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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2001

Animal rights activists sound alarm on circus

By Rita Legault
 SHERBROOKE

On May 7, 1978 an elephant trainer was killed in front of more than 1,000 horrified spectators during a circus performance in Rock Forest.

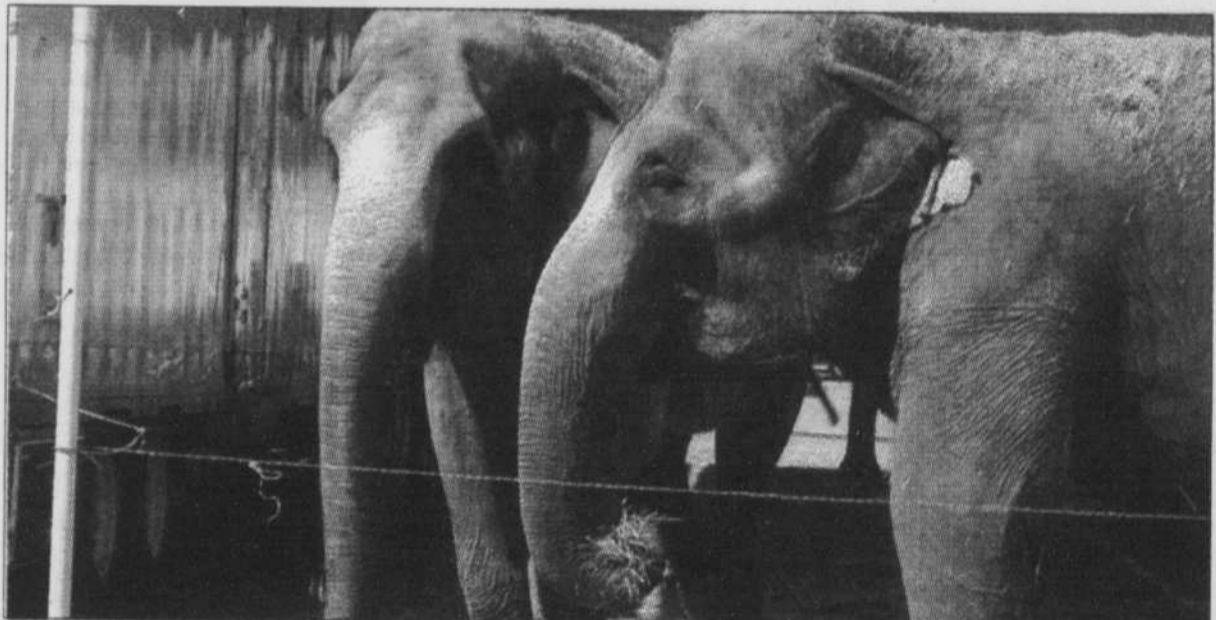
During the incident, another elephant escaped from the big tent pitched in the middle of the shopping mall parking lot and bolted down Bourque Boulevard before being brought down by a police sharpshooter.

The incident is one of more than 130 recorded circus mishaps over the past two decades, about half of which involved elephants running amuck. The worldwide incidents have been documented by the Humane Society of the United States and other animal welfare activists as part of an ongoing campaign to prohibit wild animal acts.

Sherbrooke's Société de protection des animaux has launched an awareness campaign hoping the public jumps on the bandwagon to ban animal acts like those in the Shriners Circus which is in town this week.

"All animal welfare groups are opposed to animal circus acts," comments Emmanuelle Jodoin who researched the

PLEASE SEE CIRCUS PAGE 7



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

SPA says circus acts should not include wild animals

Fair Friends



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

Showing off favorite pets is always part of the fun at country fairs and last weekend's Bedford Fair was no exception. See Brome County News inside for full fair coverage.

U.S. duty on softwood could affect some 73 Townships mills

Canadian producers raise prices

By Daniel Huot
 SHERBROOKE

The U.S. government's preliminary decision to slap Canadian softwood exports with a 19.3 per cent countervailing duty could directly or indirectly affect up to 73 Townships sawmills which produce the resource, said a Quebec Natural Resources Ministry spokesman. Not all of the sawmills export to the U.S.

"Estrie accounts for two per cent of Quebec's softwood output," said spokesman Jacques Duval. "The latest figure shows 161,126 foot-board units were manufactured in the region."

Duval couldn't tag a dollar figure on the value of the Townships' production, but a provincial government press release states Que-

bec's softwood manufacturers export \$2 billion annually.

Meanwhile, many producers in the Townships and across the country are retaliating against the U.S. Department of Commerce's decision by hiking their softwood prices.

"The majority of Canadian producers have increased the price on their bills," said Jacques Robitaille, president of the Quebec Lumber Manufacturers' Association.

"Most members proceeded with the hike on Monday."

Robitaille called the preliminary decision an example of American protectionism at its worst.

Marcel Lauzon, president of Marcel Lauzon Inc., boosted his softwood prices by 18 per cent. Since he has to pay a duty, somebody has to cover the bill.

PLEASE SEE LUMBER PAGE 3



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Why the best police option for TBL is the QPF

PART I

Hats off to the Town of Lake Brome councillors for agreeing to undertake a consultation process before deciding on the future of our municipal policing. They undoubtedly realized, and rightfully so, that they will be faced with having to make one of the most important political decisions in their careers. The ultimate resolution to either invest in the up grading of our municipal police force or pay for the services of the Surêté du Quebec will have very long-term consequences, both economic as well as on how we will be served and protected by the police.

Seeing that TBL is a municipality with fewer than 50,000 inhabitants and is currently being served by a municipal police force, Bill 19 provides us with two options. We must decide through our elected officials whether we are ready to pay for a municipal police force that can provide LEVEL I services by June 1, 2002 or opt to pay for the services of the Surêté du Québec.

According to TBL estimates, the municipal option will cost property owners \$1.5 million annually which includes a new police station and equipment that would be paid over 10 years as opposed to \$1.3 for the SQ option. Those who believe we would be better off with our own upgraded police force contend that one way or another we will be faced with a tax hike but that the difference between both options will be insignificant.

They are wrong. Even assuming the costs estimates are accurate, over a 5-year period the municipal option would oblige property owners to pay \$1 million more than with the SQ option. For the vast majority of TBL citizens who are not wealthy or have never required police assistance, the mere thought of spending such a huge amount would be considered extravagant, unjustifiable and wasteful. Furthermore, who can guarantee them that emergency situations requiring SQ assistance will never occur or, if they do, the town won't be billed accordingly?

Although the SQ option could never match the personalized services that some of us are used to in TBL but which often

have little to do with modern law enforcement, why is there so much concern? Failing emergency situations, the number of police vehicles and police officers that would patrol TBL territory under the SQ option would still be an improvement over the present situation. It goes without saying that the SQ has every interest to try and match the level of around-the-clock police presence and time-response factors that go with the municipal option.

Delays occur even under the current system and will continue to do so under both options whenever those who are on duty are tied up with other emergency calls. Time and time again our own police officers have had to request the assistance of the SQ only we were never billed. Under the new system any emergency assistance that has to do with Level 1 responsibilities will result in extra billings.

As for those who are in favor of the municipal option, they had better take a reality check. Where and how are we going to find the additional 6 police officers required to meet the municipal option Level I requirements? The number of potential recruits is dangerously low and will only get worse with so many police officers close to retirement coupled with the increased level of police services required by Bill 19. Even now the TLB police force is not the only force unable to find temporary help in order to replace police officers on vacation or sick leave.

We might as well stop dreaming about having our own updated police force if it means having to lower our standards just to try and attract the required number of police officers.

Even if our council votes in favor of the municipal option it will still have to provide a police service organization plan to the Public Security Minister for his approval so as to demonstrate that it can meet the Level I conditions. This includes being able to prove that TBL can find and hire the required number of competent police officers.

The SQ option hardly means that we will be saying "adieu" to the many police



HENRY R. KEYSERLINGK

officers that have served us so well. With the SQ option our municipal police officers would change uniforms and become members of the SQ. More than likely they would end up working out of a yet-to-be-built SQ detachment building in Cowansville. While their reclassification and remuneration would depend on their accumulated years of service and former responsibilities it is a sure thing that that many of

them would continue to patrol the TBL territory. Why? Because of (a) their knowledge of the region, (b) their familiarity with the residents and vice versa, (c) the fact that they are all bilingual and finally, (d) the SQ isn't interested in being harassed with complaints.

Our much appreciated TBL Police Director, Richard Burcombe, would become an SQ sergeant much like his counterpart from Bedford after the six officer-municipal police force was integrated into the SQ Dunham detachment, last November. As to the old Bedford municipal police station, it is still occasionally being used by the municipal-turned SQ officers. Who knows, perhaps the same scenario could

apply in TBL.

What with the survey that should be mailed this week coupled with the information meeting of Sept. 7, we will have to move fast in order to thoroughly study the implications of each option, quiz our elected and SQ representatives and finally, submit in writing our final choice no later than Sept. 21. The council will then have until Oct. 1 to advise the Minister of Public Security of its decision. Only time will tell whether or not the majority vote by the councillors will correspond to the survey results.

Due to the importance of the issues and the little time left I plan to devote this column to the analysis and evaluation of the main issues until the week of the information meeting.

Hopefully, by the time the survey is ready to be completed and returned, we will all have a better understanding of some of the pros and cons of each option.

Next week I will deal with the investigation chapter and point out why we would be much better off with the SQ option.

comments: henryk@endirect.qc.ca

Stanstead Legion # 1



Stanstead Legion was selected number one for the best increase in membership! The board of directors of the Stanstead Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion was honoured by their district commander for having the largest percentage annual increase in membership for the year 2000. A special presentation took place at the Stanstead Legion Branch. Left to Right: Mr. Gilles Lussier, district commander, Mr. Wayne Phaneuf, district membership chairman, Mr. Larry Lepitre, Stanstead Legion President, and sergeant of arms Laurier Jacques. The branch received a trophy for its efforts.

Weather

Today: Cloudy periods. Foggy locally. Low near 10.

Wednesday: Sunny with cloudy periods. High near 26.

Thursday: Increasing cloudiness. Low near 14. High near 25.

Friday: Mostly cloudy with a few showers. Low near 13. High near 23. Probability of precipitation 70 percent.

Saturday: Variable cloudiness with scattered showers. Low near 14. High near 22. Probability of precipitation 30 percent.

Ben by Daniel Shelton



Police seek witnesses following biker murder

Staff
SHERBROOKE

Police are still investigating the assassination of a member of the Bandidos outlaw biker gang who was shot down at his cottage in Ste-Catherine-de-Hatley Sunday afternoon.

Quebec Police Force spokesman Serge Dubord said police are looking for any potential witnesses, including anyone who may have noticed the getaway car - a black Grand Cherokee with tinted windows.

Dubord said police suspect the vehicle was hanging around the sector for a

few days as the two suspects observed the cottage and waited for the right time to strike.

Two suspects parked the Cherokee on the side of Chemin du Lac in Ste-Catherine-de-Hatley around 4 p.m. Sunday and chased Bandidos gang member Robert Léger, riddling his body with bullets. Then they dropped their weapons and ran, escaping down the road in the stolen Jeep.

The four-wheel-drive, which had been stolen in Montreal on Aug. 9, was found torched a few kilometers from the murder scene on Caroline Road. In-

side the burned-out vehicle, police found the charred remains of two more handguns.

Police suspect the murder was related to biker wars between the Bandidos and their powerful rivals, the Hells Angels. The murder bore all the hallmarks of a Hells Angels hit.

Dubord said police are also seeking anyone who might have seen the suspects get into a second getaway vehicle, or have any other information related to the murder.

"If people saw anything they can contact us," Dubord said, adding that all infor-

mation will be kept strictly confidential.

Witnesses can call the supervisor at QPF headquarters is 564-1212.

Dubord said the medical legal laboratory in Montreal has yet to perform an autopsy on Léger due to large body count after a number of homicides in Quebec last week including the murder of Hells Angel Steve Purdy.

The former Granby resident and ex-hockey player for the Granby Bisons appears to have been another victim of Quebec's biker wars after he was shot down as he exited a bar in Hull in the wee hours of Sunday morning.

U.S. has tried four times to curtail Cdn. lumber

"The measure is temporary at this point," he said. "We'll decide whether to make it permanent when the U.S. measure comes into effect."

Exporting is already costing him and other producers money. He said Quebec companies are required to provide U.S. brokers with a guarantee of payment letter or a deposit to cover retroactive payments to mid-May once the duty is applied.

The U.S. Department of Commerce should render a final decision sometime in mid-October regarding the question as to whether the Canadian government is subsidizing its softwood industry by providing, among other things, the use of Crown lands. Only the Maritime provinces would be excluded from the tariff.

Over the past 20 years, the U.S. government has tried four times to curtail Canadian lumber exports. This time, they might succeed.

In Lauzon's case, the irony is that many of the logs his 50 workers chop actually come from the U.S. He explained many of Estrie's 20-odd border mills import their logs from the southern giant.

Robitaille said he's concerned the U.S. duty will eliminate jobs in Canada and punish American consumers.

"In Canada, there would be a temporary surplus of softwood that would cause prices to drop if exporters have no other course than reducing their inventories on the home market," he said.

As to how many jobs will be lost once the U.S. takes action, the numbers remain nebulous.

The cost of lumber could also be detrimental to U.S. consumers, Robitaille warned.

"Once the cost of wood goes up, it will price some people out of new homes," said Karen Geraw, a manager of the Maine division of brokerage firm Norman G. Jensen Inc.

She said brokers are waiting for the decision to be printed in the U.S. federal register to move ahead with the duty.

U.S. lumber industry lobby groups had originally asked their government for a 40 per cent duty against Canadian softwood producers. The only thing Townships producers such as Lauzon can do is wait and hope to be exempted from the tariff.

"At this point the Quebec government is collaborating with the Canadian government to find a solution to the problem," said Duval. "It hopes the U.S. will at the very least weight their countervailing duty by provincial average. That would amount to 0.01 per cent as recognized by the U.S. Department of Commerce in 1991."

The federal government is planning to take the U.S. to court if it imposes the duty. International Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew made it clear he's displeased with the present course of action.

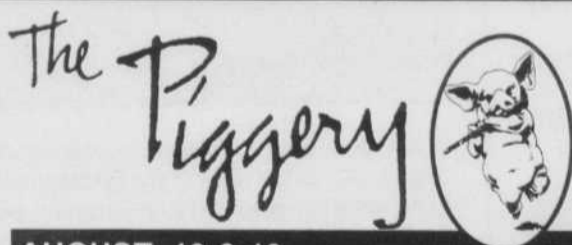
A Department of Commerce document published on a Web site with the heading unfair trade practises, states seasonal Canadian softwood exports are up 23 per cent. The last softwood agreement between Canada and the U.S. expired in March.



FILE PHOTO

To offset the effect of a U.S. tariff, wood producers are raising prices.

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The great T-Day raffle: \$4,400 worth of prizes

The Waterville organizing committee has really outdone themselves with this great Townshippers' Day raffle drawing, with 11 attractive prizes totaling \$4,400 in value. That means the raffle will have 11 winners out of less than 5,000 tickets.

Can you imagine a luxurious \$790 health package at the Collège Védique Maharishi in Waterville? What about season ski passes for two adults at Montjoye (worth \$700)? Or a membership at the Waterville Golf Club for the 2002 season (\$650 value)?

Maybe you would like to receive a \$500 Ultra-O-Pedic double mattress from the Waterville Mattress Company? Or a \$400 jacket from L'Ami Denis in Lennoxville?

Do you know a couple who would enjoy spending a night at the Hovey Manor, with two dinners and two breakfasts included (\$380 value)? Or a child who would enjoy a week of summer camp at the Val-Estrie Camp in Waterville (worth \$370)?

And the list goes on! Would you like to receive a \$200 barbeque from the Centre de Rénovation A. Côté in Waterville? What about a night with dinner and breakfast for two at the King's Hall Hotel (worth \$160)? Or a night for two at the Knowlton Inn, with breakfast plus two tickets for a Sunshine Theatre production (\$120 value)?

And if you would just like to get away from it all, how about a weekend car rental from the Enterprise rental agency (worth \$120)?

Your chances are excellent to buy one of these prizes if you get your raffle ticket or tickets for only \$3 per ticket or \$5 for two. And you can have the satisfaction of knowing you have made a small gesture to help support Townshippers' Day 2001, an event aiming to showcase and celebrate life in our wonderful Eastern Townships.

To get your tickets, stop by the Waterville Town Hall, Townshippers' offices, or

KEEPING IN TOUCH TOWNSHIPERS' ASSOCIATION

our booth at summer events. If you would like to help out by selling tickets, please do give us a call, too.

By the way, the drawing will take place at Townshippers' Day, Sept. 15, at 3 p.m. on the main stage in the Entertainment Tent. After the drawing, the prizes can be picked up in the Townshippers' Association tent on the T-Day site. Hope to see you there, tickets in hand!

VISIT US AT COOKSHIRE OR AYER'S CLIFF

Townshippers' will have a booth at both the Cookshire Fair and the Storytelling Festival in West Brome Park this weekend, and at the Ayer's Cliff Fair next weekend. Why not stop by? It's a chance to get your raffle tickets, chat with our volunteers, renew your membership, and browse our really great Townshippers' Day green goods and our other merchandise.

GOT YOUR SPOT ON THE T-DAY BUS?

If you're from Bedford, Cowansville, Knowlton or Magog, register now for your spot on the bus to Waterville Sept. 15. Tickets are \$20 per person, or \$10 from Magog. Payment will be collected on the bus. Call the Association's Cowansville office at (450) 263-4422 or stop by at 203 Principale St. to reserve early, as places are limited. The contact person for reservations in the Bedford area is Thelma Rhicard at (450) 248-4168. If you have already called to be put on the list, you will be contacted.

COME SEE US

Visit our new head office at Suite 100, 257 Queen St., Lennoxville. Other ways to contact Townshippers' Association are to visit our Cowansville office at 203 Principale, Cowansville J2K 1J3, call us at (819) 566-5717, (450) 263-4422, or toll free at 1-866-566-5717. Fax: (819) 566-0271 or (450) 263-6317. E-mail: ta@townshippers.qc.ca. Website: www.townshippers.qc.ca. Virtual museum website: www.townshipsheritage.com.

Asbestos Mineral Fair Aug. 18, 19

People who love minerals, rocks and fossils may want to check out the upcoming Asbestos Mineral fair scheduled for this weekend.

The eighth edition of the fair will be open to the public on Saturday, Aug. 18 and Sunday, Aug. 19 in the basement of the former St. Aime Church on St. Luc Blvd.

Organized by the Asbestos Mineral Club and helped by the Asbestos Mineral Museum, the fair will feature 23 exhibitions by mineral and gem dealers.

Fair organizer Francesco Spertini claims the fair is the third largest of its kind in Quebec, the other two being in Montreal.

"On average, we get about 3,000 visitors to the fair, many of them collectors and dealers from the States, Montreal and Ontario," he said.

Featured this year, Spertini added, will be mineral and hand-crafts displays from Morocco and Russia.

He said attendance at the fair is helped by being scheduled on the same weekend as the Asbestos Gourmand Festival, which can draw in as many as 80,000 people. "We get many tourists who come for the food festival, then come over to our fair." About five per cent of the minerals and fossils on display come from the Jeffrey Mine open pit asbestos operation.

"There are over 70 types of silicate and carbonate minerals and rocks that are found in that mine," said Spertini.

Admission to the fair is free. Doors open at 10 a.m. on both days, and close at 10 p.m. Saturday and 6 p.m. Sunday.

Gearing up for antique machinery show



TEXT BY BRUCE PATTON (PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID LORD)

If you are a lover of antique machinery or would simply like to give your children or grandchildren an opportunity to see some of the mechanical devices of yesteryear in operation, then the 'Recreation Park' in Compton is the place to be on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 18 and 19.

On this occasion some 100 exhibitors from Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Quebec will be on hand to participate in the Eastern Townships Antique Machinery Club's 9th annual show.

According to the club's president, David Lord, among the many pieces of equipment that will be in operation are numerous stationary engines, tractors, harvesting equipment as well as a vintage 'drag saw'. Also on display, although not yet in operating condition, will be a 50 HP 'National' gasoline engine that used to power a grist mill near Quebec City. This impressive machine was recently purchased by the Antique Machinery Club and is slowly being restored by the various members of the club.

Live 'old-time' music will also be provided on the site by local fiddler, Elmer Andrews, and his companions. The exhibition will be open on each day between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Additionally, on Saturday, Aug. 18, the exhibitors and members will attend a complete roast beef dinner under a large tent on the grounds of the exhibition. Only 100 tickets will be sold for this event and any person wishing to attend is welcome to do so as long as tickets remain available. The cost for the meal is \$13 each. Admission to the Antique Machinery Show itself is \$3 per person, however, children under 12 years of age are admitted free.



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Politicians chorus praise for conservation group

By Nelson Afonso
SHERBROOKE

River and lakeside residents are beginning to understand the importance of revegetating local river banks says a regional river and lake conservation group.

Members of the Regroupement des associations pour la protection de l'environnement des lacs et des cours d'eau de l'Estrie et du bassin de la rivière St-François (RAPPEL) were all smiles Tuesday as they unveiled the results of a year-long effort to educate and inform people about the area's lakes and rivers.

"Essentially, we went to people who lived on lakes and had a very practical approach," said Jonathan Baillargeon.

"We talked about what to plant, where to plant it and other tricks like that."

As part of a RAPPEL initiative, Baillargeon and Amélie Laforest toured the Eastern Townships and spoke to local lakeside residents, also supplying them with a free guide entitled 'Rive et nature'.

The guide explains the importance of preserving natural lake and river banks.

"The guide was very successful," said Laforest. "It gave the Townships region the opportunity to distinguish itself across the province."

A total of 750 people from about 30 local environmental associations participated in the effort, said RAPPEL project director André Bédard.

"We are trying to make the most people possible aware of the importance of revegetation and to encourage them to make positive and concrete actions," said Bédard.

"We have already seen the positive effects of stabilizing river banks, fighting



MP David Price: 'Great to see young people involved.'

erosion and conserving natural habitats for wildlife."

Environment Canada spokesperson Jean-Pierre Ricard praised the association's documentation and expertise in this field.

"There is not one week when I do not give out RAPPEL's phone number to other conservation groups in Quebec," said Ricard.

"It's great to see how much young people are and have been involved," said Liberal MP for Compton-Stanstead David Price.

"RAPPEL is educating people who live by lakes and rivers, mostly older residents, but young people will also remember what is being done here."



MNA Claude Boucher: 'A river is born'

Laforest and Baillargeon were part of a group of 150 volunteers from different organizations who visited over 4,000 lakeside residents.

Also on hand, Bloc Québécois MP Serge Cardin spoke about a recent fishing trip where he rediscovered the beauty and importance of local lakes, and saw first hand why making people aware is essential.

"People want to see the lake so they cut down trees to build an embankment or something like that," said Cardin after admitting it took him 11 hours to finally reel in a trout. "When you take a risk like that, you realize that suddenly the riverbank is much closer because of erosion."

A total of 50,000 seedlings were sold



MP Serge Cardin: 'People cut trees to see the lake'

to lakeside residents for planting.

With each seedling costing between 25 cents and \$2.10, lakeside residents spent an estimated \$26,000 to improve their lakes and rivers, said Bédard.

A passionate conservationist, Johnson MNA Claude Boucher added that the efforts put in by RAPPEL and other local organizations such as CHARMES, are essential because man and nature don't always work well together.

"Very early in my life I was told that a river is born, it lives and eventually it dies," said Secretary of State for municipal infrastructures Boucher.

"Unfortunately, today we help accelerate that process when we cut down trees and use fertilizers that hurt rivers and lakes."

Jean Perrault's team schedules public consultations

By Daniel Huot
LENOXVILLE

The president of outgoing Sherbrooke Mayor Jean Perrault's election consultation committee announced yesterday the group is ready to meet the public and get input about citizens' concerns.

Committee president Bernard Chaput said consultations will be held in each of the new city's six boroughs between Aug. 21 and Sept. 13. A consultation is set to take place in Lennoxville at Bishop's University, in Bandeen Hall, on Sept. 11 at 7:30 p.m.

The purpose of the consultations is to get public feedback on issues the public finds pressing within the new city. Perrault will incorporate committee recommendations into his electoral program.

Six people have been recruited to help organize the events in the boroughs, namely: Michael Mead,

Lennoxville; Marcel Fabi, Sherbrooke North; Paul Milliard, Sherbrooke West, downtown and Ascot; Michel Quintal; Saint-Élie, Rock Forest and Deauville; André Thibault, Fleurimont and Sherbrooke East; and Jean-Claude Tremblay, Bromptonville.

Chaput said Jean Guy Marchessault will act as committee secretary and Mercedes Barcelo-Chornet will be its vice-president.

"The final report will be signed by nine people," he said.

"The consultations have been divided into three themes: municipal and administrative organization, economic development and projects, and social and community life."

Lennoxville's bilingualism status and anglophone culture in Estrie will be specifically addressed throughout the consultations.

"The themes will be discussed at every meeting," promised Chaput.

"We're not varying the themes by borough. Citizens can still bring up any issue they feel is important."

Some themes that are preoccupying residents include municipal libraries, museums, cultural policies and sports. Environmental and waste management issues will also be brought to the table.

When asked if he expects a turnout since town council meetings are traditionally empty unless there's a tax hike or some other element that severely angers the public, Chaput responded the process is worth the effort.

"I don't believe in objectivity," he said. "I believe in honesty. The goal I'm striving for is being done in good faith and in an honest way."

Chaput added Perrault's electoral program should be ready within days once the report is submitted.

Perrault was not present at yesterday's meeting on the Bishop's University campus to outline the schedule of consultation meetings.



FILE PHOTO

Sherbrooke Mayor Jean Perrault will use study results to form platform.

Community Forum

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Who gets to join exclusive 'locals' club?

DEAR EDITOR:

Usually when I read a Letter to the Editor, such as the one from Mr. Steve Hartley dated Aug. 8, 2001, I simply shake my head, chuckle to myself and turn to other parts of the paper. This would have been the case had Mr. Hartley not included his closing remarks.

I could overlook the fact that Mr. Hartley is in need of a refresher course in elementary mathematics. In absolute numbers the Darrah Road petition, which by the way appears to have been initiated for personal economic benefits, contained less than 10 names or .0015 per cent of the population and all of the signatures were from the residents on that street.

I could overlook the fact that comparing both petitions is simply ludicrous. I could also overlook his comments on the validity of the snowmobile petition because Mr. Hartley is seemingly working towards a personal agenda. There are less than a handful of people who signed on behalf of their spouse or family member.

Since Mr. Hartley has not declared his position on the snowmobile trail, perhaps he can explain his motivation for scrutinizing only the petition with a fine-tooth comb as well as publicly questioning its complete legitimacy. Why has Mr. Hartley not also addressed the fact-finding report that was attached to the petition and handed to each member of the town council?

That being said, I could not overlook Mr. Hartley's discriminatory and thoroughly inappropriate closing remarks. Since my wife Lisa and I are new arrivals (April '98) and since we were both involved with the fact-finding report and snowmobile petition, we felt that Mr. Hartley's remarks were also directed at us.

We had not realized that new residents do not have the same rights as those Mr. Hatley called "the locals". Who are the locals? Is it a private club? Is it an exclusive association? Does it have its own Charter of Rights? How long is our probation period? Finally, who decides whether we have the qualifications to be accepted into that exclusive group? Is it you Mr. Steve Hartley?

JOE LA STARZA

Member of the Committee against the snowmobile trail in West Brome West Brome

We worked together to keep democracy alive

DEAR EDITOR,

In reference to Henry Keyserlingk's column of Aug. 1:

The comment in regards to "new grassroots democracy in West Brome" leaves me in a confused state.

Democracy was always alive and well in West Brome. It is just that some people were never around or locally involved to realize it. We locals stayed around and kept democracy alive. How? Well, we marched the streets of Cowansville to save our hospital. We held our annual fundraising hospital dinner. We joined together to fight to clean up the Yamaska at Sutton Junction. We joined council and attended meetings.

So Henry, look around at the beautiful revival taking place in West Brome. Our beautiful paradise is alive and well and very democratic. It just isn't your kind of democracy, is it?

Rub shoulders with your neighbors and smell the roses. I do, and love every day of it.

GEORGE BRISTOL,
West Brome

Paper's ink calling others black

DEAR EDITOR,

They say timing is everything in comedy. If so, The Gazette editorial board should get a spot in next year's "Just for Laughs" Festival.

A couple of days after thieves make off with over \$100,000 in computers from The Gazette's new printing plant, cancelling, once again, the circulation of 15,000 newspapers off the new presses and potentially causing more months of delays, the Gazette Editorial Board in its infinite wisdom decides to criticize the lax security at Dorval airport! Comedic irony: timing it's everything...

Perhaps before criticizing others for their security problems The Gazette should run a few want ads of their own asking for a few guards who aren't sleeping on the job and a supervisor of loss prevention. As for the Editorial Board, at least they are amusing if nothing else. Peter Hadekel, King of Comedy, maybe he should take the act out on the road?

ED ARZOUIAN,
St. Anicet, QC

Used books sale a success

DEAR EDITOR

On behalf of the members of the Fondation de la Bibliothèque Memphremagog English section, we wish to thank all the people who were involved in making the 28th annual books sale a real success. We hope to see you next year. Until then, good reading.

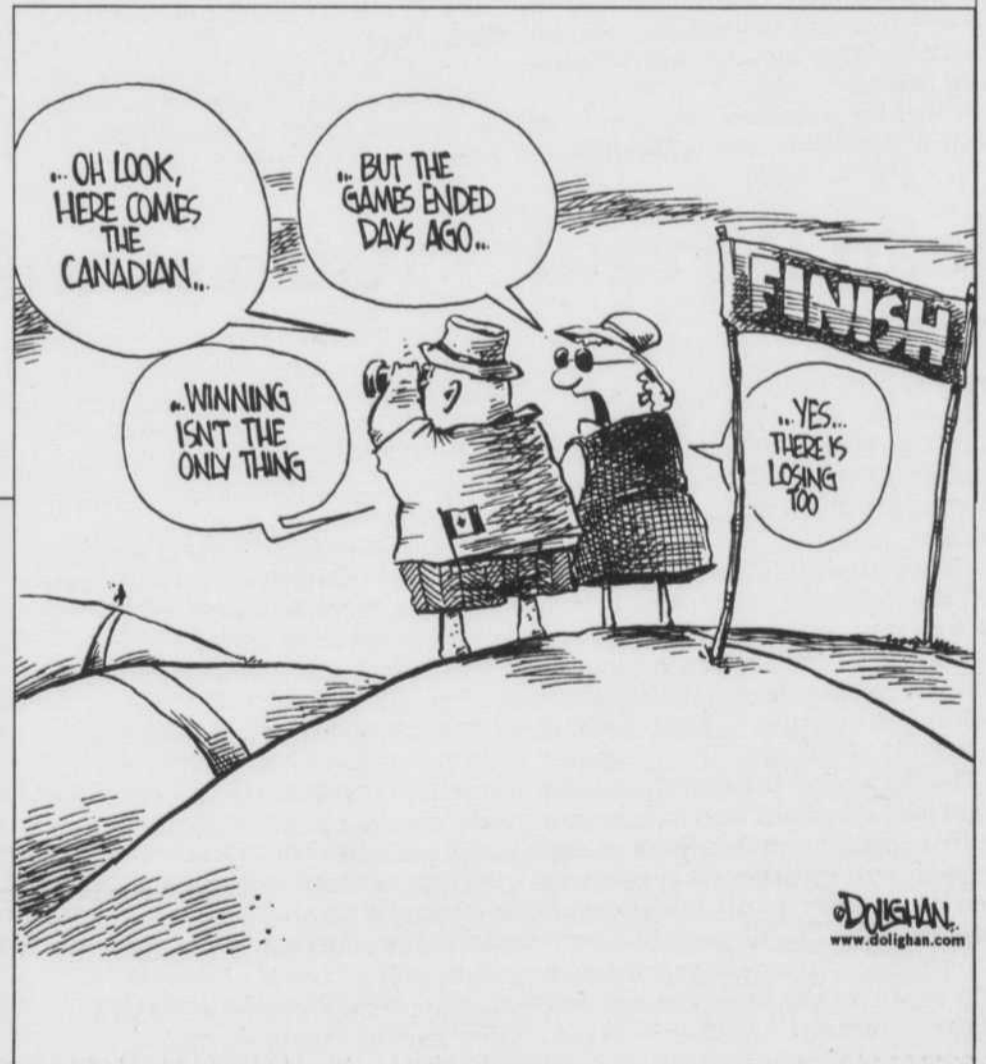
Join ET ski patrol

DEAR EDITOR,

Since the ski season is approaching, we are starting to inform the general public of the Canadian Ski patrol activities, Eastern Township zone. We would like to invite the population to join our ranks. Those interested can contact

HÉLÈNE FORTIER
Vice President,
Canadian Ski Patrol System
Eastern Township Zone
(514) 832-2935

helene.fortier@thales-avionics-ca.com



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Bessette takes cops for Brome Lake bike tour

By Maurice Crossfield

Elite road racing cyclist Lyne Bessette put some Quebec Police Force officers through their paces Tuesday morning in preparation for some major pedaling to raise money for Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada.

On Saturday, Aug. 25 some 40 police officers and civilian employees of the QPF will leave their headquarters in Montreal, covering 260 km on a trip to Quebec City. The objective is to raise \$20,000 for the Quebec section of the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada.

The official spokesperson for the 2001 cyclothon is none other than Knowlton's own elite cyclist Lyne Bessette. Tuesday she took about 15 of them through her familiar stomping grounds, a 20 km loop around Brome Lake.

A look at the police officers as they arrived at Bessette's Bondville home after the trip showed they don't live up to the doughnut-eating stereotype.

"They have been training seriously for the 260 km," said Bessette. She said the tour of the lake took them about 40 minutes. This despite the condition of



MAURICE CROSSFIELD

Brome Lake's Lyne Bessette took some pedaling provincial police officers on a chase around the lake Tuesday morning as a part of their training for a 260 km trip from Montreal to Quebec City on Aug. 26 to raise money for the Quebec section of the Canadian Muscular

Lakeside Road, which Bessette says "isn't that bad, I've gotten used to it."

The cyclothon is the first time the QPF has become involved with the Quebec section of the Canadian Muscular Dystrophy Association. CMDA coordina-

tor Jacques Trahan said the disease affects about 15,000 Quebecers, 5000 of which are children. Fully one third of Canadian muscular dystrophy patients live in Quebec. The CMDA divides the money it raises between research, rais-

ing awareness and providing services for muscular dystrophy patients.

Following along Tuesday morning in a van was 11-year-old Samuel, who has muscular dystrophy. He relies on a motorized wheelchair to get around. For the occasion he was wearing the same yellow and black Saturn jersey as Bessette.

For the police officers the training will continue until Aug. 25. On that day they will saddle up and pedal off from the QPF's Parthenais Street headquarters in Montreal at about 7 a.m. With the exception of two rest stops during the day the cycling will continue throughout the day. By 4 p.m. the pedaling police officers expect to arrive in Quebec City.

Bessette will not be joining them on that trip. She leaves for another race in Chicago on Friday, before returning home for the Grand Prix Feminin International later in August. Then it's off to Europe for more world-class competition.

For more information on muscular dystrophy, call 1-800-567-2236. If you have Internet access, go to www.acdm.ca.

Earlier incidents have raised concerns

CIRCUS:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

matter for SPA-Estrie. The local humane society has gathered information from a variety of sources including the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies.

Among other concerns, SPA-Estrie is distressed about the living conditions of circus animals.

"Except for a few minutes in the show ring, circus animals live in crates and cages where they have little room to move around and where they must eat, drink and defecate," says Jodoin.

There are also concerns about public safety following incidents like the one in Rock Forest. The SPA quotes a report from elephant trainers Alan Roocroft and Donald Atwell Zoll which says elephant attacks in circuses and zoos have claimed 100 lives since 1980. There have also been some 75 wild cat attacks. About one third were fatal.

"There is a strange paradox when parents who seek to protect their children bring them to a circus where children are injured and animals are abused," the expectant mother comments.

"Even if circus animals are trained and they do what they are told most of the time, they are still wild animals," comments SPA spokeswoman Valérie Charbonneau, recalling the 1978 incident where the elephant went berserk and killed its trainer in the middle of a



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

Emmanuelle Jodoin researched the matter for SPA-Estrie and shared the results of her findings with SPA spokeswoman Valérie Charbonneau

performance.

"It's not because a bear is wearing a pink tutu that it is any less a wild animal," she said.

The SPA also denounces claims that circuses educate children about wild animals. Charbonneau said circus animals do not exhibit natural behaviour.

"They force tigers to jump through hoops of fire," she said, adding that animals fear fire and the trick goes against

every natural instinct tigers possess.

"There are lots of ways to teach children about animals without taking them to the circus," Charbonneau said, adding that circuses and zoos transmit false images.

"It's completely out of context," she said. "If children run into a bear in the wild, will they have the same fear and respect for the animal after seeing it dance on a ball at the circus?"

The SPA is also concerned about ineffective laws and regulations which are supposed to protect animals. Charbonneau said there are few inspections and even fewer prosecutions.

Charbonneau said the local SPA decided to comment on circuses because of the appearance by the Shrine Circus.

"We are not opposed to the Shriners and their cause, it's their method of fundraising we're against," she says.

Despite their opposition, the SPA does not plan to picket performances or organize a public boycott. They simply want to educate the public and hope they won't buy tickets.

"Our goal is not to criticize the circus, but to get the public to ask questions," Jodoin said.

"If we sow a few seeds of doubt in the mind of circus goers, perhaps they will desert the circus on their own," Charbonneau adds.

Charbonneau said she's convinced many circus goers love animals, but are not aware of the conditions circus animals deal with.

"People don't see the training with whips. They don't see the cages and the chains," comments Jodoin. "They simply see the animals in the show ring performing tricks."

"The animals look happy, but it's just a show. They aren't really happy."

Charbonneau and Jodoin said the public should insist on circuses that don't include animals acts - like Quebec's Cirque du Soleil.

FOR MORE ON CIRCUS SEE NEXT PAGE

Circus organizer defends treatment of animals

'It wouldn't make sense for owners and trainers to abuse the charges who ensure their livelihoods'

By Rita Legault

Shrine Circus producer Peter Fedding denies any claims that the performing animals in his shows are abused.

"It's an emotional issue," Fedding said in an interview from Quebec City where the circus was performing last week. "There are thousands of people who enjoy our show and maybe a dozen activists protesting."

Last year, a small group of animal rights activists from Montreal-based Global Action Network protested outside the Shrine Circus performances in Pointe-Claire. They said the circus is cruel to animals and demanded the city pass a bylaw outlawing animal entertainment acts.

A number of cities and some countries have already banned or restricted wild animals acts.

In Denmark, Norway and Switzerland, there are federal prohibitions on all wild animals acts and exhibitions and in Finland there is a ban on circus performances by elephants, monkeys, beasts of prey and a number of other wild animals.

Some 200 municipalities in Great Britain have either prohibited wild animal performances or all-animal shows and in India the exhibition and training of tigers, monkeys, bears, panthers and lions is illegal.

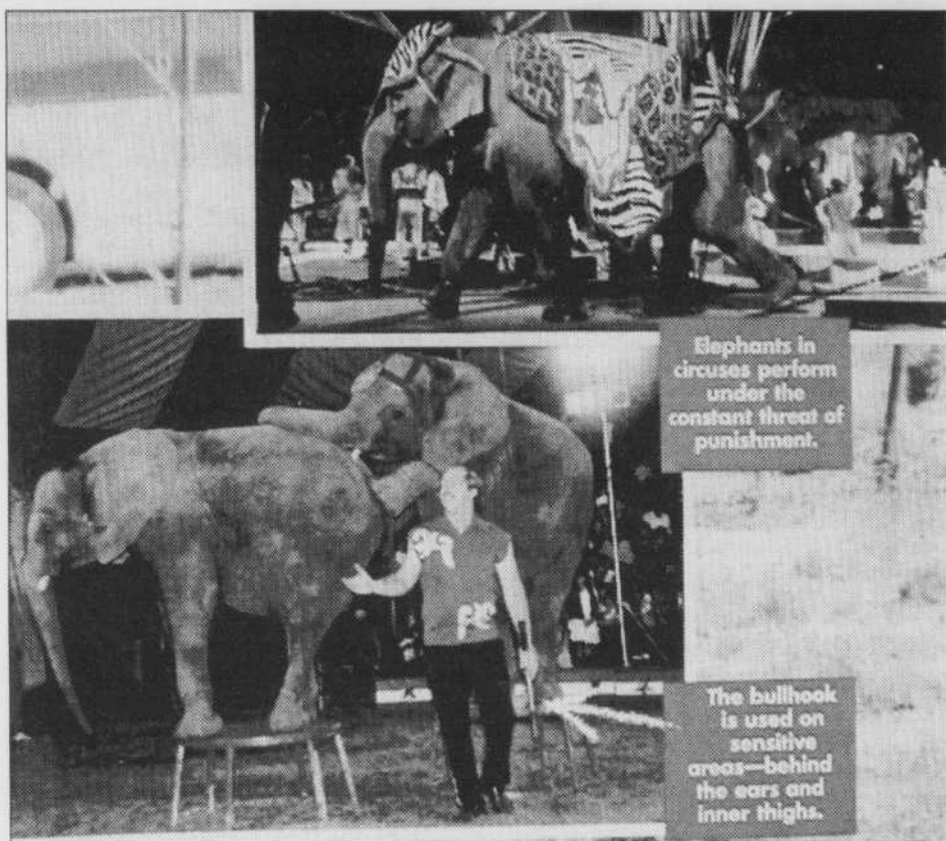
Throughout Canada, wild animals acts are banned in 18 municipalities in British Columbia including Vancouver and Victoria. In Nova Scotia, they are banned in five municipalities and provincial regulations restrict wild animal exhibits and shows that include primates, bears, as well as whales, dolphins, porpoises and some amphibian and fish species.

Here in Quebec, wild animals acts are only prohibited in Ville St-Laurent and Town of Mount Royal.

Even with the very best of intentions of owners and operators, life as a traveling circus animal is one of intimidation, boredom, deprivation and confinement, say animal welfare groups.

And when operators are not concerned about the welfare of their four-legged and winged performers, life on the road is a living hell.

During transportation, circus animals spend hours and sometimes days in cramped crates where their movements are severely restricted and they must defecate and urinate in their cages. Elephants are chained standing in the back of transport trucks or in boxcars for hours. While they are in town, circus animals are either left in their cages or chained in makeshift pens, getting little



COURTESY SPA

'Media reports are exaggerated' - Shrine Circus producer Peter Fedding

or no exercise when they are not in the show ring.

While animal welfare agencies are concerned about the travel and living conditions of circus performers, Fedding says they are well cared for and retire to zoos after their performing careers are over.

"Our animals are not taken from the wild," he said. "They are born in captivity."

Legislation worldwide ensures its virtually impossible to capture animals in the wild. Circuses and zoos now have animals that have been bred and raised in captivity.

Fedding said it simply wouldn't make sense for animal owners and trainers to abuse the charges who ensure their livelihoods.

He said the circus is regularly inspected by animal welfare authorities and that they carefully follow all the rules and regulations. For example, he said the circus holds a permit from Nova Scotian authorities which has 100 pages of standards for transporting animals.

When reminded that last year in Halifax, the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources forced the circus to buy larger overnight cages when it was found to be in violation of provincial laws, Fedding minimized the incident.

"The sizes of the cages were not adequate so we went out and bought new cages," he said, adding that it cost thousands to comply with the order.

"It's no big deal," he added. "Now we do the same in every province."

According to Global Action Network, which picketed the circus in the Montreal area last year, Tarzan Zerbini Circus has a long list of infractions here in

Canada and in the United States.

In 1999, the circus had a number of run-ins with the United States Department of Agriculture which repeatedly cited it for improperly maintaining transport trailers and for failure to provide veterinary care to an elephant who had a swollen left foot.

In April of 1999, a circus worker was hospitalized after an elephant seriously injured him during a performance at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center. Another animal handler claimed the elephants were badly beaten by drunken trainers.

But Fedding says many media reports are exaggerated and he insisted Tarzan Zerbini's animals are well cared for. And he expressed concerns about the interview demanding to know if our reporter was an animal rights activist.

Following the interview, the Shrine Circus faxed its animal welfare statement to the Record, twice. The carefully worded statement says that "humans who keep animals are clearly obligated for many reasons - compassion, law, financial interests, declarations in the Bible and other religious writings - to treat those animals well."

The circus spokesman, who said it takes those

responsibilities very seriously, declares that animal performers don't perform demeaning stunts outside the range of capabilities they would naturally exhibit.

"We provide our animal and human performers with a venue to demonstrate their remarkable intelligence, dexterity and physical abilities," the statement asserts. "As a result, hundreds of thousands of Canadians every year have the opportunity to gain newfound respect for these magnificent creatures, up close and in person."

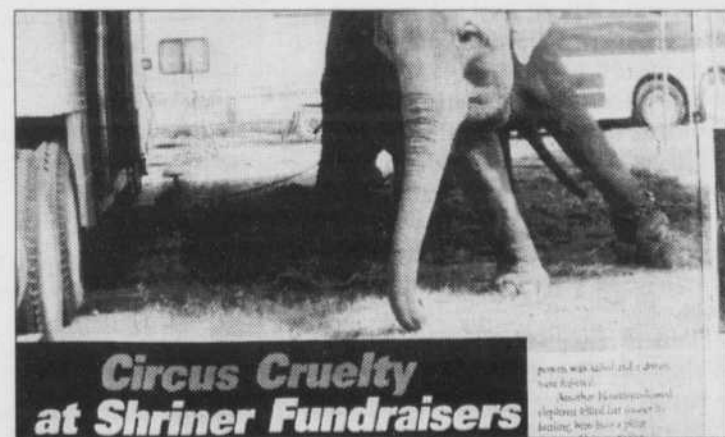
"The effect of seeing them perform and being close to them is far more compelling than simply seeing them on TV, or lying around in a zoo. This in turn makes the need for animal conservation and protection much more real to Canadians in a way that no other situation can."

The Shrine Circus said claims that circus animals are trained through abuse are incorrect, noting that animal trainer/owners develop a relationship of trust with the animals as pets and teach them simpler, then more complex routines.

"Incentives such as treats, toys and playtime reinforce the desired behaviour," the animal welfare statement reads, adding that "they often learn performing cues in the ring from specific types and numbers of whip cracks in the air and not, as mistakenly suggested, on their hides."

"Whip cues are unmistakable, carry over audience noise and help animal performers and their human partners to execute their performance," the circus explains. "Music, voice and hand signals are also used."

Anyone who has experience with powerful creatures such as elephants, lions and tigers knows that a human cannot successfully train, live or work with them if the basis of the relationships is the animal's fear," the statement concludes. "Animals subjugated by abuse will invariably strike out at their abuser. This is an established fact of animal and human behavior. Anyone who invited such a reaction even once from a 600-pound tiger or a vastly larger elephant would be very foolish. To make a career of it in daily performance would be madness."



COURTESY SPA

Animal rights activists circulated media reports citing incidents of cruelty associated with circus.

PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE FOR MORE

Shriners help fund hospitals with proceeds

'The only negative comments we get are from the animal rights people'

By Rita Legault
SHERBROOKE

The Shriners' Foundation doesn't operate its own circus. It has an arm's length relationship with the circus, engaging a producer who hires professional circus operators.

Here in Sherbrooke, the Shrine Circus is being presented by the Tarzan Zerbini Circus, which also operates under the names of Circus Maximus and the Royal Canadian Circus. The same show was presented in Quebec City last week and will be appearing in Lasalle, Pointe Claire and Laval after performances last night, this afternoon and this evening in the parking lot of the Galeries Quatres Saisons shopping center.

Tarzan Zerbini, which has a number of different traveling shows throughout North America, has brought three animal acts to Quebec including performing dogs in the "the amazing canine antics of the Figueva Family Dogs", the "tons of fun" elephant act with Anthony Zerbini and his "peasant pachyderms" as well as their popular new act, Rocky the boxing kangaroo.

Shrine Circus spokeswoman Barbara Ritchie told the Record that profits from the circus go to help fund activities like Shriners hospitals, which include pediatric and orthopedic specialties and burn units. The hospitals provide medical care to children under 18 with spinal cord injuries, burns and joint problems.

But most of the money ends up in the coffers of the circus and the Shriners Fraternity.

The Shrine of North America was founded in 1872 as a social club. Today, it has a charity wing called Shriners Hospital for Children.

The purpose of the Fraternity is to provide some of the funding for the Shriners Hospital through gifts, wills, endowment fund and charitable donations. Shriners bylaws state that 100 per cent of the proceeds of activities must be remitted to the hospitals.

There is one exception to the rule, however, and that is the Shrine Circus. It is the only Shrine activity where the proceeds do not go to the hospital, but rather to the Fraternity itself to cover its bills and expenses. A portion of the gate is remitted back to the Shriners Fraternity after the operator covers its expenses and turns a profit.

According to Quebec Potentate Edward Bradley of the Karnak Temple in Montreal, the Shrine Circus, the Shriners Hospital and the Shriners Fraternity are distinct entities.

Potentate Bradley, who is basically the elected president and CEO of the Montreal headquarters, said the circus is one of the ways the Shriners raise money for the hospitals.

"We are very careful in separating the Hospital from the Fraternity," Bradley said. "If we advertise that money goes to the hospital, it goes to the hospital. If we raise money for Karnak activities, it says it's for the fraternity."

Bradley said the the Shriners run 22 hospitals in North America, including the one in Montreal that specializes in orthopedics. He said about 60 per cent of the children treated in Montreal come from Quebec.

Bradley said everything at the hospital is free. "We don't even have an accounts payable department."

Bradley said transportation to and from the hospital is also free, and that's mainly what the circus fund pays for.

"The money from the circus goes to the Fraternity, but we return a lot of it and more to the hospital in many ways," he said, adding that the Fraternity gave the hospital about \$90,000 last year not to mention furnishing volunteer services valued at about \$60,000.

"We have the regular expenses that a business has and that allows us to be here and raise money in other ways," he said. "Everything we do is for the hospital. That's the bottom line for us."

He says a small portion is spent on the administration of the Fraternity to pay for its staff, and office expenses. The rest is spent on kids who need the hospital's help, mainly to transport the children to Montreal for care and to lodge them and their parents while they are in town.

Bradley said that while he knows there are people out there with a different view, the Shriners gets very little negative feedback about the animals acts in the circus.

"The only negative comments we get are from the animal rights people," he said. "The children who attend the circus love it."

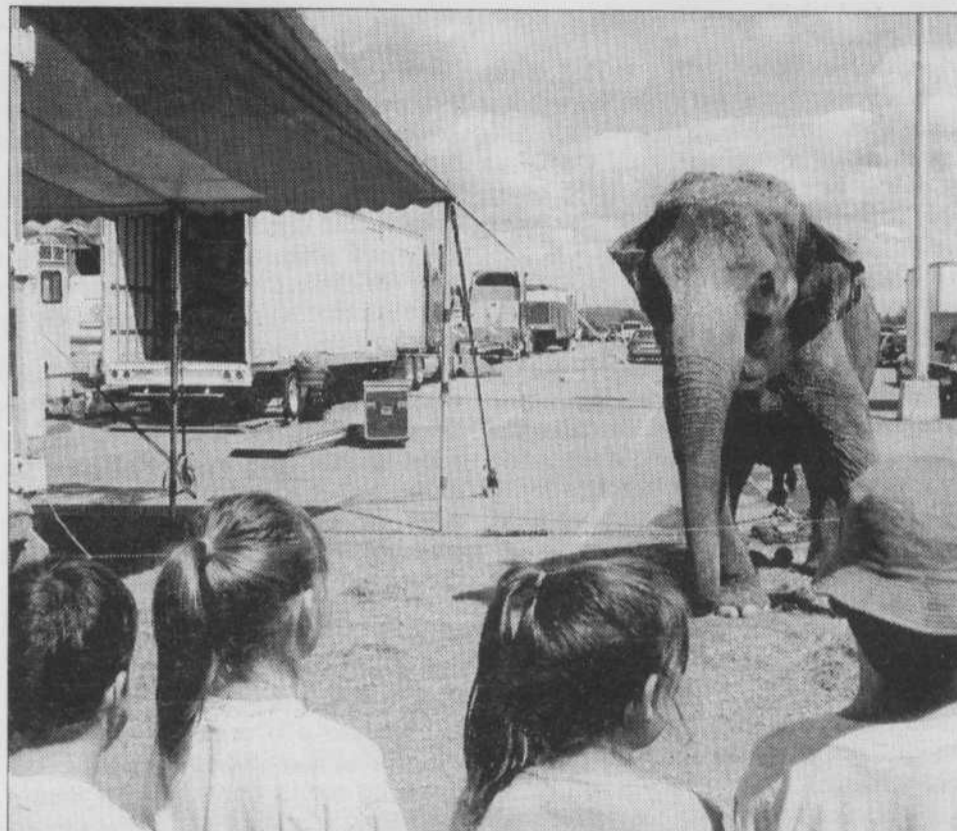
He said the Karnak Temple has never considered a circus without animal acts. The issue has never been raised.

"It's almost tradition for the circus to have animals," he commented. "Where else are you going to see an elephant or a tiger."

Bradley said the circus is open to inspections from the the SPCA and other humane societies and he said they are visited on a regular basis.

But he said the SPCA and humane societies have never approached the Shriners to complain about animal treatment.

"I don't hear any noise from them at all," he said. "The SPCA has not complained to us, we only hear from the animal rights activists and they are just a handful when you look at the whole population."



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

Children lined up to get a glimpse of the elephants before today's circus show opened.

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Stephen Harper eyed as possible new leader of right

By Norma Greenway
SOUTHAM NEWS
OTTAWA

Stephen Harper, often touted as the country's "great right hope," has announced he will step down as president of the National Citizen's Coalition by the end of the year, possibly paving the way for a return to federal politics.

The announcement was interpreted by some as the first public sign that Harper, a former Reform MP, might be ready to heed the pleas of many fans who have been privately urging him to run for the leadership of the Canadian Alliance or possibly a new conservative party if one is formed before the Alliance leadership vote is held next spring or summer.

"I think it pretty clearly sets the stage for the reemergence of Stephen Harper in federal political life," said Ian McClelland of Edmonton, a former Alliance MP who has encouraged Harper, who lives in Calgary with his young family, to challenge Day for the leadership of the Alliance.

"I think the country would be well served if he went for the leadership."

Harper's move led to speculation his first step might be to run for the Calgary seat that Alliance MP Preston Manning, the former Reform leader, says he plans to vacate at the end of the year.

Sources close to Harper, who was travelling and unavailable for comment, said he has been more open in re-

cent months to talk of returning to federal politics and a run for the Alliance leadership.

Stockwell Day, the current leader, has promised to resign at least 90 days before the vote but has not yet said whether he plans to run.

In the past, Harper, who speaks French, had rejected appeals from both Tory and Alliance activists to recruit him for their most recent leadership contests that were won respectively by Joe Clark and Day.

Kevyn Nightingale, a former Tory who ran for the Alliance in the last election, sees Harper as someone capable of rallying small- and large-c conservatives under either the Alliance or Tory banners, or under a new party if one emerges from on-going talks between the parties.

"He is a guy who can be a political winner across Canada," Nightingale said in an interview from Toronto.

John Weissenberger, a Calgary geologist leading a "draft Harper" committee, said he is confident Harper has the financial support and support within the Alliance caucus to win the leadership if he runs.

Harper, who has been president of the NCC since 1998, gave no reason for his plans to step down no later than Dec. 31, NCC spokesman Gerry Nicholls said. But a condition of the NCC presidency is that the person holding the job stay out of partisan politics.

Harper's announcement coincides

with release of a fresh Gallup poll that says almost half of Canadians believe a merger of the Alliance and federal Tory parties offers the best chance of unseating the Liberals in the next federal election.

The poll also said only eight per cent of Canadians think the fractured Canadian Alliance could defeat the Liberals in the next election. The Progressive Conservatives fare better, with 29 per cent saying it could independently gain powers.

In effect, the poll confirms what many Alliance and Tory activists acknowledge, namely that neither the Alliance nor the Progressive Conservative party can win power on its own.

The poll, conducted July 17-23, says Canadians are split on the merits of merging the two parties but that 46 per cent favor the move compared with 42 per cent who oppose it. Based on 1,006 telephone interviews, it is considered accurate within a 3.1 percentage point margin of error, 19 times out of 20.

Among Alliance and Tory supporters, a solid majority in each group - 70 per cent of Alliance supporters and 62 per cent of PC supporters - favours such a move.

The poll lands amid signs, however, that renewed attempts to forge closer ties between the two parties have spawned new bad blood over a planned invitation-only reconciliation meeting to be held later this week in Quebec.

Alliance MPs accuse the Tories of

choosing sides in the bitter infighting that has been tearing the party apart since April by agreeing to attend the meeting in Mont Tremblant from which rebel MPs have excluded Alliance Leader Stockwell Day.

Alliance House Leader John Reynolds said the Tories decision to go to a meeting attended only by the rebels and their supporters risks souring grassroots reaction to future Tory-Alliance unity efforts.

He also warned the Alliance would boot the rebels from the party if they decided to form a formal coalition with the Tories in the House of Commons when Parliament resumes in mid-September.

Alliance MP James Rajotte of Edmonton, who has participated in earlier co-operation talks with the Tories, said he would abandon the unity initiative and concentrate solely on rebuilding the Alliance if the Conservative MPs form a coalition the rebel caucus.

Spokesmen for the rebels and the Tories say the major goal of the meeting is to come up with a formula for enhancing parliamentary co-operation between the 12 rebel MPs and the 12 Tory MPs.

Tory MP Peter MacKay insists the party remains open to forging stronger links with the Day caucus as well.

"We're playing ball with everybody," he said, noting the Tories had met with Alliance MPs in St. Albert, Alta., and Halifax earlier this summer.

Military's openness pledge not kept

By Mike Blanchfield
SOUTHAM NEWS

The Canadian Forces failed to live up to its public pledge of openness and accountability, the military's ombudsman has concluded in a stinging report on an officer's five-year struggle to prevent military brass from burying an explosive memo he wrote about the conduct of his boss.

Five years of bitterness, not to mention a \$250,000 investigation by his office, could have been avoided if a now retired general had acted on the June 1996 memo, Ombudsman Andre Marin

concluded Monday.

Capt. Bruce Poulin wrote a memo to Lt.-Gen. Bill Leach, then the deputy commander of the army, that alleged his boss, Col. Serge Labbe, made unwanted advances towards a civilian waitress at CFB Kingston.

Leach did nothing, allowing the situation to "fester," until it was leaked to the media two years later, forcing the military to confront it, Marin said.

"If the complaint had been dealt with," Marin told a press conference Monday, "we wouldn't be here today."

In an exhaustive report of almost 300 pages, Marin bluntly concluded that "the system failed Captain Poulin."

But it also said police and ombudsman's investigators found no evidence of sexual harassment by Labbe and dismissed Poulin's complaint that he had been subjected to on-the-job reprisals after going public with his concerns. Marin

said the investigation revealed a "pre-existing workplace conflict," which was exacerbated by Poulin's frustration at the lack of movement on his complaint.

Two years in the making, the report was the most anticipated since the Ombudsman's post was created three years ago to weed out military wrongdoing in the wake of the Somalia scandal.

Since then, the Defence Department and the Forces have made "a commendable commitment to openness, transparency and accountability," Marin notes.

The report contains the unprecedented apology by former Chief of Defence Staff Gen. Maurice Baril to a junior officer: Poulin, his one-time protege. And it openly questions Leach's credibility. Leach has maintained he couldn't recall seeing Poulin's memo, which Marin characterized as "highly unlikely."

The ombudsman's office confirmed with two members of Leach's staff that they saw the memo in his office and that they talked about it with him. It later disappeared without a trace. Marin would not speculate on what happened to it. "I guess we'll have to call the X-Files," he said.

The report also blasts military police's national investigation service for issuing a misleading press release in October

1998 that concluded there was no evidence that Leach saw the memo.

"There will be those who will see it as an example of spin-doctoring of a kind that is entirely antithetical to the openness and transparency that has been promised," Marin concluded.

The press release was so misleading, the report says, that it duped Defence Minister Art Eggleton into telling a media scrum that as far as he was concerned "that's the end of the matter."

Eggleton was not available for comment Monday, but his spokesman said he was confident the concerns of officers like Poulin would no longer "fall through the cracks."

Marin also criticized Leach for personally delivering a hand-written memo in 1998 to the Canadian Forces Provost Marshal - the military police chief - explaining his side of the memo controversy. Leach added a "p.s." pointing out only two copies of the hand-written note existed: his and the one he was delivering.

While Marin concluded that there was no evidence Leach intended to influence or shut down the investigation, "the revelation that this form of communication took place will, in some measure, imperil public confidence in the CF and erode members' trust in the leadership."

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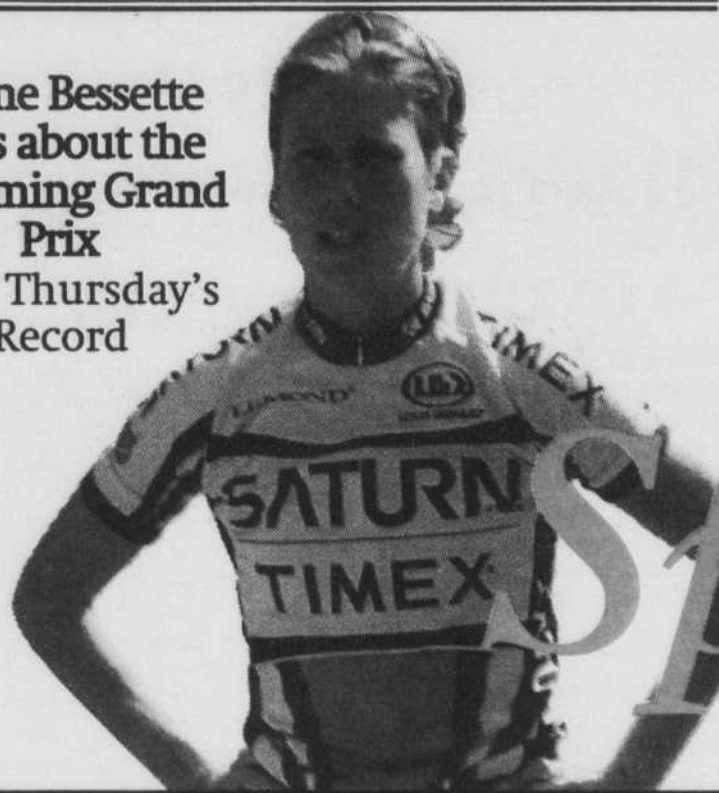
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Sherbrooke stars off to World University Games

By Arash Madani

A record seven athletes from Université de Sherbrooke, a therapist from Bishop's University and a communications officer from U de S will join three other Townshippers at the 2001 World University Games in Beijing, China next week.

The local group will be a part of the 230-member Canadian contingent taking part in the 21st games, which runs Aug. 22 to Sept. 1 in the Chinese capital.

Andrew Lissade, Sonia Paquette, Roya Rabemananjara and Dominique Bilodeau — all of the Sherbrooke track team — will compete in athletics. Granby natives Mathieu Lagrandeur and Yan Lagrandeur, who both attend Université Laval, will be on the men's volleyball team, while Melissa Raymond, Annie Levesque and Anne-Marie Lemieux will play on the Canadian women's volleyball squad.

Bilodeau, who hails from Lac-Mégantic, recently returned from the 2001 World Track and Field Championships in Edmonton, Alta. The junior javelin thrower is coming off back-to-back silver medal seasons at the Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union (CIAU) national track competition. The 22-year-old says it was her teammate, Paquette, who inspired her to take her craft to the next level.

"When Sonia qualified for the World University Games in 1995 (for the second of five trips), I saw it happen and it was unbelievable," said Bilodeau. "She got me to come to Université de Sherbrooke, and when I talk to different athletes, they all say that in track, the best is Olympics, then the worlds, then the University Games. To do both in one year is amazing.

"It's been a long season. I started in April and I'm really tired, so I want to go and do my best without putting pressure on myself."



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

Townshippers off to the World University Games in Beijing, China include, from left, Mario Mercier, Dominique Bilodeau, Roya Rabemananjara and Jean-Philippe Tremblay.

Meanwhile, Rabemananjara, 25, has had a tough couple of seasons on the track. After breaking his collarbone last summer, which forced him to miss the Olympic trials, the 400-metre hurdles specialist was disqualified at the Francophonie Games and fell during the Canadian Track and Field Championships earlier this summer. The Sherbrooke native also ran the 400-metre dash at the 1999 World University Games in Palma de Mallorca.

The 25-year-old, who did have a major

part in helping Sherbrooke capture their fourth straight CIAU men's national track championship this past spring, is really looking forward to delivering with a solid performance in China.

"I need a good time," admitted the fourth-year senior. "This is the second time I am going to the University Games, and I hope to do better. I will be running the (400-metre) hurdles, which is my specialty and I really want to turn things around."

Jean-Philippe Tremblay, the sports information director at Université de Sherbrooke, will act in the same capacity in China while Fleurimont's Mario Mercier will be a therapist for the games. After already working two Olympics and a World University competition, Mercier is still excited for the opportunity to work in Beijing with these and other talented athletes.

Without trying to name drop, too much, the 15-year veteran of the Bishop's Physiotherapy Centre talked about how great it is to be a part of massive world class events.

"It's great, the whole experience is really amazing," said Mercier, who was also on the Team Canada therapy staff during the 1998 Olympics in Nagano, Japan and the 2000 Games in Sydney, Australia.

"It's not all fun, there is work, but it's something you'll always remember. Just the experience of walking to a big stadium during the Opening Ceremonies is unbelievable. The energy is just so great."

Also slated to work at the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Mercier said getting the call to work the games next week as well as next February's event was quite surprising.

"I was shocked to get selected," he admitted. "Usually you only get to go to two major events in four years, and now I have the opportunity to go to all of these."

"Professionally, it is great because I get to meet and work with therapists from all over the country and then as a fan, you get to meet so many athletes. I got to work with Yanic Perrault (a Sherbrooke native who plays with the Montreal Canadiens) and Sylvain Lefebvre (a defenseman for the New York Rangers from Richmond).

"I also had to work tennis before and I got to see all the stars."

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THE RECORD

Sports Townships to host cycling events

By Maurice Crossfield

Bicycle mania will be reaching a feverish pitch at the western end of the Townships over the next couple of weeks as the Mondial du vélo groups together cyclists of all ages and skill levels.

The Mondial du vélo gets underway Friday in Waterloo, before moving on to Granby the following week and wrapping up in Bromont on Sept. 3 with the cross country finals of the Quebec Cup.

"This is a fusion of cycling events in the region," said organizer Richard Deslandes. He said the event is the result of the efforts of some 600 volunteers, pulling together events that existed separately and creating some new ones as well.

Kicking things off on Friday will be the seventh annual Eastern Townships Bike Festival in Waterloo, which begins with a torchlight parade through the streets. About 2,000 cyclists usually take part in that event.

The rest of the Waterloo weekend will include family rallies, a community supper, BMX competitions and shows as well as an intergenerational relay.

The following weekend the festivities will move to Granby where the popular bike paths will be put to use for the Haute-Yamaska tour and the Estriade night tour. On Aug. 30 a section of Principale Street in downtown Granby will be closed off for time trials and the opening ceremonies for the UCI World Championships.

From there it's on to Bromont, where cyclists from 21 countries will compete in cross country and downhill mountain biking events. At the top of the list will be the UCI Masters World Championship races in both categories.

Taking part in both cross country and downhill mountain biking events will be Albert Piemme, the oldest member of the circuit at 70. Not bad for a San Diego native who only took up the sport 10 years ago.

"I felt I was getting awful fat and lazy and I wanted to do something outside," Piemme said. "I rode by myself for a year and then I joined a club. When you join a club everybody wants to race. It just kind of snowballed from there."

Over the last four years Piemme has traveled the continent, taking part in an average 50 races per year. Today he's in Vermont for the national championships.

"This year I'm only doing about 25 races," he said. When asked why he would put himself through the physical demands and dangers of cross country or downhill mountain bike events, he chalked it up to age.

"I guess you could say my memory is getting very short," he joked.

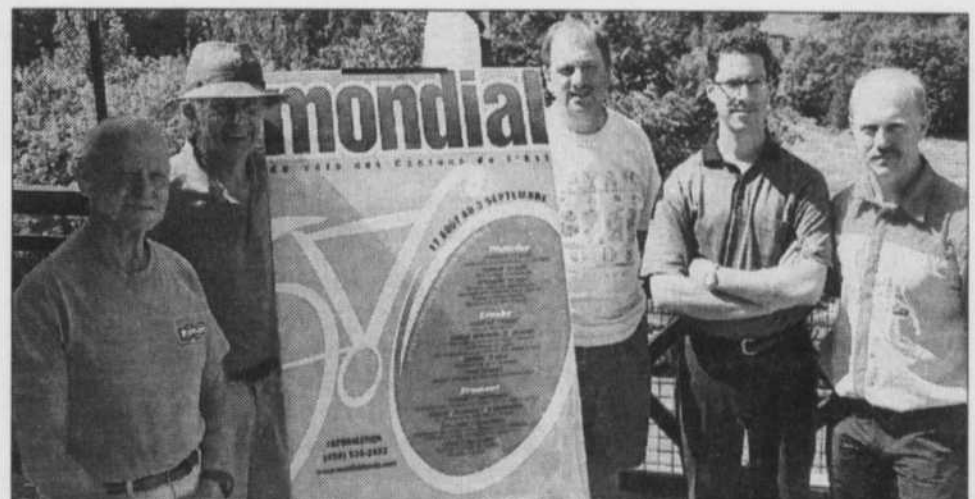
The Bromont events will be part of 36 hours of continuous action, including 24 hours of mountain biking that starts at 6 p.m. on Sept. 6. This round-the-clock relay race will include cyclists of all stripes, ranging from corporate teams to professionals to pedalers right off the street. The event is open to anyone over the age of 18.

If you're into watching extreme sports, there's nothing quite as extreme as the Quebec Cup downhill finals, to be held on Sept. 2, at the Bromont ski centre. Individual cyclists will race the clock as they test the strength of their bikes and bodies on a downhill course that most sane people wouldn't dare attempt.

"The Mondial du vélo has been an extraordinary collaborative effort," said Deslandes. He said the event's Internet web site, www.mondialduvelo.com, is evidence of the interest in the events. In July alone the web site received 260,000 visits.

"We are expecting more than 25,000 participants, 1,200 racers from 25 countries and 20,000 spectators will be participating in the different events," he said.

For more information on the Mondial du vélo, check out the Internet site, or call (450) 534-2453.



MAURICE CROSSFIELD

The Mondial du vélo will attract cyclists of all ages and levels of experience. The fit looking gentleman on the left is 70-year-old Albert Piemme of San Diego, who will be taking part in the World Cup downhill and cross country mountain biking events.

Sports

SPORTS BRIEFS

Another football player collapses

University of Miami junior defensive end Jerome McDougle collapsed at the end of morning workouts Tuesday, but school officials said it was not life-threatening.

"The prognosis, we feel, is very good," head coach Larry Coker said in a release.

"Jerome just became overheated, but he never lost consciousness and he is alert."

McDougle, 22 of Pompano Beach, was taken to Doctor's Hospital in Miami for examination.

Coker said McDougle, who is 6-4 and weighs 270 pounds, showed no signs of fatigue during the team's first practice in full pads, but became lightheaded as it wrapped up.

"With all of the recent tragedies, obviously it's always a frightening thing," Coker said.

Temperatures in South Florida typically reach the 90s during the summer months, with heavy humidity making it seem hotter.

Commish weary of Ottawa bid

Canadian Football League commissioner Michael Lysko says the proposal to bring professional football back to Ottawa still needs work before it's presented to the league's board of governors later this month.

While Lysko helped reach the tentative deal with a group led by Toronto sports entrepreneur Brad Watters, he said Monday that the CFL will not take any shortcuts to save time in bringing a team back to Ottawa.

"We will not rush this," Lysko said. "Fools rush in. We plan to go back to Ottawa only once, so we better do it right."

Lysko said before the Watters group presents its proposal to the board - Aug. 29 at the latest - he wants to ensure that every possible question can be answered.

"We're doing full-scale background checks (on all the investors)," Lysko said. "We want to make sure everyone understands the schedule of payments, there are ideas about franchise development, there are player (expansion draft) issues to clarify."

Lindros may be dealt to Rangers

A deal that would send Eric Lindros to the New York Rangers may be close, several reports said Tuesday.

The New York Daily News and the Record of Hackensack, N.J., reported that the Philadelphia Flyers conditionally agreed to trade the restricted free agent to the Rangers for forward Jan Hlavac, defenceman Kim Johnsson, young forward Pavel Brendl and a middle-round draft pick.

Other newspapers reported that a deal involving the same players was near. However, Lindros said he was not aware of any impending trade.

"I'm still in the same boat as I was last week, which is really no change," Lindros told the Toronto Star. "I haven't got a contract done with the Rangers. . . I haven't even really talked to them lately."

Lindros sat out last season after rejecting an \$8.5-million qualifying offer from the Flyers. He refused to return to the team because of a contentious relationship with GM Bob Clarke.

Record Round-up

To submit your sporting event, fax it to (819) 569-6345, email newsroom@sherbrookrecord.com or contact Jamie Zachary, Correspondents' Editor or Mike Hickey at (819) 569-6345.

On TV

TENNIS

• 11 a.m., 7 p.m.: Rogers AT&T women's tennis tournament. Early rounds. (TSN, RDS).

BASEBALL

• 7 p.m.: Oakland A's vs Toronto Blue Jays (TSN).

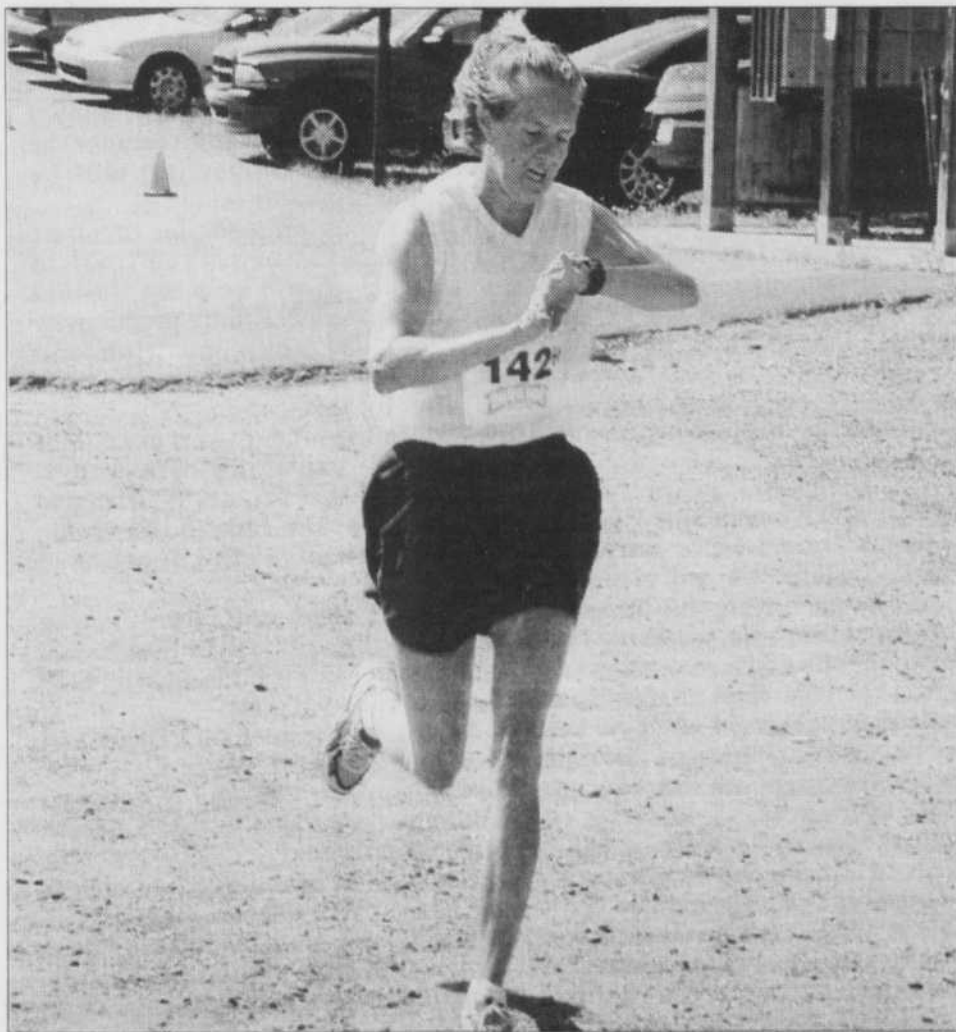
CANADA SUMMER GAMES

• 9 a.m.: Canada Summer Games 2001, (TSN).

MOTORCYCLE RACING

• 2:30 p.m.: Canadian National Motocross Series event (CTV Sportsnet).

CNRA Classic goes off, but for how much longer?



CAROLINE KEHNE/RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Women's 5K winner Caroline Lamy crosses the finish line and checks her time after capturing the event. Lamy won by running the course in 22 minutes, 20.6 seconds.

2001 edition a success, but lack of volunteers may be the demise of the event

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
WEST BROME

Reports of the death of the CNRA Classic 2001 may, to paraphrase Mark Twain, be greatly exaggerated. In fact, the run, organized and sponsored by the Canadian National Railroad, has, quite simply, hit the volunteer wall.

Organizer Frank Portolese, who assumed responsibilities in 1994 from long-time organizer George Bristol, said that the problem is not one of attracting runners, but of attracting volunteers to organize the cross-country event.

Thus, when runners crossed the finish line of the 22nd annual CNRA Classic 2001, it was with the understanding that this might be the final time.

Alan Moore finished the men's 20-km race with the best overall time (one hour, 16 minutes, 22.3 seconds), about five minutes ahead of second place finisher Sando Johnson (1:21:31.2).

Janet Labuc took home the gold in the women's 20-km race (1:25:14.8), while Christian Côté took home the

gold in the men's 5-km race (16 minutes, 14 seconds). Nathalie Gauvin finished first in the women's 5k, finishing the course in 24:41.7.

Runners were definitely not in short supply for the Saturday morning 20-km and 5-km runs, starting and ending in West Brome's Fred Edwards Park.

Conditions were almost ideal, with clear skies, moderate temperatures and humidity, a far cry from the debilitating conditions that have dogged the region for the last few weeks.

The annual race attracts not only runners from CN, but other corporate offices such as Hydro Quebec, Canada Life and Canadian Pacific Railroad as well as one of Montreal's oldest running clubs, Club Francs-amis.

Runners Mike Portkiewicz and Joe Ricci, both of whom took home gold medals in their 20K age categories, have run in all but one of the 22 runs. Local runner Roger Pagé, who, with George Bristol was instrumental in getting the run off the ground, estimates that he has run in all but three.

The question which remains is: will Fred Edwards Park see the 23rd CNRA Classic 2002 blast off next year, as it has for more than two decades?

"We've been saying that this would be the last run for several of the last years," says one sage runner.

Organizer Frank Portolese holds out a faint glimmer of hope next year:

"(The end) is not official yet," he said.

Sports

Incoming recruits look to learn, develop, win

Lanoie hopes to repeat CEGEP title run with solid rookie class

By Arash Madani
LENNOXVILLE

When France Lanoie arrived on the campus of CEGEP Edouard Montpetit three years ago, the feisty 5'7 guard was one of nine recruits that joined the women's basketball team at the Longueuil-based school. Last March, Lanoie led the Lynx to a 'AAA' provincial championship in Sherbrooke, capping a cinderella story for the squad that upset the No. 2 team in the province and then the top ranked club in the land (Montmorency) in the post-season, to earn a trip to the nationals.

Lanoie, is anchoring a six-player recruiting class for the Bishop's Gaiters women's basketball team this season. And she is envisioning the same at the next level as she arrives to play university hoops for a team that has made it to the conference final game the last two years.

"At Edouard, after a while we just came together and did it," said Lanoie, speaking in broken English during a break in action at the Bishop's Gaiters basketball camp.

"We know teams like Laval have experience, but we also know with the group we have we can put it together."

It is a confident mindset, but the attitude needed in order to capture a Quebec conference championship and move on to the Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union nationals in March. Lanoie has been at Canadian championships before. This past season with the Lynx and in 1999, when she led the Quebec provincial team to the Canadian junior national gold medal.

Now Lanoie hopes to take her success to the next level and joins five other incoming freshmen on a roster that is low on veterans. Only Melissa



ARASH MADANI

France Lanoie, left, and Jessica Koury are two of six incoming rookies for the Bishop's Gaiters women's basketball team. Lanoie averaged 13 points, five rebounds, four assists and four steals a game last season for the provincial champion Edouard Montpetit Linx.

Lemay (fifth-year senior centre), Catherine Charbonneau (fourth year small forward), Amélie Rousseau, Christine Murphy and Amy O'Keefe (all second year guards) return to the Gaiters in the fall. An interesting year should be in store for the team, which will be battling in the most competitive Quebec basketball conference in years.

"As a rookie class, our goal, really, is to come in now as a unit, develop and three or four years from

now win the championship together," said Jessica Joury, a 6-foot forward out of Vanier College, who will play power forward for the Gaiters this season.

"As for this season, we know Laval (the two-time provincial champions and the No. 1 ranked team going into nationals in March) is old and have been there before. We're new and full of energy and (although) we may be young and inexperienced, we know we can win. At the same time, this year will be a lot about learning and developing and we want to do that right away."

Lanoie and Koury are currently both at Bishop's coaching at the annual basketball camp and are getting acclimated with the university they will call home for the next few years. Lanoie,

20, will study education, while Koury, who is only 18-years-old, is a bio-chemistry major. Both were impressed with not only the basketball program, but what the campus had to offer as well.

"Everything about the school was really appealing," said Koury, a native of Pierrefonds, who averaged seven points and six rebounds for the Cheetahs last season after spending the previous summer with the provincial junior team.

"The class sizes being so small, all that kind of stuff was really good. And I got along well with the team and with Rod (Gilpin, head coach of the Gaiters)."

Lanoie agrees. The recipient of the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association (CCAA) Fair Play Award at the 2001 hoops championships, who was one of the most highly touted guards coming out of Quebec this past spring, said being so intensely recruited by Gilpin was a major reason why she has arrived to boost the Bishop's back court.

"He really wants you, he wants to know what you think about school and basketball and he tells you what he wants out of you," said the major award recipient from the Quebec Foundation for Athletics, who was one of the top defensive players in the CEGEP league last season.

"Now that I am here, I know I will have to train more because the guards (in university) will be stronger and faster."

Coming off a 30-plus turnover debacle in the league final in March, Gilpin and the Gaiters know they need more productivity from the guard position and Lanoie hopes to be the player to deliver for them.

"Unlike other players in CEGEP, I (could) drive and dish underneath," said Lanoie, referring to the fact that she can find the open player in the paint when dribbling to the hoop.

"I don't know a lot of people who can do that and I hope to find Jessica and (Lemay) and (Charbonneau) with the pass and we'll score."

Valerie Rousseau of Rock Forest and Heather Dezan of Ayer's Cliff, two Townshippers, are the other two CEGEP recruits who will suit up for Bishop's next year.

Nova Scotia products Sara Limpert and Carly Clarke will come in right out of high school. Both are currently playing for their province in the Canada Games. Limpert's best performance to date has been an eight-point effort against B.C. earlier this week.



THE RECORD

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Mansonville U.C.W. regroups at Roseleen'

MANSONVILLE

On August 2nd the United Church Women of Mansonville met at the home of president, Roseleen George. The planned location at the United Church Masement was cancelled due to unexpected company for one of the hostesses. Eleven people gathered around Roseleen's table for a refreshing lunch of salads, rolls, apple crisp with ice cream and tea or coffee and a few preferred cold juice - the day was a beautifully hot summer experience.

Grace had been sung before the delicious meal. Soon Roseleen called the business meeting to order and read the U.C.W. Purpose today. Worship was led by Bertha Smithers. All sang the hymn "Come Let Us Sing Of A Wonderful Love" to begin. From "Everyday Parables" Bertha read "Orange or Banana" and "Church Community" commenting how one is not known very well

until the "skin is peeled away" to find what/ who is really underneath. The hymn "O Master Let Me Walk With Thee" was suggested by Lila. A brief prayer followed, closing with the Lord's Prayer. The offering and pennies for postage were received and dedicated.

Merry prepared birthday cards for Mildred Atyeo, Louise Guilbault, Rev. Dennis Dwyer, Rev. Ryke Allen, and Jackie Jersey. Thinking of you for Olive Jewett Bell and Frank Patch; and a sympathy for Brigitt Aiken on the death of her sister, Maria Gaughan.

Answering the roll call were Mary Bailey, Kathleen Barnett, Lila McCoy, Louise Guilbault, Roseleen George, Bertha Smithers, Merry Webb, Flora Jersey and Mimi Laliberty. Guests were Holly Webb and Rev. Ryk Allen. We missed our Mary Jewett, Viola Knowlton, Ursula Seebohm, Bessie Brown, and Jean McNeil.

Secretary, Bertha Smithers, read the last meeting's minutes which were accepted on a motion by Mary Bailey and seconded by Lila McCoy. Carried.

Treasurer, Merry Webb, read a detailed report of income from June 1, 2000 to July 31, 2001 from offerings, penny bank for postage, Penny Fairs, donations and special fund raisers to give our members a sense of a little at a time builds to satisfying total! The bank statement denoted a good balance.

The "Sunshine Baskets" given to Jessie and Quincy Magoon and to Mary Jewett had been gratefully received "with glowing faces and many words of thanks." We were equally happy to be able to do it.

An official listing of prices for the use of the United Church, the hall and the staff was given to each U.C.W. member for reference.

A letter from our life-time member, Maria Bray, who resides in a home for seniors in Kamloops, B.C. had been sent to several ladies. However, Holly Webb, read the communication describing her help from a volunteer, her present health condition and some of her activities. Good to hear from her.

Roseleen stated that Gayle and Effie are still very interested in organizing a choir for the United Church - but volunteers are needed!

Mimi and Roseleen are sponsoring a jewellery sale - the purpose of which is to raise funds strictly for the purchase of chairs and tables for the United Church basement. A few sales were made today - but opportunities will be forthcoming. Watch for notices!

The U.C.W. meets next October 4 (no September meeting) in the United Church basement. This meeting closed with the Mizpah Benediction.

Lila presided over the Penny Fair. Thanks to all who brought articles and paid 25 cents per pocket - a good time was enjoyed by all.

This meeting had a few interesting moments! Rev. Allen dropped by to lunch with us - but had to leave; Kathleen Barnett had an eye appointment and was "picked up" by her daughter at 1 p.m.; Merry Webb also left at the same time on business but returned as soon as possible; Mary Bailey had to leave early because she had company; and Flora Jersey left a little later because her husband needed the car! But we managed to attend to all pertinent business while they were all present. Their faithfulness in coming when other commitments were inevitable is a sign of their loyalty to the United Church Women Organization and is greatly appreciated.

Bertha N. Smithers

Deaths

DAVIES, Gordon Elwin - Passed away peacefully on Sunday, August 12, 2001 at the C.U.S.E. Bowen Site, Sherbrooke, Que. Mr. Gordon Davies at the age of 88. Loving husband of Lena Lacroix and dear father of Donna (Lynn Grainger), Carol (Maurice Seefried) and Mary (Dale Philbrick). Loving grandfather of Julie, Scott, Lee, Laura, Brendon, Bernie, Michael, Theresa and Christina. Gordon also leaves to mourn his 10 great-grandchildren, his sisters Evelyn and Verna, and is pre-deceased by his brothers Clifford and Raymond and his sisters Jean and Hazel. A gathering in Gordon's memory will be held at the Kingdom Hall in Richmond on Thursday, August 16th at 1:30 p.m., followed by the interment in St. Andrew's Cemetery, Melbourne, Que., at 3 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations to the charity of your choice would be greatly appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Cass Funeral Homes Inc., Richmond, Quebec (819) 826-2502.

Obituary

VIVIAN A. LOWRY
Thetford Mines, Quebec
1916 - 2001

Vivian Anita Lowry passed away at the age of 85 years and 5 months old at the Hotel Dieu Hospital, Sherbrooke, Que. on June 8th, 2001.

Vivian Lowry was the daughter of the late William Henderson and his wife the late Hattie Henderson. Vivian was born January 8th, 1916. Her early childhood was spent on her parents farm in Henderson Vale, Que. She was educated in Inverness, Que. and later worked in Sherbrooke, Que.

On November 9th, 1938 she married Richard Elwin Lowry of this union

they had eight children. Rhoda (Claude Ouellette), Lennoxville, Que., Merlyn (the late Bob Smerdon), Lennoxville, Que., Elizabeth Joan who died in infancy, Brian (Janet Covill), Thetford Mines, Que., Terry (Maureen Small), Aylmer, Que., Linda (Eric Robinson), Chateaugay, Que., Sheila (Germain Delisle), Thetford Mines, Que., Graydon (Brenda Trenfield), Thetford Mines, Que.

Visitations were held at Gamache and Nadeau Funeral Home. Funeral service was June 11th at St. John the Divine

Church, Thetford Mines, Que. Rev. Rodney Clark officiated. The readings were read by Michael Meade and Peter Whitcomb.

The hymns Safe in the Arms of Jesus and Rock of Ages were sung, played by Jack Visser.

The bearers were grandsons: Adam and Neil Lowry and Mark and Danny Robinson and Dominic Law, granddaughter Susan O'Meara.

Vivian is survived by her loving husband of 62 years and seven children, 14 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

A graveside service and interment of ashes were held on July 8th at Christ Church Cemetery, Lower Ireland, Que. Rev. Rodney Clark officiated.

One precious to our hearts has gone,
A voice we loved is stilled,
The place made vacant in our home
Can never more be filled
Our Father in His wisdom called
The boon his love had given;
And, though in earth the body lies,
The soul is safe in Heaven.



In Memoriam

KIRBY, Merlin Derby - In loving memory of a dear wife, mother and grandmother who left us August 15, 1997.

Down the path of memories
We gently tread today,
Our loving thoughts are with you
As life goes on its way.
Missed and remembered.

THE KIRBY FAMILY

Bury Nina Rowell

Mrs. Ruby McKelvey of Kirkland, Que., spent a few days with her sister and brother-in-law, Audrey and Stuart Dougherty and luncheon guest of Nina and Herbert Rowell. In the evening she accompanied the Rowells to East Angus, where they visited their cousin, Mrs. Lena Dougherty at the Belval Residence.

Carmen and John Clough were recent visitors of Carmen's brothers and sisters-in-law, Stuart and Audrey, and Jimmy and Betty Dougherty.

Robert Dougherty of Milton, Ont., spent a few days with his parents, Audrey and Stuart Dougherty, where he was joined by his wife and daughter, Linda and Angela and Angela's friend who were returning from visiting friends in Nova Scotia.

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Please Note: All of the aforementioned (except death notices) must be submitted type-written or neatly printed, and must include the signature and daytime telephone number of the contact person. They will not be taken by phone.

DEADLINES FOR DEATH NOTICES:

For Monday's paper, call 819-569-4856 between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday.

For Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday's edition, call 819-569-4856 or fax 819-569-1187 (please call to confirm transmission) between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. the day prior to the day of publication. The Record cannot guarantee publication if another Record number is called.

You can't force him to be pleasant

Ann Landers

we have family gatherings, Ralph doesn't care to attend, but he does so for my sake. However, his behavior makes it obvious that he doesn't want to be there. He barely speaks to anyone. If I leave him at home, I feel guilty, but when I bring him along, I am stressed out because he might start a fight.

I visit my folks about once a month, but my mother would like to see the children more often. I say Ralph should come along and force himself to be pleasant, whether he likes it or not. What do you say? — Love My Family in Atlanta

Dear Atlanta: For heaven's sake, leave Ralph at home. He has made it plain that he doesn't wish to go, and there is no way you can "force him to be pleasant." Ralph will appreciate being let off the hook, and you will have a far better time without him. Problem solved in a way that should make everyone happy.

Dear Ann Landers: I just read the letter from "Heartbroken Mom." She said her 16-year-old daughter's boyfriend broke up with her two weeks before the prom, leaving her with a new dress and matching shoes.

I wish you had told her that there are plenty of guys who would be thrilled to take her instead. They may not be on the "A-list," but she would still have a great time. So what if the guy is a nerd or plays the tuba in the school band? I can tell her two things for sure. She will be treated like a queen, and any guy who plays the tuba certainly knows how to kiss. — Tuba Player in Boston

Dear Boston: I have never been kissed by a tuba player, but I'll take your word for it. Thanks for the testimonial, as well as some solid advice.

Dear Ann Landers: You have printed several letters from people who have managed to stop smoking through various means. No one has mentioned my method. I hope you will print it.

Twelve years ago, my mother was dying from emphysema, brought on by years of smoking. She depended on me and my father for everything — feeding her, bathing

her, dressing her, and so on. It was devastating to watch this once-vibrant woman lose her independence, and I am ashamed to admit I was not always patient or pleasant about it. It was a real burden to take care of her 24 hours a day.

Two weeks before Mom died, I had trouble breathing and went to see my doctor. He said I had pneumonia and the early signs of emphysema — also due to years of smoking two packs a day. My mother told me I would wind up just like her if I didn't stop. I looked at her, helpless in her bed, and realized if I became incapacitated, there was no guarantee anyone would take care of me.

As much as I love my mother, I know how hard it has been to deal with her illness. If my father hadn't been around, I could never have managed it. I cannot imagine someone being patient enough to clean, cook, wash, dress and feed me everyday for years on end. It would be foolish to rely on anyone for such care.

I have not had a cigarette in 11 years, and after the first five, my doctor said my lungs were as clean as if I had never smoked. Tell your readers to ask themselves this question: "If I should become unable to work or take care of myself, who would take care of me?" That ought to do it. — Judy in Dallas

Dear Judy: I hope the heavy smokers out there are asking themselves, "Could she be talking to me?" Thanks for saving some lives today.

Dear Ann Landers: I have been married to "Ralph" for two years, and I love him dearly. He is not close to my family. In fact, he doesn't particularly like them. When

Sawyerville Jeanne Lowry

Jeanne Lowry attended the Garden Party and pot luck supper and hymn sing at the Compton County Musician in Eaton Corner. Justin attended the later when he led it. We also attended church in Island Brook on Sunday and pot luck lunch at Terry and DeeDee Howell's.

Recent callers of Mrs. Evelyn Macy were Rev. and Mrs. Walter Stairs of Knowlton, Mrs. Margaret Bloomfield of Bolton Centre, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Tracy of Highwater, Mrs. Leona of Mansonville, Mrs. Doris Gemblett of Bowmanville, Ont. She was down for her mother's birthday and her mother and dad's 60th wedding anniversary party. Miss Sonya Neilson of Sand Hill and Robert Burns of Island Brook were also callers.

80th birthday

Happy 80th birthday on August 15th to Ona Gilbert of the Grace Christian Home, Huntingville.

Best wishes from her family.



Guess Who is 90 years young

August 15, 2001

Happy Birthday wishes go to Gordon (Saul) Cooke of Sutton from all his neighbours, friends and family. To Uncle with love.



Look Who's 50 (Ginny) Joanne Martin Goode

Happy Birthday from Terry, Todd and Ryan



Holy Moly She's Turning 40

Best wishes Love your family

North 08-15-01			
♠ K J 10 8 5			
♥ K 9 5			
♦ A J 3			
♣ 7 3			
West		East	
♠ A 3 2		♠ 9 7 4	
♥ 8 2		♥ 7 3	
♦ Q 8 6 5		♦ K 10 2	
♣ Q J 10 2		♣ A 9 8 5 4	
South			
♠ Q 6			
♥ A Q J 10 6 4			
♦ 9 7 4			
♣ K 6			
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: North-South			
South	West	North	East
1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	All pass
Opening lead: ♣ Q			

Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2001

A big book from an unusual pedagogue

By Phillip Alder

Frank Stewart specializes in writing big books that give good value for the money. His latest is "Becoming a Bridge Expert" (Master Point Press, 2001). That is an appropriate title. Stewart writes, "I embraced an elitist approach: any student with talent would get a chance to develop it." In other words, he is interested primarily in those who he feels could become good players. People playing for pleasure should go elsewhere.

Stewart teaches traditional (old-fashioned, some would say) bidding methods, and he includes several examples to support his stances. (This is not my style, but any agreement is better than none.) However, the work contains 300 large pages full of primarily sound advice in the form of 67 tips on bidding, declarer-play and defense.

In this deal from the book, you are sitting East, defending against four hearts. West, your partner, leads the club queen: three, ace, six. What now?

If South has both major-suit aces, he will probably win the rest of the tricks. The bidding marks him with at least six hearts, and the spades are dividing favorably. So, place partner with one major-suit ace. Since partner's lead marked South with the club king, that suit is barren land. Needing some luck in diamonds, you should switch to the diamond two. When partner — fine fellow or fellowess(!) — produces the diamond queen, and has the spade ace to regain the lead for a diamond lead through the dummy, you collect four tricks: one spade, two diamonds and one club.

The book is \$22.95 postpaid from Baron Barclay Bridge Supplies. Call (800) 274-2221 to order.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

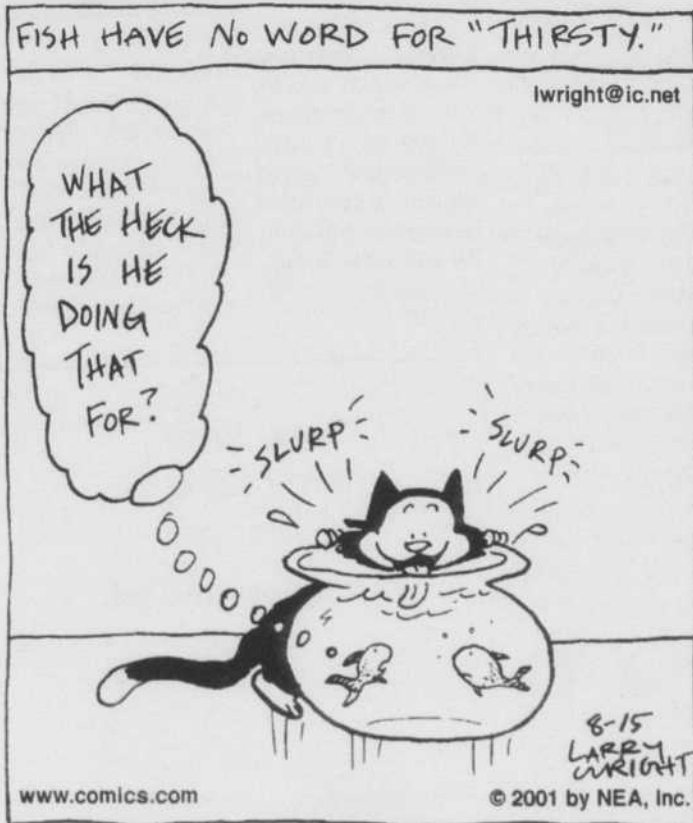
Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another. Today's clue: A equals C

'C RGT G TJKLCHY, VXE C
ZOJR JU OJ HOHWM CO RGY
WJYH COTCLCJXT JY BCACJXT
EPGO GCLT.' - THAYHEGYM JU

TEGEH AJKCO NJRHKK

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "Words are the dress of thoughts." - Reggie Kray
"A language is a dialect with its own army and navy." - Max Weinreich

KIT N' CARLYLE



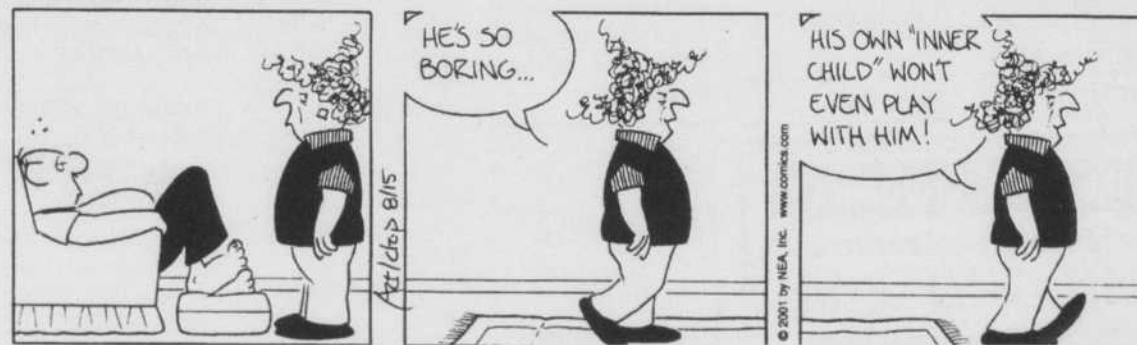
ALLEY OOP



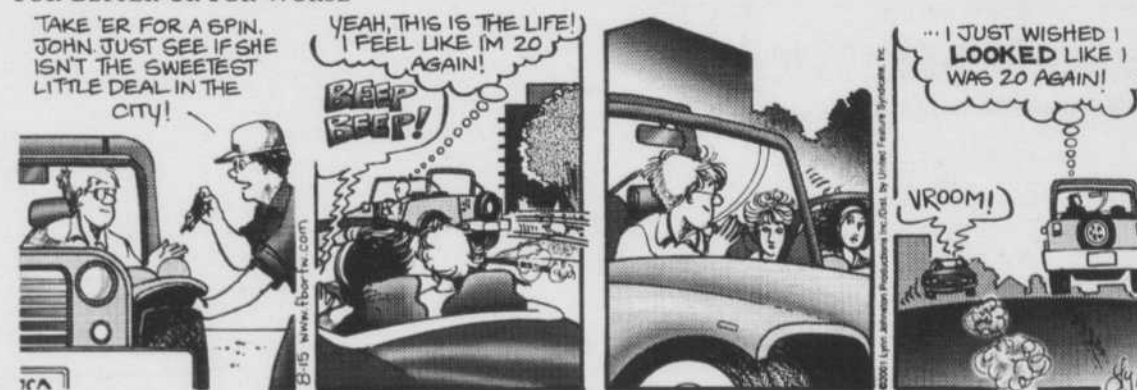
ARLO & JANIS



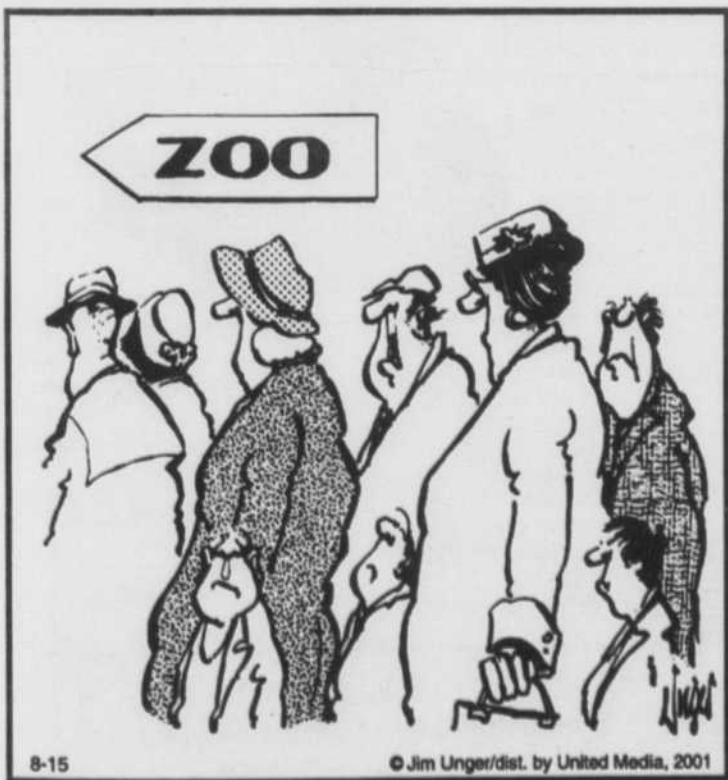
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FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



HERMAN



GRIZWELLS



SOUP TO NUTS



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1984 HONDA GOLDWING, top shape. Call (819) 842-2840, leave a message.

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1980 J24 SAILBOAT, complete: sails, 2 motors, sailed on Lake Champlain, good condition and clean, with trailer and dinghy. Call Alan (450) 534-1616 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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FRIDGE & STOVE, great for a cottage. \$75. **SOLD** (819) 843-9992.

KING SIZE white melamine platform, like new, \$100. Call (819) 566-0446.

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301 Tractors

FORD TRACTOR, 1320, 4x4, diesel, 1,043 hours. Ring chains, back blade, snow blower, fertilizer spreader, orchard sprayer, 40 gal. tank, 100 ft. of hose. Call (819) 837-2680.

JOHN DEERE TRACTOR, 4230, 1973, 23.1 x 30.11.00 x 16 tires, low hours, new paint. Good unit. Priced to sell. For more information please call (204) 828-3460.

320 Livestock

LAMBS FOR SALE (25) - 10 males, 1 Romanov breeder, 1 Suffolk breeder, 5 purebred Suffolks, 8 pregnant Dorsets, 10 seven month old lambs. Excellent health and condition. Call (819) 843-9992.

325 Poultry

TURKEYS - 5 weeks old, large breed, \$5.00. Last lot of the season. Mason's Feather Farm, Lennoxville, (819) 564-8838.

340 Garage Sales

LENOXVILLE Large garage sale, 45 Park, Lennoxville, Saturday, August 18 from 8 a.m. to noon. Furniture, household items, books and more.

340 Garage Sales

STANSTEAD Moving Sale, Saturday and Sunday, August 18 and 19, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Big and small farm and house equipment, electrical tools, furniture, dishes, antiques. 840 chemin Lapierre (Ogden).

395 Home Improvement

LIQUIDATION - Steve's Carpets. Commercial carpet .48 sq.ft. Linoleum starting at .78 sq.ft. Residential carpet starting at .88 sq.ft. Unbeatable prices in the store. 11 Queen, Lennoxville, (819) 566-7974.

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440 Miscellaneous

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On Saturday evening, July 28th, Gary Wheeler hosted a birthday barbecue in honor of his wife Patsy who turned 51 on July 24th. Everyone enjoyed shish-kebabs, corn on the cob, salads, cheese-

cake and birthday cake. Guests were present from Waterloo and also friends from Jolley Road.

Sincere sympathy to the family and friends of the late Ina Neil who passed away at the Courville Home recently.

Bob Campbell and daughter Shannon of Etobicoke, Ont., were overnight

guests at our house enroute to New Brunswick for a holiday. Kate Campbell would join them later in the week. She would fly down from Toronto and Bob and Shannon would meet her.

A correction in my news of August 1st. Mr. Everett Arnott DGM Grand Lodge of Quebec I.O.O.F. visited the

Grand Lodge I.O.O.F. of the Atlantic Provinces held at Westville, N.S. from July 8th to 11th.

Mrs. Laurie Orr of Swanton, Vt., called on us Sunday, Aug. 5th while in the area to visit her family.

Several Odd Fellows, Rebekahs and friends attended "Home Day" at the Edith Kathan Home in West Brome on Sunday, Aug. 5th. They all enjoyed a Barbecue complete with salads and desserts and the weather was great, sunny and warm. They attended a church service prior to the barbecue at noon.

Guests of Reg and Audrey Blampin at their summer place in Orford were Evelyn Waterhouse and her daughter Mary Lanman of Dudley, Mass. Miss Iris Blampin of Primevere also spent the day recently with the Blampin's. They all went out to supper to celebrate Audrey's birthday. Another birthday celebration for Audrey was a supper at Harlan and Doris Martin's cottage. We attended and enjoyed supper with them all.

Another get together at Harlan and Doris Martin's Orford Lake cottage was a barbecue with Keith and Janet Mizener of Knowlton, Sandy and Liliane Martin of Frost Village, Dick and Ruth Stoddard, Hugh and I all of Waterloo. Very lovely weather that day. What a nice breeze off Orford Lake!

Your Birthday

Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2001

The opportunity to realize several desires will be ushered in sometime during the year ahead, but you may first have to make a few necessary changes in order to open those doors.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) - Should a relationship between you and someone you like get off on the wrong foot today, first allow yourself time to cool off. Only then will you be able to have an honest, open discussion. Leo, treat yourself to a birthday gift.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Making changes merely for the sake of change will prove to be self-defeating today. To insure improvement, be sure that you have a valid reason to alter something.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) - If people seem a bit touchy to you today, don't do anything to antagonize them further. Give them a wide berth and everyone will settle down and end up thinking

you're wonderful.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) - You might have to answer for your actions today if you've been neglectful of your responsibilities as of late. Don't get further behind the eight ball by trying to blame others.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) - Conditions in general are rather favorable today, but there's a chance an unpleasant disruption could occur. If you don't make too much of it, it'll all blow over.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - You might have to contend with someone today who thinks what you have is his or hers for the taking. Set this person straight so it'll never happen again.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) - Someone with whom you may have to associate today could complicate matters for you, but if you don't lose your head over it, you'll be able to straighten things out once again.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) - Working conditions appear to be mixed today. There may be a few exasperating disrup-

tions, but you'll also have a few nice things occur for you as well that'll offset this.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) - Conditions could start out a bit testy today, so have patience when dealing with associates and don't count any chickens before they're hatched. Time is your ally.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) - Getting up tight or ranting about more responsibilities being dumped in your lap today won't lessen the load. Instead, keeping a cool head is what will pay off for you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) - If you don't expect optimum behavior on behalf of those with whom you'll have dealings, it isn't likely you'll be disappointed today. You'll see the wisdom of this as the day wears on.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) - Don't let an early minor setback discourage you today from achieving your ambitious objectives. Keep pushing and all will work out to your favor by day's end.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Milky Way maker
- 5 Made longer ago
- 10 Impersonator
- 14 Adjoin
- 15 Bow or Barton
- 16 Portuguese lady
- 17 Three captains
- 20 Sign of things to come
- 21 Tapering tower
- 22 A captain
- 26 Cacophonous
- 27 Zodiac ram
- 28 French science fiction writer Jules
- 31 Hankerings
- 32 Titania's husband

- 34 Sault __ Marie
- 37 Landers or Sothern
- 38 A captain
- 39 Cribbage marker
- 40 Jay follower
- 41 Children of Uranus and Gaea
- 42 Rabbit's title
- 43 Bearer
- 44 Privileged few
- 45 Indian state
- 48 A captain
- 51 Bestial
- 54 Keep in check
- 55 Three captains
- 60 Alternative to a rapier
- 61 Military groups
- 62 Needle case

- 22 Whitewater vessel
- 23 Where the action is
- 24 Simpleton
- 25 Hardball pitch
- 29 Emerald Isle
- 30 Fierce mythical birds
- 32 Fail to mention
- 33 __-noire
- 34 Piece of parsley
- 35 Saw's cutters
- 36 White heron
- 38 Part of AEC
- 42 Turn signal

- 43 Drunk
- 44 Oklahoma city
- 45 To one side
- 46 Pilfer
- 47 Ambulance warning
- 49 Very angry
- 50 Thick
- 52 Basic taste sensation
- 53 Sharpen
- 56 Relative
- 57 O.J. Simpson's judge
- 58 Flop
- 59 Expire

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

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

- 63 __ one's way (proceed)
- 64 Taylor of "The Nanny"
- 65 Took the subway

DOWN

- 1 Anthropology focus
- 2 Burrows or Fortas
- 3 Grog ingredient
- 4 Stool pigeons
- 5 Earth tone
- 6 South American grassy plain
- 7 Pat
- 8 Times of note
- 9 Lose control of a tirade
- 10 Hold together
- 11 Bolivian lake
- 12 "__ Gay"
- 13 Gardener, at times
- 18 Amo, __, amat...
- 19 Actress Durbin

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
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63								64					65	

By Holden Baker

8/15/01

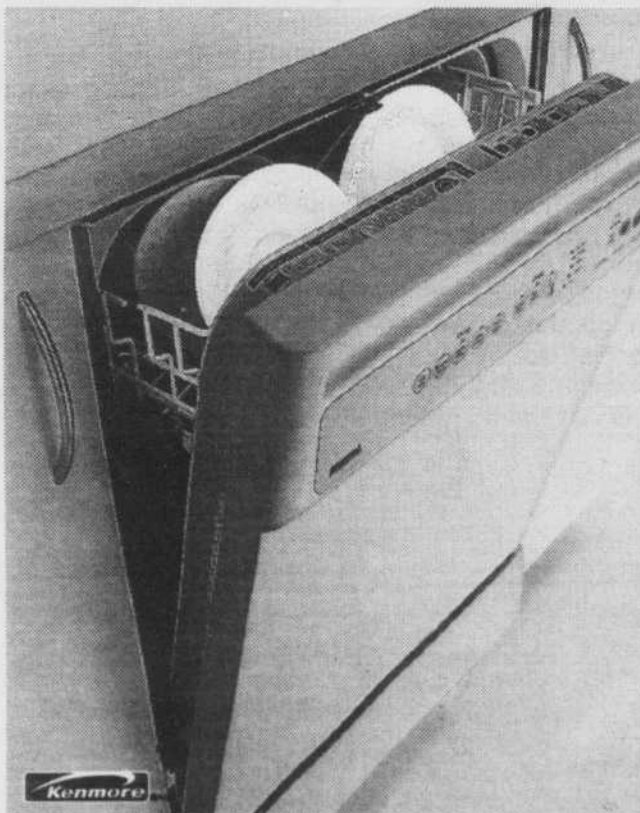
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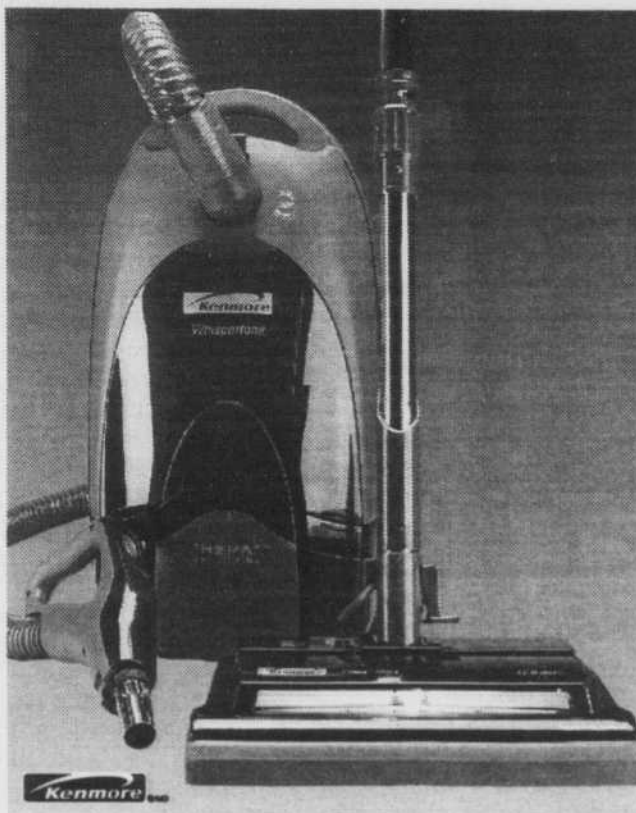
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- Hull**
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- Matane**
Matane Dealer Store (418) 562-4345
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Place Laurier (418) 658-2121
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- Sherbrooke**
Sherbrooke Furniture & Appliances Store
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- Trois Rivières**
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