

# Mom watches as son nearly slips beneath the wheels of school bus



**DOMINIQUE BRUYÈRE**  
One angry mom

By J. MARION FEINBERG

EVEN the neighbours heard Dominique Bruyère scream.

At a few minutes before 8 a.m. Monday morning, Ms. Bruyère's eight-year-old son Eric almost slipped under the wheels of his school bus as the driver took off without noticing him.

At a few minutes past 9 a.m., the Park Place resident was on the phone calling the school board, mad as a mama bear.

The bus stopped at the Park Place stop as usual and double-parked when her son stepped off the sidewalk between two parked cars and headed toward the door. Just as he was getting there, the driver of the bus,

the bus began moving forward.

"The road was very icy that morning, my son was within arm's reach of the door and the bus drove the length of three parked cars... Luckily, nothing tragic happened, but my son could have easily slipped and found himself under the rear wheel and become another sad statistic," reads part of the letter Ms. Bruyère sent to the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal yesterday.

She saw the whole scene from her window and it has prompted her to try and get action taken on school bus safety. She said she does not want other parents reliving the horrible minute

*Continued on page 2*



**YES, VIRGINIA, THERE REALLY IS A WINTER:** Recent douses of rainfall have made us all wonder if winter means snow anymore, but cast your mind back to Jan. 1. and remember its icy spendour. This was taken at the Summit Park.

Photo by SUSAN MINTZBERG

THE WESTMOUNT  
**Examiner**

Making all of Westmount your home

Vol. LXV, No. 2

Westmount, Quebec, Thursday, January 7, 1993

56¢ + 4¢ GST = 60¢

## Generosity marks finish of 1992

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

It was a year of change and nostalgia, flips and flops, new beginnings and overriding uncertainty.

In Westmount, 1992 took off slowly as a new mayor and council groped cautiously in the face of hard times, budget cuts, labour unrest, the threatened loss of the city's police station and even of its very autonomy.

But as the year progressed, Westmount became defiant and the fighting spirit blew fresh air and new ideas into the doom and gloom.

The city said No to amalgamation of municipalities and a very loud No to proposed closure of its cop shop. Citizens reacted angrily to Richard Holden's flip-flop to the separatist side and were confused

by the flop-flip of David Berger in the constitution vote.

Reeling under the strain of the new commercial surtax, some of the city's best-loved merchants said nostalgic farewells. Steinberg, Miracle Mart, Haines, Select and Yervant's had been household names. The disappearance of the Metro store in Westmount Square was like the final goodbye to former tenant Dominion.

But it was also to create anew.

There was the opening of Hogg's Hardware, Dawson's Phase III and new homes for Giant Steps and Vanguard. School enrolment was soaring.

Council picked up momentum with new ideas aimed at the changing the social fabric of daily life.

There were plans to replace Arts Westmount, to open a teen centre, to work on a sound barrier, to

recycle apartment garbage, to limit noise from garden tools and to build a bike path.

But a silver lining in the cloud of uncertainty that hovered over the city all year was unveiled by individual people who rose to the plight of others by filling food bins till they overflowed.

## Westmounters awarded Order of Quebec

Korea did it. So did Spain, the Côte d'Ivoire and Taiwan.

Now the government of Quebec has recognized Westmounter Richard Pound's contribution by awarding him the Order of Quebec. He is joined in that honour by Westmounter Gretta Chambers.

They are two of 24 recipients announced recently, who will be inducted into the order on Jan. 26.

Mr. Pound, 50, is probably the lesser-known of the two. His claim to fame 30 years ago was winning a

gold medal for swimming in the 1962 Commonwealth Games, two years after being a finalist in the 1960 Olympic Games.

For the past 15 years, as the sole Canadian member of the International Olympic Committee, he has helped pick sites and make up the rules of the Olympics.

He served as president of the committee from 1977 to 1982.

Despite the fact that he has received awards from the hands of the president of Seoul and the King of Spain, the Quebec award "certainly came as a bolt out of the blue," said Mr. Pound. "There are not that many Orders of Quebec that are out; only about 175 since the system started."

Like Ms. Chambers, Mr. Pound has been involved with McGill University for a number of years, as president of the Graduates' Society, a member of the McGill Athletics Board and, currently, a member of the Board of Governors and chair of the McGill Fund Council.

Ms. Chambers, who turns 66 next week, is Chancellor of McGill, writes a regular op-ed page column for the Gazette and headed up a recent Quebec government task force on the state of English education in the province.

"I was very honoured," she said of the Order of Quebec announce-

ment.

When asked if the award was a harbinger that recommendations by the task force will be put into effect, she said:

"The education ones have been... It's all in the works. The education council is going into operation next month. The political recommendations are still in Cabinet... I don't believe they will do this piecemeal; there will be a whole language package. "Bill 178 will be dealt with first."



**RICHARD POUND**  
Olympic committee



**GRETTA CHAMBERS**  
Chancellor of McGill

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INSIDE...

- Homeless woman lives in bus shelter..... 3
- In the neighbourhood..... 6
- The year in review..... 8,9
- Convict charged with holdups..... 10
- Fire calls..... 14
- Police log..... 16

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The following events are scheduled in Westmount this week:

**Today, Jan. 7**

Registration closes today for activities at Greene Avenue Community Centre, for courses starting week of Jan. 11. Register in person at 1090 Greene Ave. from 5 to 7 p.m. this evening.

Registration is under way for courses at Visual Arts Centre, 350 Victoria Ave.,

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Sunday, January 10  
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8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Said  
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Church school and nursery facilities

During the week, the Holy Eucharist will be celebrated on:

Wednesday, January 13  
12:10 p.m.

Rector: Father Robert Warren  
Organist and Director of Church Music:  
Mr Henry Abley

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Sabbath Day: 8:40 a.m. in the Main Synagogue  
Sabbath Twilight: 4:35 p.m.

Daily Services

Mornings:  
Sunday, January 10, 8:45 a.m.  
Mon-Thurs, Jan. 11-14, 7:30 a.m.

Evenings: Sun-Thurs, January 10-14, 4:35 p.m.

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Sunday, January 17  
Sunday, January 24  
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1439 St. Catherine St. W.  
Tel.: 849-7577

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10th

8:30 a.m. Holy Communion  
11:00 a.m. Holy Communion

The Rev. J. Warren Eling, Rector

for courses starting the week of Jan. 24. Register in person, by phone (488-9559), or fax (488-7075).

For seniors: Swim at Westmount Y from 1:30 to 3 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday. No charge.

**Saturday, Jan. 9**

For kids: Indoor fun at Oink! Oink! Create anything you like in papier mâché at 11 a.m.

For kids: Samedi Greene presents Brenda Peters with "Canada goose decoy painting" from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at 1090 Greene Ave. \$1. Children under six must be accompanied. 931-6202.

**Sunday, Jan. 10**

For seniors: Sunday activities at Leisure Institute resume.

Adult Prisoners of Childhood anonymous support group meets at 7 p.m. every Sunday in the basement of Westmount Baptist Church, 4755 Sherbrooke St. \$1.

**Monday, Jan. 11**

Montreal Camera Club meets 7:30 p.m. in Westmount Park Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd. Members night with slide shows by Audrey Speer, Michel Frechette, Paul Jean and Stan Pappins.

**Tuesday, Jan. 12**

TOPS, a dieting support group, meets at Greene Avenue Community Centre from 7 to 8:30 p.m. weekly. \$1.

**Mom watches son's narrow escape**

Continued from page 2

when she waited, praying her son wouldn't slip under the wheels.

She wants to see school bus monitors on all PSGBM buses. And she wants to know why the Catholic school board has them and the PSGBM doesn't.

"They (school bus monitors) could maintain safety better, keep the fighting down and make sure all the children are sitting down," she said.

PSBGM transportation co-ordinator Marie Moisan said the school board has done lots of things recently to improve bus safety. Intensive studies and subsequent changes in many bus routes means that fewer children will have to cross in front of buses, she said. Bus safety drills that include films and information about how to stay safe were enacted this fall as well as five-hour safety training for the drivers.

"We worked closely with the schools, drivers and parents," said Ms. Moisan.

On the subject of bus monitors she says there just is not enough money to pay for them.

"It is a question of money," she said. "You either have a library or bus monitors. I don't have to tell you about the way the government is cutting budgets. Where would

the money come from? But at our board I've always encouraged parents to be volunteers."

If the incident itself wasn't bad enough, the new driver was 20 minutes late to boot and when her son finally boarded the bus, the driver yelled at him, according to Ms. Bruyère.

"I intend to keep pushing until something happens," said Ms. Bruyère. "My confidence is quite shaken. Is it too much to ask that I be relieved of worry every time my kid gets on a bus?"

The problem with this new driver is not the beginning of the story, she says. She's been having problems since September. Bus stops being changed without notification is an example, she said.

"I want to see parents get mad. They're too complacent. Maybe some bureaucrat will say 'Something has to be done'," she said.

"As parents, we ask for the pedigrees of teachers, babysitters, camp counsellors and yet the person responsible for your child in the most dangerous situation on a daily basis is the school bus driver. Do we know anything about him or her?... Let us not forget that a school bus driver's job is easily filled but a child is not replaceable," ends the letter.

"I want parents to realize that we work very hard on the issue of safety and we realize the importance of never letting up on it," said Ms. Moisan.

In Quebec, 26 children have been killed after being crushed by the wheels of school buses since 1986.

Coroner Marc-André Bouliane made recommendations concerning bus safety in October 1992 following an inquiry into the death of a child who was crushed by a bus. His suggestions to the school boards were to abandon conventionally-designed buses and to have adult bus monitors accompany the children for the duration of the bus trip.

**Gifts await first baby**

GIFTS from Westmount businesses await the first baby of 1993 born to Westmount parents.

For the 11th consecutive year, THE WESTMOUNT EXAMINER and merchants are joining to honour the first baby born in the new year. Residents are invited to inform THE EXAMINER of any local births early in the New Year. The baby born earliest will receive the contest gifts.

**St Andrew's-Dominion-Douglas United Church**  
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Date de la prochaine séance du conseil municipal  
le lundi, 11 janvier, 20h00

Next Scheduled City Council Meeting  
Monday, January 11th, 8:00 p.m.

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Cour municipale, 21, rue Stanton ..... 935-8531, local 351 or 352  
Police (bureau d'affaires), 21, rue Stanton ..... 280-2223

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Voirie, 14, rue Bethune ..... 935-8037  
Service d'éclairage, chemin Glen ..... 935-8218  
Bibliothèque ..... 935-8444  
Sécurité Publique ..... 935-1777

Monday-Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm  
Fire (business calls), 19 Stanton St. .... 935-2456  
Municipal Court, 21 Stanton St. .... 935-8531, local 351 or 352  
Police (business calls), 21 Stanton St. .... 280-2223

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Municipal Yard, 14 Bethune St. .... 935-8037  
Light Department, Glen Road ..... 935-8218  
Library ..... 935-8444  
Public Security Unit. .... 935-1777

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# Bus shelter harbours homeless

By J. MARION FEINBERG

A homeless woman who may have spent many December nights in a bus shelter at St. Catherine Street and Clarke Avenue prompted two Westmounters to try and take action to help her.

St. Catherine Street resident Luc Daigle said he saw her between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m. at least a dozen winter mornings while walking to work.

"I thought we should try and let people know," he said. "Seeing a homeless person is not all that out of the ordinary, but we're not used to it in Westmount. I would have thought someone might have taken her to a shelter. These people deserve a roof."

The last time Mr. Daigle and Michael Coristine saw the woman was Saturday morning when it was about -15 degrees. Mr. Coristine said he called Mayor Peter Trent's office and was told the city would try and find her and help her.

"It makes you feel like hell when we see what's going on in Somalia," said Mr. Coristine. "Maybe we should look in our own backyards, but people tend not to want to hear about it."

Mr. Daigle said he wondered if Westmount police or public security saw the bag lady and didn't do anything about it.

"Usually they try and take care of situations like this," he said. "I don't want to make a scandal out of this."

Public Security director Richard McEnroe said his night patrol has kept an eye out for the homeless woman but to no avail. He now has a list of three shelters to take her to should she turn up. What to do should she not want to be transported to a shelter has yet to be discussed, he said.

The CLSC is the best equipped agency to deal with the situation,



This commuter waits in the bus shelter near the RCMP building where a homeless woman was seen living for a few weeks at the end of December, weathering the cold snap and rain.

Photo by ALISON RAMSEY

according to Mayor Peter Trent.

"Years ago the city had a broader mandate which involved health issues. We used to get involved in situations like this," he said. "We

don't really have a policy or a responsibility to deal with this. But since we consider ourselves a caring community, we'll do what we can."

# Jack Shore's pharmacist licence may be revoked

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount pharmacist Jack Shore pleaded guilty last month to selling prescription drugs without a prescription in a hearing of the Quebec Order of Pharmacists.

Police investigator Serge Fournier said florinal, a pain killer, and diazepam, a tranquilizer, had been sold to an undercover police officer.

He entered a plea of not guilty to a second charge concerning inventory irregularities laid by the professional organization after examination of pharmacy records and stock.

Sentencing on the first charge is expected at another hearing Jan. 14, said Micheline Brisebois, secretary of the disciplinary committee.

If the maximum sentence is applied, Mr. Shore's licence as a pharmacist could be permanently revoked. He was fined in 1986 on a first offence.

The charges by his professional peers stemmed from a year-long investigation of Mr. Shore launched May 1991 by the Montreal Urban Community narcotics squad into under-the-counter selling of prescription drugs.

The 56-year-old druggist was arrested April 2 at his pharmacy in the Westmount Medical Building, 5025 Sherbrooke St.

The business is currently being run by his brother, Nathan Shore.

In criminal proceedings taken by police in connection with the investigation, Mr. Shore entered not guilty pleas to 10 counts of selling federally-controlled drugs without a prescription. A court appearance is scheduled early next month, according to Constable Fournier.

# Holden sent as emissary to Washington

Richard Holden is spending the next week worming his way into the Washington political elite, smoothing the path for an upcoming visit by Parti Québécois leader Jacques Parizeau.

He is calling friends, and friends of friends to make contact with newly-elected Democrats.

"The big question is," said Mr. Holden from a pre-Washington vacation in Florida, "will there be trade between an independent Quebec and the U.S.?"

"I've got a couple of lunches, a couple of meetings lined up," added the newest PQ MNA.

Another MNA is making similar inroads in France.

# New year wishes from newsmakers

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Here's what 10 Westmount newsmakers said when asked, "What is your wish for 1993?"

**Mayor Peter Trent:**

"To know what most Westmounters think about the issues I'm grappling with daily so I could react accordingly."

**Police director Pierre Vézina:**

"That the city and the MUC reach an agreement on the *carte policier* (redistribution of stations) as long as it assures the security of the citizens and the service to which they are accustomed."

**MP David Berger:**

"That politicians in Canada can somehow overcome the high degree of cynicism that seems to prevail today and regain the confidence of the electorate."

**Dawson student adviser Ashton Lewis:**

"A drastic reduction in police violence directed at black people."

**"Dog runs in Montreal to free the ones in Westmount."**

**Metro franchise owner Graham Fletcher:**

"After world peace and enough food for everyone to eat, I hope my store gets renovated and that the city puts less sand on the sidewalks so the floor won't get so dirty."

**Environmental activist Don Wedge:**

"That Westmount would use its talents to lead the island community towards social justice, economic prosperity and environmental wisdom."

**City human resources director Gordon Black:**

"Getting the economy back so people can live the way they should be living, as they did eight to 10 years ago."

**WMA director Tom Thompson:**

"That the services of the city be maintained, taxes kept as low as possible and a fair resolution of the library project with special attention to parking needs."

**Citizen finance activist Rolland Bénard:**

"It's always the same wish — that Westmount will get more in line expense-wise with other municipalities especially with salaries."

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## We Say

# Sensory overload

Life seems a pale imitation of itself since the Christmas tree was stuffed into a recycling truck to become wood chips.

The pine scent that filled the house (competing with the smell of roasting turkey) is gone. Seasonal tunes on a continuous loop at the mall have been silenced. Strands of lights glowing in the night are being darkened and taken down.

The Christmas season is brash and difficult to ignore. It assaults the eyes, ears and nose, sometimes pleasantly, sometimes not.

Last-minute shopping in a crush at the stores, trimming the tree with glittering ornaments, baking, sipping hot toddies with friends, wrapping presents in bright hues of red, green and gold, singing carols, eating and eating and eating — day after day the sensory barrage goes on.

On Jan. 6 all appears to be over and done with.

The house is restored to its former — and plainer — state, stores are back to a normal flow of customers and bell-ringing at street corners has stopped.

Our overworked senses can take a break.

The deprivation of a new year's diet is a welcome relief.

It has the same appeal after the holidays as a quiet room with grey walls.

But that room is getting tougher and tougher to find. One wonders if it is socially acceptable anymore.

Because, despite the fact that Christmas is over, the sensory onslaught continues.

If you work in an office, even walls and sound barriers cannot still the computer's hum and beep, the fax machine's electronic chatter and ring of the telephones.

The scent of aftershave in the next cubicle is overwhelming, and when the fellow's watch beeps every hour, on the hour, you feel like throwing the stapler over the partition.

If you work on the road, it's no better. Shutting down to daydream is downright dangerous. You have to be constantly aware of lights, distances and speeds. Traffic snarls and an attendant rise in drivers' tempers — leading to honks, screeches and worse — is not restful.

Sitting captive at lights while another driver's music bombards you is no fun either.

To get away from it all for an hour, you go to a restaurant for lunch. There, the pleasant drone of conversation is interrupted by fragments of music, uselessly noticeable only between lulls in talk. It could be Bolero or the Beatles for all you hear.

At home, you open your favourite magazine for a relaxing read and are smacked in the nose by the newest perfume. It is being hawked on one of those strips so suffused with scent it permeates every page.

Modern life is complex enough. People are realizing that less is more.

Some magazines are shunning big advertising bucks and refusing to include the perfumed strips so many find offensive.

Club Med ads used to emphasize a plethora of activities to keep one busy night and day. They now stick with the basic surf-sun-sand combination as their main selling point.

Silence is becoming more precious. Or, if that seems too minimalist, there are whole CDs devoted to relaxation; the sound of waves rolling to shore or other nature themes. A few years ago, the tapes were of whales "singing."

There are many degrees of taste, noise, visual stimulus, smell and touch.

There have always been those who reject the sensual fabric of life, from nuns to Quakers to Tibetan monks to people who live in communes.

They prefer a certain austerity many of us would not choose.

Some people can crowd artwork edge to edge on all walls, others keep them bare or hang one painting up. As a teenager, doing homework might have required a television on and a record playing, whereas finishing up some office work at home may now require sequestering yourself in the attic. The trick is to find the right balance.

Of course, the world is conspiring against you.

Once you step into the elevator, that music without a drumbeat will last all the way to your office on the 14th floor.

But then, you can always take the stairs.

## You Say

### No indifference

In a letter to the editor before the holidays, Mme. T. Levesque complained about conditions in her apartment house as well as accusing the mayor and council of an indifferent attitude towards tenants.

In regard to the conditions at 229 Kensington, she has compiled an impressive dossier of photographs showing a number of dangerous and untidy conditions of the premises. She filed copies with the city clerk and thus made them available to all concerned parties. No one has suggested that these photos were not genuine and they prompted me to make a site visit and to call on Mme. Levesque personally.

Except for a very inconvenient way for tenants to dispose of their trash, I did not find that the conditions complained of continued. This may be proof that her advocacy had produced results. However, I made a second visit to check out the condition of the hallways and on that occasion she did not admit me to the premises. We talked for a while on the intercom and then I left for work.

Regarding her view of an anti-tenant attitude on council, I must respectfully disagree. Because of rent control and considerable vacancies, the price of apartment houses has dropped so dramatically that tenants today pay one-sixth the taxes of condo or house owners. This is obviously not the fault of the tenants and everyone, including the mayor, acknowledges it. The city of Westmount has as taxpayers responsible landlords who are doing the best under difficult conditions as well as absentee landlords who give their agents instructions not to spend any money, no matter what.

The Westmount Tenants Association under the able leadership of Wade Allen and with the active and financial support of the Westmount Municipal Association, has recently undertaken two initiatives. The first was to put together a bulletin for tenants, which explains in detail what remedies tenants have in regard to the Régie and the Westmount maintenance bylaw. The other initiative is to arrange tenants' clinics with the advocacy group headed by Arnold Bennett. Both these initiatives had the full support of the city administration and the council. Westmount has both limited resources and limited legal jurisdiction regarding landlord-tenant relationships. But we are far from indifferent.

John Lehnert

117 Lewis Ave.  
WESTMOUNT H3Z 2K7

### Stolen gun was here for repair

I would like to object to the personal attack you launched against me in your editorial entitled *One more problem*.

With your usual disregard for privacy, you reported, in minute detail, the break-in for which I was a victim on Dec. 4 in your issue of Dec. 10.

Rather than including this incident in your Station 23 chronicle, which I find offensive in any event, you chose to write a specific article which identifies me to my neighbours, who had been questioned by the police following the break-in.

While your Dec. 17 editorial does not specifically mention me by name, your attack is clearly implying my negligence in owning a shotgun and especially to have the said weapon in my possession in Westmount.

Let me bring to your attention the following facts:

1. The gun in question is usually *never* in my Westmount home.

2. The gun was in the city because some work had to be performed by a gunsmith. For this reason I brought it from my country home on Nov. 30 in order to take it to the gunsmith on Dec. 5. The gun had therefore been in Westmount for four days.

3. For the past 15 years that I have owned the said gun, it is the only time (with the exception of another seven-day period, six years ago) that it was in Westmount.

4. Qualified gunsmiths are only located in Montreal and not in the country.

5. This gun is always kept in a locked, hidden area at my country home.

6. When it was stolen, the gun was in a case, hidden at the bottom of a closet. At no time do I ever leave such an article in sight.

7. I never keep ammunition in the house.

8. My immediate reaction when I got home and realized that the gun was missing was to urge police to come at once, since a gun had been stolen.

9. Within 48 hours of my break-in, a suspect was arrested by police and has been detained ever since. The suspect was in possession of some stolen objects (unfortunately not my gun).

10. Since the break-in a great deal of effort has been spent by me, my lawyers and friends, in order to locate the gun. On Dec. 16, I went with two other lawyers to the suspect's arraignment at the Quebec court in order to try to obtain more information.

11. I have signed and approved the Concordia University petitions against handguns.

12. I have successfully lobbied Justice Canada in order to approve more standards regarding firearms regulations.

However, your description of the matter is absolutely scandalous for the following reasons:

1. You place Remington 12s, which are legal hunting and skeet-shooting firearms in the same category as AK47 Uzis, etc.

2. For your information the weapon of choice for robbers, murderers and so on is usually not this kind of weapon, but assault weapons, handguns and other firearms that are easily purchased in the U.S., easily transferred through the border or easily obtainable in any underworld circle.

3. It is impossible to keep guns under lock and key at all times, one has to allow for transitory situations. The gun could have been stolen from my car or I could even be assaulted at my shooting club or robbed or whatever.

4. You will also recall from your article that a considerable amount of liquor has been stolen from my house. This liquor can be as damaging for the social situation, and even more so than my gun.

5. Also the large amount of drugs that are stolen from the houses of anorexic, depressed, high blood-pressure Westmount individuals also contribute to social problems.

6. There are quite a number of weapons in several Westmount homes. Indeed, there are robbers, assaulters, rabid animals and other events that could require somebody to have a weapon, even in the city, to protect himself.

7. My house in the country was a victim last year of an extremely violent and bloody assault at three o'clock in the morning, which left my brother with several scars as well as psychological shock after being attacked in his bedroom. For some time, I was myself tempted to keep a weapon with me.

I would have liked for you to have been

Continued on page 17

## I Say!

NO man ever wetted clay and then left it, as if there would be bricks by chance and fortune.

—Plutarch

The Westmount Examiner

EXAMINING THE FILES

Forty-five Years Ago  
January 9, 1948

"Early on the morning of Saturday, January 3, the Plaza Tea Room, 4858 Sherbrooke street west, was discovered by a member of the Westmount Police force to have been broken into. Events moved fast after that, and as a result, two men were taken into custody in connection with the break-in within a few hours."

"'Dear Ruth' starting on Saturday at the Monkland co-stars William Holden and Joan Caulfield and is thoroughly entertaining, as anyone can expect with such a wonderful supporting cast as Billy De Wolfe, Edward Arnold, Mona Greeman and Mary Phillips."

Thirty-five Years Ago  
January 3, 1958

"Auburn-haired contralto Maureen Forrester has been chosen Canada's woman of the year in music in a poll of women's editors."

"In an exclusive interview with The Examiner, Mrs. H. I. Borbes, publicity director for the recently completed St. George's School, announced that His Excellency the Right Honorable Vincent Massey, Governor General of Canada, has agreed to officiate at the dedication ceremonies of the school January 27th at 3:00 p.m."

Twenty-five Years Ago  
January 4, 1968

Cutline: "The skating rink shown here is reputed to be the highest on the entire island of Montreal. Operated by the City of Westmount Recreation Department the rink is cleared and maintained daily. Here youngsters can enjoy themselves without any traffic danger at 621 feet above sea level. It is placed on the Summit for the use of children who can't make convenient use of rinks at the other parks."

Ten Years Ago  
January 6, 1983

Residents flocked to council to protest tax increases of between 40 and 50 percent, in notices sent out two days before Christmas, were called "unfair, unjust and disastrous." "There's nothing more the city can do," Mayor Donald MacCallum told one resident of Bellevue avenue, John Newman. "We've shot our bolt." "We've come to you for help," said Mr. Newman, construction executive and football notable."

One Year Ago  
January 9, 1992

"A Westmount woman died after being hit by a car on St Catherine street near Kensington avenue Tuesday about 5:24 pm, police confirmed yesterday. She would have been 77 tomorrow."

our Mayor  
Peter F. Trent  
says...



Potpourri of promises

Still suffused with the glow of holiday good will, I have decided to write New Year's resolutions, not just for me, but for a whole raft of others. A potpourri of other people's promises. I am sure my generous gesture will be repaid in full if not in kind.

**For federal politicians:** To take all the bumf on the Constitution and stick it in a

(large) time capsule... to be opened when people realize that a country is not held together just by reams of paper.

**For post office clerks:** To crack a smile at least once an hour. Surliness is not part of your job description. Just because you're now a Crown corporation, that doesn't make you uncivil servants.

**For the Westmount city council:** To have the wisdom to make decisions based on what is fair for most citizens, not just what a vocal few would have us do. That includes the mayor.

**For the editor of THE EXAMINER:** To write at least one editorial favourable to this council. We can't be doing all that badly.

**For cliché-mongers:** To swear off terms

Continued on page 17

our M.P.  
David Berger  
says...



Wherefore unity?

Last year a number of programs were organized to promote understanding between Canadians. There was a good excuse — it was Canada's 125th birthday and we had a referendum to divide us — so something was needed to glue us together. An example was the Voyageurs 92 youth exchange program, which brought together some 37,000 young peo-

ple. It was sponsored by the federal government and Air Canada.

There is nothing special about the number 126. So this begs the question what, if anything, is being done to promote understanding and unity in 1993. Some might argue the government shouldn't be involved in such activities. Leave it to Canadians to come up with their own initiatives. Certainly some of the Canada 125 activities seemed a bit contrived. Nonetheless here are several suggestions you might like to think about.

A former colleague of mine, André Maltais, who had the distinction of being defeated by Brian Mulroney in the riding of Manicouagan in 1984, once proposed that all young Canadians be given a rail-

Continued on page 17

THE DAY THE CREDIT CARD BILL ARRIVED ...



Westmount Examiner 7 Jan 93

Unlikely newsmakers take a stand

Journalists loathe the last week of the year. Parliament has closed for its annual epic recess, and the National Assembly is shut tight until sometime in March. It's a time when would-be newsmakers hibernate for the holidays. Unfortunately, there are still newspapers to fill and radio and television broadcasts to program.

This year, journalists fell back on the old standbys. Television viewers were treated to reruns of world news footage and newspaper readers perused repetitions of holiday statistics. Indeed, we've all seen more of George Bush among the Somalis and heard more about the unprecedented carnage on our highways than any of us care for.

This scramble for something — anything — worth reporting brought a strange and surreal tale to our attention. Had there been more of what picayune editors call "breaking news," a saga of protesting Japanese and American Buddhist monks would have passed into newspaper morgues on the last pages of section D.

In the last week of 1992, it was just too good a story to pass up.

The Buddhist group marched up to Montreal from upstate New York, and plan to continue along to the Montagnais reservation at Malotienam on the Lower North Shore. Their trek is to protest the Quebec government's intention to develop yet another hydro-electric project, this time on the

Ste-Marguerite river... pretty much in the back yard of the Malotienam community.

In fact, the Buddhist angle aside, it's an important story. After catching flack from just about every environmental group in North America over the Grande Baleine project, Robert Bourassa's government has just gone on to demonstrate that it still thinks of the province more as its property than as its responsibility.

What is troubling is that it took a group of foreigners to even get the story into the newspaper. Here is an environmental and economic issue of major proportions. The most important salmon runs in Quebec as well as the future of a native community are imperiled. The best response that Canadians and we Quebecers can muster is a parade of visiting Buddhists and a gathering of what one CBC Northern Services reporter calls "the 50 people who do all the protesting in the Montreal area."

The torpor of the end of 1992 and the arrival of the Buddhist protesters only serve to cast an inescapable conclusion into sharp relief: we have become indifferent. Sure, we get somewhat excited when we feel that our personal rights are being stepped on. But once the issues become slightly less direct, we close the shutters and act like neighbours who just don't want to get involved.

It's not as if there's a lack of things

Between the Lines



MATTHEW FRIEDMAN

to get worked up about, either. Every level of government has either passed legislation or endorsed projects of dubious design. Locally, our council recently rubber-stamped an incinerator plan that will tie us all into an intractable waste management scheme for decades. Only a few motivated and hardy advocates noticed.

And the federal government, its mandate almost finished, just passed legislation intended, and received, as an insult to every working man and woman — the infamous Unemployment Insurance legislation that will refuse payments to those who quit their jobs. Any noticeable dissent was tepid and short lived.

Perhaps we've become used to "making do," and accepting whatever ills befall us. Maybe it has something to do with the weather. Maybe it's easier to let the Buddhists speak for us. Either way, democracy doesn't function without dissent, and by the looks of things lately, it doesn't seem to have been working very well at all.

# Juancho Mendoza — polisher

"Sacrifice" is an important word in Juancho Mendoza's vocabulary. His parents made sacrifices for him and his brothers and sisters, and he in turn is happy to make them for his family.

Mr. Mendoza works at Château Westmount Square as a cleaner, and is responsible for its gleaming brasswork. The building has \$200,000 of brass railings and fittings. "I clean it at night, because early there are too many people."

So only a few hardy souls, passing on St. Catherine Street after midnight, ever see him work.

Mr. Mendoza is one of nine children born to a taxi-driver father in the Philippines. His mother sometimes did other people's laundry. He remembers working most of his life to contribute to the family.

"I worked in the market. I sold newspapers, shined shoes, watched cars, anything."

## He followed his wife here

The sacrifices have paid off.

"My father and mother are now in the U.S. because of the sacrifice of my younger sister, who brought them there. She is now a college graduate and is married to an American. Because of her, three more members of my family are going to the U.S."

Mr. Mendoza's family is himself, his wife, and their two sons, 10 and three years old. The younger child was born in Canada.

Mr. Mendoza followed his wife here. She was a midwife in the Philippines, but left to work as a

domestic in Egypt in 1985. In 1986 she came to Canada with the family she was working for, and Mr. Mendoza followed in 1988.

He arrived with \$3 in his pocket, alarming immigration officials, who hastily contacted his wife.

As soon as he obtained a social insurance number, Mr. Mendoza went to work. In the Philippines he had worked as the house detective in a hotel, but he came here speaking only Tagalog and a very little English. He got a job as a machine operator, even though he had no experience, and was content until the company he worked for went bankrupt in 1991.

## Persistence pays off

There was no work to be had anywhere. Mr. Mendoza said he went to every hotel in Montreal looking for work. He went into every business from Decarie Blvd. to Dorval to make a job application. There was nothing, and he drew unemployment insurance for a year. And worried.

"I have always worked. My record shows no absences. I was getting only 60 per cent of my salary and I have a household to support."

He had told everyone he knew that he wanted work — any kind of work. So a friend who worked at One Wood Avenue heard about the job at Château Westmount Square. "Thank God," he adds fervently.

In spite of the sacrifices he makes, he says life is better here than in the Philippines.

"Prices are high there, and people are hungry. Many people are involved in crime, especially drugs. I realized it was okay for me in Canada."

This in spite of working outside in all weathers. "It was a big adjustment," he says of Canadian winters.

When Mr. Mendoza finishes work at 7 a.m., he rushes home for a few hours sleep. When he gets up, he looks after his younger son. "We play boxing and racing cars," he says, proud of the little boy that wants to grow up to be a policeman.

His older boy plans to become a doctor, and Mrs. Mendoza would like to study nursing.

Sunday is his day to cook and for the family to attend church. "We can't afford to waste money on movies and restaurants," he says. But on the weekends he and his wife visit friends, and there are occasional house parties and get-togethers at a Filipino club. He suspects his wife may be planning to take him to a restaurant for his birthday later this month.

"My favourite sport is basketball and swimming. My son has a physical fitness certificate signed by Brian Mulroney and he likes running, gymnastics, skating and swimming, like me."

Mr. Mendoza also gets together with friends to play chess, though he has not played in a tournament since he left the Philippines.

"If God wills that I continue my job at Château Westmount Square," he says, "I will buy a house for my family. I already have a car. I'm strong."

## In the neighbourhood

by Janet Coutts

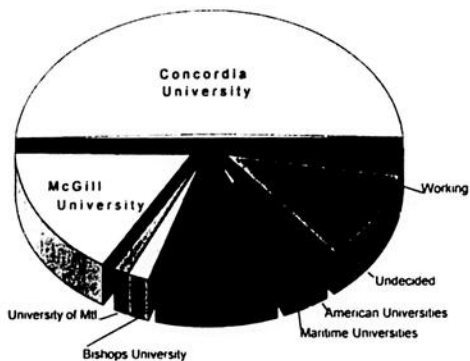


Juancho Mendoza, whose nickname is Johnny, works nights polishing brass for Château Westmount Square. Photo by: Philip McMaster

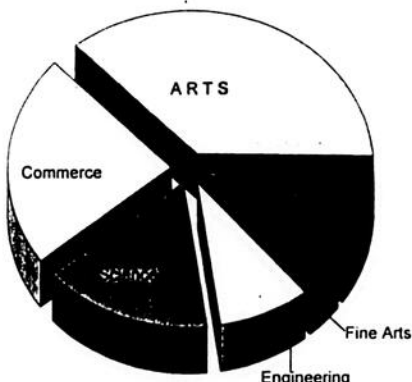


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## Ice trips up residents

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Icy conditions from freezing rain that fell over the past two weeks sent a sleigh rider and a pedestrian to hospital in Westmount Sunday, police said.

In the sliding mishap at King George Park, an eight-year-old Montreal boy was knocked unconscious when his sliding carpet picked up speed on the slippery hill and crashed into a tree. He was taken to Ste. Justine hospital by Urgences Santé.

The same afternoon, a 37-year-old woman living on Kensington Avenue hit her head slipping on a patch of ice on the sidewalk on de Maisonneuve Boulevard as she left Westmount Park. She was taken to the Jewish General Hospital by Urgences Santé.

In other mishaps reported by fire and public security officials over the past two weeks, two skaters were injured in spills at the municipal arena and an elderly man struck his head falling on the sidewalk after passing out.

One skater was a 48-year-old woman living on Grosvenor Avenue who cut her head in a fall at the arena Sunday afternoon, Dec. 27. The other was a 35-year-old woman living on St. Catherine Street who hurt her right ankle on the small rink Jan. 2.

The pedestrian, an 82-year-old man, lost consciousness while walking along Sherbrooke Street at Lansdowne Avenue Dec. 28. He suffered a bump on his head and was taken to the Montreal General Hospital.

## WEST END CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

386 Lansdowne  
Westmount, Qué.

Sunday, January 10, 11:00 a.m.

"Is Christ Really God?"

(Part 2 in a series)

Speaker: Mr. W. Price

Inquiries: Mr. T. Moorhouse 699-3549

# RE/MAX



## Presents



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### THINKING OF SELLING?

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1. Do I hire an **AGENT** or sell **PRIVATELY**? What are the pros & cons of each?
2. What is the difference between **MLS** and **EXCLUSIVE**?
3. What is a **CO-LISTING**? What are its **BENEFITS** of potential **PITFALLS**?
4. What **LENGTH OF TIME** do I sign a mandate for?
5. If, after having listing, my home does not sell within the expected time frame, do I **SWITCH AGENTS** or **RE-LIST**?
6. Are there **REAL ESTATE SEASONS**? If so, which is the **BEST SEASON**?
7. What is the difference between a **PRICE OPINION**, a **COMPARATIVE MARKET ANALYSIS** and an **APPRAISAL**?
8. What are the **FINANCING** dos and donts?
9. How can I make my home more saleable?
10. What are the current **MARKET TRENDS**?
11. Should I choose the **COMPANY** or the **AGENT**? What's the difference between a **RE/MAX AGENT** and the **OTHERS**?
12. How do I separate **FACT** from **FICTION** when choosing an agent?

**NEED ANSWERS?** After 18 years of real estate experience in Westmount and adjacent areas, I can answer these and any other questions you need to ask.

### THINKING OF BUYING?

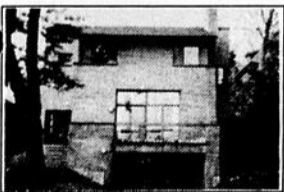
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Exquisite 3-storey stone townhouse on private Redpath Row. Dramatic 25' livingroom, parking available. Steps to Museum, Shoppes and transportation. \$469,000.



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# The Year That Was

Compiled by  
Alison Ramsey

## JANUARY

The first of two fatal accidents of the year occurred in the first week. Margaret Mac-Dougall was killed at night while crossing St. Catherine Street between intersections, in front of her Place Kensington home.

A commercial surtax replaces the business tax. Surtax on vacant offices must be paid by building owners. A lease is no protection from the surtax, which increases revenue for the city without raising rates for homeowners. So many come to council to protest, Mayor Peter Trent delays the second payment.

News that the main postal station in Westmount, on St. Catherine Street at Olivier Avenue, will be closed is confirmed by Canada Post.

Plainclothes patrollers start walking the streets to respond to a 66 per cent increase in break-ins at local businesses. There were 188, up from 113 the year before.

## FEBRUARY

Residents rally to help a merchant who suffered cash flow problems following two robberies in rapid succession. Haines convenience store on St. Catherine Street closed nonetheless.

The first story of the year appears on the suburban mayors' plan to build a garbage-burning incinerator in the east end of Montreal: the Westmount Municipal Association vows to dog council, questioning the need for the incinerator and asking about alternatives, such as recycling and reusing. Its efforts are futile; the incinerator is approved as the year closes.

Irregularities and illegal fees by the chimney sweep service hired by the city are found. The service was suspended pending a police investigation. In March, all is blamed on one sweep and the program is reinstated under tighter controls. In May, the city announces the program will be

abolished and chimney sweeping will become residents' responsibility.

For the first time, Quebecers get to vote for board members for hospitals and CLSCs. Alliance Quebec urges a strong turnout to maintain anglophone representation in English institutions. Anglophones respond in spades; lineups at the voting booths are huge.

## MARCH

A jogger accused of throwing his Great Dane's feces at a public safety officer is found not guilty of assault. In his ruling, the judge reprimands Michael Robins for "arrogance." He is convicted of failing to clean up after his dog and is levied the largest possible fine of \$300.

Parking tickets worth an estimated \$1.2 million are handed out by the city's Public Security Unit in one year. The unit responded to 3,756 calls for assistance in 1991.

The Esso gas station on The Boulevard, beside the old fire station, closes after 50 years in business.

## APRIL

Westmount pharmacist Jack Shore is charged with selling prescription drugs to those without a prescription. In December, the Westmount Medical Building pharmacist pleads guilty. His brother, also a pharmacist, takes over the business because the Quebec Order of Pharmacists suspends Mr. Shore's licence in a preliminary hearing.

The city honours Rabbi Harry Stern, television pioneer J. Alphonse Ouimet, filmmaker Donald Brittain, scientist Otto Maass and potter Eileen Reid in its annual vin d'honneur. Usually, all honoured in these yearly ceremonies are Westmounters. This year, a non-resident is slipped in by mistake, but Mr. Ouimet is recognized nonetheless, as "a longtime supporter of civic life in Westmount."



Queen Elizabeth Hospital counted 1,154 ballots when people voted for hospital and social services boards. The turnout was considered outstanding.

Greene Avenue merchants band together to fight the recession, forming a merchants' association.

Another fatal accident: a man is struck by a train at the foot of Columbia Avenue. He pushes a female companion to safety before he was killed. They are suspects in a shoplifting case in St. Henri, which occurred shortly before the accident.

Two boys are hit by cars in two months at the Park Place and St. Catherine Street intersection, near Westmount Park School. A crossing guard is contemplated but, in September, the lights and crossing signal are modified.

An old issue resurfaces — the local police station will close in 1994, according to a Montreal Urban Community plan. The city girds for another fight which, by the end of the year, seems to have gone nowhere despite a report calling the merging of police stations a seriously flawed proposition.

Pâtisserie Select, on Sherbrooke Street, is evicted for not paying rent. Tearful owner Milana Bogdanov gave away cakes and pastries to passersby as the shop was dismantled. Later in the year, she and husband Michel reopen a shop in downtown Montreal.

## MAY

Criminal charges are laid against a former Roslyn school committee member. The parent, Anda Rodni Torne, is charged with misappropriating funds from the school's lunch program. She is also up on charges for fraud against a company.

Carex Services, which owns Château Westmount, owes more than \$16 million to creditors and defaults on mortgage payments for the nursing home. Carex owner John Buckley disappears and the local nursing home is taken over by a company that sells life insurance and pension plans.



## Real Estate

Advertisement

By Reg Morden  
★ ★ ★  
New Year

### SECRET OF HOME HEATING

The most important cause of physical discomfort in a house is not poor heating — it is insufficient insulation. Even the best heating system — gas, oil or electric — can't keep you truly warm if you've been short changed in insulation. I include, of course, storm door and windows and weather stripping.

With little or no insulation, during cold weather, the exterior wall, floors and ceilings get quite cold. The higher you push your thermostat, the faster the cold, surround surfaces draw off the heat. The cure is plenty of insulation. It solves the problem of heat loss. The thermostat need not be raised way up (the real reason why insulation lowers fuel costs).

So, if you buy a new house, have it insulated to the hilt. If you buy an existing home and there is not enough insulation, be sure it can be added. That's the secret to house heating.

As always, we begin the New Year full of hope and enthusiasm and an unfailing positive attitude. Over the past 12 months, this column has tried to address a wide variety of issues related to real estate. Should there be a topic you would like to see covered in the year ahead, please phone or drop me a line:

I will do my best to accommodate your wishes. I hope that 1993 is your best year ever!

**Reg Morden,**  
RE/MAX Westmount inc.  
1330 Greene Avenue, Westmount.  
Telephone: 933-6781 or 937-7061



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# The Year That Was

Oil is discovered to be in the water table, two metres deep. The leak is never blamed on anyone in particular, but the cost of clean-up is shared between Westmount and Montreal. The source is thought to be either the Corporation Yard or the nearby MUC bus terminal.

Results from an EXAMINER readership survey are in. Of those who responded, the best-watched features are the editorial cartoon, letters to the editor, the editorial and realty transfers.

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital is growing by leaps and bounds. Its emergency room is under renovation to be increased to three times its normal size. It is part of \$12 to \$15 million in renovations, for which a fund-raising campaign is announced.

## JUNE

The end of Steinberg is announced. The chain is bought out and the two Steinberg grocery stores in Westmount become a Metro and Provigo.

Westmount is no longer the be-all and end-all of its provincial riding. The boundaries are stretched to include parts of downtown and south-western Montreal. Local Equality Party members are horrified as they see their chances of winning the next election fade.

CP submits a plan to develop Glen Yards, probably to be Westmount's last large building project. The plan calls for two-family homes and townhouses in the core, and apartment buildings along the edge.

Reverend Stephen Crisp, a former choir-master at St. Matthias' Church, is charged with sexual assault in connection with his time as choir-master. In December, he pleads guilty to a lesser charge, one count of indecent assault.

EXAMINER columnist Kathleen Hugessen wins the award for Best Columnist in Canada, given by the Canadian Community Newspapers Association.

## JULY

A tradition expands to admit newcomers: the Westmount Lawn Bowling Club allows croquet to be played on the greens for the first time ever. The "experiment" is a success, and the lawn bowlers vote, at the end of the season, to let the croquet aficionados return next year.

A drop-in centre for teens is on its way. Neither location nor cost has been determined, but Councillor Karin Marks is spearheading an effort to open a centre where teens can spend after-school hours.

Richard Holden foreshadows his jump to the Parti Québécois, by releasing a position paper saying anglophones would be better off in a sovereign state.

## AUGUST

Ever controversial, former mayor May Cutler commissions her son to paint her portrait which will hang in city hall. The result is a modern rendering, disliked by current Mayor Peter Trent, that stands out in sharp relief against the other portraits.

Richard Holden makes his move and becomes the only Westmount MNA ever to be a member of the Parti Québécois while in power. His decision is roundly denounced by his constituents.

THE EXAMINER publisher Don Sancton is dismissed by the paper's owner, Cogeco, ending 35 years having a Sancton family member at the helm.

Westmounter Phil Chartrand's 1949 Pininfarina Solitaire takes Best of Show (Post-War) at a Rolls-Royce Owners' Club international meet in Ottawa.

Triathlete Andrew MacMartin hits his stride, winning his first Canadian men's title at a meet in Kelowna.

## SEPTEMBER

Arts Westmount is cancelled, then rejuvenated a week later. The fiasco prompts city council to call an "Arts Summit," and the beginning of new ways of presenting the arts in Westmount is born.

The Reddy Memorial Hospital announces the provincial government has approved a \$5.7 million project to create a day surgery unit, set aside one floor for chronic care patients, set up a geriatric care unit and revamp the emergency department.

The political story of the year begins: the local referendum campaign starts. The question asks Canadians if they want to rewrite the Constitution based on an agreement reached in Charlottetown. MP David Berger says he'll vote No, but is pressured to join the Yes camp days later. The date for the referendum is Oct. 26.

Two people are held hostage on Strathcona Avenue overnight by bandits trying to force their way into a safe which houses a gun collection. They are unsuccessful.

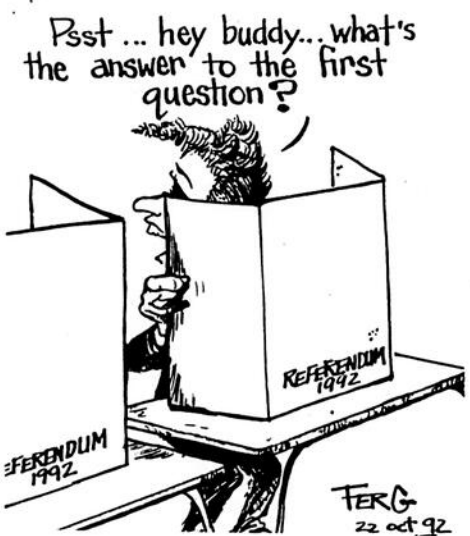
Residents take steps to get a sound barrier to shield them from traffic noise emitting from the Ville Marie Expressway. The petition helps urge council to act, and various types of barriers — from cement atop the expressway to a ridge of earth alongside the CP tracks — are debated by years' end.

## OCTOBER

The city is discovered to have hired private investigators to spy on its parking inspectors during the summer. One inspector is fired, a "coincidence," the city says.

Westmount becomes one of few cities in Montreal to recuperate CFCs from discarded refrigerators, air conditioners and the like.

After a year's wait, the city promises to poll residents on a \$7.5 million renovation and restoration plan for Westmount Public Library. The poll is to take place in November.



Westmounters vote resoundingly Yes in the referendum on the Charlottetown amendments to the Constitution; the country votes No. The burning issue fades quickly into oblivion almost as soon as the results are announced. Life, unexpectedly, goes on as before.

## NOVEMBER

A rare victory: a woman wins a lowered valuation without filing a contestation, based on the fact that she had won a valuation battle the previous year and with the intervention of Mayor Peter Trent. She argued that the new valuation should have applied to following years.

Youths, denied entry at a party at Dawson College because there are too many of them, go instead of Place Alexis Nihon, where they flood through a sports clothing store, stealing merchandise. The mall closes to prevent any other stores from being similarly robbed. A school official says there are so few events for young people, they flock to anything arranged.

There are indications the real estate market is starting to pull out of a low-prices slump. The post-referendum picture is similar to pre-referendum, with prices remaining stable. Also, the August house sales — the most recent available — showed modest increases in prices while volume remained stable.

The library plan becomes marginally clearer. Homeowners learn a Yes answer in the city's poll translates to an additional \$126 yearly on their tax bill, on average. Based on information sent to all residents in a promotional package, 77 percent of those who respond say Yes to the plan and council votes to approve the project. A few weeks later, librarians say the proposed design is inefficient.

## DECEMBER

Writer Ray Smith and writer and actor Mary Meigs win QSPELL awards for fiction and non-fiction, respectively. The award is given to outstanding English Quebec writers.

Westmounter Keith Henderson announces he is in the running to replace Robert Libman as leader of the Equality Party. Westmount elected EP member Richard Holden in the last provincial election, before the riding boundaries were broadened to include parts of downtown Montreal.

The budget is passed. The average tax bill for homeowners will increase by \$206 in 1993.

The year ends on a high note. Westmounters Dr. Charles Leblond and Charles Taylor are awarded the prestigious Prix du Québec for their work in science and social science, respectively.

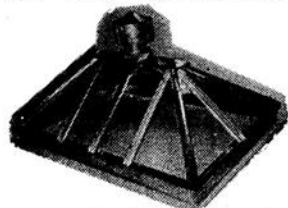
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# Convict charged with eight bank holdups caught outside mall

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A convict on the loose was caught outside Place Alexis Nihon moments after a holdup at the mall's Pharmaprix store, police said. He now faces charges in connection with about 20 other holdups, including eight at banks.

The suspect was detained by the store manager and a security guard as he sat in a taxi on Atwater Avenue preparing to leave.

He was not armed at the time, said crime prevention officer Jean-Marc Grégoire, who arrested him with Constable Judy Yankowksi. They recovered an undisclosed amount of money.

"It turned out the suspect was missing from Bordeaux (prison) since Nov. 30," Constable Grégoire said. The prisoner never returned from a three-day pass while serving time for robbery.

Police said the Pharmaprix was held up about 12:20 p.m. by a man waiting for the cashier to prepare a

bank deposit. Holding his right hand in a pocket of his jacket, as if pointing a gun, the man suddenly said, "I'm armed. Give me the money."

Tugging, to pull the deposit out of her hand, he then pointed to another bill in the cash register saying, "Give me the five."

As he fled into the mall, the victim reported the robbery over the intercom. A customer told pursuers the man went to the Atwater exit. Moments later, a suspect was detained in the taxi and held for police.

He was sent downtown to police headquarters after charges were prepared in connection with the Pharmaprix case. Investigators from the Montreal Urban Community holdup squad are handling the bank cases.

The arrest is expected to close the files on seven recent robberies of Laurentian Bank branches

A Royal Bank robbery is also believed related as are 10 other holdups.

# Robbers stay indoors this holiday

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

An off-duty police officer was shopping at Place Alexis Nihon on New Year's Eve when he heard a shoe merchant call out that he had just been robbed.

Constable Claude Paradis swung into action and within moments had a suspect in custody in connection with the holdup, one of six that occurred in the plaza, Westmount Square and Atwater Metro over the holiday and weekend, police said.

The merchant at Cité 49 was just closing up at 5 p.m. when a man simulating a weapon said, "It's a holdup. I have a gun." He was given an undisclosed amount of money and fled.

A 29-year-old Pointe-aux-Trembles man was sent downtown to be detained for appearance in court. He is known to police for previous incidents of break and entry.

The same day at 12:14 p.m., a lone gunman tried without success to get money from two tellers at the Bank of Montreal in Westmount Square, police said. Both told him they had none when he said, "Give me your money. Fill my bag."

He was described as being in his mid-thirties.

That night at 10:05, two young

men robbed a Dominican priest of an undisclosed amount of money as he walked along the tunnel between the Metro and Westmount Square. Pulling out a sawed-off rifle, one said, "Give me your money." The pair was described as two men in their twenties. The victim is a 59-year-old resident of Côte St. Catherine Road.

Saturday, Jan. 2, two teenaged boys were grabbed by the collar and punched in the face in two separate incidents an hour apart by two youths aged about 16 asking for "\$2 or smokes." Neither had

anything for them and were let go. The victims were a 13-year-old LaSalle boy in the Metro station and a 15-year-old Montrealer in the plaza. One of the suspect was described as having three gold teeth.

On Sunday, a 15-year-old St. Henri boy handed over some cash to two boys who approached him in the plaza at 7:30 p.m. saying, "Give me your money or I'll hit you." They then fled into the Metro with two others. One robber had a scar on his upper lip.

None of the six victims was injured in the holdups.

# Library loan bylaw on agenda for council meeting on Monday

City council is expected to adopt a \$7.5 million loan bylaw to finance the rebuilding of the Westmount Public Library at its first meeting of the new year Monday at 8 p.m. The bylaw would not come into force until after Jan. 20 when citizens have the opportunity to register opposition by signing a register at city hall from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Other business on the council agenda includes:

- Presentation of plaques to *Maisons Fleuries* winners;
- Adoption of bylaw to increase

parking meter fines to \$20 from \$10;

- Notice of motion to adopt a bylaw consolidating all tariffs collected by the city;

- List of accounts for November;

- Council approval of \$31,746 emergency purchase of new compressor to maintain ice at the arena previously approved by Mayor Peter Trent under special powers;

- Establishment of two-hour parking limit on north side of Severn Street Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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## Night-owl kids escorted home

Two young Westmount children were driven home Dec. 27 when they were spotted behind Manoir Westmount at 1:53 a.m., public safety officers said. The 11-year-old boy and his eight-year-old sister claimed they had felt sick and thought they might feel better going for a walk.

They were taken back to their mother, who lives on de Maison-neuve Boulevard.

# Car company ripped off as alarm rings and rings

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

As an alarm rang Saturday, burglars helped themselves to \$30,000 worth of electronic car equipment from the Ultra Car firm at 4028 St. Catherine St. Car radios, cellular phones, "everything to do with cars" was taken, according to Station 23 crime analyst Jacques Blanche.

Neither the alarm company nor

police answered the call since the firm had already registered more than four false alarms since Nov. 1. That's when Montreal Urban Community police began enforcing a new policy of not responding after four false calls.

Police said so many false alarms had been registered at the address that not even the owner turned up when a monitoring firm phoned to say the alarm was ringing.

But Daniel Sadam, who identified himself as the owner, told THE EXAMINER Monday he was not called by the company until 30 hours later and when he called police, they went immediately.

He blamed previous false alarms on "faulty equipment" from the alarm company and said once it was fixed two weeks ago, he received a notice from police reinstating their response service.

"They hand-delivered the letter to me," he said. "I can't understand what happened, maybe there was a snag in the system since it's all computerized. All I know is there's a taxpayer who's not very satisfied."

He said both he and his insurance company are looking into what happened.

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January 7, 1993 - Page 13

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## Selwyn student one of two Quebecers off to debating tourney

By J. MARION FEINBERG

Fifteen-year-old Selwyn House student Patrick Brown says it's all in the delivery.

He's one of two Quebec high school students heading off to Winnipeg at the end of the month for a national public speaking competition.

"I basically started out in debating. Public speaking was a bit of an afterthought," he said.

But both talents require confidence, he says. His older brother Nick is responsible for inspiring and encouraging him.

"It all began when he came home carrying all these trophies," he said.

Public speaking coach and Selwyn House teacher Kathy Biggs said she chose him because he was interesting and bright and she knew he would land on his feet.

That's precisely what he did by winning the Quebec Student Debating Association's Public Speaking contest held at Hudson High School Dec. 11. He participated in the three required events: interpretive reading, persuasive

speech and a two-minute talk on a choice of three topics.

"He is someone who is challenged by stating and defending opinions," she said. "This will open up a whole new aspect of his character."

One of his speeches questioned the way in which groups deal with prejudice, because it is something he says he has been thinking about for a while.

He uses the example of how the focus on terminology has overtaken the real problem of how we deal with disenfranchised groups such as women and the physically challenged.

"We've gone from calling them crippled, to handicapped, to disabled, to physically challenged," he said.

He says he's not sure the emphasis on language is all that helpful and argues that there are better ways to get taken more seriously.

On feminism, he said, "We could get rid of inequality but not through debate over ridiculous issues. The solution is more likely found in education."

Although he says he's not "an

avid political wannabe," he says he has strong opinions if he cares about an issue.

Since winning a provincial debating contest in Grade 7, he

learned to keep a pessimistic outlook while competing to keep from getting overconfident. He adds that he is excited by the prospect of dealing with the high level of com-

petition in Winnipeg.

The importance of delivery?

"It's all that matters," he said. "You have to have good delivery or no one will listen."

## Dreary day to start school



Moms, left to right, Diana West, Tara Uniacke and Gabrielle Busbridge wait at the corner of Greene Avenue and Dorchester Boulevard in Monday's downpour for their children to get off the Roslyn school bus.

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# Where were they going?



## Dec. 21

6:26 a.m.: 2300 Tupper, Montreal Children's Hospital, code 3 automatic mutual aid from Côte St. Luc and St. Laurent cancelled at 6:34 a.m.;  
 10:27 a.m.: 589 Lansdowne, noise from electronic air cleaner;  
 10:49 a.m.: 644 Murray Hill, defective alarm;  
 1:38 p.m.: 25 Winchester, smoke detector activated;  
 2:08 p.m.: 4943 Sherbrooke, first responder unit for medical assistance;  
 3:29 p.m.: 5765 Sir Walter Scott, code 2 automatic mutual aid to Côte St. Luc cancelled at 3:35 p.m.;  
 6:47 p.m.: 43 Holton, salamander heater in use outside to heat fresh cement in wall;  
 11:46 p.m.: 637 Lansdowne, defective alarm;

## Dec. 22

Nil;

## Dec. 23

10:07 a.m.: 588 Côte St. Antoine, first responder unit for medical assistance;  
 10:12 a.m.: Corporation Yard, rear of Glen power house, smouldering pile of manure and wood chips;  
 10:19 p.m.: 4175 St. Catherine, apt. 1204, first responder unit for medical assistance;

## Dec. 24

9:36 a.m.: 478 Grosvenor, defective fire alarm;  
 10:32 a.m.: 4269 St. Catherine, code 2 automatic mutual aid from Côte St. Luc cancelled at 10:48 a.m., fire alarm activated by defective electrical circuit breaker in basement elevator room;  
 7:31 p.m.: 6019 Durocher, Outremont, mutual aid assistance at fire in synagogue, returned at 8:38 p.m.;  
 9:03 p.m.: 8166 Montview, code 2 automatic mutual aid to Town of Mount Royal cancelled at 9:15 p.m.;

## Dec. 25

12:34 a.m.: 494 Wood, defective smoke detector on second floor;  
 5:56 p.m.: 5821 Côte St. Luc, code 3 automatic mutual aid to Hampstead cancelled at 5:59 p.m.;  
 6:14 p.m.: 5550 Trent, code 3 automatic mutual aid to Côte St. Luc cancelled at 6:21 p.m.;

## Dec. 26

11:35 a.m.: 4860 de Maisonneuve, Château Westmount nursing home, first responder unit for medical assistance;  
 1:02 p.m.: 90 Hillside, apt. 101, first responder unit for medical assistance;  
 11:29 p.m.: 4398 de Maisonneuve, burglar alarm;

## Dec. 27

3:09 a.m.: 4491 Sherbrooke, weak battery in smoke detector;  
 4:43 a.m.: 10 Oakland, basement smoke detector activated, defective alarm;  
 12:44 p.m.: 440 Elm, alarm system activated by defective smoke detector in hallway;  
 2:02 p.m.: 4675 St. Catherine, arena, first responder unit for medical assistance (see story page 6)  
 2:25 p.m.: 6 Forde, snow on roof melting through base of third floor skylight;  
 4:21 p.m.: 6609 Côte St. Luc, mutual aid to Côte St. Luc cancelled at 4:28 p.m.;  
 6:08 p.m.: 4430 St. Catherine, apt. 204, first responder unit for medical assistance;  
 9:45 p.m.: 3 Westmount Square, apt. 915, first responder unit for medical assistance;

## Dec. 28

11:57 a.m.: 4695 Sherbrooke, first responder unit for medical assistance

to elderly man who fell on sidewalk at Lansdowne;  
 12:13 p.m.: 47 Forde, smoke in basement from fireplace in use on ground floor, smoke drawn down chimney flue;  
 4:10 p.m.: 239 Kensington, code 3 automatic mutual aid from Côte St. Luc and Outremont cancelled at 4:17 p.m., burning smell in building, burned food in apt. 401;  
 5:04 p.m.: 239 Kensington, code 3 automatic mutual aid from Côte St. Luc and Outremont cancelled at 5:13 p.m., for smoke in hall, odour of burned food from previous call;  
 8:21 p.m.: 2300 Tupper, Montreal Children's Hospital, code 3 automatic mutual aid from Côte St. Luc and Outremont cancelled at 8:31 p.m., defective sprinkler in Montreal section;

## Dec. 29

8:09 a.m.: 5760 Parkhaven, code 3 automatic mutual aid to Côte St. Luc cancelled at 8:15 a.m.;  
 10:42 a.m.: 18 Severn, broken water pipe under sink;  
 10:58 a.m.: Rear of 4873 Westmount, Congregation Notre-Dame Mother House, leaking hydrant;  
 1:31 p.m.: 590 Roslyn, first responder unit for medical assistance;  
 3:47 p.m.: 4120 St. Catherine, strange odour, piece of carbon paper removed from light fixture in stairway of fourth floor;  
 5:58 p.m.: 4557 Sherbrooke, two people

trapped in elevator;  
 9:38 p.m.: 4430 St. Catherine, Place Kensington, first responder unit for medical assistance;

## Dec. 30

11:02 a.m.: 3 Westmount Square, apt. 1816, first responder unit for medical assistance;  
 11:48 a.m.: 4858 Sherbrooke, for smell of natural gas, excessive pressure from gas meter diaphragm;

## Dec. 31

4:35 p.m.: 4462 St. Catherine, leaking oil tank in basement;  
 4:48 p.m.: 411 Roslyn, Westmount Baptist Church, short circuit in sign on front lawn;

## Jan 1

8:56 a.m.: 295 Victoria, apt. 402, code 2 automatic mutual aid from Côte St. Luc cancelled at 9:04 a.m., smoke from fireplace from closed damper;  
 10:08 a.m.: 295 Victoria, apt. 402, smoke from fireplace after opening of damper;  
 12:28 p.m.: 20 Academy, Westmount Park School code 3 automatic mutual aid from Côte St. Luc and Outremont cancelled at 12:45 p.m., burglar alarm;  
 4:22 p.m.: 5550 Trent, code 3 automatic mutual aid to Côte St. Luc cancelled at 4:40 p.m.;  
 9:36 p.m.: 258 Prince Albert, furnace problem;

Continued next week

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## STATION 23 LOG

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

### Man shoves another into rear of a car

A man was seen stuffing another into the rear of a car while the two were fighting Sunday evening on Sherbrooke Street outside city hall, police said.

A woman living on Kensington Avenue rushed to the window of her apartment about 8:45 p.m. when she heard someone yell "Help!"

She told police one man forced the other into the baggage section of a car described as a Volvo station wagon which then sped away. The woman called 911.

### Grandma pushed

A Westmount woman looking after her granddaughter was pushed around when the father went to pick up the child on Dec. 22, police said. The girl's mother died six months ago.

The 59-year-old grandmother told police the man became very aggressive in a dispute over the child, grabbed the woman by the shoulder and pushed her. He was gone when officers arrived so the incident was referred to investigators at police Station 23.

The suspect was identified as a 31-year-old Brossard man. The woman was not reported injured.

### Girl, 13, charged with knife assault

A 13-year-old girl from Point St. Charles is to be charged in juvenile court with armed assault after a woman was held up Dec. 28 in the Metro tunnel to Westmount Square, police said.

She was held up by a girl who stuck the butt end of a knife under her chin and began grabbing at her purse.

The 42-year-old woman managed to break away from the group of youths and summon help at the turnstiles of the Atwater station about 8:50 p.m. The suspect was arrested on the station platform by local police.

### Cabbie lashes out at incomplete fare

A 28-year-old Westmount man was punched in the face by a taxi driver shortly before Christmas when he told the cabbie he needed to go inside his apartment to get more money for the fare, police said. He had only \$10 with him to pay the \$14 ride from downtown to Academy Road.

"No, you have to pay me," the driver is reported to have said before grabbing the victim and hitting him. He then drove off leaving the man with a red mark on the left cheek.

### Impaired charge

A 29-year-old Westmount man faces charges of impaired driving after being arrested at 5:19 a.m. outside 7 Edgehill Rd. Tuesday, Dec. 22, police said. The resident of Upper Belmont Avenue came to the attention of

RCMP officers who stopped him and called MUC police. He is to appear in municipal court Feb. 17.

### Olé smokes

A burglar stole 23 cartons of duty-free cigarettes during a break-in at the Spanish consulate in Westmount Square over the Christmas holiday, police said. Along with the Marlboro Lights, four bottles of gin and one of vodka were also taken. The door was forced open between Dec. 24 and 29.

### Present-packed Civic stolen

A Honda Civic containing Christmas presents was stolen in Westmount on Dec. 23 while its owner went to a hockey game at the Forum, police said. It was recovered the next morning on William Street in St. Hubert when someone in a nearby building saw two people removing all four wheels. The car also had its ignition ripped out and a back window broken. Local police said they did not know whether or not the gifts were stolen. The car belongs to a man from Rivière des Prairies.

### Meat manager

A 41-year-old man was arrested Monday, Dec. 28, for allegedly shoplifting \$70 worth of meat from the Metro-Richelieu store, 4840 Sherbrooke St., police said. The man was sent downtown to detention after it was discovered he gave a false address. Nine packages of meat were listed as stolen.

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## OUR MP...

Continued from page 5

way pass to allow them to travel across Canada. They could use the pass for any one year between the ages of, say, 18 and 25. We argued that this initiative would greatly contribute to Canadian unity and boost the economy.

A school teacher I met recently has for more than a decade acted as a volunteer co-ordinator for thousands of young pen pals. When students want to find a pen pal in Canada, or elsewhere in the world, they write to him. He puts them in touch with a young person of their age. The co-ordinator believes that with a little bit of help the program could reach many more young Canadians. Yet several requests to government for financial assistance have been turned down and he's not sure how much longer he can support the program.

While we are at it, let's not restrict our thinking about understanding of national unity. There is also the need to promote racial harmony. Last Saturday's Gazette carried a story about a Hasidic band in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn that has joined with its black neighbours to belt out rap tunes about racial tolerance and religious understanding.

"Said, yo! Said, oy veh!" band leader David Lazerson shouts at the start of one of his most popular numbers, performed with a fellow rapper, African American Baptist minister Paul Chandler. At the front of the stage, 16-year-old yeshiva student Yehudah Simon is hip-hop dancing along with black youth Thomas Joseph Moses.

It seems to me that this is an idea worth importing. I invite you, the readers of THE EXAMINER, to think about this question and I invite your comments and suggestions.

## YOU SAY...

Continued from page 4

there to see the tears of my eight-year-old daughter when she discovered that one of her favourite dolls, as well as her entire jewelry set had been stolen.

Rather than sympathizing with the fact that my daughter and myself have been victims of this crime, you have made these unfounded and unresearched accusations against me.

Perhaps in the future, rather than attacking innocent victims with unsubstantiated accusations you will take aim against those laws which unduly protect criminals, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which you seem to cherish.

In conclusion, you have publicly accused me of being an irresponsible gun owner without even the decency of contacting me before making such accurate accusations. I am therefore asking for a full apology and retraction in your next editorial of your abusive, insulting comments.

**Dominique Bellemare**  
458 Mount Stephen Ave.  
WESTMOUNT, H3Y 2X8

*Editor's note: The editorial in question was written to say that no gun is ever safe from misuse, even if it is brought into town for a short time only. It was not intended to attribute blame on the homeowner, but to decry to fact that guns are in the city. Period.*

## OUR MAYOR...

Continued from page 5

such as leading-edge, basically, state of the art, lifestyle, timeframe and other such excrescences of the 80s.

**For verbal faddists:** To avoid becoming a member of the former group by easing off on vogue words such as excellence (everybody and his dog seems to be pursuing it),

sense (as in "Mr. Mulroney, do you have the sense that...") gender (a grammatical term. The right word is usually sex. But don't quote me), craft (verb) and empower.

**For contract gardeners:** To turn over a new leaf... with a rake, not a noisy, polluting blower. And to stop sending garden detritus into the road.

**For some city employees:** To realize that your ultimate allegiance is not to the director-general or to council: it is to the taxpayers. They are your collective client and paymaster, and, in the latter capacity, they treat you very well.

**For the public works department:** To get Bombardier to make a sidewalk snowplow with a narrower track, to avoid flailing off great hunks of turf bordering our sidewalks. (It would also help if our drivers obeyed some kind of sidewalk speed limit.)

**For smokers:** To quit.

**For me:** To refrain from telling other people what to do.

## LEGAL NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that the Pension Plan For The Employees of John Matheis & Son Upholstering Inc. terminated on March 9, 1992 in accordance with article 198 of the act governing supplemental pension plans. Therefore, anyone claiming to be entitled to benefits from the plan or from the act governing supplemental pension plans, is hereby requested to contact the administrator or La Régie des rentes du Québec within 30 days following the date of this notice. J. Matheis & Son Upholstering Inc., 159 Hillside Ave., Westmount, Quebec, H3Z 1W1. La Régie des rentes du Québec, Direction des régimes des retraites, 2635 Boul. Hoche-laga, C.P. 5200, Québec, Québec, G1K 7S9.

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512 Companions / On demande compagnons  
513 Lost / Perdu  
514 Found / Trouvé  
515 Moving & Cartage / Transport et déménagement  
516 Transportation / Transport  
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January 7, 1993 - Page 19



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**Oh, nuts!**



This poodle with a sharp eye was out for a walk when an enticing bit of prey appeared. The meeting ended in a standoff.

Photo by: Susan Mintzberg

## Dawson chosen as site of historic walking tour

By J. MARION FEINBERG

Dawson College is now the last stop on Heritage Montreal's walking tour project launched last month. It is also the only Westmount building to be honoured in Heritage Montreal's 350th birthday gift to the city called Steps in Time: La Rue Sherbrooke.

"We're honoured to be included in the program and feel we're in good company," said Christine Southmayd of Dawson's secretary general's office. "We're also happy that the building is recognized as a heritage landmark, not only by Heritage Montreal but also by the Ministère des affaires culturelles as well as the City of Westmount's heritage project."

The main campus building, mostly in Westmount and partly on Montreal land, is honoured for its contribution to the development of Sherbrooke Street.

Westmounters can do a self-guided walking tour by starting at the college — the westernmost of the sites — and heading east along Sherbrooke Street. The chosen buildings underline the development of what became known as the Golden Mile.

Permanent plaques have been mounted in front of the various sites, offering historical information regarding the architect and use of the building through the years. The plaques also include a small picture of the site along with a map of where to find the other 18 sites on the tour.

"You can see how Sherbrooke Street evolved with institutions such as McGill University and Dawson College to private businesses such as Maison Corby or Holt Renfrew," said Nancy Dunton, executive director of Heritage Montreal.

ings, it is part of a permanent walking tour that provides more information regarding the architectural role and significance of particular buildings," said Ms. Dunton. "It can make a really nice and pleasant walk from University to Atwater."

One of the things Ms. Southmayd said she likes about the tour is the fact that one need not visit all 19 sites to get something out of the experience.

"In general, it just make you aware that we live in a beautiful city with many historic buildings."

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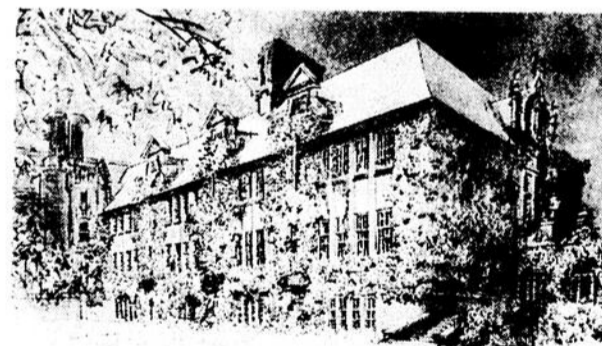
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### ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

for all levels (Sec. I-V)

Saturday, January 16, 1993

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### Second place ever made of reinforced concrete

The huge Sherbrooke Street building where Dawson is now located used to be known as the Mother House of the Sisters of the Congrégation de Notre-Dame and has been the home of Quebec's largest CEGEP since 1988. It was built between 1904 and 1908 by Montreal architect J.-Omer Marchand with his American-born partner Samuel Stevens Haskell.

It was classified as a historic site by the Quebec government in 1977 and is the second building in the world to be constructed entirely of reinforced concrete. The Dawson plaque refers to the building as one "which adheres to Beaux-Arts principles of clear spatial organization and symmetrical composition."

"What makes this project different, is that rather than having isolated plaques on various build-



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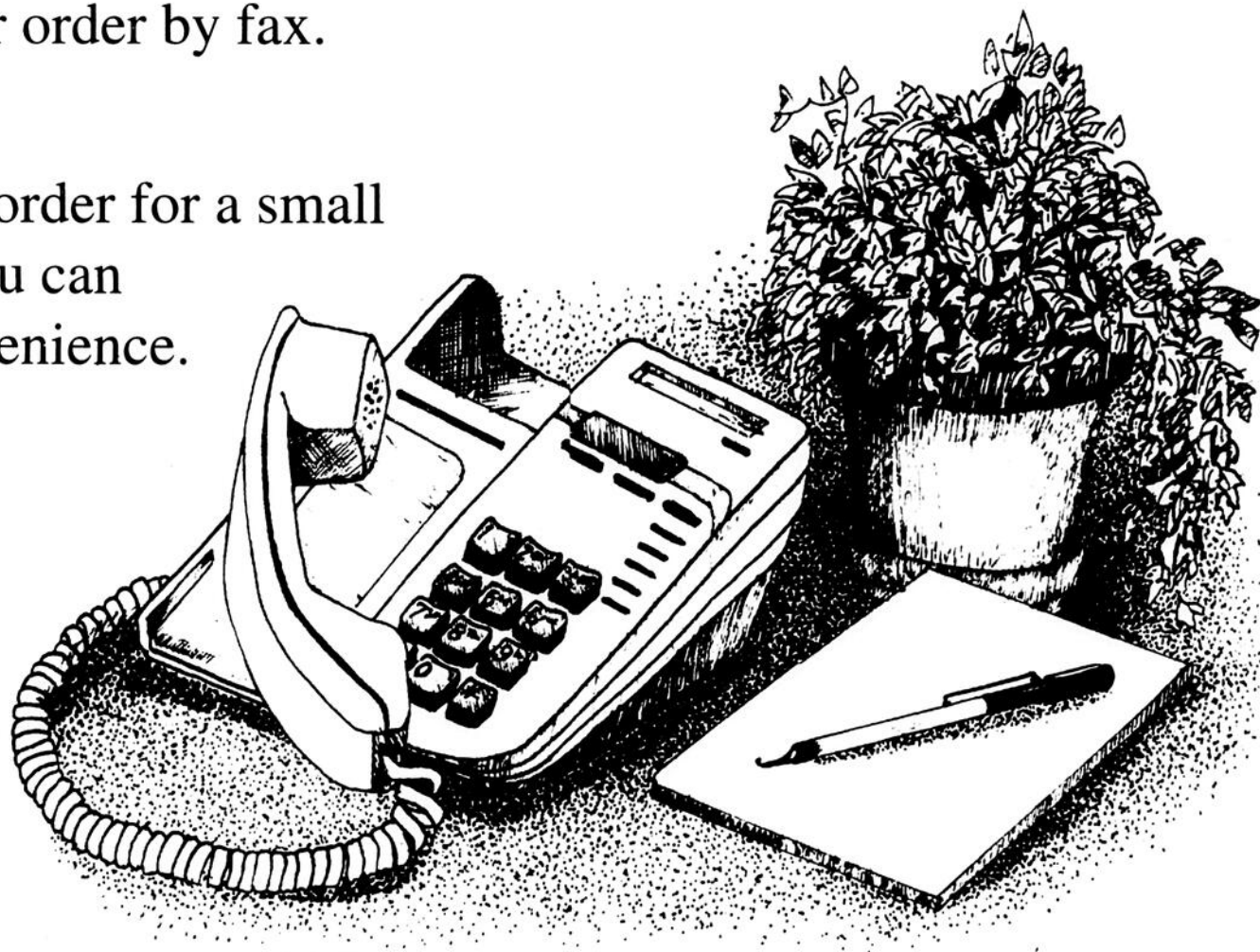
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