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THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 2002

Students are latest victims of Conley Street vandals



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

This student was wakened in the night by the sound of shattering glass.

'I'm not staying here next year' - student

By Daniel Huot
LENOXVILLE

The vandal or vandals responsible for tens of thousands of dollars worth of damages to businesses on Lennoxville's Conley Street have selected new targets, striking homes Wednesday morning between 4 and 5 a.m.

"It woke me up," said second-year biology student Brandy Bursey. "I was confused. I didn't know

if somebody was breaking in."

Two windows were shattered on the verandah of her apartment, situated near the end of the street. Both Bursey and her roommate were terrified that something horrible was about to happen.

"I was too scared," said Bursey. "I didn't know what was happening. We just moved in here this year."

Conley Street has become notorious over the past year for the increasing number of vandalism incidents.

PLEASE SEE VANDALS PAGE 9

ACI call centre in hiring mode

By Daniel Huot
SHERBROOKE

ACI Telecentrics' Sherbrooke and Vaudreuil facilities will be increasing staff within the upcoming months, Human resources manager Danielle St-Vincent told The Record. She said the call centre expects to reach its 600 staff goal by the middle of 2002.

That's good news for bilingual residents living in the Sherbrooke area, St-Vincent added, considering the company went ahead with approximately 100 temporary layoffs in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks, reducing staff from approximately 550 to 450.

"They have all been called back and we're now in recruiting mode," she said.

PLEASE SEE ACI PAGE 5

Perfect Match



JESSIE AULIS

These youngsters modeled for a recent bridal salon (See Page 2) Also see the supplement in today's Record for your wedding planning needs.

Don't miss it!

IN TODAY'S PAPER



Bridal Supplement

Looking old can help you

I have a 17-year-old car. The paint has faded, and the chrome is flaking, and there's rust all over it. Some guys would get all the body work done and a fresh coat of paint. Maybe a ring and valve job. But that's not my way.

No matter how much you repair or replace, the sad truth is that all of the parts of that automobile are old and tired. And since nobody is crazy enough to replace all of the parts, more sooner than later, one of them is going to break down. To me, the only way to keep it on the road is to remember the car's failing health and treat it with tenderness and extreme respect.

If I get a new paint job, I'll forget it's an old car. Then, when it doesn't start or something doesn't work, I'll be disappointed. I like it better now. It looks like an old pile of junk, and when it gets me where I want to go, I consider it a miracle. It's called "contentment through lower expectation." It's also why I don't dye my hair.

THE CUT MAN

I hate to admit it, but I like watching boxing. Not in person, but on television. And not when it's anyone I know or ever dated. I think what appeals to me is the fundamental struggle against an obvious and worthy opponent and the ultimate personal discovery about a man and his own personal courage. For me it's a microcosm of life.

Now every boxer has three guys in his corner. And the most important of these is what they call a "cut man." He's the guy who patches you up between rounds so you can go back out and continue the fight. I think in life we all need a good cut man. Somebody who can make us smile or cheer us up or even just pay for the beer.

Some of us don't have a knockout punch or blinding speed and we'll never win any titles, but if we have a good cut man, we can at least make it to the last round, and that's all that really matters. You can't win at life anyway. The ending is fixed.

NORTH OF FORTY



RED GREEN

Communication requires interpretation

Communication is a very important part of everyone's life. But to be able to understand people, you must realize that they often say the exact opposite of what they mean. For example:

- "It's not you, it's me."
- "Have you lost weight?"
- "If I had to lose to somebody, I'm glad it was you."
- "I can't eat all this."
- "Head office has ordered me to let you go."
- "You look younger every year."
- "As your former employer, I'm so pleased you've become so successful."
- "I'm from the tax department and I'm here to help you."

AGGRESSION DEPRESSION

For anybody who's played contact sports or sold timeshares, you've been told many times that aggression is a

good thing. If you want something, you have to go after it. Nobody's going to hand you success; you've got to butt into line, reach out and grab it.

They call it the "killer instinct," and a lot of us encourage it in our kids and our athletes and each other. And then we hear on the news about fights in the stands and road rage and belligerent airline passengers.

Maybe we need to temper this whole aggression thing. We're ending up with a lot of really crabby people doing well. That's not a good trend. Society gets a little scary when every time people see a yellow light, they step on the gas instead of the brakes.

Quote of the Day: "Don't squat with your spurs on." — Red Green

RED GREEN IS THE STAR OF "THE RED GREEN SHOW," A TELEVISION SERIES SEEN IN THE U.S. ON PBS AND IN CANADA ON THE CBC NETWORK, AND THE AUTHOR OF "THE RED GREEN BOOK" AND "RED GREEN TALKS CARS: A LOVE STORY."

Early planning is key to successful wedding

By Jessie Aulis
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

"The first thing a couple has to consider when they start planning their wedding is the amount of money they are willing to spend. They have to make a budget and stick to it. They also have to realize that they will need several months to finalize everything so they have to start planning early," said Murielle Deschenes, organizer of the first edition of Le Salon de la Mariée held at L'Hotellerie du Boulevard last weekend.

Over 50 exhibitors were on hand to inform visitors about the wide range of services available to plan the perfect wedding day. Traditional, Mediaeval, simple or elaborate, the bride and groom have plenty to choose from.

"There are so many things to be planned from the clothes, type of reception, religious ceremonies and flowers

to the invitations and photographer, that a whole year is not too long," explained Deschenes.

Grooms are equally concerned with what they will wear. Tuxedos are still very much in style but this year, men can also wear long jackets called redingote. It is less formal but still very elegant.

The preferred colours for decorations as well as clothing this year are gold, cream, off-white, eggshell and champagne while white remains the favorite for the bride.

The personalities of the bride and groom's personality determine the type of wedding they will have. But whatever they decide, the best advice is to start planning early to ensure this memorable day goes off without a hitch.

To help with your wedding planning see the wedding supplement in today's Record.



JESSIE AULIS/RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Exhibitors at the Salon de mariage in Sherbrooke featured various wedding themes.

Weather

Today: Cloudy. Light snow beginning in the afternoon. Temperatures near minus 3.

Friday: Variable cloudiness with chance of flurries. Low near minus 11. High near minus 3.

Saturday: Cloudy with clear periods. Low near minus 5. High near minus 1

Sunday: Cloudy with clear periods. Low near minus 4. High near plus 1.

Ben by Daniel Shelton



Granby T'ship crime, accident rate down again

By Maurice Crossfield

For the eighth consecutive year the crime rate in Granby Township continued to drop in 2001.

This week Granby Township Police chief Denis Roy released the law enforcement statistics for 2001. For the most part the statistics spelled good news for residents.

In all there were some 345 criminal acts reported in 2001 in Granby Township, compared with 386 in 2000. One of the only increases was in the simple theft category, which went from 71 in

2000 to 73 last year.

The single worst crime problem in Granby Township continues to be vehicle theft, primarily because there are 43 car dealers on Granby Township's territory. Still, police made progress, with the number of vehicles stolen down to 69 in 2001 from 85 in 2000. Granby Police chief Denis Roy credited that success with the dismantling of a car theft ring during the year.

Roy also credited the dismantling of the local chapter of the Evil One's motorcycle gang with a drop in the crime

rate.

Simple thefts increased slightly last year, up to 73 from 71 in 2000. Assaults dropped to nine from 12 the year before.

Last year also saw a decrease in the number of traffic tickets handed out. Some 3168 traffic violations were given out, down from 3399 the year before.

Granby Township also managed to get through 2001 without a single fatal accident. Of the 271 accidents that took place last year, only 59 resulted in injuries, while another 212 resulted in only material damage.

However it appears that this will be the last year a crime and traffic report will be filed by Granby Township. Due to new standards set by the provincial government, Granby Township is presently in negotiations with the City of Granby to merge the two police forces.

If that merger attempt fails, Granby Township could end up opting for the protection of the Sûreté du Québec. Either way, the new police service must be in place by June 1, 2002.

Prosecution says Verville shooting was no accident

Defence closing arguments today

By Maurice Crossfield

In his closing arguments to the jury, Crown prosecutor Bernard Monast said it is impossible that Guy Hébert's shooting of Adam Verville was an accident.

"It was not an accident when you look at all of the facts," Monast told the seven men and five women of the jury. "It was Hébert that aimed, it was Hébert that fired."

Monast's closing arguments, which lasted just over 60 minutes, outlined the key elements in the prosecution's case against Hébert, who is accused of second degree murder.

On Oct. 23, 2000 Adam Verville and friend Shawn Soule had been working on a car together and having a few beer. In the evening they decided to go to the Bedford Hotel and buy a joint of cocaine from Hébert. They then left and continued drinking.

At around 12:15 a.m. on the morning of Oct. 24, the two decided to get some more coke, so they went to Hébert's apartment over the Bedford Hotel.

Monast noted that according to both

Hébert's videotaped testimony and the testimony of a friend who was in the apartment at the time, when Hébert heard the car come into the parking lot he went to the bathroom window and looked out. He then went to a cabinet, got his double-barreled 12 gauge shotgun and loaded it.

HÉBERT KNEW

"Why did he say he was afraid?" Monast asked. "After he went into the bathroom he knew who was coming."

The prosecutor also noted that the shotgun has a feature that automatically puts it on safety after it is reloaded. Hébert loaded the shotgun, and then flicked off the safety.

After Verville and Soule knocked on the door it was Hébert who opened it, Monast said. He said Hébert then stepped forward two or three paces, pushing Verville up against the wall, and saying "Not again."

The prosecution contends Hébert then stepped back one pace, looked over at Soule, and pulled the trigger.

As explained during the trial the fatal shot was less than 12 inches from Verville's left hand. The shot passed partially through his hand and into his

chest. His death was confirmed later at hospital, with major damage to several arteries in the chest cited as the cause of death.

"He intentionally shot Adam Verville," Monast said. "The victim had no chance to react."

Soule was temporarily blinded by burning gunpowder, and was brought from the building by René Giroux, the person in Hébert's apartment. Monast told the jury Hébert then took the time to throw his stock of cocaine and pot out of the apartment window before calling 9-1-1.

Monast also picked apart Hébert's story that the gun went off by itself when it hit the door. He noted that

there were no powder burns on the door. Several times he reminded the jury of the ballistics expert's testimony that the shotgun was in perfect working order.

"The only way to fire the weapon is to pull the trigger," he said. "You can

hit it and it won't go off."

"Mr. Hébert made the choice to wait at the door with a loaded gun with the safety off," he concluded.

At 10 a.m. this morning the jury will hear the closing arguments of the defence, represented by lawyer Gerson Foisy. Throughout the trial the defence has maintained the shooting was an accident.

After that, either on Friday or Monday, Quebec Superior Court justice Paul-Marcel Bellavance will give his final instructions to the jury. After that they will be sequestered until they decide if the shooting of Adam Verville was an accident or a deliberate act.

Stalker denied bail

Nelson Afonso
SHERBROOKE

The man accused with the kidnapping and illegal confinement of an 18-year-old woman will find out Wednesday if he must remain in jail until the start of his trial.

Forty-one-year-old Melbourne resident John Stalker will remain behind bars until the start of his trial on more than a dozen charges including kidnapping, aggravated assault and forcible confinement.

"What confidence would the public have in our judicial system if I released him on bail," Quebec court judge Michel Beauchemin asked in his decision to deny Stalker bail. "We need to protect society and prevent a repeat offence which the Court believes may happen."

Stalker allegedly dragged an 18-year-old woman out of her grandmother's house on Harpin Street

in Fleurimont on Dec. 31 and into his car. Police then tried to intercept Stalker's purple Geo Storm at a gas station in Bromptonville but he sped off. The pursuit ended on highway 55 near the St-Elie d'Orford exit with the suspect swerving into a police cruiser.

Police say the suspect intended to murder his victim and then take his own life.

"It's important to note that he said, 'If I don't have her, nobody will'," added judge Beauchemin while an unemotional Stalker looked on. "Based on the victim's testimony (at the bail hearing), he put her through a nightmare, and it wasn't the first time."

Three years ago, Stalker was sentenced to 15 months in jail for armed sexual assault on the same woman.

A jury trial date will be set on Friday.

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Suicide prevention group gets help from businesses

JEVI hopes to translate information for Anglos

By Daniel Huot
SHERBROOKE

Estrie's suicide-prevention branch, Centre de prévention du suicide JEVI Estrie, launched its fourth annual business people fundraising campaign Wednesday. The objective this year remains at \$50,000, a number that was surpassed in 2001 when business partners raised a total of \$85,000.

Line Gregoire, a real estate agent with RE/MAX D'ABORD, said a significant portion of that goal has been reached through word of mouth within Estrie's business community to date.

"At this point in time, we've reached 23 per cent of our objective with \$11,500 raised," she said.

Meanwhile, JEVI director Louise Lévesque announced that a portion of the money that will be raised will go towards translating the organization's documents to make them available to the English-speaking community living in Estrie.

"We've been wanting to translate our materials for the last three years," said Lévesque. "We cannot do it ourselves. We need the help of people who are spe-



JEVI director Louise Lévesque with Line Grégoire, Marcel Courchesne.

cialized in translation to conduct the work."

That means hiring an outside firm or individual to translate the organization's documents.

Lévesque said few Anglos actually call the centre to ask for direct assistance.

"People don't know that they can have their calls answered in English," she noted.

JEVI nonetheless conducts much prevention work in the anglophone community by reaching out to

organizations and addressing the issue of suicide prevention.

"We've been going to Richmond Regional High School and many other schools in Estrie as well as the Community Health Centre in Lennoxville for many years now," said Lévesque.

Other plans Lévesque has for the upcoming year include hiring additional staff and expanding and renovating the building the organization purchased at 120 11th Ave. in Sherbrooke.

"Last year we got 338 requests for assistance," said Lévesque. "If the current trend continues, we could be getting up to 900 requests this year, meaning the number will have tripled."

It's a good thing more people are calling to get help, she added. It

means more people recognize that they have a problem and that they need help to deal with it.

"There's never a typical profile of a suicidal person," Lévesque noted. "It can be anybody. People with suicidal tendencies are simply individuals who are suffering inside and who wish to kill that suffering, not themselves."

She said the 300 per cent anticipated increase in calls for assistance isn't a sign that more people are suicidal, but rather that more people are aware that JEVI exists and that there is a place for them to get help.

"The latest figures we have from the coroner's office on suicides in Estrie date back to 1999 and show approximately 64 people killed themselves that year," said Lévesque. "Over the past 10 years, between 55 and 65 people kill themselves every year on average. If we look at those figures from another angle, they amount to one suicide per week."

Marcel Courchesne, the newsroom director for CKSH/TQS who spoke at the press conference, said one of the benefits of JEVI's services is that they are affordable.

"People who need to consult a psychiatrist often discover that they can't afford one because they cost \$50 or more per hour," he said. "On the other hand, JEVI's services are free."

Lévesque noted only trained professionals work for the organization, including a psychologist, social workers and a psycho-educator.

"Lately, we've noted an increasing number of men are asking for help," she concluded.

JEVI can be reached by dialing 1-866-APPEL or 819-564-1354 in Sherbrooke.

Accused Waterloo pedophile out on bail

Staff

The man accused of offering Waterloo teens drugs in exchange for sex has been released on \$2000 bail.

Pierre Golmar, 40, was released following a bail hearing at the Granby courthouse Wednesday. He must remain at his residence and not have contact with any of the eight teenagers believed to have been involved in the case.

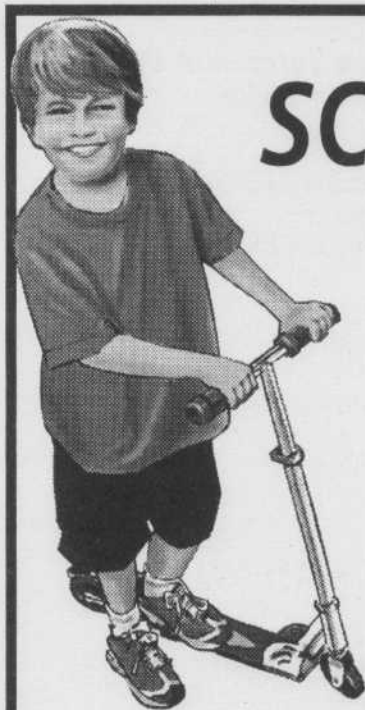
In early December a student at the Polyvalente Wilfrid Leger in Waterloo confided to a staff member that he had been given drugs in exchange for nude photo sessions and sex. A second

teen also came forward and corroborated the story.

The Belgian-born Golmar was arrested shortly afterwards and charged. He was later found fit to stand trial and remained in custody until Wednesday.

Following Golmar's arrest the Sûreté du Québec's Major Crimes squad interviewed some 20 teenagers and their parents to see if other children had been involved. That led to more charges against Golmar, relating to six other teenage boys who were allegedly made the same offer.

Golmar returns to court on March 27.



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Wardens, don't sign agreement with Diocese: Rev. Coates

By Stephen McDougall
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD
LENOXVILLE

Anglican church wardens in the Quebec Diocese are being warned not to sign a new salary agreement being circulated to congregations, the argument being that it threatens a congregation's independence and increases the power of the diocesan bishop.

The 2002 Stipend Agreement is being challenged by Rev. Glen Coates of Lennoxville, who argues it allows Diocesan Bishop Bruce Stavert to become the sole employer of Anglican incumbents, or ministers, within the diocese.

"You alone hire clergy," Coates told the wardens.

"The Bishop can only license and recommend candidates.

"When I was in parish ministry, the Bishop was never my employer."

Coates issued the warning earlier this month in e-mails to various Townships congregations.

At issue are two laws, or Canons, approved by the Diocese in October, 1999, which some critics say give Bishop Stavert more control over the hiring and paying of clergy.

Canon 13 states that a letter of appointment for the incumbent, when signed by the Bishop, constitutes an Employment contract. Such an appointment can then be terminated by

the Bishop for just cause or for administrative reasons.

Canon 10 allows the Bishop to inquire and impose a final ruling on remuneration issues involving a congregation and its minister.

For Coates, the questionable part of the 2002 stipend document lies with this new provision:

"We understand that our Bishop, having duly licensed our incumbent, may be obliged to revoke said license in accordance with the provisions of Canon 10 if our congregation fails to fulfill its respective obligations as defined by the Canons of the Synod of the Diocese of Quebec."

The diocese states that the document must be signed and sent in by Feb. 7 in order that the issuing of salary cheques not be interrupted.

Coates argued that Canons 10 and 13 should not be accepted because they are presently being challenged in Quebec's Superior Court by Drummondville church warden Barry Husk. If Husk wins his case, actions taken under the new canons would be deemed nul and void.

"To all intents and purposes, the Bishop is acting as though these Canons are already in force, deluding the people," Coates said.

He believes the document is an attempt by the Bishop to directly control ministers in the Quebec diocese and also take over managing congregation funds that are held in trust by the Diocese.

'The wardens, acting on behalf of the society, are the legal employers of the minister and lay workers'

-Glen Coates

According to Coates, the salaries of ministers and wardens are provided by the Church Society, an administrative body of the Diocese. The Society, in turn, taxes the congregations for the money needed to pay those salaries.

That money, according to Coates, is held in trust for the congregations and not controlled by the Diocese or the Bishop.

"The wardens, acting on behalf of the society, are the legal employers of the minister and lay workers," he said.

"The Bishop is simply advisor and Spiritual Shepherd."

Coates also warned that signing the document could cause legal problems for the wardens, because it could threaten the independent status of their congregations.

"To sign it means the setting up of an employment contract directly with the Bishop."

Coates also claimed that recent assessments or church taxes on the individual congregations to pay for special diocesan needs such as a legal defence fund are not obligatory.

"This is a recent invention of the diocese and contrary to the Statutes of the province (of Quebec).

"Any assessment is voluntary."

Several wardens have told the Record that the defence fund set up by the diocese in 2000 to pay for legal fees on the Husk case was imposed on their congregations. They complained that they had to pay the assessment or they would not be allowed to send a representative to Synod, the ecclesiastical council of the diocese.

"Wardens, you are strongly advised not to make any decisions unless they are approved by your Vestry (congregation)," concluded Coates.

At the end of his e-mail message, Coates attached a substitute salary agreement, which makes no mention of Canons 10 or 13 and the Bishop's right to revoke a minister's license.

James Sweeny, Registrar for Synod of the Diocese of Quebec said wardens are free to sign the agreement or not. He added those who don't will have to assume responsibility for paying their own clergy once Church Society withdraws central payroll services. Sweeny said the intention of the agreement was to ensure clergy are paid in the event of disputes with their congregations.

ACI

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

St-Vincent noted the Quebec branches of ACI are doing better than their U.S. counterparts because the company has quality, bilingual employees.

"We'll be needing approximately 50 people beginning next month," she said.

ACI's chief operating manager Dana Olson in Minneapolis meanwhile denied rumours the company is seeking government grants to open shop in other parts of the province and would then cut jobs

in Sherbrooke and Vaudreuil.

"That has absolutely no impact on Sherbrooke whatsoever," he said.

Olson acknowledged ACI is scouting new locations to open call centres in the province. New Carlisle, a community in the Gaspésie area, has been examined as a possible option, but not the final one. "We are looking to expand because we are optimistic," he said.

The fourth quarter was difficult for ACI's U.S. installations, Olson acknowledged. The temporary downturn in business won't affect long-term growth, he concluded.

The Lion and the Stock Index

List of companies in the Québec-30™ Index as at January 14, 2002:
(for more on the Québec-30™ Index: www.iq30-iq150.org)

- Bombardier
- BCE
- Alcan Aluminium
- National Bank of Canada
- Royal Bank of Canada
- Power Corporation of Canada
- Abitibi-Consolidated

- Canadian National Railway Company of Canada
- Power Financial Corporation
- Groupe CGI
- Québecor World
- Domtar
- Bank of Montreal

- Molson
- Métro
- Groupe Jean Coutu (PJC)
- Industrial Alliance Life Insurance Company
- BCE Emergis

- Groupe Transcontinental S.T.C.
- Groupe SNC-Lavalin
- Québecor
- Alimentation Couche-Tard
- Laurentian Bank of Canada
- Saputo

- Tembec
- Alcan Pharma
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- Dorel Industries
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Community Forum

When is a bigot a bigot?

What's the difference between prejudice and fair comment? Sometimes, it's easy to say and easy to tell. Other times, more troubling times, it's not so easy to judge.

Take, if you will, Roy Bailey, the Canadian Alliance critic for veterans affairs. Last week he told a reporter his heart was broken by the appointment of Winnipeg MP Rey Pagtakhan as minister of veterans affairs. Bailey opined that no "Chinese chap," no "Asiatic," indeed, no immigrant, was qualified to handle veterans affairs, and that Pagtakhan's appointment would be especially offensive because of Canada's war against the Japanese.

Such comments are so ridiculous it's hard to know how to respond, although you could start with the facts that Pagtakhan was born in the Philippines, not China or Japan, and that he has lived in Canada since 1968. You could add that as a medical doctor and a known advocate for the rights of the disabled, he's excellently suited to aid the cause of aging veterans. You could throw in, for good measure, the fact that thousands of immigrant Canadians, including many of Asian descent, fought and died for Canada, and for Roy Bailey, in the Second World War. But on the whole, Bailey's comments, for which he later apologized, were so small-minded they scarcely deserve to be dignified by a response.

But what about New Democrat Leader Alexa McDonough, from whom one might expect a higher level of discourse? For my money, she came perilously close to rivalling Bailey on the stupidity meter with her bizarre reaction to the appointment of Anne McLellan as Canada's new health minister.

"I think the fact that she comes from Alberta, which has been leading the charge in the direction of privatization, or two-tier health care, is extremely worrisome," said McDonough, suggesting that McLellan might also be a poor health minister because Alberta has a lot of Alliance voters. Never mind the absurdity of the insinuation that McLellan,

Jean Chrétien's no-nonsense western lieutenant, might be a closet Tory or Alliance in disguise. Are we to understand from McDonough that we Albertans, by the nature of our inherent Albertanness, should be excluded from the national health-care debate?

I suppose you could argue that beating up on big, tough Albertans is less politically dangerous than attacking Asians and immigrants. But while McDonough's comments were less distasteful than Bailey's, they were not one whit less asinine. She attacked McLellan, not for what she's done, but for where she lives. And that's bigotry, pure and simple.

Sometimes, though, it's not so easy. Take the comments made this week by Peter Desbarats, the respected Canadian journalist and former dean of journalism at the University of Western Ontario. In a panel discussion Thursday morning on the CBC-Radio program, This Morning, Desbarats talked about the degree of corporate concentration in the Canadian news industry.

Desbarats raised concerns about the large number of newspapers, including this one, owned by the Asper family of Winnipeg.

For the most part, his argument was the same one that's been voiced elsewhere, to wit, that because the Aspers own so many newspapers and TV stations, and because they are "hands-on" owners, they wield too much personal influence on Canadian news coverage. That's fair comment.

But then Desbarats went off on a more disturbing tangent. Without ever mentioning the fact that the Aspers are Jewish (he used the term "Winnipeggers" instead), he said their religious beliefs were biasing the news and leading to serious religious divisions in the country.

"There's the factor of the introduction of religious affiliation as a factor in choosing topics or picking columns, and that's a very, very disturbing trend," he said. When host Shelagh Rogers pressed him to explain himself, he did, insisting

VIEWPOINT

PAULA SIMONS
SOUTHAM

he wasn't "an anti-Winnipegger."

"Well, everybody's been very polite about this so far, because I don't think they quite know how to handle it," he said.

Then, he continued, "There's a clear indication that the Aspers, who are of course very very strong supporters of Israel, have decided that material which they might not agree with on the situation of the Israeli and the Palestinian conflict, if they don't agree with it, it's not going to run, and that's an injection of a kind of religious-political affiliation into editorial decision-making which I find very disturbing... It's the injection of religious concerns into the world of newspapers that we have not seen in this country, thank God, for over a hundred years."

Now, it's no secret that the Aspers are strongly pro-Israel. And they make no secret that their political - I stress the word political - views on Israel have informed the editorial direction they've given their newspapers. It's one thing to criticize them for that editorial policy. But to go further and suggest that their "religious affiliation" has biased the news strikes me as dangerous.

Trust me on this, there are plenty of Jews who don't share the Aspers' political views on the Middle East, who disagree with their support of Ariel Sharon and his Likud party.

Equally, there are plenty of non-Jews who are hawkish when it comes to Israeli-Palestinian issues. You don't need to be Jewish to support Sharon, and you don't need to support Sharon to be Jewish.

I don't think we saw a lot of extra Hanukkah stories in our paper, the Edmonton Journal, this year. I believe that

"Christmas" was our major news story on Dec. 24. There is no Jewish religious agenda driving this newspaper.

It's fair game for Desbarats to contend that the Aspers own too many newspapers. It's fair comment to critique the Aspers' editorial stance. But that's not what Peter Desbarats did. What he did was to insinuate that the Aspers' "religious affiliation" was as much a national public policy concern as their management style.

And that's no more acceptable than saying that immigrants or Albertans shouldn't hold certain cabinet posts.

I called Peter Desbarats. We had a nice chat. But I don't think he understood why I found his comments so troubling. Indeed, he seemed quite taken aback.

Shouldn't he, he asked, be able to criticize the Aspers without being accused of anti-Semitism? Of course he should. But he shouldn't be surprised if some people get upset when he frames his criticism in religious terms, rather than ideological and political ones.

Peter Desbarats isn't anti-Semite. But ill-considered comments like his could give aid and comfort to an ugly minority in this country, who may well see, in the Aspers' ownership of Southam and CanWest, "proof" of the "Jewish media conspiracy" that's long been a favourite phantom of hatemongers.

I don't really think that Roy Bailey's obviously silly comments are going to inflame anti-Chinese (or Filipino) prejudice in this country.

I don't think Alexa McDonough's foolish words put Albertans' rights in peril.

But when a man of respect, however unwittingly, sullies the debate over media ownership by raising the red hering of religion, I confess, I get nervous.

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Community Forum

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Offer alternatives to conventional movie presentations

DEAR EDITOR,

I have followed with interest the various articles and letters published lately in the Record and the Tribune concerning the dearth of original English version films available in Sherbrooke theaters. I won't go over every argument brought forth but nevertheless would like to put in my two cents worth.

As a bilingual Townshipper, at ease with speaking, reading and writing both French and English, I can testify with some authority to the blessing/curse reality of living in both worlds. Knowing two languages has opened many doors, and I can't begin to measure the impact that books, newspapers, magazines, radio and television in both languages have had on my knowledge and appreciation of, among other things, cinema from around the world.

When viewing a translated version of a French or English movie, I often find myself trying to guess what the original text might be. Jokes, play on words, slang and rhymes are challenging. And regional accents are lost. Parisian dubbers haven't gotten the knack of Southern U.S., Brooklyn or Newfie accents! And the Provence cadence is as sweet as any Irish lilt and neither can be translated. So I find myself going to fewer and fewer movies unless the original version is playing.

It has long been a guessing game in our family as to which films will make it to Sherbrooke. There are of course obvious clues: a non-mainstream, for-anyone-over-30 and/or not-made-in-North-American film has as much chance of playing outside Montreal or Québec City as "H" has a freezing over (Hollywood that is). Forget documentaries and short films. By the way, in case you're wondering, the cineplexes in Québec City consistently offer more original English versions of films than our theaters do (at \$7.50 matinees, \$12.50 evenings!).

Of the current better known titles, I don't expect to see the original versions of "Monsters Ball," "Gosford Park" or even "In The Bedroom," unless they win a few Oscars. Maybe I'll rent them at the local video store six months from now. Even that's not a sure bet as video rental stores have been known not to stock original English versions of the less popular (i.e. profitable) titles. Or they unapologetically stock only one copy.

May I suggest to the powers-that-be in the film distribution world that the time may be ripe for a chance in the way films are made available to smaller markets? The one film/per week/per hall system hasn't changed in decades.

For example, why not try a kind of "film festival" approach, periodically grouping a dozen or more of the less popular films and presenting them for three or four viewings during, say, a two-week period? Issue a special pass for five or more movies. Try it in January or February for starters, when most people are bored with winter and craving better entertainment than what is offered on television. Or in early November, in that dull zone after Halloween but before Christmas frenzy?

And, independent of the language issue, why not bring back double features and introductory short films? Throw in a vintage film or two (I would love to see the old classics on the big screen again). Younger moviegoers have a little or no knowledge of what films were produced before 1980, and it might rekindle an afternoon at the movies as a family activity.

In the Eastern Townships, I'd bet such an approach would interest a wide audience, embracing all age groups and probably attracting people from outlying areas all the way to and even from just across the border.

For those in the business of distributing films who might object to this approach, may I respectfully suggest that if profits are down in smaller cities, it's because people aren't enjoying their moviegoing experience. An unhappy customer will find other entertainment and if our movie theaters are to survive, and I hope they do, they will need to try innovative and more flexible marketing strategies. Surround-sound, plush seating and designer popcorn are fine, but what I and many others really want is a good movie in its original version.

MICHÈLE GARY
Sherbrooke

Soldiers were no cowards

DEAR EDITOR,

The Government of Canada is planning to make room in the Sacred Books of Remembrance in the Peace Tower in Ottawa for the names of 23 World War I soldiers who were convicted of cowardice or desertion.

The National Council of Veteran Associations has written to Veterans Affairs Minister Duhamel objecting to this inclusion. The impropriety is

based on the fact that the Canadian Government did not have the intestinal fortitude to grant pardons as was done in New Zealand.

Minister Duhamel has stated that it is not possible under Canadian law to grant such pardons. On the other hand, the New Zealand Government several years ago pardoned five New Zealanders who were shot under the very same authority, The British Army Act of 1914.

The World War I Book of Remembrance contains the following preamble: "Here are recorded the names of the Canadians who, loyal to the Crown & faithful to the traditions of their fathers . . . served in the Canadian & other forces of the British Empire, and gave up their lives in the Great War . . . 1914 - 1918."

Let us examine the charge against one member who deserted his post and caused the death of some of his comrades:

"Private _____ was detailed as a lookout. He had been a troublesome soldier. It was nighttime and the German gas attack commenced just after midnight. His comrades, who were attempting to get some sleep in trenches 25 yards behind the lookout post, were

caught unawares by the gas attack, and later by a bayonet attack by Germans. The action of Private _____ in deserting his post left his comrades without any warning of the devastating German trench raid. Several were killed.

One has to wonder when a member of a future generation goes to look up a name in the Books of Remembrance, can he be sure that he is looking at the name of a war hero or a man convicted of cowardice?

When Prime Minister Robert Borden was dedicating the site for the Books of Remembrance, he stated that the names were "testaments to the valour, sacrifice and unselfishness of those who died." We see no objection if, like New Zealand, the Canadian Government grants a pardon to these soldiers. If, on the other hand, the Canadian Government only expresses regret that they were shot for cowardice and desertion, surely, we have a new definition of courage.

H. CLIFFORD CHADDERTON, CC, O.ONT.,
OSTJ, CLJ, CAE, DCL, LLD
Chairman, National Council of Veteran
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Canadians lighting up less frequently: Statistics Can.

By Juliet O'Neill
SOUTHAM NEWS

A national smoking rate of 23 per cent is the lowest in more than three decades of monitoring cigarette use, Statistics Canada said Monday.

The agency's semi-annual smoking survey also found that daily smokers consume fewer cigarettes than in the past and more than half of smokers in all age groups tried quitting at least once in the previous year. Teens were trying the hardest to quit.

The report, based on a survey of 10,700 people from February to June 2001, said about 5.7 million Canadians aged 15 or older smoke, most of them every day. Fifty three per cent of those

surveyed said they had never smoked and 25 per cent were former smokers.

On a provincial basis, the smoking rate was lowest in British Columbia at 17 per cent and highest in Manitoba and Prince Edward Island, both at 28 per cent. Percentage rates in the other provinces were 22 in Ontario and Newfoundland, 24 in Nova Scotia, 25 in Alberta and 26 in New Brunswick, Quebec and Saskatchewan.

The survey found smoking is more prevalent among men than women and the highest rate of smoking was in the 20-24 year old age group at 34 per cent.

The 23-per-cent national smoking rate was a dip of one percentage point from 2000 and the seventh consecutive

decline since 1994 when the smoking rate last peaked at 30.5 per cent. Compared with 1965, when Statistics Canada began monitoring smoking levels, the rate is way down. In 1965 it was estimated that 50 per cent of Canadians aged 15 and up were smokers.

Statistics Canada did not credit any one reason for a continued decline in smoking. But it noted the government had taken an array of measures to discourage smoking by warning of health risks, decreasing access to minors, increasing restrictions on public smoking and restricting tobacco sponsorship promotion and increasing taxes.

The agency reported a teen smoking rate of 23 per cent and said more than

80 per cent of them had tried to quit in the previous year.

Daily smokers consumed about 16 cigarettes a day, confirming a downward trend from a peak of 21 cigarettes a day in 1981, Statistics Canada said.

Twenty five per cent of men and 21 per cent of women smoke.

While the smoking rates among young people are high, the report noted that they support a significant downward trend of recent years. In the 1970s, more than 50 per cent of teenage boys and nearly 50 per cent of teenage girls smoked. Teen smoking declined to a low of 22.6 per cent in 1991, then climbed back to 29 per cent in 1996-97 and has been declining since.

Bilingual phone line helps smokers kick deadly habit

From Jan. 20 to the 26, the Quebec Lung Association will be hosting the 27th edition of "Non-Smoking Week", an event designed to raise public awareness among Quebecers regarding the hazards of smoking and the benefits of quitting.

For the past three years now, the Lung Association has been providing a free telephone service called "Ligne

POUMON-9" to help those who want to quit smoking. Over 10,000 individuals of all ages have taken advantage of the support and information services offered by respiratory health professionals. Of this number, it is estimated that 42.5 per cent of its users have given up smoking for good. We can safely say that this service is essential and meets the true needs of a population increas-

ingly concerned about respiratory health.

"Ligne POUMON-9" is the only expert hotline recognized in Quebec and recommended by the various health care practitioners operating at all levels: CSLCs, hospital centres, the Fondation québécoise du Cancer, the Quebec division of the Canadian Cancer Society, etc. The Association has also drawn attention abroad, since it is regularly invited to present its anti-smoking program at a variety of international

congresses.

The Quebec Lung Association makes every effort to make the public aware of the hazards linked to tobacco consumption. It is pleased to contribute to the well-being of Quebecers by providing them with practical assistance and reference tools. Should you need information, help and support to quit smoking, we urge you to contact the "Ligne POUMON-9" experts at 1 888 768-6669 ext. 232. Service is bilingual.

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Montjoye and Sherbrooke reach agreement

Discounts available to all residents

By Daniel Huot
SHERBROOKE

Representatives of the new City of Sherbrooke and the Montjoye Recreotouristic Centre's board reached an agreement Wednesday morning that will make it possible for all residents living in the city to benefit from a 20 per cent discount beginning next week.

Since the creation of the new city on Jan. 1, only residents living in the boroughs that made up the former towns of Lennoxville, Ascot and Fleurimont were entitled to benefit from the discount because those towns were shareholders in the centre. The remaining five towns that make up the new city were not.

"We will have two free Thursdays that will be open for all residents living in the new Sherbrooke," said Levac. "They will be on Jan. 31 and Feb. 7."

He said the reason Montjoye and Sherbrooke were able to come to terms is because the city or its three other boroughs are willing to assume the 20 per

cent cost.

"Fleurimont, Ascot and Lennoxville have already budgeted the 20 per cent for this year," said Levac. "It must be noted that we always arrange our budget to keep costs as low as possible. We're a non-profit organization."

However, he said he doesn't know whether it will be the city or the borough that covers the 20 per cent to ensure that the board breaks even.

"The decision was unanimous," he said about other stakeholders accepting that all Sherbrooke residents be entitled to the same discount benefits. "We're a regional centre. Our vocation is to serve people living in the region."

Sherbrooke Mayor Jean Perrault could not be reached by press time for his reaction. He indicated earlier this week that he wanted equal access for all Sherbrooke residents.

"The objective is for all resident to have the same advantages," he said Monday.

Tickets for Montjoye cost: adults - \$22 without a discount during the day and \$17.60 with a discount. Evenings cost \$14 without a rebate and \$11.20 with a rebate.

Helping local artists sell their books and music

After a few months of planning, announcing, and yes finally selling, the Books and Music project is wrapping up its 2001 edition. This project aims to promote local English writers, local publishers of English or bilingual books, English musicians or producers from the Eastern Townships, and the more general promotion of the English language and creativity in the region. It was quite successful in this last edition. Authors who wrote books that are mainly about the Eastern Townships are also invited to participate.

Who can submit their material to be sold you might wonder? Anybody can be involved. The Association uses a

list of authors, musicians, and publishers who participated in the previous year's projects, but also invites, through local newspapers, other new authors, musicians, or publishers to submit their material and become involved in the project.

The books vary widely in styles, including self-published books, scholarly/historical books, fiction books, poetry collections, as well as travel books. The music ranges from classical to folk and from swing to choir music.

Books and CDs are sold throughout a series of events. This year, Books and Music had a booth at Townshippers'

KEEPING IN TOUCH TOWNSHIPERS' ASSOCIATION

Day and also held two afternoon events entitled "Meet the Authors and Musicians". The first event was held in a local bookstore in Knowlton and the second event took place at Up-lands Museum in Lennoxville. There are still a few books and CDs available for sale in the Association's Lennoxville office located at 100-257 Queen St., Lennoxville, J1M 1K7. For information, you may contact us at (819) 566-5717 or toll free at 1-866-566-5717. You can also reach Kate Wisdom at our Cowansville office for information. It is located at 203 Principale, Cowansville, J2K 1J3 and staff there can be reached by telephone at (450) 263-

4422.

"This year we sold more than \$3200 worth of books and CDs," said Brenda Hartwell of the organizing committee. She added, "and although Townshippers' Association helps its local artists get exposure for their books and CDs through this project, all proceeds go to the artists themselves." The artists were charged \$10 per book or CD with a maximum fee of \$30 per artist, while being allowed to submit as many pieces of work as they choose.

This year's Books and Music project is just wrapping up but the committee hopes to repeat the project in 2002. "We'll probably start again in the spring," said Hartwell with a smile.

VANDALS:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

"I only found out over the holidays (how bad it is)," said Bursey. "I was afraid somebody would steal our stuff, so I had all of it insured."

Bursey said there's nothing she could do to catch the person responsible for the shattered windows. Both she and her roommate notified their landlord, who in turn called the Sherbrooke Regional Police Force.

The vandals shattered another four windows on the verandah of another residence occupied by three female students, situated on a hill roughly 50 metres from the edge of the road.

"I heard the windows being smashed," said Kate Derrick.

"We're not too pleased," added Karen Gavac, 21. "We're not 16 anymore. People who do it to others don't think about the consequences. What satisfaction can one get from smashing windows?"

Derrick added windows were shattered at her house on more than one occasion this year.

"In the past we'd have the occasional broken window, but four windows just don't break on their own," she said. "I looked outside and I didn't see anybody."

Roommate Cei Sullivan, a second-year psychology student, shared her friends' concerns.

"I guess they should have to pay for everything," said Sullivan. "I'm not staying here next year. The house is too big, the house is an easy target for robbers, and it's a target for vandals."

Photographer Grant Siméon's studio was the only business struck in Wednesday's attack which left a shattered window and a dent in the door frame. Siméon reacted with anger and frustration.

"What it causes me in aggravation

and frustration has no dollar value," he said. "I'm going to replace the door and it's going to cost me \$1,000."

Instead of a wooden door with a window, he plans to insert a metal door with a window.

"I can't have a metal door with no window," he noted. "I can't put a sealed door in front of my business saying welcome to Fort Knox to my customers."

Siméon vowed to legally pursue anybody caught vandalizing his property.

*'Somebody will
pay' - Siméon*

Over the past year, he has had his flower boxes stolen and his car scratched with a key on Friendship Day.

"This has been going on for a year," he

said. "It's increased in severity from knocking down flower boxes to torching buildings and breaking windows."

He said municipal authorities haven't addressed the problem in a satisfactory manner.

"It's kind of like having a serial killer and waiting for somebody to scream to catch him at the site," said Siméon. "If I keep paying higher insurance to cover this building, then somebody will pay a higher price."

Previous attempts by vandals to set neighbouring print shop Blanchard Litho on fire and breaking the window of the neighbouring garage also leave him worried.

"If somebody throws an object and it goes through the window and knocks something over, maybe it will provoke a fire," he said, adding he's concerned one day somebody's building will go up in smoke.

On Jan. 18, vandals broke the windows of accountant Sylvain Bouchard's Conley Street office. Like Wednesday's incidents, nothing was stolen after the glass was shattered, leaving behind a sharp mess to be picked up on the floor.

Meanwhile, three individuals are to appear in court on Jan. 31 and on Feb. 6 in connection with an unrelated series of vandalism incidents. They are John Spik and Bobby Cooper, both 19 and from Cookshire, and Steven Aldrich, 18, of Lennoxville

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Travel

Ice Hotel is a cool place to snooze

Wedding chapel has an ice altar

By Peter Leney
SOUTHAM NEWS

SAINTE-CATHERINE-DE-LA-JACQUES-CARTIER

For Jacques Desbois, the man behind Quebec's coolest overnight lodging, sleeping in a snow shelter in winter is "a beautiful experience, a purification."

As founder of the Ice Hotel, a concept he imported from Sweden, Desbois gave North Americans a chance to purify last year. About 40,000 people visited the hotel's Montmorency Falls site, including 1,500 who spent the night. Media coverage was worldwide. The soft-spoken Desbois was named Quebec's Tourism Personality of the Year for 2001.

FROM 6 TO 31 ROOMS

Building on the runaway fascination, the promoters expanded this year's Ice Hotel, which officially opened last Tuesday, from six to 31 rooms. Ten are "suites" with more than one bed and decorated with ice sculptures. Ordinary rooms are furnished with just a bed and candle holder.

To give guests something to do, the hotel site was moved to the Duchesnay "station ecotouristique" northeast of Quebec City. Run by Sepaq, which operates Quebec's parks and wildlife reserves, Duchesnay is an 89-square-kilometre forested area on a lake offering cross-country skiing, ice-fishing, snowshoeing, dog-sledding, and walks in the woods.

Duchesnay is also a mini-village that Sepaq converted from structures belonging to a former forestry school. There is a reception and restaurant building, where ice-hotel guests eat their break-

fast and dinner. Three log pavilions contain 40 rooms, and there are 14 fully equipped lakeside chalets that can hold from four to 12 people.

For people wanting it both ways, a

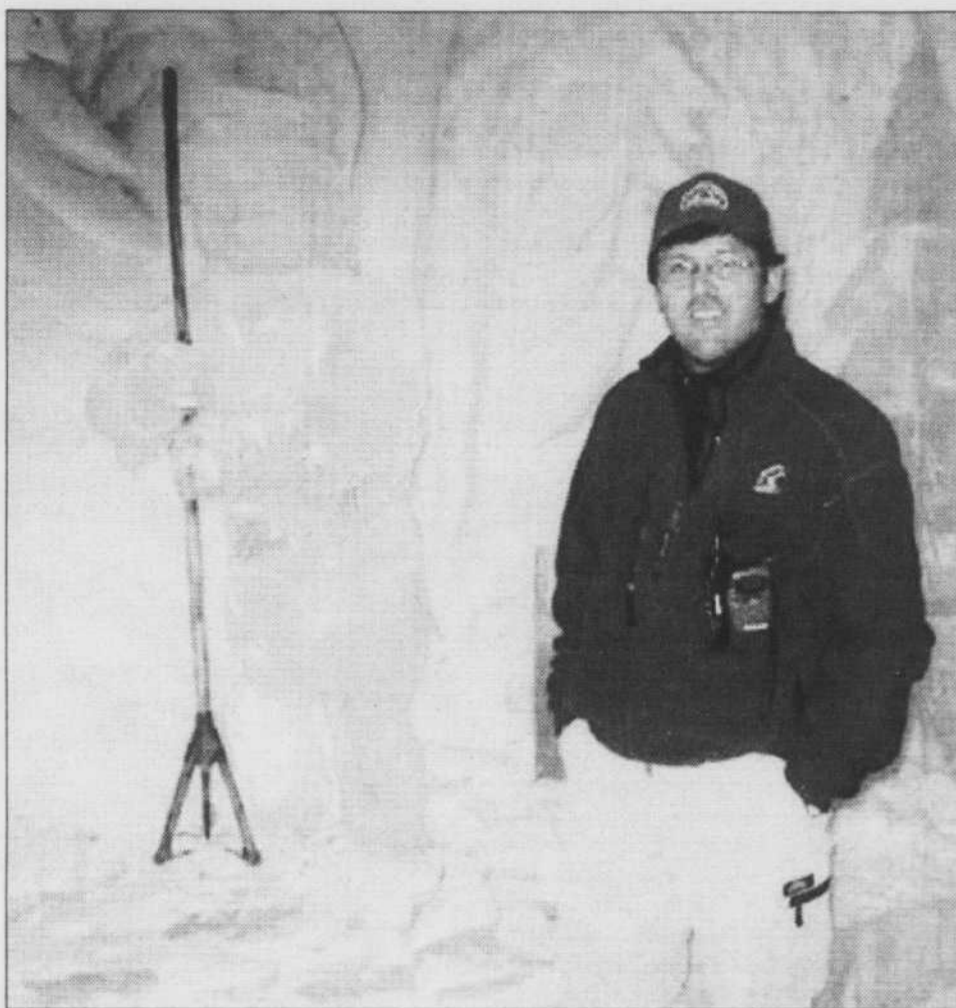


PHOTO BY PETER LENEY

Quebec City's Ice Hotel offers adventure, not comfort. Shown is Jacques (Mr. Igloo) Desbois, the man behind the Ice Hotel, who says 60 percent of the guests are American and only five percent are Canadian.

'We're an adventure service, not a lodging service. There's a kind of pride you feel after surviving a night in the ice hotel.'

package is available giving one night at the ice hotel and one night in a warm room at the "station" for \$349 per person double occupancy, including breakfast and dinner for the two days and use of Duchesnay's outdoor facilities, except for dogsledding.

The ice hotel itself, including meals and a welcome cocktail, costs \$229 per person double occupancy in an ordinary room and \$264 in a suite. If you can't find an adventurous partner, an ordinary room is a stiff \$379 single and a suite \$499.

A tour of the hotel provides both enchantment and shivers. On the enchanting side,

two art galleries display ice sculptures of fish, swans, human figures and more. One honours nature and the municipality of Sainte-Catherine-de-la-Jacques-Cartier in which Duchesnay is located

and the other, with a long house, celebrates Iroquois native culture. A wedding chapel has an ice altar with a shining star in the background.

SNOW FORT OR ICE CASTLE?

The structure itself feels spacious with 5.5-metre rounded ceilings. It's more a snow fort than ice palace, using 11,000 tonnes of snow and only 350 tonnes of ice. Ice is mainly used in walls at the end of the corridors, and for sculptures. Desbois says the mix of materials gives textural interest.

Less encouraging are rooms with snow floors, no windows, and beds made of ice blocks. However, sleepers are separated from the ice by a wood frame, 8-centimetres of dense foam and deerskins. The hotel supplies sleeping bags rated for arctic conditions, more than enough as interior temperatures are unlikely to fall below minus-10.

Humidity makes the indoor air seem chillier, however, and a tomb-like silence pervades the hotel, even in the

bar, named after sponsor, Absolut vodka.

FRACTION CAN'T TAKE TEMP

Peppered with questions about cold, Desbois replies that only one per cent of people fail to make it through the night. Just follow advice to change to dry clothes and don't drink much alcohol. Make sure to breathe outside your sleeping bag to avoid building up humidity. Guests are given a half-hour information session on how to keep warm before going to their rooms.

As for why anyone would sleep in an ice hotel, Desbois answers, "We're an adventure service, not a lodging service. There's a kind of pride you feel after surviving a night in the ice hotel. This is how we present the product."

MAJORITY COME FROM U.S.

About 60 per cent of the guests are American, said Desbois, who is known as Mr. Igloo around Quebec City for building igloo villages at carnival time. Canadians, who are used to snow, account for only 5 per cent. "It has to be an exotic experience."

This year there are nearby heated toilets rather than the outdoor chemical ones used at the Montmorency Falls site. Duchesnay also offers fallback shelter in a heated building if someone really must flee the ice bed.

Check-in procedures are unique at the ice hotel. You don't register and haul your bags to the room. Nothing goes to the room. Luggage is stored in the adjacent hotel-administration building (called L'Aigle). A guide then shows you your room and gives a short tour. Then you can turn to outdoor winter activities until supertime.

After supper and the lecture on how to handle the cold, you change into pyjamas in the administration building, put your coat on over them and dash down some stairs to the hotel and your room. If you don't wear pyjamas, stuff your clothes in a duffel bag in the room before wiggling into the sleeping bag. You're advised to sleep on your coat to keep it warm.

In the morning, a hotel employee comes by with a wake-up coffee or hot chocolate.

To see the hotel without sleeping over, tours of 30 to 45 minutes cost \$12. You have access to the hotel for the whole day.

(*) FOR THE ICE HOTEL, CHECK THE WEB AT WWW.ICEHOTEL-CANADA.COM AND THE DUCHESNAY STATION ECOTOURISTIQUE SITE IS WWW.SEPAQ.COM/DUCHESNAY.

Children are setting winter activity agenda

Mountains top kids' vacation wish lists

By Lisa Kadane
Southam News

In her mid-40s, marketing manager Margit Phillips found herself learning to snowboard because her daughter wanted to be a part of the craze.

"I thought, 'Mom had better give this

OUTDOOR PURSUITS

a shot while I still have knees left," recalls Phillips.

Because of

her adventurous nature, she wanted to learn the sport with her daughter, Tessa, then age nine. Phillips admits she never would have strapped on a board on her own.

Indeed, just as they influence family decisions like what brand of cereal to eat or which movie to see, your kids also play an important role in leisure time planning. According to a recent U.S. travel study, when it comes to deciding between a week sunning in San Diego or a sojourn schussing in Sun Valley, more children are now choosing snow sliding than ever before.

The 2001 Portrait of Family Travel study commissioned by marketing communications company Yesawich, Pepperdine & Brown (YP&B) shows that a growing number of children want to take a ski vacation. The study surveyed travel attitudes of American parents and children in households that had taken trips in the past year. It found that a whopping 63 per cent of kids say they want to hit the slopes.

And these aren't just idle wishes. Parents listen, says Peter Yesawich, CEO of YP&B.

"Children are helping drive the vacation choices for the entire family," he said. "Parents want to please the kids to make up for the loss of time with them from job pressures."

The report also indicates that youngsters are not the only family members yearning for snow time. Among par-

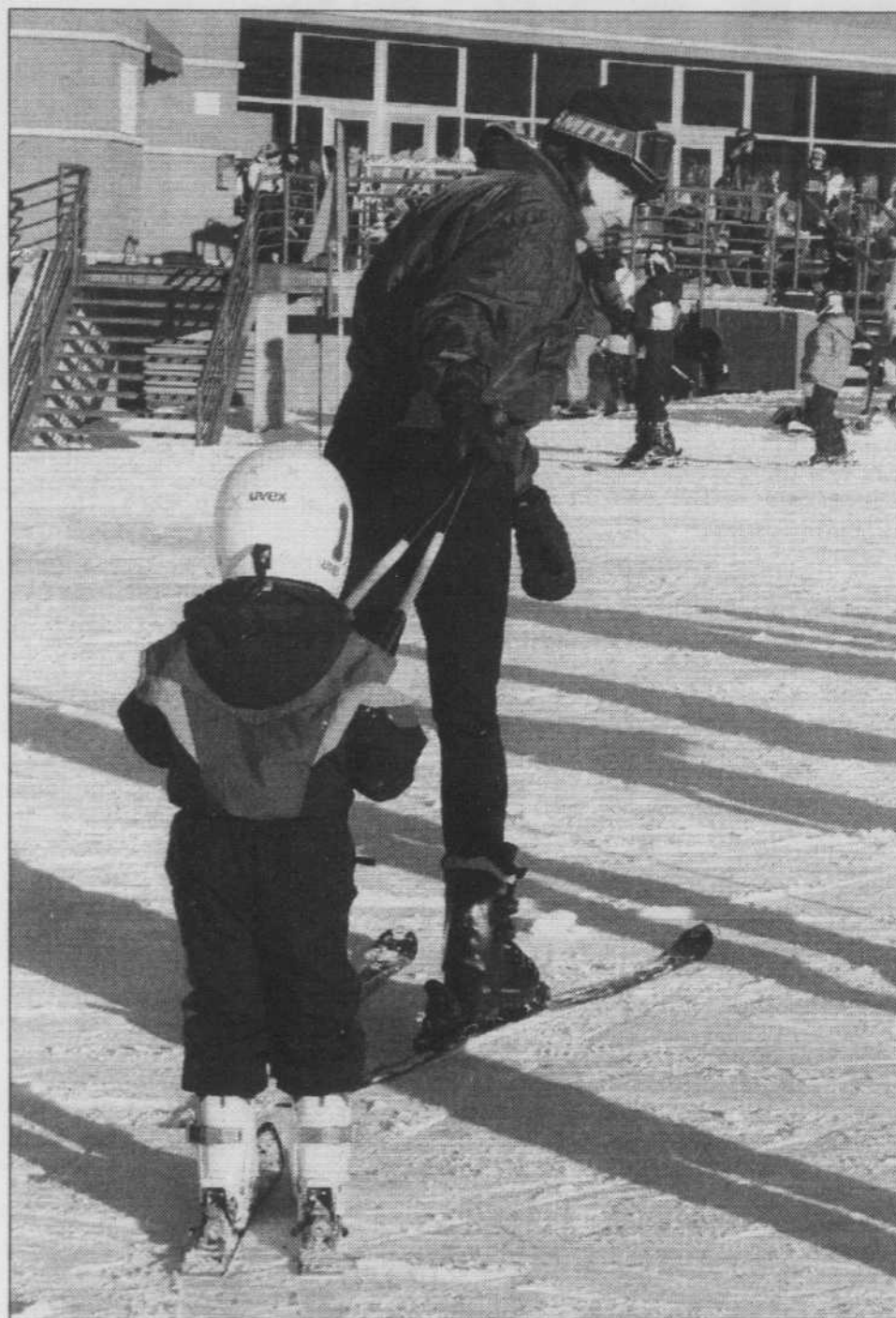


PHOTO BY LORRAINE HJALTE

More youngsters are tagging along on family outings and the local ski hill is a favorite destination for some outdoor family fun.

ents, overall interest in skiing has climbed to 26 per cent in 2001 compared with just 16 per cent in 1999.

This increased interest in skiing and snowboarding among families has not

gone unnoticed on Canadian slopes. To meet the demand, Alberta and B.C. resorts have responded with ski school improvements, new programs and terrain designed for children and beginners.

"It's long been recognized that kids are major decision makers," agrees Christopher Nicolson, public relations manager at Whistler Blackcomb. "Anyone with a nine or 10-year-old knows that decisions are based on what kids think." He says that most resorts recognize the power wee ones wield with respect to recreation, and subsequently respond with solid ski school programs.

To this end the West Coast resort opened a new family zone on Whistler this season, operates a dedicated ski school lodge, maintains a children's ad-

venture park on Blackcomb and has continually expanded its terrain park offerings over the last five years.

"A lot of (the terrain park) is dominated by youth, and certainly the teen market," says Nicolson.

"Certainly we're trying to expand our facilities to appeal to that family market," concurs Whistler ski school director Rob McSkimming. "We definitely want to provide a quality experience for the kids."

Developing and improving the resort's Adventure Camp programs for kids has been the ski school's focus for the last several seasons.

At Canada Olympic Park in Calgary, communications specialist Chris Dornan says that while it's sometimes difficult to ascertain whether kids are dragging their parents to the hills or vice-versa, he has a feeling children are leading the charge.

"(Our programs) are always strong with kids," says Dornan. "I think kids are getting introduced to skiing and snowboarding in school programs."

To encourage tagalong parents to discover, or rediscover the sport, COP has introduced adult-only TLC (Turning, Learning, Carving) programs this season.

"All our TLC programs have been a huge success, and those have been targeted to adult skiers and snowboarders," Dornan confirms. "We've definitely seen increased numbers."

It's a similar story at nearby Wintergreen, where increased demand from beginner skiers and snowboarders has resulted in the resort hiring more sports school staff and expanding their beginner area.

At Ski Banff Norquay, marketing manager Rob Cote says the ski area's beginner programs "get people to come out and try (a snowsport)." Like other resorts, Norquay's Discover Skiing and Discover Snowboarding programs are priced competitively to lower the barriers to learning.

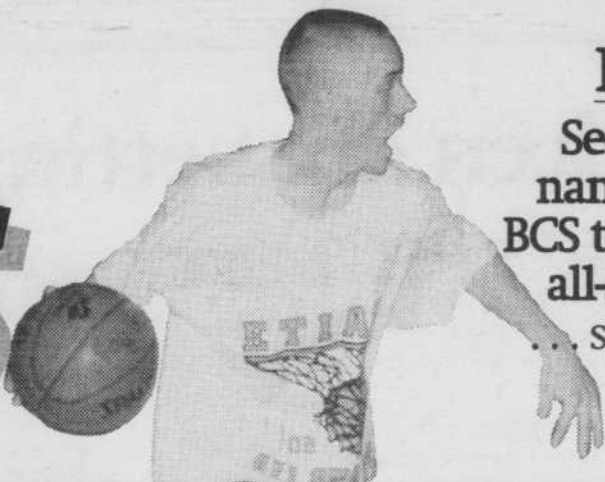
However, Cote notes that Norquay has not experienced a huge increase in the numbers of participants trying these programs so far this season. Last year 800 skiers and 900 snowboarders slid to a start at the Banff hill, and Cote expects the numbers will remain steady this season.

He does think that more families are starting to take an annual winter vacation in the form of a ski holiday, but feels that not everyone is booking Banff because of the perception that skiing is costlier than sunning.

"I think winter vacations still are not as popular a summer vacations. There's a perception that winter vacations are more expensive. In reality, winter is low season in Banff."

The Record has a pair of lift tickets for the Montjoye ski centre, a favorite for family skiing. To qualify, simply clip any two ski stories or ski condition reports from The Record and send them to The Record, Box 1200 Sherbrooke, Qc., J1H 5L6 before Jan. 31. Drawing will take place at 4 o'clock Thursday, Jan. 31.

THE RECORD Sports



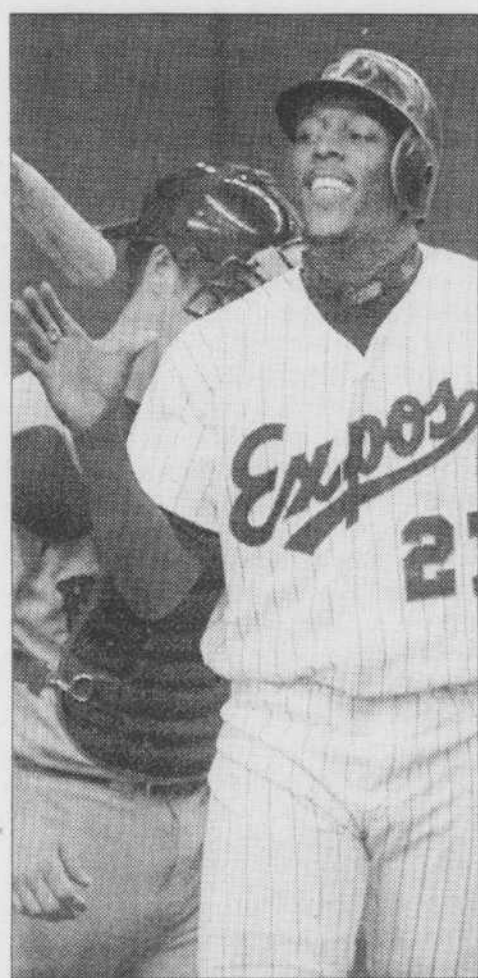
INSIDE
See who was named to the BCS tournament all-star team ... see Page 13

PAGE 12 THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 2002

NEWSROOM@SHERBROOKERECORD.COM

JAMIE ZACHARY, CORRESPONDENTS' EDITOR

Expos needed for 2002 Junior Championships



RECORD FILE PHOTO

Vladimir Guerrero (pictured) and the Expos will play one more season at the Big O.

Expos' support of local organizers is important

The few remaining Montreal Expos fans received a reprieve the other day when a judge in Minnesota ruled that the Minnesota Twins must play in Minneapolis this summer.

In a decision that could block baseball's plan to eliminate two teams this season and give Montreal fans one more year of Major League Baseball, the Minnesota Court of Appeals upheld an injunction Tuesday that requires the Minnesota Twins to play in the Metrodome in 2002.

The ruling effectively puts a stop to baseball's attempt to contract two

teams for the upcoming 2002 season.

The unanimous ruling by a three-judge panel will be appealed to the Minnesota Supreme Court, according to lawyers for major league baseball and the Twins. But with less than a month until the start of spring training in mid-February, it appears unlikely baseball owners will be able to fold Minnesota and the Expos before the start of the 2002 season.

As a baseball fan, I applaud the fact that we can look forward to one more season of watching Javier Vazquez, Vladimir Guerrero, Jose Vidro and the rest of the boys of summer.

Of course we are not out of the woods yet. Prior to the decision by the courts, baseball commissioner Bud Selig said that he will still try to eliminate teams this year and wouldn't set a deadline for calling off contraction.

In fact, baseball said it would appeal the decision despite the fact that both the Twins and the Expos need to get spring training underway.

The Twins and Expos were targeted for contraction because of their failure to obtain government financing for new ballparks.

Expos owner Jeffrey Loria is supposedly negotiating to buy the Florida Marlins and intends to sell the Montreal franchise back to the commissioner's office, which would operate the Expos this year.

So the stay of execution is merely a delay. The team will be gone by the 2003 season taking with it a 33-year history of memories and bitter disappointments.

Before they go, the Expos will be able to perform one more act of goodwill that will have a positive impact on the Eastern Townships.

The World Junior Baseball Championships will be held in Sherbrooke this summer and the tournament will benefit greatly from the presence of Major League Baseball in Montreal.

The demise of professional baseball in the province of Quebec has been a long and painful experience. It is not fair to the players or the rest of baseball to play games in front of empty seats.

Disgruntled fans can use all the ex-

cuses they want, but if they do not show up at the ballpark on a regular basis, there is no reason to keep the team here.

But if the Expos can help make the World Championships a success, the organization will leave a lasting mark on the provincial sporting scene, far greater than the team's record on the field.

The Expos have been supportive of the Sherbrooke organizing committee since last year and could play a greater role in promoting the championships

this summer.

Statistics show that minor league baseball in Canada has grown substantially in the years following the hosting of a world championship. And in the end, a strong grassroots program is more important to the sport's development than a major league franchise.

CASTORS WIN BIG

The Sherbrooke Castors broke out of their six-game winless streak Tuesday night when they defeated the second-place Victoriaville Tigres 8-2 at the Palais des Sports.

Castors dominate Victoriaville



FERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

Sébastien Courcelles led Sherbrooke's attack while David Chicoine, Nicolas Corbeil, Maxime Boisclair, Patrick Mbrarga and Dany Roussin added singles in the Castors' win against the Victoriaville Tigres Tuesday night at the Palais des Sports. Drew MacIntyre made 26 saves to record the victory.

SPORTS NOTEBOOK

BCS tournament all-stars

Here are the boys and girls named to the all-star teams at the BCS Invitational Tournament held on Jan. 18-19.

Senior Girls

Mona Boznakian	The Study
Jena Martin	BCS
Megan Hill	Stanstead
Lindsay Woods	ECS
Laura Lee	St. George's
Supriya Dwidvidi	Trafalgar
Christina Asqvar	LCC
Lenora Carbonetta	Centennial AC
Jade Saltarelli	Queen of Angels
Cindy Plante	Richmond
Blair Adam	Sacred Heart
Melissa Bowers	Alexander Galt

Senior Boys

Yun Ping Lee	BCS
Allen Liu	Stanstead
Andy Rosenhek	Selwyn House
Martin Villareal	Richmond
Chris Mazza-Pace	Centennial
Brad Zarien	St. George's
Davel Comeau	Alexander Galt

Girls' MVP

Katherine Wright Stanstead

Boys' MVP

Andy Kalevar BCS

On TV

THURSDAY

TENNIS: 2 p.m., Australian Open, first semifinal, TSN.
10:30 p.m. & 11:30 p.m., Australian Open second semifinal, RDS, TSN.

GOLF: 4 p.m., PGA Phoenix Open, first round, Sportsnet.

NBA: 9 p.m., Utah Jazz at Sacramento Kings, TSN.

TENNIS: 2 p.m., Australian Open, semifinals, TSN.

FRIDAY

GOLF: 4 p.m., PGA Phoenix Open, second round, Sportsnet.

NBA: 7 p.m., Minnesota Timberwolves at Toronto Raptors, TSN.

LACROSSE: 7:30 p.m., Ottawa Rebel at Montreal Express, Sportsnet, RDS.

TENNIS: 9:30 p.m., Australian Open, women's final, TSN.

Around Town

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

THURSDAY

• **ETIAC BASKETBALL:** Thursday, Montcalm at Galt Pipers (senior girls), 5:30 p.m.; Mont Ste-Anne at Galt Pipers (junior boys), 7 p.m.

UPCOMING

• **CEGEP HOCKEY:** Friday, Warwick (Junior AAA) at Champlain Cougars, W.B. Scott Arena, 8:30 p.m.
• **CEGEP BASKETBALL:** Friday, St-Hyacinthe at Champlain Cougars (women), 7 p.m.; Edouard-Montpetit at Cougars (men), 9 p.m., Mitchell Gym.

The Record's
Athlete of the
Week

Name: Katherine Wright

School: Stanstead College

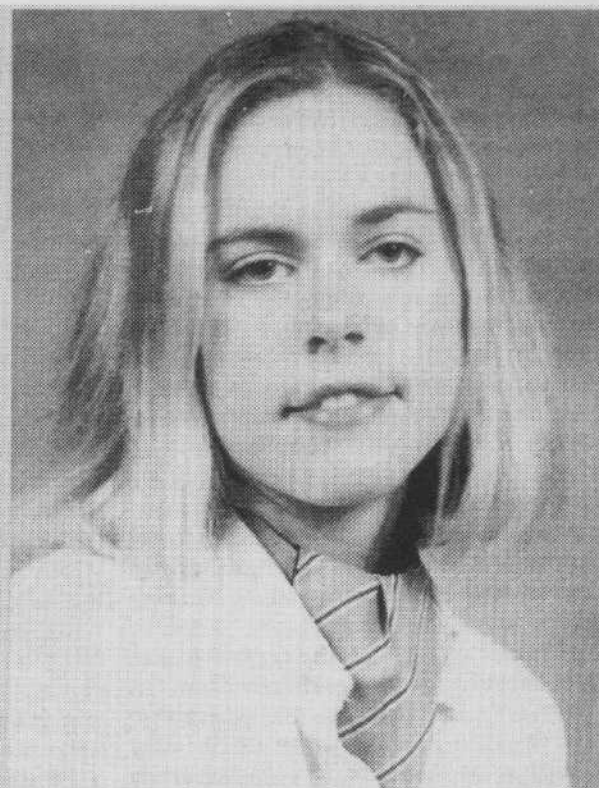
Grade: 12

Hometown: Stanstead

Sports: Cross-country running, basketball

Accomplishments: Wright led the first-place Stanstead Spartans to a 41-36 win over the Massey-Vanier Vikings last week in senior girls basketball action, then took Most Valuable Player honours at the BCS Invitational tournament this past weekend.

Wright was the key player for last year's ETIAC championship squad and is looking to lead Stanstead to its second straight title.



RECORD FILE PHOTO

In the photo published Wednesday of the Alexander Galt high school girls hockey team, Marie-Claude O'Reilly (far right) was mistakenly omitted. The Record regrets the error and reprints the photo.

SKI CONDITIONS SPONSORED BY:

Mount Orford awaits you in the top skiing conditions of the Eastern Townships with over 85% of runs open.

During the National Ski Week, January 21-25, it's a 2 for 1 at Orford.

Check our ski conditions also at: www.skiorford.com



MONT BELLEVUE

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 10
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 45
Open Trails: 6/6

MONT GLEN

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 20
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 35
Open Trails: 29/32
Lift Hours: N/A

MONT ORFORD

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 14
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 52
Open Trails: 42/52

Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

MONTJOYE

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 5
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 37
Open Trails: 20/20
Lift Hours: N/A

OWL'S HEAD

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 10
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 50
Open Trails: 41/41
Lift Hours: N/A

SKI BROMONT

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0

Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 47
Open Trails: 45/45

Lift Hours: 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

SUTTON

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 3
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 32
Open Trails: 53/53
Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

JAY PEAK (VERMONT)

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 10
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 30
Open Trails: 75/75
Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Dunham Women's Institute meeting

December 5, 2001: We did not hold a regular meeting in December, 2001, instead the members and their guests gathered at the Papillon Restaurant in West Brome for a delicious Christmas dinner and exchange of gifts. Following the exchange of gifts a very successful fun auction was held to raise funds for a new fence for the Cairn property in Dunham. Pearle Yates acted as auctioneer assisted by Agnes Minnis. Many wonderful items of Christmas baking and decorations as well as jams, jellies, homemade candies were put up for auction. The members brought in their items of knitting for wool-gathering. These will be distributed by Noreen Craig and Agnes Minnis.

January 9, 2002: The first regular meeting of the new year of the Dunham Women's Institute was held on the above date at the home of Shirley Vaughan at 7:30 p.m. The co-hostesses were Christine McLaughlin and Carol Phillips. The president, Joyce Martin, called the meeting to order and wished

everyone a happy new year. The Mary Stewart Collect was repeated in unison.

The Motto: Everyone should keep a mental wastepaper basket and the older he grows the more things he will consign to it - torn up to irrecoverable tatters.

The Roll Call: The Roll Call was answered by 17 members paying their annual dues and telling what they would like to change about the W.I. Very few suggestions were made about how we would like to change the W.I.

The president welcomed two guests, Fran Corey and Maggie Leclerc.

The minutes of the November meeting were read and approved.

The annual reports of the secretary, treasurer, auditors and convenors were given. These reports showed that the year 2001 had been a busy and successful year for Dunham Women's Institute.

President's Address: The president, Joyce Martin, expressed her thanks to the membership for all their help and support during the past year and asked

p.m. This event is for all ages, with great prizes for the winners!

RICHMOND

Military Whist Evening at St. Anne's Anglican Church, 171 rue Principale South, Richmond on Friday, February 8 at 7:30 p.m. To make reservations, please call Marge at (819) 826-2760 on or before February 7.

LENNOXVILLE

The Army, Navy and Air Force Unit 318. Election for men and ladies executive will be held on Saturday, January 26 at 2 p.m. at "The Hut", 300 St. Francis Street, Lennoxville.

HATLEY

Luncheon on January 30 in St. James Church Hall, Hatley starting at 11:30 a.m. Sponsored by the A.C.W.

RICHMOND

The St. Patrick's Society of Richmond and Vicinity invites all members to a general meeting on Wednesday, January 30 at the Richmond Legion at 8 p.m. Come and help with the plans for the March festivities and anniversary celebrations.

WARDEN

500 card party on January 30 at the I.O.O.F. Hall, 209 Main St., Warden at 7:45 p.m. Refreshments and prizes. All welcome.

...

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.

for their continued support in 2002.

Election and installation of officers: The president asked Shirley Vaughan, county president to preside for the election and installation of officers. Agnes Minnis will take over the duties of secretary from Noreen Craig, Judy Jones will take over the duties of vice president from Noreen Doherty, Carol Phillips will replace Jacque Robinson as agriculture convener and Anne Lipowski will replace Carol Phillips as citizenship and legislation convener.

New Business: The annual meeting of Missisquoi County Women's Institute will be held in Cowansville, with Fordyce W.I. as hosts on April 17, 2002. The delegates for this meeting from Dunham W.I. will be Christine McLaughlin, Noreen Craig and Joyce Martin.

The Provincial Convention will be held at Macdonald College on June 12-13, 2002. Our president, Joyce Martin, will be our delegate with Christine McLaughlin as the alternate.

The president handed out new Inserts for our W.I. handbooks.

Noreen Craig reported on the distribution of the Wool-gathering items. The socks and mittens were taken to Heroes' Memorial Elementary School where they will be used for children coming to school without them. The knitted dolls were taken to the Emergency Room at B.M.P. Hospital. The rest of the knitted

items were given to the B.M.P. Hospital Boutique for sale. The dolls and teddy bears were put under the Christmas tree in the lobby of the hospital to be distributed as needed. Noreen Craig and Agnes Minnis looked after the distribution of these articles as well as the food basket for a local family.

A former member of Dunham W.I., Joyce Spicer Crittenden of Lethbridge, Alberta was presented with the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award on September 22, 2001, for her many years of volunteer service with the Lethbridge Soup Kitchen. About 200 people, family, friends, co-workers and dignitaries gathered at the Lethbridge City Hall for the ceremony and reception.

Program: Edie Holliday, sunshine convener was in charge of the program for the evening. We played a game of Charades to choose partners for a quiz she had written. We were given a list of 30 sets of initials representing organizations and groups we all hear and read about, such as, CSIS, SPCA, CLSC, etc., but perhaps we don't know what they mean. No one knew them all, but Pearle Yates and partner Carol Phillips knew 25 and Linda Tannahill and partner Anne Lipowski knew 24. Good for them.

Next meeting: The February meeting will be held at the home of Peggy Godsoe on Feb. 6, 2002 at 1 p.m.

Shirley Vaughan
Publicity Convener



WATERVILLE, HATLEY, NORTH HATLEY
Waterville, Hatley, North Hatley Pastoral Charge Sunday Worship Services on January 27: Waterville 9:30 a.m., Hatley 11 a.m., North Hatley 11 a.m.

LENNOXVILLE

Annual meeting of St. Francis Valley Naturalist Club will be held on Wednesday, January 30 at 7:45 p.m. at St. George's Church Hall, 84 Queen Street, Lennoxville. Program: Spain and the Legendary Islands of the Atlantic by Margaret and Kenneth Herring.

LENNOXVILLE

Advance notice: dates for St. George's Parish Guild 2002 events: Valentine Tea - Feb. 9; Military Whists - Apr. 5 & Nov. 1; Rummage sales - May 3 & 4 and Oct. 25 & 26; Quilt show - Sept. 6 & 7; Quebec trip - Nov. 14; 'Pioneer' Christmas bazaar & tea - Nov. 30.

RICHMOND

The Richmond branch of the QFA is holding its annual banquet on January 26 at 7 p.m. at the Richmond Legion. Tickets are available from Marilyn Mastine (839-2554) and Mona McGee (826-2819). All are welcome.

BURY

Hot luncheon, followed by afternoon card party, Friday, January 25, beginning at noon. St. Paul's Anglican Parish Hall, Bury. Card prizes and grocery drawing. Everyone welcome. Proceeds for St. Paul's Guild and A.C.W.

LENNOXVILLE

1st Lennoxville Scouts are hosting a Bingo, as a fundraiser for the upcoming JAMBEQ 02 they will attend in July, on Saturday, January 26 at the Lennoxville Community Centre from 2 p.m. to 4

St. Philip's ACW

SAWYERVILLE

Our January meeting met at the home of Sheila Bellam with five members and one guest present. The President, Jean Evans, opened the meeting with all repeating the A.C.W. and Lord's Prayers. She read an interesting article on "house cleaning" and a verse entitled, "Friends", for devotion.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Correspondence consisted of thank you notes from Alice Wilson, Hilda Rand and verbal thanks from Isabell Bell.

A letter from our Diocesan member, Phyllis Gauthier, was read.

The Diocesan A.C.W. Executive is to be commended for their devotion and work in both local and overseas missions.

The Treasurer, Lydia Judge, gave a favourable report. We thank Doug Judge for putting new legs on our tables in the basement.

Jean gave the report on Cheer in the absence of Phyllis Buck. She also gave a report on the Christmas party. Ferne reported 35 calls made.

Plans were made for the lunch to be served after the funeral of a devoted and much loved former A.C.W. member, Kathleen MacKay, on Friday, January 18.

A motion was made to give a donation to St. Philip's Church, and to the

Diocesan Treasurer for the A.C.W. Memorial Book in memory of Kathleen.

There is no change of officers this year. The Secretary read her annual report showing that we had a busy year. The Treasurer's annual report showed a favourable balance despite the decline in membership. Our social convener reported 407 calls made for the year.

Final plans were made for our Valentine tea to be held at the Community Centre February 9th, from 2-4 p.m. We all signed a card for Irma who has been in the hospital for some time.

The hostess gift was won by Jean. Ferne adjourned the meeting. Lunch was served by the hostess and a social time was enjoyed by all.

Sheila Bellam,
secretary

Sawyerville Sheila Bellam

An enjoyable evening was held at Diane and Rodney's on Jordon Hill Rd., when the "Bell" siblings got together over the holidays season. Present were Alan, Doug and Vivian from East Angus; Jean and Hank, Sheila Bellam and her brother, Leonard, from Sawyererville.

Diane's daughter, Colleen, and husband, Nil, and two daughters were also present. We all enjoyed a delicious meal and pleasant evening.

Obituary

MARK MARSTERS

Mark Marsters's first solo show at the Ottawa Art Gallery opened and closed the night before his funeral.

"It makes you wonder why he never had his own show here before," said Adrian Gollner, who for many year shared a studio with Marsters and who hastily installed a selection of his late friend's work for a packed wake at the gallery Sunday night.

"He was truly dedicated to his art and to promoting art but you'd never have described him as a self-promoter"

A long-time fixture in the Ottawa art community, an artist who moved freely and prolifically between the canvas, sculpture, film, performance and text, a teacher and advocate for artists as a member of the art gallery board, Marsters died Friday at age 39 of a congenital circulation disorder.

He grew up in the Annapolis Valley and graduated from Mount Allison University in Sackville, N.B., with a degree in fine arts before moving to Ottawa in the 1980's.

"There was a part of Mark that cherished life on the East Coast and another time, 30 or 40 years ago," Gollner said. "When we were starting out, we tried to have one of those high-academic conversations about art but we only did it once before we realized that we just couldn't pull it off. That wasn't Mark at all."

On Sunday night, the walls of the OAG offered a small window into Marsters's world, one populated with snap peas on a trapeze, rough-houses at luncheonettes and sock puppets overthrowing their masters.

Also on display were a variety of household items that morphed into canvases: a working ironing board, a backpack (The Knapsack of Redemption, complete with a Christ figure and a somewhat menacing band of campers armed with oars), badminton raquets and an over-size jack-knife featuring kitchen counter utensils.

"Mark had a wonderful sense of play in his work, a comic or humorous sensibility," said art gallery director Mela Constantinidi. "But that should not overshadow the great representational work that he did."

"He would have been just about the only person who thought that the comic element of his work would have been an obstacle in getting the recognition due him," said Melanie Scott, a friend who served with Marsters on the gallery board.

The comic element was certainly the key factor in a controversy that landed the artist and his work in headlines. In 1996, the region commissioned Marsters to install eight giant hands standing 2.5 metres tall in a rock cut in the OC Transpo transitway next to Scott Street.

Many taxpayers objected to the \$49,500 price tag, seeing it as an extravagant and unnecessary expense, giving it an equally gigantic thumbs-down.

"Mark could see it coming and tried

to be philosophical and positive about it," said Ken Rockburn, who had profiled Marsters in 1996 for his Rockburn and Co. series on CBC and interviewed the artist several times on All In A Day on CBC Radio. "He said that if 500 people wrote in to the Citizen to complain about the hands, then those were probably 500 people who were thinking about art that day and hadn't the day before."

Others suggested that he was more hurt than he let on about the controversy: "The hands were his way of saying to the working guy taking the transit, 'Hey you're doing okay, thumbs up,'" said Kirk Finkin, a friend who collaborated with Marsters on a variety of visual and text projects.

His friends remembered him as, as Scott described him, "a gentle and compassionate soul," one who wrote a series of bedtime stories that were featured on CBC Radio. Yet in the past year, Marsters's work took a darker, angrier turn as he abandoned his representational work for more abstract, edgier pieces with bold and abrasive texts.

"I think Mark wished that his work would be able to provide better for his wife and their two sons and daughter," Gollner said.

"He was amazingly prolific, always surprising people," Scott said. "There may have been a sense that he was in some ways working against the clock."

With the exception of that most recent work, however, Marsters seemed determined to celebrate life and be bemused by it, something that was suggested by his self-penned biographical sketch that appears on the artsengine.ca Web site: "Mark has seen it all; life, death, misery, joy, biker bars and it has gone through him like poop through a goose, except it comes out funnier."

By Gare Joyce
The Ottawa Citizen

Card of Thanks

DOHERTY, James (Jim) - The family of Jim Doherty wish to express our heartfelt thanks to relatives, friends and neighbours for their many acts of kindness your thoughtful offerings of flowers, cards, condolences, food, donations and prayers during these trying times were of great support to us and will be cherished always. We would like to send special thanks to Meredith Barter at Cass Funeral Home for all his help with the funeral arrangements, to Rev. Heather Thompson for her comforting words and prayers, and to Bishop's University for the use of the Chapel and Faculty Lounge, to Dewhurst Dining Hall for the luncheon after the funeral, for the support of my family, and all others who assisted in anyway.

WANDA DOHERTY
ANDY & ASHLEY
KERRY, CATHY, & KEELEY
MICHAEL & PAM

Deaths



AUTHIER, Denyse - At the Foyer Sutton, Que., on Sunday, January 13, 2002, Denyse Authier in her 57th year. She leaves to mourn her daughter Lynn (Chris), their children Nicolas, James and Katie, her son Mark (Angela), their baby. Cherished and loving friend of Maurice. A memorial service in the presence of ashes in the Chapel on Saturday, January 26 at 2 p.m., from the Denis Meunier Funeral Home & Chapel, 402 River St., Cowansville, Que., tel.: 266-6061, fax: 266-6057, e-mail: funerariumdm@qc.aira.com. Family will receive sympathies at the funeral home from 1 p.m., till the service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Foyer Sutton Foundation (50 Western, Sutton, Que., JOE 1K0). Forms available at the funeral home.

DECOTEAU, Mary (nee Rymill) - Peacefully at the Grace Christian Home, Lennoxville, Que., on Friday, January 18th, 2002. Mary Ann Elizabeth Rymill in her 89th year. Dear wife of the late Elgin John Decoteau, dear mother of Wayne (Bev Smith) of Phoenix, Arizona. Mary also leaves to mourn her sisters, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Resting at the Cass Funeral Home Inc., 6 Belvidere St., Lennoxville, Que., where friends may visit on Friday, January 25th, 2002 from 1 - 2 p.m., followed by the funeral service at 2:00 p.m., with Rev. Jane Aikman officiating. Interment in Elmwood Cemetery, Sherbrooke, Que.

In Memoriam

JOHNSON - In loving memory our our dear father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. H.L. Johnson; sisters, Amie, Gracie, May, Florence, Irene and Elinor; dear brother, Homer; and all our loved ones no longer with us.

We cannot have the old days back
When we were all together,
The family chain is broken now
But memories will live forever.
Always in our hearts,
GERTRUDE & JACK HUMPHREY
NIECES & NEPHEWS

Deaths

MATTHEWS, Ashton - Suddenly at his home in Cookshire, Que., on Wednesday, January 23, 2002. Ashton Matthews in his 87th year. Beloved husband of Helen Maskell. Dear father of Connie (Gilbert) Rhicard and Bob (Faye). Devoted grandfather of Jonathan, Amy, Pam and Chris. Brother of Osbourne (Candy) Matthews and dear friend to Willy Christen. Resting at Cass Funeral Home, 50 Craig St., South, Cookshire, Que., where relatives and friends may call on Friday, from 2 - 4 and 7 - 9 p.m., and where funeral service will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2002 at 2:00 p.m. Reverend Sister Mary Florence Liew officiating. Interment of ashes in Cookshire Cemetery at a later date.

SHERRER, Dwight A. - Peacefully in Port Burwell, Ontario on Wednesday, January 9, 2002 in his 76th year. Son of the late Archie and Winnie Sherrer. Brother of Oscar (late Mary and Shelia) Helen, Archena (late Gordon), Eric and Ruby, Carleton and Lois, Norma and Ken Gibson, Beverly and Dorson Johnston. Also many nieces and nephews and friends. In respect to his wishes, he was cremated and will be buried in Ontario. Eric and Ruby would like to thank their friends who sent sympathy cards.

In Memoriam

DEZAN, Donald Montie - In loving memory of our dear husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather who passed away on January 24, 1991. Our lives go on without you
And nothing is the same,
We have to hold the heartache
When someone speaks your name.
Sad are the hearts that love you,
Silent the tears that fall,
Living our lives without you,
Is the hardest part of all.

GRACE HENDERSON DEZAN (wife)
MARY & BRYAN
NANCY & ELMER
DAVID & LINDA
ARTHUR, MAXINE,
ELIZABETH & MARIO
KATHY & PETER
JUDY & BOBBY

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Residences Funéraires

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time of need

564-1750

1-800-567-6031

North 01-24-02			
♠ K Q 10			
♥ K Q 10			
♦ Q J 7			
♣ 7 5 4 2			
West		East	
♠ J 7 5		♠ A 9 8	
♥ 8 6 5		♥ 9 7 3 2	
♦ 9 4 3		♦ 10 6 5 2	
♣ K Q J 9		♣ 10 8	
South			
♠ 6 4 3 2			
♥ A J 4			
♦ A K 8			
♣ A 6 3			
Dealer: South Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass
Opening lead: ♣ K			

Thursday, Jan. 24, 2002

You must learn to duck smoothly

By Phillip Alder

Elizabeth Gaskell, a 19th-century English novelist, wrote, "A little credulity helps one on through life very smoothly."

This can apply to bridge as well. If you duck smoothly, the opponents will probably treat that play with credulity. Then, if the circumstances are favorable, you will have a good chance to gain tricks.

How should the play go in this three-no-trump contract?

The duplication in the red suits leaves declarer looking at only seven top tricks: three hearts, three diamonds and one club. Unless the clubs are 3-3, South needs to win two spade tricks.

Declarer withholds his club ace at trick one. When West continues with the club jack (or queen), if East fails to follow suit, declarer would assume East holds the spade ace, otherwise the contract is hopeless. Then South would play a spade to dummy's 10, hoping West has the jack.

Here, though, East follows to the second club. South ducks again, just in case West had decided to lead from a strong three-card holding.

After winning the third club, South plays a spade to dummy's queen. (Yes, here, if declarer guesses to finesse dummy's 10, he wins immediately, but that play would look less good if West had the spade ace and East the jack.) Now East must play low smoothly, trying to look like someone who doesn't know that there is a spade ace in the deck.

South will return to hand in a red suit and lead a second spade. When West plays low, declarer has a guess to make. If he gets it right, East should consider it a compliment that South assumed he would duck his ace smoothly.

Make no mention of the sexual orientation

Ann Landers

Dear Ann Landers: My nephew is getting married and has asked our 9-year-old daughter to be in the wedding party. I know the bride-to-be has several gay friends, and we learned only recently that the wedding will be held in a known gay church instead of in our family church. I also heard that the bride's best friend, a gay man, will be the "man of honor" (instead of the maid of honor) and stand on her side rather than on the groom's side.

My husband and I are deeply religious and do not approve of gays. Should we allow our young daughter to attend the wedding? — A California Question

Dear Calif.: Of course your daughter should attend the wedding. Make no mention of the sexual orientation of any of the guests. To poison your daughter's mind against any segment of society would be wrong, wrong, wrong. P.S. I hope you are able to overcome your own prejudice and enjoy the evening. If you feel you cannot do so, stay home, and do everyone a favor.

Dear Ann Landers: My daughter just informed me that our granddaughter, age 5, will no longer be permitted to visit us on the weekends because her

"attitude and behavior" have been poor. They told her she has three more chances, and if she misbehaves three more times in the next 12 days, she will not be seeing us for three months.

We do not believe it is appropriate to use us as punishment for their daughter's behavior. After all, if our granddaughter doesn't visit, we are being punished as well, and we haven't done anything wrong. I realize that parents need to discipline their youngsters, but isn't this totally inappropriate? My daughter insists that visits with us are the only thing she can withhold that the child greatly cares about.

Please, Ann, tell us how to make our daughter find another way to punish the child. We are already suffering because of that ill-conceived decision. — Grandma in New Hampshire

Dear New Hampshire Gram: If you feel that a word from me, backing you up, will help, consider it done. Your daughter should indeed find a way to discipline the child without punishing you. I am printing your letter and my plea that she will consider another form of punishment. I hope it helps.

Dear Ann Landers: I am 70 years old and in fairly good health, although I have a bad back. I have a young niece who is a lovely girl and very attentive, but she does one thing that makes me livid. She sends me cards for my birthday, anniversary and holidays, and every time, she puts confetti inside. You know what I mean, Ann — those tiny pieces of glitter and millions of little paper hearts. When I open the cards, the confetti falls out and lands all over the table and floor, and winds up in my hair, my shoes, you name it. I know she is trying to be cute, but it only causes me stress and aggravation to clean up this mess.

I wish she would stop sending me cards, but my husband says I'm being petty and should be grateful she remembers me. I'm still finding gold fragments in my rug from the card she sent for Christmas. Is there anything I can do to put an end to this without offending her? — Too Old for Glitter in Texas

Dear Too Old in Texas: No need to offend your niece by criticizing her well-intentioned mailing. Anticipate the problem, and open her glittery cards over your trash can or kitchen sink. Problem solved — and no feelings will be hurt.

St. James Guild meeting

FOSTER

The first meeting of the year was held at the home of Muriel Whitehead with 11 members present.

President - Francis Johnson welcomed everyone and led us in the open-

ing prayers.

Secretary, Dot de Solla read the minutes of the November meeting.

Suzy Allen thanked the members for the gift she had received at Christmas time. Francis thanked everyone for the

gift sent her husband at Christmas time.

Treasurer, Carol Dunn gave her year end report.

Muriel gave her report on correspondence received and sent.

Elvia Johnson thanked everyone who had donated food for her birthday celebration on Nov. 25th, 2001.

May Banks thanked everyone for the get well wishes she received during the time she was recovering from knee surgery.

Muriel brought it to our attention that the St. James Guild celebrates their 40th anniversary this year. Discussion followed as to how we could celebrate this event.

Secretary, Dot de Solla gave her year and report on activities which included the dedication of the new church hall.

Membership dues were collected as well as the usual collection.

May Banks offered to have the next meeting on February 6th. She plans a luncheon for 12:00 p.m.

There was discussion about having card parties in the church hall in the spring when weather permits. Muriel will check for possible dates.

Francis adjourned the meeting and all members repeated the Benediction.

Followed a delicious lunch served by Muriel, which included a tasty surprise dessert provided by May Banks.

Elvia and members thanked Muriel for lovely refreshments and for her hospitality.

Stella Mizener, secretary

Township Weavers

The Township Weavers held their annual Christmas get-together and gift exchange on December 1, 2001, at the home of John and Mary Rasmussen, North Hatley.



Front row: Judy Bachelder, Norma Reiss, Ann Fleischer, Phyllis Baxter, Ellie Bailey. Back row: Mary Hill, Mary Rasmussen, Kathleen Howard. Several members were unable to attend.

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: Z equals L

'J IEC'X XDJCT HISWCXNVW JB
WSWV XDW WCWPG EM
VWZHXJECBDJYB. XDW AJFFWV
XDVWHX JB AEWIEP HCI

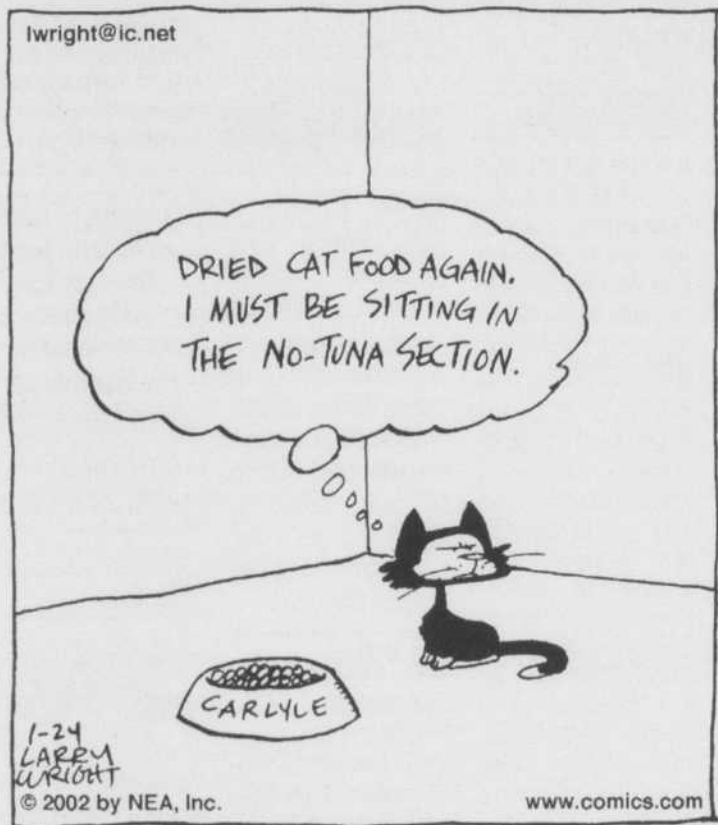
VENXJCW.' - AECE

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "I'm fond of pigs. Dogs look up to us. Cats look down on us. Pigs treat us as equals." - Winston Churchill

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24

KIT N' CARLYLE



HERMAN



"That's what it says: 'one tablespoonful, 300 times a day.'"

ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



GRIZWELLS



SOUP TO NUTS



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LENOXVILLE - Uniquely designed house, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, hardwood & ceramic floors, large windows, beautiful view, 1 1/2 lots beside wooded area. Residential street. Call (819) 346-9871.

Find a deal on a plumber or a plum of a deal in the Classifieds



CANADA PROVINCE OF QUEBEC DISTRICT OF ST-FRANÇOIS No: 26-001026-002-G SOCIÉTÉ EN COMMANDITE LES RÉSIDENCES OXFORD C/O GESTION GASTON LAVOIE ENR. 1650 KING WEST, SUITE 50, SHERBROOKE (QUEBEC) J1J 2C3 LESSOR VS ANNA-LENA CHASSIDOU 97 OXFORD-CRESCENT, APT. 307 LENOXVILLE (QUEBEC) J1M 2G3 LEASEHOLDER Take notice that a request as well as two amendments have been brought against you concerning apartment no. 307 at 97 OXFORD CRESCENT, LENOXVILLE. Copies of this request and this amendment have already been left to your attention at the office of the Régie du Logement, 750 Galt West, Sherbrooke SHERBROOKE, JANUARY 21, 2002

010 Farms and Acreage

FARM FOR SALE - 51 acres, 4 bedroom house, 2 garages, barn, machinery shed, paved yard, 2 fish ponds. Extraordinary view. Price: \$175,000. For information: (819) 889-2840 or 572-5609 or 889-1070.

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035 For Rent

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SUBLET - Reduced price! Lennoxville: 184 Belvidere Street. Nice 3 bedroom basement apartment to sublet, available immediately. All included. Call (819) 565-8750 or (802) 766-5442.

035 For Rent



MID-WINTER SPECIAL: Room for rent. Downhill and cross country skiing and riding at your doorstep, in Sutton. Room with breakfast: \$75.00 for 2 people. Call Lynda, (450) 538-3387 home, (450) 242-6892 office.

035 For Rent

LONDON RESIDENCE - Private room available. 24 hour care, call bell, nurse and doctor, family atmosphere. Member of A.R.R.Q. 301 London St., Sherbrooke. Call (819) 564-8415.

050 Rest Homes

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1954 CHEVROLET MODEL 210, 4 door, grey, 6 cylinder, 69,000 miles. Very clean. \$6,000. Serious inquiries only. Call (819) 872-3603 ask for Mike.

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Cleveland Women's Institute meeting

Cleveland W.I. held their January meeting at the home of Peggy Healy. The president Myrna Hebert welcomed everyone, thanked Peggy and wished everyone a happy new year. Mary Stew-

art collect was repeated. Twelve members were present.

Motto: Gratitude is the heart remembering a past kindness. Roll Call: Payment of dues. The minutes were read

and approved. Seven members attended Centre du Jour Christmas party.

Treasurer's report was given. Bills were paid. Perfect attendance gifts were given to Doris Stevens and Eileen Mas-

tine.

Correspondence: Aline Healy thanked us for the hasty notes. A thank you was received from the Centre du Jour Friday group. Pamphlets were passed around on Code of Ethics, Partnership with and for the community and services close to you phone book.

A thank you was received from Mary Albers for the Christmas dinner and entertainment. Q.W.I. motions - passed around. FWIC Convention 2003 was read to members. An Invitation to St. Jean Baptiste buffet was received. Three members will attend.

Convenors reports were given by Peggy Eastman, Matty Banfill, Peggy Healy, Myrna Hebert, Doris Stevens, Ina Young and Sandra Johnston.

Jokes were read by Sandra Johnston and Peggy Eastman.

5 cents was collected from each member for Pennies for Friendship.

Tea Fees were collected. Floating prize was won by Myrna Hebert.

Next meeting Feb. 2, 2002 at the home of Sandra Johnston at 10:00 a.m. with a potluck dinner. Bring a stamped/Valentine and wear red.

Meeting adjourned.

A delicious lunch was served by Peggy Healy.

Louise Perkins

Your Birthday

Thursday, Jan. 24, 2002

Let the big wigs in your company know you're not afraid to take on major responsibilities, and you could make significant strides in your career. Prepare yourself with what's needed to do so.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) - A thoughtful, inexpensive token of your affection given to someone you love will go a long way towards building beautiful memories. Little things sometimes can be the most meaningful. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) - It will prove to your ultimate benefit to be helpful to someone who truly needs you today, even if it inconveniences you. The rewards will far exceed your investment of time.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) - Don't hesitate to offer your know-how in handling a difficult problem when you see others struggling with it. They won't re-

sent it; they'll welcome somebody who is experienced.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) - Your probabilities for personal acquisition are excellent today, because you'll be operating within your field of expertise and will know exactly where to find the golden eggs.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) - Because of the example you'll set today, others who may find the project at hand disagreeable will follow your lead and copy the way you do things. It's the sincerest type of flattery.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) - What makes others admire you today is the way you'll go about assisting them without seeking credit or pats on the back. It's a formula for generating abundance in return.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) - Through a frank and open discussion today with those who frequently act as your advisors, you'll reach an intelligent and workable solution for something upon which you have doubts.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Hang tight

with those who share your visions and expectations today and ignore the pessimists. Positive thinking always leads to success and gains.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) - You'll offer good guidance to those in your charge today because you'll instinctively know when to use hard line direction and when you can soften your approach.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) - It may not be important to you to persist today regarding your personal matters, but you will be extremely tenacious and conscientious concerning what you manage for others.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) - There is nothing more important to do today than to make it a point to let those whose relationships you value know how much you care. Loving words will solidify bonds.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Although there may not be any free rides out there today, you'll have no trouble gratifying your ambitious objectives, because you're willing to do whatever it takes to accomplish them.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Parody
- 6 500 sheets of paper
- 10 Filled with wonder
- 14 Muse of lyric poetry
- 15 Utah ski resort
- 16 Carryall
- 17 Party pooper
- 19 Loyal
- 20 Draft letters
- 21 Lodgings in London
- 22 1921 Chaplin film
- 24 Corn mix
- 25 Lawn
- 26 Elephant rider
- 29 Cartoonist Berke
- 32 Letter-shaped fastener
- 33 Boorish

- 34 Conceit
- 35 Drunkards
- 36 Ways to go
- 37 Dweeb
- 38 Ames and Asner
- 39 Nomadic tribe
- 40 Located
- 41 Snakes and lizards
- 43 Detonations
- 44 Come from behind
- 45 Three-way junctions
- 46 Grain bristle
- 48 Adjutant
- 49 Air pressure meas.
- 52 Deflected
- 53 Avian span
- 56 Verge
- 57 Stridex target

- 18 ___ it the truth?
- 23 Lukas of "Witness"
- 24 Elected officials, briefly
- 25 Assign scores
- 26 Ponderer
- 27 Home
- 28 City in Arkansas
- 29 Thin wire nails
- 30 White heron
- 31 Jazz clarinetist Johnny
- 33 Actor Wendell
- 36 Movable bed
- 37 Long and Peebles

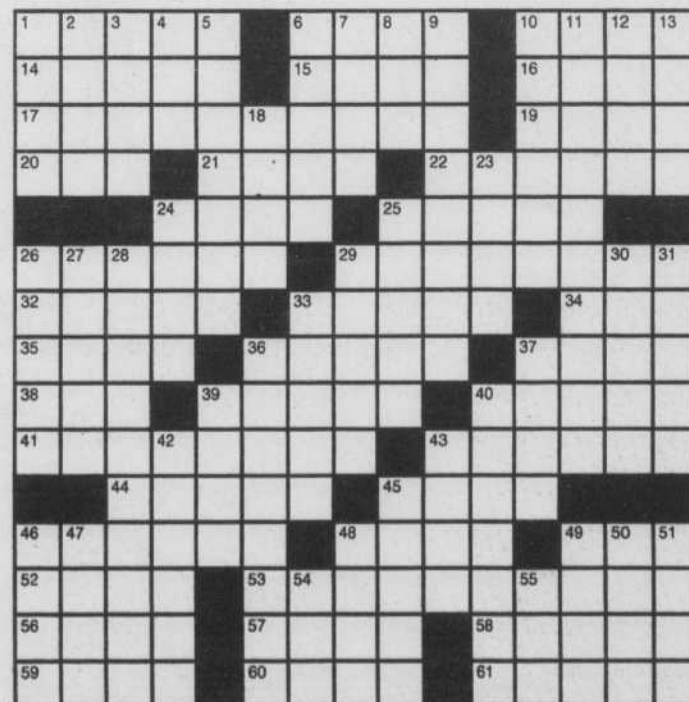
- 39 Sword handle
- 40 Traveler's bed
- 42 Samples
- 43 Four-posters
- 45 Detroit player
- 46 Assist, criminally
- 47 Make over
- 48 Tolstoy novel, "___ Karenina"
- 49 Lowly laborer
- 50 NaCl
- 51 March 15, e.g.
- 54 Chill
- 55 Pioneering TV co.

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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

DOWN

- 1 Bastes and hems
- 2 U.S. leader
- 3 Feed-bag morsels
- 4 Gambling parlor's letters
- 5 Hidden bed
- 6 Extent
- 7 Wapitis
- 8 Had a bite
- 9 Basic bed
- 10 Sign an oath
- 11 Pages for computations
- 12 Ornamental case
- 13 Property owner's record



By F.E. Robbins

1/24/02

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