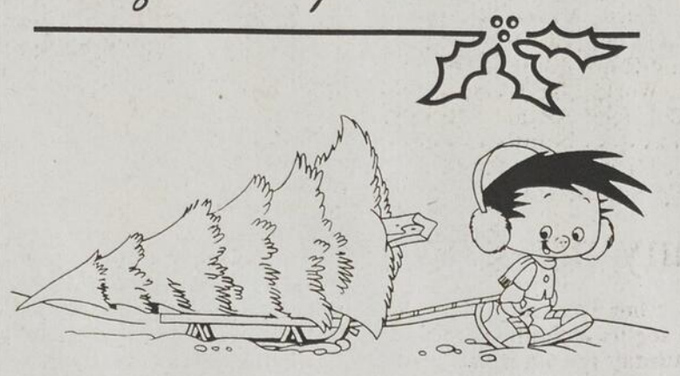
500 winners: Jeanne D'Arc Carrier, Jacqueline Maranda, Berton Bailey and Julienne McDuff.

Game prizes went to Mary Schoolcraft, Rose Alma Pouliot, Walter and Bertha Smithers, Dot Woodard, Juliette Laliberté, Irene Carrier, Flora Jersey, Elsie Knowlton, Rita Marcoux and Huguette Levoy.

The next meeting on January 5.

To all our members and friends who read our club news and to all the staff at **The Record**, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

A Christmas Seal is A Hug on Every Card



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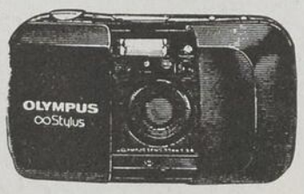

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36th annual Armed Forces Night at the Club

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SHERBROOKE SNOW SHOE CLUB INC.

"Color Party, Quick March" was the command and the 36th Armed Forces Night of the Sherbrooke Snow Shoe Club was underway. The Colour Party of the Sherbrooke Canadian Legion, H. Couture, A. Thibault and G. Aubé under the command of J.J.N. Pariseau presented the colours to President Wyatt Savage.

Master of Ceremonies Irving Richards had the room stand for a "Time of Remembrance" which closed with the words of remembrance.

President Wyatt joined the head table and called on Gerald Frost who asked the blessing on our meeting and returned thanks.

The other members and guests at this top table were: Lionel Hurd, Milton MacDonald and Leonard Wood, Veterans of Hong Kong; Henry Leech, World War I Veteran; Hon. Col. Jean Fontaine; Brig. General J.P. Gautier; Col. George MacDougall; John Colton; Ed Smith; Maj. General Peter Koch and Master of Ceremonies Irving Richards.

Honourary Purveyor Garth Morissette and his White Knights followed the parade in close formation, distributed the onion soup and only spilled a few drips. The main course was a beef stew that melted in your mouth and would have been a four-star selection in any military mess. A delicious rice pudding completed the feast.

1st Vice-President Angus McElrea was called on to escort Cec Blenkhorn to the front where he was pinned with the badge of office as 2nd Vice-President. Having been properly inducted, Cec was allowed to propose the Governor-General's Toast. Irving Richards provided the music.

Guests Larry Cleary, Goldwyn George and Jean Plamondon were introduced. It was also a pleasure to welcome non-resident member Robert Leech from Grand Prairie, Alberta, for his first visit to the Club in 12 years.

Irving Richards led and played for the sing-song which was a medley of all the old war songs and ended with an edited version of "Kiss me Good-Night Sgt. Major". If there hadn't been guns present I feel maybe the Red Party would have revolted. Their anthem has been missed the past two meetings.

The Secretary was called on and made a few announcements before he read the minutes of the November 25th meeting which were approved, with only a few cat-calls from the back benches.

The business portion of the meeting was short and sweet. The building is fine, there were no reports of sick members, the Advisory Board had no report and the Captain said, "Tramps start next week and go through to March" (That's a long walk). There is also room for more volleyball players. Tom Leonard was the winner of the ½ & ½.

The guest speaker, Maj. General Peter Koch of the U.S.A.F., was introduced by Jean Fontaine and proceeded to spellbind his audience. After a quick resume of his military career, he recounted some of his experiences in the war in Vietnam. His accounts received rapt attention. His replies to the question and answer period which followed left little doubt about his feelings that "wars are the horrors of humanity" and indicate a massive breakdown in the normal operation of diplomatic activity.

George MacDougall thanked the General for his timely and thought-provoking remarks.

Past president Art Wright was then called on and he paid tribute to Irving Richards' contribution to this Armed Forces night and for all the other 35 such nights he has organized since 1956.

Past President Fred Palmer read the names of all club members who served in World War I and 2nd Vice-President Cec Blenkhorn read the names of those whoe served in the Second World War. Art Wright closed the remembrance by reading "In Flanders Fields".

After the colours and the head table had retired, Art Wright and Jean Plamondon explained a display of rifles that had been used by the Canadian Army over the years.

President Wyatt thanked all and sundry for their contribution to the meeting and declared it closed and "Let the games begin".

Tables were quickly cleared in the front room and set up in the back room, volleyball crashed and the cards snapped the rest of the evening.

Submitted by
Roland Dewar
Club Secretary

Happy Gang have party

SUTTON — Over forty members and friends gathered at Camille's Restaurant for the annual Christmas dinner, where they were served a bountiful turkey dinner with all the yuletide trimmings, this was enjoyed by all.

Later many returned to the United Church hall where they were entertained by Daisy Johnston on her guitar, Marion Gardner at the piano and Maurice Gardner with the spoons, old time music was enjoyed by all, some singing along, a few dancing to the music. Later in the afternoon gifts were exchanged.

Small thank-you gifts were given to the musicians. Eunice Thomas passed chocolates around and then the willing players gave us a few more old time tunes, thus drawing the pleasant afternoon to a close.

The next Happy Gang meeting will be held in the hall at the usual time on Wednesday, January 13.

Many pre-Christmas activities held at Rolling Hills Residence

December is a very active month for us at Rolling Hills. On Saturday the 5th in the afternoon, the personnel helped us to organize a very successful craft sale. We invited friends to have tea with us. Of course, we had a raffle and the prize was a beautiful hand-knit sweater made by Sandy Duval and won by Jill Boutin of Island Brook.

Mrs. Mitchell expertly took care of the tea table. For the occasion, she used a beautiful tea service belonging to Mrs. Luce. Before the afternoon ended, a door prize was drawn and the happy winner was Connie Wheeler.

This social activity was organized at the same time to raise money to purchase a wheel chair badly needed by some of our friends at Rolling Hills. Many of us did an excellent job at calling their friends and relatives to invite them for the tea, sell them tickets, greeting them when they arrived. With the help of many staff members, we planned the food preparation and we provided lots of ideas in the actual realization of the activity. We were rather proud of the social and economic success we had. We are planning another tea in the Spring.

The week after, staff and management joined for a Christmas party which took place at Rolling Hills. Most of us did our share to help the personnel have fun without being too nosy. We saw a couple of punch bowls go out of the kitchen and disappear downstairs. We heard pleasant noises, good humor. We know a nice buffet was prepared. Many came with their spouses. The staff surprised Dr. Pageau and Pat Duncan by presenting them respectively a pen and pencil set and a pair of earrings. Both were grateful for this kind of attention.

On Sunday the 13th, it was our turn to celebrate Christmas with a party organized by the management and staff of Rolling Hills. Thanks to Janet, we were fortunate to have Buck Sayers and Ron Haseltine to take care of the music. They presented us with Christmas carols, country music, square dances, etc. many of us found out we could still perform pretty well on the dance floor. This year, we were able to invite our friends and relatives to stay with us for the buffet which was served at the end of the afternoon. Some came from as far as Thetford Mines and St. Lambert to share the pleasure of the party with us. Dr. Pageau thanked everyone for being present at the party and congratulated the staff for their involvement in making it a success. We even had a photographer from **the Record** with us at the time the buffet was served and two pictures were printed in the paper the next day.

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Assessing the risk of vaccines

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: You recently discussed seizures following DPT shots for infants. I implore you to mention in your column an organization I learned about quite by chance, namely the National Vaccine Information Center NVIX/DPT, 204-F Mill Street, Vienna, VA 22180. I would do anything for my grandchildren. This note is one of those love gifts.

DEAR READER: In assessing the risks of vaccines (indeed, any medicine), doctors and patients must balance the benefits against the hazards. Most physicians and public health officials believe that the risks of diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus disease far outweigh the minimal risks of the vaccines themselves.

Furthermore, some inoculated children develop temporary, high fevers which may, in certain cases, lead to febrile convulsions. This complication, which is actually caused by the fever and not the vaccine itself, is easily treatable with medicine, such as acetaminophen.

I am aware that some patients believe that vaccines are too dangerous for their children — and are unnecessary. I urge such parents to discuss their concerns with a pediatrician.

The organization you mention is reputable and will supply interested readers with written information about all childhood immunizations. Thank you for writing.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My last three mammograms show what appears to be a benign mass. Should I have the lump biopsied?

DEAR READER: Probably not. If you have a lump, that has not changed — by mammography — in three years and if the radiologist is convinced that it has no X-ray features (such as small calcifications) to suggest malignancy, you needn't have a biopsy.

On the other hand, if the X-ray interpretation is equivocal or if your family doctor has doubts about the benignity of the mass, you should have a biopsy — whether or not the size of the lump is unchanged.

Follow your doctor's advice in this matter. Generally, mammograms are reliable in determining if a breast lesion should be biopsied.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My husband has been smoking cigarettes since the age of 14. He's spent a small fortune trying to quit, but I'm afraid it's hopeless. Might the new drug Surfactant prevent emphysema?

DEAR READER: Surfactant is a synthesized substance that shows promise in aiding respiration in people with certain lung disorders, such as respiratory distress syndrome. The compound acts by preventing collapse of tiny alveolar sacs in the lungs, the areas where oxygen and carbon dioxide exchange takes place.

To date, Surfactant is an experimental drug and has not been released for general use. Further testing and analysis will be required before its true role is identified.

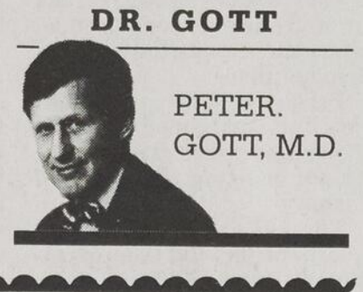
Asking if Surfactant will prevent emphysema in a heavy smoker is like asking if seat belts will save your life if you hit a tree at 100 mph. The real answer is to slow down — or, in your husband's case, to stop smoking.

Your desire to find a "magic bullet" to prevent diseases caused by unhealthy behavior is understandable. However, life ain't that way. As a practicing physician, I am constantly amazed by the number of patients who want to have it both ways: engage in inappropriate behavior, yet somehow avoid the consequences. We're talking here about taking responsibility for our own actions. Unfortunately, this pertinent topic has become unpopular.

I don't mean to sound preachy — but I guess I am. The message is: Medical science is pitifully unable to reverse the ravages of abusive behavior, be it alcohol, drugs, unsafe sex, reckless driving — or tobacco addiction.

Your husband might find the new prescription nicotine patches to be a way of beating his cigarette habit. He should ask his doctor about this. When combined with suitable behavioral modifications, I've found that the patches really can help tobacco-addicted patients to give up smoking.

DR. GOTT



PETER. GOTT, M.D.

Christmas Open House held by Abercorn P.R.P. was success

By Pat Lahue

P.R.P. Abercorn held a very successful Christmas Open House on December 5 at the Abercorn Town Hall. The dusting of snow which fell the night before put everyone in the holiday spirit. From 10 a.m. until 4 the hall was filled with friends, neighbours and first time customers who enjoyed the pleasant atmosphere while buying one of a kind crafts, Christmas decorations, knitted articles, etc. and were treated to coffee and sweets compliments of the workers.

At lunch time the ladies enjoyed a pot-luck dinner as their special treat, ending their project for 1992. No brown bagging for this group. Everyone brought their special Christmas cooking. Customers who arrived at this time were invited to join in.

In the afternoon songs and carols were sung in both languages with accordion music by one of the ladies.

The special time of the day arrived at 3:45 when the winning ticket for the beautiful crewel picture was drawn. Tickets had been sold since last September so it could have been in Quebec City, Beauce or even in U.S.A. but it was won by Aline Gibson of Montreal. The second prize went to Mrs. Paul Beridy of Roxton Pond. Several more baskets were claimed by local winners.

Many thanks to the people who support us in our project and to the town council for making space available to us for our workshop.

Proceeds from September to December will be given to local churches, food banks, schools, hospitals, etc.

Merry Christmas to all.

Saffron is worth the extra expense

By Marialisa Calta

In certain regions of Spain, Italy, France, Greece and Turkey, farmers spent an intensive three weeks this fall hand-harvesting crocus plants, and extracting and drying their delicate stamens to sell as one of the world's most expensive and sought-after seasonings: saffron.

Saffron, according to "The Book of Spices" (Livingston Publishing, 1969), has been valued as a condiment, medicine and dye since Old Testament times. In the Greco-Roman era, it was scattered on the floors of public halls as perfume; one extravagant emperor is said to have bathed in saffron-scented water. In 15th-century Germany, merchants found guilty of adulterating saffron were burned alive.

Many Americans, myself included, find saffron a little intimidating. Even if you could afford it (it retails in my area for $9.95 a gram), what would you do with it? When a friend traveling abroad brought me a small packet, I was determined to find out.

"The Encyclopedia of Herbs and Flavorings," edited by Elisabeth Lambert Ortiz (Dorling Kindersley, 1992), recommends using saffron with garlic in fish dishes such as bouillabaisse and paella, in poultry and beef stews, tomato-based sauces, sweet breads and cookies. The book also recommends that while powdered saffron can be added directly to recipes, the threads should be soaked in a small amount of warm cooking liquid (10 minutes should do it). A 1986 article in "The International Culinary Review" also says threads can be toasted for a minute, and ground in a mortar with garlic or other abrasive ingredient from the recipe to release the oils. Saffron should be stored in an airtight container, away from light.

My experiments with saffron have proved satisfying to the palate and the eye (it adds a lovely yellow color to dishes), as well as to my sense of adventure. I have vowed not to depend on the generosity of traveling friends for my supply, but to squirrel away enough money from the food budget to treat myself, on occasion, to this ancient and flavorful treasure.

SAFFRON RICE WITH MUSSELS

- 12 mussels
- 4 cups water
- ½ teaspoon ground saffron
- 1 teaspoon butter
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 scallions, chopped (keep white and green parts separate)
- 1 cup basmati rice or long-grain white rice
- salt and pepper to taste

Wash and clean mussels by pulling off stringy "beard."

In a medium pot, bring water to a boil. Add saffron. Place mussels in a metal colander or strainer and suspend over boiling water. Cover and steam for 5 minutes. Discard any mussels that do not open. Drain all liquid from mussels. Cover with a wet towel and set aside.

Simmer saffron water until you have reduced volume to about 3 cups.

In a medium saucepan, cook butter, garlic and white part of scallions until translucent, about 3 to 5 minutes. Add rice and cook about 2 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add the saffron water, salt and pepper. Bring to a boil, then reduce to simmer and cook until rice is done, about 15 to 20 minutes.

Put rice in serving bowl and top with mussels and green part of scallions.

Yield: 2 servings.

• Recipe developed by Edgardo Ortiz, student, the New England Culinary Institute, Essex, Vt.

ELZA JURJEVIC'S LATVIAN BIRTHDAY CAKE

- ½ cup butter
- 1¼ cups milk
- 1 tablespoon saffron
- 3 tablespoons water
- 4 cups flour
- ½ cup sugar plus more for sprinkling
- 1 tablespoon yeast
- 1 medium potato, boiled and peeled
- 1 cup raisins, preferably yellow
- 4 ounces sour cream
- 1 egg beaten with a little water

Butter a baking sheet and the outside of two custard cups and set aside. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

In a small saucepan over medium heat, melt butter in milk. Set aside.

In another small saucepan, heat saffron and water to boiling. Set aside.

In a large bowl, sift together flour, ½ cup sugar and yeast. Sieve in potato, while hot, and mix into flour with your fingers. Add raisins and mix.

Add butter and milk to flour. Add saffron-water. Beat in sour cream, and beat again until glossy (do not knead). Let dough rise until double in bulk.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Beat dough down and, adding a little flour to make it less sticky, beat it again. On a lightly floured surface, form dough into a long roll. Place on buttered baking sheet in shape of figure eight.

Place buttered custard cups into the open parts of the figure eight to keep them open during baking. Brush top with egg wash, sprinkle with sugar and bake for 45 minutes.

This cake is not very sweet and can be eaten plain or with butter and jam.

Yield: 24 servings.

• Recipe from "Home Cooking," by Laurie Colwin (Bantam, 1990).

MONKFISH WITH SAFFRON SAUCE

- 2 pounds monkfish fillets, cut into 2-inch pieces
- salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 1 cup dry white wine
- ½ cup fish stock
- ½ cup heavy cream
- 4 tablespoons chilled, unsalted butter, cut into pieces
- ½ teaspoon saffron threads, ground

Place fish in a deep skillet and season with salt and pepper to taste. Add wine and stock, and bring to a simmer. Cover and cook gently until the fish is cooked through, 7 to 10 minutes. Remove fish and keep warm.

Add cream to liquid in pan. Whisk in butter, bit by bit. Do not boil. Stir in saffron. Add the fish with any juices that may have collected, and warm before serving.

Yield: 6 servings.

• Recipe from "The Encyclopedia of Herbs and Spices," edited by Elisabeth Lambert Ortiz (Dorling Kindersley, 1992).

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FOOD

MARIALISA CALTA

From the Pens of E.T. Writers

THE IMPORTANCE OF CURIOSITY

Moses at first was so full of doubt
If he had not been curious about the Burning Bush
And wondered why it didn't burn up,
He may never had led the people out;
His stopping to look gave him that needed push.
Zacheus the curious little man
Who climbed the sycamore tree;
He had a well-thought out plan
To get up where he really could see.
His reward for being so undaunted
Turned out to be just what he wanted —
To be host for Jesus and followers that night.
Also Nicodemus curious about Jesus' claims,
But not able to see him in the open
Went to a great deal of pains
To see him at night, for help he was hoping
To obtain without jeopardizing his position.
Then there was Lot's wife too curious by far
Looking back at Sodom when the fire and brimstone fell,
To see her old friends perish and house come ajar;
She turned to salt and they said, "it's her own fault."
Don't forget Mother Eve, the epitome of curiosity,
Lured by the snake, that plausible brute,
By a series of mistruths and verbosity
Encouraged her to try the forbidden fruit;
Causing the chain reaction of passing the buck,
Adam to Eve, Eve to the snake and all get thrown out.
In modern times Isaac Newton saw an apple fall,
Wondered why it did not go the other way;
Millions had seen that but never thought of it at all.
His queries led to the famous Gravity Law one day.
Little Jimmy Watt watched his mother's kettle boil,
The lid popping up and down, an energy waste;
He decided to make a steam engine according to Hoyle
And it ran to suit everybody's taste.
In short, most discoveries depend on it;
All our learning owes it a big debt
And comes in for a great benefit.
So we all profit from it with no regrets.
From Random Rhymes.

Carl Mayhew
Ayer's Cliff, Quebec
December, 1992

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Filet mignon	10.95		

New Year's Table d'Hôte

Meat pie and turkey 9.95

Brunch every Sunday and January 1 7.95

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"Couscous, Brochette"

Pastilla

Bring your wine

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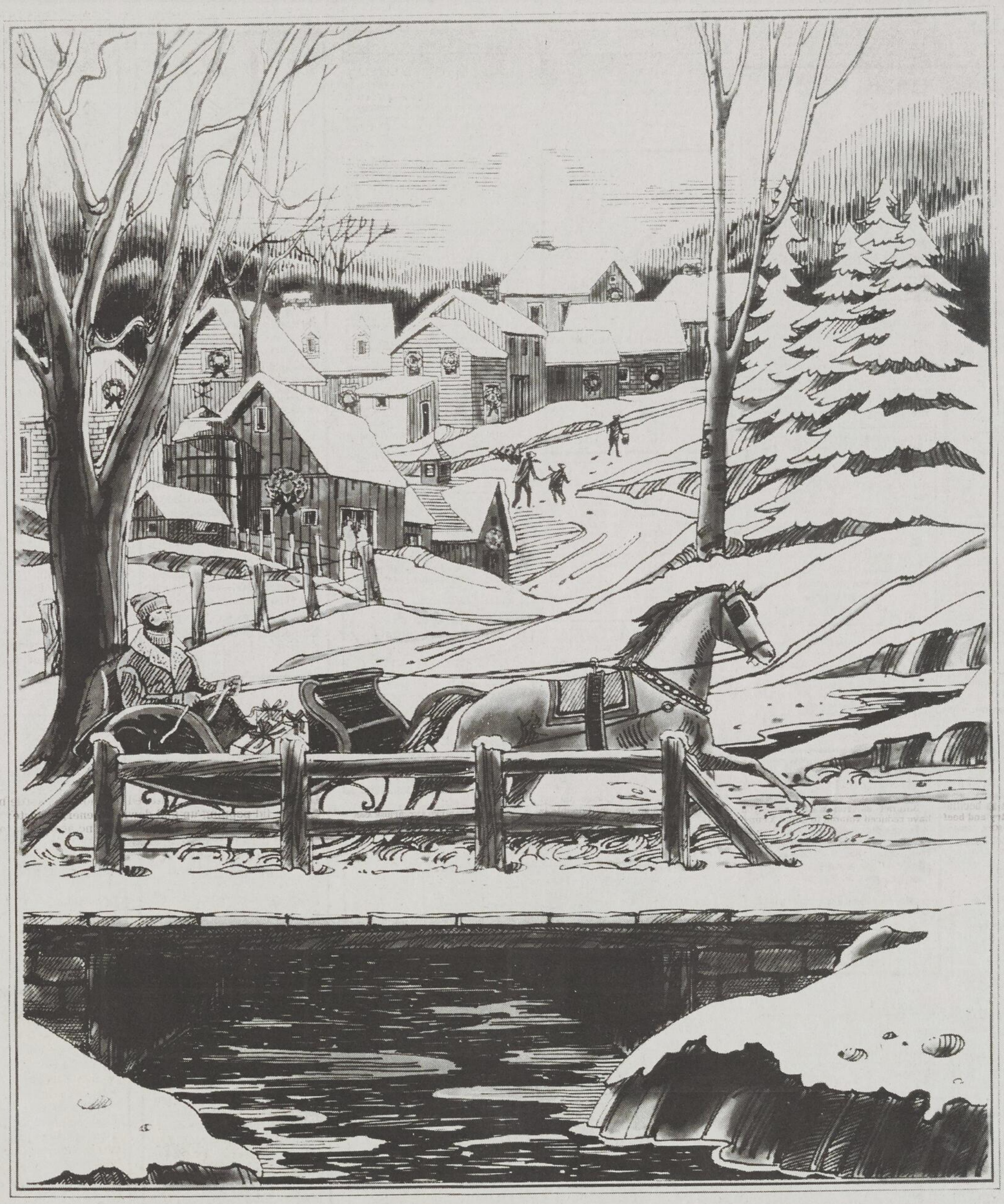
May Your Holidays Be Bright!



Merry Christmas

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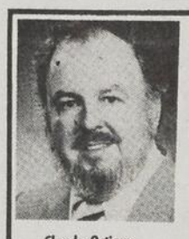
1 Property for sale



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Claude Ostiguy — Elizabeth Redpath

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And Many Thanks
May all your holiday dreams come true.

1 Property for sale

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COUNTRY HOME — 74 Bendix mobile home, 14x62; 2 car garage, 24x30; $22,500 negotiable. Call (819) 889-2445 evenings. 08528

7 For Rent

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BIG 6½ ROOMS to rent, Lennoxville. 2 bathrooms (one with whirlpool and shower), 3 bedrooms, playroom. Furnished or not. Near all services and buses. Call (819) 566-1858 or 562-2704. 08535

COOKSHIRE — 2 bedroom apartment, downtown, ground floor, heat and electricity included. $325/month. Call (819) 875-5742. 08545

7 For Rent

NORTH HATLEY — 4½ room apartment, excellent for artists, penthouse view, in antique grist mill, exceptional, $350. BEEBE — 3½ with sunporch, good location, quiet, $225. Call (819) 876-7743. 08537

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Promotional offers available
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Beautiful landscapping.
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10 Rest homes

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25 Work Wanted

LOOKING TO DO odd jobs, small carpenter jobs, painting, yard work, chores for farmers, clipping cows and have truck and small trailer. Ask for Bruce, call (819) 842-2025. 05659

28 Professional Services

SECURITY FOR SENIORS
Our service will phone up to 3 scheduled times daily, and call help when needed. Low cost. Call Tak-Ron (819) 562-2379 for details. 08472

29 Miscellaneous Services

CLASSIC UPHOLSTERING — For best prices in town, call George Anto at (819) 822-2030 or 822-0831. 92302

DAN'S SERVICE — Service on household appliances: washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators, etc. Tel. (819) 822-0800. 06812

LENNOXVILLE PLUMBING. Domestic repairs and water refiners. Call Norman Walker at 563-1491. 08408

31 Travel

FLORIDA SUNSHINE TOUR — 2 weeks of sun, fun and relaxation in beautiful St. Pete Beach — February 23 - March 9, 1993! Reserve now - available space is limited! Info: Randmar Adventures (819) 845-7739/Escapade Travel, Quebec permit holder. 08392

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Call (819) 569-9525 or (514) 243-0088.

32 Music

HONOLULU CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC, 201 King St. East, Sherbrooke, 562-7840. Sales, trade-in, rental, repairs, teaching of all musical instruments. Full warranty since 1937. Visa, Mastercard and lay-away plan accepted. Honolulu Orchestra for all kinds of entertainment. 08407

50 Fruits, Vegetables

MCINTOSH & CORTLAND apples now only $12/bushel. Also Spartan. Fresh apple juice, honey and maple products. Heath Orchard, 5 miles before Stanstead, off Route 143. Open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., closed on Thursdays. Closed December 22-27 and January 1 and 2. (819) 876-2817. 08422

60 Articles for sale

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES — From trinkets to treasures, stocking-stuffers to speciality gift items. Visa accepted. Gift boxes provided. Jean Coates' Antiques, 212 Queen, Lennoxville. (819) 565-9166. 08492

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the Record
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60 Articles for sale

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SPORTSCARDS — The fairest, most reasonable prices at 212 Queen, Lennoxville (Jean Coates' Antiques). Friendly service and advice for collectors and gift buyers. Gift certificates available. 08492

61 Articles wanted

BUYING ANTIQUE toys, postcards, signs, tools, dolls and teddy bears, radios, sports cards, marbles, lamps, clocks and furniture. Charles Chute, Eaton Corner, (819) 875-3855. 08495

LOOKING TO BUY hay, corn silege or haylage. Have truck, will pick up. Please call (819) 876-5100. 08391

68 Pets

GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPIES, registered, guaranteed, 8 months old. $200. Call (819) 868-0366. 08556

ROTTWEILER PUPPIES, German lines, registered, vaccinated, health guarantee. 8 weeks old. Ready now! Call (819) 868-0366. 08556

2 shopping days to Christmas

LENNOXVILLE

CANADA
Province de Québec
Ville de Lennoxville

PUBLIC NOTICE
Coming into effect of By-Law No. 520-92

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, Town Clerk of the above-mentioned Municipality, that on December 14th, 1992, the Municipal Council of the Ville de Lennoxville has adopted By-Law No. 520-92 of Municipal By-Laws, decreeing the adoption of the budget of the "Régie intermunicipale de police de Lennoxville-Canton d'Ascot" for the year 1993.

Notice is also given that said By-Law No. 520-92 is presently filed at the office of the Town Clerk, at the Town Hall, 150 Queen Street, Lennoxville, where anyone interested may read it, during regular office hours.

Notice is finally given that said By-Law No. 520-92 will come into effect in accordance with the Law.

GIVEN AT LENNOXVILLE, this 23rd day of December 1992.

Johanne Henson,
Town Clerk

LENNOXVILLE

CANADA
Province de Québec
Ville de Lennoxville

PUBLIC NOTICE
Coming into effect of By-Law No. 521-92

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, Town Clerk of the above-mentioned Municipality, that on December 14th, 1992, the Municipal Council of the Ville de Lennoxville has adopted By-Law No. 521-92 of Municipal By-Laws, decreeing the adoption of the programme of capital expenditures of the "Régie intermunicipale de police de Lennoxville-Canton d'Ascot" for the years 1993-1994-1995.

Notice is also given that said By-Law No. 521-92 is presently filed at the office of the Town Clerk, at the Town Hall, 150 Queen Street, Lennoxville, where anyone interested may read it, during regular office hours.

Notice is finally given that said By-Law No. 521-92 will come into effect in accordance with the Law.

GIVEN AT LENNOXVILLE, this 23rd day of December 1992.

Johanne Henson,
Town Clerk

LENNOXVILLE

CANADA
Province de Québec
Ville de Lennoxville

PUBLIC NOTICE
Coming into effect of By-Law No. 522-92

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, Town Clerk of the above-mentioned Municipality, that on December 14th, 1992, the Municipal Council of the Ville de Lennoxville has adopted By-Law No. 522-92 of Municipal By-Laws, regarding the 1993 municipal taxation.

Notice is also given that said By-Law No. 522-92 is presently filed at the office of the Town Clerk, at the Town Hall, 150 Queen Street, Lennoxville, where anyone interested may read it, during regular office hours.

Notice is finally given that said By-Law No. 522-92 will come into effect in accordance with the Law.

GIVEN AT LENNOXVILLE, this 23rd day of December 1992.

Johanne Henson,
Town Clerk

LENNOXVILLE

CANADA
Province de Québec
Ville de Lennoxville

PUBLIC NOTICE
Coming into effect of By-Law No. 524-92

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, Town Clerk of the above-mentioned Municipality, that on December 14th, 1992, the Municipal Council of the Ville de Lennoxville has adopted By-Law No. 524-92 of Municipal By-Laws, decreeing the approval of By-Law No. 72 of the "Corporation métropolitaine de transport-Sherbrooke adopting their programme of capital expenditures" for the years 1993-1994-1995.

Notice is also given that said By-Law No. 524-92 is presently filed at the office of the Town Clerk, at the Town Hall, 150 Queen Street, Lennoxville, where anyone interested may read it, during regular office hours.

Notice is finally given that said By-Law No. 524-92 will come into effect in accordance with the Law.

GIVEN AT LENNOXVILLE, this 23rd day of December 1992.

Johanne Henson,
Town Clerk

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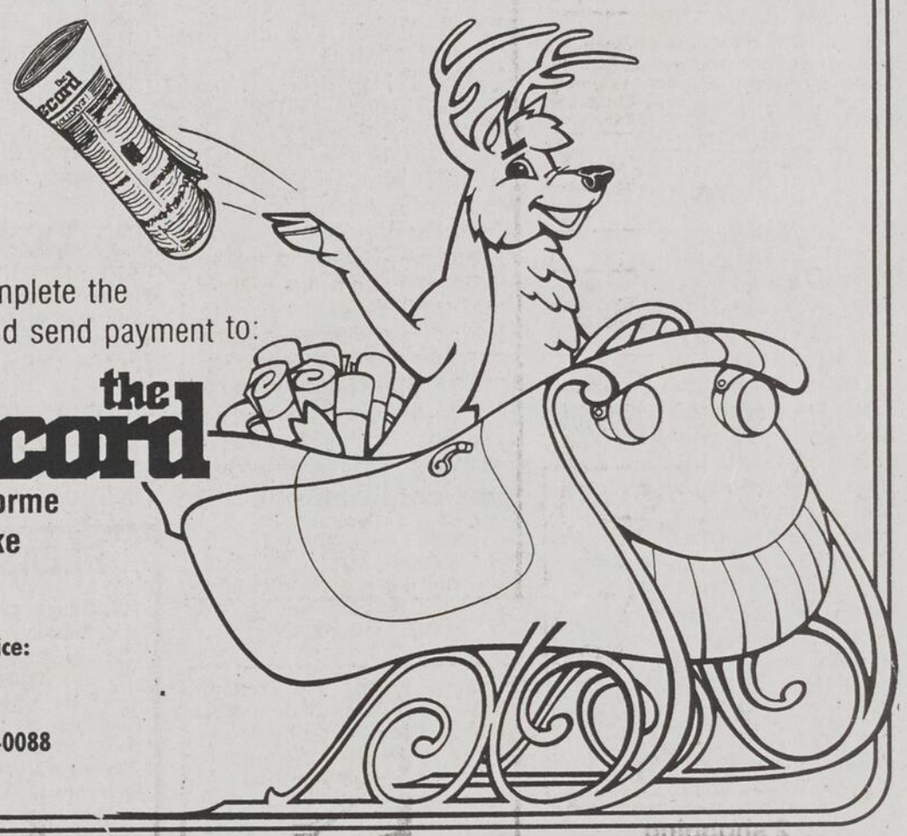

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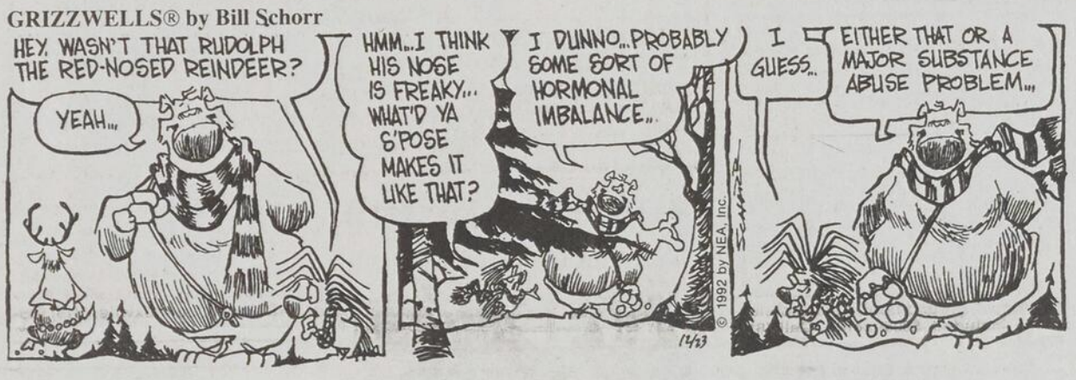
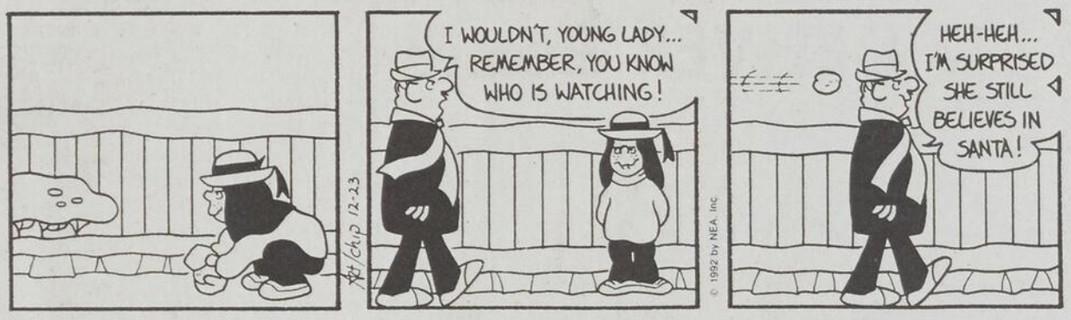


THE BORN LOSER® by Art and Chip Sansom



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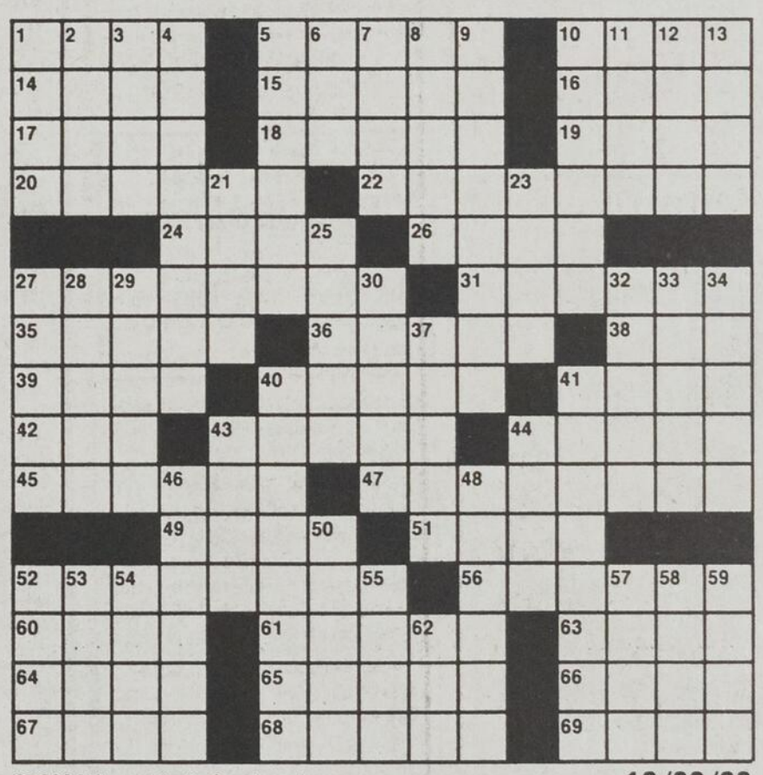
WINTHROP® by Dick Cavalli

KIT 'N' CARLYLE® by Larry Wright

SNAFU® by Bruce Beattie

"He wants a tool set and an engineering degree so he can assemble what you bring his son."

Crossword



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12/23/92

ACROSS
1 Shut with force
5 Powders
10 Makes a mistake
14 Money in Italy
15 Cognizant
16 Harvest
17 At any time
18 Dud
19 Before: pref.
20 Yearning
22 Helped
24 Coal measures
26 Faction
27 Allowed to enter
31 Songwriter, Irving
35 Weaving machines
36 Small containers
38 Bank account initials
39 Make eyes at
40 English money
41 Seafood item
42 In good shape
43 Visorless cap
44 Flat finish
45 Examined
47 Turned backward
49 Marsh plant
51 Transfer document
52 Frees from dirt
56 Sew
60 Highway
61 Roofing blocks
63 Skirt insert
64 Church section
65 Sharp
66 Prayer ending
67 Bar drink
68 Within the law
69 Information

DOWN
1 Luge
2 Exist
3 God of war
4 Concerned with shipping
5 Ability
6 Overcome with fright
7 Tibetan priest
8 In a bad mood
9 Having good judgment
10 Pencil end
11 Lease
12 Appraise
13 Hurried
21 Decays
23 March date
25 Cut off
27 Airborne
28 Young calf
29 Sheds feathers
30 Eating place
32 Catchy tunes
33 In a huff
34 Given a title
37 Played a part
40 Place for a statue
41 Sweater style
43 Auxiliary verb
44 Come together
46 Commercial man
48 Ship
50 Thaw
52 Curmudgeon
53 Easy gait
54 Relieve pain
55 Garden pest
57 Heavy book
58 Ship's men
59 Egg layers
62 Greek letter

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

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

12/23/92

Missisquoi Historical Society sponsors interesting evening

Tuesday night, November 17, was a lesson in history for those who attended the lecture given by Dr. Hereward Senior, at the St. James Church Hall in Stanbridge East, sponsored by the Missisquoi Historical Society.

Professor Senior of McGill University teaches Canadian and British Constitutional History as well as Police History. He is author and co-author of several books, including: "The Fenians and Canada" and "The Last Invasion of Canada: The Fenian Raids, 1866-1870." In the early 40s, during the war years, he was wounded while in the army during the invasion of France. In spite of being past retirement age, he continues to lecture, in fact, the morning following his talk in Stanbridge East, he had a class for 9:30.

The topic for the evening was, "The Fenian Raids in the Missisquoi Bay Area" which was of great interest to many of the local people. The 1866 and 1870 Fenian Raids were carried out at Eccles Hill, where a monument now marks the site.

In his humorous presentation, he spoke of how the Fenians came into existence, their overall objectives (which in retrospect were disorganized) and the Battle of Eccles Hill.

Francine Baker introduced Dr. Senior who was thanked by Tom Baker. Following this interesting presentation, refreshments were served.

In the photo: Hereward Senior; Bruce Baker, Chairman of Programs for the Missisquoi Historical Society; Keith Eddy, President of the Society.

Farewell party held for the Rev. Jane Aikman and John Foster

WATERVILLE — A farewell dinner was held for the Rev. Jane Aikman and John Foster in the church hall on December 6, following the regular Sunday service. A large number of Waterville United Church members and their families came to enjoy a turkey dinner. Among those in attendance were Jane's parents, Judge and Mrs. Owen of Montreal.

The event was organized by Doris Fidler, Shirley Barter, Nancy Townshend and Eva Mae Doherty. The young people waited on table and following the meal presented Jane and John with gifts. In addition to a purse of money, Jane received a leaded glass window hanging and John, small leaded glass choir figurines.

Skip Fidler spoke briefly on how fortunate we have been to have had Jane and John with us for nine years. During these years we have seen Jane's children, Lori, Jennie and David grow up and during this time Jennie was married. It was also during this time that Jane and John were married. Skip spoke of the warm relationship that has developed within the church under Jane's guidance and of John's great contribution as organist.

Jane and John expressed their thanks for the party and gifts. Jane appreciated the congregation not putting her on a pedestal and expressed her gratitude for making the time spent here so enjoyable.

It is with regret that we see them leave but we wish them well in their new endeavours.

JAMES ROY DAVIDSON
of Magog, Quebec

Correction: In the obituary of James Roy Davidson, Magog, Quebec, dateline Monday, December 21, it was inadvertently omitted that he was predeceased by his brother Leonard in 1983 and another brother Alex in 1987. The sender of the obituary apologizes for any embarrassment caused by this omission.

Women's Institute meeting

AYER'S CLIFF — The Women's Institute met at the vestry at 11 a.m. on December 4, for their regular meeting and to pack cookies for the Palliative Unit of the Sherbrooke Hospital.

A short business meeting was held, with the President, Mrs. Aileen Lord in the chair. Mrs. Audrey Gale was secretary in the absence of Mrs. Lois Cooper.

More cookbooks "Out of County Kitchens" will be ordered. A donation to be given to the Children's Wish Foundation in memory of Mrs. Dorothy (Hyatt) Martin. Christmas plates made up on December 16. A donation was also given to the Ayer's Cliff Elementary School towards their Christmas dinner.

The meeting was adjourned and fifteen members and one guest enjoyed dinner at Richard's Restaurant. After returning to the vestry, an exchange of gifts took place and a Christmas program. Mrs. Edna Walker was in charge of this, and Mrs. Kay Elliott played the piano. Mrs. Church and her choir of school children sang for the ladies. It was an enjoyable afternoon.

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PERIOD
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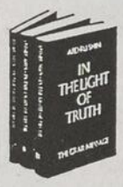
"IN THE LIGHT OF TRUTH"
The Grail Message By Abd-ru-shin



Among all books of spiritual content this Work occupies a unique place. It brings the recognition of the all-embracing Laws of Creation, and guides the reader to a profound knowledge of the meaning of existence.

You may find these books at **W.H. SMITH** Library.

To receive the free brochures "Selected Lectures", write or call:

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C.P. 69, Wotton, J0A 1N0
(819) 569-0433, 828-3389

Birth

JOHNSON — Anne and Arnold Johnson proudly announce the birth of their son, Christopher Bailey, born at the Grace Maternity Hospital on December 6, 1992. Christopher weighed 8 pounds 13 ounces and joins Elizabeth and Nicholas - who are very excited. Second grandson for Elizabeth Johnson of Mansonville.

Card of Thanks

KNOCK — We wish to express our sincere thanks to all the staff and Don at the Cote Nursing Home for the wonderful care you gave Winnifred Knock for the past 2 years, also Dr. Baraket. To all our friends for their sympathy at the time of her death. For the food, cards and flowers. Your kindness will always be remembered. Please accept this as our personal thanks to all.

HAROLD KNOCK
AND
EVANS FAMILY

THOMPSON-LUCAS — Our sincere thanks to relatives and friends for expressions of sympathy at the time of the death of our dear sister, Violet Thompson-Lucas. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated and will always be remembered.

MELVIN THOMPSON
LEONA CRACK

Sutton

Mable Boyce
538-2946

Harold and Rose Hazard were in Sept Iles, Que., where they spent four days with Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Cote.

Chloris Jordan had the misfortune to sprain her ankle on Sunday, and Evelyn Harvey suffered a fall injuring her knee. Best wishes to both from family and friends.

Mae and Howard Litt of Brantford, Ont. spent a few days with her mother, Mrs. Muriel Miller. While here, they enjoyed a shopping trip to Granby and treated Pete and Cora Hazard to dinner at the Green Dragon Restaurant in Cowansville.

Sympathy is extended to May Godbeer and her family in the passing of Victor at the Sutton Foyer after a long illness.

Mrs. Annie Smith is now at Residence Principale, 339 Rue Principale room 203, Cowansville, Que. J2K 1J4. Our best wishes go out to her there.

Winston and Matt Larocque of Montreal visited Iris Larocque at the Sutton Foyer on the weekend.

Mable and Nancy Boyce spent a day in St. Albans, Vt. recently.

Deaths

HARRISON, Gordon — At the Sherbrooke Hospital on Monday, December 21, 1992, Gordon Harrison in his 69th year. Dear father of Andrew (Sandra) and Jocelyne (Wayne Stoddard). Cherished grandfather of Jason. Dear brother of Edith MacLeod, the late Wendell. Uncle of George (Melinda) MacLeod, James (Sandra) Harrison, Robert (Jean) Harrison, Patricia (Rodney Paxton) and the late Marvin Macleod as well as other relatives and friends. Resting at Cass Funeral Home, 6 Belvidere St., Lennoxville, where friends may call on Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Funeral service at St. George's Church, Lennoxville on Thursday, December 24, 1992 at 10 a.m., the Rev. Keith Dickerson officiating. Interment in Huntingville Cemetery.

MORGAN, John A. (Alec) — At the age of 84, in Amherst View, Ont., formerly of Melbourne, Que. He leaves in mourning his wife Agnes Morgan (Haney), his brother Cyril J. Morgan (Ann) of Miami, Florida, his son John H. Morgan of Sherbrooke, his daughters, Helen Stewart (Douglas) and Marjorie Pate (Robert), both of Kingston, Ont., his grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Cremation at the request of the deceased. A graveside service will be held at Melbourne, Que. at a later date. Family will publish notice. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

Card of Thanks

McBURNEY — I would like to thank everyone for the cards, phone calls, flowers and food at the time of my operation.

EDIE McBURNEY

TRACY — Burton and Frances Tracy want to thank all their relatives and friends who helped in so may ways during Frances' lengthy stay in the Montreal General Hospital. The hundreds of prayers sustained her, the many cards and letters brightened the days. Thanks to all who helped Burton pass the lonely times by inviting him for meals, phoning or visiting. Thanks to the many congregations who remembered them in their prayers. Frances is making a good recovery and will soon be home. We wish all you dear people a Happy and Blessed Christmas time and good health and happiness in 1993.

You have a DRUG problem?

There is help at an English N A Meeting on Thursdays at 8 p.m. at 510 Quebec St., Sherbrooke.

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300 Queen N. Blvd., Sherbrooke
50 Craig, Cookshire
55 Cookshire, Sawyerville
295 Principale, Richmond 826-2502
554 Main, Bury
Offering traditional pre-arrangement and cremation services

Deaths

PRANGLEY, Winston — At the Sherbrooke Hospital on Tuesday, December 22, 1992, Winston Frank Prangley in his 84th year. Beloved husband of the late Lydia Robertson. He is survived by several cousins. Rested at the Cass Funeral Home, 554 Main St., Bury. Funeral service will be held at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Bury, on Wednesday, December 23 at 2 p.m., the Rev. Blair Ross officiating. Interment in Bury Cemetery. As memorial tributes, donations to the Sherbrooke Hospital Foundation will be gratefully acknowledged.

SEELEY, Marguerite May — After a lengthy illness on Monday, December 21, 1992, Marguerite May Vaudry in her 76th year. Predeceased by her daughter Mary, survived by her son Stuart. Sister of Grant and Stuart Vaudry. Visitation at the Kane & Fetterly Funeral Home, 5301 Decarie Blvd., (corner Isabella) on Tuesday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. Funeral service from St. Peter's Anglican Church, 900 Laird Boulevard, Town of Mount Royal on Wednesday, December 23, 1992 at 10 a.m. Interment at Elmwood Cemetery, Sherbrooke, Que. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society.

In Memoriam

WILLIAMSON, Alexander — In memory of my husband who passed away December 23, 1985.
Special thoughts of times together
Hold memories that will last forever.

IONA (wife)

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For death notices to appear in Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday editions:
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Sports

the Record

Leafs, Red Wings slug it out to tie

DETROIT (AP) — Tim Cheveldae held off Toronto's power play over the final 2:37 of overtime as the Detroit Red Wings and Maple Leafs played to a 4-4 tie Tuesday night.

Bob Probert received a major and game misconduct in the extra period for high-sticking Bob Pearson. Probert slugged Pearson in the mouth, without letting go of his stick. It was Probert's first stick-related penalty of the season.

Toronto, getting the only two shots on goal in the five-minute overtime, outshot the Red Wings 36-33.

The goals came in bunches in the first two periods. Toronto scored the first two goals of the first period, but the Red Wings ran off the next four, tying it before the end of the first period and taking a 4-2 lead in the second.

Doug Gilmour and Mike Krushelnyski scored for Toronto. Steve Yzerman and Dino Ciccarelli scored for Detroit, then Sergei Fedorov scored two for the Red Wings. But Nikolai Borschevsky and Wendel Clark answered for the Maple Leafs.

Toronto jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first period as Gilmour and Krushelnyski each scored their 12th goals. Gilmour flipped the puck past Cheveldae while falling down at 1:58. Krushelnyski's shot from between the circles went over the goaltender's glove at 6:20.

North Stars 2 Blues 2

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. (AP) — Curtis Joseph, who stopped dozens of point-blank shots, was beaten by Russ Courtnall's 75-foot slapper with 6:41 left in regulation Tuesday night as the Minnesota North Stars rallied for a 2-2 tie with the St. Louis Blues.

Courtnall gained control of a loose puck near Minnesota's blue line, strode through the centre faceoff circle and let loose a shot that eluded Joseph's glove.

The goal ruined an otherwise stellar game for Joseph, who made 38 saves, including 16 in the third period. He redeemed himself in the final minute of regulation, stopping Mike Modano and Mike McPhee from the slot.

Bruins 5 Lightning 3

BOSTON (AP) — Brent Ashton and Ted Donato scored second-period goals, lifting the Boston Bruins to a 5-3 victory over the Tampa Bay Lightning on Tuesday night.

Brian Bradley had two goals, his 27th and 28th of the season, for the expansion Lightning.

Ashton broke a 2-2 tie with his second goal of the season at 5:39 of the second period as he picked up Gord Murphy's dump-in pass and beat Tampa goalie Wendell Young from a sharp angle.

Donato gave the Bruins a 4-2 lead at 11:13 when he converted Adam Oates's pass with a 55-foot slapshot on a power play.

Bradley's second goal of the game, on his own rebound off a pass from Rob Ramage, brought the Lightning within one goal at 16:22 of the second.

Dave Poulin scored an insurance goal for the Bruins into an empty net with 20 seconds left in the game.

Bradley opened the scoring with an unassisted goal at 2:54 of the first period, but Dimitri Kvartalnov matched it with his 16th of the season at 4:42.

Marc Bureau gave Tampa a 2-1 lead at 11:25 as he beat Boston goaltender Andy Moog with a soft backhander. But Dave Reid tied it for Boston with a carom off his skate at 18:56.

Oates, playing in his 500th NHL game, had two assists.

The Bruins had 34 shots on Young 28 of them in the first two periods, while the Lightning had 22 shots on Moog.

LATE GAME
Canucks at Kings

Gold medal favorites top Canada's juniors

HOFORS, Sweden (CP) — Canada's national junior team was defeated 8-5 in exhibition hockey on Tuesday by Sweden, the gold medal favorite at the 1993 World Junior Championship.

Canada was tied 2-2 at the end of the first period thanks to goals by Paul Kariya and Jason Dawe, then battled back from a 4-2 deficit in the second on power-play goals from Martin Lapointe and Ralph Intranuovo.

In the five-goal third period, only Nathan Lafayette scored for Canada, again for a tie, 5-5. With less than five minutes to play, Sweden got the go-ahead then nailed the win with two power-play goals in the last 22 seconds.

Seven of Sweden's goals came during power-plays, two of them with Canada two men short.

"Clearly our players have some adjusting to do, both to the style of play and to the style of refereeing," said Perry Pearn, Canada's coach.

He added that he thought the refereeing was fair.

Canada had penalties of six minutes, four minutes and 17 minors. Sweden was handed 12 minors.

The tournament begins Dec. 26 with four games in three Swedish cities. Canada faces the United States in Gavle.

Roy did favor to 'Red-light' Racicot

By Bill Beacon

MONTREAL (CP) — Patrick Roy says he may have done backup goaltender Andre Racicot a favor by taking his place in what turned out to be a 5-2 defeat to the Hartford Whalers.

Roy insisted he did not pull rank on Racicot — that coach Jacques Demers decided to go with his No. 1 goalie — but either of them would have had trouble as the Whalers outplayed the Canadiens on Monday night.

"If Racicot was in goal, his job might be in jeopardy today," Roy said Tuesday. "It may have helped Racicot because the pressure today would have been on him instead of me."

Racicot, 23, has come up through the Canadiens system into one of the toughest jobs on the National Hockey League team — playing backup to a three-time Vezina Trophy winner who likes to play every game.

Racicot, of Rouyn-Noranda in northwestern Quebec, has played eight of the Canadiens 36 games this season, mostly against weaker teams like Ottawa and Hartford.

Racicot has failed miserably against strong teams. He lost 8-2 to Buffalo and, in his last test, 10-5 to the Rangers in New York. The clamoring from public and media for an experienced, reliable backup grows louder with each defeat.

Montreal's plan for a three-game pre-Christmas homestand was for Racicot to play the middle game against the Whalers. But on Sunday, Demers announced that Roy had said he wanted to play against Hartford.

It would seem that what Roy wants, Roy gets.

Roy saw it differently.

"I didn't make the decision," Roy said. "Jacques came to see me the day before the Buffalo game (the first game of the homestand) and asked what I think.

"I said I want to play the three games. He said: 'You'll play them.'

"It's the coach who makes the decisions."

Rinky-dink rink Senators' home for now

By Bruce Cheadle

OTTAWA (CP) — Here come the Senators.

Out skate the first white jerseys, accompanied by a breathless Let's go Senators chanted repeatedly over the public address system to a bone-rattling disco backbeat.

Thus begins another evening of NHL hockey at the Ottawa Civic Centre, home of the league's worst team.

From its bunker-like south wall to its crowded team benches and in-your-face elbow-to-elbow seating, the 25-year-old building — also home to the OHL Ottawa 67s — is an intimate, somewhat amateurish, but always entertaining venue.

But you are in select company if you've witnessed a Senators game. Tickets are among the league's priciest — from $21.55 to more than $100 — and season-ticket holders own all but a couple of hundred single seats.

Civic Centre security staff — from a private firm — are among the league's most zealous, so don't plan on strolling through, even on non-game days.

Fans have even complained to the local media that their film has been confiscated at games.

Here's a walking tour for the uninitiated.

"It's a unique building," New Jersey's Claude Lemieux groused after a humiliating 3-3 tie this fall.

"There's nowhere to go. It's about 100 feet shorter than any other rink in the league. It doesn't matter if you know how to skate in here. You just stand around and hope you get the puck."

Wrong, Claude.

The Civic Centre ice is 200 feet long by 85 feet wide — about average in the NHL. Boston Garden, with the league's smallest sheet of ice, measures 191 by 83.

The Civic Centre just feels small.

Exactly 10,500 fans are packed into every corner of the rink for every game. There are 30 corporate boxes (boxes being the operative word) bolted to the roof and a press box that seats 20 (in the same way that two-door economy cars seat five adults).

There are no truly bad seats in the building, although that's not to say there isn't a nosebleed section.

Rather than altitude problems, however, fans seated immediately to the left of the visitors' net can expect to endure more rubber in the course of an evening than the visiting goaltender. Complimentary helmets should be issued with their $60 tickets.

Fans are knowledgeable, close to the action and generally well-behaved, meaning this building can go from deathly quiet to riotous and back again in the span of a single shift.

That makes for some odd on-ice moments. During one New Jersey tilt, Stephane Richer was hit in the shin by a slapshot and his plaintive schoolyard "Owwww!" drew a sympathetic laugh from around the rink.

Players exit the ice together through the same small door and the dressing rooms are only a stick throw apart. When Senators owner Bruce Firestone goes ballistic — as he did following a 3-2 loss to Boston on Nov. 23 — players from both teams and the on-ice officials are all in on the show.

The rink employs two Zambonis to clean the ice between periods, a smart time-saving device that allows the ice to set poperly before the skaters return and also gives the NHL's baddest rink rat a chance to work his public.

Zamboni driver John Prevost is a Frank Zappa look-alike who wears dark sunglasses and a tuxedo and has an eye for the crowd. His stunts this season have included a Superman costume and riding on the hood of his Zamboni.

The crowd eats it up.

There's also a lion-like mascot who screams onto the ice between periods riding a four-wheel all-terrain vehicle. Bets are on when he'll miscalculate and pile-drive through the west end boards.

"At least the music's good," is one of the most often heard refrains.

You'll hear everything from Stompin' Tom Connors to Led Zeppelin to Sly and the Family Stone blasting through the building — with rhythm and blues being the dominant theme.

"It's a fun building to play in," observed Theo Fleury of the Calgary Flames.

"They play good songs."

Financing for a state-of-the-art 18,500-seat arena 20 minutes west of downtown Ottawa is being finalized, meaning that sometime during the 1994-95 season the Civic Centre likely can return to what it is: a very good junior hockey rink.

NFL feud finished?

NEW YORK (AP) — The NFL and its players reached a "tentative settlement agreement" on Tuesday that could end its bitter five-year-old labor dispute.

After 12 hours of meetings Monday and Tuesday, the two sides announced they had reached agreement in principal on a new contract, the first since the 24-day strike in 1987.

Neither side would give details, but it is believed the contract will give players a form of unrestricted free agency for the first time, impose a salary cap and cut the draft from 12 rounds to six or seven.

"We've had two full days of discussion totalling 12 hours," the joint statement said. "We made progress on the remaining issues and have reached a tentative settlement agreement in principal. We will attempt to finalize on it Monday."

The agreement follows a period in which the league's labor relations were shifted from collective bargaining to court.

Last September, a jury in Minneapolis handed down a verdict throwing out Plan B, the league's limited free agency plan. Judge David Doty, who presided at that trial, subsequently let nine unsigned veterans become free agents this year, including all-pro tight end Keith Jackson, who left Philadelphia and signed with Miami.

Doty, who must approve this settlement, also had a behind-the-scenes role in it, urging both sides to agree on their own. He told both sides that neither might like any settlement he imposed.

Last week, the owners met in Dallas to consider the plan put forth in the agreement between Commissioner Paul Tagliabue and Jim Quinn, lawyer for the players in the Minnesota suit and chief negotiator for them in the contract talks.

But Tagliabue could get only three members of the seven-member negotiating committee to agree on the settlement and, after a long session involving all 28 teams, went back to work with Quinn.

Details from the meetings of the last two days were sparse and participants indicated that the agreement was still a bit shaky.

"We're trying to get from here to next Monday," one participant said, speaking on the condition of anonymity.

Ex-Leaf coach up on assault charges

TORONTO (CP) — John Brophy, the former coach of the Toronto Maple Leafs, has been charged with assault following a weekend incident in North Carolina.

A misdemeanor assault warrant was issued Monday for Brophy, after he was said to have pushed or struck a North Carolina State Fairgrounds police officer at the end of a Saturday night game between the Hampton Road Admirals, the team he coaches, and the Raleigh Ice Caps.

The game was played in Raleigh at the Dorton Arena, which is on the fairgrounds site.

"I think it's much ado about nothing," said Blake Cullen, owner of the Admirals, winners of the past two East Coast Hockey League championships under Brophy. "Nothing much happened. He was there, so if they were going to do something they could have done it then."

Sport shorts

LAKE LOUISE, Alta. (CP) — Kerrin Lee-Gartner of Calgary won her third straight Canadian downhill ski title Tuesday.

Lee-Gartner, the Olympic downhill champion, conquered the Lake Louise course in a time of one minute, 43.80 seconds.

Kate Pace of North Bay, Ont., was second in one minute, 44.43 seconds.

TORONTO (CP) — The Canadian Football League will hold its 1993 Canadian college draft in Calgary instead of Hamilton, the league announced Monday.

The CFL annual meeting will be held in Hamilton for the sixth straight year. The board of governors will gather Feb. 23, and will reconvene on Feb. 24 if necessary.

Scoreboard

NHL

All Times EST

NOT INCLUDING TUESDAY NIGHT'S GAMES

CAMPBELL CONFERENCE

Norris Division

	GP	W	L	T	F	A	P
Chicago	35	19	12	4	118	95	42
Minnesota	33	17	12	4	113	106	38
Detroit	36	18	16	2	149	132	38
Toronto	32	13	15	4	102	108	30
Tampa Bay	36	14	20	2	125	133	30
St.Louis	33	11	18	4	115	133	26

Smythe Division

Calgary	35	21	10	4	137	107	46
Los Angeles	34	20	10	4	155	123	44
Vancouver	32	19	10	3	147	100	41
Edmonton	35	12	18	5	98	138	29
Winnipeg	32	12	17	3	109	128	27
San Jose	34	5	28	1	100	175	11

WALES CONFERENCE

Adams Division

Montreal	**36**	**21**	**11**	**4**	**150**	**116**	**46**
Quebec	**36**	**18**	**12**	**6**	**158**	**142**	**42**
Boston	32	19	11	2	125	112	40
Buffalo	34	14	14	6	148	123	34
Hartford	33	10	20	3	104	146	23
Ottawa	36	3	30	3	78	167	9

Patrick Division

Pittsburgh	36	24	9	3	166	129	51
NY Rangers	34	18	12	4	141	127	40
Washington	36	19	15	2	145	127	40
New Jersey	32	16	15	1	105	108	33
NY Islanders	34	14	16	4	136	133	32
Philadelphia	32	11	17	4	118	135	26

Monday Results

Hartford 5 Montreal 2
Pittsburgh 7 Quebec 4
Washington 4 Ottawa 3
Winnipeg 5 San Jose 4
Calgary 3 Edmonton 2 (OT)
NY Rangers 3 New Jersey 0

Tuesday's Games

Tampa Bay at Boston
Toronto at Detroit
St. Louis at Minnesota
Vancouver at Los Angeles

Wednesday Games

Tampa Bay at Hartford, 7:40 p.m.
Washington at Buffalo, 7:40 p.m.
Chicago at Ottawa, 7:40 p.m.
NY Islanders at Montreal, 7:40 p.m.
New Jersey at NY Rangers, 7:40 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7:40 p.m.
Calgary at Winnipeg, 8:40 p.m.
San Jose at Edmonton, 9:40 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

Unofficial NHL scoring leaders after Monday games:

	G	A	P
Lemieux, Pgh	34	60	94
LaFontaine, Buf	24	36	60
Sakic, Que	**26**	**30**	**56**
Kurri, LA	17	39	56
Sundin, Que	**23**	**32**	**55**
Recchi, Pha	20	33	53
Turgeon, NYI	20	33	53
Oates, Bos	18	35	53
Robitaille, LA	28	24	52
Stevens, Pgh	26	26	52
Yzerman, Det	26	24	50
Tocchet, Pgh	23	26	49
Muller, Mtl	**12**	**37**	**49**
Messier, NYR	17	31	48
Gilmour, Tor	11	37	48
Bradley, TB	26	21	47
Roberts, Cal	20	27	47
Andreychuk, Buf	23	22	45
Francis, Pgh	11	34	45
Janney, StL	7	38	45
Bure, Vcr	26	18	44
Mogilny, Buf	25	19	44
Selanne, Wpg	25	19	44
Roenick, Chi	19	25	44
Juneau, Bos	12	32	44

NBA

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct.	GBL
New York	16	7	.696	—
Orlando	11	9	.550	3½
New Jersey	13	11	.542	3½
Boston	10	13	.435	6
Philadelphia	7	15	.318	8½
Washington	7	17	.292	9½
Miami	6	16	.273	9½

Central Division

Chicago	16	7	.696	—
Cleveland	14	11	.560	3
Indiana	13	11	.542	3½
Detroit	11	10	.524	4
Charlotte	12	11	.522	5
Atlanta	11	12	.478	5
Milwaukee	10	13	.435	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

Utah	14	7	.667	—
Houston	13	7	.650	½
San Antonio	10	11	.476	4
Denver	7	14	.333	7
Minnesota	5	15	.250	8½
Dallas	2	17	.105	11

Pacific Division

Phoenix	16	4	.800	—
Portland	15	7	.682	2
Seattle	15	7	.682	2
LA Lakers	14	8	.636	3
LA Clippers	13	10	.565	4½
Golden St.	11	12	.478	6½
Sacramento	6	16	.273	11

Monday Results

Cleveland 111 Washington 107 (OT)
Philadelphia 113 Indiana 101
Chicago 86 Miami 82

Tuesday's Games

Boston at New Jersey
Utah at Orlando
Charlotte at Atlanta
Houston at Detroit
Golden State at Phoenix
Sacramento at Milwaukee
Denver at San Antonio
Dallas at LA Clippers
Seattle at Portland

Tonight's Games

Houston at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Utah at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Washington at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Denver, 9 p.m.
Seattle at LA Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
Dallas at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

NFL

All Times EST

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	F	A	Pct
y-Buffalo	11	4	0	378	256	.733
y-Miami	10	5	0	324	268	.667
Indianap	8	7	0	195	285	.533
NY Jets	4	11	0	220	295	.267
NEngland	2	13	0	192	347	.133

Central

x-Pitts	10	5	0	276	212	.667
y-Houston	9	6	0	325	255	.600
Cleveland	7	8	0	259	252	.467
Cincinnati	5	10	0	257	343	.333

West

y-San Diego	10	5	0	304	227	.667
Kan City	9	6	0	306	262	.600
Denver	8	7	0	242	287	.533
LA Raiders	6	9	0	228	261	.400
Seattle	2	13	0	126	281	.133

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

x-Dallas	12	3	0	382	229	.800
y-Phila	10	5	0	334	235	.667
Washington	9	6	0	280	234	.600
NY Giants	6	9	0	296	347	.400
Phoenix	4	11	0	240	325	.267

Central

x-Minnesota	10	5	0	347	242	.667
Green Bay	9	6	0	269	269	.600
Chicago	5	10	0	281	334	.333
Detroit	5	10	0	267	308	.333
Tampa Bay	4	11	0	260	362	.267

West

x-San Fran	13	2	0	407	230	.867
y-N.Orlean	11	4	0	310	202	.733
Atlanta	6	9	0	300	376	.400
LA Rams	5	10	0	275	356	.333

x-clinched division title
y-clinched playoff berth

Monday Result

Dallas 41 Atlanta 17

Saturday Games

New Orleans at NY Jets, 12:30 p.m.
LA Raiders at Washington, 4 p.m.

Sunday Games

Cleveland at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Denver at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
Green Bay at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Miami at New England, 1 p.m.
NY Giants at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at LA Rams, 4 p.m.
Chicago at Dallas, 4 p.m.
San Diego at Seattle, 4 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Phoenix, 4 p.m.
Buffalo at Houston, 8 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 28

Detroit at San Francisco, 9 p.m.

END REGULAR SEASON

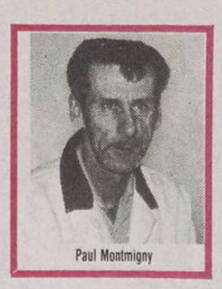
Jean-Claude Ferland

Tammy Harriman

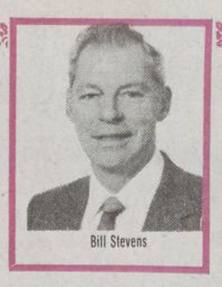
Joyce Stevens

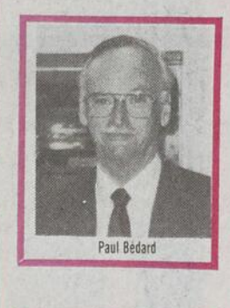
Mark Clowery

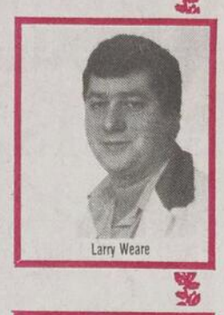
Paul Samson

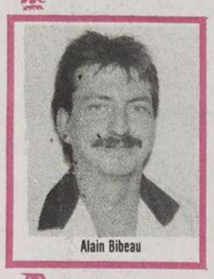

Paul Montmigny

Carole Jeanson

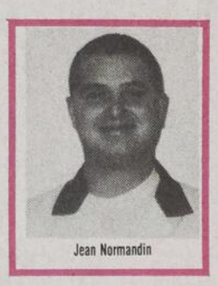

Bill Stevens

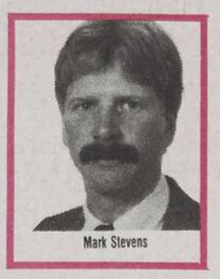

Paul Bédard


Larry Weare

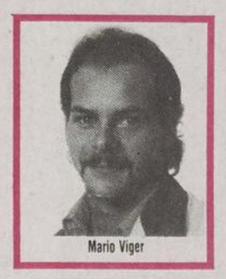

Alain Bibeau

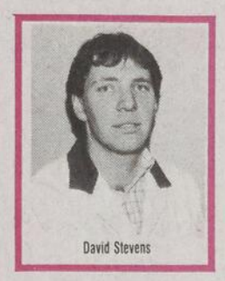
Marie-Josée Trembley


Jean Normandin


Mark Stevens

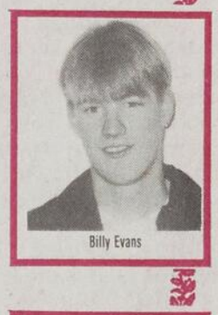
David Brown


Mario Viger


David Stevens

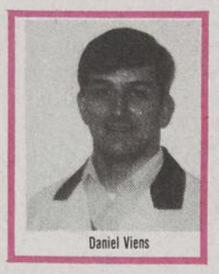
Françoise Proulx

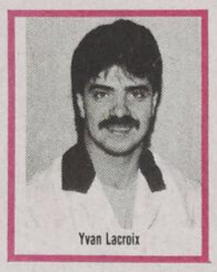
Benoit Côte


Billy Evans

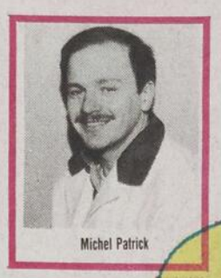
Jean-Guy Lussier

Mark Mason

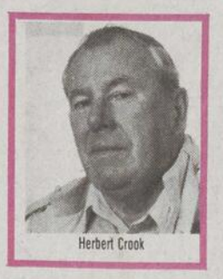

Daniel Viens


Yvan Lacroix

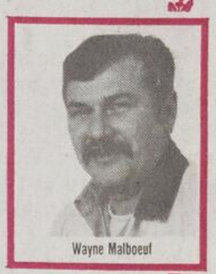
Marcel Tremblay


Michel Patrick

Nelson McCourt


Herbert Crook

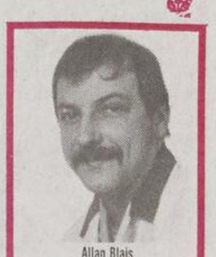
Rejean Bell


Wayne Malboeuf

Steve Shipway

Eric Therrien

Jean Larochelle


Allan Blais

Jamie Bushey

Jean-Guy Côté

Mark Clifford

François Daige

Dana Harper

Jacques Godbout

Luc Gaudreau

Walter Stevens

Steeve Raymond

DYSON & ARMSTRONG

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