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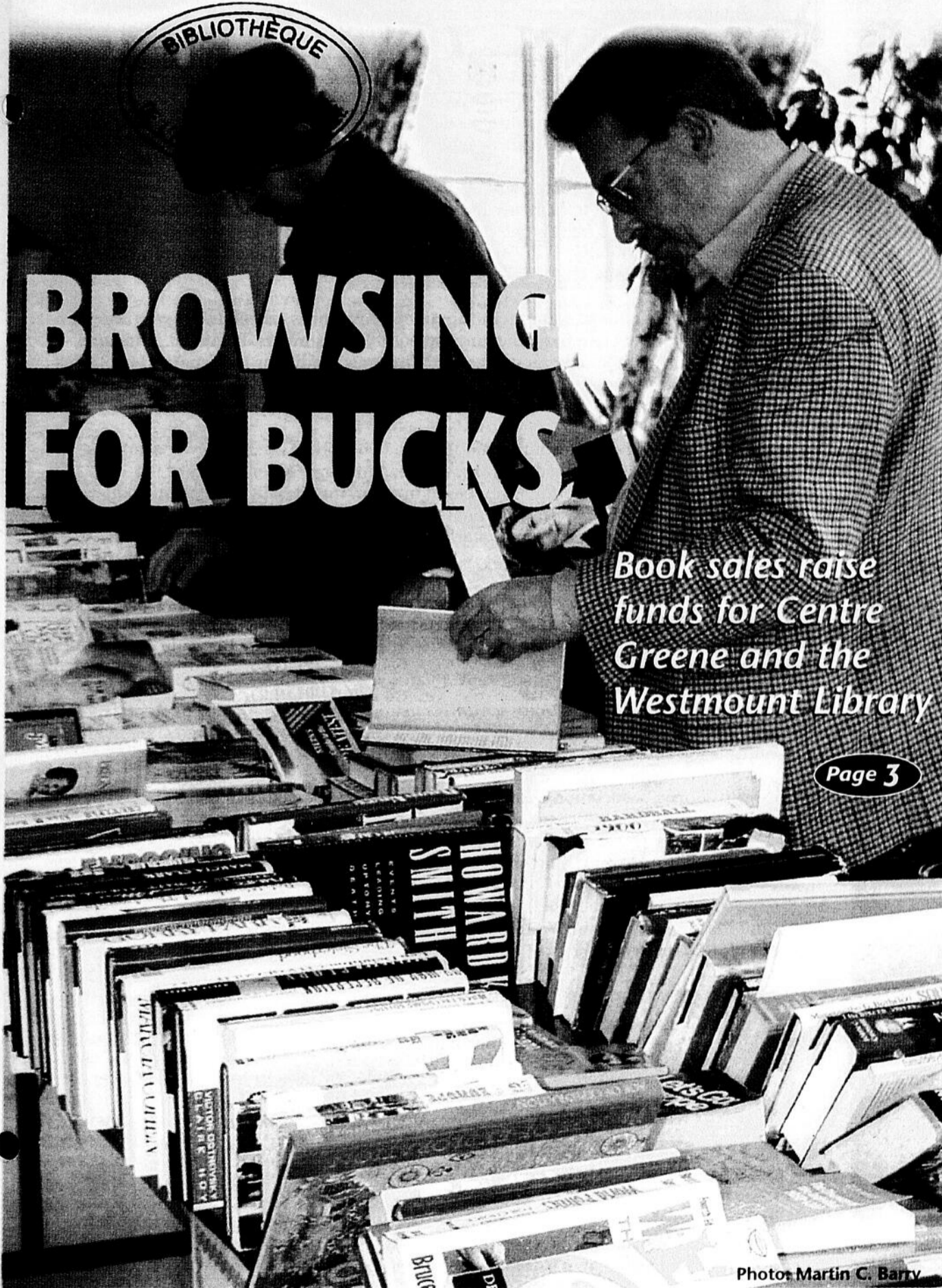
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BROWSING FOR BUCKS

*Book sales raise
funds for Centre
Greene and the
Westmount Library*

Page 3

Photo: Martin C. Barry

Local News

DECENTRALIZATION ISSUE DOMINATES MINI-SUMMIT

Martin C. Barry

It was with a certain amount of regret that some Westmouters made their contribution to the Montreal Summit last Saturday.

"We would have liked to not have had to do this because our whole goal was not to be part of the larger city," megacity councillor Karin Marks said following the all-day round-table seminar held at Victoria Hall.

"I think the process of getting citizens involved in determining priorities is a wonderful one—whether we were a city or a borough," she added. "And it was an interesting day I think from that perspective."

Of the Westmount citizens who were invited to make submissions at the summit, many of those interviewed afterward agreed that the issue of decentralizing megacity services into the boroughs had dominated the day's discussions.

"The overriding principle was decentralization," said Marks. "Allow us to maintain control over our facilities, our philosophy, how our community functions,—that really is the biggest message we can give."

The borough office was expected to produce a 10-page summary of the day's proceedings by the middle of this week, a copy of which is being forwarded to megacity officials for the island-wide Montreal Summit in June.

(continued on page 8)

Didn't receive your Business Directory?

The Westmount Examiner's sixth annual business directory was distributed to all homes along with last week's paper. If for some reason you did not receive your copy, please contact The Westmount Examiner at (514) 484-5610 and one will be delivered to you.

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Mark Lalonde, CFA

Investment Advisor, Associate Portfolio Manager

Phone: (514) 286-7363

www.marklalonde.com



Mark has been advising individual investors since 1984. He obtained the Chartered Financial Analyst designation, the most highly regarded in the investment industry, in 1993.

Of the current investing climate Mark says, "The economic evidence has signaled a resumption of growth in the North American economy but the financial markets remain challenging. Concerns about accounting issues, corporate trustworthiness, equity valuations and rising interest rates all weigh on stock and bond prices.

"The plain fact is that uncertainties will always challenge investors. I believe the most pertinent questions pertain to one's own portfolio. Is the asset allocation appropriate? Is it properly diversified across market sectors as well as by company? Is it comprised of securities of sufficient quality? If the answers are yes, then one's peace of mind will be greatly enhanced no matter what."

Mark constructs portfolios to suit specific client circumstances and objectives, striking the appropriate balance between fixed income and equity investments. Balanced or income oriented portfolios include only securities from the most creditworthy issuers. He believes the key to successful portfolio management is tempering the desire for performance with the need for prudence.

He is able to offer The BMO Nesbitt Burns Managed Portfolio Account service® to those clients who wish to delegate the day-to-day decision making responsibility of the investment process. These portfolios are based upon an investment policy statement arrived at after a comprehensive assessment of a client's attitudes and expectations about risk and return, as well as a clear understanding of their time horizon and any unique needs or circumstances.

From this consultation, an agreed upon asset allocation is set. Regular monitoring and evaluation of portfolios and communication with clients to verify investment objectives and report upon investment progress is ongoing. Adjustments would be made depending upon market conditions.

Mark focuses on senior, high quality securities using a combination of fundamental and technical analysis to arrive at equity investment decisions. He believes "investing in great companies is the surest path to investing success".

BMO Nesbitt Burns' association with some of Wall Street's best known firms is of great value, allowing him to cross check analysts' opinions. Mark relies upon the expertise of BMO Nesbitt Burns' research department which was recently named the top Canadian research team, for the twenty first consecutive year, according to an independent institutional survey*.

Mark and his family reside in Westmount. He enjoys racquet sports and sailing. He is a member of the Montreal Society of Financial Analysts.

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* Brendan Wood International Survey. Institutional Equity Research, Sales and Trading Performance in Canada, 2001 Report.

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Summit Park leash laws in place

Dog owners used to letting their dogs off the leash in Summit Park will have to refrain from doing so over the next two months, as Westmount's annual leash law came into effect on Monday, April 15.

Each year during the bird migration period from mid-April to mid-June, dogs in Summit Park must be kept on leashes at all times. Public Security will be reminding dog owners during the first few days, and fines will be issued starting on April 20.

During the weekends of March 16 and 17, and March 23 and 24, Public Security carried out a special campaign in Summit Park to ensure that all dogs had a valid Westmount license. A total of 27 notices of non-compliance were issued advising the owners to obtain a license or a fine would be issued. Given the number of infractions that were issued, the borough office says the campaign will be extended on a spot check basis.

Water heater costs rise

Westmounters who rent water heaters from the borough's electric power company will soon be paying a slightly higher rate.

The borough council approved a rate increase this month by Westmount Hydro, to reflect an escalation of the cost that had been passed on by Hydro Quebec, which is the local electric utility's supplier.

"It's a marginal increase—just under two per cent," said Borough Director Bruce St. Louis. The increase will bring the cost of the water heaters up to about 5.99 cents per kilowatt hour, he added.

Public Security doesn't fall for supply scam

An office supply dealer whose practices have come under police scrutiny tried to pull a fast one on Westmount Public Security.

Corporate Supply Centre, working out of a Bleury Street locale downtown, delivered a box of printer ribbons to Public Security's offices in Westmount, which the department never ordered.

"What they do is they send an employee to offices to see what type of printers and computers there are, and afterwards they send a box of cartridges with a bill," said Const. Josée Laganière of Station 12.

Invariably, she said, companies approached by Corporate Supply—usually large ones where the receptionist is busy—have never ordered anything.

"They make money that way and they send you cartridges at three times the price it really costs," said Laganière, adding that Westmount's Sports & Recreation Department got stung by the same outfit a few years back.

Laganière said that local businesses should be wary of anything delivered without advance notice by the company.

Library and Centre Greene benefit from used book sales



Pleased with Saturday's used book sale, Friends of the Westmount Library include (left to right) Miriam Tees, Lise Acheson and Derek Walker. (Photo: Martin C. Barry)

Martin C. Barry

Westmounters love books. Until two weeks ago though, few knew the full extent of it.

Staff at Centre Greene say that funds raised from their annual book fair have exceeded their highest expectations, while the Friends of the Westmount Library say their sale will be an annual event.

In all, \$1,400 was collected at Centre Greene's April 5 sale of hardback and softcover books—as well as audio tapes and records—all ranging in price from 50 cents to \$4.

"It's a service to the community," said Mary Ann McNally of Centre Greene. Sitting with a cash box at a table, McNally noted that a great many people from outside Westmount also came to the sale.

"We have books to offer at extremely reasonable prices," she said. "People can clean out their book shelves."

Most of the books were bought up early in the morning. "You can't believe how many have been sold," McNally said.

By 11 a.m., more than a dozen buyers known to make the rounds of book sales across Montreal had lined up.

"The people who come really early are looking for the books in really good condition," said McNally. "I think that generally they take them and sell them again. These are pickers who come earlier."

Throughout the rest of the day, the

fair welcomed others who also love books.

Copies of Dick Francis stories were moving especially briskly, as were the works of P.D. James, Georges Simenon, Dominick Dunne and Ann Rule.

Several tapes and vinyl copies of 'Laudate Dominum' by the Choir of Men and Boys of St. Matthias' Church were for sale at half a dollar each. There were also works of a more academic nature. One table was stacked with volumes of psychological research.

A table in the middle of the room had been set up with books that Centre Greene staff had judged especially noteworthy. Among these were the novel 'The Sweet Hereafter' by Russell Banks and the non-fiction work 'Barbarians at the Gate: the Fall of RJR Nabisco.'

A few works by authors closer to home were also to be found. Among them, 'No Mud on the Back Seat' by former Montreal Star editor Gerald Clark, and 'The Ride of My Life' by Cott Corp. founder Gerry Pencer.

Dominick Dunne and other authors struck the fancy of one lady fond of mystery stories, who didn't want to reveal her name. "I love all his books," she said. She was also impressed with Ann Rule. "She covers a whole crime from the time it's committed until the end of the trial."

Over at the Westmount Public Library last Saturday, another second-hand book sale was taking place. This time, the Friends of the Library, a group of volunteers dedicated to helping the library in any way they can, were hold-

ing their second sale event to raise funds for new books for the library.

"Books to be sold are mainly donations, but there are also some books which are discarded by the library in actual condition, but of which they have duplicates," said Derek Walker, a member of the group.

At the Friends' previous book sale last fall, they managed to raise about \$2,400. By late afternoon on Saturday, the amount taken in since noon had reached nearly \$2,000.

There will be another sale in the fall. "This is going to be a regular event by the Friends to raise money," said Walker.

As at Centre Greene's book fair the week before, Walker and other volunteers at the library noted that the book experts tended to show up early in search of unusual or otherwise notable volumes.

"They're lining up," said Lise Acheson.

"The first of them arrived at 10 o'clock when the library opened," added Walker.

Asked whether there were any issues that the Friends group had become concerned about since the merger of Westmount's library with Montreal's island-wide library system at the beginning of this year, Walker was reserved in his comments.

"I don't think that falls within our aegis," he said, adding that only library director Ann Moffat was mandated to reply on such matters. "We could very well step over a policy line."

Borough council blood donor clinic collects 86 units for Héma-Québec

Marilynn Vanderstey

In spite of a lower-than-average turnout for the Westmount Council Blood Donor Clinic, Héma-Québec officials were satisfied with the amount of units it collected.

"It is 86 more pints than we would have had if we didn't run the clinic," said a representative from the agency.

The weather was very seasonal last Friday and organizers thought that perhaps Westmounters were too busy taking in the rays to roll up their sleeves. At Victoria Hall, however, borough staff were working with Héma-Québec in the annual blood drive.

Borough councillor Karin Marks and John de Castell spent most of the day at the clinic, chatting with those that did come in and with employees and volunteers.

"Not all the donors were from Westmount," said Community Events Coordinator Maureen Lafrenière. "Some stopped on their way home from work, driving along Sherbrooke Street and saw the sign for the clinic."

Lafrenière was impressed by the professionalism displayed by the Héma-Québec workers. "They set up fast and took it all down fast," she said. "It was an impressive thing to watch."

One spokesman for Héma-Québec thought that things ran well and that Victoria Hall was a good place to hold a blood donor clinic. He pointed out that the weather and perhaps the Canadiens' hockey game had made the difference in attaining the drive's goal of 100 units.

"The guidelines for donating blood have tightened up in recent years," said Lafrenière. "Donors who spend more than 30 days out of the Canada in a variety of countries, especially Europe, are not eligible to donate blood. At least two donors were rejected because they had been out of the country and in Europe too long."

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**Westmount joins committee looking
into train problems**

Martin C. Barry

Westmount will be joining a committee made up of representatives from several west end boroughs to examine ways noise and other problems caused by nearby railways can be solved.

The Agence Métropolitaine de Transport is planning at some point soon to move the trains that now idle in the Glen Yards to another location, says borough president Karin Marks who was at a meeting last week with Claude Dauphin, the Montreal executive committee member in charge of transportation issues.

Marks said the reason for moving the trains is the decontamination of the Glen Yards this fall prior to the start of construction of the McGill University Health Centre next year.

The question is going to be where the trains will be moved. There will probably be an increase in the number of trains as a result.

"They're looking at what the route is that those trains will be taking," Marks said. "They've got to make some decision. And, of course, we're anxious to see that there is not a huge increase in the number of trains since it's already having an effect, and that the trains be forced to continue at the speed which they are supposed to be moving because the increase in noise is directly related to the increase in speed."

Marks said that one positive side-effect of moving the trains will be the elimination of noise and air pollution from nearby neighbourhoods.

"From that perspective it's certainly of interest to us to see them

move to a permanent site," she said.

Of all the possible alternatives for a new site where the idling trains would be relocated, Marks said Westmount favours one downtown near Windsor Station. "If they move it to the western part of the city ver-

sus moving it downtown, then all of the trains going downtown would have to go back to that site empty in order to be serviced," she said. "So it in some ways doubles or certainly dramatically increases the number of trips on those rail lines."

**Community garden's fate
remains undecided**

Martin C. Barry

A decision could be made this Friday whether a plot of land that some Westmounters use as a garden away from home will be available this summer.

Located on Victoria Avenue at the corner of Ste. Catherine Street, the community garden has operated for years on the vacant site, which the owner, Herb Pfeiffer, has wanted to develop with a condominium project for more than two years.

Last July, when Westmount tried to find another location for the garden used by about 30 people, it became apparent that no land remained available, with the exception of public green space which the City deemed inappropriate to give up.

"That isn't going to happen - there isn't another site," said Lloyd Harriman, one of the gardeners. "We've been down that road before."

Harriman said that the community gardeners don't want to stand in the way of the owner's development, but that if he hasn't any plans this

summer they'd appreciate the use of his land.

"If he's not going to do anything with it, then—what the hell—why not just leave it the way it is?" said Harriman. "We don't expect that from him. That's his property. He can do what he wants with his property. We're not challenging him. It's to his discretion. We're not standing in his way at all and we never have. We're just grateful for whatever he might decide to do."

Westmount Borough Director Bruce St. Louis said he expects to meet with Pfeiffer later this week when the matter could be decided.

"I spoke to the owner last week and he's going to advise me hopefully by this Friday as to whether it will be available this year or not," said St. Louis.

"Outside of that, we've done quite an examination when this problem came up last year and the year prior, and we do not as of today have a suitable site that we can relocate to," he added.



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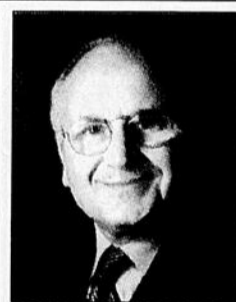
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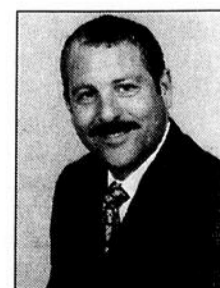
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Weintraub donates letters to McGill

A priceless collection of letters, photos and rare autographed books by a quartet of CanLit greats will soon be available for public consultation at McGill University, thanks to Westmounter William Weintraub.

The well-known author and filmmaker has announced that he will donate hundreds of his letters with authors Mordecai Richler, Mavis Gallant and Brian Moore to the McGill University Libraries, Rare Books and Special Collections Division.

Anyone who's ever wondered what Canada's literary establishment shared in private will be able to read for themselves at McGill come fall, when the collection will be ready for public viewing.

The announcement coincided with Weintraub's appearance at McGill last Tuesday to deliver the R.R. Scott Memorial Lecture for the Friends of the Library, appropriately entitled 'Struggling to Get Published: The Young Mordecai Richler.'

A 1947 McGill Arts graduate, Weintraub has collected a range of personal documents from his illustrious career, which included stints as a Gazette reporter and two decades at the National Film Board, where he directed, wrote and produced almost 150 films. His most recent book, 'Getting Started: A Memoir of the 1950s,' has been

a bestseller since its release last fall.

The typed letters are coloured by their times and include touches that cannot be reproduced, such as typos and crumpled paper. Many wittier notes feature salty language. One dispatch from Richler to Weintraub shows the late author's mischievous nature: "Dear Bill: Why don't you write? You can't be working that hard you bastard."

Other highlights of Weintraub's collection include hundreds of Weintraub photos of the four writers and other Montreal luminaries, multiple videos of documentary and dramatic films Weintraub produced at the NFB, as well as first-edition autographed copies of books including Gallant's 'Green Water, Green Sky,' Richler's 'The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz,' Moore's 'Judith Hearne' and Weintraub's 'Why Rock the Boat?'

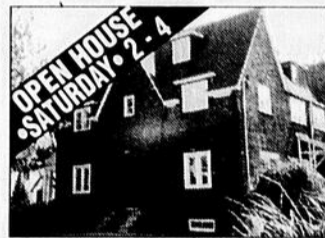
Given that Weintraub, Richler, Moore and Gallant all launched their writing careers in Montreal, says Irena Murray, chief curator of McGill's Rare Books and Special Collections Division, it's quite appropriate that this collection may soon be viewed at McGill.

"Weintraub's gift is a special one that will provide an important link between researchers, Montrealers and McGill libraries," she said. "This gift will also considerably strengthen McGill's Canadian Literature collection."



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Westmount's spirit reaches the summit

Everyone seems to have a different opinion on how quickly the quality of life in Westmount is eroding away, but one thing remains certain—the moral fibre of this community shows no signs of fraying at the ends.

This was evident last Saturday within the hallowed old portals of Victoria Hall, where dozens of locals accepted

Commentary

Wayne Larsen



an invitation to attend the Westmount mini-summit—that much-hyped, day-long extravaganza designed to gauge Westmounters' opinions on a variety of topics as they relate to the borough and its place in the Montreal megacity. It was a controversial event, to be sure, just as anything even remotely related to mega-Montreal has become in Westmount.

The real heroes of Saturday's summit are the residents who gave up an entire day, strictly on a volunteer basis, to sit through what must have been a tedious and often frustrating meeting. They certainly didn't attend for any personal gain; they went out of love for their community and a deep concern for their fellow citizens. And for every one who was invited, there are no doubt several more who would have loved to attend.

Discussing the decentralization of municipal services may be a step in the right direction, but that it has to be discussed at all is abhorrent to most—if not all—of those Westmounters who attended. The very fact that most invited participants went in there with the attitude that Westmount is absolutely not—nor is it likely to ever become—a willing party to the municipal restructuring as dictated by Bill 170, is a tribute to their fortitude and community spirit.

Westmount's image may be taking a beating at the moment, in fact it's quickly becoming the *enfant terrible* of Montreal's boroughs. But, say what you will, last Saturday's gathering proved that one of the few things not currently at risk is the strong *esprit de corps* among its citizens and the dedication of its many community leaders.



Spring brings flowers—and budgetary expenditures

MNA

Jacques Chagnon



would like to have written this column on the Westmount Citizen's Summit, but unfortunately, this text was written the day before the Summit began, so that will have to wait until the next time.

As you read these lines, we will be examining the budgetary expenditures for each ministry for the coming year at the National Assembly. I will be examining the Ministry of Education's planned expenditures, as well as part of those to be voted for the Ministry of Finance.

In the post secondary education sector, colleges and universities have already made their grievances known.

Despite the so-called refinancing from the government, universities are still not up to speed to compete with their

Canadian counterparts. After waiting in vain for two years for the Ministry of Education to join them to undertake a study on the level of funding required to bring them up to par with other Canadian universities, Quebec universities announced that they would begin the study on their own. This proved to be all that was needed. Shortly after their announcement the Minister, whom I had questioned at length on this issue, finally accepted to be associated with the project. It is very important that this study be done.

Premier Landry and Minister of Education Sylvain Simard were completely irresponsible when they announced their intention to freeze tuition fees for the four years of a new PQ government. It's great to make election promises like that, but these promises are irresponsible if the gov-

ernment doesn't include a promise to fund the university network at the same level as their Canadian counterparts. In short, in terms of university funding, the PQ government is selling us the same old line that they have been trying to sell us since 1994. In the next election campaign I know that the population will tell them that they will no longer buy their stories. I hope that one day, someone in this government will wake up and understand that underfunding universities will only make us less competitive on the international knowledge market. And, right now, we are beginning to fall further behind the front runners among rich and educated societies.

On another note, let's set aside political problems for a moment and talk about what is happening all around us. Have you noticed? Of course, yes, spring has finally arrived in Montreal. Lawn mowers are on sale at Canadian Tire, even though the grass isn't green yet. Crocuses are

blooming and other bulbs, such as tulips, daffodils and grape hyacinths, are making their existence known by peeking out of the ground and pointing towards the sun.

Soon, buds will be opening and azaleas, magnolias and the sweet smell of lilacs will be all around us. Spring is wonderful: from the end of the sugar season, right up to fishing season. Nothing in human society evolves so quickly as nature at this time of year. An order is set out and year after year, it is repeated. What is surprising is that each year we are amazed and always happy to live it all again with this eternal new beginning. We are never tired of seeing the ice and snow languish, recede, and finally disappear. Finally, the time for change has come and so we welcome the warmth of spring. We thank you! Spring and look forward to summer!

Jacques Chagnon is the Liberal MNA for Westmount-St. Louis.

Page 6 - THE WESTMOUNT EXAMINER - www.westmountexaminer.com - Thursday, April 18, 2002

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Editor	: Wayne Larsen ext 32 e-mail: larsenw@transcontinental.ca
Administration	: Debbie Dore ext 28 e-mail: dored@transcontinental.ca
Reception	: Monica King ext 21
Advertising Consultants	: Sandra Cobrin ext 24 Harvey Aisenhal ext 25 Janice Proctor ext 26 Arleen Candiotti ext 31

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Westmount at its Summit

Stanley Baker

Last Saturday's Westmount summit was not held at our renowned Summit Circle, but much closer to sea level at Victoria Hall.

About 60 Westmounters were present, including our borough council, exiled and previous members of our city council, representatives from local community groups, as well as borough employees, business people and local citizens.

The meeting was chaired by Borough Director Bruce St. Louis and consisted of five workshops: Community Development, Urban Planning, Heritage Preservation, Democracy, Environment, Public Safety, Culture, Sports and Recreation. After focusing on priority issues, actions were proposed to deal with them. Among the most vocal of those present were Joan Rothman, Doug McDougall, Paul Billette and Cynthia Lulham.

The consensus focused on loss of control by the Borough, as far as taxation and local facilities were concerned, and the need for the decentralization of powers back to the Borough. It was also felt that there is a need to increase the number of councillors and to have a citizens' advisory committee. The library, roads, child care, home care and cooperation and interaction with other boroughs were among the many other issues also discussed.

Our local MNA, Jacques Chagnon was present, and our borough president Karin Marks reminded him of the Quebec Liberal Party's promise to work towards a de-merger if elected. M. Chagnon acknowledged having heard her.

A document dealing with the demographics of Westmount showed that in 1996, 15 per cent of the population lived below the poverty

line. The average family income was \$160,690, compared with \$50,818 in Montreal. Margaret Lefebvre asked what was the median income in Westmount, but that information was not available.

The question of declaring our former City Hall and other Westmount buildings heritage sites was raised. The Quebec Minister in charge of Heritage was present, and she stated that certain criteria must be met. Karin Marks said an application would be considered. The Minister informed those present that the whole mountain is now being considered, but the problem is that five boroughs are involved.

The use of the name 'Westmount' in some of the proposed actions plans was debated, as some felt that when publicized it would add to the negative image in which the press has portrayed us as being elitist. In some instances, it was used and in others the generic term 'borough' was chosen.

There will be a public information meeting on May 4, when there will be a consultation with the citizens on this Westmount Summit's decisions. From this, there will be further input into the Montreal Summit, which will take place on June 4, 5 and 6.

An interesting sidelight occurred at the summit, as all those present could be considered 'independents' in Montreal City classification, Karin Marks could sit with any of those present at the lunch break. This is not the case at City Hall, where, she has informed us, she has to eat alone, not being a member of the official parties.

Karin Marks, Community Events Coordinator Maureen Lafrenière, Borough Director Bruce St. Louis and the moderators and reporters at the various workshops are top be praised for their excellent handling of the proceedings.

...At the old ball game

Off the Leash

George Bowser



It's a shame that so few people are attending the Expos' games now, because the home opener was wild.

The crowd was exuberant and rowdy—sometimes too rowdy. At least one merrymaker was forcibly ejected from the stadium with 'is 'ead tucked underneath the security guy's arm. That's OK by me. If you have imbibed more than you can handle, you should be encouraged to leave (burp). As the young man was led off, a man behind me was heard to remark, "What's the worst that could happen—they won't let him back in for more major league baseball games?" (For those of you who are not baseball fans, the irony here is that there may not be any more such games.)

The gents' washroom was orderly, and more civilized than the one I encountered recently at the Molson Centre. One gentleman even took the trouble to ask his neighbour if he was sure his zipper was down. Very considerate, if a little belated.

While I was away from my seat, I missed seeing a grand slam being scored by the visiting Florida Marlins, which caused the departure of a large number of Montreal 'fans.' Among them was a stockbroker who greeted me with the news that the game, then in its sixth inning, was 'over.' He was following his instincts. He must have forgotten Yogi Berra's famous saying: "It

ain't over till it's over." Then again, I'm told that another thing Yogi said was "I never said half of the things I said."

It did seem to me, as the fickle fans flew off, that their behaviour was impolite. But that's also typical of Montreal fans. If you ain't winning, they're gone. A shallow group, with no stick-to-it-iveness. (This from a man who goes to one Expo game a year). But there are many good reasons to go to the game that have little to do with the score.

There was a woman sitting near me whom I know slightly, and when she heard my neighbour explaining the finer points of the game to me, she turned and told us her four reasons for going to a ball game. One: it's the only team sport not subject to a time limit. Hence "It ain't over till it's over." (yeah, but Yogi—when it's over, it's over!) Two: there's very little violence, at least not on the field. Three: there's a healthy mix of ethnic groups in the sport. Four: you can socialize freely without disturbing anyone. She added, as an afterthought: "The tight uniforms don't hurt, either."

Very late in the game play was halted because 'fans' were throwing things onto the playing surface. Oh, Henry! chocolate bars, chiefly. Surprisingly, the sound system continued to play intense rock music at ear-splitting volume. This is not the kind of music that hath charms to soothe the savage breast. They should switch to Sinatra on these occasions. It has been shown that Frank Sinatra's voice, piped into malls at strategic locations, disperses gangs of unpleasant youths almost immediately.

George Bowser is one half of the musical comedy duo Bowser & Blue.

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Decentralization issue dominates Westmount's mini-summit

(continued from page 1)

At an informal gathering in the public art gallery at the end of the afternoon, borough councillor John de Castell said the day's results would benefit all of Westmount and provide guidance for the borough council.

He cautioned, however, "What comes out of this in the main summit is anybody's guess. But with any luck, we can hope that if accurately represented, that the product of today's meeting will enhance and clarify Westmount's position vis à vis the centre city."

De Castell agreed that many of the points dealt with through the day returned time and again to decentralization. "If there's one single point to be derived from this, decentralization is mandatory if we're going to maintain some of these initiatives that we're used to," he said. "If we're going to maintain services—if we're going to talk about ameliorating or enhancing services—then this can't be determined on a central level. We have to have some controls over budget, over revenue."

Asked if he sensed that among those attending the Westmount Summit there was a view that decentralization is something that the megacity has paid little attention to so far, de Castell replied: "Amongst this group, it's generally perceived that there isn't any decentralization in the current plan. I think that even the ruling party downtown would agree that this is a notion that has yet to be implemented."

John Carsley, a resident seated at a table that included a number of current and former Westmount employees and officials, noted the overlap in themes that led to a consensus. "I think there was a really good consensus on both the important issues and on what actions should be taken," he said.

Carsley was convinced that none of the Westmount summit's participants wanted to be part of the megacity. "I'm sure that nobody in that room supported the idea of the megacity," he said. "But the only two choices possible were to say that we're not going to participate in this process at all, or we're going to participate to make sure that Westmount's interests are represented," he added. "And that's probably why everybody was there, I think. Of course, you'd rather not have to go through the whole process."



Participants in the all-day summit at Victoria Hall enjoy refreshments in the art gallery afterwards.

The keyword in all the workshops, Stanley Baker agreed, was decentralization. "More powers for the borough of Westmount. That's what everybody emphasized," he said. "There are certain things that are still under the control of Westmount—but we're afraid these things might be taken away from us."

Towards the end of the meeting, a decision was taken to pre-empt the submissions with a clause stating that "notwithstanding" the fact the summit had been held, "we are still strongly against the merger," said Baker.

Georges Aumais, chief of the fire detachment on Stanton Street that serves Westmount, said fire and other security services were discussed, including the fact that there is no formal provision for Public Security in the megacity's master plan.

"They're one of the links in First Response," Aumais said of Westmount's Public Security officers. "I want to make sure that these guys in that organization stay there for citizens of Westmount. And hopefully their services will even be extended city-wide."

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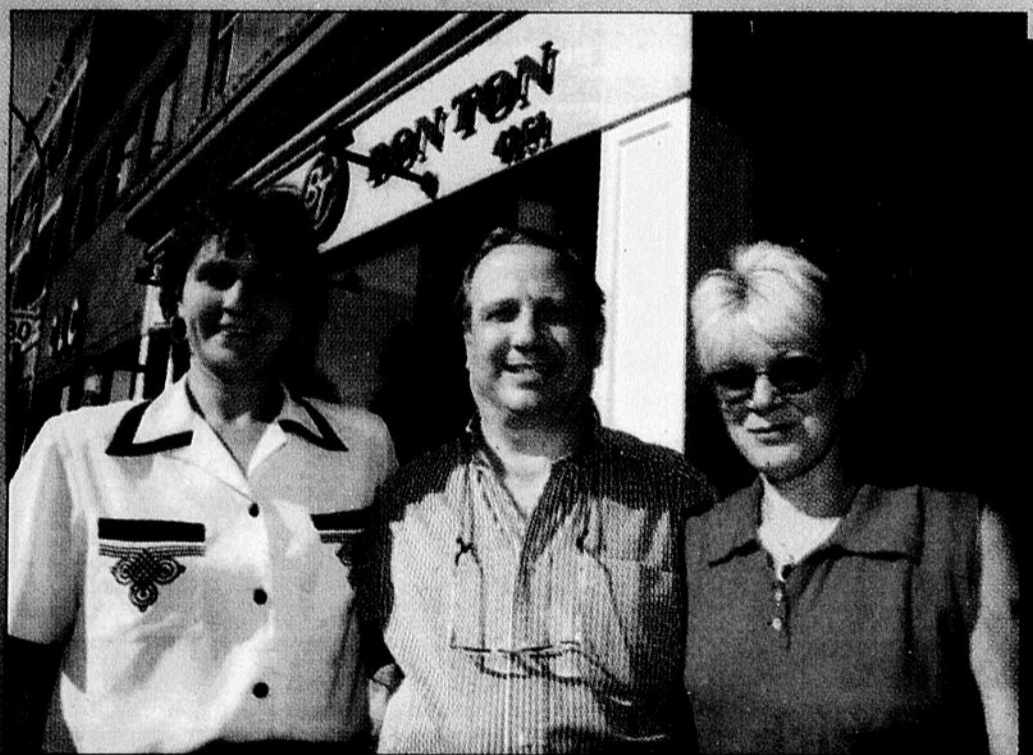
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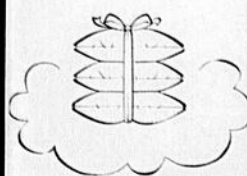


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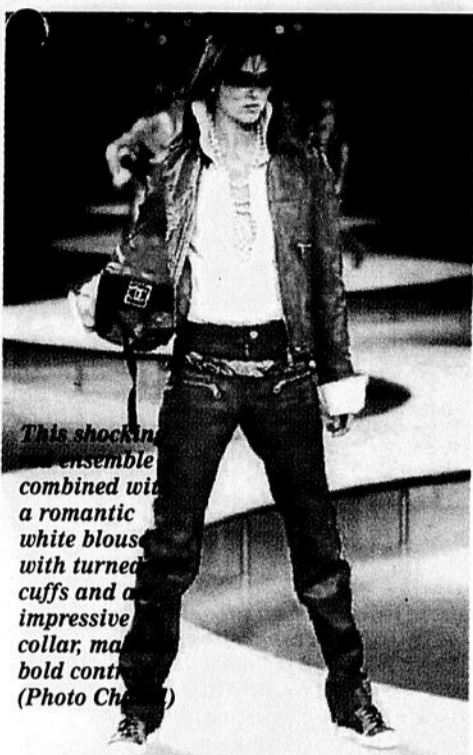
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Chanel's summer look

For the 2002 spring and summer season, Chanel is all about romanticism. White is definitely back, but it will be competing with black, which is no longer content to be associated only with the colder months.

Add to this a touch of soft blue, a soupcon of shocking red, and the classic navy blue—colours that always look great with white. Chanel wearers will also be mixing in a bit of beige, pink and olive green.

Chanel blouses combine full collars



This shocking ensemble combined with a romantic white blouse with turned cuffs and an impressive collar, making a bold contrast. (Photo Chanel)



A wispy, layered look. (Photo Chanel)

and wristbands with plunging necklines, creating a look that is both daring and femininely romantic.

Dresses will be hot items this season, but so will skirt ensembles—either very long or very short. As always, pants will be a sexy option.

With layers of fluid, transparent fabrics, the look will be both light and delicately feminine. And with Chanel's famous attention to detail, it will also be exquisitely refined.

The subtle beauty of Charles Jourdan

For summer 2002, it's all about subtlety at Charles Jourdan. And this has resulted in a markedly different and unique collection. Its themes this season tie in beautifully with everything that is delicate and feminine. And while colour is still present, it is more understated than in the past.

Drawing inspiration from the 1920s, the romantic theme relies on embroidery, lace, pearls, lingerie and above all, sophistication. Muted shades that include soft tones of white, such as chalk and pearl, are contrasted with touches of bright colour.

Leather is very soft this season and is combined with slightly metallic soles. Overall, Charles Jourdan has created a look that is undeniably feminine, thanks to elegant and pointed styles. For a bit of contrast, the collection also includes background reds and decorative designs.

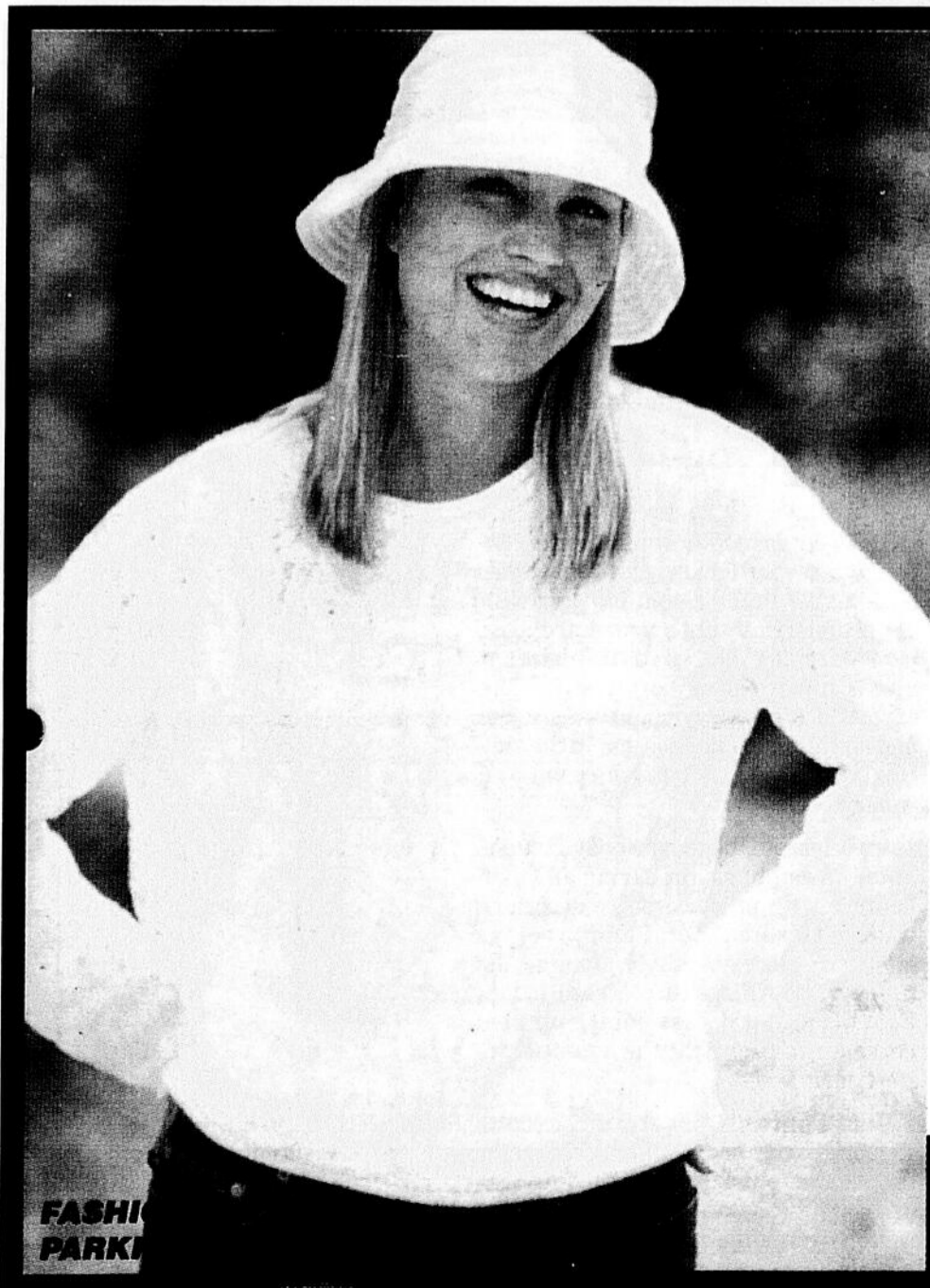
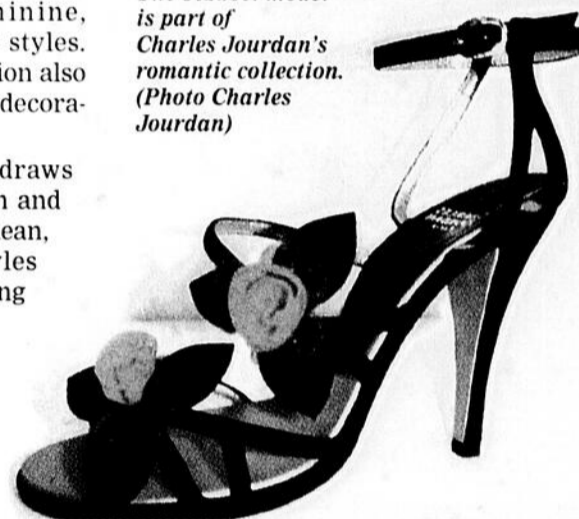
The label's graphic theme draws inspiration from modern design and architecture, borrowing their clean, constructed shapes. These styles come in a range of bright, strong shades as well as in metallic silver. Plexiglass is also used to create a transparent look. The collection includes colours that are perfect for a hot, sultry summer: mimosa, alta, fuchsia,

cappuccino and black. Rustic sophistication takes on a feel of exoticism and authenticity with shades of khaki, lacquer, cacao and mastic, which can be perfectly blended with cappuccino and scarab.

Inspired by water, one of the label's lines is centered on blues and greens: navy, ocean, sky and bamboo, all offset with pearl shades. Shiny metals such as platinum, silver and scarab add a touch of sparkle to the other colours and are used as contrast.

In short, Charles Jourdan has created a modern, dynamic collection that is original, sensual and romantic.

The Jezabel model is part of Charles Jourdan's romantic collection. (Photo Charles Jourdan)



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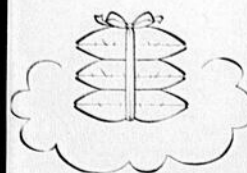


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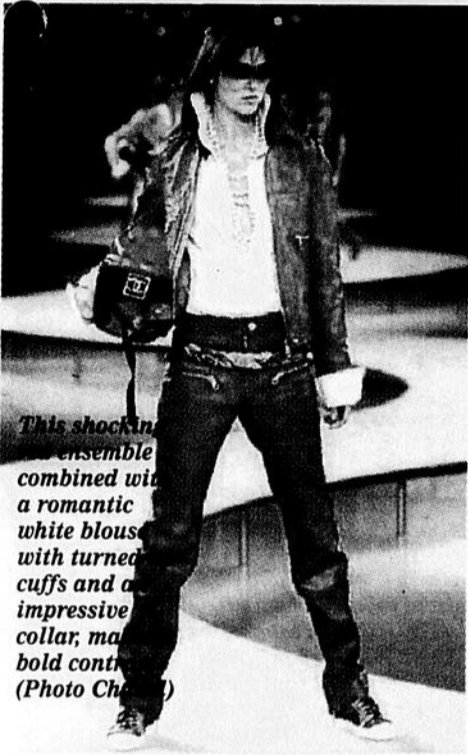


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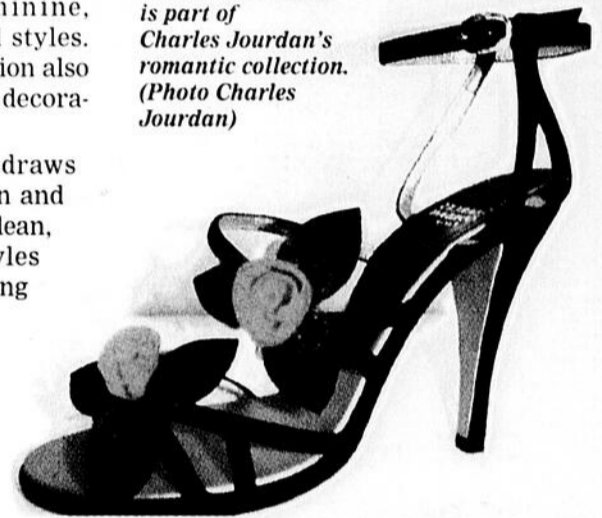
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Although it retains its conservative approach, kamkyl still allows the modern man to stay relaxed while absorbed in work. (Photo Christopher Schulz)



An up-and-coming couture label, YSO uses draped and transparent fabrics for an ultra-feminine look. These extremely fluid and innovative designs highlight the figure not only in pastel whites and creams, but also with a bit of red and the always-classic black. (Photo Christopher Schulz)

Lúk by Luc Laroche: Pastel clothing that caresses the body. (Photo Christopher Schulz)

Fashion's eccentric side

Dee Fontans is known for her eccentric and revolutionary creations. She's pushing the limits again this year with her geometrically cut shirts that expose men's nipples! The goal? To highlight men's natural and softer side. The exposed left nipple symbolizes the heart and strives to bring attention to the similarity that exists between men and women.

To celebrate the female body, Fontans puts the emphasis on daring and exuberance with fuller corsages decorated with perforated metal and precious stones or pieces of silver, turning the piece of clothing into a real jewel. Fontans also proposes pointy, uplifted, corsages to highlight the evolution of the female body.

Dee Fontans' creations scream: Celebrate your body! And this is easy to do, thanks to her high-spirited designs and dazzling colours that include lots of silver, red, acid green, gold and the always-impressive black.



For men, a geometric opening reveals the left nipple. For women, shiny metallic fabric makes for a daringly eccentric dress. (Photo: Cameron H. Diggon, for Dee Fontans)

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A Steinbock summer for the modern man



Steinbock has created an unconstructed look for men this summer, particularly a collection of jackets with a straight-line design and a rounded collar that is slightly lifted. Another hot trend includes contrasting colours, particularly around the collar and pockets. To complement these jackets are classic pants that can also be paired with a vest and polo shirt for a more relaxed look.

Colours this season will be dominated by two-tone shades, which naturally appeal to wearers for both their variety and versatility. The Steinbock collection includes two-tone suits in which the trim of the collar and pockets match the pants—either in green and black, gray and charcoal, or indigo and

khaki. An aubergine jacket with a brown, brushed leather collar—the same as the pants—is another option.

The collection also includes suits with jackets and pants of different colours, such as a beige jacket with a brown collar paired with black pants, or a dark blue jacket and beige pants. Steinbock fans will also find slightly more traditional suits, such as a khaki and black two-tone jacket and khaki pants, or a black jacket with a green collar and black pants.

As for the Steinbock polo shirt, it has taken on a khaki-aubergine combination, while the vest comes in beige bordered with the same khaki as the pants.



Tried-and-true beige but with a twist, thanks to brown in the jacket and khaki in the vest. (Photo Steinbock)



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Steinbock's trends for women

The Steinbock women's collection is very feminine this season, emphasizing square necklines, high waistlines, and very long skirts that come in either A-line styles with a pleat in the front to add a bit of fullness, or in straight cuts with open slits to flatter the leg.

The two hottest items this season are the wide shoulder strap sundress and the short-sleeve dress. Seductive halter-tops also have wide shoulder straps; straight-cut pants stop at the calf; and the small sleeveless jacket is also very popular. The classic jacket comes in different styles to accompany the various suits, while the knitted shirt and cardigan combo is a perfect item for cooler, romantic evenings.

Details are important this season: large buttons, lacing, embroidery or printed trim on corsages to emphasize the waist, as well as on the neckline, sleeves, skirt hems, collar and pockets.

The colours this season are vivid and lively: bright yellows, soft greens, shocking reds, mixes of blue and olive, dark

khakis and greens, as well as whites and off-whites. The collection also includes a bit of beige that is sometimes combined with fuchsia and green, as well as the classic black that is often paired up with another colour, such as coral or khaki.

Steinbock tends to favour natural fabrics that wear well, such as cotton, linen, leather and suede. Coordinates are making a bit of a comeback, and suits are taking on a unique look: a sundress and short sleeveless zipper jacket; a sundress with pedal pusher pants and a jacket; or a short-sleeved dress with a T-shirt and jacket.



A high-waisted sundress with wide shoulder straps in a beautiful soft green with embroidered trim on the straps, corsage and hem. (Photo Steinbock)

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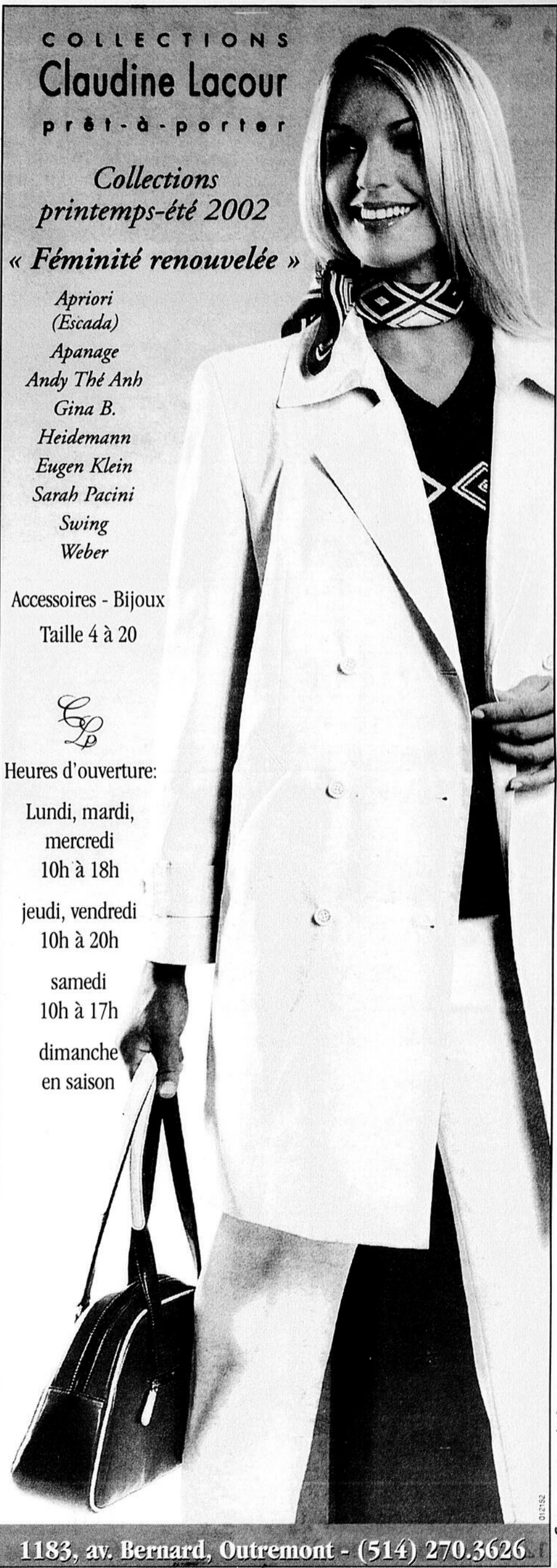
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Looking for Westmount High School grads

After setting a 20-year attendance record last year at its annual dinner and annual general meeting, the Westmount High Old Boys Association (WHOBA) is hoping for a good turnout again this year on May 10 at the WHOBA dinner at the Montreal Badminton and Squash Club.

The guest speaker will be Daniel O'C Hamilton, vice-consul general of the United States. Hamilton will discuss the nature of changes resulting from events of 9/11 in air transportation and border security affecting Canada and the US and the cooperation required to ensure safety and continued prosperity. For information contact Richard Lord at 938-5349 or email Steve Brewer at stevebrewer@yahoo.com. I was told that membership to WHOBA is now open to both men and women and that all are welcome at the dinner.

The Class of '52 reunion, a two-day event that will be held in Westmount on May 3 and 4 will include a wine and cheese at the Clarion Hotel and a banquet at the old Westmount High School, formerly located at Selwyn House. Grads from 1952 interested in attending should contact Colin Grimson at 819-823-5583 or coljoy@videotron.ca.

Yes! There will be a 1972 30th anniversary class re-union this year. Those interested in the details can email either Bob Kandestin at rkandestin@kugler-kandestin.com or Elliot Aranoff at ary@iprimus.ca.

A Class of '92 reunion: The old boys and girls of the class of 1992 are holding their 10-year reunion at the Armory in Westmount on Friday, June 7. Those of you who haven't been contacted yet and are interested in registering should contact Rory Stubbs at 223-1233. And WHOBA is now on the web! Check out www.whoba.com.

Support for Gilda's Club

Westmounter Monroe Charlap, executive director of Gilda's Club Montreal, was one of the organizers of the highly-successful Gilda's Club Affiliates Conference last weekend at the Omni Mont-Royal Hotel. Affiliates came from Gilda's Club wellness centres from all over North America to encourage each other and learn. Special guests included Gilda Radner's brother Michael, vice-chair of Gilda's Club Worldwide, and Gilda's Club founder Johanna Bull.

Tara Litvack, a 14-year old Montrealer with bone cancer, presented her imitation of Gilda Radner in her famous Saturday Night Live character, Roseanne Roseannadanna. Tara's wish to the Children's Wish Foundation is to present her skit to the cast of SNL, and hopefully get on the show. She is awaiting an answer. Gilda is Tara's inspiration in her cancer experience.

Hoop Dreams

Canadian basketball Olympian Trevor Williams inspires self-love, courage, discipline and values in every child he works with, whether it be at weekly workshops at one of the Westmount schools including Roslyn School and The Study or at the Basketball Academy, which he runs out of St. Henri. Every week though he turns away 125 kids due to lack of space and funding.

Around Westmount

Marilynn Vanderstay



In response to those needs, the Sherbrooke Street Merchants Association is sponsoring a fundraiser fashion show for the Academy on Tuesday, April 23. "I must say I have been around children for 20 years and I have never seen 1,500 kids stop and listen so intently than when the whistle is blown in the gymnasium," says fundraiser organizer Heather Adamson, owner of Joseph on Sherbrooke Street West. Spring collections from Joseph, Spy, Scarpa, Imnop, Gaja, Showroom, Cigi's, Courval and Ritzi will be featured on the runway at the timely event that will be held at the Silverstar Mercedes Benz dealership at 7800 Decarie Boulevard. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased by contacting Adamson at 369-2212.

Crafts on display

Westmount crafter Lynda Gould will be exhibiting her polymer clay jewelry and gifts at the Crafter's Fair, April 27 and 28 at 3847 Hampton Ave. The Fimo artisan has taken the relatively new medium of fimo traditionally used to make jewellery to new venues that include letter openers, cutlery,

pens, and book covers. Gould mixes the different colours to create original designs to decorate a myriad of items that are both practical and decorative. A portion of the profits will be donated to Breast Cancer Action Montreal. For more information call 481-4006.

Artists support shelters

Westmount artists Hannah Franklin, Ann McCall, Sarah Coby, and Doreen Lindsay are some of the 100 local women artists who will participate in Les Femeuses Exhibition April 27 and 28. The annual exhibition and sale of works by local artists in the visual arts is presented by and at Pratt-Whitney Canada with proceeds going to seven shelters for victims of family violence. For information call 450-647-3269 or go to www.pwc.ca.

Supermarket chef

Carlos Stack, former chef at the Ritz Carlton Hotel for seven years shares his expertise and his personal recipes daily with shoppers at Fletcher's Metro store in Westmount. Stack demonstrates simple recipes two times a day in French and English at the store.

"I prepare the recipes with products I like or are available," he says. "I do not work with particular brand names or store specials. My workshops are independent from the store and are offered free of charge. My purpose is to educate the consumer about new and different trends in cooking and to

inspire participants to go home and try new recipes."

Of the 14 different workshops he offers, he says his favourite is 'A forest of mushrooms'. Other choices include 'Vegetarian Flavours', 'Oils, Vinegars and Mustards' two workshops on seafood, and 'Noodles, Rice and Pasta.' In the six weeks Stack has been presenting the demonstrations he has developed a following of 30 or 40 regular participants who come two or three times a week to watch Stack create the recipe in 10 to 15 minutes, and later taste the finished delicacy. If a shopper is looking for a particular recipe, Stack will bring a copy from his own private collection.

Library goes medieval

The Culture Lecture Series recently presented 'Kings, Queens and Knaves' at the Westmount Library. Guest speaker Gina Gibson was dressed in period costume as she gave an interesting slide presentation and commentary that portrayed some of the great masters of portraiture. Gibson dedicated the evening to the memory of the Queen Mother, who passed away the day before the event. After the slide presentation, Gibson facilitated and interactive discussion with the 20 participants.

Submissions for Around Westmount can be sent by e-mail to regards-marilynn@sympatico.ca.

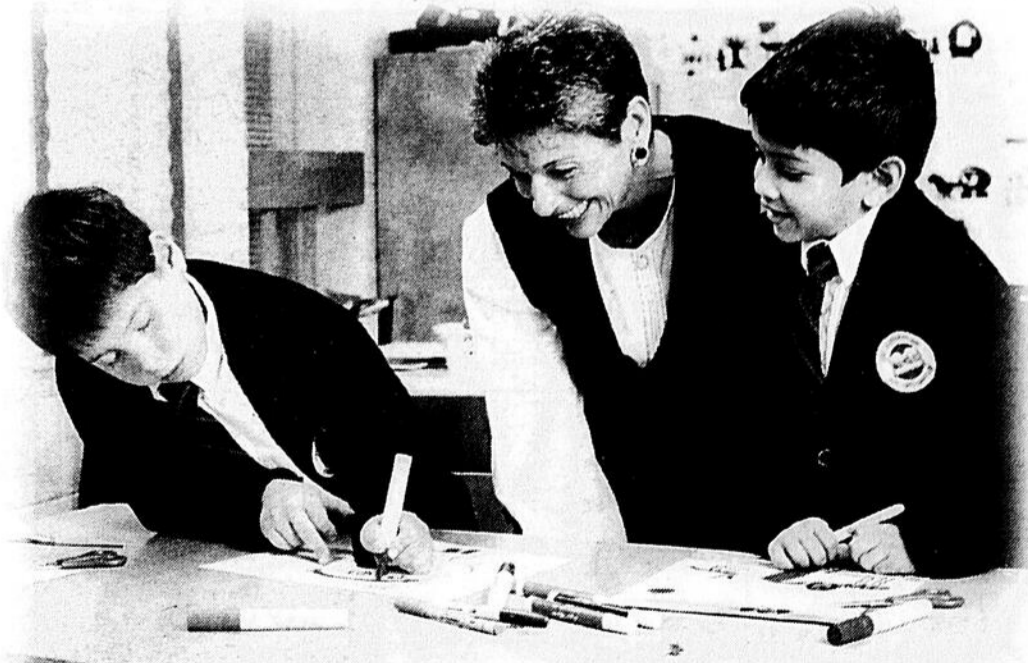
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Where's the comic section?



with Marilyn Smith Carsley

Archie, Snoopy, Charlie Brown, Spiderman... real people? To many, these comic strips have been very much alive during their formative years.

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with the results of their antics.

Comics are series of related cartoons unfolding into a continuing saga or in complete story form. All comics feature a cast of characters with balloon captions. Some comics may have no conversation at all. The main purpose of comics is entertainment and most early comics used only humour and were known as funnies. Today we see these strips in the form of adventures, dramatic events, profiles, Bible stories, historical tales or legends.

The talented Charles Schulz created an era of laughter and hidden innuendoes with his portrayal of the neglected Charlie Brown, a character who evoked the human side in all of us, especially Schulz himself. Who in his own lifetime has not suffered that left out feeling or some friendship betrayal? We gravitated to his gang and of course to the sarcastic, amusing and offbeat Snoopy.

How about Archie, Betty and Veronica? Is Betty still trying to capture her beloved Archie? Those comics have been around forever and we never tire of their simplistic plots. I read them religiously and my own kids have followed in my footsteps. What is it that continues to make them so appealing?

Not only do kids enjoy reading the comics. Many adults can be found chuckling over a true to life strip or an exaggerated political comic satire. The world of the funnies had a very interesting start and the lives of many of the originators have amusing stories of their own to tell.

A Comical Beginning

Comic strips began to appear late in the 19th century in the Sunday supplements of newspapers. One of the first was Richard Felton Outcault's *The Yellow Kid* which appeared in the February 16, 1896 edition of William Randolph Hearst's *New York American*. By 1897, these strips were compiled into Hearst's *Sunday Journal* and sold for five cents and were not an immediate success. From this time onwards through the early 1930's, many publishers produced cartoon books for the public. Many of their characters remain to this day including *Little Orphan Annie*, *Dick Tracy*, *Popeye* plus others. It was also at this time that one of the earliest funny animals was born called *Krazy Kat*.

More and more characters started appearing in comic strips; *Tarzan of the Apes*, *Mickey Mouse*, and *Dick Tracy*. In 1933, a 7 1/2 by 10 inch comic book was compiled by two employees of *Eastern Colour Printing* with newspaper reprints, which was eventually sold to big advertisers. With popularity of the comics growing, *American News* contracted with *Eastern color*, in May 1934 to issue *Famous Funnies #1* dated July 1934 as the first newsstand comic. It continued for another 216 issues reaching a peak circulation of 400,000 copies.

During this time the classic comic books began to appear such as *Secret Agent X-9* and *Terry and The Pirates*. In June 1938, *Superman*, the most famous and the first superhero of them all made his debut in the pages

of *Action Comics #1* and so launched the Golden Age of Comics. Jerry Siegal, still a child, unable to sleep would lie awake fantasizing about a man with incredible powers. He would rise from his bed at night and scribble out his dreams. He would run the 12 blocks to his friend's house, Joe Shuster, and together they developed a script. Frustration and rejection followed them as they tried to sell their creation. Harry Donenfield of DC Comics bought the script and gave Joe and Jerry three weeks to complete the 13 pages and paid them \$10 a page. *Action Comics No.1* would be Superman's first appearance five years after his conception. Sales skyrocketed but his powers changed since his first appearances. At first he could not fly. He was only able to leap tall buildings in a single bound. By 1942, over 300 newspapers were publishing the daily *Superman* strip and Shuster continued the drawing but they were paid \$500 per 13 page story and a small part of merchandising royalties as well.

Batman's entrance into the comic scene was through creator Bob Kane who was inspired by Leonardo Da Vinci's drawings of flying machines. Da Vinci who once wrote, "Remember that your bird should have no other model than the bat", also influenced the Batman name. Batman had no superpowers but he was a loner who had turned to crime to exact vengeance on all who broke the law. A mugger had killed his own parents. He worked under the cover of darkness and outside the law. Batman made his first appearance in *Detective Comics No.27* in May 1939 with the *Joker* and *Catwoman* joining through the creation of Kane's assistant, Jerry Robinson. The Penguin did not appear until December 1941.

Comics lost some of their popularity after television became more widespread in the late 1940's. But by the late 1960's, comics regained some of the attention but the appeal rested mostly with children and uneducated adults.

By 1970 the top selling comic title was a non-super-hero. Archie comics were averaging more than 500,000 per issue and super-heroes were declining again.

Today many strips such as *Peanuts*, *Beetle Bailey*, *Dilbert* and others are not only comical but deliver sophisticated messages.

(Continued on page 20)

CLSC MÉTRO
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Veuillez prendre note que la prochaine réunion du conseil d'administration du CLSC MÉTRO se tiendra:

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À 17 HEURES
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au 934-0354

NOTICE

Please note that the next meeting of the Board of Directors of the CLSC MÉTRO will be held:

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HOUSE OF STYLE

"I created the House of Style so that it would be possible to offer our clients personalized custom services in design and fashion under one roof to provide one-stop shopping for style," says interior designer/decorator Alessandra Zaccagna.

Zaccagna, owner of Alessa Design Group and fashion designer Gohar Salamati of Gohar Couture, have joined their eyes for design and their combined 40-plus years of experience to create an innovative design collaboration that offers personalized custom services to residential and commercial clients.

Zaccagna heads the design aspect. Whether it be renovating, remodeling or expanding spaces like kitchens or bathrooms or retail or office space, The House of Style has customized ideas and techniques to give their clients individual and unique new looks created with the finest workmanship.

"To guarantee our clients that excellent workmanship, House of Style has put together a winning team of professional contractors, architects, plumbers, carpenters, installers, and other remodeling experts," says Zaccagna, who comes from a family of professional building contractors. "Decorating can entail new accessories, curtains, slipcovers and pillows. Accessories for the bedroom include our custom made linens, which can be monogrammed and passed on as heirlooms! We use only exclusive fabric imported from Europe specially for our clients."

Salamati who offers prêt-a-porter and haute-couture designs with an affinity for detail directs the fashion department. A full wardrobe of apparels from evening dresses to business to casual wear can be custom designed depending on the client's specific needs. Gala gowns, wedding and bridesmaids dresses and first communion dresses can be tailor made to suit every personality, style and size.

The House of Style prides itself in keeping updated with what's happening in contemporary trends, traditional looks and eclectic style whether it be in design, decorating or fashion, through regular buying trips to Europe, New York and Chicago.

"As events such as marriage, a new baby, career changes or empty nesting impact our lives, people feel a need to change their décor or redesign their living spaces."



Standing Gohar Salamati, fashion designer and sitting Alessandra Zaccagna, interior designer

"Presently there is a trend towards clean lines and simplicity. Interior décor has taken a minimalist approach recently. Less clutter and more bold colours like ivory and chocolate brown are popular, as we have seen in the last year in trendy boutiques, restaurants and decorating magazines.

So that a client can see the changes made, Zaccagna always takes a before and after photograph. If a client isn't sure what the changes will look like she will engage an illustrator who will render the room in its new form in a detailed full colour drawing.

Fully aware of the 21st century phenomenon of cocooning, Zaccagna has made it her raison d'être to create comfortable living spaces where clients can be delighted to spend time in that comfortable living room or functional but cozy home office. "We are entertaining more at home, staying in and watching movies and in general spending more time in our homes. Those spaces should feel comfortable for both us and our guests."

"Everyone has unique style preferences and comfort zones. Your home needs to reflect your personality and lifestyle. At House of Style we help you find your own style and then translate it into a personalized design. Redecorating can mean replacing accessories with a new contemporary painting or other piece, by changing the colour scheme of a room or simply moving existing furniture around and adding pieces to freshen the look. It doesn't have to be expensive. But it has to reflect who you are," says Zaccagna. "We want whatever service our clients choose to use from House of Style to be something they will cherish for a long time."

House of Style is located at 4055 Ste. Catherine Street West, Suite 107. To make an appointment for an in-home or in-office appointment, call interior designer Alessandra Zaccagna at (514) 817-1001 or fashion designer Gohar Salamati at 933-9924.

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Dental Health for a winning smile

Oral Health for Teens

April is Dental Health Month and, if you're a teenager, it's the perfect time to think about your oral health.

It's during your teenage years that you really need to start taking responsibility for your own oral health. Until now, your parents have probably told you when to brush your teeth, and reminded you to floss. They've probably booked your dental appointments and driven you there. But pretty soon, if you haven't already, you'll have to take responsibility for this important part of your health care. The teeth that you are caring for now will need to last your whole life - there is no more spare set of teeth waiting to come in if you lose one in an accident, or because you haven't taken proper care of them.

Cleaning your teeth and gums properly, through regular brushing and flossing, and making regular visits to your dentist are the cornerstones of a good oral care program that will remain constant well into your senior years. But there are a few dental issues that come up primarily in your teenage years that require special attention now.

Choosing a dentist: If you are going away to university in another city, you may need to find a new dentist and/or dental specialist, such as an orthodontist. If you will be at home several times throughout the year, you may be able to schedule your dental appointments with your family dentist during these times. In this case, it's still a good idea to have a name on hand in case you encounter a dental emergency during the school year. In order to select a dentist who will meet your needs, you may want to ask for a referral.

Mouthguards: If you participate in sports, you probably already have a mouthguard. This important piece of safety equipment doesn't last forever.

You will need to replace your mouthguard regularly, especially if you have braces. Custom-fitted mouthguards offer the best protection and are available through dental offices. Mouthguards provide protection for your teeth, but they also protect your brain from concussion if you are struck in the head. You should be wearing a mouthguard during games and practices, if you participate in any of the following sports: acrobatics, baseball, basketball, boxing, cycling, discus, equestrian sports, field hockey, football, gymnastics, handball, ice hockey, judo, karate, lacrosse, motocross, martial arts, parachuting, rugby, racquetball, skiing, soccer, squash, surfing, skateboarding, shot put, trampolines, tennis, volleyball, wrestling, weightlifting.

Wisdom Teeth: During your late teenage years, your dentist may talk to you about your wisdom teeth (third molars). If they are coming in at an awkward angle, are impacted, or becoming infected, your dentist may recommend that you have them removed. This may be done by your regular dentist, or you may be referred to an oral surgeon.

Tongue Piercing: Before you decide to pierce your tongue - or any other part of your face or body, you may want to consider the possible side effects. Tongue piercing can cause: infection, pain, swelling, uncontrolled bleeding, nerve damage, blood poisoning, toxic shock, impaired sense of taste, permanent drooling, fractured teeth and gum recession. If you already have a piercing, ask your dentist to check if it is causing your gums to recede (which can lead to tooth loss) or fracturing your teeth. You may decide to remove the jewelry from your piercing in order to avoid serious problems in future.

Smoking: Choosing to smoke is probably the worst lifelong health decision that you can make. It is the number one cause of preventable death. In addition to the serious health problems that you probably already know about such as lung diseases and cancer, smoking also causes a lot of oral problems. Both smoking and chewing tobacco cause ugly yellow and brown stains on teeth and bad breath, and of most concern, increase your risk of oral cancer, which can be fatal. Years of smoking will wrinkle your skin, increase your risk of gum disease, the number one cause of tooth loss in adults, and put you at greater risk for a spectrum of serious illnesses.

Smoking isn't cool - it stinks! Don't let smoking spoil your smile - choose to quit now before it's too late.

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Where's the comic section?

(Continued from page 18)

The popularity of comics has made them a useful tool in advertising to promote products, educational publications, inspiration for books, movies, radio, television and another genre of artistic expression known as "pop art."

The Marvel Age

The Marvel Age started in 1961 when Marvel Comics released their own superheroes. The very first superhero team book that Marvel put out was *Fantastic Four #1* in 1961. This comic was labeled as the world's greatest comic magazine and was responsible for many changes in the industry. Much of their stories were outer space but some were right here on Earth. The most well known super-hero that Marvel would ever produce appeared in *Amazing Fantasy #15* known as Spider-man.

Stan Lee and Jack Kirby created over 90 per cent of the superheroes in the Marvel Comics Universe. Most of them are still around today. They have also created superhero teams like The Avengers and their current most successful team are The X-men. Another dramatic change they made to comics was giving their villains superpowers, too.

What makes a comic great could be attributed to a number of things. A great comic can be one in which a popular or trend-setting character first appears, story-telling art, or it can be a comic that dared to do something a little different and challenged people to reconsider their idea of what a comic should be. The greatest books, are the ones that opened up the possibilities and showed the rest of the world just what comics were capable of doing.

Comic Listings

Compiled by a comic collector here is a list of the 10 best-loved comics that have appeared in print. Which ones have been your favorites?

1. *Action Comics #1* - The Man of Steel launches a new Golden Age of heroes.
2. *Detective Comics #27* - The Batman begins his crusade in crime.
3. *New Fun Comics #1* - The first comic to publish original material.
4. *Marvel Comics #1* - The very beginning of a marvelous universe.
5. *Showcase #4* - The silver Age begins with an updated Flash.
6. *Fantastic Four #1* - It's sales clobbering time for Marvel's super-team.
7. *Amazing Fantasy #15* - Is he strong?
8. *Cerebus #1* - Canada's Dave Sim inspires independent comic artists.
9. *Pep Comics #22* - Archie Andrews debuts.
10. *Funnies on Parade*.

Kidz Notes: The complete comic story has not been told in this article. It was just a brief introduction into the history of the comic book. For more information, check out the library, book stores and of course, the Internet.

Which comics do you read and if you're a collector, where do you go to buy and trade? Write us a story about your interest in this area. Fax us (514) 484-6028. We'd love to hear from you. Don't forget to watch for next month's Kidzness.

Old News



(from the examiner archives)

One Year Ago April 19, 2001:

ROTTWEILER BANISHED: "The City of Westmount has been trying for the past six months to get rid of a local dog with a long record of violence and public nuisance, deemed too dangerous to remain in the community by a Municipal Court Judge last November. Now, after appeals and a lengthy court battle, the case has made its way to Quebec Superior Court. In the meantime, an arrangement has been made to remove the dog from the city. Dimitry Zhivotovsky, owner of Queenie, the controversial rottweiler, told The Examiner the dog was being removed from Westmount last Monday night. 'The owner confirmed today that the dog is gone for good, but it's something we will have to follow up on,' said Director General Bruce St. Louis, confirming the reports."

Five Years Ago April 17, 1997:

SUPPORT FOR BLOWERS: "Professional landscapers have rallied 500 residents and a lawyer to fight City Hall for a change to a noise bylaw so that they can use leaf blowers during the summer months. Gardeners are tired of paying the price in tickets and time because of Westmount's resistance to the new technology, according to lawyer Franco Tamburro, who represents more than 20 gardeners with contracts in Westmount. 'Most people see the logic in this,' Tamburro said. 'Using rakes and brooms is a lot slower and can cause damage to lawns.' Tamburro, who works with Comtois and Associates, said he expects the number of names on the petition to reach 1,000 as the gardeners get in touch with their clients."

Twenty Years Ago April 15, 1982:

EGG CONTEST WINNERS: "Eggs are a symbol of fertility and it was the fertile imagination of two local women that won them first place in the Sunnyside Up Egg Competition. Eleanor Israel and Gillian McConnell took a whimsical look at René Lévesque, Claude Charron, Camille Laurin and Jacques Parizeau, whom they transformed into government 'eggsperts' with string, paper and bits of cloth."

Sixty Years Ago April 23, 1942:

RALLY FOR WAR GARDENS: "Beginning today, the City of Westmount will undertake to plow war gardens in vacant lots for any resident who intends growing their own vegetables as a wartime economy measure. This service will be free. The City decided to undertake this service some time ago but experienced considerable difficulty in securing a suitable plow. However, one was obtained this week."

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44

Bulletin Board

Deadline for submissions is Monday at noon preceding the next publication. No exceptions. Submissions may be edited or omitted for space.

Thursday, April 18

Peter Trent Roast: Come join us for an evening of fun and appreciation for Westmount's mayor-in-exile at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke, at 7 p.m. Sponsored by Westmount citizens and the Westmount Municipal Association. Tickets are \$25 each, available through Doug McDougall at 931-3341.

The Westmount Historical Association's Spring Lecture Series continues at 7 p.m. in the Westmount Room of the Westmount Public Library, 4574 Sherbrooke. Guest speaker and topic to be announced. Free for VHA members, \$5 for non-members at the door. Info: 932-1404.

The University Women's Club of Montreal presents a dinner meeting with Dr. Margaret Somerville, founding director of the McGill Centre for Medicine, Ethics and Law, at the Montreal Badminton & Squash Club, 3505 Atwater. Cash bar at 6 p.m., dinner at 7. Tickets are \$26.50, taxes included. RSVP with Gloria Ménard at 937-4309 or Karin Van de Water at 288-1281.

Saturday, April 20

Spring Rummage Sale at St. Matthias' Church, 131 Côte St. Antoine Rd. from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Clothing, household items, books, linens and more. Great stuff for all!

An Afternoon of Mystery and Crime: Maureen Jennings will read from her novel 'Poor Tom is Cold' and A.B. McKillop will read from 'The Spinster and the Prophet' at the Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater, at 2 p.m. Free admission. All welcome. Info: 935-7344.

The Double Hook, 1235A Greene Ave., presents readings by poets from Pedal Press

at 7:30 p.m. Featured poets are Alice Burdick, John Degan and Karen Press. Info: 932-5093.

Thursday, April 25

The Double Hook, 1235A Greene Ave., presents poets Jan Conn and Mary Di Michele, who will be reading from their works, at 7:30 p.m. Info: 932-5093.

Ongoing

'Watercolours en pleine air' and

705

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Courses

Avis de clôture d'inventaire

Succession de feu David L'Espérance

Prenez avis par les présentes donné que, à la suite du décès de feu, David L'Espérance, en son vivant demeurant au 3484, rue Stanley, appartement 603 à Montréal, province de Québec, H3A 1S1, survenu le trente mai deux mille un (30 mai 2001), un inventaire de la succession des biens du défunt a été fait par les liquidatrices successoraux, le vingt-huit mars deux mille deux (28 mars 2002) devant Me Marc Laporte, notaire au 24 de la rue St-Joseph à Sainte-Thérèse, Province de Québec, J7E 3L6, conformément à la loi.

Cet inventaire peut être consulté par les intéressés, à l'Étude du notaire, sise au 24 de la rue St-Joseph à Sainte-Thérèse, Province de Québec J7E 3L6.

Donné à Sainte-Thérèse ce 1er avril 2002

Me Marc Laporte, notaire

'Watercolour Quilts,' a joint exhibition by Gael Eakin and Iylse Segal, continues at the Gallery at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke, through May 1. Gallery hours are Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and weekends from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Info: 989-5226.

Visual Arts Centre Student Exhibition continues at the McClure Gallery, 350 Victoria Ave., through Saturday, April 20. Gallery hours are Tuesday to Friday from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays

from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Info: 488-9558.

Roslyn School Medieval Mayfair: Rent a table in the May 11 Medieval Market and sell your wares—pottery, jewellery, artwork, handicrafts, etc. We're also looking for performers: come in costume and sing, play an instrument, recite poetry, dance or be a court jester... Be part of this fun fundraiser. Info: Delores at 938-1427 or Ivana at 935-5895.

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in-the-Park



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- ✓ As a result of the financial upheaval that followed the tragedy of 9/11, Repercussion Theatre has experienced a crippling financial blow.
- ✓ The troupe was on tour from September 11th to the 25th in the USA. The financial climate during this period, was severely damaging to the company. In addition, we did not receive payment from a major US partner, as their anticipated funding was understandably channeled to relief efforts. Without your help, the only touring Shakespeare-in-the-Park Festival in the world may disappear forever.
- ✓ Don't let the sun set permanently on Shakespeare-in-the-Park. Give to our S.O.S. campaign... and we will see you again... under the stars.

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\$859,000

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ST-HENRI

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