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Fate in judge's hands

Evans Bouchard hearing ends

Staff
SHERBROOKE

Evans Bouchard has a selective memory which he used to his advantage in explaining the events surrounding the fatal head-on collision that killed Sutton resident Carinthe Boulanger, contended Crown prosecutor Stephanie Landry as the Magog man's trial wrapped up Tuesday.

Bouchard, 53, is charged with impaired driving and dangerous driving causing the death of the University of Sherbrooke medical student who was returning to school one evening in March 2004.

Throughout her closing arguments, Landry attacked the credibility of the accused. She said that under questioning Bouchard evaded tough questions, adjusted his testimony, and tried to exonerate himself when things looked bad for him.

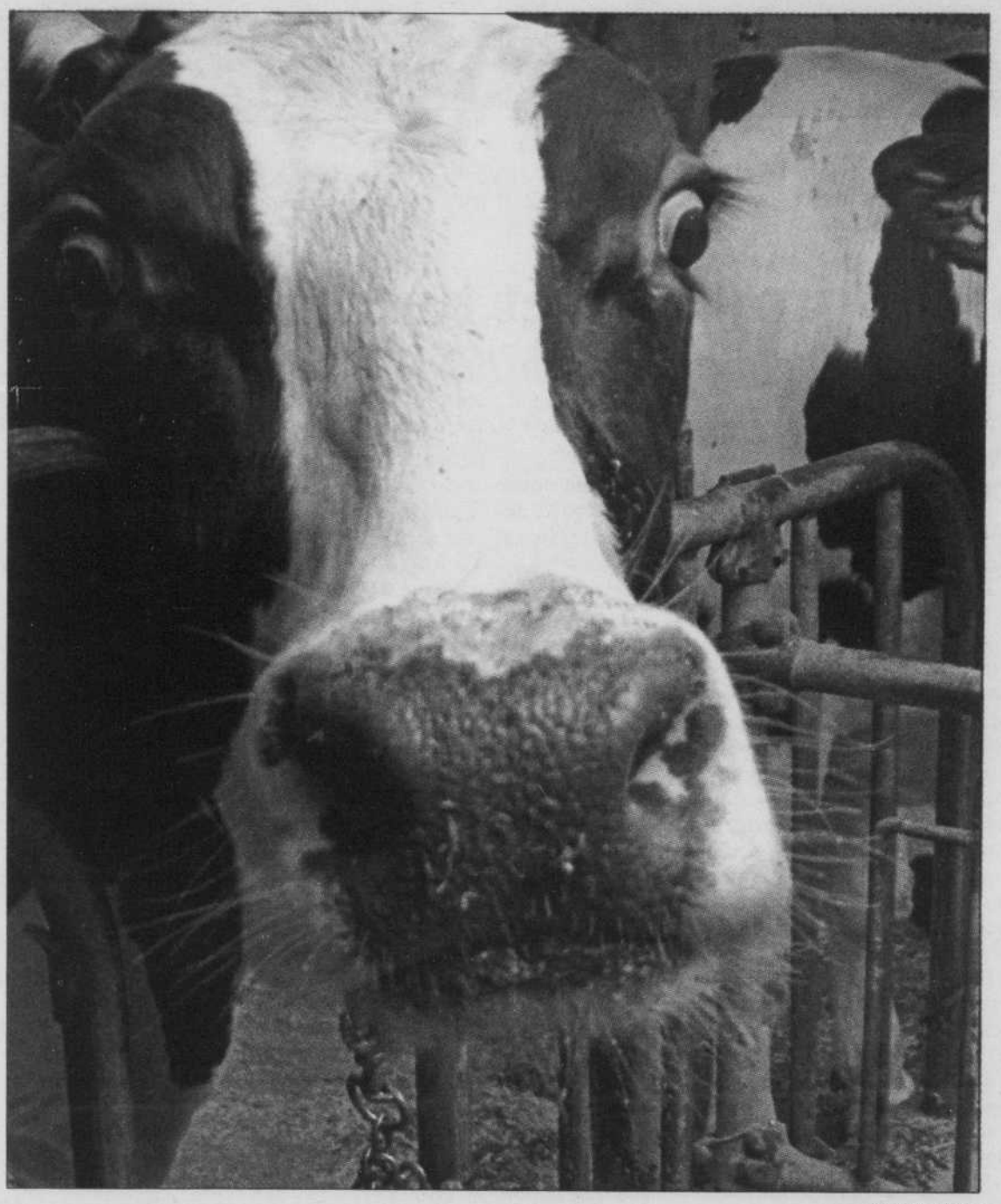
"Bouchard told police that night he had one beer at home," Landry said, but that once he got to court it was a whole different story. Evidence showed Bouchard had visited two separate bars and had several beers in the hours that preceded the accident.

At first Bouchard told the court he didn't know how many beers he had consumed, but knew he was fine to drive. Later he seemed to recall almost to the mouthful how much he had had to drink, Landry said.

The Crown attorney said Bouchard and his spouse Colette Beaudoin contradicted themselves on the number of beers they each consumed that night. Beaudoin admitted she was not with Bouchard all night, yet she claimed to know exactly

PLEASE SEE BOUCHARD ON PAGE 4

With Bossy's Help



PERRY BEATON

The only Eastern Townships MP at the federal Cabinet table (not pictured) popped into Sherbrooke Tuesday to announce hundreds of thousands of dollars in science research funds for the area — including a study on milk production, as exemplified by this specimen housed in College Street's Dairy and Swine Research and Development Centre. See page 5.

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COURTESY

Former teacher Mary Jean Woodard Bean and Carol McKinley of the Canadian Federation of University Women's One Room School House Project are part of just one of the projects supported by a grant from Townshippers' Foundation.

Local projects get funding boost

A little help from Townshippers' Foundation

By Jen Young
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

The Townshippers' Foundation raised some $1,500 more than its target in this year's annual campaign to help local organizations. "We want to be able to help everyone who applies, but it always depends on how much money we raise," said Executive Director Annis Karpenko, who has been active in the Townships community since her return from Toronto in 2004. "This year we received over $95,000 worth of requests and we had only about $50,000 to distribute. I would like to see our goal raised to $100,000 next year, but our donor base is dwindling so it will be tough."

Nonetheless, this year's goal of $60,000 was surpassed by $1,484 and 35 grants have been awarded to 31 groups for special projects. In keeping with its mission to enhance the well-being of the Eastern Townships community, the foundation provides annual financial assistance to projects and organizations.

Karpenko said this year the organization worked extra hard to let local groups know what the funding criteria were (and in some cases, that the foundation even existed). Created in 1987, it is often confused with Townshipper's Association, and has made grants of more $350,000 to area projects over the last 10 years.

"Our direct mail and phonathon campaigns have been very successful," said Karpenko. "We have very, very loyal donors and some of these dear people have been donating to us for many years, but we have lost 100 donors a year for the last four years and we need to look hard for new sources of funds."

Karpenko points out that the group has never had a big fundraising event and hopes that perhaps a golf tournament, gala or fine arts auction can be organized for spring 2008.

And she thinks support can be found outside of Quebec. "Although many people have left the area, I know you always leave your heart in the Townships. I believe that there are people outside of Quebec who would be supportive of the programs supporting our English-speaking population. We will look for ways to tap that market."

Grants will be presented to recipients in May and throughout the year; the foundation will continue to join forces with non-profit groups that fundraise themselves for other projects. "We provide an opportunity for groups that cannot issue charitable receipts," said Karpenko. "We call these designated donations. They come in to us specifically for a project we support and we in turn, provide receipts and give 98 per cent of the donation to the project."

Karpenko said the rest is kept for administrative costs. "It really is a win/win situation," said Karpenko. "The foundation cannot always raise as much money as we'd like so the designated donations go a long way in bolstering support."

For more information on the foundation, call 819-822-3314.

Who got the nod

YOUTH AND EDUCATION

Border Communities Youth Club (sports club in the Stanstead area)
Butler Elementary School (Butler Circus of the Kids project)
Eastern Townships Language Arts Festival (9th fest connecting youth to artists)
Farnham Elementary School (school playground project)
Yamaska Literacy Council, Cowansville, and Literacy in Action, Lennoxville (workshops and booklet to enhance parenting skills and student learning)
Donna Houseman, Knowlton (teen story-telling project)
Sunnyside Elementary School (library and class resources)
Stanbridge East Sports Association (filmmaking for teens program)
Maison des Jeunes de Sutton (teen improvisation project)
Townshippers' Association (Make Way for YOUth, youth engagement project)

HERITAGE

Compton County Historical Society (Eaton Corner Homestead project)
Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (cemetery inventory and restoration)
Barbara Verity & Gilles Peloquin (support for David Thompson historical research)
Canadian Federation of University Women – Sherbrooke (One-room School House project)
Stephane Tremblay in Stanstead (Collège des Ursulines documentary)
Ville de Stanstead (heritage tour guide booklet)
Stanstead Historical Project (cemetery map project)
Walbridge Conservation Area (Walbridge barn restoration)

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Avante Women's Centre, Bedford (cultural excursions for rural women)
Townshippers' Association (Townships Alive events in four locations and Information & Referral service)
Council of Seniors of Memphremagog (May 9 English health information day in Magog)
Maison de la Famille des Frontières (educational workshops for English-speaking parents)
Mental Health Estrie (library resources)
Lennoxville & District Women's Centre (Tools for Life program in Bury)

THE ARTS

Arts Knowlton (drama workshops for students in French and English elementary schools)
C.A.L.L Cowansville Academy for Lifelong Learning (Im_Press book project)
Louise Abbott & Niels Jenson (support for The Heart of the Farm & Built to Last project)
Uplands Cultural & Heritage Centre (after school arts project)
Knowlton Players (children's drama production)
Knowlton Players (new production, Chickasaw!)
Sunshine Theatre (for the Carrefour Culturel production of Drawer Boy)
Townshippers' Association (support for Townships Expressions receptions to promote books, music and art of the area)
Townships Sun (newspaper's revitalization project).

Weather

Today: Sunny with cloudy periods. High 6.

Thursday: Sunny. Low minus 5. High 8.

Friday: Cloudy. Low minus 2. High 9.

Saturday: Sunny. Low minus 2. High 13.

Ben by Daniel Shelton

Grégoire House not slated for demolition, after all

PERRY BEATON

Hubert Richard (in a Record file photo) has a long history of community involvement.

Protest is short lived

By Jen Young
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Sherbrooke resident Hubert Richard cut short a planned two-and-a-half-hour protest yesterday after discovering that talk of the demolition of the old log Grégoire Cottage was all wrong.

"I will demonstrate in front of the Lennoxville borough town hall to show my disagreement about the demolition of the Maison Grégoire and to remind that 1,000 people signed a petition.... asking that the building be fixed up [instead of demolished]," Richard wrote out in a note to media sent out yesterday morning.

But instead, Richard abandoned his vigil after about half an hour.

There are no immediate plans to tear down the house, according to Lennoxville director Marc Mongeau. The protest was based on an erroneous report in the French-language press, and Mongeau told *The Record* he informed Richard of that fact soon after the lone protester arrived.

"We have been thinking about ways to use the house, but there are no ideas that would need such a large house," said Mongeau. "We had discussed demolition, but the money to do it was not in the budget. There is nothing anywhere saying that demolition is going to happen for sure, or when."

The empty Grégoire House, located behind the Marquise Motel on Wellington-as-it-turns-into-Queen Street, has been the topic of many council and town advisory meetings.

"In 2003 the house was actually being lived in," said Mongeau.

The former town of Lennoxville repossessed the establishment about five years before the 2002 municipal merger with Sherbrooke due to unpaid municipal taxes. "The occupants used the location as a cottage, but the building needed serious structural work and was dangerous, so we had to close it up. The house is dangerous and it's large. We have teenagers going in and the building is falling apart."

He said that for the past several years the borough, and now Sherbrooke City Council, have been open to suggestions and ideas for the location.

According to records at the LAHMS (Lennoxville-Ascot Historical and Museum Society), the log dwelling is not very old.

The land was owned by Wilbur Grégoire, who was digging up gravel from the river in the 1960s or '70s. During that time he hired a skilled woodsman to build the log cabin, by hand, for his workers to live in.

Grégoire was forced to stop, due to environmental concerns pertaining to the dredging, most likely interfering with the natural course of erosion. The business went bankrupt between 1993 and 1997, which is when the land and log home were repossessed. Since then council has been concerned with squatters entering the building, which Mongeau said is dangerous for the trespassers.

"We don't know what to do with the location," Mongeau said. "There is no money in the budget to rebuild it, or demolish it, but we would like to do something [with] it."

According to LAHMS archivist Lu Rider, there is no real historical value to the building, but the site itself is worth preserving.

"It's an enormous house and the inside of the house is quite unique," she said. "It's deteriorating and indeed could be dangerous, but the site itself is beautiful. I would suggest that the old logs and some of the old wood be preserved and perhaps build a rest area for the bike trail, or at least use the wood

PLEASE SEE PROTEST ON PAGE 4

Frail McGilton jailed for bilking clients

Former chairman of Stanstead College

CanWest News Service
MONTREAL

A former Quebec lawyer will spend 15 months in jail for defrauding his clients – mostly elderly widows – of $1.7 million.

Gordon McGilton, 75, shaking and frail, hunched over the witness box before Quebec Court Judge Elizabeth Corte on Tuesday, complaining of an angina attack and saying he'd rather die than go to jail.

"I'm not going to have any of that in my courtroom," she said before sentencing him.

Crown prosecutor Francois Drolet surprised McGilton's defence lawyer on Tuesday by asking the admitted fraudster be sent to prison for three years.

Jeffrey Boro said his client, who has a heart condition and is legally blind, is far too frail to go to prison, and asked that McGilton serve two years less a day under house arrest. He has had to sell his home, and lives in a small apartment with his wife.

"The court has to have a certain amount of compassion for an individual," Boro said. "What is left of the life of this individual? The shame he has brought on himself has totally ruined his life."

Boro said the fact that McGilton pleaded guilty, showed remorse and didn't actually benefit financially from his fraud has to count for something.

McGilton, who resigned from the Quebec bar in 2000 after 42 years as a lawyer, withdrew money from his clients' trust accounts, deposited the funds in his personal account, then transferred them to Bebec Investments Inc., a company owned by his cousin, William Beattie.

Beattie was investing the money in a bogus Nigerian oil investment.

McGilton's family has had a storied association with Stanstead College.

The private co-ed high school in the Eastern Townships annually gives out an award named for McGilton's parents – father, Leonard, was the school's comptroller for many years, and mother Ruth was a long time nurse and dietitian. Both have since died.

In Stanstead, Leonard McGilton was a Mason and president of the Royal Canadian Legion. Ruth McGilton was involved in the IODE and Centenary United Church.

The McGiltons figure in the book The Stanstead College Story: "The annex has a new matron, Mrs. McGilton. She has been very good to us. We had bread and jam every afternoon after school."

Ruth and Leonard McGilton arrived at the school in 1926 and retired in 1961.

Along the way there was the Depression, World War II, and a 1938 fire.

"They remained in Stanstead for several years following their retirement before moving to Montreal in 1970 to be closer to children and grandchildren," noted the college in a recent publication.

Gordon McGilton himself is a Stanstead College graduate (class of '49) and was the volunteer chairman of the board from 1995 to his resignation in 2000.

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BOUCHARD:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

how much he'd had to drink, Landry said.

At the scene of the accident, Landry said Bouchard was holding his head and kept repeating: "I'm going to be in shit."

Bouchard told police at the scene and later the court that he was upset because he was driving a friend's car with no insurance. But under cross-examination, when he looked bad because he appeared insensitive to Boulanger's death, Landry said Bouchard declared he was also upset because he realized there could be a fatality in the accident.

He agreed to 18 months of therapy in order to secure release during his bail hearing, but Landry said Bouchard steadfastly refused to admit he had a drinking problem. She said that while Maison l'Estime said he was an alcoholic, Bouchard would not admit that at trial.

Bouchard also refused to say he was responsible for the accident.

During her summation, that lasted most of the day, Landry responded to defence lawyer Philippe Gilbert's contention that many of the Crown's witnesses were not credible because their testimony contained a number of contradictions.

Landry said witnesses who testified a year after the accident that they saw oncoming headlights in their lane could be mistaken about whether or not the fast approaching car was fully in their lane, or just half way.

"It was a stressful event that demanded a quick reaction," she said, noting "whether he was half in the lane or three quarters in the lane" and "whether he was there for 15 seconds or 20 seconds" was a mere detail. "It's hard to measure and count when you are trying to save your life."

The driver following the accused at the time of the accident was definite that Bouchard had time to pull back into his lane before the impact, Landry added.

In reply to a defence attack on the credibility of police who did not describe Bouchard's drunken state in their notes, Landry said they were recording his version of the accident. And while police witnesses did not describe his state or his scent in exactly the same vocabulary at trial, they all agreed he was drunk and that he smelled like alcohol.

As Bouchard listened impassively, Landry told Quebec Court Judge Michel Beauchemin that everything pointed to the fact that the accused was drunk and driving dangerously the night he was involved in the fatal accident.

Landry said that while Bouchard said he had taken a few cough drops, an ambulance driver noted the accused had taken candies out of his pocket two or three times and was crunching them one after the other.

"That demonstrated a guilty conscience," she said.

Landry recalled the testimony of one expert who said heavy drinkers appear less drunk but they are still just as intoxicated. She noted the witness testified that drunk people find it more difficult to concentrate, to divide their attention between different tasks, and that alcohol can have a hypnotic effect. The expert also noted that memory and concentration are affected, that people who have been drinking have decreased perception and a harder time evaluating distance and movements, have a hard time evaluating the consequences of their acts and that their speech becomes repetitive.

"These (are) all things that were observed of Mr. Bouchard that night and things that can reasonably explain what happened on St-Francis Boulevard that night."

Landry said that Bouchard's explanation of the distraction that caused the accident is not reasonable.

Bouchard claimed his spouse Beaudoin was messing with the glove compartment and that he reached over to slam it shut. Landry also noted that while Beaudoin said she stowing a bag of chips away, Bouchard claimed they were putting away sheet music.

"Would a reasonable person have been so tormented by an open glove compartment?" she asked.

Landry said that Bouchard claimed his eyes never left the road for an instant.

"If that's the case, why did he maintain at first that his car never left the lane," Landry said. "Either he lied to the court or alcohol was affecting his perception."

Landry said the latter is the most reasonable explanation, but that will be up to Judge Beauchemin to decide.

Bouchard is also charged with refusing to submit to a breathalyzer test following his arrest.

Bouchard's fate now lies in the hands of the judge, who is scheduled to release his verdict on May 15.

A New MNA

COURTESY

Newly elected Liberal Mégantic-Compton MNA Johanne Gonthier (centre) was sworn in to her new job last Thursday. Her new riding offices are at 5322 Frontenac in Lake Mégantic (G6B 1H3). The number for constituents is 819-583-4500 (or 1-800-567-3523).

PROTEST:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 3

to make a rustic picnic table."

A rest area has been discussed, but Mongeau said no rest area would need such a huge shelter and if funds can be sought and a rest area is put in place some of the house itself will have to come down.

Richard did not return *The Record*'s phone call by press time as, according to his press release, he had other demonstrations planned yesterday.

He planned to spend part of the later afternoon demonstrating at Sherbrooke's city hall to demand that the city build a sidewalk on King Street East between 20th avenue and Galt East. "I would remind reporters that one pedestrian has already died at this location," Richard noted in his press release.

Richard also stated he has a third demonstration planned, for 6 p.m. on Monday, April 16, in front of Sherbrooke City Hall to demand free public transit for all residents.

BRIEF

Eastman man arrested

The name of the latest person arrested in the Sherbrooke Police Service's massive drug bust, Project Burn, has been released.

He is Paul Laramée, of Eastman, born in 1964. He's been charged with drug trafficking.

Laramée is the 17th person to be arrested, and the 13th to be charged, in what Sherbrooke Police have called their biggest cash and cocaine busts ever.

Things started off on March 28 with 10 raids in various Sherbrooke boroughs, resulting in 15 arrests, a dozen of whom were arraigned on drug-related charges. At that time, police also seized $100,000 worth of cocaine, $8,000 worth of marijuana and hashish and $6,400 in cash.

Then, acting on information garnered during that same operation, police raided a warehouse on Evaris Leblanc Street soon after. There they turned up a kilo of cocaine worth an estimated $100,000 and $350,000 in cash.

"The investigation continues," said police spokesperson Maryse Boulanger. "Other arrests are always a possibility."

And while the popular perception is that the Hells Angels, which have a clubhouse in Sherbrooke, control the drug trade, Boulanger said "there are no aspects here which connect" the Hells, believed to be an important nation-wide organized crime organization, with the suspected drug-dealers of Burn.

The drugs in Project Burn were destined for street sales, according to police.

The 17th arrest was made on April 4. That was the same day police tactical teams fanned out across Ontario in a series of carefully coordinated raids against the Hells Angels, seizing property and making dozens of arrests in a crackdown on illegal drug trafficking.

Dubbed Project Develop, the sweep by Ontario's Biker Enforcement Unit targeted up to 40 alleged criminal biker gang members across the Greater Toronto Area, but also included arrests as far away as Langley, B.C., and New Brunswick.

Boulanger confirmed the Sherbrooke clubhouse in the Townships was not targeted earlier this month. "These are criminal investigations," she noted, adding there's always a need for confidentiality. "If we have worked with the Ontario Provincial Police, I'm not aware of it."

Floods brings funds

Compton, Sutton and others

Staff
Knowlton

The Quebec public security ministry has stepped in to provide financial aid for residents, businesses and municipalities ravaged by floods in January, February and March.

Public Security Minister Jacques Dupuis announced Tuesday that the natural disaster aid program was being extended to 52 municipalities across Quebec. Here in the Eastern Townships the municipalities of Compton, Newport, Potton, Roxton Falls, Roxton Pond, Sutton and Westbury were on the list.

The compensation covers individuals whose homes sustained flood damage, as well as municipalities, businesses and farms. The ministry has already discussed the compensation with the municipalities.

For individual residents, the compensation covers costs associated with temporary preventative measures such as sandbags and pumps. It also covers money spent on evacuation and finding a place to stay. It then covers damages to your primary residence, its contents and damage to the driveway.

Farms are eligible for coverage for home-related damages, as well as damages to land, buildings and farm infrastructures.

For municipalities, costs for efforts to break up ice jams are covered, as well as damages to municipal infrastructures. Emergency measures, such as helping people evacuate or sandbagging, are also eligible. Aid organizations that helped out can also apply for for financial support.

For more information on the flood relief programs, contact your municipality or get on the Internet and go to www.msp.gouv.qc.ca.

Marenger murder charge withdrawn

New charge filed

By Maurice Crossfield
KNOWLTON

The Roxton Falls man accused of murdering his brother and then setting their home on fire to cover up the crime has seen his charges downgraded, eliminating the prospect of life behind bars.

Daniel Marenger, 53, appeared in court in Granby Tuesday, where Crown Prosecutor Guylaine Sauvageau announced that the first degree murder charge was going to be downgraded to committing an indignity to a human body. Charges of arson against Marenger remain.

In the early hours of May 16, 2006, Daniel Marenger was found lying on the ground in front of a home in Roxton Falls he shared with his brother, François Marenger. The firefighters, responding to the 9-1-1 emergency call, were told by Daniel Marenger that his brother was inside the burning house. The firefighters were unable to get inside, or save the home.

Daniel Marenger was taken to the Granby Hospital where he was treated for injuries to his hands and face. Later in the day he underwent surgery to one hand.

At the time police considered him to be an important witness in the case. Before long he was accused of killing his brother, François, and then setting the fire to cover up the crime.

During the court hearing Sauvageau noted that the reduced charge was more appropriate, considering the evidence.

Under the first-degree murder charge, Marenger was facing the possibility of a life sentence in prison, with no hope of parole for at least 25 years. For the crime of committing an indignity to a human body, the maximum sentence is five years in prison.

Daniel Marenger remains in custody and will be back in court on May 8, at which time he will decide if he will be tried by a jury or a judge alone.

Fairer Farm Funds?

PERRY BEATON

Federal Secretary of State for Agriculture, Mégantic-L'Erable MP Christian Paradis (left), was in Sherbrooke yesterday announcing that the province will get $3.2 million in agriculture research money — and Sherbrooke's Dairy and Swine Research and Development Centre's Alain Giguère (at right) said his facility will get about $800,000 of that. That's for 15 projects, and about 15 per cent more than last year. Paradis said that for the first time, an independent group of scientists evaluated and recommended what projects got funded.

BRIEFS

Officer still off duty

The Sherbrooke officer caught in an explosion when a bomb located under his police car went off on Feb. 14 is still off duty.

Const. Jacques Donahue had just gotten into his vehicle, parked in the lot of a King Street West donut shop, when the blast occurred. He escaped with minor injuries and burns. His marked minivan, which was engulfed in flames, was a total loss.

Const. Donahue was rushed to the Centre hospitalier universitaire de Sherbrooke where he was treated for unspecified injuries, burns and shock. He was immediately placed on leave.

Sherbrooke police spokeswoman Maryse Boulanger said Donahue is still off the job, but refused to give out any further information.

One media outlet reported soon after the incident that police officers had been given permission to take their guns home with them as a safety precaution; Boulanger said she had no comment on the story.

Sherbrooke police have now installed a fence around their lot at the Palais de Justice, where patrol cars are often parked. A second lot, on Belvedere Street, was fenced in about a year ago.

Drinking ends with a chaser?

A 26-year-old Sherbrooke man will face a number of charges after leading police on a car chase through the city Monday night.

Sherbrooke Police patrollers spotted a car as it drove through a stop sign at the corner of Prospect and Boisjoli Streets at 11:25 p.m. They went after it and the driver refused to stop.

The patrollers tried to trap the car in a dead end street, but the driver smashed into the patrol car and continued on his way. Police continued the chase.

Finally the cops managed to stop the car on Musset Street. The driver then refused to take a breathalyzer test.

Held in jail overnight, the man was charged with impaired driving, refusing a breathalyser, missing a stop sign and dangerous driving.

"He burned several red lights and stop signs during the chase," said Sherbrooke Police spokeswoman Const. Maryse Boulanger.

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Community Forum

The book Chantal Hébert should not have written

VIEWPOINT

DON HEALY

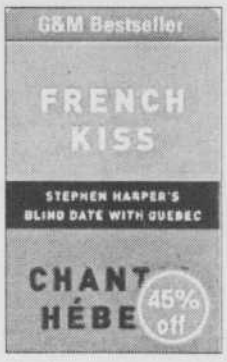
French Kiss

Everybody who pays the least bit of attention to politics in this country knows Chantal Hébert. I venture that most observers see her as a highly perceptive and analytical critic of Canadian political affairs, especially as they pertain to this province. (She is a columnist for the *Toronto Star* and *Le Devoir* and a senior fellow at Massey College at the University of Toronto, to start.) However, now that I have read her first book, French Kiss: Stephen Harper's Blind Date With Quebec, I predict that I won't be alone among its readers in reassessing my trust in her objectivity.

Sometimes I think authors shouldn't start with an introduction. Either that or they should be more careful not to expose faulty logic before the reader even gets comfortably seated.

On page two of her introduction, Hébert reveals that she has no real grasp of a most fundamental legal truth that stared every thinking Canadian in the face at the time Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, Quebec's Robert Bourassa and most of the other premiers pretended otherwise. The line the politicians fed us then was that, with Meech Lake, Quebec would sign on to the Constitution of Canada. And amazingly, Chantal Hébert, one of Canada's best known and most respected political commentators, bought it.

But it wasn't the Canadian Constitution as it read then — and still does — that Bourassa was set to endorse; it was the Constitution customized to his (and other Quebec nationalists') specifications. And that customization would have changed the very nature of this country, not just Quebec.



Pressing on despite this bad start, it didn't take the whole 270 pages to discover the soul, not of an unattached critic, but one as truly embedded in the national cause as are American reporters in Iraq. Hébert is so steeped in ethnic nationalism that analysis of any differences between nationalists and federalists is automatically approached in the same way all nationalists attack such differences — as us versus them. We (Quebec nationalists) are never wrong, but asking only for what's due; they (federalists) are never right.

All this came as a surprise, frankly. It really wasn't what I expected from Chantal Hébert and I'm not at all sure I am glad I know her better now. Sometimes, ignorance at least resembles bliss.

The title of this book leads buyers to expect its prime focus to be on Stephen Harper and his surprising popularity among Quebecers in the last election. Readers will, indeed, find plenty of that and, to the author's credit, the Conservative victory cannot be divorced from the Liberals' shortcomings. But Hébert's criticisms of the latter can hardly be described as constructive. I wonder, if this book had been hand written, not typed, whether the names of prime ministers Pierre Trudeau, Jean Chrétien and Paul Martin might be illegible from the shaking of her hand. No sign of uncontrolled wrath, though, in references to Stephen Harper and Bloc Québécois leader Gilles Duceppe. Amazing, isn't it, how flawless birds of a feather can be.

Journalists seldom help themselves by writing books. There are exceptions, of course. Paul Wells (of *Maclean's* magazine) is one, but most journalists enlighten readers no more with hundreds of pages than they do with regular columns. In my opinion, Chantal Hébert has hurt her cause with French Kiss. She has exposed biases that aren't nearly as evident in her public appearances and newspaper columns. Too bad.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Fan mail

DEAR EDITOR

Along with several others, I have enjoyed the articles by Alleda Nixon ("Hands were washed with oatmeal so butter wouldn't stick: Growing up in the 1920s," March 12 *Record*, and others). We hope that she will share more memories with us.

MARGARET FORDHAM
Fulford

No rights if common-law

DEAR EDITOR

This is an open letter to Premier Jean Charest and Opposition Leader Mario Dumont.

Presently, women living "common law" have no rights should they break-up [with their partner]. If this occurs, the woman and offspring (if any) are often left destitute, having to live with her parents, work or go on welfare.

Quebec is still living in the Stone Age on the subject and it's about time that one of the political parties took up the case.

Also, it's about time that couples living common law grow up, stop "playing house" and accept the responsibilities of a normal married life.

Recommendations (that won't cost the public a sou!):

1) The government. Pass appropriate laws that will protect women who are at the mercy of their partner, should they break up. As a suggestion, if a couple separates after two years the woman [should have] the legal right to one half of their combined assets. Also, should a child be born or an abortion occurs, the woman is entitled to the aforementioned assets at the time of birth or abortion. This, of course, has to be a two-way street should the shoe be on the other foot.

2) Personal arrangements. Women [should] be protected under these circumstances, by writing appropriate wills or written agreements that should be duly witnessed.

3) Religious leaders. It's about time that they wake up to these problems and took action — as family life is going to hell in a hand basket. A lot of men are supremely selfish, never grow up, wanting their cake and eating it! Should air-tight laws be enacted, more traditional marriages might occur.

It is hoped that one of the political parties take up the challenge and have the compassion and courage to take action.

ART POWTER
Lac Brome

THE RECORD

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Another time-share offer hits the dust

But gimme the freebie

When it comes to on-the-road freebies, luck has dealt my spouse Madeleine and I a pretty good hand. Forget the many boon-docking and free casino cruise opportunities.

Thanks to various time share-promotions, a whole series of generous rewards have come our way. All we had to do was attend a sales pitch.

Case in point: last winter in Casa Grande, Arizona, we earned three free nights at an RV resort and a $50 cheque (that didn't bounce!) thanks to a club promotion. The deal consisted of a 90-minute meeting in which promoters tried to convince us to buy a US$6,795 membership fee.

HENRY R. KEYSERLINGK

Fast track back to 1999, when we were taking a break at a rest stop near Benson, Arizona. A stranger appeared out of nowhere and handed us a flyer offering a free two-night stay and a steak dinner in an RV resort near Tombstone. Once there, we spent two hours listening to the reasons why we should buy a US$4,999 membership fee. Not only was the sales rep informative, but we found the steak dinner to be almost as delicious as the campground was luxurious.

This year we moved up a few pegs when the promoters of a large time-sharing hotel and resort tried to convince us to cough up the modest amount of US$22,400. To thank us for attending their sales pitch session, the rewards included a five-day, four-night hotel vacation in Florida along with a certificate enabling us "to sail on a reputable cruise ship for the price of one."

How did it happen? We were staying at popular RV park along the Atlantic coast when Madeleine suggested we bicycle down to the nearest town in order to look for a new bathing suit.

While she was busy browsing through the display in a well-known store, a rather jovial looking man in his 50s behind the front desk asked me if I was from out of town. When I told him where we live, he bluntly brought up the subject of the various freebies. "Sounds interesting," I naturally answered. "What's the angle?"

"We would like to take 90 minutes of your time to give you a tour of our resort and have you attend a timeshare sales presentation." As he talked he began flashing pictures of a rather luxurious resort on a nearby television screen.

"No problem," I answered. How could we lose – if the cruise freebie wasn't a scam, I figured it had to be worth a few hours of our time.

He then started asking me questions regarding my age, address, occupation and our combined income. After completing a one-page document which he asked me to sign, we agreed on a day and time for the session.

Two days later we showed up at the resort, ready for the tour and any persistent attempt to have us buy a time share. After examining our driver's licenses and credit card expiry dates, a young lady at the front lobby asked us to fill and sign another document containing many of the same questions.

Shortly after a lady in her 40s arrived and introduced herself.

Following a few pleasantries she ushered us into a large room with round tables where candidates were undergoing the standard sales pitch.

Instead of the anticipated five-course meal, we were invited to serve ourselves to a submarine, coffee and donuts from a corner table. We then followed her with our trays to a spacious sun deck overlooking the oceanfront, Caribbean-like ocean front resort.

For close to an hour she took notes while questioning us on how we spend our vacations and leisure time. It soon became clear she was trying to ascertain whether we could afford a time share and at the same time, adjust her eventual offer to our "tastes and needs".

Then began the personalized guided tour of the resort, both inside and out. After walking us through various studios and one- and two-bedroom suites that were "meant for us " – it was time to present the offer.

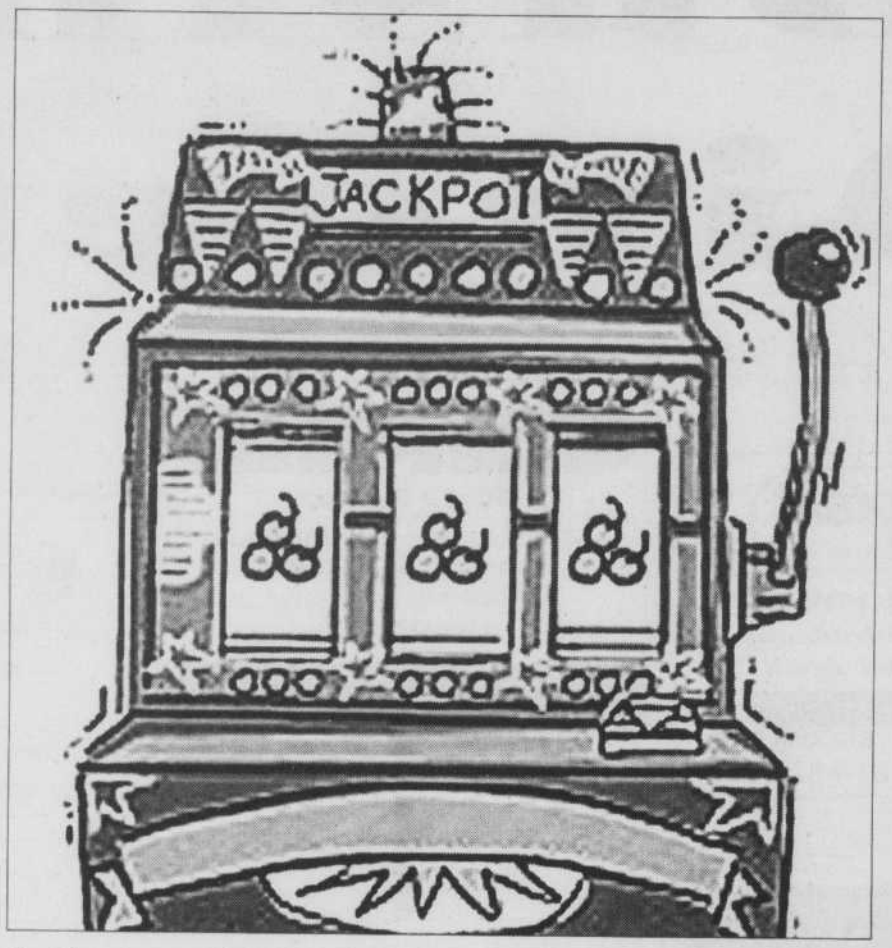
For a good hour, three different agents tried their very best to convince us to sign on the dotted line.

The bottom line after the "time of tour discount "of $6,000 and "20 per cent deposit" of $4,480 was a mortgage balance of $17,920. Plus the annual fees and taxes, all of which entitled us to a yearly two week "dream vacation at resort destinations" for an amount varying between $154 and $219.

When I replied that I required at least a few days to digest all of the figures and to review the available literature, her response was predictable. "The offer is for now. It is too good to refuse, especially if you consider the many benefits of ownership."

She was followed by her manager, a young man in his mid-30s who reminded us of a high-strung television preacher. His list of unconvincing arguments included," Do you think Einstein would have hesitated to jump on such a good offer?" (Answer: If I was another Einstein, I'd be too busy trying to come up with a new theory to be here.)

And "The offer is much like when you first met your wife, you knew right away you wanted to marry her." (Answer: "Wrong, it took me at least three months.)



Ka-ching: our travellers take a break from the casinos in order to gamble away some time listening to a time-share pitch.

Oh, and "Imagine how proud your daughter would feel if you willed to her your time share." (Answer: if she is anything like us, she would prefer the cash.)

Then came the corporate representative, supposedly to check on how we were treated by the sales rep and manager. After reviewing the offers, she presented a revised one which we once again politely turned down.

After realizing that we weren't about to crack, she instructed us to return to the main lobby to pick up the documents pertaining to the promised freebies.

All in all, it was a good two hours well spent.

As a final note, this is not to say that all three RV and hotel resort time share offers were risky or worse, unsound investments. The problem has more to do with the way we spend our winters on the road. Failing any major change, it is highly unlikely we'll find one that suits both our lifestyle and wallets. In the meantime, we'll keep an open mind... and politely accept the freebies.

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THE RECORD
Sports

INSIDE

Olympics TV rights bring in a small fortune

. . . see Page 10

The Canadiens lost, but so did the hated Leafs

Gainey, Carbonneau to make changes

By Mike Hickey
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

I was reminded of the importance of hockey in the province of Quebec when I was leaving St. Patrick's Church yesterday morning and was asked whether Bob Gainey and Guy Carbonneau should be fired as general manager and head coach of the Montreal Canadiens following the club's exclusion from the 2007 National Hockey League playoffs.

Attendance in Quebec churches may be at an all-time low, but interest in the Canadiens continues to be high despite the unexpected early end to a season that began with such promise.

The end came Saturday night when they dropped a 6-5 decision to the Toronto Maple Leafs. It was a game that mirrored Montreal's up-and-down season, a game in which the Canadiens overcame a two-goal deficit only to see a two-game advantage evaporate in the third period. The only consolation for fans is the fact that the hated Maple Leafs, who took over the eighth and final playoff position for about 12 hours, were also eliminated from the playoffs on Sunday when the New York Islanders claimed the eighth position with an overtime win over the Martin Brodeur-less New Jersey Devils.

But even that was little consolation and the seriousness of the Canadiens' ineptitude was evident in a Quebec media that wanted to know who was to blame for the second half collapse.

In times like these it is easy to blame management – and particularly the coaching staff. The classic line that it is easier to fire one head coach than 22 players is accurate, especially if many of the players have long-term contracts on no-trade clauses. In this case both Gainey and Carbonneau will be back next year – and that is a good thing.

Guy Carbonneau managed this team with a steady hand throughout the season despite the injuries and sickness that affected the club in the second half of the season. The decision to play a rusty Christobal Huet in the final game against Toronto can be questioned in hindsight, but if nothing else Carbonneau showed he wasn't afraid of making a tough decision.

Bob Gainey has done a good job improving the overall talent of this team and under his direction the club is younger and deeper.

If there was one move that the Hall of Famer could be criticized for, it was the acquisition of veteran Sergei Samsonov who was a healthy scratch for the last 13 games of the season. But in all fairness it appeared to be a good pick-up last season, although the veteran winger was a major underachiever in a Montreal uniform.

Samsonov is gone; his contract will be bought out by the club, although Alex Kovalav is likely to be back, partly because he has two years remaining in his deal.

There will be changes throughout the roster as the Montreal brain trust tries to right some of the problems that kept this team out of the playoffs. The big question is whether Gainey can keep the blueline tandem of Sheldon Souray and Andrei Markov. Both players have expressed a desire to stay in Montreal but money will be the ultimate factor in where they play in 2007-'08.

The two become unrestricted free agents on July 1 and Souray is expected to move on.

"The priority is to give Montreal a real good chance of signing me," Souray

PLEASE SEE CANADIENS ON PAGE 10

BRIEF

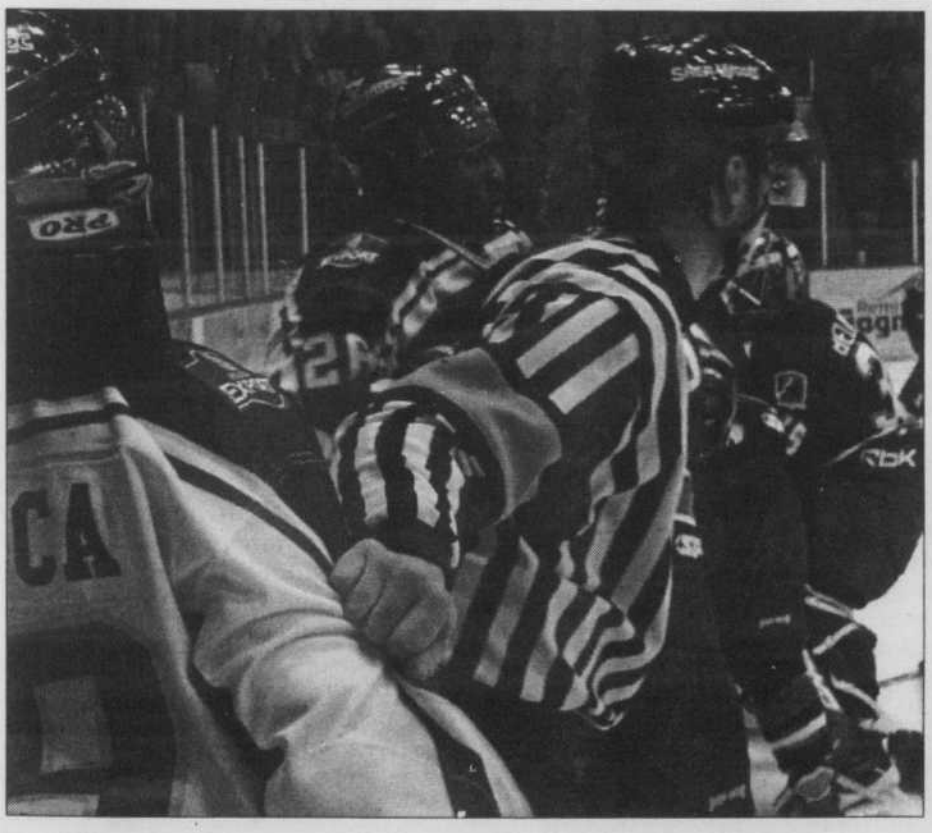
Last chance for skiing

Only a couple of ski hills are still up and running in the Eastern Townships.

Ski Bromont is open daily until Sunday, April 15. As of yesterday, 25 of 104 slopes were open.

And Sutton is also greeting skiers. As of Tuesday, 45 of its 53 runs were open – and no closing date has been set. It'll stay open as long as possible.

They're Winning!



PERRY BEATON/FILE PHOTO

The Sherbrooke Saint-François are leading their best-of-seven quarter-finals series three games to one against Saint-Hyacinthe. The next game in the hockey-and-hijinks league is scheduled for 8 p.m. at the Palais des Sports in Sherbrooke on Thursday, April 12.

The TV stakes are higher than ever

2010 Olympic Games

By Derrick Penner
CANWEST NEWS SERVICE
VANCOUVER

Televising the 2010 Olympics will be a billion-dollar job for the Olympic movement. And already, the vanguard to an army of 2,200 camera operators, technicians and producers has landed in Vancouver to draw up its plans to deliver competition footage the Games' official broadcasters will beam to a global audience of more than three billion.

"It is a mammoth undertaking just because it's such a short period of time to get it all prepared and up and running," said Nancy Lee, chief operating officer of the newly anointed Olympic Broadcasting Services (OBS) Vancouver, the International Olympic Committee-owned entity charged with the job.

OBS is separate from the official broadcasters — such as CTV/TSN in Canada and NBC in the United States — and the thousands of technical and on-air staff they will bring to Vancouver to prepare coverage for their home audiences.

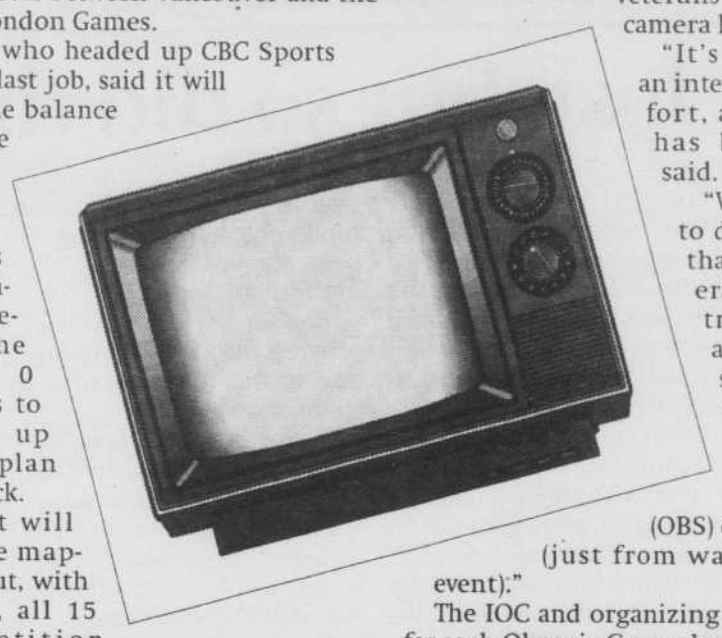
But OBS completes a critical task for them, generating images with a high degree of "wow" factor: The shots from track-mounted cameras that put viewers right next to racing speed skaters, aerial cameras to capture aerial ski jumpers mid-flight and inside-the-net cameras to catch every goal in hockey.

As Richard Pound, a long-time International Olympic Committee member from Canada and director of the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games (Vanoc) puts it, OBS's job is to make sure "all those bells and whistles are going to be there so that broadcasters, who... pay a pretty penny for all this, can be assured their own broadcasts will be high-quality."

Pound added broadcasters "pay a ton of money" for the rights to broadcast the games (NBC alone will pay $820 million US to cover the 2010 Olympics, and CTV/TSN will pony up $90 million US), and the International Olympic Committee wants to make sure the Olympic movement earns it.

Television rights, according to figures released by the IOC, will generate more than $1 billion US from the 2010 Olympics alone, and some $3.8 billion US in total between Vancouver and the 2012 London Games.

Lee, who headed up CBC Sports as her last job, said it will take the balance of the less than three years remaining before the 2010 Games to draw up OBS's plan of attack.



That will involve mapping out, with Vanoc, all 15 competition venues in Vancouver and Whistler, plotting all the camera positions, where cables will run and where the compounds for broadcast-production trucks will be.

OBS also has to liaise with the official broadcasters (it is expecting about 100) to sort out where each one will get to place studio, commentary and interview spaces.

Lee added OBS Vancouver has already been meeting with rights-holding broadcasters, having toured a group through some of the completed venues this past February.

Lee's group is growing month by month as it hires new staff. Eventually, it will be a team of about 120, which will also be responsible for the logistics of bringing 2,000 technicians and their equipment to Vancouver, as well as feeding, housing and transporting them once they are here.

The technicians, Lee explained, are not permanent OBS employees. Instead, OBS hires crews on contract, mostly from broadcast companies that have experience televising international sports (at Turin in 2006, for example, CBC crews were hired to cover hockey and curling) often with seasoned Olympic veterans behind the camera lenses.

"It's very much an international effort, and always has been," Lee said.

"What we try to do is ensure that (event coverage) is neutral," she added. "You should never know the country from which the (OBS) crew is from (just from watching the event)."

The IOC and organizing committees for each Olympic Games have long been responsible for creating a "host broadcaster" to fulfil the task of producing event coverage.

However, Pound said that while the physical task fell mostly on the organizing committees, the brunt of the responsibility fell on the IOC. And with the Olympics' television stakes rising to ever-precipitous levels, the IOC decided to take the core broadcasting job entirely in-house.

"If things go wrong, (official broadcasters) don't blame the Chinese or Korean (organizing committees), they blame the IOC," Pound added. "So if we're going to have this can tied to our tail, (the IOC) should be responsible [for producing the competition footage]."

Televising the Olympics has become extremely lucrative. As a result, the television stakes for the IOC have become enormous.

Pound recalled handling the negotiations for the television-broadcasting agreements at the 1976 Olympics, where broadcasters paid a grand total of $35 million US. "I pretended it was in lira, not dollars," he joked.

By the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, television rights fetched $935 million US. And between Vancouver's 2010 and London 2012 Games, broadcasters will pay $3.8 billion US for exclusive rights to carry the Games.

"Broadcasters pay that because they get value," Pound added. "You go and negotiate (the price for television rights), and it's not good business for us to have broadcasters losing money."

Between 2001 and 2004, television revenue contributed 53 per cent of the IOC's ongoing revenue, which included the substantial contributions the IOC gives to each Games' organizing committee.

The IOC used to share television revenues with organizing committees on a specific formula. Out of the revenue for one set of Winter and Summer Games (the IOC negotiates multiple-games rights) 49 per cent would go to the organizing committees.

The larger Summer Games organization would get two-thirds of the total, the Winter organization one-third.

However, taking over the broadcasting responsibility changes that formula, which did create some friction with the Vancouver and London organizing committees.

Last fall, Vanoc chief executive officer John Furlong acknowledged he had approached the IOC about sharing a larger portion of its record television rights and London 2012 CEO Sir Craig Reedie said his group wasn't happy with the notion of capping the IOC funding.

However, by March, Vanoc had completed its business plan, which Furlong said included a final, negotiated contribution from the IOC.

Pound added that organizing committees "can haggle, especially in the early days. But I think when all is said and done, both sides end up satisfied with whatever number they pick."

"To have (broadcasting) taken on by someone else has got to be a real load off (the organizing committee's) back," Pound said.

Graeme White, director of broadcasting integration for Vanoc, said the organizing committee is already working with OBS Vancouver on a daily basis under an official agreement that spells out which organization is responsible for which task involved with fitting broadcasters into the venues.

White added there are planning meetings and site visits to develop layout plans and overlays because "venues have to work from a broadcasting perspective in addition to a pure sporting perspective."

"We're very confident OBS has the experience and ability to bring the images to the world, and images that are compelling, inspirational, entertaining: All the things people would expect from the Olympic Games.

"So we're very happy to have them on board for 2010," White said.

CANADIENS:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 9

said Monday. "We have lots of time. There's three months before anything has to be done. Montreal has been really good and I hope our relationship continues. I love Montreal. It's a challenge, but I enjoy playing here. But it's a business and we'll see what happens."

Souray may have set an NHL record for power play goals but Markov is considered the better overall defenceman and is Gainey's first priority. Checking forwards Radek Bonk and Mike Johnson made valuable contributions this season but both have hefty salaries and Gainey may think twice if the pair decide to test the free agency market.

Two players who will not be back in a Montreal uniform next season are defenceman Janne Niinimaa and goalie David Aebischer.

Gainey will also have to sign forwards Michael Ryder, Chris Higgins, Tomas Plekanec, Alexander Perezhogin and defencemen Mike Komisarek and Josh Gorges — all restricted free agents.

Perhaps to limit some of the media heat, Montreal announced yesterday that they signed former world junior star Carey Price to a three-year contract.

Price joined the Canadiens' American Hockey League farm team in Hamilton yesterday. Price, 19, completed the 2006-'07 season with a record of 30 wins, 13 losses and one overtime loss, a 2.45 goals against average, a .917 save percentage and three shutouts in 46 games with the Tri-City Americans in the Western Hockey League. His performances helped his team finish in second place in the U.S. Division of the Western Conference with 47 wins and 96 points, two franchise records.

In a little more than four full seasons in Tri-City, Price posted an overall record of 83 wins, 78 losses and 18 overtime losses in 193 games, with a 2.53 goals against average and a .906 save percentage. He also recorded 15 shutouts.

However it is on the international scene where Price has shined the brightest and has given Montreal fans hope that he could be the next Patrick Roy, Ken Dryden, Jacques Plante or Gump Worsley: a goaltender who can help bring the Stanley Cup back to Montreal. Price led Canada to the gold medal at the 2007 World Junior Hockey Championships in Sweden where he was selected as the tournament's Most Valuable Player and named to the All-Star Team. Price won each of his team's six games, posted a 1.14 goals against average and a .961 save percentage. He also registered two shutouts.

In the end, maybe what are really needed are a few more people in churches asking for divine help for the upcoming season.

In Memoriams

LACASSE, Andrea - In loving memory of a dear wife, mother, daughter and sister who passed away on the 11th of April, 2002.

Our lives go on without you
And nothing is the same,
We have to hide our heartache
When someone speaks your name.
To some you may be forgotten
To others a part of the past,
But to us who loved and lost you
Your memory will always last.

Sadly missed and always remembered.

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PRICE, Patricia (nee Tims): September 20, 1930 - April 11, 2006.

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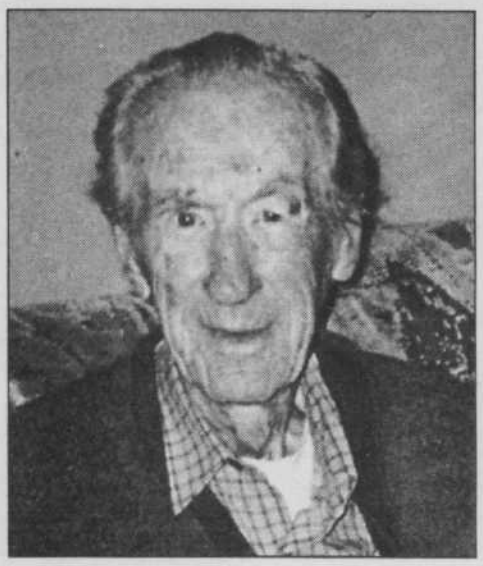
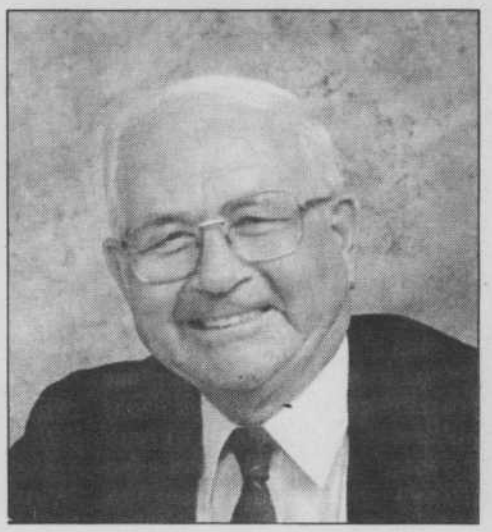
Death



AUDET, Arthur (Art) - At the Sherbrooke University Medical Center, on Monday, April 9, 2007 in his 100th year. Beloved husband of the late Yvonne Bolduc. Survived by daughters Denise (Larry Pye), Madeleine (Normand Dallaire) and son Yvan (André Laverdière). Cherished grandfather of Steven Pye (Dolores Conway), Michel Bousada, Johanne Bousada (Sylvain Lupien), Jean Bousada (Andrée Talbot), Isabelle Audet (Minh-Nghia Nguyen), Sylvia Audet (Pierre Drapeau) and great-grandfather to 9 great-grandchildren. The funeral service entrusted to the Coopérative Funéraire de L'Estrie, 485, du 24 Juin, Sherbrooke, where friends may visit on Wednesday, April 11 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. followed by the funeral service at 2:00 p.m. at the funeral home chapel with the Rev. Pierre Doyon officiating. Donations in his memory to the CHUS Foundation, 580 rue Bowen Sud, Sherbrooke, Quebec, J1G 2E8. would be appreciated by the family.

Death



BOWEN, Thomas - At the Hotel-Dieu Hospital, Sherbrooke, QC on Saturday, April 7, 2007. Thomas Edward Bowen in his 87th year, beloved husband of the late Myrtle Davis. Tom is survived by his loving wife Priscilla Decoteau, her children, grandchildren, and mother-in-law Irene. Dear father of Sharleen (Fred) of Denver, Colo., Sheila, of South Durham, QC and Susan (Celes) of Onanole, Man., cherished grandfather of Miya and Naryn. Tom is also survived by his sister Rene and brothers Rod, John and Ed. Resting at the Cass Funeral Home, 3006 College St., Sherbrooke, QC (Lennoxville), Tel.: (819) 564-1750 / www.casshomes.ca where friends may visit on Wednesday, April 11, 2007 from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. A funeral service will be held on Thursday, April 12 in the funeral home at 2:00 p.m. with the Rev. James Potter officiating. Interment in the Crystal Lake Cemetery at a later date. As memorial tributes, donations to the Lennoxville Curling Club would be greatly appreciated by the family.

Death

WEBB, Scott Allan (1955-2007) - It is with great sadness that the family of Scott Webb of Spruce Grove, Alberta, announce his passing. Scott leaves to mourn, his loving parents Merton Webb and Muriel Webb (Oakley) of Danville, QC, his wife Brenda and children: Shaylaina, Shane, and Alysha, his brother Peter (Solange) and their children: Vicky and David, his brother Robert and son Nicholas, and a very special aunt, Stella Clarkson (Oakley), along with many aunts, uncles, family and friends. A memorial service will be held at the Danville-Asbestos Trinity United Church, Danville, QC, on Saturday, April 28 at 11:00 a.m., with the Rev. Reginald Jennings officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Heart & Stroke Foundation, 1434 St-Catherine St. West, Suite 500, Montreal, QC, H3G 1R4 or the Canadian Wildlife Federation, 350 Michael Cowpland Dr., Kanata, ON, K2M 2W1, would be greatly appreciated by the family.

Granby Young in Heart

The Granby Young in Heart met in the United Church Hall on Wednesday, March 21 at 1:30 p.m.

President Eleanor Hope opened the meeting, welcoming 18 members.

Birthday wishes were extended to Eleanor Hope on the occasion of her birthday.

There was one table of "Bridge" and the winners were 1st Mariette Brault and 2nd George Waugh. One table of "500" was played with the winners being 1st Real Babineau and 2nd Doug Talbot.

The winners in the game room were 1st Jan VanDoorn and 2nd Earl Whitehouse.

A light lunch was served at 4:00 p.m. and was enjoyed by all, especially the cake made by Eleanor Hope and the Madeleins made by Diny VanDoorn.

On Monday, March 26, the Annual Sugar Party was held at Erabliere Bernard with 29 members and friends in attendance. We all seemed to have a good time in spite of the on and off rain showers and of course all ate more than we should have! (But it only comes once a year.)

The next meeting of the Young in Heart will be held in the United Church Hall on Wednesday, April 19 at 1:30 p.m. Anyone over the age of 50 is invited to attend.

Submitted by
Margaret Turnbull

Card of Thanks

BOYNTON, Evelyn - The family of the late Evelyn (Bowker) Boynton wish to express their heartfelt thanks to everyone who expressed their sympathies at the funeral home and by attending the funeral, through cards and donations in her memory, phone calls, etc. Many thanks to the ladies of the Bury Cultural Centre who served a delicious lunch following the funeral, and to the staff of Cass Funeral Home for their compassionate service.

GORDON A. BOYNTON
AND FAMILY

RATES and DEADLINES: ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES

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With photo: additional $18.50. DEADLINE: 11 a.m., day before publication.
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WEDDING WRITE-UPS, OBITUARIES:
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Cleveland Women's Institute

Cleveland W.I. held their March meeting at the home of Eileen Mastine.

Myrna Hebert welcomed everyone and thanked Eileen for having us.

Mary Stewart collect was repeated in unison.

Motto: Believe in your own potential, it's limitless.

Roll Call: Tell an Irish joke or sing an Irish song.

Eight members answered the Roll Call.

The minutes were read and approved.

Our Jumble Sale is April 21, 2007, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the United Church.

Treasurer's report was given by Doris Stevens.

Correspondence: Thank you's were received from The Seamen, and Le Rivage - A Request was received from the Kidney Foundation for a donation. A letter was received about the Income Tax Clinics. A letter was received from the Centre de Bénévolat de Richmond for Volunteer Week April 19, 5-7 p.m., Centre Ste-Famille.

Chairs: Reports were read by Myrna Hebert for Agriculture. Doris Stevens for Health & Community Living and Education Peggy Healy.

Sunshine: Peggy Eastman passed around a card to be signed for Sandra Johnston.

Money Pocket of 17 cents each was collected.

Floating prize was won by Doris Stevens.

Next meeting April 21, 2007 following our sale.

Meeting adjourned.

Lunch was served by Eileen Mastine.

Louise Hebert

Waterloo Lodge No. 27 Card Party

There was a very good attendance at the Odd Fellow's card party on April 4 at the Hall in Warden.

The Odd Fellows and Victoria Rebekah Lodge had joined forces and had a big Easter draw.

The winners were as follows: Two tins of maple syrup donated by Allen Talbot and won by Jacques Racine; two tins of syrup also donated by Allen Talbot was won by Stanley O'Brien; five hams were won by Dorothy Hayes, Elvia Johnson, Gaetan Fontaine, and Pat Cote; chocolate bunnies were won by Doreen McPherson, this was donated by Giant Tiger; other bunny winners were Eva Gelineau and Jean Massé; two tins of maple butter was won by Dorothy Premont; air pump was won by Andre Daigle; a $10.00 gift certificate donated by garage Jean Parent was won by Jesse Lefebvre; a potpouri lamp was won by Daniel Touchette; a toaster was won by "Spooky", a popular dog resident of West Brome.

A lovely lunch was served and a good time had by all.

Submitted by Virginia Clifford

CFUW Sherbrooke & District Club

The Sherbrooke & District Club of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) continues to be involved in important issues and events.

On Saturday, April 14, 2007 at 9:30 AM at the Faculty Lounge at Bishop's, the annual Resolutions meeting will be held. This year only one resolution will be discussed as it is a very important one and deserves the group's time and attention.

Resolutions are presented by any of the 122 CFUW clubs across Canada. When they have been discussed, revised and passed, they are presented to the federal government. This year's resolution proposes that CFUW urge the government of Canada to encourage the United Nations to establish and maintain an agency for women headed by an under- secretary- general, with appropriate and sustainable funding, and with the resources and mandate to initiate and operate programs to help women's development at the country level. Currently several bodies are responsible for women's issues at the UN but they are relatively small, lack autonomy, have low priority and lack proper funding. In the background information for this proposal, it is stated that 19 million women globally are HIV positive. Women make up 70% of the world's poor and 67% of the world's illiterate. Currently, 1000 women a day die in childbirth. Clearly, this is an important issue.

The 15th annual Public speaking Competition will be held at 4 PM on May 3 at Bandeen Hall, Bishop's University. Participants are students from Alexander Galt Regional High School, Bishop's College School, Massey Vanier Regional High School, Richmond Regional High School and Stanstead College. All participants receive a certificate and the winners and runners-up at both the junior and senior levels receive a plaque. Speeches are aired on CBC Radio. The public is invited to hear these talented young people.

The Scholarship Foundation of the CFUW Sherbrooke & District has announced its 2007 competition for two scholarships to be presented in late May: The Marlis and Sigrid Wehr Mature Student Award ($1,000) and The Diana MacKay-Kuilman Memorial Prize, ($1,500 awarded to 1 or 2 women). The Scholarship Foundation was established in 1993 as a registered charitable organization. Application forms must be submitted by April 30, 2007 and are available from 819-563-6226 or www.cfuwsherbrooke.org/pages/scholarships

Applications are judged by an educational committee of the organization. Awards are presented at a special event to be held at the end of May.

The CFUW mission is to raise the social, economic and legal status of women, as well as to improve education, the environment, peace, justice and human rights. The 100+ members of CFUW Sherbrooke & District have a large impact in the community. Visit the club's new website at www.cfuwsherbrooke.org

Beverly Smith

Her mind is starting to slip a little

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I have a beautiful 10-year-old daughter, "Lisa." The problem is, she is teased by other children. She is tall and very slim for her age, but they call her "fat."

I didn't think Lisa would take it to heart, but my husband and I noticed she began controlling her portions at dinner. We explained to her that she was healthy and very active and maybe these kids had other issues and were taking it out on her. Then, the next day, a boy at school called her "fat." Lisa informed me that she did not eat her lunch that day and hid cookies from the school bake sale so no one would see her eat them.

My daughter is 4 feet 9 inches and weighs 89 pounds. She's lost six pounds in the last couple of weeks. What can I do? Why does society put so much pressure on children that a 10-year-old would lose weight when she doesn't need to? I'm scared this might get worse. What can I do? — Worried Mom in Derby, Kan.

Dear Mom: You are right to be worried, because Lisa is at risk of developing a serious eating disorder. We saw the photograph you sent, and your daughter is truly lovely (tell her we said so) and quite obviously doesn't need to lose any weight. Children tease to get a reaction — and Lisa is giving it to them, which means they will continue until she learns to ignore these nasty, idiotic remarks. In the meantime, discuss this with your pediatrician, and also, please talk to the school counselor and principal. This is a form of bullying and must stop.

Dear Annie: My wife's grandmother is in her 70s and has lived with my in-laws for decades. Recently we've all noticed that Granny has been wearing the same outfit for weeks at a time, even though she has plenty of other clothes. My mother-in-law has offered to do her laundry as a subtle hint, but this same unwashed outfit continues to make a daily appearance. She also is obviously letting her hair go, too. My wife tells me Granny has never been a messy person.

My wife and I are assuming that either her mind is starting to slip a little or she's depressed. If either is true, how do we talk to Granny about this? We don't know what to do for fear of upsetting her. — Worried about Granny

Dear Worried: Bless you for paying attention to these changes and understanding what likely is going on. Someone should call Granny's doctor and ask that she be evaluated immediately, and also have her checked for possible infection or reaction to medication.

Granny may be wearing the same outfit because she is not capable of choosing another one. If she removes the clothing at night, someone can launder it while she's sleeping, and replace it (in the same location) with clean clothes. As for her hair, make an appointment for Granny with a hairdresser and simply bring her, saying sweetly and calmly, "You're going to get your hair done. You'll look beautiful." Or, you can do the same thing at home, telling her you're going to try a special shampoo.

Dear Annie: I'm writing in response to "Proud Paramedic," who said there is no such thing as an "ambulance driver," because paramedics and EMTs drive the ambulance.

I am an ambulance driver, and not trained as an EMT or a paramedic. My sole job is to get the two EMTs wherever they need to go, as safely and quickly as possible. I was specifically trained for this job, and had to take a six-week driving course. I spend my life racing as fast as I can to help people, and I'd rather not have someone tell me I don't exist. — Frustrated Driver

Dear Driver: Depending upon the area, there are ambulance drivers who are EMTs and others who are not. We appreciate every single one of you.

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

CELEBRITY CIPHER
by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

Today's clue: L equals Y

"O D D O S M H R H S C S H H M O G N . M H

F D I C A F N D C M U N G S O H G N S P R I A S O

D T M G T D I W O L D O S S C H S ."

- E N W I C S H A M E J S O H

PREVIOUS SOLUTION — "One of the oldest human needs is having someone to wonder where you are when you don't come home at night." - Margaret Mead

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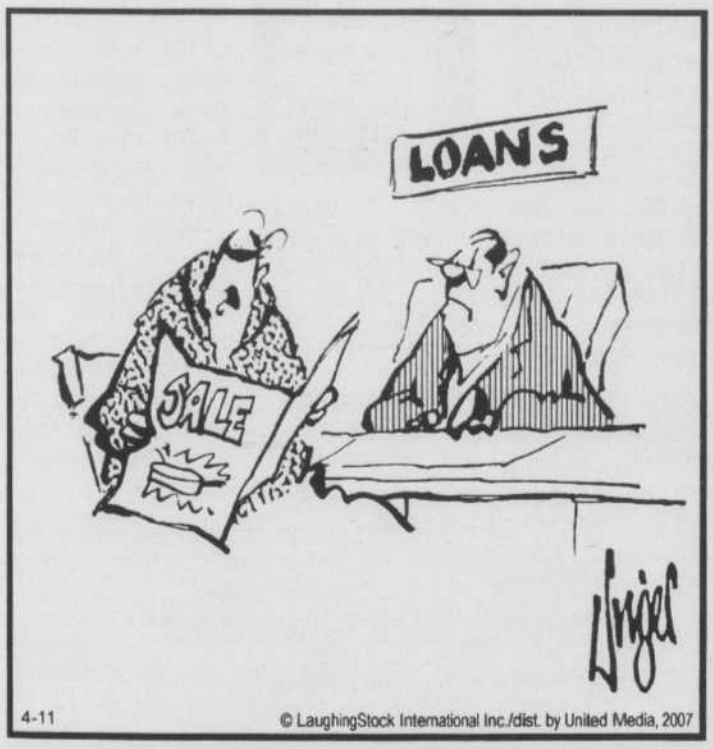
KIT N' CARLYLE

HERMAN



"Let's see, I need $899 plus 7 percent sales tax."

ALLEY OOP

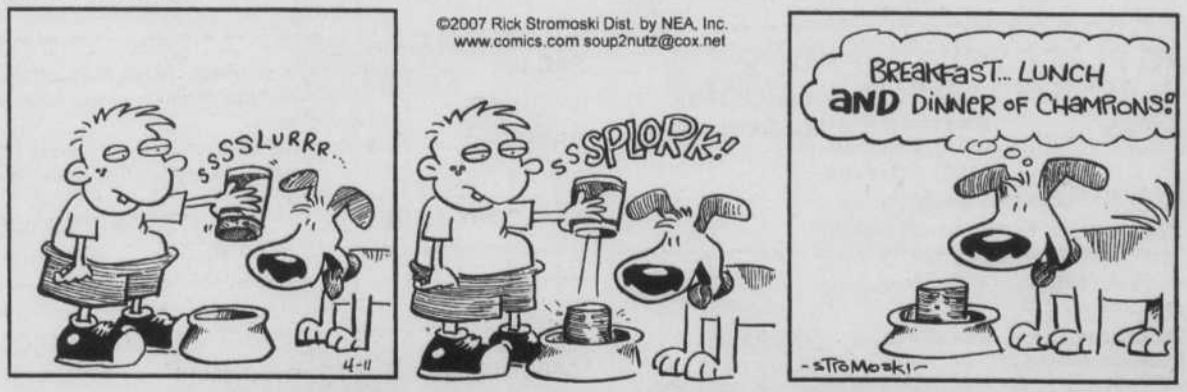
ARLO & JANIS

THE BORN LOSER

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

GRIZWELLS

SOUP TO NUTS



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William Cady, General Manager
Memphremagog Golf Club
C.P. 971, Magog, Quebec J1X 5C7
or by e-mail to:
clubdegolfmemphremagog@bellnet.ca

27173

100 Job Opportunities

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Your Birthday

Wednesday, April 11, 2007

Involvements you have with clubs or organizations could be more valuable than they ever have been previously. The more exposure you have, the greater your chances for beneficial opportunities.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) – If there is someone you recently met whom you would like to get to know better, it may be time to get in touch with this person. Something constructive could develop through this union.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) – People in general will be more responsive to the needs and interests of others, and this includes those with whom you'll be associating. Don't hesitate to express your cravings.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) – Try to pal around with friends or associates whose ideas and interests parallel yours. All parties can have something to gain from getting together and orchestrating something productive.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) – Affairs should work out rather well to your advantage, even those over which you have little or no control. By the time the dust settles, your reputation could be enhanced.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) – If you see that conditions warrant it, don't hesitate to take a reasonable risk that, if all goes well, could advance your self-interests. Your judgment should be reliable now.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) – Projects or enterprises that require imagination and creativity could be right up your alley. If you should get partnered with another who is equally as talented, look out world.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) – An interesting relationship in which you're presently involved could take on a greater dimension. At this point in time, both could begin to see much more to admire in each other.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) – Conditions that could have a bearing on your work or career are rather unusual, but in a mysterious manner. Through some type of maze even you don't understand, gains are likely.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) – You are a gifted orator, and this talent will give you the ability to say exactly the right thing at exactly the right moment to exactly the right person. Something fortuitous will result.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) – A financial situation that may have been looking a bit "iffy" lately could take a turn for the better. With this change, gains appear to be the most probable.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) – Yield to your restless hunches or urges, particularly if they are directing you to get in touch with someone you have been neglecting lately. Something big could be in the making.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) – Your insight and instincts regarding your financial or commercial affairs could be rather astounding. Pay heed to those inner drives that strongly direct you to take a specific action.

Wednesday, April 11, 2007

North 04-11-07
♠ Q 7 6 4
♥ Q 10 6
♦ A K Q
♣ K Q J

West
♠ 10 9 3
♥ A K 8 7 3
♦ 8 5
♣ 9 5 4

East
♠ K 5
♥ 9 4 2
♦ 9 7 4 3 2
♣ A 10 6

South
♠ A J 8 2
♥ J 5
♦ J 10 6
♣ 8 7 3 2

Dealer: North
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
		1 ♣	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	All pass

Opening lead: ♥ A

The same suit, different problem

By Phillip Alder

Evan Esar, in his Comic Dictionary, wrote, "Statistics: The only science that enables different experts using the same figures to draw different conclusions."

Today's trump suit is the same as yesterday's, but there is a different consideration, which might have crossed your mind when you read that column, but it was not relevant. Now is its time, though.

How should the declarer and the defenders proceed in four spades after West leads the heart ace?

North has 19 high-card points, so "must" bid four spades when his partner shows at least six points and four spades. But with such a "soft" hand (almost half the points in queens and jacks, and 4-3-3-3 distribution), rebidding three spades would not be wrong.

South has three top losers: two hearts and one club. So he must play the trump suit without loss. In principle this requires finding East with doubleton king, which, as you can see, he has. But West can keep his side in with a chance of defeating the contract by dropping his nine or 10 when declarer plays a spade to his jack. This gives South the option of playing West for the doubleton 10-9. If that were the position, declarer would have to lead the spade queen from the dummy on the second round.

What should South do?

Against a good opponent, he should ignore West and continue with the spade ace. But if declarer knows that the falsecard would never occur to West, South should return to the dummy and call for the spade queen. That would be his only chance.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Comic Carey
5 Word in a threat
9 Puzo subject
14 Sofer of soaps
15 Perfume container
16 Dress style
17 Economist Greenspan
18 Japanese novelist Shusaku
19 Hornet homes
20 Like cocktails, or some boxers
23 Magnitude
24 __ Aviv-Jaffa
25 One NCO
28 Praise
30 Subject
33 Ninny
36 Jason's ship
39 Doubly
40 Snags, or some NFL linemen
44 Old photo tint
45 Inside help
46 WBA stats
47 Corrects a text
49 Frankfurter's one
52 Neighbor of Leb.
53 Silvery-gray
56 Glossy fabric
60 Naive, or day-old?
64 Cherish
66 River of Thebes
67 Home of the Taj Mahal
68 Staircase post
69 Skunk's defense
70 Sense
71 Brit's tube
72 Roller-coaster thrills
73 Icelandic epic

DOWN

1 Hang in loose folds
2 Take it easy!
3 Make a law
4 Rotary engine
5 Ultimate
6 Lisa of "The View"
7 Nasser's vice president
8 Flee to wed
9 "Death in Venice" author
10 Actor Baldwin
11 Breaded fillet
12 Bank payt.
13 Loser to DDE
21 Actress Balin
22 Einstein's birthplace
26 Lizard with sticky feet
27 Lock of hair
29 Plumbing woe
31 NATO word
32 Tango team
33 Very, in music
34 Bouquet bottoms
35 Gridiron finale
37 Plains antelope
38 Make eyes at
41 Hour div.
42 Naughty
43 Foot woes
48 __ Quentin
50 Dundee denial
51 Attack from the air
54 Religious assembly
55 Model Klum
57 Moved slowly
58 Like some seals
59 Striped antelope
61 Hershiser of baseball
62 Depend (on)
63 Splashed liquid
64 Tiny hill dweller
65 Sandra of "Gidget"

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

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

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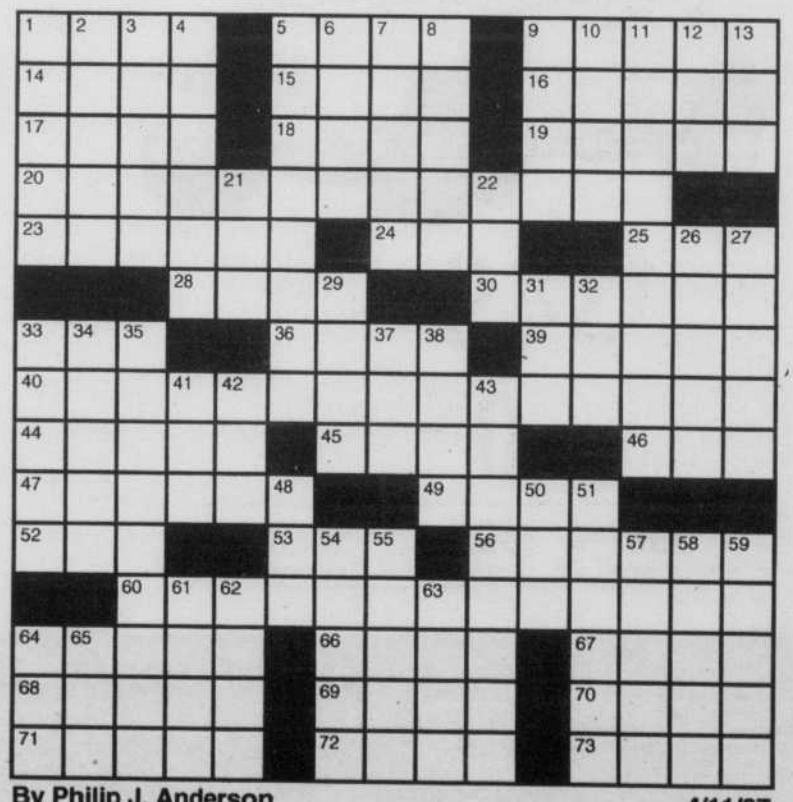

By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR

4/11/07

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