

Quebec wants all school day-cares public-run

If the Quebec ministry of education has its way, all day-care programs now run privately in public schools will become publicly-run come September.

Westmount's two public school

committees are sharply divided on whether or not to opt for the ministry's plan.

Opting out would keep workers out of a union. It would also choke off all direct government funding for

By ALISON RAMSEY

materials, already being cut from \$200 to \$150 per child next school year, as well as subsidization for parents.

Opting in means that day-cares would keep government funding, but lose control over class size (which would be 20-1) and the hiring, pay scale and benefits of employees. The school board would administer all

day-care programs, and all participating schools would have to chip in to pay administration costs.

The Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal has been in negotiation with the ministry over the issue for a couple of years, but that negotiation abruptly ended in April when the government passed a resolution in the National Assembly on budgetary rules for the operation of school day-cares.

With registration for day-cares complete for the coming year, and deposits paid by parents, day-cares are under the gun to make a decision, and quickly.

"I guess the province of Quebec runs along the lines of everything being very much centralized," said PSBGM region director Gwen Lord. "I don't know why they're doing it." The PSBGM sent a survey to all 38

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MUC should cap spending in line with its members: Peter Trent

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The Montreal Urban Community should link its budget to the spending increases of its 29 member municipalities to stop the current "fiscal hemorrhaging," Councillor Peter Trent proposed Tuesday.

The Westmount councillor advocates a transition measure of imposing an average cap on MUC spending over five years, that would be below the projected rate of inflation.

By weighting MUC spending to each municipality "we, at the municipal level, would set the tone for spending because we're accountable to the people," he explained.

Mr Trent sent his proposal to a small group of suburban mayors Tuesday to solicit opinions as he and Mayor May Cutler continue to step up pressure to rally support for drastic MUC spending cuts.

A meeting of the dozen mayors who voted against the MUC's 1991 operating budget was called by Westmount and Town of Mount Royal for last night, to take place after a meeting of the intermunicipal waste management board.

"The mayor and I are trying to set up a rump to stop this fiscal hemorrhaging and we're finding more and more support," Mr Trent said. "The MUC needs to go on a crash diet and then a maintenance one."

MUC chair Michel Hamelin and director general Louis Roquet are to provide a budget update at tonight's meeting of the Conference of Montreal Suburban Mayors, Mr Trent said.

It is now more than two months since he asked the MUC to account for an increase of 290 percent after inflation in its administrative costs since 1975.

"I've been told I should have my answer this week or next but I'm not holding my breath."

Mr Hamelin, he said, asked him at last week's annual meeting in Quebec City of the Union of Quebec Municipalities if he wanted the MUC

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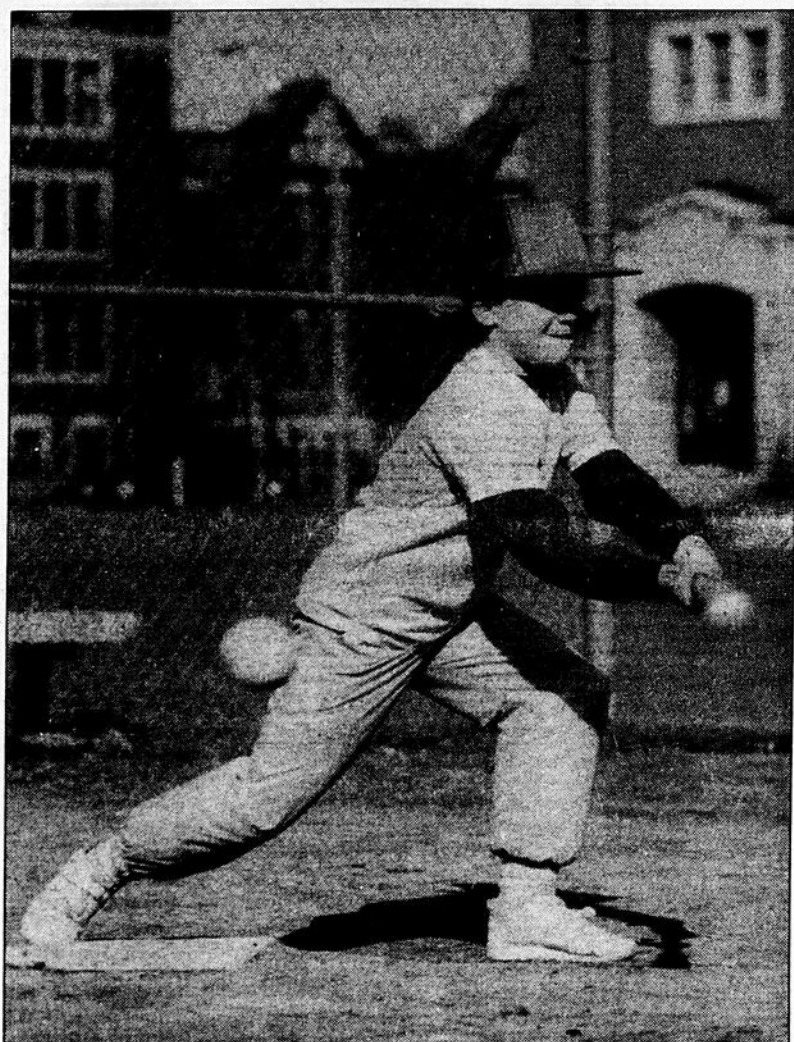
Making all of Westmount your home

Vol. LXIII, No. 19

Westmount, Quebec, Thursday, May 9, 1991

56¢ + 4¢ GST = 60¢

Missed connection



Westmounter Krystyna Bruce, 8, closed her eyes at the crucial moment during her second game of the softball season. The recreation department's Atom game Tuesday evening pitted the Tigers against the Angels in their second game of the year. The teams battled to a 3-3 tie. They both won their first games of the season.

Photo by OWEN EGAN

City seeks injunction to force landlord to maintain apartments

By CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

The City of Westmount will seek a Superior Court injunction to force the owner of a problem-plagued building at 4123-29 de Maisonneuve to maintain it properly, a city official said yesterday.

"The bottom line is I'm fed up," said Bruce St Louis, Westmount manager of operations.

The action came in the wake of a plea for help by the interim president of the Denbigh Tenants' Association (DTA) at Monday's council meeting.

"It's a hell of a mess up there," Gilles G. Gardner said.

Mr Gardner complained of fire and safety violations not addressed by the landlord despite numerous fines by the city and attempts to complain by tenants.

According to city files, Denbigh Properties owns the building. A letter of 20 complaints by the DTA to the landlord, identified in the letter as Ura Greenbaum, was presented to council. Complaints include lack of maintenance, a non-functioning security system, nesting pigeons who make noise and leave excrement on window sills, and not knowing who to write rental cheques to since 25 percent is seized for non-payment to Gaz Métropolitain, according to the letter.

Mr St Louis also announced at Monday's council meeting that the city has been seizing rents for the

past eight or nine months to collect about \$30,000 in fines accumulated over approximately three years.

In a visit to the buildings last Friday, Mr Gardner showed an EXAMINER reporter broken windows and broken balcony doors. There was a hole in the floor of one flimsy balcony on the third floor. At both buildings the lobby doors were unlocked and only 10 of the 24 mailbox locks in the two lobbies worked. Stairways leading to the laundry room were steep, narrow and had no outside railing.

Mr Gardner said he has never been able to contact Mr Greenbaum.

Another tenant, who asked that her name not be used, showed pigeon excrement on a ledge outside her room and complained of pigeon noise at 6 am.

Both she and Mr Gardner agreed that the only course of action open to tenants is to make repairs themselves and then deduct the cost from the rental cheques.

"It's been an ongoing battle," said the woman, a tenant of 12 years in the 24-unit building.

Mr St Louis said yesterday a whole new battery of charges are being prepared against the building's owner. He said the tenants have valid arguments and the city will do what it can to help them.

According to public city files, Den-

Continued on page 10

City going to buy new computer

Residents can protest by signing register

By CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

The decision vindicates the city administration and Jerry Dolar, the director of Westmount's management information system/data processing (MIS/DP) department, who recommended the purchase two years ago.

Mayor May Cutler opposed the request because she wanted to justify

the high cost of a new computer, then estimated at \$400,000, to taxpayers first.

Council later commissioned a \$50,000 study by L.G.S. Group which recommended buying the AS 400 to replace the city's aging and troublesome IBM System 38 computer.

When the city announced the results of the study, the Westmount Finance Action Committee complained the AS 400 was already a dinosaur and not enough consideration was given in the report to a third party turn-key system. This means an outside consultant would sell and maintain the city's hardware and software.

The city, the WFAC argued, could save money because consultants like Dynobec Ltée have 300 municipalities as clients which share the cost of

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La Transition

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Next Scheduled City Council Meeting
Monday, June 3, 8 pm

Date de la prochaine séance du conseil municipal
Le lundi, 3 juin, 20h00



WESTMOUNT
ENCAN PUBLIC

AVIS PUBLIC est par la présente donné par la soussignée, greffier de la Ville, qu'en vertu d'une résolution du Conseil municipal de la ville de Westmount adoptée à sa séance du 6 mai 1991, et en vertu de l'article 461 de la Loi sur les cités et villes (L.R.Q., chapitre C-19), un encan public aura lieu le jeudi, 23 mai 1991, à 19h00, à la patinoire à glace artificielle, 4675, rue Ste-Catherine, Westmount, pour la vente à l'encan de bicyclettes et d'objets non réclamés présentement dans la possession de la Ville.

Une liste desdits objets non-réclamés et des bicyclettes est disponible gratuitement au bureau du greffier de la Ville, 4333, rue Sherbrooke, Westmount, Québec, n'importe quel jour ouvrable entre 8h30 et 16h30.

Les modalités de la vente sont comme suit:

- 1) Tous les objets non-réclamés et les bicyclettes achetés devront être payés lors de l'encan en ARGENT COMPTANT ou par CHÈQUE VISÉ ou MANDAT payable à "Ville de Westmount"; autrement ils seront mis en vente de nouveau.
- 2) L'acheteur devra payer la TPS de 7% et la TVQ de 8%.
- 3) Les bicyclettes et objets sont vendus dans leur état actuel sans aucune garantie quelconque et, sans restriction, sans aucune garantie contre les défauts cachés.
- 4) Les acheteurs devront prendre possession des bicyclettes et des objets qu'ils achètent immédiatement.

DONNÉ à Westmount, Québec, ce 7e jour de mai 1991.

Marie-France Paquet
 Greffier de la Ville



WESTMOUNT
PUBLIC AUCTION

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given by the undersigned, City Clerk, that, by resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Westmount at a meeting held on 6th May 1991, and by virtue of Section 461 of the Cities and Towns' Act (R.S.Q., chapter C-19), a public auction will be held on Thursday, 23rd May 1991, at 7:00 p.m. at the Artificial Ice Rink, 4675 Ste. Catherine Street, Westmount, for the sale at auction of bicycles and of unclaimed objects in possession of the City.

A list of the said unclaimed objects and bicycles is available free of charge from the Office of the City Clerk, 4333 Sherbrooke Street, Westmount, Québec, on any working day between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

The terms of the sale are as follows:

- 1) All bicycles and unclaimed objects purchased must be paid in CASH or by CERTIFIED CHEQUE or MONEY ORDER payable to "City of Westmount" at the auction. Otherwise, they will be put up for sale again.
- 2) The purchaser shall pay the GST at 7% and the PST at 8%.
- 3) All bicycles and objects are sold as is, and without any warranty whatsoever including, without limitation, any warranty against latent defects.
- 4) The buyers must take possession of the bicycles and objects they purchase immediately.

GIVEN at Westmount, Québec, this 7th day of May 1991.

Marie-France Paquet
 City Clerk



WESTMOUNT
AVIS PUBLIC

À Toutes les personnes habiles à voter de la ville de Westmount ayant le droit d'être inscrites sur la liste référendaire de ladite Ville.

AVIS PUBLIC EST PAR LA PRÉSENTE DONNÉ PAR LA SOUSSIGNÉE, GREFFIER DE LA VILLE DE WESTMOUNT, DE CE QUI SUIT:

Lors d'une séance générale du Conseil municipal de la ville de Westmount tenue le 6 mai 1991, le Conseil a adopté une résolution signifiant son intention de procéder à un appel d'offres pour l'achat

d'un ordinateur central IBM AS/400 Modèle B ou D, équipement et logiciels s'y rattachant.

Même si cette procédure n'est pas requise par la loi, le Conseil désire consulter ses citoyens avant de procéder à cet appel d'offres.

Les personnes habiles à voter ayant le droit d'être inscrites sur la liste référendaire de la ville de Westmount peuvent demander que la résolution fasse l'objet d'un scrutin référendaire en inscrivant leurs nom, adresse et qualité et en apposant leur signature dans un registre ouvert à cette fin.

Le nombre de demandes normalement requis pour que cette question fasse l'objet d'un scrutin référendaire est de cinq cents (500). Si ce nombre n'est pas atteint, cette question serait normalement réputée approuvée par les personnes habiles à voter.

Le registre sera accessible de 9h00 à 19h00 le mercredi 15 mai 1991 au bureau du greffier de la ville de Westmount, situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke ouest, dans la ville de Westmount.

Le résultat de la procédure d'enregistrement sera annoncé à 19h05, le mercredi 15 mai 1991, dans la salle du Conseil à l'hôtel de ville, au 4333, rue Sherbrooke ouest, dans la ville de Westmount.

La résolution peut être consultée au bureau du greffier, à l'hôtel de ville, aux heures ordinaires de bureau (du lundi au vendredi de 8h30 à 16h30) et pendant les heures d'enregistrement.

CONDITIONS POUR ÊTRE UNE PERSONNE HABILE À VOTER AYANT LE DROIT D'ÊTRE INSCRITE SUR LA LISTE RÉFÉRENDAIRES DE LA VILLE DE WESTMOUNT

1. COMME CONDITION GÉNÉRALE REMPLIR LE 6 MAI 1991

Être soit domicilié dans la ville de Westmount, soit propriétaire d'un immeuble situé sur le territoire de la ville de Westmount au sens de la Loi sur la fiscalité municipale, soit occupant d'une place d'affaires située dans la ville de Westmount au sens de la même Loi;

2. CONDITIONS SUPPLÉMENTAIRES, PARTICULIÈRES AUX PERSONNES PHYSIQUES, À REMPLIR LE 6 MAI 1991

Être majeure et de citoyenneté canadienne.

3. CONDITION SUPPLÉMENTAIRE PARTICULIÈRE AUX COPROPRIÉTAIRES INDIVIS D'UN IMMEUBLE ET AUX COOCCUPANTS D'UNE PLACE D'AFFAIRES

Être désigné, au moyen d'une procuration signée par la majorité de ceux-ci, comme le seul des copropriétaires ou des cooccupants qui a le droit d'être inscrit sur la liste référendaire à titre de propriétaire de l'immeuble ou occupant de la place d'affaires (Note: Un copropriétaire ou un cooccupant n'a pas à être désigné s'il est par ailleurs qualifié à titre de personne domiciliée, de propriétaire unique d'un immeuble ou d'occupant unique d'une place d'affaires).

CONDITION D'EXERCICE DU DROIT À L'ENREGISTREMENT D'UNE PERSONNE MORALE

Désigner par une résolution, parmi ses membres, administrateurs ou employés, une personne qui le 6 mai 1991 et au moment d'exercer ce droit, est majeure et de citoyenneté canadienne.

Donné à Westmount, Québec, ce 7e jour de mai 1991.

Marie-France Paquet
 Greffier de la Ville



WESTMOUNT
PUBLIC NOTICE

To: All qualified voters of the City of Westmount entitled to have their names entered on the referendum list of the said City.

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE UNDERSIGNED, CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF WESTMOUNT, OF THE FOLLOWING:

At a general sitting of the Municipal Council of the City of Westmount held on 6th May 1991, Council adopted a resolution to the effect that it intends to call tenders for the purchase of an IBM AS/400 central computer, Model B or D, related equipment and software.

Although this procedure is not required by law, Council wishes to consult its citizens before calling such tenders.

All qualified voters entitled to have their names entered on the referendum list of the City of Westmount may request that this resolution be submitted to a referendum poll by entering their name, address and capacity and by apposing their signature in a register open for that purpose.

The number of applications ordinarily needed to require that such a matter be submitted to a poll is five hundred (500). Failing such number, such matter would ordinarily be deemed to have been approved by the qualified voters.

The register will be open for registration from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 15th May 1991, at the City Clerk's Office of the City of Westmount, located at 4333 Sherbrooke West in the City of Westmount.

The results of the registration procedure will be announced at 7:05 p.m. on 15th May 1991, in the Council Chamber at City Hall, at 4333 Sherbrooke West, in the City of Westmount.

This resolution may be consulted at the City Clerk's Office, at City Hall, during regular business hours (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) and during the hours when the register is open for registration.

CONDITIONS TO BE A QUALIFIED VOTER ENTITLED TO HAVE ONE'S NAME ENTERED ON THE REFERENDUM LIST OF THE

Continued on page 30

Westmount
Community
Calendar

Today, May 9

Vernissage: at 8 pm at Visual Arts Centre for a juried exhibition of students' work. The show continues until May 18.

Art exhibition at A.H. Campbell Gallery, 4916 Sherbrooke street, recent work by Frances Foster until June 1.

Art exhibition at Galerie Kastel, 1366 Greene avenue, landscape paintings by Serge Brunoni until May 18.

Seniors' swim: At Westmount from 1:30 to 3 pm every Tuesday and Thursday. No charge. 931-8046.

Seniors' tea: At Westmount Y at 2:30 pm. Free.

Friday, May 10

Musical evening: An evening of golden era music with a live band and vintage records for dancing or chatting, at 8 pm at Victoria Hall. Emcees are Cordon Courtney of Club Jupiter and Johnny (Golden Eras). Refreshments are available. \$22.50. Dress in informal, but no jeans or cords. 632-9021.

Art & antique auction: Rotary Club auction preview at 6 pm at Westmount Arena; sale from 7 to 10 pm.

Rummage sale: St Andrew's School rummage and bake sale today from 3 to 6 pm for parents and family; tomorrow from 10 am to 3 pm open to all.

Saturday, May 11

Bazaar to benefit Sun Youth at Canada Trust, 1326 Greene avenue, 931-7554, from 10 am to 5 pm. Westmounters are asked to contribute to the bake sale.

Toy sale at Greene Avenue Community Centre from 10 am to noon.

Garage sale: Rotary Club sale at Westmount Arena from 10 am to 3 pm.

Bake sale: Girl Guide bake sale, plus sale of Girl Guide cookies, 10 am to 2 pm, Westmount Y, 4585 Sherbrooke street.

Overeaters Anonymous meets every Saturday at 3:30 pm at Westmount Baptist Church, 4755 Sherbrooke street. Non-smoking. 499-3940.

Car engraving from 10 am to 5 pm at police Station 23, 21 Stanton street, kicks off Police Week.

Sunday, May 12

Mother's Day: Children, phone home.

Adult Prisoners of Childhood support group meets at 7 pm every Sunday in the basement of Westmount Baptist Church, 4755 Sherbrooke street. \$1. 937-4392.

Cocaine Anonymous meets every Sunday from 2 to 3:30 pm at Greene Avenue Community Centre, 1090 Greene avenue. 931-6202.

Monday, May 13

Montreal Camera Club meets at 7:30 pm at Westmount Park Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve boulevard, rear entrance. Annual general meeting, followed by a special slide presentation by Audrey Speck, *Ellesmere Island*. Guests welcome.

Wednesday, May 15

Poetry reading at Double Hook, 1235A Greene avenue, by Ann Simon and Walter Simon at 3 pm.

Gathering of seniors: Following noon lunch, Abenaki musician, storyteller and filmmaker Alanis Obomsawin will speak on *Opening Windows of Understanding*. At 2 pm, there will be an information session and music. Ticket information at 935-8531 ext 220.

Thursday, May 16

Music recital at Congregation Shaar Hashomayim by three young concert musicians at 8 pm at 425 Metcalfe avenue. Free. Public welcome.

Art exhibit: A display of children's art produced by the 4 O'Clock Club on the theme of *Family* will be on view at the Westmount Library until May 25.

Book signing: Daniel Richler will autograph his recently published novel *Kicking Tomorrow* at Double Hook at 4 pm.

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THE WESTMOUNT Examiner

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City seeks to toughen demolition by-laws

Westmount wants to toughen its demolition by-law pending the adoption of an overall heritage policy.

In a notice of motion announced by Peter Trent at Monday's council meeting, most homes on Westmount's heritage list compiled in a 1988 study would be subject to Westmount's demolition review process for any amount of demolition work proposed.

That process includes a public review by Westmount's demolition committee which has the power to deny any demolition request, a decision only council could overturn.

Now, any building which undergoes "substantial demolition" must go through the process. Mr Trent says the accepted definition of substantial is the demolition of 50 percent or more of the building. So heritage homeowners can now legally demolish 49 percent of their homes.

Under the proposed by-law, owners of all heritage homes on the list from the Beauré and Michaud report, except for those designated 2A, the lowest designation, would not be allowed to demolish any part of their building without going through Westmount's demolition process.

Mr Trent also wants to use the proposed new by-law to define legally the term "substantial" as demolition of 50 percent or more of a building not on the heritage list and/or 10 percent of the façade.

The reason for the latter, he said, is to preserve the character of a street. For example, drastically altering the façade of one rowhouse is like smiling when a prominent tooth is missing — "the smile is ruined," Mr Trent said.

By CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

The notice of motion to further amend by-law 1029 also proposes to remove accessory buildings, such as garbage sheds or garages, from the demolition process and to no longer

exempt the City of Westmount itself from the process.

The aim of the changes is to make clear to citizens what the city's intentions are regarding heritage buildings, Mr Trent said. He intends to present an overall heritage policy to council within a month or two.



Gallery owner Paul Kastel is especially anxious to recover this small Alfred Pellán painting valued at \$37,000. It is a collector's item measuring approximately 12 x 12 inches.

Kastel art theft loss set at \$287,000

An art gallery owner has revised the amount of his theft in a break-in Sunday night on Greene avenue, police said yesterday.

Police initially were told only one painting valued at \$450 was taken from the Kastel gallery at 1366 Greene but two days later say three paintings were reported taken for a total loss more than \$287,000. The incident is under investigation.

One of the paintings, *La Coulée* by Paul-Emile Borduas, is valued at \$250,000, according to gallery owner Paul Kastel.

But the loss that upsets him most is a small abstract composition entitled *Joue de l'Aube* by Alfred Pellán which he values at \$37,000. "It's a collector's item," he explained.

Mr Kastel told THE EXAMINER

yesterday that he was in Toronto when the theft occurred and thought, when contacted by telephone, that it was a \$450 painting near the front door taken by the thieves.

He said an alarm call summoned police to the gallery and his sister, who lives nearby, went right over.

The front door had been smashed and an ax lay beside it on the ground, police said.

A witness described one suspect as a white man wearing red jogging pants and a black sweater. His truck had a homemade wooden box cover painted white.

Mr Kastel believes there must have been two to carry out the paintings.

A still life by Frank Nemeth also was taken, he said.

Pedestrian struck by car

Police have been calling for safer crossing plan

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

For the second time in eight days, a pedestrian has been struck by a turning car at Sherbrooke street and Claremont avenue where police have been asking the city to install pedestrian lights.

The latest victim, a 25-year-old woman living at 418 Claremont avenue, was hit in heavy rain Wednesday night last week while crossing west from the southeast corner. She was taken to hospital and released without serious injury.

The week before, on April 23, a man was hit on Sherbrooke outside the Bank of Montreal by a car driving north and turning west. He also was taken to hospital.

The Sherbrooke-Claremont intersection proved to be Westmount's most accident-prone in 1990, according to figures from Station 23. Ten people were injured in 12 of the mishaps reported at that location.

"About a month ago, I asked the traffic committee to add pedestrian lights or prohibit all left turns," said Sergeant Hubert Rodrigue. "Since then, we have had two more people hit by turning cars."

Sgt Rodrigue, who heads the traffic squad at local Station 23, said he prefers the lights to a ban on left turns.

The matter is now under study by the city's light and power department, confirmed public security director Richard McEnroe, who chairs the city's administrative traffic committee.

It is possible that pedestrian lights would disrupt the 40 km/h progression on Sherbrooke street, he said.

He acknowledged, however, that the progression already is interrupted in the area during times of traffic congestion on Sherbrooke between

Claremont and Victoria avenues.

The latest accident, which occurred about 8:15 pm, happened despite efforts by the victim's husband to pull her away as the car approached. She suffered pain in the back and right shoulder.

The driver of the car was identified as a 24-year-old woman from Montreal West.

Plan now for city-wide garage sale

Weact, the Westmount environment action group, is organizing a city-wide garage sale for June 1.

All residents can register their home address for a publicity listing by calling 934-1662 by May 24.

Homeowners will receive signs, ideas for running an efficient sale and a sheet of safety tips prepared by Public Safety Officer Robert Hryciuk.

Apartment dwellers without space for a garage sale can rent tables at the arena between 10 am and 2 pm by reserving at 932-8253. If there is any profit from table rentals, it will go to Weact's tree fund.

Maple leaf march

The Save Canada Committee is holding a march Saturday at 11 am from Place du Canada (Dominion Square). Participants are asked to come early and bring a maple leaf. For information call 766-5155.

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More signs of meter thefts

A Westmount postal employee found another coin canister from parking meters Monday last week in bushes near 4333 St Catherine street, according to public security reports.

It was turned over to a city parking inspector who was flagged down by someone in a post office truck on Tupper street. The canister was believed to be one of many stolen recently from local meters.

ATTENTION

Would the woman who was walking her black Newfoundland dog when it bit a man on roller skates last Saturday at 3:30 p.m., corner Westmount Ave. and Argyle, please call the public security department at 935-1777.

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You Say

Consultation a 'travesty' says St George's principal

The recent meeting I attended at city hall concerning the matter of the reconstruction of Cedar avenue was nothing short of a travesty.

Sincere people on both sides of the issue desired an opportunity to speak and to be heard by the Westmount council members who, in the long run, will be called upon to make the final decision. One side, made up of those who favored a comprehensive plan which would attempt to improve safety by slowing traffic on Cedar avenue and The Boulevard concurrently, was stonewalled by chair Peter Duffield.

Instead, Mr Duffield, who opened the meeting by insisting on his scrupulous objectivity, spent one hour and a half rebutting any view which argued against beginning work on Cedar first. Are the residents of Westmount not deserving of an objective chair who will help ensure the delivery of the best possible services to the greatest number of people and not just to narrow

interest groups?

Until they are prepared to consider a position which meets the needs of all the constituents in the area, representatives of the municipality are going to have to take responsibility for the kind of volatility that characterized last Tuesday's meeting.

What is tragic is that the reasonable view presented by Dr M. Kiely — which suggested that Cedar not be narrowed, that the barriers at the entrance to Cedar be removed, that Cedar be levelled at Mountain (as planned) and that traffic lights be installed at both the Mountain avenue and the Ramezay road corners of Cedar — was given short shrift.

If, in addition to her suggestions, a traffic light were placed at the corner of The Boulevard and Ramezay, the interests of both streets would be well served: traffic would be slowed and the children at four area schools would be safer.

I hope there is still time for the appropriate councillors to reverse their preliminary decision concerning this matter.

Gilbert Plaw

Director, High School

St George's School of Montreal

3100 The Boulevard
MONTREAL PQ H3Y 1R9

We Say

Why live there?

WE wouldn't be in the newspaper business if we had not long since learned that there usually are two sides to every question.

Westmount, as we all know, is unique. Take the dispute between the residents of Cedar avenue and of the nearby Boulevard over restricting through traffic on the former at the expense of the latter.

The city has managed to provide a third side, which might be described as procrastination, inaction, even paralysis in the face of anger of residents.

Last week's consultation meeting solved little. While some may think it was "a healthy exchange of views" between mature and concerned citizens of the neighborhood, it proved to be the inevitable result of lack of forthrightness and resolve at city hall over an extended period. This is an issue which plagued the city long before most of the people on either artery took up residence there. Until now, officials elected and appointed have managed to contain it.

Nearly 30 years ago THE EXAMINER unwittingly made one of its very few appearances in one of those amusing little fillers in *The New Yorker*. We have forgotten just why the item was deemed to be amusing but remember that it had to do with the squeal of tires on the curve at the intersection of Clarke avenue as cars whizzed eastward on Cedar.

Cars have whizzed along there ever since the road was made one-way, not just doubling the volume of eastbound traffic but inviting the careless and the carefree to let their horseless carriages show what they can do when uninhibited by oncoming traffic.

Boulevard residents never before complained very loudly, as they do now, of measures to make Cedar safer, including the one-wayness, the reduced-speed limit and, from time to time, actual attendance of traffic police, with or without radar, to enforce the law.

Narrowing it is another matter, however.

They have every right to cry foul over simplistic schemes taken too seriously at city hall to divert traffic onto The Boulevard by cutting the usable width of Cedar.

The weight of good sense lies with the Boulevardians who, apart from the essential unfairness of being asked to take on Cedar's problem, point out to seemingly deaf ears that The Boulevard is studded with schools and, if diversion of any traffic made sense, it would be to widen Cedar and, perhaps, even reinstate two-way traffic.

Little has been said of the westbound traffic which, specially in the evenings, streams up Ramezay road to The Boulevard, diverted from Cedar these many years. But that flow, every bit as much as the eastbound diversion in the mornings, already imposes on The Boulevard residents.

If the partisans who reside on the two arteries, being wise and caring persons, agree on anything it is that safety should be the paramount consideration.

The city, in all its studying of the matter, has not so far pronounced on the virtues of reconsidering the old and increasingly discredited panacea of one-way streets, for Cedar and elsewhere. Normal, two-way traffic has self-limiting features, not the least of which is speed.

Persons who have chosen to live on these important east-west thoroughfares knew full well that they both have been "gasoline alleys" for almost as long as there have been automobiles. To complain now raises questions as to why they decided to move there in the first place.

We also raise the question as to why the City of Westmount has not reviewed more closely its own past attempts to ameliorate conditions on various thoroughfares and realized that, so long as we live in a busy urban environment, there are few remaining absolute solutions worth attempting, and said so plainly.

Parties? We send our regrets

WHEN the Parti Québécois took office and went on a rampage of reform of many things in the province, it could not resist sticking its central-planning fingers into many aspects of how the cities and towns run themselves.

For instance, we have the distant reformers to thank for insisting that Westmount city council be enlarged from seven to nine members, that they all be elected at the same time, that the term of office be four

years, and that they all be paid.

All of this was whether the citizens wanted these changes or not. Few in Westmount, on council or not, wanted any of it.

Some of Westmount's municipal government problems since have stemmed from these changes.

Now along comes Mr Jacques Beauregard, with long Westmount roots, who has revived one of the ideas encouraged by the Péquistes but never implemented here,

that local government should be on the political party system.

Mr Beauregard, it may be remembered, was a candidate in Ward 5 in 1987. The seat was won by Mr Stuart Robertson. Mr Beauregard hints he may run again.

We never have heard a good explanation why political parties are a good thing, even at the level of the so-called superior levels of government. If persons running for office and others wish to join them, or coalesce into new ones, no problem. It is when the party becomes more important than the person elected that we object. So-called party loyalty has diverted and even submerged many good brains and good ideas on the excuse that they are counter to "party policy."

We long have maintained that one of the great virtues of municipal government, apart from the fact that it is local and closest to those it governs and therefore often the most important in citizens' lives, is that it is comprised of individuals. It makes mavericks, free-ranging thinkers, independent-minded solons possible.

This does not prevent those who comprise a council agreeing or, at least, achieving majority views on all sorts of topics and acting as one to the benefit of the community.

We have to be convinced that if our solons were like-minded to the extent of cleaving to a single identity, or party name, that local government would thereby benefit. Indeed, we shudder to think, if there were two or more parties, what constant differences and acrimony might be invited. This already has happened in too many communities where mayoral and councillor independence has not been treasured, and it is not pretty.

It is all very well for Mr Beauregard to decry the present system in Westmount where, far from "turning themselves into a political party as soon as they get elected," complete with a party line, quite the opposite is true at city hall.

Mr Beauregard cannot be very familiar with the individuals making up our city council. He mistakes the civility arising out of working together and respecting one another in their diversity for something sinister, something he mistakenly describes as running the city like a privately-owned corporation.

The gentleman, if elected, may find it frustrating by being a member of his own party of one. On the other hand, being thus independent of others' views he would fit right in — so long as he was not preoccupied with party politicking and was as devoted as his council colleagues to the city's welfare.

our M.N.A.
Richard B. Holden
says...



Temptation of titillation

ALMOST everyone loves a juicy bit of gossip — the kind that titillates or shocks. Was it a heart attack or was it suicide? Why was she visiting her sister in New York at the same time her former husband was there on business? How come so-and-so never married? I admit to indulging in it from time to time.

But things are getting out of hand. There is a dreadful little rag published in Ontario called *Frank* which does nothing but run nasty, scurrilous material based almost exclusively on rumor and innuendo. It, and other self-indulgent junk like *The National Enquirer*, make their allegations knowing that people either won't bother or can't afford to sue.

I suppose the question could be asked: If they're so bad why do people buy them? The answer is that it's easier to judge Gary Hart on the basis of his philandering than on a study of his policies. If the same journalistic standards had been applied to JFK, he would never have become the president of the U.S. of A. If Sen John Tower had lived and worked in Washington during the Second World War, his martini guzzling would have paled beside the brandy consumption of Sir Winston and, of course, compared with the bizarre beliefs and séances of Mackenzie King, the peccadillos of the late Richard Hatfield were normality itself.

I believe that most of our political reporters these days (with a few obvious exceptions) are too lazy to research the serious side of public life, so they go with what is superficial and simplistic. They get most of their news from that phony parliamentary show known as "Question Period." I admit that politicians play the game also by using that time to get attention, rather than to learn something useful about the administration of government. And they dwell on gossip and trivia.

The National Assembly settles down to discuss the budget this week and next. Had it not been for Ontario's gigantic deficit, Quebecers would be screaming about our \$3.4 billion overdraft. But Gérard D. Lévesque seems to have horseshoes draped over him. First he latches on to the federal GST with a minimum of political fallout; and then he gives us a massive debt structure and very few commentators seem shocked.

I Say!

MONEY never starts an idea; it is the idea that starts the money.

— W. J. Cameron

EXAMINING THE FILES

Forty-five Years Ago
May 10, 1946

"R. Percy Adams, Mayor of Westmount, stressed the effect of a clean and beautiful city not only in our generation but the advantages it held for the generations to come. . . 'It was in 1909 - 37 years ago - that the Clean-up Movement was started by the City Improvement League, and each year since the League, in addition to its many other activities, has worked hard to organize every interest that could contribute to the clearing away of the accumulated rubbish of the winter months from every corner of the metropolitan district.'"

"The Westmount Bicycle Club held its first trip last Saturday afternoon journeying out along the Lakeshore route."

Thirty-five Years Ago
May 11, 1956

"Westmount ranked second in value of real estate sales for the month of February according to statistics released this week by the Montreal Real Estate Board. The city recorded 19 sales worth \$1,308,217 to place second behind St. Laurent which led all suburban municipalities with 57 sales for a value of \$2,003,615."

"Nursing is an art and a profession. It carries the banner of the brotherhood of man irrespective of color, race or creed. It is a profession dedicated to the young women of a scientific and enquiring mind and spirit. It is dedicated to one who would serve Humanity."

Twenty-five Years Ago
May 12, 1966

The Atwater Métro station was nearing completion: "... as you descend the almost-completed moving stairs, you arrive at a mezzanine, and again you become awestruck by the massive size of this manmade underground highway. From the mezzanine the station can be seen on the floor below. Automatic stairs carry you down to the station where automatic gates open and close as the trains come and go. The platform is 500 feet long and so are the trains. Standing on the platform, looking east, one can see the perfect tunnel take a dip and the tracks leave the station. This is for the trains in order that they may lose speed arriving at the station and gain it when leaving. To the west can be seen a straight set of tracks too, going as far as the RCMP building, some 700 feet past the actual station. . . The station itself is a glittering sight. Glazed brick on all the walls catch the light and create a warm feeling."

Ten Years Ago
May 14, 1981

"Quick action by Westmount firefighters and emergency workers defused a potentially explosive situation Monday afternoon when some 800 pounds of highly flammable liquid propane gas leaked from tanks in the lane behind 4026 St. Catherine street just west of Atwater avenue."

"Two men sporting sunglasses held up three cashiers at Steinberg's store on Greene avenue last Wednesday afternoon making off with some \$2,000, police report."

One Year Ago
May 10, 1990

"The city's probe into its business tax fiasco is now revealing failure by municipal employees to follow up on requests made to the MUC for valuations which would have enabled the city to process tax bills, it was learned Tuesday. It was not known how much money the city may have lost through such delays resulting from 'sloppy management,' finance commissioner Peter Trent said."

"A draft of Westmount's five-year planning program, unveiled at Monday night's city council meeting, proposed that a heritage by-law be adopted to protect historical buildings. The document says Westmount has one of Canada's most significant collections of heritage buildings and that they must be protected from growing development pressures like demolition and inappropriate modifications."

NEWS ITEM

PARTY SYSTEM SUGGESTED FOR WESTMOUNT CITY COUNCIL



Something I Want to Say

Honesty is a two-way street

By CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

WHEN is a writing a story more important than hurting a person's feelings?

Always, according to the accepted standards of journalism. Feelings are not part of the public's-right-to-know versus invasion-of-privacy equation.

They should be. We're a calculating, objective, quasi-scientific lot, us scribes. We're here to present you with the facts, and just the facts, in an objective, accurate and concise way.

We usually have a lot of figures to back up our facts and when we don't have the figures we find them by conducting surveys of 2,000 people to illustrate how 26 million people think. It's all very scientific.

And that's what's so wrong with this business. In the name of our scientific journalistic duty to inform you quickly, we are losing some of our humanity and our capacity to tell the truth.

Any journalist worth his weight in pencil lead will tell you how easy it is to manipulate quotes and figures to tell whatever story he or she wants while looking quite objective. It's frighteningly easy.

How many times have you read two dif-

ferent media accounts of one meeting and wondered if the journalists attended the same event? And if two stories are relatively similar, odds are the journalists got together to agree on the crowd size and discuss what the other intended to write.

And if you think facts and numbers don't lie, you're wrong because the people who give them to you do. But on most occasions you don't have the time, the resources and/or the brains to prove otherwise.

The American government released body counts of enemy dead during the Vietnam war which were outright lies the media reported.

Us media types are not good at admitting there are serious problems with what we do, that sometimes the world isn't the black-and-white place we present it to be for the sake of conciseness and clarity. We also don't like to admit how imperfect we are and that we can make mistakes, especially under deadline pressures.

I have yet to write a story I was totally satisfied with. There is never enough time,

space and or research to devote to a story. Should the subject of a story accept anything less?

Sometimes you even have second thoughts about writing a story. Two weeks ago I wrote a story I wish I hadn't. I spoke to a man, a very kind, gentle man, who was going out of business after more than two decades. He asked me a few times if I had to write a story and I kept saying yes. So he just politely and honestly answered my questions.

Of course, according to all conventional rules of journalism, this was a story THE EXAMINER had to print, to inform the public that a well-known local business was closing after two decades.

But I couldn't help feeling how this was none of my Goddamned business and how I invaded this person's privacy during extremely trying times for him and why

Continued on page 12

our PSBGM commissioner
Joan Rothman
says...



Tampering with daycare

THE ministry of education (MEQ) has put the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal between a rock and a hard place. The PSBGM and its parent population have a difficult decision to make, a decision that will directly affect parental caregiving, child security and family funds. Roslyn School parents and principal Bertha Dawang as well as Westmount Park School parents and principal Paul Saunders are all wrestling with this no-win decision.

In 1991-92 the MEQ will require that all school daycare personnel be members of the appropriate union, must be centrally hired by the school board and must obey a ratio of one adult (either director or worker) for every group of 20 students.

Both Westmount Park and Roslyn Schools have daycare programs with non-

Continued on page 12

our M.P.
David Berger
says...



Don't dump on Chrétien

SOME politicians and columnists seem to take an almost perverse pleasure in dumping all over Jean Chrétien. The latest example is his proposal for a national referendum and his observation that a constitutional amendment could be passed without the approval of Quebec or with a small majority in Quebec providing there was a sufficiently large consensus in the rest of the country.

Premier Bourassa said this observation amounted to political stupidity. Well, it so happens that the Constitution of Canada, in its general amending formula, provides for most amendments to be made with the approval of the Parliament of Canada and of

seven provinces representing 50 percent of the population. The consent of all provinces is not required. And this is the formula favored by the government of Quebec in 1981.

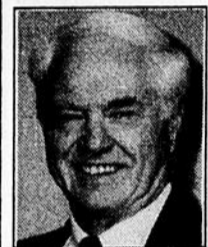
Furthermore, if these critics cared to look a bit further, they would see that Jean Chrétien prefers an outcome supported by most Canadians. More importantly, he believes that such an outcome is possible. As he puts it in his April 21 speech, "My knowledge of Canada tells me that everything I proposed today is acceptable to the great majority of Canadians."

Premier Bourassa and others who are quick to criticize Chrétien would do well to study carefully his proposals. They might wish to reflect on the following points. First, throughout most of Canada's history, the Liberal Party of Canada has played a determining role in our constitutional development. Secondly, if anyone knows Canada and has a feel for the views of Canadians, it is Jean Chrétien. If Premier Bourassa dismisses Chrétien's views, he does so at his peril and ultimately the country's.

Touching history



The Westmount arena was transformed into an antique-hunter's paradise last weekend, when dozens of dealers came to show their wares.



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COMPUTER...

Continued from page one

developing and upgrading software.

So the city again delayed making a decision until it met with representatives from Dynobec Ltée.

As it turned out, the present value of the cost less benefits of acquiring an outside system over eight years was \$358,174, compared to \$195,161 for the AS 400, a difference of \$163,013, according to a city document.

Both Mr Trent and Mr Duffield said at the council meeting they would have preferred a third-party turn-key system were it not for the cost difference. Other problems with the Dynobec alternative include a different programming language and a two-year changeover period when parallel computer systems would have to be in operation.

Since Westmount already has an IBM computer, the switch to a new IBM model could be done within a week.

At Monday's meeting, Rolland Benard, chair of the WFAC, said the city was moving in the wrong direction. He said the city was buying a computer before addressing organizational problems and developing proper systems, when it should be the other way around.

"We are truly putting the cart before the horse," states a WFAC position paper by Mr Benard and William Graham.

Mr Trent later agreed with the WFAC but pointed out the city's computer has experienced numerous head crashes and the city needs a new one.

Residents will be able to sign a register against buying the computer on Wednesday, May 15, from 9 am to 7 pm at the city clerk's office. If 500 or more sign, the motion will either be withdrawn or a referendum will be held. All residents are eligible to sign the register.

New T-D branch officially opens

Mayor May Cutler Tuesday morning cut the ribbon to mark the official opening of the new Toronto-Dominion Bank branch at Greene avenue and de Maisonneuve boulevard.

The branch, located in the new building on the southeast corner, is a merger of the bank's long-established St Catherine and Redfern branch and the one at Sherbrooke and Elm avenue.

Presiding at the opening ceremonies was Westmounter Robert R. Laverdure, senior vice-president, Quebec division. He introduced the branch's manager, Suzanne Poole, whom he praised as having had a very successful track record with the bank's busiest Quebec branch, the one at Cavendish Mall.

Mr Laverdure said the bank's investment in a new Westmount branch was an expression of T-D's confidence in the economy and in Westmount, where it has had a presence since 1927.

He also announced the bank's other Westmount branch, at Sherbrooke and Claremont, would undergo extensive renovations within the next year.

In her short address, Mayor Cutler reminded the bank officials that the city had rejected their efforts to locate their new branch at St Catherine and Greene in the base of Château Westmount Square. The city insisted that space, still vacant, be used for retail purposes.

"You ended up with a better location," she quipped to Mr Laverdure, and he agreed.

The new branch has 5,000 square feet of space and offers a complete line of personal banking products and service over expanded hours, including Saturday.

As part of its opening festivities, the branch is donating \$1 to the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation for every new account opened until the end of June.

Business briefs

Forexco opening set for May 22

The Forexco foreign exchange outlet which company officials said would open at 1210 Greene avenue two weeks ago is now scheduled to open May 22.

According to Nathalie De Angellis, a spokeswoman for Le Groupe Promedia Ltée which is handling the public relations for Forexco, the delays are caused by the contractor.

Certain modifications still have to be made to the building for security reasons, she said. For example, one wooden door must be changed to metal with a metal frame.

She said the outlet will surely open by May 22.

Faulty stop

A car knocked over a stop sign on the south side of Côte St Antoine road Saturday morning. It hit the personal car of a public safety officer who had parked it in the city hall lot, police said. The sign dented the roof of a 1982 Ford belonging to community relations officer Robert Hryciuk.

A ticket was issued to the driver of the 1987 Pontiac, a Hampstead man.



The following building permits were issued at Westmount city hall recently:

April 30

- 670 Victoria: for R.W. Percy by P. Albert, extension to kitchen and master bedroom, \$30,000;
- 503 Victoria: for A. Vaillancourt by self, fence, \$1,100;
- 32 Oakland: for C. Schneiderman by Vicon Construction, extension to front of home, \$50,000;
- 4480 Sherbrooke: for Emile Sadaka by self, repairs to balcony and front stairs, \$15,000;

May 1

- 492 Wood: for Rossana Colletti by self, windows, walkway and driveway, \$9,000;
- 164 Hillside: for James Bond by self, repairs, \$4,000;
- 4333 Sherbrooke: for the City of Westmount by Les Entreprises Michael Ferrara Inc, alterations to stores (office) in Corporation Yards, \$47,700;
- 414 Victoria: for Jacques Bonin by self, rear fence, \$150;
- 75 Somerville: for Mrs Carbone by self, fence, \$700;

May 2

- 815 Upper Belmont: for Villa Ste Marcel line by contractor yet to be determined, alterations, \$250,000;
- 356 Grosvenor: for A. Garson by Nemis Construction, replacement of front entrance and stairs, \$75,000;
- 432 Metcalf: for D. Kinnear by Fitzpatrick Plumbing, install four plumbing fixtures, \$1,000;
- 483 Roslyn: for Susan Slattery-Dizgun by contractor yet to be determined, rear deck, \$5,000;
- 4476 St Catherine: for B. Morris by self, door relocation, \$500;
- 4326 Westmount: for R. Natonek by self, solarium, \$15,000;
- 464 Clarke: for Yolande Tanguay by André Boulet Renovation, kitchen alterations, \$13,000;

May 3

- 627 Clarke: for David Culver by Fenêtres Vento-Matic, windows, \$6,000;
- 110 Upper Bellevue: for B. Rosenthal by self, renovations, \$10,000;
- 494 Argyle: for Jaksadaka-Yofi Sadaka by self, kitchen, \$6,500.



The Deal of The Century



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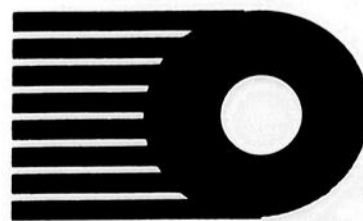
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Office for out-of-work execs lends moral and other support

'Westmounters are not immune'

They're in the business of helping people.

That's what Constance Middleton-Hope said La Passerelle, a non-profit outreach program by Christ Church Cathedral, is all about. And particularly helping business people who have been laid-off.

Last Friday, Westmounter Eugene Reisman, chair of the board of First Quebec Corp, presented Ms Middleton-Hope and other La Passerelle members free office space in the 23-storey Industrie Alliance-Assurance building at 2000 McGill College avenue.

First Quebec developed that building and was also a partner in developing the Maison des Coopérants built on Anglican Church land behind the cathedral.

Mr Reisman said First Quebec is on good terms with the church and when approached for space felt the church was worthy of support. He also said it was a good way of "helping out people caught in the economic downturn in Quebec and Canada."

Bob Hinton, a consulting engineer, knows what it's like to be out of work. He was in the pulp and paper industry and was laid off twice because of economic downturns in the industry.

"At first it's kind of numbing. You don't feel anything for a while," Mr Hinton said.

But then the reality of bank and mortgage payments set in. Soon life savings are touched and may eventually be wiped out. The loss of a home is not uncommon.

By CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

"You need somebody to talk to," Mr Hinton said. "Someone who understands it's not your fault, that there's nothing wrong with you."

And that's what La Passerelle is about, offering assistance, helping business people get jobs, giving information through seminars and lending moral support.

Middle managers at risk

Mr Hinton now runs his own consulting firm, RAH Associates.

Westmounter Gavin Elbourne said there has been a tremendous growth in middle-management unemployment because of the recession and the new technology of the information revolution.

Mr Elbourne is a member of Christ Church's business advisory group and is employed with the Applied High Technology Group, a company specializing in sophisticated industrial software.

It is his opinion that modern tech-

nology has eliminated the need for certain middle management positions, \$20,000 to \$60,000-a-year positions, and those jobs will not return when the recession is over, he said.

"It means people who are laid off from middle-management jobs will probably have to re-orient their lives," Mr Elbourne said.

Ms Middleton-Hope said women are often the victims of unemployment because they are usually "the last ones in" and therefore "the first ones out."

La Passerelle, for a small fee of about \$30, will provide assistance finding work and encourage networking. Experience shows that once one member finds a job, Mr Elbourne said, they will go to La Passerelle to recruit others.

Despite the free office space La Passerelle still requires donations of cash and otherwise. Right now they are looking for a photocopier, a fax machine, business directories, office supplies and members who need help.

"Westmounters are not immune," Mr Elbourne said.

All welcome to attend Healthy City meeting

The Westmount Healthy City Project Committee of the whole will meet Thursday, May 16, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at Westmount City Hall in the council chamber. A light supper

will be served. All those who have participated in the project, interested councillors, Westmount residents and people whose business is in Westmount are invited to attend. You are asked to confirm your attendance by calling 935-6531 ext 276 or 376.

The Healthy City committee comprises two interest groups, environmental responsibility and mutual support. The committee is working toward promoting a healthy community through Family Day and Environment Week and researching projects that will enrich community health such as waste management, skill exchange, maison des jeunes, supportive housing and programs, welcoming newcomers and so on.

Annual meeting of WMA set for May 21

The Westmount Municipal Association will hold its annual meeting Tuesday, May 21, at 8 pm at Victoria Hall.

The guest speaker, Dr Joe Schwarz, will speak about "The Age of Anxiety," and will explain, in plain talk, the scientific facts behind some of the things which worry us.

"We are concerned about styrofoam cups, disposable diapers, bleached paper and toxic agents," he writes. "These are legitimate concerns indeed but their impact on our lives must be put in proper perspective by examining the scientific facts behind the issues in an objective, unemotional fashion."

Also to be discussed at the meeting will be MUC water treatment, sewage treatment and public work plans.

Man in noisy rooming house asks for police protection

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A Westmount man asked city council how he could obtain police protection for the next two weeks until he can vacate a rooming house on Dorchester boulevard where he claimed to have been beaten up last week.

The man told how he had called police and public safety officers to the place Wednesday night last week in a dispute with noisy neighbors before being transported by Urgences Santé to the Montreal General Hospital.

"It's a very poor housing situation," he explained.

He is reported to have suffered a bump and cut on the head as well as a torn finger nail that was initially treated by public safety officers.

Councillor Paul Fortin told him he would speak to local police director Pierre Vézina to ascertain how the problem might be handled. The police chief told THE EXAMINER Tuesday he was familiar with the case and would look into the matter.

The man is well known at the station, he said.

The complainant has previously asked city council to have police investigate drug deals in his building and to strictly enforce regulations which prohibit the riding of bicycles on sidewalks, as reported in THE EXAMINER last week.

No arrests were made following the alleged assault last week. Police said the incident remains under investigation and charges have not been ruled out.

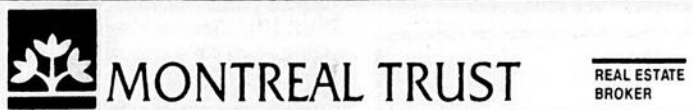
Public safety officers were called to the rooming house at 4162 Dorchester boulevard at 11:51 am for a noise complaint but since no officers were available, the call was referred to Montreal Urban Community police. They apparently asked neighbors to lower their music.


PSOs responded to a second call at 12:23 am and neighbors turned down a television set.

As officers were leaving, however, they heard the complainant call neighbors a racist name followed by shouting. Two men were heard "scuffling" on the porch after which the man was treated for injuries.


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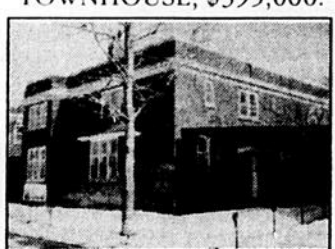




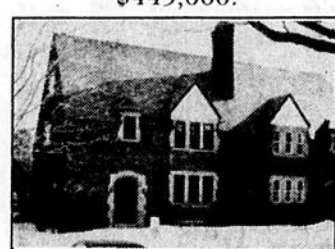
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Cop cruiser hit while running red light

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A police cruiser crashed into a car at The Boulevard and Grosvenor avenue last Thursday while going through a red light to answer a hold-up alarm on Sunnyside avenue, police said. The call was reported to have been a false alarm.

The driver of the other car, a 56-year-old Montreal woman, suffered a bump on the head but refused transportation to hospital.

The patrol car was one of two dispatched from Station 24 at St Paul and Peel streets when no local cars were available "over the change in shift," said Station 23 director Pierre Vézina.

The accident was the second in some six months involving an emergency vehicle from another neighborhood answering an alarm call in Westmount.

Two people in a passenger car were injured last Oct 22 when a mutual aid fire truck from Côte St Luc struck a car while going through a red light at Atwater avenue and de Maisonneuve boulevard after being summoned to a code call in Westmount. The truck had been travelling under red flashing lights but no siren shortly after the need for mutual aid assistance had been cancelled.

The latest accident occurred about 3:52 pm when the police cruiser was driving north up the steep hill with flashers in operation, said local crime prevention officer Gaston Bernier. He said no mention was made in the accident report of a siren sound-

ing. Police generally don't sound the siren when approaching the neighborhood, he said.

The cruiser struck a 1986 Pontiac that was proceeding west on a green light. The driver was reported as stating she neither heard nor saw the police vehicle until it was in front of her.

The driver of the cruiser said his emergency lights were in operation and all other cars had stopped, Const Bernier said.

The police car was struck in the right side by the front of the other car. Both sustained more than \$500 damage. The cruiser, a 1990 Chevrolet, was driven by a 27-year-old officer.

In confirming the holdup alarm had been an unnecessary call, Dir Vézina said Montreal Urban Community police were working on a regulation where they would refuse to answer an alarm call at an address after a certain number of false calls had been registered.

"Probably the way we're going this will be early next year — if the politicians agree."

He said many of the problem alarm result from "fly-by-night" installations or do-it-yourself alarm kits. "They're buying the system but we supply the service."

He said municipalities such as Calgary and Toronto that had instituted a similar regulation recorded a sharp decrease in the number of false alarm calls.



STATION 23 LOG

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The following are some items from the files at Montreal Urban Community police Station 23, which covers Westmount:

Boys caught in the act

Two young Westmount boys were seen breaking windows at the Ambassador Apartments, 4557 Sherbrooke street, Monday last week, police said. They are seven and nine years old.

The boys were caught by the janitor about 4 pm as they were throwing rocks at 12 small windows leading to a boiler room. They were turned over to police and the older one was taken to the local station before being released to his parents. One lives on Mount Stephen avenue, the other on de Maisonneuve boulevard.

Hit-and-run suspect driving stolen car

An 18-year-old Westmount man has been charged with stealing a 1990 Volkswagen which fled the scene of an accident Tuesday last week at Grosvenor avenue and Sherbrooke street. The car was stopped an hour later on René Lévesque boulevard. It had been stolen April 16 on Murray Hill avenue.

Police said the car had collided at 6:20 pm with another that was also eastbound. The driver of the stolen vehicle got out, apologized, handed over erroneous identification and drove north on Grosvenor.

Verification of the licence plate revealed the car was stolen and it was spotted an hour later by police on Greene avenue. The car was followed along Dorchester boulevard and finally stopped east of Atwater avenue. A resident of Kensington avenue was arrested.

Loot abandoned

A house was broken into on Holton avenue last Thursday; residents forgot to put on the alarm system before going out, police said. The house was searched throughout and jewelry put into a suitcase. The loot was abandoned on the bed suggesting the burglars may have been interrupted. Access to the home was gained between 4:50 and 6 pm by breaking a small window in the front door near the lock.

Five beat up on 26-year-old man

A 26-year-old man from Dollard des Ormeaux claimed to have been robbed by a group of five men as he walked along Sherbrooke street at Arlington avenue Saturday about 1 am, police said. He was described as drunk when he flagged down a police car to report the incident.

The man stated he was walking along the north side of the street when approached by one of the group and kicked in the chest. Others joined the attack. One suspect produced a knife. Money was taken from the victim's wallet which was left behind "because you'll need your cards," the man was told. The suspects fled north on Arlington avenue.

Assault in Métro

A 36-year-old MUCTC worker was cut in the face by glass Tuesday last week in the Atwater Métro when a man broke a window in the cashier's wicket, police said. A 39-year-old LaSalle man was arrested at Atwater and St Catherine after the victim provided a description of the suspect. He has been charged with assault.

Phony inspector prowls apartment

A thief posing as a City of Westmount inspector conned a 92-year-old Westmount woman into letting him enter her apartment at 4400 St Catherine street April 26, ostensibly to check thermostat wiring, police said.

When the phony inspector left, the woman found money and stamps had disappeared. The speaker in her phone receiver had also been removed to prevent her calling for help, police said. The man returned the next day but she would not let him inside. The victim reported the incidents two days later.

Bad bike loan

A trusting six-year-old loaned his bicycle to an older boy in Westmount Park Sunday afternoon and never saw the grey BMX again, police said. He did not know the young thief. The victim was playing in the park about 5 pm when the stranger asked to try out the bike. The suspect, a young black boy wearing a black sweater and black running shoes, received permission and drove off.

Card conflict

Police were called to Westmount High School Tuesday last week about 12:55 pm when two 15-year-old boys became involved in an altercation over basketball cards, police said. One punched the other in the face and pushed him down some stairs as he was bending over to pick up the cards. The suspect then ran out. He was described as a former student who had been expelled.

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By Reg Morden

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P.S.: Happy Mother's Day!

P.P.S. Special get-well wishes to friendly rival Pauline Bates, who is out of action with a broken leg. Hurry back, Pauline!

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Car engraving kicks off Police Week

Local police officers plan to get a head start on Police Week (May 12-18) by holding a car engraving session Saturday, a day before the start of the week.

The third Operation Autograph takes place in the garage of local Station 23, 21 Stanton street, between 10 am and 5 pm.

There you'll find crime prevention officer Gaston Bernier and his crew equipped to mark the windshield and windows of your car with its serial number using an acid technique.

The process takes only a few minutes and is designed to send car thieves looking for unmarked cars that might be more worthwhile to steal.

Police will visit the seniors' apartment residence at Place Kensington next Tuesday to talk about safety in the streets and provide tips on consumer protection.

The third event scheduled for Police Week in Westmount is the bicycle road-oo organized Saturday, May 18, by the Rotary Club of Westmount (see separate story) at the Westmount arena from 9 am to 2 pm.

The usual Police Week exhibit at Place Alexis Nihon will not take place this year due to budget restraints and other commitments, says station director Pierre Vézina.

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Apartment residents escape fire despite unplugged smoke detector

A Westmount woman and her 11-year-old daughter were lucky to get out alive.

That's what fire officials said this week after fire erupted in the kitchen of an apartment at 250 Kensington avenue where a dead battery had been removed from a smoke detector and was not yet replaced.

The blaze caused about \$19,000 damage when it started from an overheated extension cord used to plug in an electric kettle, investigators explained.

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Residents were preparing for bed about 9 pm and had no way of knowing the kitchen was filling with smoke until the lights began blinking and they heard small explosions caused by short-circuiting of the cord.

Had the lights not flickered, they might have been trapped in the bathroom, since the burning kitchen was near the front door, said investigator Barry Coates.

Had they been sleeping, Fire Chief Jim Adams is quite sure they would never have made it to safety.

"I found the kitchen on fire and smoke filling the apartment," said Diane Rioux, who had a cake in the oven and thought the stove was on fire.

She got her daughter Jennifer out of the bath and by the time they managed to escape with a large cage containing their pet guinea pig, both had to be treated for smoke inhalation.

"I was in such a hurry to get dressed I almost forgot about Snoopy," said Jennifer as she huddled beside the cage in the downstairs lobby where tenants of the building assembled during the fire.

Reacted well

The girl had reacted well by closing doors on leaving the burning apartment, Lieut Coates said. Jennifer told him she remembered learning about it at school. She attends Villa Ste Marcelline where Lieut Coates has given fire safety lectures to students.

Residents of the building told THE EXAMINER they had not heard any fire alarm in the building, a fact confirmed by firefighters. No one pulled the alarm, Lieut Coates said.

Tenants used the elevator despite

very clear evacuation plans posted in the hallways warning against such a practice in case of fire, he said.

When Westmount firefighters arrived, they reported finding heavy smoke in the apartment but were able to make quick work of the fire, knocking most of it out using extinguishers.

Mutual aid assistance was provided at the scene by Côte St Luc and Outremont while Town of Mount Royal covered at the station.

Heavy fire damage was reported to the kitchen with smoke damage throughout the second-storey apartment.

Another fire hit the building in December 1988 when a woman fell asleep smoking. A smoke detector failed to work on that occasion, recalled Lieut Coates.



Snoopy, the pet guinea pig, showed no signs of ill effect after being taken from a burning apartment by Jennifer Finnigan, 11.

Plug appliances into the wall

RESIDENTS are reminded never to use extension cords with appliances such as irons, portable heaters, toasters and electric kettles.

Most extension cords are not designed to take such heavy electrical loads as these appliances draw, say fire officials in wake of last week's fire at 250 Kensington avenue.

Small appliances come with heavy-duty cords that must be plugged directly into a wall outlet.

When wires overheat from an overload of current, they become red hot like a toaster element, igniting whatever is close by such as a kitchen counter or floor, fire officials explain.

Most electrical fires start from wiring located within a room rather than wires inside the walls, they say. The reason is that wiring in the walls is usually installed to carry heavy power loads.

Parking permit fraud noticed

An observant public safety officer became suspicious about two discolored parking permits on cars parked on Rosemount avenue Monday at 1:05 am.

When he checked them out, he found one had been issued to a resident of 10 Rosemount avenue last November. The date had been changed and a copy given to the man's roommate, public safety officers said.

Office break-ins

Two offices at 4333 St Catherine street were found broken into Tuesday last week at 5:24 am, police said. Burglars were reported to have found cash. Entry was gained during the night, from the roof.

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Honouree Charles Bedzow receives prestigious Peace Medal

Guest speaker Ambassador Abba Eban urges Bond investors to redouble efforts for Soviet Jews

Ambassador Abba Eban was the guest speaker at the State of Israel Bonds Montreal Builders Division Tribute Dinner in honour of Charles Bedzow, President and Chairman of the Board, Pacific International Equities Corp. Inc.

Charles Bedzow received the prestigious Peace Medal: the highest award for civilian achievement accorded by the Prime Minister of Israel for his signal contribution to the Bonds "Operation 400" campaign designed for the construction of 400 new apartments for Soviet Jews and young Israelis.

The dinner was chaired by Myer Samuels who together with Alex Kotler were the first recipients of the State of Israel Bonds Canada-Israel Leadership Award for extraordinary services rendered in support of the Canadian Bond program.



From left to right: Sally Bedzow, Charles Bedzow and Ambassador Abba Eban.



From left to right: Zelda Steinberg, Alex Kotler, Lily Kotler, Ray Slomovic, Francine Fagen, Barry Fagen, Sandy Retter and Dr. Warren Retter.



Myer Samuels and Alex Kotler, first national recipients of the State of Israel Bonds Canada-Israel Leadership Award. From left to right: Sally Bedzow, Charles Bedzow, Consul General Itzhak Levanon, Myer Samuels and Alex Kotler.

Mayors discussing MUC

Continued from page one

to hire 10 additional people to look into his requests.

"They shouldn't have to spend any time on such a request. They should have such information on the tips of their tongues."

Meetings useful

Both Mr Trent and Mayor Cutler found the UMQ meetings (Thursday through Saturday) to be useful in getting together with other MUC mayors to talk about the budget issue.

They said they gleaned little insight, however, into what modifications might be made to municipal affairs minister Claude Ryan's proposed subsidy cuts to municipali-

ties.

Mayor Cutler said she had received a personal reply Monday from Mr Ryan to a letter she had written asking him to reconsider the cuts. "He said they've already done something and it wasn't going to be taken off entirely."

The issue of the Ryan cuts was raised at Monday's council meeting by Westmount Municipal Association president Tom Thomson, who noted in particular the positive impact that subsidy grants to the MUC transit system might have on its overall economy.

"We've always maintained that the MUC is the engine of the province. Maintaining a transportation system could be an important factor," he said.

City seeks injunction

Continued from page one

high Properties owes the city more than \$40,000 in municipal taxes on both addresses; \$21,225.65 for 4123 de Maisonneuve and \$20,424.89 for 4129 de Maisonneuve. Both buildings have a total MUC valuation of \$832,200.

Mr Greenbaum, a lawyer whose address is listed as 512 Prince Albert, avoided the sale for non-payment of taxes of that duplex by paying \$16,473.53 in back taxes just before the deadline Jan 26, 1990. According to city documents then, the duplex belonged to Jacob Greenbaum, Ura's father who died in 1988. It was the subject of a succession dispute, Ura Greenbaum said then. He could not be reached for comment this week.

Mr Greenbaum is also the landlord of the 42-year-old Monkland Tavern which has been given a month-by-month lease because Mr Greenbaum has been searching for a new tenant since he bought the building in 1988.

Last Wednesday the electricity at the tavern was switched off by the owner for two days until a court injunction forced him to turn it back on.

Mr St Louis said the city's lawyer will petition Superior Court for an injunction to get The Denbigh fixed up after the city's lawyer, Kevin Donovan, meets with the Board of Inspections today.

"The Board of Inspections has tried the co-operative approach," Mr St Louis said.

Councillor Joan Rothman said at Monday's council meeting that the building has been the subject of complaints for a long time and the "city certainly has a responsibility to do something."

Mayor May Cutler said, "We certainly can't have this kind of thing going on in Westmount."



Gilles Gardner stands on narrow steep steps leading to the laundry room at 4123 de Maisonneuve. Notice there is no outside guard rail.

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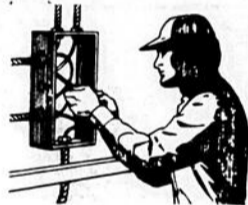
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Woman falls on sidewalk

A 71-year-old Westmount woman fell on the sidewalk at York and St Catherine streets last Thursday while leaving a private entrance at Château Maisonneuve, police said.

She hurt her right hip and was taken to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital by Urgences Santé after the mishap at 11:10 am. The pavement was reported to be dry and the woman wore moccasin-type shoes, according to public security reports.

Pricy bike stolen

An \$800 Rocky Mountain bicycle was reported stolen from the bike rack at Murray avenue near Côte St Antoine road Friday night, police said. It belongs to a resident of Murray Hill who valued it at \$800.

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Neighborhood Watch meeting raises concerns about burned-out street lights, fire safety

Dim street lighting again raised concern among Westmount citizens attending the latest Neighborhood Watch meeting last Thursday at the fire station, organizers reported Monday.

This time residents of streets immediately east of Westmount Park complained about poor lighting in the park, often caused by burned-out lights they said were slow to be replaced.

Public safety officer Robert Hryciuk told THE EXAMINER the matter has already been brought up with the light and power department and new procedures are to be implemented.

These include replacing numbers on light posts in the park, making it easier for patrolling officers to designate those that are burned out. Identification numbers disappeared one summer when light posts were repainted, he said.

It is also agreed that light bulbs will be changed as soon as possible after being reported, rather than being saved up until a few have accumulated.

Councillor Joan Rothman, who

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

was one of the organizers of the meeting, said residents of that area (the western part of Ward 6) also asked for greater emphasis on park patrols during the daytime, especially on weekends. She said officers seem to be less visible in the park.

The meeting, which attracted about 33, was called essentially to organize Neighborhood Watch as a crime prevention program. Many of the residents had fire safety on the mind instead, said police constable Tony Soumas, who represented Montreal Urban Community police.

They questioned Deputy Fire Chief Graham Morrison and Inspector Hugh Clarke throughout the meeting on matters related to chimney sweeping, fire extinguishers and even why the fire department sends so many trucks on a small call.

"We'd rather anticipate a larger incident and be ready for it," the deputy chief explained.

All streets in Ward 6 have now been organized and will be marked

as Neighborhood Watch blocks, said PSO Hryciuk, program co-ordinator. His aim, he said, is to involve all Westmount.

Officer Hryciuk presented figures from the May 1991 issue of *Law and Order* magazine stating that in Singapore, a city of 2.6 million population having 8,000 police officers, Neighborhood Watch has been organized for 10 years. There are now 91,000 Neighborhood Watch blocks with 500 new ones formed each month.

Château vandalized

Someone smashed the glass front door of Château Maison-neuve apartments early Saturday causing about \$500 damage, police said. The vandalism occurred between 3:45 and 4:30 am while a guard was making rounds. It was reported by a taxi driver delivering a fare to the building.

A narrow escape from falling workman's ladder

A ladder fell from the new building on the southeast corner of Greene and de Maisonneuve Friday, crashing on to a parked car and narrowly missing a pedestrian, public safety officers report.

The ladder broke the back window of the Plymouth and dented a fender, causing an estimated \$1,500 damage, according to police. It was listed as belonging to an electrical contractor working on the building which houses the Toronto-Dominion Bank.

The incident was brought to the attention of public safety officer Robert Hryciuk at 10:30 am by the woman who told him she had almost been hit. When officers questioned the workers, they initially denied owning the ladder, he said.

Police were called to the scene and shown insulation material used by the workers that had apparently come down from the building along with the ladder.

Crash at intersection injures four in cars

Four people were injured in a two-car collision Sunday afternoon at Côte St Antoine road and Claremont avenue, police said. Both cars sustained more than \$500 damage and had to be towed away.

The accident occurred about 6:41 pm when a 1987 Plymouth driven by a Westmount man crashed southbound into a 1986 Jeep being driven west by a man from N.D.G.

Both drivers claimed to have the green light, but a witness who was driving in front of the westbound Jeep told police the light turned yellow after he went through. The only ticket issued was to the driver of the Jeep for not having proof of insurance in his possession.

The driver of the Plymouth suffered injury to the head and left leg and was in a state of shock. He was taken to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital by Urgences Santé.

The driver of the Jeep and two 10-year-old passengers also were injured but were to go to hospital on their own. The man suffered shock and pain in the forehead while his

young son complained of pain in the abdomen. The other boy had sore shoulders and suffered shock.

Dog bites child on the cheek

A three-year-old boy from Summit Circle was bitten on the cheek Wednesday last week by a neighbor's dog he had gone over to pat, police said.

The boy was taken to the Montreal Children's Hospital for stitches to close the wound.

Court liaison officer Sergeant Jacques Lussier said the dog, a Samoyed-type, was tied on its own property and did not contravene municipal by-laws.

"The police and public security went out of their way (to be helpful)," said Peter Segal in describing his son's accident at Monday night's city council meeting.

The child was bitten between 4:45 and 5 pm while playing outside, police said.

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Du groupe Jeunes et Foi, est né Je Rencontre Jésus. Il s'agit d'un noyau de volontaires qui gardent les enfants de trois à sept ans environ pendant la messe familiale du dimanche. Et c'est un fier service que rendent les jeunes aux parents et à ceux qui veulent prier sans être trop dérangés.

Jeunes et Foi a pris l'initiative de vendre des gâteaux faits maison pour acheter les hamacs dont manquait le Foyer de l'Espérance de Choluteca. Ils ont aussi organisé une vente de chocolats de Pâques pour la même oeuvre.

Chorale St-Léon

Le 26 mai à 15h30, un événement

musical aura lieu à la Chapelle de la Maison-Mère de la Congrégation Notre-Dame, 4873, avenue Westmount. Un concert chant et orgue sera donné par la chorale St-Léon de Westmount sous la direction d'Yves St-Amant avec Lucienne L'Heureux-Arel, organiste et le quatuor vocal Francine Labelle, soprano; Chantal Rioux, alto; Marc Ouellet, ténor; et Yves St-Amant, baryton.

Dimanche prochain, en même temps que l'Ascension, nous célébrons la Fête des Mères qui coïncide cette année avec la Campagne de l'oeillet, organisée au bénéfice de la Société canadienne de sclérose en plaques. A la fin des deux messes dominicales, il y aura vente de fleurs pour venir en aide aux personnes atteintes de cette maladie. En offrant un bouquet à l'occasion de la fête des mères, vous ferez non seulement un acte d'amour vis-à-vis de l'être cher mais un geste de solidarité pour soulager ceux qui souffrent.

Benefit ball

This evening the eighth annual *Hymne au printemps* ball in support of cystic fibrosis will be held at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel. Guest of honor is Mila Mulroney. The aim of the ball is to raise \$300,000 for research. For information call 288-7711.

In and of at St A-D-D

In But Not Of... is the unusual title chosen by Rev Bob Shank for his sermon on Sunday at St Andrew's-Dominion-Douglas Church.

"What I have in mind," he explained, "is how we can be in this world, but as disciples of Christ, live in a way that differs from some of the ways of the world."

Communion will be celebrated at the service, the annual Christian Family Sunday, with participation by some of the young people. Regular Sunday School classes will not be held as the children will remain in the sanctuary with their families during service.

Friends sought

A 19-year-old boy living in Pointe Claire would like to have a big-brother type person for outings. He enjoys sports of all kinds, music and movies.

A 50-year-old physically handicapped woman living in Pierrefonds would like to have someone for occasional friendly visits.

If you would like to get involved in these or other volunteer projects through West Island Citizen Advocacy, call 649-5850.

SOMETHING...

Continued from page five

couldn't I just leave him alone like he wanted?

All he had to do was say, "No, I don't want to talk to you," and I would have left him alone. But he was too kind and I wasn't. I was blinded by my duty to get the story.

Many people don't know about the limitations and the failings of the press because we don't like talking about ourselves, let alone criticizing ourselves in public.

Politicians and public relations people have mastered the art of manipulating the media because they understand what we do and don't do well. You have a right to know also. You also have a right not to comment and not be made to look like a criminal by doing so.

And maybe we have a responsibility to tell those who speak to us for the first time what the implications of talking to us could be for them. Maybe we should tell people who witness violent crimes who are willing to give their names to the press that maybe they shouldn't.

We demand honesty of the people we talk to and our readers are entitled to no less from us. So until we're willing to open up to you, maybe you should think twice before talking to us.

And don't worry about hurting our feelings because we won't even consider yours.

OUR PSBGM...

Continued from page five

unionized personnel hired by the school and administered by a loose parent/principal coalition. Generally this volunteer/PSBGM effort works well and our daycares run smoothly and at a reasonable cost.

Daycare has become essential to education in today's society where parents work and children could be alone for hours after the school day is done. The answer has been to keep them supervised and positively occupied in school until the parent is free to take the child home. The government until now has subsidized both the program in the school and the individual parent who cannot pay the school daycare fee.

The government now says — if you don't unionize, centralize and obey the ratio, we will not certify the daycare and the programs and the parents will both lose their subsidies. The cost of opting out from the MEQ directives and approved daycare will be expensive for the average parent.

If the PSBGM decides to accept the MEQ directives, the board will receive not \$200 a student as in the past, but only \$150 per student. As well the board will be responsible for the administration of a new group of employees — including paycheques, benefits, seniority, dismissal, placement, health problems and retirement at an undetermined cost. You understand why the decision seems so difficult! Defying the government is possible only for those with sufficient income — which means that daycare will become elitist.

Accepting the government directives means that parents and their children will find the programs cost more and will offer less in the way of supervision and of content.

Why does the government not leave us alone? Roslyn and Westmount Park are operating successful programs, using community resources such as the Westmount Library, the parks and the Westmount YMCA. Good daycare should become a right of every child. Why is the government increasing the cost of daycare during a recession in a province with the second-highest unemployment rate in Canada?

It's easy to place a classified ad in THE EXAMINER. Simply call 931-7511. An adtaker will help compose the ad. Payment will be made by using your Visa or MasterCard.

Where were they going?



The following calls were answered by the Westmount Fire Brigade during the past week:

April 30

8:22 am: 368 Wood, smoke detector activated by dust from workmen;
2:32 pm: 4451 St Catherine, Metcalfe pharmacy, odor from overheated ballast in light fixture;
2:39 pm: 4330 Sherbrooke, small amount of gas leaking into well-ventilated apartment while connecting gas line;
6:53 pm: 6 Park Place, code 2 automatic mutual aid from Côte St Luc cancelled at 6:58 pm, smoke detector activated by burned food;

May 1

8:30 am: Opposite 4039 Tupper, car leaking gas from split in gas tank;
9:05 am: 4333 Sherbrooke, city hall, strange odor (see story page 31);
11:32 am: Library Drive, first responder unit for medical assistant to three-year-old girl fallen off jungle gym;
7:15 pm: 4675 St Catherine, arena, medical assistance for man with breathing problems;
7:25 pm: 516 Victoria, water leak, backed-up drain;
8:58 pm: 373 Claremont, leaking roof, blocked roof drain, answered by mutual aid firemen from T.M.R. during fire (see subsequent call);
9:00 pm: 250 Kensington, apt 208, mutual aid fire in kitchen (see story page 9);
10:21 pm: 250 Kensington, first responder unit for medical assistance for fire victims (see above);

May 2

1:13 am: 4162 Dorchester, first responder unit for medical assistance (see story page 10);
11:12 am: Outside 4998 de Maisonneuve, first responder unit for medical assistance;
3:59 pm: Grosvenor and The Boulevard, first responder unit for car accident, not needed;
5:22 pm: 74 Summit Circle, fire left burning in fireplace by construction workers;
10:21 pm: 200 Lansdowne, code 3 automatic mutual aid from Côte St Luc and Outremont cancelled at 10:32 pm, alarm panel activated by microphone for PA system;

May 3

12:36 am: 4000 de Maisonneuve, code 3 automatic mutual aid from Côte St Luc and Outremont cancelled at 12:44 am, smoke from toaster jammed down with bread stick;
5:22 am: 433 Prince Albert, first responder unit for medical assistance;
10:51 am: 4920 Sherbrooke, strong smell of gasoline, truck in laneway;

May 4

11:30 am: 451 Mountain, first responder unit for medical assistance;
12:56 pm: 1310 Greene, code 3 automatic mutual aid from Côte St Luc and Outremont cancelled at 1:04 pm, defective alarm;
7:18 pm: 7905 Côte St Luc, code 3 automatic mutual aid to Côte St Luc cancelled at 7:29 pm;

May 5

10:36 am: 239 Kensington, water leak, broken pipe on toilet;
12:37 pm: 6 Murray, smoke detector activated by smoke machine;
3:28 pm: 8205 Mackle, mutual aid fire in Côte St Luc;
5:32 pm: 540 Roslyn, burglar alarm;
6:04 pm: 4300 de Maisonneuve, 530 east, code 3 automatic mutual aid from Côte St Luc and Outremont cancelled at 6:22 pm;
8:22 pm: 6 Park Place, code 2 automatic mutual aid from Outremont cancelled at 8:29 pm, burglar alarm;
8:27 pm: 4032 St Catherine, black smoke from defective furnace;

May 6

5:20 am: 3289 Cedar, defective alarm;
8:41 am: 5962 Freud, code 2 automatic mutual aid to Côte St Luc cancelled at 8:48 am;
10:41 am: 21 Stanton, city medical office, first responder unit for sick man driven to hospital by PSU;
1:03 pm: 512 Victoria, smoke detector activated by burned food;
6:19 pm: 5785 Sir Walter Scott, code 3 automatic mutual aid to Côte St Luc cancelled at 6:47 pm.

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Director of Music: Margaret de Castro
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10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Sung
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11:15 am

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Sabbath Day: 8:40 am in the Main Synagogue
Sabbath Twilight: 7:10 pm

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Mornings:
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Mon-Thurs, May 13-16, 7:30 am
Evenings: Sun-Thurs, May 12-16, 8:20 pm

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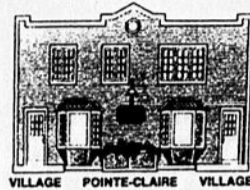


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Dawson grad's *Mosquito Man* rakes in top awards

By JANET COUTTS

At the Quebec Drama Festival's awards ceremony, Bruce M. Smith was ecstatic as actor Alex Ivanovici — who played in his self-directed full-length play *Mosquito Man* — was called up on stage to receive the Best Actor award.

His joy was greater still when he was called himself to get the Best Director award. What he did when he was given the Best New Play award can only be described as bouncing. Then it seemed the whole audience exploded as the rest of his company invited to the stage for the Norma Springford Award for Best Production.

Clowns Gone Bad Theatre is essentially a Dawson College company. Set design for *Mosquito Man* was by National Theatre School graduate Jennifer Cooke, who frequently designs for Dawson's Dome Theatre. Stage managers were Laura Losonczy and Julie Tamiko Manning, Dome graduates. Mr Smith himself is a graduate from Dome. The cast of Mr Ivanovici, Donovan Reiter, Kevin Ryder and Deena Aziz includes Dawson students or graduates.

Mosquito Man is the first play Mr Smith has ever had produced, though "I have a drawer full of scripts in various stages, from first draft to third draft, and am currently working on a film treatment."

Mosquito Man has "fictional characters based in a milieu I know from attending the Dome Theatre in St Henri and from living in a working-class district in the east end of Toronto."



Winning playwright Bruce Smith is the son of longtime Westmounters.

The play tells the story of two brothers, victimized by a violent, alcoholic father, who has died — perhaps at the hands of his elder son (Kevin Ryder), who refuses to speak, and appears to be catatonic but for walking across the room to get his own beer. The younger son (Donovan Reiter) looks after his brother, as his

brother had looked after him when they were smaller. He talks about his problems in a bar/poolroom in St Henri with his best friend (Mr Ivanovici). A psychiatrist (Deena Aziz) tries to help, but fails.

For the opening minutes of the play, much of the audience felt they had wandered into an unannounced

Vittorio Rossi play — the tragi-comic scene with two guys in a bar, talking tough with lots of use of the f-word, misled us. But Mr Smith avers that, while similarities to Mr Rossi — another Dawson graduate — were mentioned to him during the rehearsal period, he has never read nor seen a Rossi play.

"I was careful not to be influenced by him because of the (perceived) similarities. But now I look forward to reading his work."

Mr Smith developed his play by reading a first draft to a playwrighting class at University of Toronto. Once it was accepted by the QDF, dramaturges Tyrone Benskin, Mansel Robinson and Paula Danckert made suggestions.

Adjudicator Kenneth Dyba, while clearly much admiring the play, pointed out in the public adjudication that the role of the psychiatrist, in particular, needed work. Mr Smith said of the private adjudication that followed that it was "very productive and enjoyable. Kenneth

made a lot of really good suggestions. We knew when we went into this that the role of Jenny needed a lot of work.

"I will be losing her over the summer, which is just as well because I have a lot of work to do on her part. But we will use the prize money to remount the play in September at a venue like Players' Theatre or the Strathern Centre."

Mr Smith says he is back home permanently, and is looking forward to acting again. About his QDF awards, he says, "It still hasn't quite sunk in, but, boy, was it nice."

Mr Smith, 24, was born in Westmount and lived here much of his life. He went to Westmount Park School and Dawson College, and took a BA in English literature at University of Toronto. He is the son of Westmount resident and filmmaker John Smith and Eleanor Smith, a corporate lawyer residing in Toronto, who grew up in Westmount. Mr Smith currently lives just outside Westmount, on Atwater avenue.

Drama festival rife with local talent

Westmounters and Dawson College were well represented at the Quebec Drama Festival held at Centaur Theatre last week, and they took most of the prizes home.

Top was Bruce M. Smith's *Mosquito Man* which took the Norma Springford Award for Best Production, Best New Play, Best Director and Best Actor.

Westmounter Colleen Curran's *Amelia Earhart Was Not a Spy* was not in competition for the Best New Play Award, because it has had three previous productions and has been

published. However, cast members Patricia Rodriguez and Shawn Campbell, respectively, took the Best Actress and Best Actor in a Supporting Role awards at the festival.

Ms Curran's play was designed by Jennifer Cooke, who designed *Mosquito Man* as well. Director was John Lucas, a teacher at Dawson. His cast and crew, too, were made up of Dawson College students.

Another Dawson student, Tetsuro Hugh Shigematsu, entered his play, *Angelo Della Morte*, as a work in

progress. It was therefore not eligible for the Best New Play Award. A similar caveat applied to *Nobody Likes Cassandra* by Timothy J. Anderson and neither play won any other awards.

Westmount resident Eliza Berry directed her new-wave experimental play *Up and About in an Illegal State*, with its cast of 11, to laughter and applause. Like much of the work at the festival, it was more often referred to as "interesting" than good. It failed to generate any prizes, but most audience members will be interested in seeing more of her work.

The plays that garnered the most audience interest after *Mosquito Man* were *Walking on the Moon* by Bishop's University's artist-in-residence George Rideout, whose *Texas Boy* took top awards at last year's festival, and *The Mask of Hiroshima*, by American playwright Ernest Ferlita, a Bishop's University production. *Walking on the Moon* took the Best Set Design Award, and the Best Actress in a Supporting Role went to the three-member chorus of *The Mask of Hiroshima*.

A short non-verbal piece by Marthe Girard, who calls herself Max.T.L., opened the festival and set the tone for what was to come: a celebration of youth and youthful experimentation.

Movie Dust by Western playwright Terry Jordan, an evocative, haunting piece of love and horror, won the Most Promising Young Performer Award for Rachel Derian. The story is moving, but was told rather than shown to us by actors who functioned mostly as talking heads.

Westmounters will have the opportunity to support its writers over the next few months: Ms Berry will be taking another original piece to the Montreal Fringe Festival on St Lawrence boulevard in June; Mr Smith will remount his play in September; and Ms Curran will have part two (which is still being written) of her *A Sort of Holiday* presented at the Westmount Library by Westmount's own company, Dramatis Personae, early next season.

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**10 Montreal
artists featured
in fine arts
museum exhibit**

Despite the gradual closing of galleries housing the permanent collection to make way for the upcoming exhibition (June 20 to Nov 10), The 1920s: Age of the Metropolis, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts remains open. Until June 16, visitors will be able to enjoy the exhibition *Dualities: Ten Montreal Artists*.

The exhibition includes some 30 works from the permanent collection selected by John R. Porter, chief curator at the museum. One of the 10 artists included in the show is the late Edwin Holgate, who lived in Westmount for 30 years and was a member of the Canadian Group of Painters. He was recently honored by the City of Westmount.

Philippe Hébert, RCA, the principal sculptor of his generation, is also included in the show. His 40 monuments include Queen Victoria (Ottawa), Maisonneuve, Jeanne Mance, Mgr Bourget and Edward VII (Montreal) and six pieces in front of the Quebec National Assembly. He was awarded the Medal of Confederation, made a chevalier of France's Legion of Honor, and Companion of St Michael and St George of Great Britain. The St-Jean-Baptiste Society of Montreal honors his memory with the Prix Philippe-Hébert. He died in Westmount in 1917.

Two living artists, sculptor Robert Roussil and painter Jean-Paul Riopelle, are also included in the exhibition, which will give an opportunity to note comparisons and similarities, contrasts and parallels among the 10 painters and sculptors included in the show.

**The Study
art sale
a success**

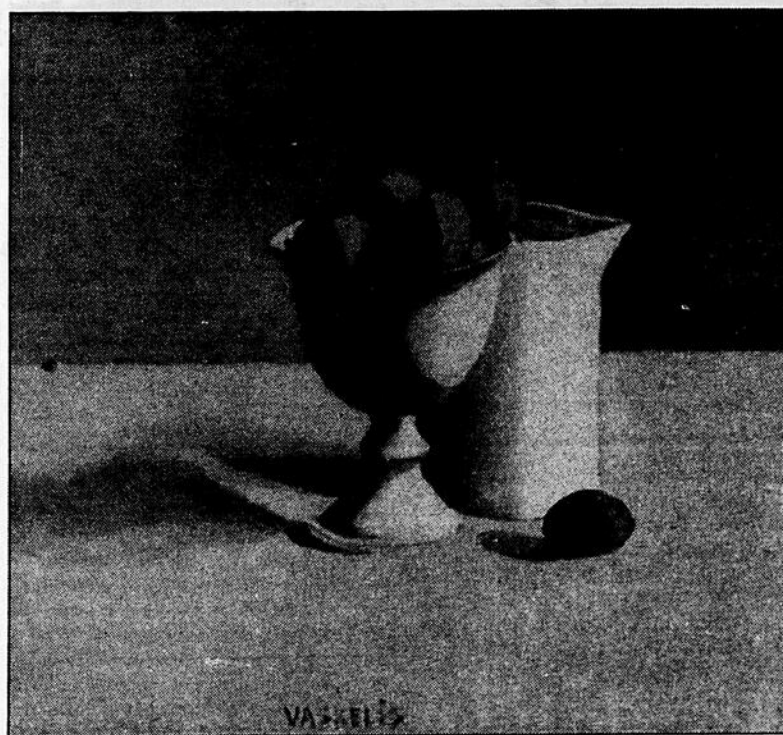
The Study School's recent art exhibition and sale, May 3 to 5, raised about \$17,000 for the school's building fund.

A number of Westmounter artists and school alumni were represented among the more than 100 works of art donated for the sale.

The invitation-only vernissage attracted 250 people. All works donated for silent auction were sold. More than 100 works were donated by artists from The Study community.

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Vaskelis at local gallery



There is a vernissage Tuesday from 6:30 to 9 pm at Galerie Dan Delaney, 318 Victoria avenue, for a show of recent paintings by Montrealer Richard Vaskelis. Mr Vaskelis studied at the Museum of Fine Arts under the late Arthur Lismer and later with Allan Harrison, RCA. Mr Vaskelis has shown his work in a number of group and solo shows over the last decade. The exhibition, which continues until May 28, is the last solo show at Galerie Dan Delaney of the 1991 spring season.

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Rarities put Summit on best-birdwatching map

Now it's official. Westmount has one of the best birdwatching sites in the province. You can find it in Pierre Bannon's hot-off-the-press site guide, *Bird-finding in the Montreal area*.

In this guide, Westmount's Summit Park scores high as a place to see warblers and other woodland birds during May.

"It's been said that Summit Park is to Quebec what Point Pelee is to Ontario," the author notes, referring to the famous birding spot in Ontario.

The author and compiler of *Bird-finding in the Montreal area* knows his birds. He's been combing the Montreal area for birds for more than 15 years, and keeping records.

Vice-president of the Province of Quebec Society for the Protection of Birds, Dr Bannon, who is a biochem-

ist by day, spent four years writing the guide during weekday evenings. Weekends he birds.

Since 1917 the society has run field trips in the Montreal region, and kept records. These records proved invaluable in writing the book, according to Dr Bannon.

The area covered by this site guide includes the southernmost part of the province from the United States border to the Laurentians and from Ontario to Lake St Pierre. The habitat is as varied as the wilds of Tremblant to Montreal's downtown port, where gyrfalcons often stop in winter to take a pigeon for lunch.

According to Dr Bannon, recent records show that 359 species of birds have been seen in the Montreal area over the last few years. Of this number, 275 are sighted each year and 189 nest here. Since not all of these birds

Mid-May is the most fruitful time to go

By ELSIE MITCHELL

come to feeders or venture into suburban gardens, the book was written so people living in or visiting Montreal can "discover the wealth of bird life at our doorstep."

Fifty-five sites that birdwatchers have been visiting regularly over the years are described in this book. Twenty-two are in the Greater Montreal area, accessible by car and, in most cases, by public transportation. The 33 remaining sites can be reached in less than 90 minutes from downtown Montreal.

Site descriptions are all accompanied by maps showing where the site is found in relation to the island of Montreal. It tells the reader what to look for, where, how to get there, when to go and gives special information.

For instance, the chapter on Summit Park tells you that the ideal time to visit the Westmount site is early in the morning around mid-May after a warm front has moved in from the south. Then there will be so many birds — warblers, vireos, flycatchers, thrushes and sparrows — all singing together that a birdwatcher should beware a stiff neck trying to pinpoint the source of the songs.

A total of 39 warbler species has been observed over the years on the Summit and 24 species are seen every

season. They are small and restless and their constant motion makes them a challenge to identify.

Birders who want to increase their Quebec lists should visit Summit Park, Dr Bannon suggests, because more rare birds have been seen there than at any other site in the area. Every spring, due to weather conditions, birds on migration overshoot their mark and end up far from their preferred habitat.

Some of the exceptional species found at the Summit in the last 10 years include chuck-will's widow, red bellied woodpecker, white-eyed vireo, prothonotary warbler, worm-eating warbler, Kentucky warbler and hooded warbler.

Other popular sites around the city include Mount Royal cemetery where more than 145 species have been counted. In winter, fruit-eating

birds visit the ornamental crab trees. Flocks of up to 100 pine grosbeaks have been sighted in these trees. The birds are most abundant in the spring. The northern mockingbird nests there, as does the eastern screech owl.

Owls visit Nun's Island during migration and in winter too, making it probably the best spot in the Montreal area for northern saw-whet, long-eared, great horned and boreal owls. Pied-bill grebes raise their young on the small pond southwest of the woods each summer.

Birdfinding in the Montreal area, a pocket-sized site guide, is published by the society and Le Centre de la faune aillée de Montréal. It should be available in stores in the next few weeks.

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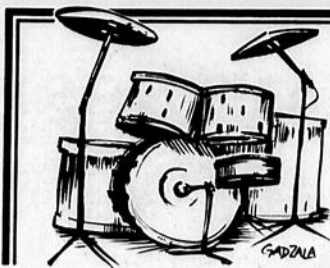
Jazz, jazz, jazz

Everyone knows we have a Jazz Festival every summer in Montreal, and more and more of us are realizing that some of the world's best musicians live locally, playing the other 50 weeks in the year. In what they call a move to create wider interest in young, upcoming Canadian musicians and their work, VIA Rail is sponsoring a jazz series at Claudio's, 124 St Paul street east, Old Montreal. Tonight the Mike Allen Quintet is playing; Friday the Steve Amiraault Group; Saturday the Tim Postgate Quartet. Next Thursday it's the Andy Milne Quartet and May 17 the Yannick Rieu Trio. Except for Saturday's concert, all will be recorded by CBC. Believe me, you'll be hearing great music if you attend. You are asked to be at the club no later than 9 pm. . . If you love the music, but find the milieu too much,

you might want to check the jazz series at Montreal's Maisons de la culture this month. Many of these concerts, too, are being recorded by CBC. Rane Lee is at N.D.G. tonight (872-2157) and Trisha Pope is at Mercier (872-8755). Saturday the François Marcaurette Quintet is at Rosemont (872-0081). A Few Colors plays Wednesday at Mercier, and May 17 The Beards play Rosemont. A member of The Beards, Rémi Bolduc, takes his own trio to Côte des Neiges (872-6889) May 22.

Summer gardening

Westmounter Stuart Robertson, convincing the rest of us that it is well and truly spring, will give a conference on summer gardening on Wednesday, May 29, at 7:30 pm at the Reginald J.P. Dawson Library, 1967 Graham boulevard, Town of Mount Royal.



Beyond Westmount's Borders

A random sampler of things to see or do in the bigger city surrounding us

By JANET COUTTS

Former thespians sought

In preparation for the re-opening of Moyses Hall at McGill University, the English department is making a list of all former students. If you belong on the list, send your name and address to the department of English drama co-ordinator, 853 Sherbrooke street west, Montreal H3A 2T6 or call 398-6558.

Montreal dancers perform

Montreal's Margie Gillis is celebrating 16 years of solo dance with special programs for her hometown audience of most-requested signature works and four premieres at Place des Arts May 15 to 18 at 8 pm at Théâtre Maisonneuve, Place des Arts. The premieres are *Je t'en prie*, music by Jean Lenoir, *Variations to Bach's music*, *Desert* to music by Sinéad O'Connor, choreography to all three by Ms Gillis; and *Mara*, choreographed by Stephanie Ballard to music by Saint-Saëns. The signature works are *Waltzing Matilda* to Tom Waits's song and *How the*

Rosehips Quiver to music by Dalglish and Larsen. Tickets are \$10 to \$26 and students and seniors with ID get a 40 percent reduction. 842-2112. . . Montanaro Danse presents its acclaimed 90-minute dance performance, *Zman Doe* May 14 to 18 and 21 to 25 at 8 pm at L'Agora de la Danse, 840 Cherrier street east. Tickets are \$14 to \$20. 525-1500.

Theatre of the absurd

Every now and then Montreal theatre critics tell everyone to go see a certain production. We say it's wonderful, real theatre, breathtaking. But it's not at Place des Arts or Centaur or even the Saidye Bronfman Centre. So no matter how we praise a work, audiences are minuscule, though enthusiastic. The public continues to complain that they never see anything adventurous, innovative, exciting in Montreal theatres. Once again, Imago Theatre is eschewing the safe. At Théâtre La Chapelle, 3700 St Dominique street, the company is presenting a brilliant and challenging evening of theatre, *Conversations*, short pieces by Beckett (in English) and Pinter (in French). The wonderful cast comprises Christiane Chaput, Marie-Josée Gauthier, Jean-Michel Henry, Suzanne Lantagne, Patricia MacGeachy, Joel Miller and Richard Simas, directed by Andrés Hausmann. Tickets are \$12 and \$10, and the play continues at 8:30 pm except Sundays and Mondays until May 18. Reservations: 843-7738.

Antiques in Knowlton

The village of Knowlton is hosting its third annual indoor Antique Show and Sale on Victoria Day weekend, May 18 and 19, at Raquettes Brome, 584 Knowlton road, town of Brome Lake. Take exit 90 from the Eastern Townships Autoroute, and go south on route 243. Hours are Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm and Sunday from 11 am to 6 pm. Antique dealers from the townships, around Quebec and Ontario will be offering goods for sale. Admission is \$5 a person, and \$1 for children under 12.

Black artists' panel

Following a successful series of Ontario-wide panel discussions on access to government funding for African-Canadian artists, the Canadian Artists Network: Black Artists in Action is touring the rest of Canada. Their Montreal meeting is tonight from 7 to 9 pm at Dawson College, Room 3 B23 at 3040 Sherbrooke street. Panelists actor Malik McCall, writer Judy Nicholson, Festival Rythme du Monde co-ordinator Koko Amarteifo and TV host Michael Parris and others will present their specific concerns. People who fund the arts will be in the audience to respond to questions about the funding process. Admission is free and the session is open to the public.

Amateur theatre celebrates

Iona Theatre is a spunky group of enthusiasts who stage two productions a year in a church basement in Pointe Claire — something they've been doing now for 25 years. To celebrate their silver anniversary, they are presenting Brandon Thomas's *Charley's Aunt*, directed by June Scarlett, at St Columba-by-the-Lake Church, Vincennes avenue, in Pointe Claire, off Sources road near Highway 20 at 8 pm until Saturday and May 15 to 18. Tickets are \$6, \$4 for students and seniors. The box office number is 695-6134 or tickets are available at the door.

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In its 145th year, the Shaar is still going strong

By **ROBERT ELKIN**

Congregation Shaar Hashomayim (Gate of Heaven) of Westmount, with a membership of 1,700 families, is celebrating a milestone in its long and distinguished history: 1991 is its 145th anniversary year.

The Shaar, as it is known throughout the Montreal Jewish Community, became the first Ashkenazic synagogue founded in British North America when it was granted a charter in 1846. The cornerstone for the original building, which seated 200, was laid on July 12, 1859 on St Constant street (now de Bullion).

It is the largest congregation in Quebec and, after the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, the oldest in Canada.

"The life of a congregation is normally, on the average, 25 years," said Rabbi Wilfred Shuchat, who is also celebrating an anniversary, his 45th with the synagogue.

He said the congregation had an intense debate on whether or not to move to the Côte St Luc area, but decided to remain central to English Montreal and the Jewish community. The Shaar is not truly a Westmount synagogue, he said, it is a synagogue that happens to be in Westmount. About half the congregation comes from outside the area.

Judaism can be broken into two separate but parallel groups, the Ashkenazim and the Sephardim. Ashkenazim have their origins in Europe except for Portugal and Spain (the word for Spain in Hebrew is Sepharad). Jews whose roots can be traced to those two countries, or to countries in North Africa and the Middle East, are Sephardim.

The synagogue is affiliated with the Conservative movement of Judaism, but has an Orthodox charter pertaining only to the way its services are conducted. Up until the 19th century, the Judaism practised

throughout the world was Orthodox, but to adapt the religion to changing times, to bring it into the modern era, new branches were formed, most notably Conservative and Reform.

Orthodox Judaism requires that men and women sit separately, while Conservative and Reform synagogues generally allow families to sit together. Neither Orthodox nor Conservative congregations allow for women to become rabbis or to take part in services. Reform Judaism does.

Separate seating

In spite of restrictions on women, the Shaar Hashomayim has had two women presidents: Mildred B. Lande, and the incumbent, Sylvia Schneiderman, both residents of Westmount.

The Shaar Hashomayim has separate seating arrangements for men and women, but does allow the use of a microphone for services (taboo in Orthodox synagogues). Also contrary to the practice in Orthodox congregations, the reading of the Torah (the first five books of the Old Testament) is conducted facing the congregation.

According to the Shaar Hashomayim's executive director, Morrie Klians, the contradiction between the congregation's charter and its affiliation is part of what makes the Shaar a part of so many people's lives.

"No matter what your inclination, you can always feel at home here," he says.

On Oct 21, 1885, because of a growing membership, the Shaar moved to a more spacious location on McGill College avenue. The congregation, however, continued to increase in



Rabbi Wilfred Shuchat has been with Shaar Hashomayim for 45 years.

numbers, and on Nov 22, 1922, it again moved to its present location at the corner of Côte St. Antoine and Kensington, where it has become something of a landmark.

Rabbi Shuchat, a *cum laude* graduate of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City, is spiritual leader of the Shaar. A fervent Zionist and a staunch Canadian, he has served his congregation and his community since his appointment as assistant rabbi 45 years ago. He was named rabbi in 1948.

According to Rabbi Shuchat, "Being rabbi here has been a fulfilling role in part because of the central role this congregation plays in the community. Much of the leadership of the Montreal Jewish community has come from here."

The Shaar has always drawn community and political leaders, not only from the Montreal Jewish community, but from elsewhere. Last year, the synagogue played host to Chaim Herzog, president of the State of Israel, in whose honor a rally was

held.

The synagogue is also recognized as a centre for major community events. For example, during the recent Gulf War, when Israel came under missile attack, a massive community rally in support of the state was held at the Shaar.

The years have seen many changes in Congregation Shaar Hashomayim: the Rabbi Herman Abramowitz School (named for the man who led the congregation from 1902 until his death in 1947) was erected in 1948; facilities were expanded to allow 2,000 members in the main sanctuary

in 1967; and a library-museum was built in the same year.

"We're extremely proud of the library-museum," says Mr Klians. "It is unique in Montreal which has no public museum of Judaica, only private collections. And the Judaica library houses 12,000 volumes."

Membership stable

In recent years, despite political uncertainty in Quebec, the Shaar Hashomayim's membership has remained stable, and synagogue leaders look forward to the 150th anniversary.

Westmount churches have closed around them; Rabbi Shuchat recalls there were a dozen Protestant churches alone when he joined the synagogue, and what he calls the corner's "the Holy Triangle" — the Shaar, St Matthias' Anglican and St Andrew United — was broken when St Andrew merged with Dominion-Douglas and the building became part of Selwyn House School.

"We're trying to attract younger families," notes Mr Klians. "We also want members to get more involved on committees, in programming and in attendance at services. So we have a constant desire to program special events, to make the synagogue a home away from home."

Among the events scheduled to commemorate the congregation's 145th anniversary are a Community Solidarity Mission to Israel in conjunction with Allied Jewish Community Services, which started yesterday and lasts until May 15, and a concert by the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, under the leadership of assistant conductor Richard Hoenich, to be held in the main sanctuary sometime this fall.

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Volunteers sought for food bank

Montreal Harvest, Montreal's food bank that recuperates surpluses from the food industry and redistributes those items to 150 agencies, is seeking volunteers to staff booths and sell T-shirts in various locations.

The T-shirts are designed by Montreal artists and the five winning designs will be unveiled Tuesday at Club Soda. The designs have themes

such as poverty and hunger.

There will be information booths and T-shirts for sale, priced at \$12 each, at Place Alexis Nihon in Westmount on an as-yet undisclosed date. Other booths will be set up in and around Montreal.

Those who would like to help out during the May 15 to June 15 period should call 381-6641.

Museum guide chat Sunday

This Sunday's Mother's Day meeting at the Leisure Institute of Congregation Shaar Hashomayim, 450 Kensington avenue, will have Nancy Erdrich as guest speaker at a tea at 1 pm.

Ms Erdrich, a volunteer guide with the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, will give a slide-illustrated

talk, *The Magic Mile*, on the area bounded by Sherbrooke street and Pine avenue between Stanley and Union streets, featuring the mansions of financial barons who helped build Canada. Fee for members is \$1.50, non-members pay \$2.

There will not be a program Sunday, May 19, Shavu'ot.

Soldier Dolls high-step way to ballet recital



Soldiers Kristen Bussandri, Emma McLaren, Lea Price, Christina Sawchyn, Alex Menear, Diana Gee-Silverman and Morgan Snow are among the ballerinas of the Roslyn Ballet Project getting ready for their show at Westmount High School Wednesday at 7:30 pm. The soldiers will be joined by cowgirls, Miss Mew pussycats, Little Bo Peep and her sheep and much more. Tickets are \$4. Call 697-1886 to reserve.

Photo by OWEN EGAN

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A gala bridge tournament will take place Friday at 11 am at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 4100 Sherbrooke street. Tickets are \$30, \$25 of which is tax deductible. Duplicate and social bridge games will be played. Master points will be issued, and trophies given to overall winners.

Proceeds go to support the temple. For tickets call 937-3575.

COMING EVENTS ÉVÈNEMENTS

Notices for this column should be sent in writing to: *Coming Events*, 155 Hillside avenue, Westmount H3Z 2Y8. Text should be accompanied by payment of \$7.00 plus GST for maximum of 50 words. Only announcements of specific events sponsored by non-profit groups permitted in this column.

Perestroika East-West

May 17-19, Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza. The New Research in Consciousness. Psiology, Psychotronics, Spiritual Healing, Psychosomatics, Shamanism, Out of the Body Contacts, Near-Death Experiences, Intuition, Creativity, Life Energies. Over 70 speakers. An extraordinary first since Soviet Glasnost ended the Cold War. Registration/Information. 937-8359.

Bazaar

Centennial Academy Spring Bazaar, book fair, bake sale, new and used items. Saturday, May 11th, 10 am-2 pm. 3641 Prud'homme, N.D.G. Corner Côte St-Antoine.

Gigantic Garage/Rummage Sale

St. George's Church Parish Hall, 1105 Stanley Street, (opposite Windsor Station - Metro Bonaventure). Saturday, May 11th, 10 am-3:00 pm. Books, plants, clothes, kitchenware, household items, small furniture, treasures, toys and more!

New and Nearly New Sale

To be held on Tuesday, May 14th from 10 am to 2:30 pm at the Tifereth Beth David Synagogue, 6519 Baily Road, Cote St. Luc. Direct transportation - 161 Bus Line to Alpine Ave.



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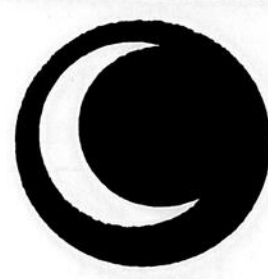
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Trinidad-bound

Westmouter to explore ways of improving life in a valley settlement

When most people head south, it is with dreams of lying on a beach under a hot sun. But when Westmouter Mary Sweeney gets on a plane to Trinidad next week, she won't be spending much time catching rays.

Instead, the McGill urban planning student will be spending three months in a squatters' settlement in the Maraval Valley, north of Trinidad's capital, Port of Spain. The settlement is in a steep river valley that cuts into the Northern Range mountain chain.

"The final goal of my research project is to see along what lines future development of the settlement should be channelled," Ms Sweeney says. "The government doesn't know what's there. The locality in question, the Paramin Settlement, suffers from extensive environmental damage. The forest has been burned, leaving scars that lead to erosion of topsoil, land-slips, water run-off and flooding."

Not only that, she says, silt from the eroded areas accumulates in the river and the drains, causing pollution. Sanitary facilities are bad, with no sewage disposal. Access by road is difficult for the settlement's 200 households.

Ms Sweeney says people tolerate these conditions because they want to work in Port of Spain. Since the capital is crowded, she says, new arrivals are forced to live wherever they can. They clear the land, but this leads to soil erosion and the other problems.

By **BUZZ BOURDON**

The government is finally waking up to these problems because the soil erosion is affecting lower, richer areas, Ms Sweeney says.

"I want to increase the well-being of people, help where the authorities can't because of a lack of money," she says. "In the Caribbean, governments are inefficient. The problem of underdeveloped countries is that they don't have an information base in the government."

Will live there

An important part of the case study, which eventually will be transformed into Ms Sweeney's master's thesis, will be to live in the settlement. "When people go in and try to do studies a lot of times villagers won't co-operate. It's very important to get the sanction of the community. That's why I want to live there. If I live in the city they'll think I'm with the government."

Ms Sweeney plans on making a complete photographic and physical record of the settlement. She will be looking at environmental classification, soil type, rainfall and watershed pattern, water resource location, household size and composition, agricultural practices and crop patterns.

She will also interview government and local officials, community representatives, and participate in current projects.

All this work will also benefit the

community, Ms Sweeney says.

The project will help to train local people in conservation and rehabilitation techniques, she says. "They'll be able to help other communities."

The study will recommend policies and solutions to the Town and Country Planning Division of Trinidad. This, she hopes, will enable the division's planners to start working on the settlement's problems.

Funded by CIDA

The case study is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency, in conjunction with the Canadian Bureau of International Education. Good for two years' education, the grant will also enable Ms Sweeney to return to Trinidad for another three months early in 1992.

It's something she always wanted to do, she says. Born in Westmount, she attended the Trafalgar School for Girls, Marianopolis College and graduated from McGill in 1989 with a BSc in biology.

"I've always been fascinated by archaeology, other cultures and other countries," Ms Sweeney says.

That interest in other cultures led her to do a study on Montreal's West Indian community recently. This community of about 50,000 people forms three percent of Montreal's population, she said.

"My idea was to look at the role of the family in aiding immigrants to adjust, the role of the workplace and school and the community in general."

Ms Sweeney says she started out thinking that the community and the family were the biggest help for a West Indian struggling to adjust, but



Mary Sweeney is off to a village in Trinidad for her Master's.

found school and the workplace equally important.

"What came out of it all was that it's not the community per se but the ability of the immigrant to create a sense of community around him. It's interesting that the people who came to work focussed a lot on the workplace and the people who came to study found school became a community for them."

The immigrant's family, Ms Sweeney says, plays a very important role for the newly-arrived immigrant, but when there is no family then the West Indian community helps to find jobs. It's a very cohesive community, she says.

Some immigrants adjust, Ms Sweeney says, while some don't. She interviewed 13 people for her study. "Some have been here 20 years and want to go back, and some have been

here three or five years and feel integrated."

Family problems and the lack of role models for younger West Indians can often lead to feelings of isolation, Ms Sweeney says. West Indians, she says, don't turn to CLSCs or outsiders for help. They do everything through the family, as they do back home. But if there's no big family network like back home then often there's no one to turn to.

We don't know how the West Indian family operates, Ms Sweeney says. "There's little funding directed to the West Indian community. It should be an important target because if West Indian families won't turn to the CLSCs they will turn to community centres but if these have no money to help..."

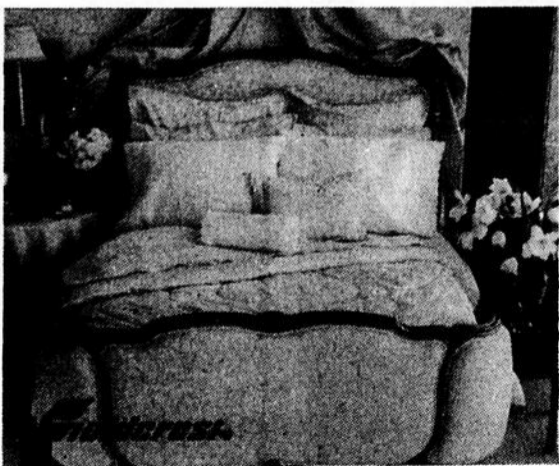
"It's time for people to sit back and see what makes up a community."

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Last bite of Guide cookies

Forgot to buy Girl Guide cookies this year? If so, you'll have your chance to stock up this Saturday when Westmount Guiding groups will be selling the boxed cookies along with other baked goods at the YMCA, 4585 Sherbrooke street.

The bake sale takes place between 10 am and 2 pm at the reception desk and is a fundraising project organized by Brownies, Guides, Pathfinders and Rangers of the Monklands District.

Trust seeking clothes for charity sale

Canada Trust will hold a branch bazaar on Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm at 1326 Greene avenue, near Sherbrooke street.

Westmount residents are invited to drop off old clothing in sealed plastic bags or cardboard boxes at the branch; and they are also asked to contribute to the bake sale. All proceeds go to Sun Youth.

Toy sale at centre Greene

The Greene Avenue Community Centre, 1090 Greene avenue, will hold a toy sale Saturday from 10 am to noon to raise money for the community centre.

If you can donate any toys for the sale, drop them off at the centre between 10 am and 7 pm today or tomorrow.

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Kidney research fund starting

Westmounter Cecil Vineberg, FCA, is campaign chair for the inaugural founders award dinner of the Kidney Foundation of Canada.

The dinner is Wednesday, Oct 23, to honor the outstanding achievements of the Kidney Foundation's founding president, Arthur "Ike" Boidman.

Proceeds from the dinner will help establish the Arthur I Boidman Research Fund that will complement the Kidney Foundation's research grant of \$25 million allocated in the last two decades. The foundation hopes to raise \$1 million to establish the new fund.

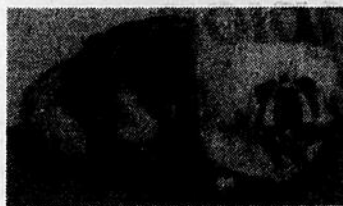
Support program for mentally ill being discussed

A subcommittee of Westmount's Healthy City Project is looking for ways of developing supportive programs for the mentally ill members of the community. This might include activities, a drop-in or special housing. If you are interested, call 934-0354 ext 247.

Garage sale

There will be a garage sale May 25 from 10 am to 3 pm at 828 Decarie boulevard in St Laurent to benefit the Missing Children's Network. Everyone is welcome.

Pet of the Week



Doogie is a 18-month-old male Pekingese, who is available for adoption. His fur is light beige, and he is close to the ground. The adoption cost is \$95, which includes a medical examination. He can be found at the SPCA, 5215 Jean Talon street west. All of the Pets of the Week for April were adopted.

Corporate campaign for Arthritis Society launched

The Arthritis Society launched its corporate campaign on May 2. This year's objective is \$200,000. The Arthritis Society granted more than \$2.3 million last year to Quebec teaching hospitals for research, training and public information.

The campaign is directed toward corporations in the greater Montreal area. The society does not receive government grants, and corporate donations represent an important

part of the funds raised in Quebec. In addition, loaned corporate executives act as volunteer canvassers to raise these funds.

Seminar on osteoporosis

Physiothérapie Internationale Plus presents *Osteoporosis: Prevent It, Minimize It, Reverse It*, an informal seminar and discussion on Wednesday and on June 12 at 5 pm at Place Atwater, 3177 St Jacques street, suite 300.

A doctor, a dietician, a physiotherapist and a fitness instructor will discuss the disease and appropriate intervention and answer questions.

Everyone is welcome. Tickets are \$5, and registration at 933-3636 is limited to 25 participants. Refreshments will be served.

Audition for PSBGM choirs

Auditions for the PSBGM chorale, under the direction of Patricia Abbott (senior chorale) and Erica Phare (junior chorale) are being arranged. The chorale has openings for treble voices. For an appointment call 483-7233 or 620-4781.

Cummings Abbey to be honored at luncheon

Westmounter Minnie Cummings Abbey will be honored Thursday, May 16, at the Golden Circle Scholarship Tribute Luncheon for her 74 years of dedicated service by Montreal Women's ORT (Organization for Rehabilitation through Training).

Mrs Abbey has been involved in community work since 1917, when she volunteered to teach immigrants how to sew.

In 1925 she graduated from McGill University as a social worker, and during her professional career she worked at the Baron de Hirsch Institute and several Montreal hospitals. She later returned to volunteer work.

One of the workers on the organizing committee for the tribute luncheon is Mrs Abbey's daughter, Liberal MP from Mount Royal Sheila Finestone.

Participants in the luncheon donate \$1,000 each toward the ORT scholarship fund, which supports students in the ORT School of Engineering in Jerusalem. Information on the luncheon is available at 481-2787.



MINNIE CUMMINGS ABBEY

Schools present concert May 27

Westmount flautist Timothy Hutchins and pianist Yuri Meyrowitz will play in concert with a symphony orchestra at the 34th presentation of the Concert Society of the Jewish People's Schools and Peretz Schools on Monday, May 27, at Salle Wilfrid Pelletier, Place des Arts, at 8 pm. The musicians will be directed by Franz-Paul Decker.

A highlight of the evening is the annual presentation of the Concert Society Award for outstanding contribution in the field of the performing arts, to Arnold Spohr, artistic director emeritus and artistic advisor of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet.

For reservations and information, call 731-7003.

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says KAISA

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Roch Carrier enters the ring with *The Boxing Champion*, and delivers a knock-out

The main, maybe the only, criterion for any children's book I buy is that I believe I can stand to read it aloud, and hear it read aloud in a small person's voice, over and over and over again.

When Roch Carrier's *The Boxing Champion* arrived on my desk from May Cutler's Tundra Books, I read it immediately. Then I showed it to all my friends, and stood by smiling while they read it. Then we exclaimed over the illustrations by Sheldon Cohen together.

I am a giant fan of Mr Carrier's work, and an admirer of the work of translator Sheila Fischman. The last time they collaborated (on *The Hockey Sweater*), they won every prize imaginable, and the story was turned into a film. It seems inevitable that the same delightful fate awaits this book.

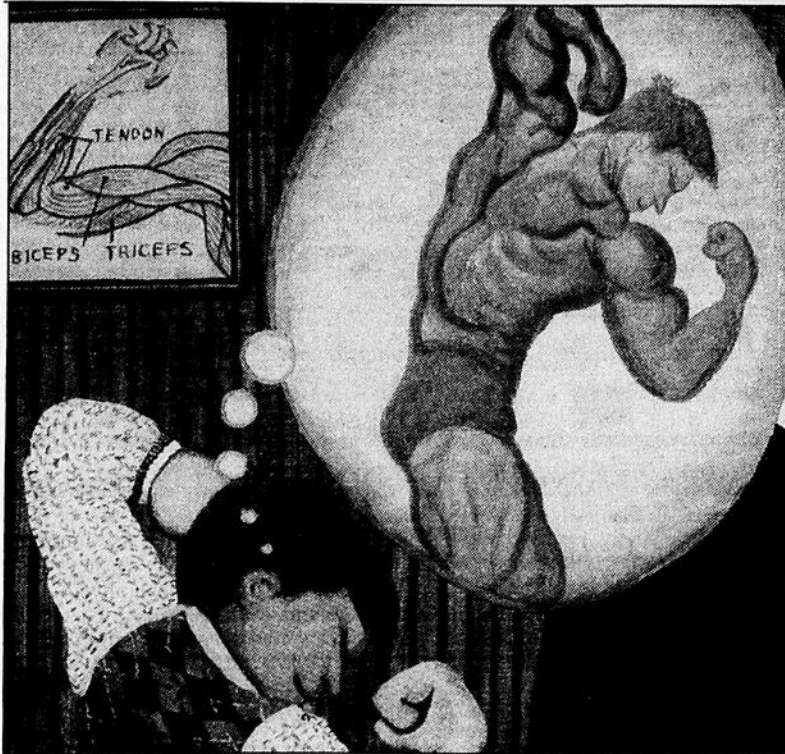
If you missed the first one, you won't want to make the same mistake with this book. If you don't live with children, buy a copy to keep on your bookshelves with the pretense that it's there to amuse visitors.

Bienvenue to the town of Ste Justine, pop. 1200, and meet the young Roch. Hockey season is ending, and so the Côté family opens up the summer kitchen to turn it into a boxing ring.

Roch always tried to be the last one in the ring, but it never helped. "The match had lasted as long as a single punch," he says. "It wasn't me who administered it."

His own letter

The year Roch turned 10, he decided to do something about his deplorable lack of strength. In the last book, it was Maman who wrote to Mr Eaton for a hockey sweater. But now Roch writes his own letter to the Miracle Muscle Centre and he spends



Detail from a Sheldon Cohen illustration in *The Boxing Champion*.

his life savings to buy the Miracle Muscle Exercisers and the Miracle Muscle Barbells.

They work beyond his wildest dreams. Exercising every day and practising motivational auto-suggestion, his muscles become so huge that winter he has to pile on sweaters to keep his new body a secret. He wants to surprise the Côtés when the boxing ring is once again opened.

But Roch is not the stuff as boxers are made on... but the story ends happily anyway.

The illustrations are heaven, especially if you are of the generation of

Mr Carrier. Remember Tinkertoys? Remember nurse's kits? Remember those blotters you rolled over your carefully inked letters, written by dipping a pen nib into a bottle of Waterman's? Remember silver dollars? Remember Little Lulu? The Brown Bomber? The young Rocket Richard? They're all here, carefully, lovingly drawn by Mr Cohen. Along with holy pictures in every room in the house including the bathroom, lace curtains, cats doing cat-like things, babies, hot wood stoves, melting ice with a disconsolate cow waiting for the rink to become pasture again.

Every review should be balanced by pointing out at least one thing that would have been better had the reviewer been in charge of everything. But, darn it, this book is funny, teaches a lesson, and can keep you entertained for a long, long time. I couldn't have done it any better myself.

The Boxing Champion, by Roch Carrier, illustrated by Sheldon Cohen, translated by Sheila Fischman. Tundra Books. Hardcover \$14.95. 24 pp, 13 full-color illustrations plus printed endleaves. Also available with the original French text: *Un Champion*.

— Janet Couitts

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- 104 Country Property to Let / Maisons de campagne à louer
- 105 Country Houses Wanted / Maisons de campagnes demandées
- 106 Holiday Resorts / Centres de villégiature
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- 108 Farms / Fermes
- 109 Space to Let / Espaces à louer
- 110 Space Wanted / Espaces demandés
- 111 Offices to Let / Bureaux à louer
- 112 Offices Wanted / Bureaux demandés
- 113 Stores to Let / Magasins à louer
- 114 Stores Wanted / Magasins demandés
- 115 Apartments to Let / Appartements à louer
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- 117 Condos for Sale / Condos à vendre
- 118 Condos to Let / Condos à louer
- 119 Sublets / A sous-louer
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- 123 Flats/Duplexes Wanted / Duplexes demandés
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- 126 Rooms Wanted / Chambres demandées
- 127 Room & Board to Let / Chambres et pensions à louer
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- 129 Garages to Let / Garages à louer
- 130 Garages Wanted / Garages demandés
- 131 Parking Space to Let / Stationnement à louer
- 132 Parking Space Wanted / On demande stationnements
- 133 Nursing Homes / Maisons de santé
- 134 Senior Citizens' Residences / Résidence pour personnes âgées
- 135 Business Opportunities / Occasion d'affaires
- 136 Investment Opportunities / Occasions de placement
- 137 Open Houses / Visites libres
- 138 Houses for Sale / Maisons à vendre

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- 201 Help Wanted / Personnel demandé
- 202 Work Wanted / On demande emploi
- 203 Nursing Services / Service de garde-malade
- 204 Domestic Help Wanted / Aide domestique demandée
- 205 Domestic Work Wanted / Travail domestique demandé
- 206 Babysitters Wanted / Gardiennes demandées
- 207 Babysitters Available / Gardiennes disponibles
- 208 Mother's Helper Available / Aides maternelle demandée
- 209 Mother's Helper Available / Aides maternelle disponibles
- 210 Employment Services / Agences de placement

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- 302 Camping Equipment / Équipement de camping
- 303 Musical Instruments / Instruments de musique
- 304 Photo Supplies / Articles de photographie
- 305 Stamps & Coins / Timbres et monnaie
- 306 Antiques / Antiquités
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- 310 Moving Sales / Ventes de déménagement
- 311 Auctions / Encans
- 312 For Sale or Exchange / À vendre ou à échanger
- 313 Swap / Échange
- 314 Cars for Sale / Autos à vendre
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- 317 Motorcycles / Motocyclettes
- 318 Bicycles / Bicyclettes

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- 511 Personals / Annonces personnelles
- 512 Companions / On demande compagnons
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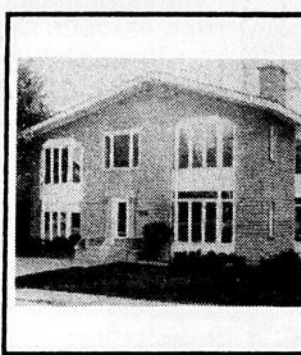
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209 MOTHER'S HELPER AVAILABLE AIDES MATERNELLES DISPONIBLES

BRIGHT, responsible, 23-year-old McGill grad looking for position as mother's helper, full-time, live-out. Call Beth, 284-5561.

ENERGETIC responsible McGill grad student seeks summer employment as mother's helper. Call Tracey, 284-5561.

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LADIES' Raleigh bicycle, like new, \$100. Mink coat, size 16, like new, \$600. 935-5594.
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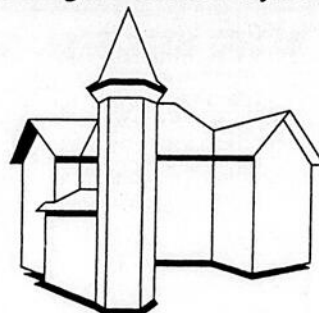
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A mock United Nations was held at Westmount High Tuesday. It was comprised of Switzerland (Charlotte Lamontagne), South Africa (Trevor Benn), Mozambique (Sarah Star), Lebanon (Rhana Taher), coordinator Linda Handiak (a teacher at Vanguard), Learning Disabilities Association (Adrian Brown, Cindy Haughton, Shari Ajzenkoph), Jordan (Noor Kassim), the Ivory Coast (Dominique Lloyd-Smith), Israel (Martin Glass), India (Malti Patel, Poonam Bharwani), Ghana (John Koranteng), Canada (Jennifer Meerfeld) and Brazil (Mary Ellen Albert, Kurt Blagden).

Mini, mock United Nations tackles foreign aid, homelands

The auditorium at Westmount High School sported flags from 11 countries as a mock United Nations debate raged on two issues: foreign aid to developing countries and people who feel they have lost their homelands.

The first debate was resolved in a vote that said "donor countries will continue to give aid which is tied to the ability of the receiving country to repay. Repayment would be done gradually over a longer period of time. Financial aid and technical assistance would be directed mostly to education development."

The debate was held between Grades 8 and 9 after a young woman, who works with Amnesty International, discussed human rights abuses.

The second resolution never came to a vote, as time ran out on the debate.

The mock United Nations was a joint effort of Westmount High School and Vanguard, which rents space from the school. Evidence of Vanguard's participation in organiz-

ing the event was reflected in three seats representing the Learning Disabilities Association.

Delegates from developing countries, such as India, Ghana, Mozambique, Brazil and the Ivory Coast, were virtually unanimous in their arguments for the benefits of foreign aid.

They argued that aid is integral in boosting the self-sufficiency of a developing country.

Create opportunities

Malti Patel of Westmount High School, representing India, argued that aid should go to education and job training, creating opportunities for her people to learn about equality (to abolish the caste system not only in law, but in people's minds) and to create jobs.

Ghana (John Koranteng, Westmount High) focussed more on the benefits of technical assistance and joined with Mozambique (Sarah Star, Westmount High) in asking for military aid. Miss Star noted that her country was being sabotaged by rebel forces which had to be crushed.

"We will continue to need aid until the country is stabilized," said Brazil (Kurt Blagden and Mary Ellen Albert, both from Vanguard). They said that 20 to 30 million children live in

By ALISON RAMSEY

urban slums, rummaging through garbage or begging for survival.

They noted a difficulty — how to keep the rate of inflation from rising even higher while spending money on social assistance? How to justify borrowing more when that would drive the country deeper in debt?

The delegates hit on a solution: send more teachers, donate books and other educational materials.

Canada remained out of the debate. Switzerland represented the only donor country. Delegate Charlotte Lamontagne (Westmount High) created an uproar when she asked when the loans would be repaid.

"You seem too greedy, worrying about the money," said a member of the audience. "What's the sense?" someone else stated, in response to Switzerland asking that money to such poor countries be repaid within a certain time period.

Miss Lamontagne earned applause when she countered with a plea for accountability. "In 10 years from now, I don't have the money. They (the recipients) don't have the money. Where does it go?"

She abstained from the vote, which passed with just Mozambique opposed.

The second debate, centring on the

Mohawks in Quebec and Palestinians seeking a homeland, sparked more intense debate on the rights of such groups and how they can be protected without jeopardizing the rights of surrounding communities.

The delegates and audience wanted to know about Lebanon, caught in the crossfire of Palestinians and Israelis.

A resolution had been drafted, but time ran out.

All about AIDS, for women only

Small, confidential, women-only information sessions on HIV/AIDS will be held at Montreal Women's Centre, 3585 St Urbain street at Prince Arthur Wednesday and May 29 from 7 to 9 pm.

The sessions, sponsored by Centre for AIDS Services of Montreal, will explain how the HIV virus is transmitted, who can get AIDS, what the test for the presence of HIV virus is like, who should be tested and what the symptoms of infection are. For information call 844-5989.

Annual MS carnation campaign

In Quebec, 100,000 live carnations and 65,000 silk ones will be sold on Mother's Day weekend, May 9 to 12, to help raise this year's goal of \$500,000 to fight multiple sclerosis.

If not enough is raised by selling carnations, the MS Society will sell bent pencils and pens throughout the province.

MS is an incurable disease of the central nervous system that strikes most victims between the ages of 20 and 40. More than 12,000 Quebecers are afflicted.

EARTHSAVERS

Lawn and garden tips from The Harmony Foundation of Canada.

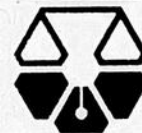
- The spice ginger is an excellent snail and slug repellent. Buy it in bulk and spread as a border around susceptible plants.

- Earwigs are a nuisance in some areas. Dust diatomaceous earth on susceptible seedlings. Make tubes of wet newspaper and lay them in the garden overnight. In the morning, shake the insects into a bucket of water.

- Tent caterpillars? They're easy to see. Pull the nests off the trees as soon as you notice them. Evening is best, when the insects return from foraging. Dunk the tents in a pail of water.
- Make your own insect sprays. Chop one garlic bulb and one small onion. Add one tablespoon of cayenne pepper and four cups of water. Let steep one hour, then add one tablespoon liquid soap. Store in a tightly covered jar in the refrigerator up to one week. Spray liberally on plants.

A tip from the Westmount Environment Action Group (Weact).

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PSBGM seeking a consensus on day-care programs

Continued from page one
schools which house day-cares, asking if they wanted to opt in or out and the impact on the daily rate.

"If we're going to fight it, we want to know how much it will cost us," said Ms Lord.

The surveys were sent to assistant director of student services, Michelle Clabrough, on May 3. She refused to comment on the survey results because the board had not yet been

informed and "we're still looking at the figures."

Westmount Park chose to opt for the ministry plan, after weighing the pros and cons in an orientation committee meeting April 30. According to Barbara Kaiser, who runs the program, the ministry plan is "taking a giant step back to the middle ages," because schools are providing better student-supervisor ratios than stipulated by the ministry and have good

programs.

But the importance of keeping parent subsidies and operating a legal day-care gave them no choice, she said. About 30 percent of parents using the facility are eligible for some amount of government subsidy, she estimated.

"If we don't go the ministry's route, we will be then providing illegal day-care, and we don't want to provide something illegal."

Ms Kaiser fears operating outside the ministry would put a day-care at risk, not knowing if it would be permitted to remain in operation from one month to the next.

Going with the ministry's proposal also ensures a "non-elitist" day-care, she said, explaining that if subsidies are not provided, it will only be available to parents who can afford the full brunt of day-care costs.

Will lower ratio

The program at Westmount Park will retain a lower child-employee ratio than the 20-1 stipulated by the ministry, agreed Mr Saunders and Ms Kaiser, by bringing administrative employees into the program and taking advantage of floating employees. The day-care hopes to maintain its 10-1 ratio.

The PSBGM is seeking a consensus. A report compiled by Ms Clabrough will be submitted to the board in time for its monthly meeting May 22.

A consensus by school committees seems out of the question.

While Westmount Park opted in, Roslyn opted out and accompanied its decision with a strongly worded statement saying that the school committee "deplores the government action to take control of day-care centres away from the community and school in which these centres have been established to meet particular needs."

Roslyn can afford to reject the ministry plan to bring the PSBGM into line with the publicly-run system used in all other school boards in the province. Few of its parents rely on subsidization and they could be carried by the bulk of parents who pay full fees. They say the lack of funding for materials can be offset with ingenuity (recycling more, using scraps).

Their incentive to opt out is greater than at Westmount Park — one of its workers is a qualified teacher, who would be eligible for the top end of the union wages, which allows for a CEGEP education at best and a Grade 10 education minimum.

The program fears it would lose

that employee, who would be paid less by becoming unionized.

At Westmount Park, the workers are paid less than teachers and would likely neither gain nor lose by becoming part of a union, according to principal Paul Saunders.

Unionization of the day-care and after-school workers does mean, however, that they could be bumped from one school to another, depending on need and seniority.

Head of Roslyn School committee, Katherine Snow, wonders about the government's reasons for changing the rules for Protestant schools,

which have always created and operated their own day-care centres.

"Who's at a disadvantage here?" said Mrs Snow, saying that it comes down to those eligible for subsidies — working women, poor, with children.

She said she would love to see the school board come out in protest against the legislated changes, "It's time people stand up for what they believe. It's as though people are afraid of their governments. The Protestant school board is supposed to be a strong school board so it should stand up."

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For both full and part-time mature students, Concordia's Centre for Mature Students provides academic guidance and moral support.

It has developed special programs and counselling to assist students 21 or over with no completed education after high school, as well as those who never completed high school, to work their way into undergraduate programs.

The information sessions take place at 1455 de Maisonneuve boulevard west, in room 462-11. For more information call 848-3890 or 848-3895.



CITY OF WESTMOUNT
VILLE DE WESTMOUNT
Official NOTICE BOARD
TABLEAU D'AFFICHAGE officiel

Continued from page two

CITY OF WESTMOUNT

1. GENERAL CONDITION TO COMPLY WITH ON 6TH MAY 1991

To be either domiciled in the City of Westmount, or to be the owner of an immovable situated in the territory of the said City within the meaning of the Act respecting municipal taxation or to be the occupant of a place of business situated in the said City within the meaning of the said Act;

2. ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO NATURAL PERSONS AS OF 6TH MAY 1991

To be of full age and a Canadian citizen.

3. ADDITIONAL CONDITION APPLICABLE TO UNDIVIDED CO-OWNERS OF AN IMMOVABLE OR CO-OCCUPANTS OF A PLACE OF BUSINESS

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Marie-France Paquet
City Clerk

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Oil up for bicycle road-eo

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Oil your gears, check your brakes and sharpen up your riding skills. It's time for the annual bicycle road-eo held by the Rotary Club of Westmount.

This year's event takes place Saturday, May 18, at the Westmount arena with helping hands from police and public safety officers who'll be there to test bikes for safety and provide a few tips.

Boys and girls from elementary schools are being invited to participate in the road-eo course laid out to test their prowess with stop signs, hairpin turns and hand signals.

"We're asking everyone to dust off their bicycle helmets and maybe win a new one," says Public Safety Officer Robert Hryciuk.

As usual, two new bicycles are being donated by the Rotary Club as door prizes. In addition, a number of safety helmets have been donated as prizes by the Kiwanis Club of Montreal-St George.

The helmets have been donated through the efforts of Dr I. Barry Pluss at the Montreal Children's Hospital who was invited to last year's road-eo by the Public Security Unit to promote the importance of wearing a helmet while cycling.

This year the hospital was able to interest the Kiwanis Club in donating 25 helmets to each police station for bicycle programs in the Montreal Urban Community.

Local youth squad sergeant Raffaele Magliocco said he expected half the 25 helmets for Station 23 would be presented at the Westmount event and half at a similar event in St Henri May 11, depending on how many other prizes were available for each.

Police officers will be visiting all elementary schools in Westmount to give out bicycle safety brochures and promote the road-eo, he said. The two bicycles will also be exhibited at schools. Other prizes to be won include reflector sets.

Tight scores in first baseball games

Westmount's boys of summer came out swinging in their opening games but struck out in the end.

Westmount's mosquito intercity baseball team lost 12-11 to Côte St Luc in a slugfest last Thursday while the peewee baseball squad lost 4-2 to the Town of Mount Royal team in their opening game Saturday at the Westmount Athletic Grounds.

The peewees were scheduled to play at Montreal West Tuesday night

while the mosquitos are to play Outremont tonight at 6 pm at the WAG behind Westmount High School, weather permitting.

Mike Deegan, a Westmount department of recreation and culture sports supervisor, said it was too early to tell how the teams were doing despite the opening losses.

Westmount did not field an intercity bantam baseball team this year due to a lack of players.

Harry, Sally inseparable

Meet Harry and Sally, the wandering couple.

Harry is a small terrier with wanderlust. Sally, his mate, is a Golden Retriever who follows him everywhere — whenever they can dig another hole under the fence of their yard, says public safety officer Robert Hryciuk.

The pair went for a walk last Thursday afternoon from their home on Montrose avenue to Westmount Park where Harry was found and picked up by a man walking his own dog. The terrier was handed over to officer Hryciuk.

No sooner had the officer taken custody of Harry, then who comes tagging along? Sally, of course, determined not to be separated. They weren't.

The two pals were put into the dog catcher's van in Library Drive, which the officer just happened to have driven to a meeting at the Westmount Public Library.

"They were sitting there together looking out the window at passersby and everybody was laughing," he said. "It was so hilarious."

After the officer's meeting, the pair was driven home.

That's entertainment!



Sarah Star sang a rendition of Mac the Knife at the Westmount High School Variety Show on May 1, where 14 acts, all by students, wowed the full house.

Photo by OWEN EGAN

Recreation department awards night on Saturday

More than 300 Westmount youths aged six to 17 are expected to attend the department of recreation and culture's 1990-91 fall/winter awards night at Victoria Hall Monday evening.

Peter Wallace, the department's administrator, said 678 invitations have been sent. Everyone who attends will receive a certificate of participation which can be picked up between 5 and 6 pm.

Proceedings will begin at 6:15 pm with welcoming remarks followed by the 87 scheduled individual and team award presentations, including awards for 18 junior volunteers.

Mr Wallace said the event, held twice a year, is to honor championship teams, outstanding achievements, good sportsmanship and participation. Free dinner at 6:20 pm will consist of hot dogs, chips and soft drinks.

Eau de rodent traced to turret

Smell a rat at city hall? No, only a mouse.

But the odor was enough to call in firefighters to do some professional sniffing in the third-floor turret room Wednesday last week.

Fire officials said the smell was probably due to a dead rodent which public works director Fred Caluori identified as a field mouse. Windows were opened and the odor went away, he said.

Vermont farm trip in jeopardy

At least 12 more seniors are needed to save a scheduled trip to the Billings Farm and Museum in Vermont tomorrow.

Beverly Adams-Coskun, Westmount's socio-cultural co-ordinator, said at least 30 people at a cost of \$30 each are needed for the outing to take place.

Seniors are to lunch in historic Woodstock at a restaurant of their choice before going to the operating dairy farm, founded in 1890. It features live animals and exhibits "devoted to family farm life in Vermont" since the turn of the century.

If enough people register, the air-conditioned bus will leave Victoria Hall at 8 am tomorrow and is scheduled to return at about 7:30 pm. Seniors interested in going can call Ms Adams-Coskun at 935-8531, local 212.

Test your tennis skill this weekend

Tennis evaluations for those wanting to take Westmount tennis instruction courses are this Saturday and Sunday from 9 am until noon at the Westmount Park adult (clay) tennis courts.

Anyone who is not a beginner, who has played tennis for more than one year, must first be evaluated

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