



# THE RECORD

THE VOICE OF THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SINCE 1897

*Waterloo post office safe for now... See Page 2*

70 CENTS

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2003

## St-Jean drug sweep nets schoolyard dope dealers

By Maurice Crossfield

Police in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu were out in full force Wednesday, tracking down and arresting more than 30 people they say were dealing drugs in two high schools.

Operation Schoolyard was the result of an investigation that began in earnest in August. St-Jean police spokesman Pierre Chouinard said the information gathering process began towards the end of the last school year, and continued over the summer.

"It was specifically drug traffickers that we were after today," Chouinard said. Each of those arrested is suspected of dealing drugs, primarily marijuana.

In all, some 80 St-Jean police officers took part in the operation, which saw police arresting teenagers who were students at two schools belonging to the Commission Scolaire des Haute-Rivières.

"It is strictly students, nobody from any position at the school or the school board was involved," he said.

Of the 33 arrest warrants, 29 were for students under the age of 18. Three were 18-years of age and a fourth adult was 20-years-old.

"Out of the four adults, three were still in school, or were in school when the investigation started," Chouinard said. "When we talk about adults we're talking about legalities here."

Unable to accommodate 33 arrested suspects, police rented space at the former military college to question the students. Later in the day they were individually escorted to the police station for booking, and then off to the courthouse to be arraigned before a judge.

Chouinard said all of the suspects were to be released and returned home, on the condition that they not venture anywhere within 200 metres of a school, and have no contact with the schools or their students. Automatically suspended, he said in the coming weeks they could be reintegrated into the classroom, with conditions to ensure they don't reoffend.

Police are not saying if the students were obtaining pot from organized crime

groups. Chouinard did say that an indoor greenhouse busted in September was one source of supply.

Chouinard said marijuana use has gone up in schools with the introduction of proposed legislation to decriminalize marijuana.

"A lot of students are taking it for granted that it's legal, and the sellers are abusing this attitude right now," he said.

"Right now this law is dead, but people are not reacting to it now as they should be."

Chouinard said the situation is similar in other secondary schools across Quebec, both public and private. The investigation is continuing, and more arrests are possible in the coming days.

### *The Gift of Literacy*



MAURICE CROSSFIELD

Serge Iwode works with the Yamaska Literacy Council to help fellow inmates at the Cowansville penitentiary develop literacy skills. Please see story Page 7.

## Unions continue protests



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

In one of the largest gatherings since union protests have started, more than 1,000 protesters demonstrated outside the offices of Premier Jean Charest on Wednesday.

### *Day of action planned for today*

By Tom Peacock

Over 200 people showed up for a rally hosted by the Fédération des Travailleurs et Travailleuses du Québec (FTQ) at the Julien Ducharme

Centre in Fleurimont on Tuesday night. Many of those in attendance had been marching and protesting all day long against Premier Jean Charest's plan to reengineer the province.

At noon yesterday, over 1,000 members of the Centrale des syndicats

PLEASE SEE UNIONS PAGE 5

# Waterloo post office renovation plans put on hold

By Maurice Crossfield

Opponents of plans to renovate the Waterloo post office and move 700 mailboxes out into the community have achieved at least a temporary victory.

"However, after a complete review of postal service in Waterloo, we decided that the service would remain the same, and no changes are being contemplated at this time," said a letter from Canada Post sent to Shirley Maynes Beakes recently.

But as postal renovation opponent Yvette Dion later learned, the project, which would have seen the historic post office building renovated and 700 mailboxes moved out into "Community Mailboxes" has not been scrapped, only shelved until 2004.

"Why did they forget to tell us that in the fall of 2004 they will be coming back to the municipality with plans to improve postal services," Dion asked.

At an information meeting in July, Canada Post representatives explained their plan to renovate and modernize the interior of the post office. Anyone living more than 500 metres from the post office would then pick up their

mail at a community mailbox. The building was to undergo nearly \$100,000 in renovations, with the 24 community boxes costing Canada Post about \$1,200 each.

But a number of residents disliked the idea. While the Waterloo town council passed a resolution in favor of the project, concerned citizens like Dion gathered 375 names on a petition calling for the status quo.

"It is very important to save our post office, it is our town centre, it is our heritage," Dion said. She said it is a meeting place in the community, where people pick up their mail and

visit with neighbors.

"In my opinion it is not necessary at all to remove the post boxes to do their

renovations," she said.

Dion said the opponents will now have time to prepare their defence of the post office. She said the presence of two new councillors (Terrence Poulin and Sylvain Brien) also gives her hope that the town council will support the effort to preserve the post office as is. She said the opponents are also hoping to lobby the next federal Heritage Minister for help as well.

In 1994 a similar project for the Waterloo post office was halted by public opposition.

Waterloo isn't the only post office in the region facing changes: A similar project is planned for the Knowlton post office, in spite of opposition from some residents there. Shefford Township's postal outlet is also slated to undergo renovations. Sutton had its post office renovated last year.



DAVID ANDERSON

Plans to renovate the Waterloo post office met with opposition from residents who prefer picking up their mail at the historic building, rather than a community mailbox.

## BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

Friday, Dec. 12,  
**Rock Forest**  
ABDS  
Michel Auger, Journalist  
Honorary President  
Rock Forest Terrace  
4857 Bourque Blvd.  
10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Objective: 225 donors

Julien-Ducharme Center  
(gymnasium)  
1671 Chemin Duplessis  
10:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Objective: 200 donors

Tuesday, Dec. 16  
**Sherbrooke**  
Laurentienne Bank  
2647 King Street West  
3:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Objective: 150 donors

Thursday, Dec. 18  
**Sherbrooke**  
Belvédère Place  
340 Belvédère Street  
South  
2 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Objective: 100 donors

Dec. 17  
**Fleurimont**  
Deputy of Sherbrooke at  
The House of Commons

Friday, Dec. 19  
**Sherbrooke**  
Belvédère Place  
340 Belvédère Street  
South  
9:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Objective: 100 donors

## New subscribers! Win a pair of Montreal Canadiens tickets

THE RECORD has a pair of tickets to a Montreal Canadiens-Pittsburgh Penguins game at the Bell Centre in Montreal Monday, Dec. 22. The contest is open to all new subscribers or purchasers of a Record gift subscription between Nov. 10 and Dec. 17. Subscriptions must be paid to qualify. Winners will be drawn Dec. 18.

Clip the coupon and send it to: The Record, Box 1200, Sherbrooke, QC J1H 5L6 (Canadiens-Penguins Contest) before December 17.



THE RECORD

## RECORD GIVEAWAYS

The Record has two pairs of tickets to give away to a special Christmas concert by L'Orchestre Symphonique de Sherbrooke, with Nathalie Choquette accompanied by Le Choeur Symphonique de Sherbrooke which will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday Dec. 21 at Maurice O'Bready Hall.



ORCHESTRE SYMPHONIQUE DE SHERBROOKE

To qualify, clip the OSS logo and send it before Dec. 15 to The Record, Box 1200, Sherbrooke, Qc, J1H 5L6.

## SKI TICKETS

The Record has a pair of ski lift tickets to Jay Peak, Vermont to give away. To qualify, clip this notice from The Record and send it before Dec. 17 to The Record, Box 1200, Sherbrooke, Qc, J1H 5L6.

## Weather

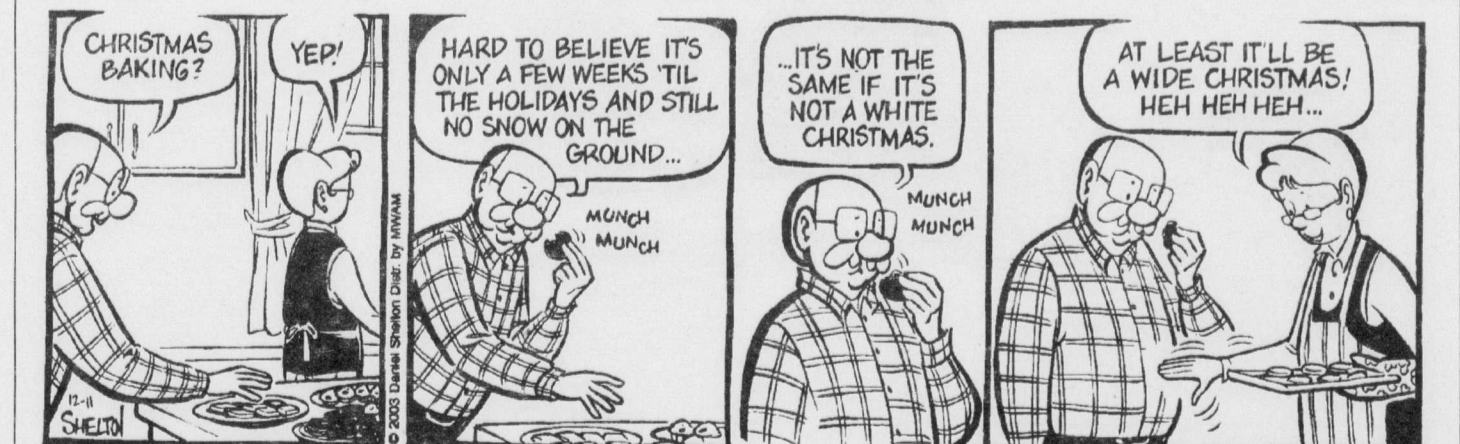
**Today:** Cloudy. rain beginning early in the morning. Winds southeast 30 km/h with gusts to 50 diminishing to 20 late in the day. High 6.

**Friday:** A mix of sun and cloud with 70 per cent chance of flurries. Low minus 10. High minus 6.

**Saturday:** Sunny. Low minus 17. High minus 7.

**Sunday:** Sunny. Low minus 17. High minus 7.

## Ben by Daniel Shelton



# Bus provides safe haven for troubled youth

By Nelson Afonso  
SHERBROOKE

**M**acadam J is dead, long live Macadam J the second. Coalition sherbrookoise pour le travail de rue (Sherbrooke coalition for street work) staff and volunteers got a first look Wednesday at their new bus used as a haven for street kids looking for a warm place to hang out.

Workers at the Coalition, founded in 1987, work closely with Sherbrooke area teens who spend numerous hours on the street, counseling them, listening to their concerns and gaining their trust.

"Our philosophy is simple," said Coalition president Mario J. Proulx. "We have to go to the young people (with the bus) because a majority of those on the street don't, or rarely, seek out the services we offer."

The second edition of the Macadam J bus — the first bus ran from 1998 to this past summer when it was forced to retire — is used by the Coalition to offer young people between the ages of 10 and 23, services in four fields, including health/social (there is a nurse and a doctor on board once a week), culture, recreation and education/work.

"I think that young people feel respected, not judged when they're on the bus," said 23-year-old Coalition worker Pierre-Marc Lavigne. "They feel they can be themselves there."

After serving the city for 18 years, the bus was donated to the group by the Sherbrooke city transit corporation (STS).

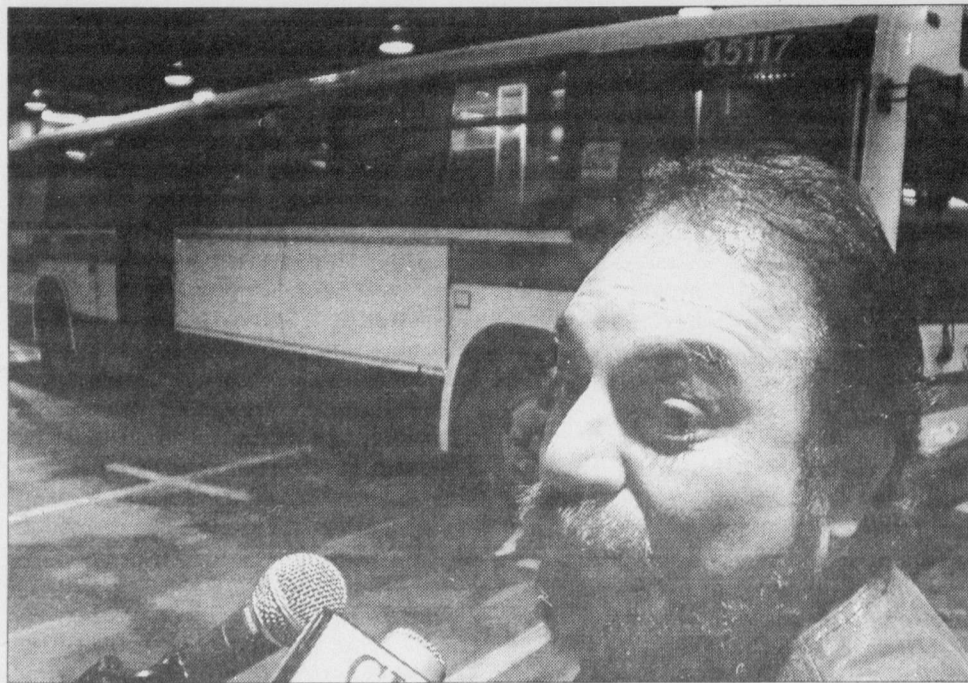
Since 1998, Macadam J has had a yearly average of 27,000 visits from 1,200 different young people in the Sherbrooke area aged between the ages of 10 and 25.

"These young people are part of our community. They deserve to get the help they need to become productive members of the community," added STS president and Sherbrooke city councillor Jean-François Rouleau.

Drugs, poverty and family relationship problems usually lead the young people to a life on the streets, according to Proulx.

The bus project was also made possible by the support of Provigo Lennoxville; Solution cellulaire; Caisses Desjardins de Sherbrooke; Imagerie Digitale; Play Audio; Laiterie Gagnon; the Fondation Canadian Tire pour les familles, the Sherbrooke CLSC and the local health board.

The Coalition sherbrookoise pour le travail de rue's Macadam J bus will be in Sherbrooke's east end on Wednesdays this winter between 7 and 10 p.m.; in downtown Sherbrooke on Thursdays from 5 and 8 p.m.; at Parc Camirand-Dufresne on Fridays between 3:30 to 6 p.m. and at Parc Goyette on Fridays from 7 to 10 p.m. For information, call the Coalition at 819-822-1736.



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

Coalition president Mario J. Proulx said the bus provides services to youth between 10 and 23 years old.

## Family crisis averted

By Nelson Afonso

**M**ichel, Natasha and their seven-month-old daughter will have a home for Christmas after all.

Thanks to the generosity and compassion of Townshippers — including Record readers Theresa Gaudreau and husband Kevin Mackey of Windsor — the Sherbrooke couple featured in these pages on Wednesday will have somewhere to go when they are officially evicted from their east end apartment this morning.

"Thanks to generous people like your readers, they will have a (temporary) place to live until January, and then they'll move into their own place, for good," Association des locataires de Sherbrooke spokesman Normand Couture told The Record on Wednesday, adding that the housing question had been resolved by Wednesday morning. "We received numerous calls from people wishing to help us find an apartment for them, and some who wanted to donate money."

Among those touched by the couple's story were Gaudreau and Mackey, the parents of four children themselves.

"The story really touched us so we offered to help out," said Mackey, a self-made entrepreneur. "Nobody should be out on the street during the Christmas holidays."

While their offer to give the Sherbrooke couple a temporary place to stay was not necessary by late Wednesday afternoon, they were ready to present

Michel with a possible employment opportunity.

While he would not say precisely what the offer was, Mackey said that his goal in this case is just to help someone down on his luck.

"I'll meet him (Michel) on Friday and if he's interested then we'll go on from there," added Mackey.

Two months behind in their rent and unable to work out a deal with the firm that manages their building, the couple was informed their lease had been terminated. The provincial rental board, the Régie du Logement, recently upheld that decision forcing the young couple to look elsewhere for a place to live.

Michel lost his job late last spring when it was discovered that he did not have the necessary competency cards to work on residential construction projects. Because spouse Natasha is a homemaker, the family found itself without any revenue.

After waiting one month to be told he did not qualify for employment insurance, the 34-year-old Michel had to wait another 30 days before receiving social assistance.

Despite offering to bump up his November and December rent cheques by \$105 to begin compensating for two unpaid months, their two-bedroom apartment was offered to another family. Even a last ditch effort to convince the landlord to let them stay until Jan. 1, was unsuccessful.



ORCHESTRE SYMPHONIQUE DE SHERBROOKE

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**Stéphane Laforest**  
Conductor and Artistic Director



### Christmas Concert

In collaboration with the Chœur symphonique de Sherbrooke

**Sunday, December 21, 2:00 pm**

Centre culturel, Université de Sherbrooke

#### On the program :

*It's Christmas Time*, arr. from C. Custer  
*L'Arlésienne suite no.2* from G. Bizet

- Pastoral
- Intermezzo
- Menuet
- Farandole

*Sleigh Ride* from L. Anderson  
*Ave Maria* from F. Schubert  
*Pie Jesu* from A.L. Webber  
*Va Pensiero ext. Nabucco* from G. Verdi  
and a few surprises



Natalie Choquette Soloist

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- Seniors (60 +) 25 \$
- Students (to 26 years) 5 \$

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RECORD

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# Consultations to be held on city's family policy

By Rita Legault  
SHERBROOKE

After nine months of reflection, the City of Sherbrooke has given birth to its family policy and now plans to bring it to each and every borough to show it off and get some input on how to best nurture its newborn plan.

Mayor Jean Perrault and Councillor Pierre Boisvert, who fathered the plan and oversaw its delivery, said the goal of the new policy is to harmonize existing family policies among merged municipalities and reiterate the new city's commitment to families.

"We want to ensure the policy corresponds to the realities of Sherbrooke families," said Perrault, noting the city wants to provide an environment that is favorable to the development of resident families and entice new ones to set up homes here.

Boisvert, who chaired the family policy committee, commented that munic-

ipalities and families are linked. He notes that in ancient times, the first cities were created by families grouping together.

Boisvert said the draft of Sherbrooke's family policy, which is available for consultation in French only on the city's Web site or at your borough office, is the result of a number of consultations since April 2003.

Boisvert said the policy will now be submitted to a series of public consultations in each of the city's six boroughs.

Here is where and when the consultations will be held:

- Borough 1 (Brompton): Wednesday Jan. 14, from 7 to 10 p.m., at the Maison des arts et de la culture, 101 St-Joseph in Brompton. Register before Jan. 7 by calling Nancy Rouleau at 846-2757;

- Borough 2 (Fleurimont) Tuesday, Jan. 27, from 7 to 10 p.m., Centre Julien Ducharme, 1671 Chemin Duplessis in

Fleurimont. Register before Jan. 15 by calling Diane Gilbert at 565-9954;

- Borough 3 (Lennoxville): Monday Jan. 26 at 5:30 p.m. Lennoxville borough office, 150 Queen Street in Lennoxville. Register before Jan. 15 by calling 569-9388;

- Borough 4 (Mont-Bellevue): Monday Jan. 26 from 7:30 to 10 p.m., Parish hall of Précieux Sang, 758 Thibault in Ascot. Register before Jan. 15 by calling Judith Mongeau at 563-3993;

- Borough 5 (Rock-Forest-St-Élie-Deauville): Thursday Jan. 29, from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Centre Communautaire Richard Gingras, 163 Chemin Saint Roch in St-Élie d'Orford. Register before Jan. 19 by calling Pierrette Cyr at 564-7444;

- Borough 6 (Jacques Cartier): Thursday Jan. 22 from 7 to 10 p.m. at École Montcalm, 2050 Portland Blvd. Register before January 7 by calling Josée Breton at 822-6060.



PERRY BEATON

Mayor Jean Perrault, and information coordinator Stéphanie Doyan with Councillor Pierre Boisvert (centre): The goal is to harmonize existing family policies among merged municipalities.

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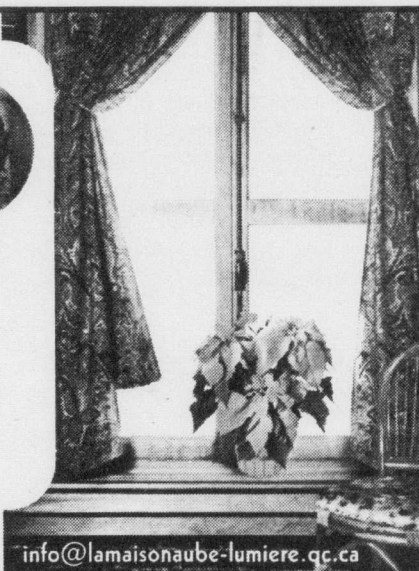
- 6 inches = \$18
- 8 inches = \$30
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We thank you on behalf of the patients and the members of the administrative council, I encourage you to participate in this act of Love by buying poinsettias.



*Diane Gingras*  
Diane Gingras, Honorary President



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Bouquet de Campagne, 1801, rue de l'Église, 846-4441

**ASBESTOS**  
Richard Côté, 251, 1<sup>re</sup> Avenue, 879-5647

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Fleuriste Cookshire, 29, rue Craig Nord, 875-3600

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Jardin des Trouvailles, 1012, rue Child, 849-0289

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Fleuriste Du Charme, Centre d'Achat, 150, rue Angus Nord, 832-2002

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## New unit for Val-du-Lac youth centre

Staff  
SHERBROOKE

The Education and Health and Social Service ministries along with Sherbrooke's Catholic School Board have joined together to invest \$1 million to build a new 12-bed rehabilitation unit for the Val-du-Lac youth centre in Sherbrooke, St-François MNA Monique Gagnon-Tremblay announced in a press release Wednesday.

The new unit will increase rehab services for the Commission scolaire de la Région-de-Sherbrooke as well as help resolve overcrowding at the Centre jeunesse de l'Estrie.

Construction, which will begin soon, was made possible due to a \$450,000 grant from the Health and Social Ministry and \$250,000 from the Education ministry. The CSRS is investing \$30,000 and, at the same, has concluded a 10-year rental agreement with the Centre Jeunesse Estrie.

# UNION:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

démocratiques from all across the province staged the largest demonstration to date in front of Charest's offices on King Street.

Today, members of Quebec's largest unions are planning a province-wide day of action.

Political science professor Jean-Herman Guay, of the University of Sherbrooke said this is the largest collective union protest against the provincial government in over two decades.

"Don't forget the Parti-Québécois was much closer to the unions," said Guay. "They got a lot of their votes from the public sector."

The province's unions mobilized in such a hurry and with such force because Premier Charest's is rushing to push through his reengineering of the province, Guay said.

"It's usually the beginning of the mandate when the government undertakes its toughest policies. Then there's time to forget, and time to reap the rewards."

The rhetoric of the unions would have Quebecers believe the Charest government is prepared to pull the rug out from under the province's workers, sacrificing wages and working conditions that are the result of decades of negotiations in North America's most strongly-unionized society.

"We're being attacked from all sides" said FTQ vice-president Pierre Dupuis at Tuesday night's rally in Fleurimont. "We have to tell Charest that it's not going to happen. That it's taken us a long time to get where we are today."

"He wants to subcontract out jobs that are paid \$30,000 to \$40,000. Workers will be paid \$17,000-\$18,000. I don't know how they'll live on that," Dupuis added during his long, impassioned address.

"We are the real middle-class protectors. We're ensuring good working conditions and good salaries. We're not farming unionized jobs out to cheap labour."

Raymond Forget, another vice-president at the FTQ, was even more forceful in his address.

"The Liberals said their first priority was the health care network, but the first thing they do is they start slapping the heads of those workers who support that system," he said. "Charest's proposed legislation will diminish the quality of life of workers in the province. We are stepping back 25 years in our labour code. Are you ready to say no to this?"

"Yes!" shouted the crowd in unison, jumping to their feet and cheering and whistling.

Workers out on the streets yesterday

were as emotional as their union leaders in their denouncements of the premier's proposed changes. Among them, there is a feeling that the premier is not being honest about his motives, not consulting enough with those who stand to be most affected by the changes to the workplace.

Construction worker Normand Beliveau, rallying outside the premier's office with the CSD, had strong words for the premier.

"He's a goddamn liar," he said. "Everything he says he does the opposite."

He accused the PQ government of not consulting with the population, but he's twice as bad."

"He was asleep for nine years in Ottawa as an MP, and now he doesn't know how to manage his power," added Gerald Picard, another construction worker also from Sherbrooke. "I'm disappointed with him. I didn't vote for him and I never will."

Professor Guay points out, "Unions are very strong here in Quebec. We have a group-based society. But now Charest wants to break this culture."

"In many other countries in the world, you can see what happens when unions become too strong. It becomes too hard to push through changes. He's not demolishing things for the sake of demolishing them. He simply wants to make the state less present, so that the society becomes more flexible, more adaptable, more dynamic. Of course, people on the other side say the opposite will happen."

The problem with the current debate between pro-unionists and anti-unionists — which has taken over from sovereignty as Quebec's debate

of the moment — is that both sides are arguing the same thing: that their posi-



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

Demonstrators line up for lunch.

tion is for the good of all Quebec society, and both sides have a lot to lose.

If Charest's reengineering goes through as planned, it will pave the way for more subcontracting and a larger role for the private sector and unions could lose a large part of their membership. But Charest also stands to lose a large part of his support among the population who may argue he went too far.



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

Chanting union slogans, thousands waved placards outside Charest's office after parading through the streets.

**Santa Claws is coming to town!**

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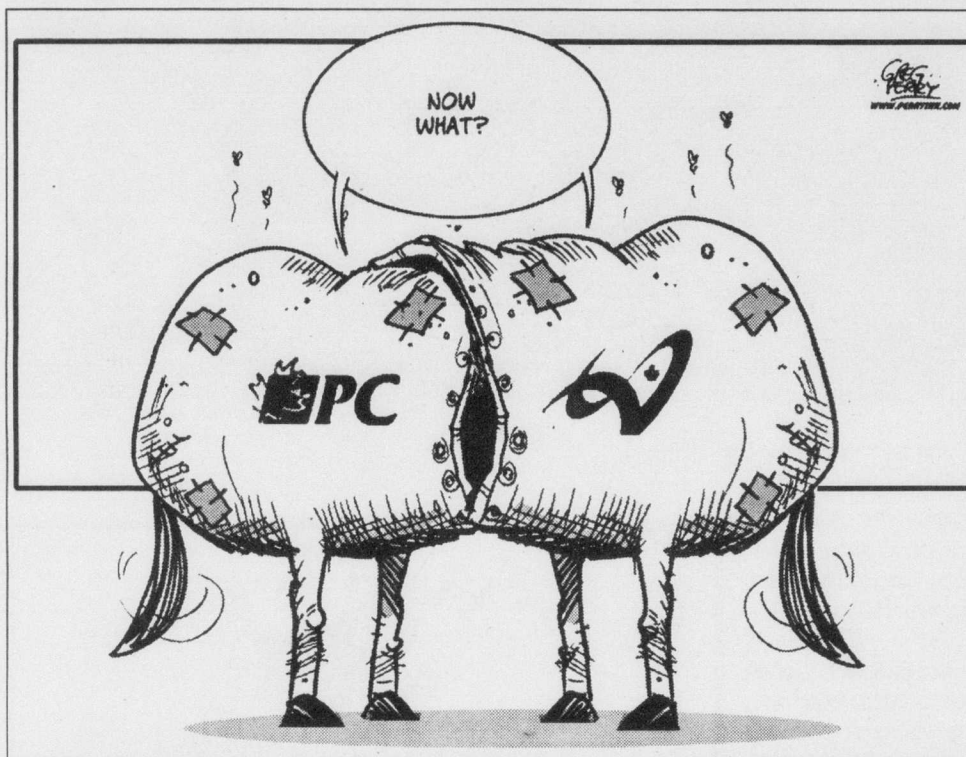


## Not all Rest Homes are created equal...

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 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donation Amt.: \_\_\_\_\_ \$25. \_\_\_\_\_ \$50. \_\_\_\_\_ \$100. Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Tax receipt will be sent)  
 Please send your donation to: St. Paul's Rest Home, 592 Main St., Bury, QC J0B 1J0  
 This advertisement has been paid for by friends of St. Paul's Home.

## Community Forum



### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

#### Books are a necessity

DEAR EDITOR,

I hope that you will reconsider closing the last English bookstore in the Eastern Townships of Quebec located at the Carrefour de l'Estrie in Sherbrooke Quebec.

As you know it is difficult enough to keep the English culture alive in Quebec without losing our last store. Unfortunately, with an aging population who do not necessarily have computers nor trust online transactions, we in the Townships would be deprived of access to books in our language which your company has always provided. In addition to this, there are few English libraries left and in Asbestos, where I live, there is none. To rectify this I will be working as a volunteer to restart the English section in our local library. This, how-

ever, will not provide new and current books as we will have to rely on the donation of books.

I imagine that this is a financial decision on your part. If this be the case, please consider moving to a less expensive lease. As we in the Townships all know, the Carrefour does charge extreme rental for its locations. This being said I would urge you to consider that not everything in life can be reduced to dollar signs, although it seems to be a popular trend these days. Access to current literature, in this electronic age, is becoming more and more difficult. It would be a feather in your cap to sacrifice a little profit in order to allow us in the Townships to purchase up to date literature in our language.

To sum up: you provide not only a wanted service but also a necessary and needed service. Please reconsider your decision!

THOMAS HERON  
Asbestos

## Standing firm on Iraq

The shooting of Italian, Spanish, Japanese and Korean nationals in Iraq has sent a chill through international diplomatic and aid circles. That, of course, is one of the goals of the terrorists.

The tragic killings will also jolt the international community into rethinking the traditional view of peacekeeping. In fact, a number of countries, lead by Britain and including the Americans, are already immersed in a review of how to make a country more secure and how to support peace operations after the major military operation winds down.

Iraq is the current, and tragic model on display. The war-through-peace operations in Kosovo, Bosnia, Haiti, Sierra Leone and Mozambique in the 1990s also stand as examples and lessons for the military and civilian occupying forces and for international organizations like the United Nations and NATO.

Despite the best efforts of the coalition forces in Iraq, six months after the war officially ended there are still roaming bands of gun-and missile-toting men harassing and killing seemingly at will. The road from military primacy to police primacy is filled with potholes. The reason is partly explained in a study published last April by the IRPP\* (www.irpp.org) that anticipated the challenges facing military planners in postconflict Iraq.

The paper's author, Ann M. Fitz-Gerald, wrote: "Peacekeepers must be perceived to be offering credible security guarantees to the majority of the civilian population, or individuals and groups will go in search of security by other means. Paramilitary groups and warlords who do not have an interest in disarming and demobilizing garner the support of these local groups, who then serve as a prime target market that justifies their continued existence.

Clearly, security is the paramount challenge in any postconflict situation, but security does not involve only military and police muscle. Programs like Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) - it is impossible to get away from acronyms in military planning language - carry with them enormous social, economic and political implications, according to Fitz-Gerald.

That is why after 10 years in Bosnia, the NATO Stabilization Force finds itself collecting small arms and light weapons, supporting mine ac-



JAMES FERRABEE

tion programs and settling internally displaced persons. In Kabul, Canadian troops, following the British example, will get involved in "quick impact programs" like community rebuilding and local integration, not exactly part of the traditional training for military forces.

And all this assumes that a contributing country's foreign affairs department talks with its defence department, but also with its international development agency and its interior and intelligence services, to create a "joined up" government. The better the internal planning in the donor countries, the better the outcome in the destabilized country where they are working.

The Spanish, Italian, Japanese and Korean governments knew that Iraq is a risky place for foreigners. Despite the killings, those countries have vowed to continue working in Iraq. That is good news. It would be better news if countries like France and Germany also joined in the rebuilding effort.

The Americans need help, and so do the Iraqis, who crave a stable government and a peaceful society. This will require an enormous, co-operative effort and considerable sacrifice by the international community. Money is not the barrier to international co-operation. Political will is.

If the coalition succeeds, the dividends will be huge for the tumultuous region from Turkey to Afghanistan. For example, stability in Iraq would give Saudi Arabia, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan precious time to democratize and modernize. It would also give Israel enough security so it could move toward a settlement with the Palestinians.

By contrast, failure in Iraq would encourage an escalation in the violence and result in political disarray in the region. The brutal reality is that withdrawing from or giving up on Iraq is not an option.

\*Ann M. Fitz-Gerald, "Military and Postconflict Security: Implications for American, British and Other Allied Force Planning and for Postconflict Iraq." IRPP Choices 9, no. 3 (2003). Montreal: Institute for Research on Public Policy (irpp.org)

JAMES FERRABEE IS A CONTRIBUTING EDITOR OF POLICY OPTIONS, THE MAGAZINE OF THE IRPP. HE REPORTED FROM THE MIDDLE EAST IN THE 1970S AND 1980S FOR SOUTHAM NEWS.

### THE RECORD

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Out of Quebec residents do not include PST. Rates for other services available on request.

The Record is published daily Monday to Friday. Back copies of The Record are available.

The Record was founded on February 7, 1897, and acquired the Sherbrooke Examiner (est. 1879) in 1905 and the Sherbrooke Gazette (est. 1837) in 1908. The Record is published by Hollinger Canadian Newspapers L.P.

Canadian Publications Mail Service Product Agreement No. 0479675.

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# Volunteers bring literacy to Cowansville inmates

*'We go wherever there's a need'*

By Maurice Crossfield

While a lot of people might spend some of their time volunteering at the local food bank, a dedicated group of tutors visits the Cowansville Penitentiary every Friday, teaching some of society's toughest inmates how to read and write.

"It began when we had two or three guys who couldn't read at a Bible study," said Peter Huish, protestant chaplain at the Cowansville pen. "We began asking around and eventually contacted the Yamaska Literacy Council, and eventually they started sending volunteers."

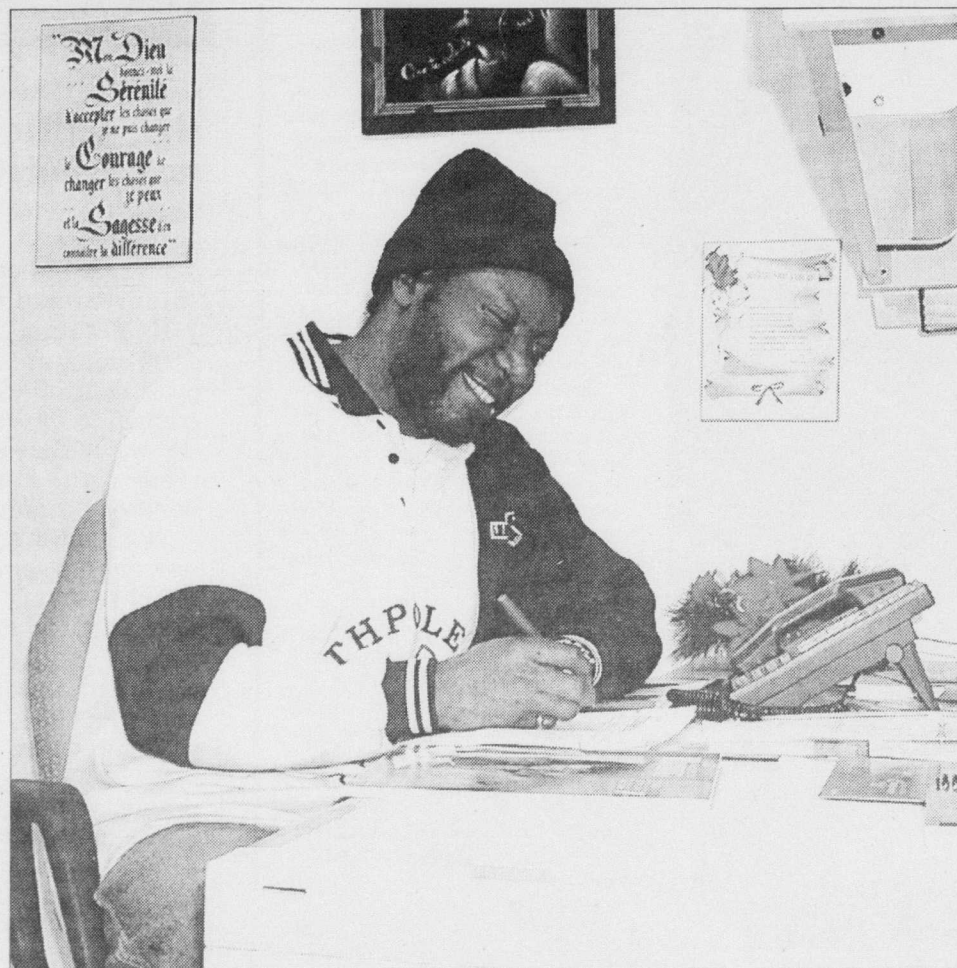
Illiteracy is a major problem for convicted criminals, and arguably a factor in why they turned to a life of crime in the first place. Being unable to read or write bars access to many legitimate opportunities.

"Seventy per cent of inmates are functionally illiterate," said Joani Tannenbaum, coordinator of the Yamaska Literacy Council. "The rate of illiteracy is actually higher in federal penitentiaries, so there seems to be a correlation between illiteracy and more serious crimes, like violent crimes."

To counter that, every Friday afternoon for nearly four years, women like Tannenbaum, Martha Shufelt, Wendy Seys, Valerie McAdam and Cornelia Fischer make their way through the security doors and metal detectors, past the drug sniffing dog and over to the chapel. There they not only teach literacy skills to inmates, but they also teach educated inmates how to become tutors.

"This is not far off from what I was doing before I was arrested," said Collin, a former university English teacher and journalist serving a life sentence. "This is very important for me, to have contact with the outside world."

Involved in the program for about two years now, Collin spends Fridays at the chapel, and then regularly visits fellow inmates in their cells to teach,



MAURICE CROSSFIELD

Born in Kameroon, raised in Germany and eventually incarcerated in Canada, Serge Iwode works with the Yamaska Literacy Council to help fellow inmates develop literacy skills.

using the Laubauch Literacy program.

"It's a great system and it works with any level of inmate," Collin said in an interview with The Record. "It's very non confrontational and very encouraging."

## OVERCOMING FEAR

But first inmates have to overcome the fear of admitting they can't read. In penitentiary society any weakness can be preyed upon by fellow inmates.

"All my life I was trying to read, and I can't," said Godfrey John, who was born in St. Vincent, but is now a Canadian citizen.

John said he used to hide that fact,

walking around school carrying books he couldn't read. Later in life when one of his children would ask him to read, he'd change the subject.

"I reached grade 10 and I couldn't read," John said. "I'd go to an exam and put anything in the book and walk out."

Frustration eventually led to cocaine use, which in turn led to trouble with the law. That in turn led to a five-year stretch for armed robbery. Today he's 43.

"I was using coke to escape, that really got me in trouble," said John, who says he has been drug free for 16 months.

"I'm glad I can read a book now, and I want to go higher," he said. "I missed out on a lot of things because of my reading."

For an inmate known as Stretch, dyslexia and other learning disabilities made conventional schooling ineffective. He'd just get frustrated and quit.

"I was contacted by a friend from the street to tell me about this," Stretch said. While he found conventional schooling to be too fast, he said the literacy program proved to be what he needed.

"Now I read everything and anything I can get my hands on," he said. It has also helped him finish grades 5 through 9 at the penitentiary school.

The experience also helped Stretch

overcome his shyness. He now takes part in Thomas Moore Institute reading and discussion groups, and has been out on escorted passes to attend meetings in Montreal.

## LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Serge Iwode, who was born in Kameroon, educated in Germany and imprisoned in Canada, is another inmate tutor. With a university education in French and German, he said he's found helping others is in itself a learning experience.

"It's a very practical and logical way of teaching," Iwode said of the literacy program. "Because you are actually using a person's weakness to teach and to help them."

"In our environment, people are not always open about themselves. Most of the guys are bright, they just never thought education was important, because of the families they came from," he said. "You have to break them out of their shell, but you have to do it carefully."

Tannenbaum said most of the inmates have had a negative experience with conventional education. The voluntary program is less threatening, without the typical classroom atmosphere.

Huish said it's difficult to gauge the success rate among the 20 or so inmates who have taken part over the last four years. Some come a few times and then move on, others are transferred or released. Still others stick around for years.

"If they master some basics of reading and writing, maybe they'll be able to take on more school work," Huish said.

One hope is that the literacy program will be introduced at other correctional facilities. Huish said one of the objectives of teaching Collin how to train tutors was that if he gets transferred to another prison, he'll be able to recruit tutors there.

"They've got a hook in the system for the next decade," Collin said.

As for the success of the Cowansville program, Huish places the credit squarely on the shoulders of the volunteers.

"What a wonderful benefit they are to the institution and to the inmates," he said. "They are really dedicated and wonderful people."

Godfrey John agrees.

"They teach us well, don't get paid for it and still they come and help you out."

Tannenbaum says it's simply part of the Yamaska Literacy Council's mandate.

"There's a need, and we go wherever there's a need."

For more on the Yamaska Literacy Council, get on the Internet and go to [www.nald.ca/ylc](http://www.nald.ca/ylc)

## Prison library could use your old books

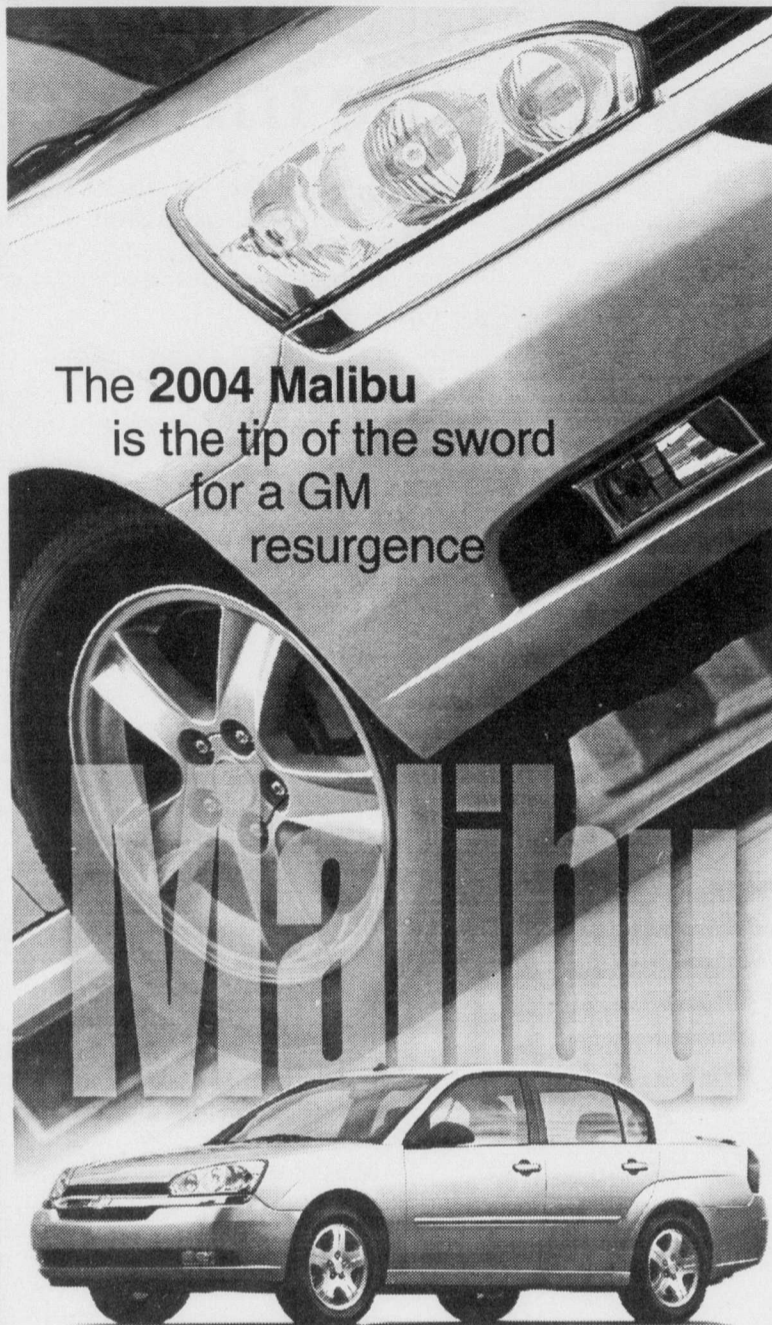
If you have old books and no place for them, Valerie McAdam says the Cowansville Penitentiary library would like to have them.

"We are looking for donations of books in good condition," McAdam said. She said the library suffers from a lack of English books.

Books of almost any variety will be accepted, though McAdam said the seri-

al romance novels aren't particularly sought after. The books should also be in good condition, if possible.

Anyone with books to donate can do so by dropping them off at the offices of the Yamaska Literacy Council, 239 Principale, Cowansville. For information about donating books call the Literacy Council at (450) 263-7503, or McAdam at (450) 263-2404.



The 2004 Malibu is the tip of the sword for a GM resurgence

By JASON STEIN  
WHEELBASE COMMUNICATIONS

Not that long ago, General Motors' largest division was more than the 'heartbeat' of an automaker. Chevrolet was the soul.

At its peak, Chevy had a larger market share than GM as a whole holds today. More cars from more competitors have slowly chipped away at it over the years.

How ambitious, then, is General Motors' latest strategy to retake what it once had? Over the next 20 months, the company intends to roll out nine new products — or about one every two months — and introduce two dozen mid-size sedans, coupes, crossover vehicles and convertibles.

As the first in a long line of new or revamped entries, the 2004 Malibu will be one of the most important Chevy vehicles in terms of sales volume. For that reason, GM

has decided to use the Malibu, and its Malibu Maxx wagon stable mate, for the North American debut of its new worldwide platform known as Epsilon. The Malibu arrives with an architecture that is already in use on the 2003 Saab 9-3 and the Opel Vectra currently sold in Europe.

Why should you care about the Epsilon? GM says it is a stiffer, firmer and better-handling platform than what previous Malibus were based on. At its core, it is intended to give the Malibu a European-style ride.

But the new mid-size four-door sedan is more than the sum of its parts. It's all about different parts that work better for the buyer. General Motors says the Malibu delivers the "comfort and style of tailored-to-fit clothing for an off-the-rack price." The only difference? This is a one-size-fits-all approach. Chevy makes it easy.

With an overall package that adapts to needs that can change from day to day, the new Malibu has a lot going for it. There's a split-folding rear seat and fold-flat front pas-

senger seat that allow a wide variety of cargo to be transported.

Chevy has also used what it terms as a "personalized-fit package," allowing drivers of all sizes to tailor the position of the seat, steering wheel and pedals to their comfort. Since everyone is built a little differently, it makes sense.

The combination of a power driver's seat with a height adjuster, a tilt steering wheel and power adjustable pedals are available on all models — a first for its class. Another first is a remote starter that can fire the engine from 60 metres away.

The new Malibu will be available in three levels (standard, LS and LT) with two engine choices. Base models deliver 145 horsepower from a fuel-efficient 2.2-litre, dual-overhead-cam four-cylinder engine (called the Ecotec), while the Malibu LS and LT models get a 200-horsepower, 3.5-litre, overhead-valve V6. All Malibus come with a four-speed automatic transmission.

On the outside, it's also more daring. With updated styling, the Malibu now features a chrome bar across the front grille, tying it together with the Chevy truck/sport-utility look. Inside, the Malibu is spacious and quiet with loads of space for passengers and the stuff they haul. With a wider stance than its predecessor, a comfortable interior gets roomier.

At its core, the new Malibu is fresh, exciting and invigorating for a brand that is looking for a lift. And more is on the way.

Six months after the Malibu goes on sale, GM will come to the market with the Maxx, which will be slightly shorter and wider than the sedan, and have a longer wheelbase. The versatile machine will arrive with a versatile interior, including rear seats that will slide forward, a fixed rear skylight and a rear cargo tray that can double as a picnic table.

Mostly, it will be fresh. With nine new products to roll out in 20 months, Chevy's heartbeat will definitely have a new rhythm. Which is exactly the point.

SPEC SHEET

2004 Chevy Malibu

- ★ Four-door midsize sedan
- ★ 2.5-litre DOHC four-cylinder or optional 3.5-litre OHV V6, producing 145 and 200 horsepower, respectively.
- ★ Four-speed automatic transmission.
- ★ Chevy looks for a shot of adrenaline out of one of its more popular brands by making it more "European" in its approach to the road.
- ★ Smoother and quieter than the vehicle it replaces, the new Malibu has more passenger room even though it runs on a shorter wheelbase.
- ★ Standard six-way adjustable driver seat, power-adjustable pedals and tilt/telescoping steering wheel means any driver can find the perfect fit.
- ★ From an upscale interior to an exterior that boasts a fresh direction, the Malibu honors Chevy's heritage while trying to stake its claim for the future.
- ★ Standard safety: Dual-stage front airbags, three-point safety belts for all occupants, standard safety belt pretensioners for front-seat passengers.
- ★ Base price: TBA

BRIEFS

4,700 citizens sign petition to save Windsor ER

Staff

SHERBROOKE

Windsor Mayor Louis St-Laurent had hoped to gather some 3,000 to 4,000 signatures on a petition demanding the government act to ensure the survival of the emergency room at the St-Louis-de-Windsor Hospital.

The committee had less than a week to accomplish that goal, but in the end, more than 4,700 people signed their names to a petition demanding that the emergency remain open at least 12-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week.

The hefty petition was deposited in the National Assembly on Wednesday by Johnson MNA Claude Boucher.

Due to a shortage of physicians, the emergency room is closed on Sundays and locals fear it could face further shut-downs if something is not done to recruit new doctors.

Hotel to close

Employees at Sherbrooke's Auberge des Gouverneurs got some bad news this week, the King St. West hotel will close its doors on Jan. 16. The closure means that 27 workers will be out of a job. According to management, rising operational costs and a recent decline in business led to the closing. The Chicoutimi hotel will also close in the near future.

A release from owner Jacques Goupil states that he will sell the hotel and the land it sits on.

Garbage bins compulsory in Rock Forest

The city of Sherbrooke is reminding Rock Forest sector residents that putting their trash in 360-litre black containers will be mandatory beginning

Jan. 1. Beginning on that date, only trash placed inside the containers will be picked up.

Sherbrooke residents who do not already own one, may purchase a container for \$100 at any one of the borough offices.

Well ID program deemed a success

The UPA-Estrie's 2003 well-identification campaign ended recently with positive results. Once again this year, over 1,000 wells were identified in an effort to better protect the environment.

Local farmers and both the Ministries of the Environment and Agriculture first teamed up last year to better identify the location of water wells in rural areas in the Estrie region.

By law, farmers cannot use manure, pesticides, compost or fertilizers within 30 metres of a well, a fact many farmers are unaware of.

All partners in the identification project preach the benefits of identifying the location of wells on their farms to local farmers because keeping local water sources safe for humans and animals is essential. Besides individual farmers, also visited this year were 420 larger commercial farms.

According to the UPA, 42 per cent of the wells identified neighbourhood large-production farms.

Church concert in Weedon

L'ensemble à vent du Haut St François and l'harmonie Louis St Laurent will team up for a Christmas concert at l'église St Janvier de Weedon on Dec. 14 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and children. The performance is being hosted by the Weedon Historical Society.

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# Stanstead Review

SERVING STANSTEAD AND  
ITS BORDER COMMUNITY



ALSO SEE:  
Centenary  
Church unveils  
Recognition  
Wall  
... see Page 11

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2003 PAGE 9

## Colleges des Ursulines to close after 100 years

By Nancy Nourse

RECORD CORRESPONDENT

The College des Ursulines will be closing its doors this June after more than 100 years in Stanstead.

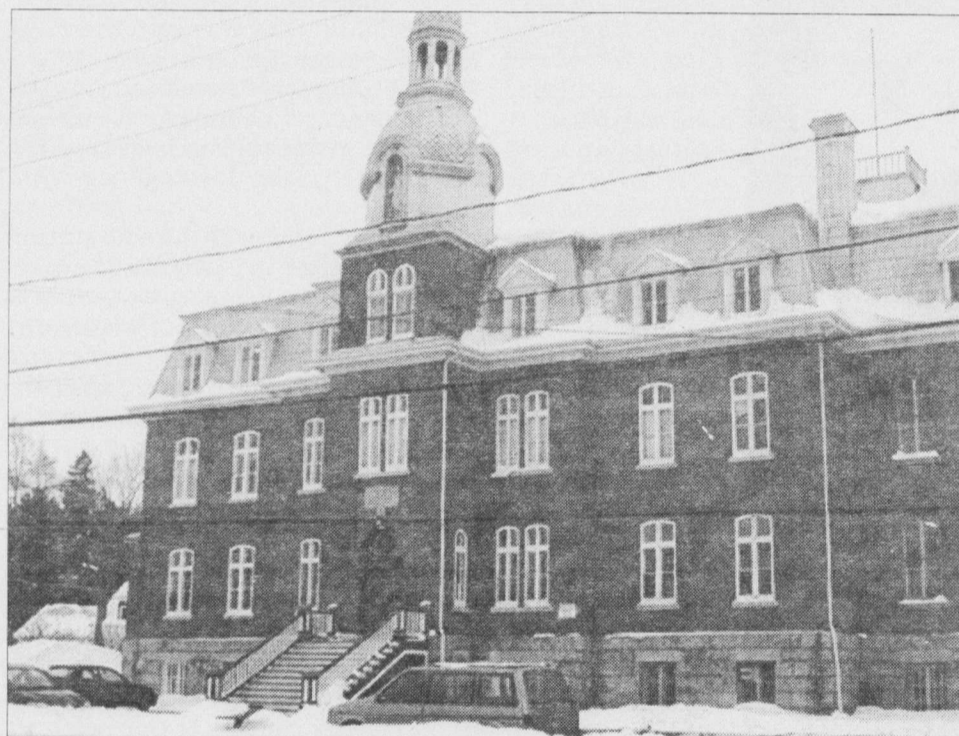
The announcement comes after the Ursuline nuns, who resided in the Convent des Ursulines de Stanstead, will be moving to the Presbytery of l'Eglise Saint Patrice, in Magog.

"I only became aware of the final decision late Thursday afternoon. I certainly wouldn't have scheduled a visit from Mayor Yates or accepted his kind gift of the town flag if I had known what was going to happen," said director Hugues Belisle, who recently took over when Raymond Lepage vacated the position after many years with the school.

"It really saddens me to think of having to close the school. I have been busy contacting other schools in the area to find places for our students. We have always been very proud of our association with the Ursuline nuns, and are very proud of the work done by our students.

Belisle acknowledged he had been working on negotiations with the nuns and the Town of Stanstead to develop a three-year plan that would have helped the College get back on its feet after financial difficulties. But after the nuns withdrew their backing, Belisle said there was little else they could do but close the school.

Originally known as the Couvent des Ur-



NANCY NOURSE/CORRESPONDENT

Colleges des Ursulines is closing after the nuns announced they will be moving to Magog.

sulines, the College des Ursulines was built in the 1880s reflecting the influence of Nouvelle-France and the great monasteries of the Second Empire. The Ursuline nuns strongly believed in the educative principle that 'a job worth doing is worth doing well'. They worked to instill this in their

students through a diversified program and their own example.

The teaching nuns were continually adapting their program to ensure the success of their students, in both their personal and academic lives. Even in its earlier years, an emphasis was placed on being

bilingual. The nuns realized that a knowledge of English was as important back then as it is in business today.

Over time, the nuns gradually started to take more of a backseat role at the private school. As a result, the Convent, as it is referred to by locals, went from a thriving co-ed boarding school to a school with only 100 student. Even their move in 2002 to become a member of OBI (International Baccalaureate Organization) proved to be too little, too late.

"We were aware that the College des Ursulines had been facing financial difficulties for some time, but we had been holding meetings with their representatives to try to come up with a viable solution so that their doors could remain open," said Diane Groleau, director-general for the Town of Stanstead.

"We were all blindsided by the news that a decision had been taken to close the doors for good. It was understandable that the nuns at the Convent would decide to move closer to medical facilities and a smaller location when faced with ill-health and rapidly declining numbers. Still, we all hoped that we could find a way to keep the school from going under as a direct result of the move.

"It is a sad thing to lose this establishment and the many people associated with the College des Ursulines as part of our community. They will be greatly missed."

## La Fourmilière to hold open house

By Nancy Nourse

RECORD CORRESPONDENT

The Board of Directors of the La Fourmilière Community Centre is extending an invitation to one and all to visit the new community centre on Dec. 13, starting at 1 p.m.

The building was vacant since the closing of the school four years ago, until a group of ambitious Fitch Bay residents decided to create an activity centre where a library could be set up, and a range of courses offered including English, French, computer and many artisan crafts.

"This official opening, starting at 3:30 p.m. will also be a perfect time to unveil our official logo and give out prizes for the logo that has won the most public approval, as well as the one which has finally been chosen," said Raymond La Roche, director of the new centre.

"We will also be distributing membership cards and programs of upcoming winter and spring activities

"We are proud to say that our membership has grown to almost 200, with both English and French-speaking people."

LaRoche said La Troupe de Georgeville

recently put on a wonderful concert at the Centre which was a great success despite the inclement weather. The Library already has 2,000 books lining its shelves.

LaRoche said people appear to be very excited about the upcoming workshops being offered.

"We have turned the old gym into a kind of 'café-rencontre' where people can stop in for a cup of coffee and a chat, watch the game on TV, or take a course like line-dancing. We are also working on the idea of a special room for adolescents and a large playground for the kids in the summer."

Honorary presidents for this occasion will be Sister Laurentia and Jim Wharry both of whom have made countless valuable contributions to this small community and its surrounding region.

Other honoured guests scheduled to attend the opening are MNA and Education Minister Pierre Reid, and Compton-Stanstead MP David Price, as well as Jean Dussault, president of the of the board of directors of the centre as well as Fitch Bay's Mayor Eddie McCaughey and his team which has been very supportive.

# If you don't use it, you just might lose it

For most communities, the closure of a bookstore would not be considered front page news. In the Eastern Townships, it is a social tragedy. At the school where I work, it was certainly a hot topic. An e-mail

was even sent around giving an address where people could write letters of complaint. I was all ready to fire out an email (Email is the perfect mode of communication for the lazy critic; it's quiet, you

don't have to walk to the post office or look for a stamp.) All of a sudden I realized that before I sent that letter of complaint, I had to clear my community and myself of blame. Yes, we may be partly to blame for the situation.

## SOMEBODY'S MOTHER



ELLEN  
GOLDFINCH

don't have to walk to the post office or look for a stamp.) All of a sudden I realized that before I sent that letter of complaint, I had to clear my community and myself of blame. Yes, we may be partly to blame for the situation.

Quill & Quire, a Canadian book trade newspaper, recently reported that 40 per cent of Canadians surveyed

claimed that they do not buy books. That's shocking - no books for nieces, nephews, cousins, let alone, children and grandchildren? What if 40 per cent of the Anglophone community right here does not buy books? This might be sending a particular message to some corporate executive in Toronto that an English bookstore in the Carrefour de L'Estrie is a losing proposition. Let's say that you do buy books...but you shop for the better prices at Wal-Mart or Costco. Does that not also send a message to that executive looking at the bottom line?

The bookstore was not the first English language institution to go. When I first moved here from Montreal, there was a commercial English language radio station broadcasting out of Sherbrooke. It was gone within a year.

The only local English radio station operating now is CJMQ, Radio Bishop's, which runs by the good graces of the Bishop's University's student union, some advertisers (they could use more) and occasional fundraising. Their play list may not always be your cup of tea or mine but we have to support it no matter what our prefer-


ences are. We also need to get involved to make sure that there is community representation in CJMQ's programming, something that the station usually encourages.

We are a small community and unless we start supporting our bookstores, radio stations and newspapers, the old adage of use it or lose it may come true. I am a reader and I like visiting the bookstore. I enjoy hearing one of my son's friends goofing around on CJMQ - hey, I used to have fun doing that myself.

I certainly enjoy picking up a local newspaper and reading what's going on in the area as well as reading the local commentary on everything from raccoons in the backyard to bookstores. You can't get that kind of information from The National Post or The Globe & Mail.

My suggestion for saving the store is to prove that it's a viable business. If you want to save a bookstore, I believe that the best method is to buy books. This Christmas, prove to Chapters that the English community in the Eastern Townships is alive and thriving. Buy books as gifts and buy a lot of them. That may go further than a few e-mails.

Ellen Goldfinch may be reached at [radiomother@hotmail.com](mailto:radiomother@hotmail.com)



**HAPPY NEW YEAR, BABY!**

Proud parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, show off your pride and joy in our annual New Year's edition of **The Record** featuring babies of the Townships born in 2003. Although all babies are welcome and will be featured in our special issue, only those born in 2003 will be considered for a cover photo and story (randomly selected for this honour).

Mail a photograph of baby with: baby's name, birthday, parents' name, hometown and 10 words describing the little tyke, along with \$15 and a stamped, self-addressed envelope to **The Record** in Sherbrooke or Knowlton.

**Deadline: December 19.**

Published on December 31.

Prizes to be won:

**1st place:**  
\$100 gift certificate from **SEARS**

**2nd place:**  
\$50.00 baby gift basket from **Lennoxville Tri-Us**

**3rd place:**  
\$50.00 gift certificate from **Tissus Magog**

**4th, 5th, 6th place:**  
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## Concert celebrates solstice

Staff

Members of Nowell Sing We Clear will present a special holiday concert at the Unitarian Church in Derby Line, Vt. on Dec. 20.

The four minstrels will address the diminishing of light as we reach the solstice with songs that come from an age when the midwinter season was a time of joyous celebration. Part of this tradition is represented in the fanciful performance of a Mummings Play, which portrays the death of the land in winter and its humorous rebirth in spring.

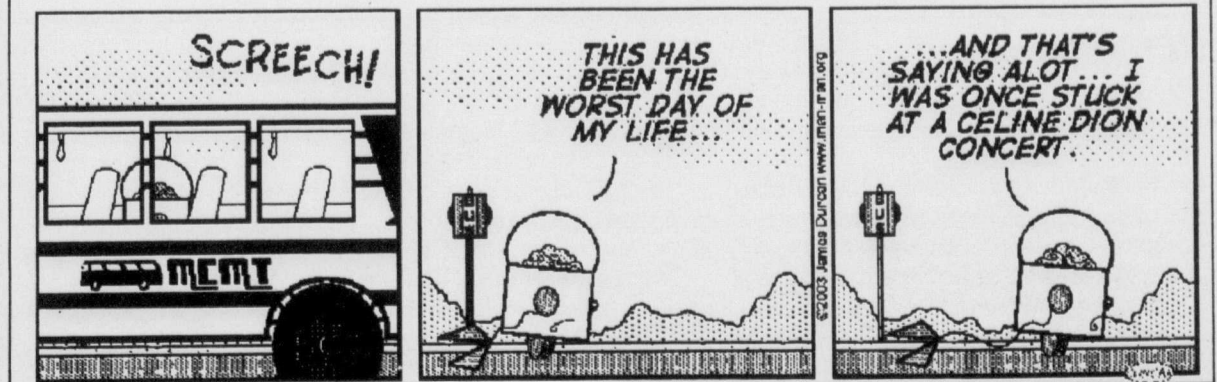
Most of the performance will feature songs Medieval times to more recent, from Britain and North America. Yet the concert will also be

stamped with energetic music on the fiddle, accordion, keyboard, drums and concertina. All with a little Morris and step dancing thrown in for good measure.

After the performance there will be a pot-luck supper at the Church, followed by a Contra Dance at 6:30 p.m., accompanied by live Québécois music and called by Jackie Hall.

This year, Nowell Sing We Clear is being co-sponsored by the Haskell Free Library, where tickets are available by calling 802-873-3022 or 819-876-2471. Adults, \$16; children and students, \$10; children under five, free. Admission to the Contra Dance will be by donation. All proceeds will go to the church. For more information, call 819-837-1011.

## Robob by James Duncan



# Annual concert a reason to celebrate

## Centenary United Church unveils Recognition Wall

By Nancy Nourse  
RECORD CORRESPONDENT  
STANSTEAD

Centenary United Church was nearly filled to capacity last Sunday for Stanstead College's annual Christmas concert.

Stanstead College, long been recognized for its multi-cultural campus, continued tradition by conducting the service in English, French Spanish, Korean and other languages spoken on campus.

Musical director Natalie Roy led the Stanstead College Jazz Band in versions of 'Frosty the Snowman' and other traditional holiday tunes. Choir director Sonia Wells, who has been at the College for several years, was in true form in leading the Stanstead College Choir.

Due to the long and prosperous association between Stanstead College and Centenary Church, the renovation committee decided last Sunday would also be the perfect time to unveil the Recognition Wall. The monument pays tribute to those who have contributed to the Centenary's restoration fund.

The wall was designed by Elizabeth Fisher of Picture This in Granite, a local

company established by Bonnie Goodsell and Elizabeth Fisher. Installation was carried out by Dan Renaud, which proved to be a tedious job because the larger plaques were permanently cemented, while the individual donation plaques were attached with screws to allow for future inscription.

The background of the Recognition Wall is made of light maple wood, which does a great job of setting off the beautiful black granite sections. In the center of the Wall, designers included Centenary Church's coat of arms. On either side, carefully designed plaques detail the history of the Church, including a picture of the original church. It also includes a list of 'church treasures', which includes the Hook Hastings Organ, one of only three in Canada, that was donated by Martha Pierce in memory of her brother George Pierce, who was on the original committee when the Church was built.

The Recognition Wall also features a larger plaque placed in the centre to commemorate the many contributions that Jessie Colby and her descendants have made to Centenary Church over the



NANCY NOURSE/CORRESPONDENT

Pictured (left to right): Bonnie Goodsell, co-founder and owner of Picture This in Granite and Barbara Heath, chairperson of the restoration committee in front of the Recognition Wall.

### BRIEFS

- Dec. 13: 13th Annual Spirit of Christmas Ecumenical Concert to be held at Wesley United Church (Beebe sector of Stanstead) on Saturday evening, at 7 p.m.— children's choir (20 voices) and an adult choir (30 voices) that will bring the spirit of Christmas in a delightful rendition of carols and some traditional singing.

- Dec. 13: The Haskell Library will be hosting a presentation of the 'history of Christmas' for children ages six to 12 (in French) by storyteller Chantel Rheaume.

- Dec. 14: Sarah Hoblyn joins the Georgeville Choir for a Christmas concert at Centenary United Church in Stanstead at 4 p.m. Proceeds to go toward Centenary's Restoration Fund.

- Dec. 15: Sunnyside Elementary School will be holding a special Christmas Service and Concert. The concert will take the form of readings and singing of favorite carols by the children. Starts at 7: p.m. at Centenary United Church.

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Ask friends, neighbours and family to help.

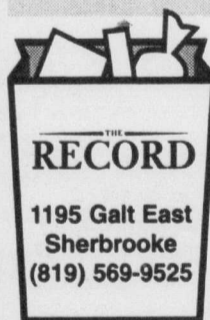
Please bring your food items to any sponsor before December 13th.

Gifts for children are also needed, if wrapped please indicate boy/girl, age group.

The baskets will benefit families within the Eastern Townships School Board.

Helping others is a great way to celebrate the holiday!

# Please give generously!





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# More grandparents raising grandchildren: StatsCan

By Elizabeth Thompson

Thousands of grandparents found themselves raising children again in 2001 - their grandchildren - when they should have been enjoying retirement, says Statistics Canada.

Based on data from the 2001 census, the study published Tuesday found 56,700 grandparents, or one per cent of all Canadian grandparents, were living with their grandchildren with no parent involved. The study also found that of the 56,800 children who lived with these grandparents, half were 14-years-old or younger.

The study found the northern territo-

ries is where the largest numbers of "skip-generation" families existed - where a grandparent is raising grandchildren in the absence of the children's parents. While across the country, only 0.4 per cent of children under 14 lived in a skip-generation household, the rate in Nunavut was 2.3 per cent and in the Northwest Territories it was 1.3 per cent.

"This creates a situation in which grandparents are raising some of the most at-risk children in society at a time when they were probably expecting more rest and relaxation," wrote researchers Anne Milan and Brian Hamm. "These grandchildren may have experi-

enced physical or emotional abuse, have special needs, been exposed to parental conflict or toxic substances and, consequently, might require much care and guidance."

The study found 1.6 per cent of Quebec households had grandparents and grandchildren living under the same roof, well below the national average of four per cent. The provinces with the highest rates were British Columbia, where 4.9 per cent of households were multigenerational, and Ontario with 4.8 per cent.

Overall, an estimated 930,000 Canadians live in households with three or

more generations.

The trend towards multigenerational households was strongest among aboriginals and recent immigrants. Having grandparents under the same roof can provide valuable emotional, practical and financial support for a family, but it can also have its pitfalls: namely the clash between traditional family values of an older generation and the Western values the children might embrace, the authors wrote. Solomon Scherzer said one factor that may influence whether families live under the same roof is the availability of affordable housing.

CanWest News Service

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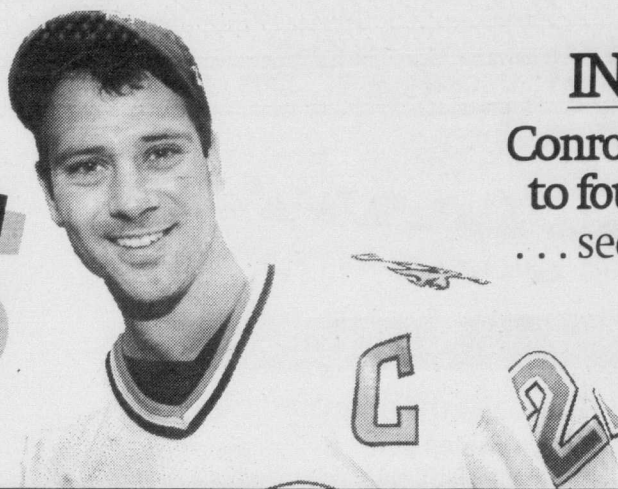
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# THE RECORD Sports



**INSIDE**

Conroy out two  
to four weeks  
... see Page 14

JAMIE ZACHARY, CORRESPONDENTS' EDITOR    NEWSROOM@SHERBROOKERECORD.COM    THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2003 PAGE 13

## Cougars men's basketball to drop to AA circuit

By Mike Hickey  
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

Eastern Township basketball suffered a huge blow this week after Champlain College athletic director Sylvain Laflamme confirmed the school will reclassify its men's basketball program from CEGEP AAA to AA.

Laflamme met with the team earlier this month to inform players of the school's decision, and to offer assistance to any player who wished to transfer next year.

The Cougars have fielded AAA basketball teams since the inception of its intercollegiate program in the mid-1970s. Yet it has been on life support for years, and its demotion has been rumoured ever since the women joined the AA circuit a decade ago.

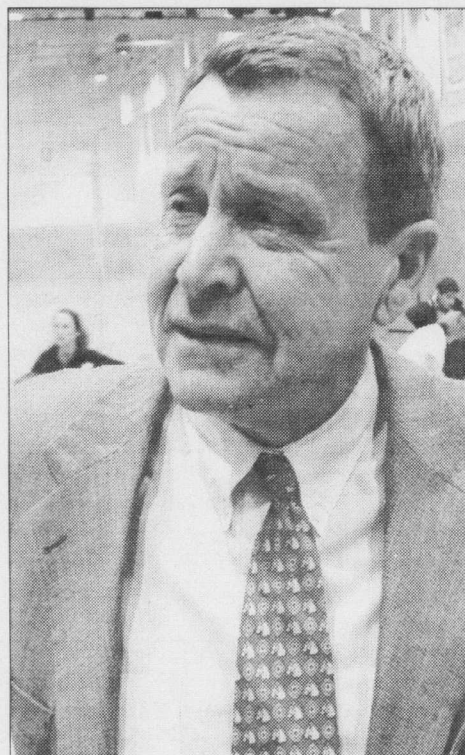
This year, head coach Don Caldwell was told his club would be relegated to AA status within two years. Yet over the past week, national basketball chat lines have been flooded with stories and comments on the Cougars' situation. The public awareness of Champlain's plight was heightened last week in Montreal when Caldwell was honoured prior to a Vanier College-Champlain game.

The Cougars men's basketball program has advanced to the Canadian College Athletic Association national championships twice. Under the guidance of Caldwell, the team's head coach for most of that period, the Cougars have fielded competitive teams in the toughest college league in the country.

But the complexion of the team has changed over the years. Local anglophones from ETIAC schools have not played as prominent roles on the team. Instead, like the AAA football and hockey teams, the basketball squad has come to reflect a new demographic: Francophone student-athletes who wanted to earn their CEGEP diplomas in English while continuing their basketball careers, and Ontario high school players who were coming to Lennoxville to play basketball, upgrade their academic standing and hopefully obtain a scholarship to a Division I school in the United States.

The first group, francophones, reflect the reality of the Lennoxville campus where more than 50 per cent of the students list French as their first language.

The out-of-province athletes, mean-



RECORD FILE PHOTO

Don Caldwell's men's basketball team will be reclassified from CEGEP AAA to AA.

while, may have helped keep the football and basketball teams competi-

tive, but it also caused its own set of problems. Rarely do such athletes complete their DEC.

Another problem was highlighted again this season. Cougars' talented point guard Kingsley Costain left Champlain after receiving a full scholarship to Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif.

With Kingsley in the line-up, the Cougars were a bona-fide playoff team. Without him, they are on the bubble and will have to overachieve to beat out Montmorency and Ste-Foy for a playoff spot.

Ironically, the move to AA may allow some ETIAC graduates to continue playing CEGEP basketball. Quality players who desire to play at the AAA level will likely find a new school, while the AA program will attract players better suited for the AA-calibre circuit.

The one loser in this situation is Caldwell, who gave the Champlain program his heart and soul, and wanted to keep it going. While he craved one more run at a CEGEP and national title, he always put his players' well-being before winning, and was the architect of many success stories on and off the court.

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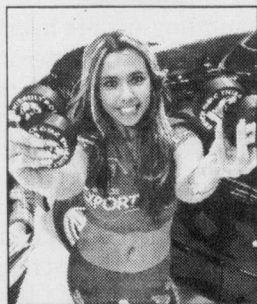
**Roch Isabel and Trevor Jobe are back in town**

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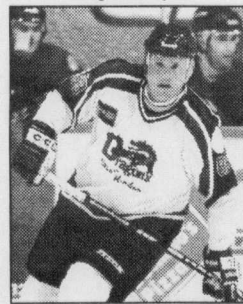
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## SPORTS NOTEBOOK

**Capitals fire Cassidy, promote Hanlon**

Glen Hanlon was named head coach of the Washington Capitals after the NHL team fired Bruce Cassidy on Wednesday. It's the first career NHL head coaching job for Hanlon, who was an assistant on Cassidy's staff.

The Capitals, 8-18-1-1, are tied with Pittsburgh in last place in overall standings in the 30-team league. The last straw for GM George McPhee was a 4-1 loss Monday to the Colorado Avalanche.

Tension had been building since Cassidy told his players after yet another loss last week that they shouldn't consider family problems as excuses for playing poor hockey. The players considered his comments to be callously over the line.

**Budding athletes to get federal boost**

Budding Olympic and Paralympic athletes aiming at gold in Beijing in 2008 or Vancouver in 2010 will benefit from \$7.4 million in federal money over the next two years.

The money, announced Wednesday by Paul DeVillers, secretary of state for amateur sport, will go to a "second wave" of young athletes in sports where Canada is expected to do well internationally.

The program is called La Releve, or relief, in the sense of a relief pitcher coming in from the bullpen, DeVillers said.

**Flames' Conroy out 2 to 4 weeks**

Calgary Flames forward Craig Conroy has a slight tear of the medial collateral ligament (MCL) in his left knee and will out of the lineup for two to four weeks.

Conroy, 32, suffered the injury in Friday's 2-1 victory over the Minnesota Wild. Josh Green of the American Hockey League's Lowell Lock Monsters made his Flames season debut Sunday against the Pittsburgh Penguins in place of the injured Conroy.

**On TV****THURSDAY**

- **GOLF: 3 p.m.**, TargetWorld Challenge, first round, TSN
- **HOCKEY: 7 p.m.**, National Hockey League regular season, Tampa Bay lightning at Ottawa Senators, Sportsnet. RDS.

**Around Town**

To submit your sporting event, fax it to (819) 569-3945, email newsroom@sherbrooke-record.com or contact Jamie Zachary, Correspondents' Editor, or Mike Hickey at (819) 569-6345.

**UPCOMING**

- **CURLING: Through to Sunday**, senior women's provincial curling championship, Sherbrooke Curling Club, all day.
- **JUNIOR AAA HOCKEY: Friday**, Contrecoeur Éperriers at Champlain Cougars, Léopold-Drolet Palais des Sports, Sherbrooke, 7:30 p.m.
- **SENIOR HOCKEY (LHSMQ): Thursday**, Verdun at Sherbrooke St. François, Léopold-Drolet Palais des Sports, Sherbrooke, 8 p.m.; **Sunday**, St-Georges at Thetford Mines Prolab, 4 p.m.; St-Jean at Granby Prédateurs, Léopold-Drolet Arena, 7:30 p.m.
- **SENIOR HOCKEY (LHSP): Friday**, Magog at asbestos, 8:30 p.m.; Disraeli at Coaticook, 8:30 p.m.; East Angus at Coleraine, 8:30 p.m.; Valcourt at Windsor, 8:30 p.m.; **Saturday**, Coleraine at East Angus, 7 p.m.
- **MIDGET AAA: Sunday**, Laval-Laurentides-Lanaudière Régents at Magog Cantonniers, 2 p.m.

## NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

# MacCulloch refuses to give up on NBA career

By Bob Duff

The Philadelphia 76ers arrived in town this week with only nine healthy players to face the Detroit Pistons.

Allen Iverson didn't play.

Glenn Robinson didn't play.

Marc Jackson didn't play.

A knee injury kept rookie guard Willie Green, a local product of Detroit-Mercy, out of Tuesday's game, his first chance to play in front of his family as a pro.

That was a tough break for Green, but it's far from tragic. Todd MacCulloch's situation, now there's a tragedy in the making.

The 76ers' centre from Winnipeg hasn't played a game in nearly a year now and doctors still aren't 100 per cent certain about the cause behind the nervous disorder that is affecting MacCulloch's feet and hindering his balance.

Tuesday, MacCulloch, 27, travelled to the Hippocrates Institute for Rehabilitation in West Palm Beach, Fla. — his latest stop in search of the elixir that might return to him the opportunity to earn a living as an NBA player.

MacCulloch was placed on the injured list Feb. 19 and missed the final 34 games of the regular season and all of last spring's playoffs with what is being described as a left/right foot neuropathy. He displays symptoms of Charcot-Marie-Tooth and Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Poliradiculo, both neurological disorders affecting the peripheral nerves.

MacCulloch spends his free time, of which he has far too much, scouring the Internet in search of answers, learning far more about diseases and the medical world than he ever imagined. He's prepared to travel anywhere in search of a cure, some answers, or at least a reason to believe there might be better days around the corner.

Both those close to him and complete strangers frequently offer suggestions to MacCulloch, but nobody has yet come up with a solution.

"It's a sad situation and he's such an amazing

guy," said Pistons coach Larry Brown, who coached MacCulloch in Philadelphia.

"Stuff like this always seems to happen to the good guys."

Much excitement has come to MacCulloch during his brief NBA tenure. He's twice appeared in the league championship series, with the Sixers (2001) and the New Jersey Nets (2002). He's the only Canadian to score a basket in an NBA playoff game played in Canada.

MacCulloch suited up for Canada at the 2000 Sydney Olympics. At Washington, he led the NCAA in field-goal percentage three straight seasons.

MacCulloch, who has four years remaining on a \$36 million US contract, is staying close to the game and his team by working as an analyst on 76ers radio broadcasts. MacCulloch attended Philadelphia's training camp to see if there was any improvement in his condition over the summer, but his abilities remained constrained by his illness.

By comparison, playing without Iverson (right knee hematoma), Jackson (fractured finger) and Robinson (ankle sprain) is immaterial. Chucky Atkins' 16-game absence due to knee surgery, which concluded when the Pistons' guard suited up for Tuesday's 78-76 setback, is a blip on the screen.

Injuries are part of the game. All of these players know that sooner or later, they will return to the court and resume their livelihood.

MacCulloch is offered no such certainty and for the time being, can only grasp on to faith as his healing ointment.

"You just hope they find something to help him," Brown said. "You hope that he doesn't give up."

Brown needn't worry about that. The likable, personable MacCulloch continues to maintain belief a cure will be found.

"I'm going to keep seeing specialists," MacCulloch said recently.

His illness has him out, but MacCulloch won't allow it to keep him down.

— CanWest News Service

## CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

**Barrett may return to Cincinnati**

By Darrell Davis

Saskatchewan Roughriders head coach Danny Barrett, a University of Cincinnati graduate, has been contacted about his old school's search for a new head football coach.

"I did receive a phone call to see if I would be interested," Barrett said Tuesday from the Roughriders' Canadian Football League offices. "I told them yes, I would listen, but nobody has called back."

Cincinnati's eight-member screening committee has reportedly assembled a list of 75 candidates to replace Rick Minter, who was fired Dec. 1 after 10 years on the job. The university is poised to move from Conference USA to the more prestigious Big East Conference.

Brian Teter, the university's associate athletic director and a member of the screening commit-

tee, said the assessment process would begin this week and they hoped to hire a new coach by the end of December.

The university was aware of Barrett's recent successes in the CFL and if their alumnus was interested, Teter said, he would receive "serious consideration."

Barrett played quarterback for the Bearcats from 1979-82 — he is sixth among the school's all-time passing yardage leaders — before starting his CFL career. He returned to Cincinnati in 1988 (after his honeymoon with his wife, Alison) to complete his management degree. When Barrett was finishing his degree at Cincinnati, one of the football team's assistants was current Winnipeg Blue Bombers head coach Dave Ritchie.

— CanWest News Service

**In Memoriam**

**LEVITT, Marjorie** - To a wonderful wife and mother who passed away December 11, 1999.

There is a gift that money cannot buy,  
It's very rare and true,  
It is a gift of precious memories  
Like the ones we have of you.  
A special place within our hearts  
A corner all your very own,  
No one else can ever fill it,  
For it's reserved for you alone.  
The sun still rises, but the days are long,  
They are very lonely, since you've been gone,

We miss your smile, we miss your touch,  
We miss you being with us so much.  
Until we meet again.

Love from  
JOHN, JOAN,  
BARBARA, MARGO  
and  
8 GRANDCHILDREN and  
21 GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

**Birchton**  
Eleanor Taylor

Serena Wintle accompanied Sheila Bellam of Sawyerville to the Awards Night at Alexander Galt Regional High School. Sheila presented the Jean Wilder Memorial Bursary given by the Order of the Eastern Star, Cookshire Chapter #46, to Karolyn Kirby. Serena presented the Compton County Women's Institute Bursaries to Stephanie Bennett, Andrea Cosman, Karen McBurney, Maxime Vachon, and Joseph Kirby. She also presented the Compton County Historical Society Awards to Rose Beaudoin-Lowry and Jason Sylvester.

The November meeting of the Compton County Historical Museum Society was held at the home of Serena and Gilbert Wintle. We were very pleased that Ed Laberee was able to be with us and give a very detailed report of the F.S.H.Q. (Et. Chapter) meeting he had attended. The directors of C.C.H.M. Society extend their best wishes to Ed during this period of ill health.

Heather and Nick Turchyn have returned home after spending a month in Myrtle Beach, S.C. They reported having great weather and that the ocean waters were very warm at this time of year. On the trip back they spent a couple of days at the home of Charlotte and Gerry Robinson's in Johnstown, Ont.

**Birth**

**ELLIOTT** - Proud parents Cheryl and Bruce Elliott are pleased to announce the arrival of their daughter, Heather Debra Elliott, on December 2, 2003, 9:34 a.m., weighing 7 lbs. 1.oz. Heather is welcomed into the family by sister Crystal, grandparents Lewis and Debra Burnham, Gloria Hagstrom, and great-grandparents, aunts and uncles.

**Death**

**McCUTCHEON, Phyllis (nee Bishop)** - Peacefully at St. Patrick's Home, Ottawa, Ont., on Wednesday, December 10, 2003. Beloved wife of Dr. Wilfred W. McCutcheon. Phyllis was born and raised in Marbleton, Que., attended Sherbrooke High School, graduated from Bishop's University and taught high school in the Eastern Townships of Quebec. Besides her husband, she leaves to mourn her dear sister Doreen Mulcahy, her sister-in-law Iris Bishop, her brother-in-law Donald McCutcheon and his wife Dot, her niece Jane Bishop, her nephew Terry Mulcahy, as well as many friends and relatives. Phyllis was a longtime member of St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church in Ottawa, as well as St. Paul's Anglican Church in Marbleton. Friends may visit at St. Patrick's Home Chapel, 2865 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ont., on Friday, December 12, 2003 after 1 p.m., until the service time in the chapel at 1:30 p.m. The Reverend Canon Wayne Thomas officiating. Interment of the urn will take place at a later date at St. Paul's Cemetery in Marbleton, Que. Donations in memory of Phyllis may be made to St. Patrick's Home, Ottawa or to St. Paul's Anglican Church, Marbleton, www.mcgarryfamily.ca, 1-613-233-1143.

**Card of Thanks**

**FRENCH** - We wish to thank each and everyone who sent cards, phone calls and helped to get Jean to see me in the hospital. Special thanks to Unity Lodge and Encampment for Meals on Wheels. To the ambulance attendants, Dr. Poulin and nurses on 9th and 10th floors at the CHUS Fleurimont. Special thanks to Mary Ellen. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. God bless you all.  
CLINTON & JEAN

**Death**



**PAGE, Violet Adel 1922-2003** - Surrounded by her family, at the Brome-Missisquoi Perkins Hospital, on the evening of December 9th, 2003, in her 82nd year, passed away Violet Adel Page, loving wife of the late Herbert Page. She leaves to mourn her daughter Betty Ann, her 2 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren, her 3 sisters and 3 brothers, her brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, her nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. As per her request, there will be a graveside service at the Knowlton Protestant Cemetery on Friday, December 12th at 11 a.m. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the Desourdy Wilson Funeral Home, 318 Knowlton rd., Knowlton, Que., J0E 1V0, tel: (450) 263-1212, fax: (450) 263-9557, e-mail: info@desourdywilson.com. Donations in her memory to the Brome Missisquoi Perkins Foundation, 950 Principale, Cowansville, Que., J2K 1K3 or the Canadian Cancer Society, P.O. Box 131, Cowansville, Que., J2K 3H1, would be appreciated and acknowledged by the family.

**Death**

**SPENSER, Mrs. Roland, Myrtle Nellie May Cotton** - Died December 8, 2003, in her 99th year at Georgetown, Ont. She leaves to mourn her daughters: Sandra Janicke of Westbank, B.C., Daphne Dulsion of Sechel, B.C., and 3 grandchildren: Linda, Richard and Debra, 8 great-grandchildren and her sister, Marguerite Cotton of Sherbrooke, Que. Also numerous nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents: Edwin and Minnie Cotton, 2 brothers: Charles and Harold, 4 sisters: Violet Munday, Rose Knight, Pansy and Lily Millier. Funeral service will be held Friday, December 12, 2003 at 2 p.m., at the McKinnon Funeral Home at 55 Mill St., East, Action, Ont.

*The Maple Leaf*

In the springtime I was just a bud  
Upon the maple tree you see  
Waiting for the sunshine  
To make a leaf of me.

Finally I grew into a pretty green leaf  
With lots of others too  
The wind would blow us up and down  
The rain would wet us through.

Till at last the autumn came  
And painted us so bright  
Then each and every maple tree  
Was just a pretty sight.

Until one day the cold wind blew  
It blew and severed me  
From the pretty branches  
Of the hard wood maple tree.

Composed by  
Verna Mahannah Patterson

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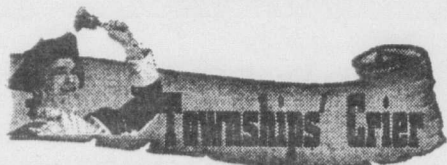
**BIRTH & DEATH NOTICES, CARDS OF THANKS, IN MEMORIAMs, BRIEFLETS:**

Text only: 32¢ per word. Minimum charge \$8.00 (\$9.20 taxes included)  
Discounts: 2 insertions - 15% off, 3 insertions - 30% off  
With photo: additional \$18.50. **DEADLINE:** 11 a.m., day before publication.  
**BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY & GET-WELL WISHES, ENGAGEMENT NOTICES:**  
Text only: \$7.00 (includes taxes)  
With photo: \$20.00 (\$23.01 taxes included) **DEADLINE:** 3 days before publication.  
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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.



**WATERVILLE-HATLEY-NORTH HATLEY**  
The Waterville-Hatley-North Hatley United Church Pastoral Charge: Worship services on December 14: Waterville 9:30 a.m., Hatley 9:30 a.m., North Hatley 11 a.m.

**NORTH HATLEY**  
St. Barnabas Anglican Church, North Hatley, Family Service and Healing Ministry, Rev. Alain Milot (819) 842-2686, Sunday Services held at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

**DANVILLE**  
Trinity United will be holding a Service on Sunday, December 14 at 3:30 p.m. followed by a pot-luck supper and a programme by the Sunday School children.

**RICHMOND**  
Come and celebrate the joy of the Christmas Season with us at the Richmond-Melbourne United Church, 247 Principale Sud, Saturday, December 13 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, December 14 at 8 p.m. A 40-voice ecumenical choir will share the Christmas story with you through music. A free will offering will be taken. Everyone is welcome.

**BULWER**  
Bulwer Q.F.A.'s annual Christmas Party

for members and friends will be held on Sunday, December 14 at the Bulwer Community Centre. We eat at 12:45 p.m. followed by a visit from St. Nick. Please bring a first course dish and a dessert. For information, please contact Neil Burns at (819) 875-3656. No Q.F.A. meeting this month.

**AYER'S CLIFF**  
The annual meeting of the E.T. County Fairs Association will be held on Thursday, December 11 at the Legion Hall, 176 Rosedale, Ayer's Cliff starting at 10 a.m. Delegates from each county fair, please note change of location.

**WARDEN**  
Christmas 500 card party on Wednesday, December 17 at 7:45 p.m. Sponsored by Victoria Rebekah Lodge #19. Lunch and prizes. All welcome.

**NORTH HATLEY**  
Sunday, December 14, 4:30 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Church of North Hatley, the Christmas Play and Pot-luck Turkey Supper will take place. This year, children and youth will put on the play, based on Unitarian author, Beatix Potter's story, "The Tailor of Gloucester". Bring a favorite Christmas dish and join us for the turkey potluck following. All are welcome! A small family contribution is requested.

**LENNOXVILLE**  
Ham and Turkey Bingo at the Army, Navy, Air Froce, Unit 318, 300 St. Francis, Lennoxville on December 17 at 7:30

p.m. Everyone welcome.  
**LENNOXVILLE**  
Learn to make a live centerpiece for Christmas with Cathy Neville of Fleuriste et Serres Neville on December 13 from 10 a.m. to noon. Cost includes materials. Limited to 12 participants. Uplands is located at 9 Speid St. in Lennoxville. For more information or to register for this workshop, call (819) 564-0409.

**LENNOXVILLE**  
The Uplands Musical Society will perform their annual Christmas Concerts on Friday, December 19 and Saturday, December 20 at 8 p.m. Christmas songs, readings and a sing-along followed by refreshments. Admission is free but due to limited seating, reservations are required. To reserve, call (819) 564-0409.

**HATLEY**  
Luncheon at St. James Church Hall, Hatley starting at 11:30 a.m. on December 17. Benefit of the A.C.W. All welcome.

**NORTH HATLEY**  
A Christmas Carol, CBC reading, December 12, 7:15 p.m., St. Barnabas Anglican Church, 640 Sherbrooke St., North Hatley. Bring donation or non-perishable food for a food bank. Admission free, refreshments. Townshippers' Association, (819) 566-5717, toll free 1-866-566-5717.

**LENNOXVILLE**  
Christmas Market, The Waldorf School, Les Enfants de la Terre, Saturday, De-

ember 13, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., United Church, 6 Church, Lennoxville. There will be local artisans, books, unique art supplies, workshops for children such as decorating cookies and making candles and storytimes for young and old alike. Delicious home-made food will be served throughout the day. Please join us.

**LENNOXVILLE**  
Lennoxville United Church: Christmas Choir Service, December 14 at 10:00 a.m. Come and join us for this special service of Christmas music. Corner of Queen and Church St., Lennoxville. Organist and choir director: Maryse Simard. Tel: (819) 565-8449.

• • •  
**This column accepts items announcing events organized by churches, service clubs and recognized charitable institutions for a \$6.00 fee, \$9.00 for 2 insertions of same notice, \$12.00 for 3 publications. Maximum 35 words. If you have more than 35 words the charge will be \$10.00 per insertion. Requests should be mailed, well in advance, to The Record, P.O. Box 1200, Sherbrooke, Quebec, J1H 5L6, be signed and include a telephone number and payment. Telephone requests will not be accepted. Admission charges and trade names will be deleted. No dances.**

## Outward Bound

Waiting to travel and feeling low  
A gesture so nice it made me glow  
Came from a lady with smiles quite wide  
Husband and daughter were by her side  
She spoke of reading The Record each day  
Because of my poem she wanted to say  
'Keep writing' as she'd be looking for more.  
Exchanged introductions sure opened a door  
Because of my coming from so afar  
Had never the pleasure to meet Ola Carr.  
How kind to speak to me way back then  
I am sad to know we'll not meet again.....  
*Dora Scott Parker*

## Ask your doctor to refer you to a marriage counselor

**Dear Annie:** I have been married to "Fred" for over 20 years, and we have three children. I helped him develop his successful business, which has grown fourfold during our marriage. However, Fred takes credit for everything and doesn't acknowledge my assistance in nurturing his business or raising our kids.

Now I'm not even sure Fred loves me. A few weeks ago, I told him that I don't feel secure in our marriage, that I wasn't certain I could depend on him unconditionally. His response was, "I don't want to be responsible for your security." That just blew me away.

I sensed an underlying message that if I need him, he might not be there for me. Perhaps if I became too much of a burden, he would not help me. I thought marriage was an unconditional bond and that we should provide security for each other. Now I don't know if we have a future together. — Confused in Atlanta

**Dear Confused:** Before jumping to conclusions, you should ask Fred to explain that un-

## Annie's Mailbox

kind statement. He may have meant something different. If you don't feel secure after 20 years of marriage, it may be time to clear the air and decide if you both want this marriage to succeed. Ask your doctor to refer you to a marriage counselor, and, as always, if Fred won't go with you, go alone.

**Dear Annie:** I am a professor of criminal justice at Sam Houston State University. One of my areas of specialization is family violence, including elder abuse. I concur with your advice to the woman who said her brother, "Hugh," has taken an excessive amount of money from their mother's bank accounts. I would like to suggest another step that the daughter should take as well.

Please tell her to contact the state Adult Protective Services and file a complaint. A caseworker will investigate. If the son is breaching his fiduciary trust, not only civil action, but criminal action might be taken. They also can step in and assume conservatorship of the mother's financial affairs and go to court to sever the son's power of attorney.

Stealing money is a very common, but little known, type of elder abuse. The elderly are frequently afraid to speak up out of fear of reprisal. Dementia can compound the situation. Sometimes, when investigating the financial

abuse, authorities uncover physical, sexual and emotional abuse, as well as severe neglect. — Raymond Teske Jr., Ph.D., Professor, Criminal Justice Center, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas

**Dear Dr. Teske:** Thank you for your expert advice. Not all siblings are willing to take such drastic steps, but sometimes it is necessary. Here's one more:

**Dear Annie:** My mom has been an Alzheimer's patient for years and is in a nursing home. She does not have insurance. My father left all his money to her, knowing she would need it for long-term care.

My sister had been handling my parents' finances, and when Dad passed away, we discovered she had removed Mom's name from all the bank accounts and CDs (around \$250,000). After many tears and much soul-searching, I hired an attorney.

The probate judge named me as Mom's conservator and suggested I investigate the transactions to determine if steps should be taken to recover the money.

The lesson for your readers is that if a sibling is assisting a parent with finances, insist that all close family members review the books and transactions regularly. The temptation simply is too great. — Sadder but Smarter Down South

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

**Happy Birthday Rita!**

**Best Wishes**

from all your friends at

**THE RECORD**

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: U equals B

"RW SDJ'HK TE THNRXN, SDJ NHS ND VKKM TE KTH ND NPK IHDJEG TEG TE KTH ND SDJH PKTHN." — UHJOK XMHREIXNKKE

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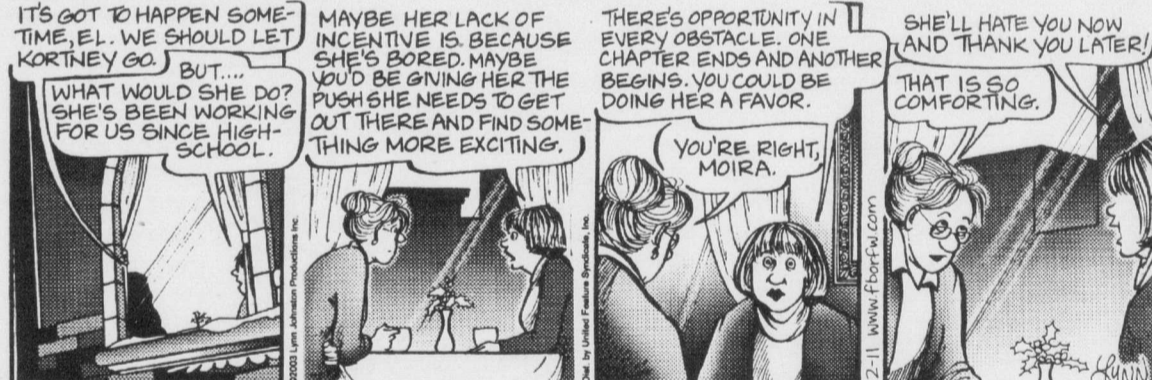
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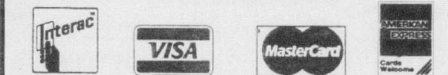
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# Your Birthday

Thursday, Dec. 11, 2003

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — It's possible that you've been dodging it for some time, but conditions today are likely to cause you to take a commanding position in a situation where you'd rather play a subordinate role.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Your chances of getting something for which you've been secretly longing for a long time are getting better and better. Today may give you cause to be more hopeful than you thought possible.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Getting your head together with an entirely new group of associates may be the best thing you've done in a long time. Fresh blood and new thoughts can allow progressive programs to develop.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) — It behooves you to devote as much time and skill as you can to your career ambitions today. If you give those in high places reasons to admire your work, something astounding could occur.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) — Others might not think you know what you're talking about today, but you'll back up your words with actions and show them. It'll please both you and those with whom you're involved.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) — Today could be a propitious day to refresh your memo-

ry on a project and make the necessary revisions to update it. What worked well before can do wonders again in the future.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) — Explore all options if it becomes necessary to change your level of operation today, even the radical ones, which it might take to get things rolling once again on an even keel.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) — Should you experience fresh ambitions being awakened in you today, don't take them lightly. You're now in a cycle where you can accomplish that which you thought was impossible.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) — Take a second look today at someone who you might have recently met through a social involvement to discern whether or not you want him or her to play an important role in your affairs.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Stop finding excuses for delays regarding changes that you know would make a difference in the welfare of your family. There is never a better time than the present to begin.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Your uneasiness can be appeased today if you address what is disturbing you with those involved or, at least, with an older or wiser head. Answers can be found if you seek them out.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Conditions are developing today in a manner that could prove to be advantageous to you where your material interests are at stake. This new building period is just beginning.

Thursday, Dec. 11, 2003

North 12-11-03			
♠ A 10 4 2			
♥ A Q 4 3			
♦ A 2			
♣ J 10 7			
West		East	
♠ —		♠ J 9 8 7 5 3	
♥ 10 9 2		♥ 7	
♦ 10 9 8 6 5 3		♦ K	
♣ Q 9 8 4		♣ K 6 5 3 2	
South			
♠ K Q 6			
♥ K J 8 6 5			
♦ Q J 7 4			
♣ A			
Dealer: North			
Vulnerable: East-West			
South	West	North	East
2 ♥	Pass	1 ♦	1 ♠
4 NT	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
6 ♥	Pass	5 ♣	Pass
Opening lead: ♦ 10			

tional Pairs, played in London, caught my eye.

Sontag has a great flair for sensing when it is right to do "wrong." Sitting North, he would normally have opened one no-trump, showing 13-15 points in the system he was using with partner Steve Altman. But Sontag decided instead to start with one diamond, which in principle indicated an unbalanced hand with no five-card major. His subsequent five clubs announced (zero or) three aces.

Against six hearts, West led the diamond 10. How did Altman plan the play?

At most tables, North opened one no-trump, promising 15-17 points. South responded with a two-diamond transfer bid, guaranteeing at least five hearts, then drove to slam. This made North the declarer. East led a spade; West ruffed and shifted to a diamond. Each declarer, shrugging his shoulders, took the finesse, but East won with the king, gave his partner another spade ruff, received a diamond ruff in return, and delivered a third spade ruff: four down!

Altman realized, when West led a diamond, not his partner's suit, that he had to have a spade void. So, taking no chances, declarer called for dummy's ace, fortuitously dropping the king. A moment later, he claimed all 13 tricks. This result gave Altman and Sontag just enough to win the event, defeating Peter Weichsel (soon to become Sontag's regular partner) and Tom Smith, who were their opponents on this deal.

## A reprise from a reprint

By Phillip Alder

Yesterday, I mentioned the reprint of Alan Sontag's "A Bridge Bum" (Master Point Press, 2003). The author gives an excellent insight to top-level tournament bridge. This deal, from the 1973 Sunday Times Invita-

## CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

- 1 Fictional ring bearer
- 6 Voting group
- 10 Driver Earnhardt
- 14 Ran at an easy pace
- 15 Olin or Horne
- 16 Comic Sandler
- 17 Make revisions
- 18 Start of an order
- 20 Prohibition
- 21 Foresails
- 23 Actress Plummer
- 24 Won follower?
- 25 Press Secretary Fleischer
- 26 Part 2 of order
- 35 Celebes buffalo
- 36 Jai \_\_
- 37 Wading bird

- 38 Litter weakling
- 39 Desires
- 41 Racer Luyendyk
- 42 Halloween option
- 44 Speckled steed
- 45 Vault
- 46 Part 3 of order
- 49 Ocasek of The Cars
- 50 Large mythical bird
- 51 "The Piano" co-star Harvey
- 55 Aid a con man
- 57 Posed
- 60 End of order
- 62 Video game pioneer
- 64 Country singer McCann
- 65 \_\_ to that!
- 66 Brightest star in Orion
- 67 Fulda tributary

- 24 Old-time roofing material
- 25 Japanese dogs
- 26 Oder tributary
- 27 Entomb
- 28 Gin and \_\_
- 29 King of the Visigoths
- 30 Tippy craft
- 31 Emphatic typeface
- 32 Small songbird
- 33 Cuban boy in 2000 news
- 34 Dance moves
- 40 Saw wood in bed
- 43 Asian peninsula

- 47 Country estates
- 48 \_\_ public
- 51 Leafy veggie
- 52 Writer Bagnold
- 53 Inactive
- 54 Romanov title
- 55 Iowa State city
- 56 Containers
- 57 Heroic narrative
- 58 Militant deity
- 59 Incline
- 61 Doctors' org.
- 63 Deadlock


### Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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

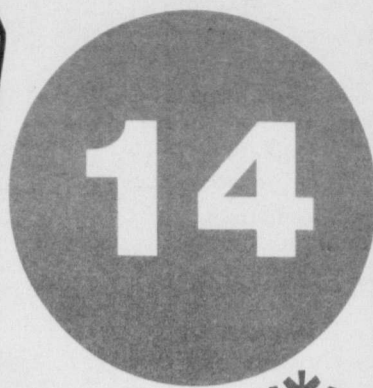
### DOWN

- 1 Loose fat
- 2 Capital of Italia
- 3 Unrestricted
- 4 Lair
- 5 Handyman's assignment
- 6 Shapeless form
- 7 Camera eye
- 8 Half and half?
- 9 Former Chevy model
- 10 Incongruous art movement
- 11 Tennis situation
- 12 Glorify
- 13 Austen novel
- 19 Zatopek and Jannings
- 22 Acquired family member

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20				21	22				23					
			24					25						
26	27	28				29	30				31	32	33	34
35						36					37			
38						39					40			41
42				43		44							45	
46						47					48			
				49						50				
51	52	53	54				55	56				57	58	59
60							61				62	63		
64						65					66			
67						68					69			



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