



THE RECORD

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2004

ETSB holds first of three consultations on language plan

By Leah Fitzgerald
COWANSVILLE

Ron Canuel, director general of the Eastern Townships School Board started the board's first parent and teacher language initiative consultation session with the admission he had made a mistake.

Not in creating the language initiative, but in claiming that the 450 minutes being proposed by the board, was the standard at the high school level.

"This tainted the entire debate," Canuel told the approximately 50 parents, teachers and governing board members gathered in the Massey-Vanier High School library Monday night.

Canuel said he looked into the amount of French offered in English school boards across the province, and discovered the core level was closer to the Minister of Education's required level — 350 minutes — with other options, including bilingual and immersion streams, available.

Canuel said reports that learning French would have a negative impact on English were false.

"Learning a second language does not harm or inhibit mother tongue acquisition," he said. "It's the most researched topic in the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) countries."

Canuel spoke about the reasons behind the language initiative's conception.

"At first, it was about French," he acknowledged. "But it's about addressing the board's real problem — literacy."

Canuel once again cited the example of a math teacher whose biggest problem in the classroom is students unable to read the math problems. Improving overall literacy, the goal of the initiative, will improve student performance in other subjects, he said.



FILE PHOTO

ETSB Chairman Margaret Faulks and the Council of Commissioners will decide on the implementation of the language initiative.

PLEASE SEE LANGUAGE PAGE 5

Goodale presents damage control budget

Funds for health, education and debt reduction

By Rita Legault
SHERBROOKE

The new Liberal government released a cautious first budget yesterday in preparation for an election call in the coming months.

Prime Minister Paul Martin clearly wants to call a spring election but his fledgling government has been dogged by growing public anger over revelations that the Liberals squandered some \$100 million in sponsorship funds.

Martin's first budget was a clear attempt to portray his scandal-plagued government as careful managers of taxpayers' funds and to differentiate itself from the previous regime. But after presenting eight budgets under the Chrétien Liberals, that was no easy task for Martin and his bean counter Ralph Goodale.

Goodale promised Canadians "the ultimate in accountability, transparency and value for their hard-earned tax dollars" as he reestablished a comptroller general's office to oversee all federal spending as well as other measures to ensure more accountability and integrity in government spending.

The budget contained few goodies for taxpayers. But while there were no income tax cuts, there were not tax hikes either.

Finance Minister Goodale's pre-election budget included \$183.3 billion in new spending to help low-income post-secondary students, compensate farmers hit hard by mad-cow crisis, establish a national health care agency, encourage business investment, clean up the environment, upgrade infrastructures in major cities and rural areas, and provide a small boost to the cash-strapped military.

Spending in the 2004 budget increased by about \$4 billion over last year. Goodale's speech



WEB PHOTO

Finance Minister Ralph Goodale delivered his first budget.

also marked the seventh consecutive balanced federal budget, something he boasted "has not been achieved since Confederation."

Goodale said the Liberals were committed to continued balanced budgets as well as lasting pledges to further reduce Canada's \$510 billion debt.

In a budget that resembled those of his leader, the Finance Minister set aside trademark rainy-day funds. Goodale maintained a contingency fund of \$3 billion and reinstated Martin's prudent reserve of \$1 billion to ensure the country's books remain balanced no matter what. And like his model Martin, Goodale earmarked any surpluses to further pay down the debt.

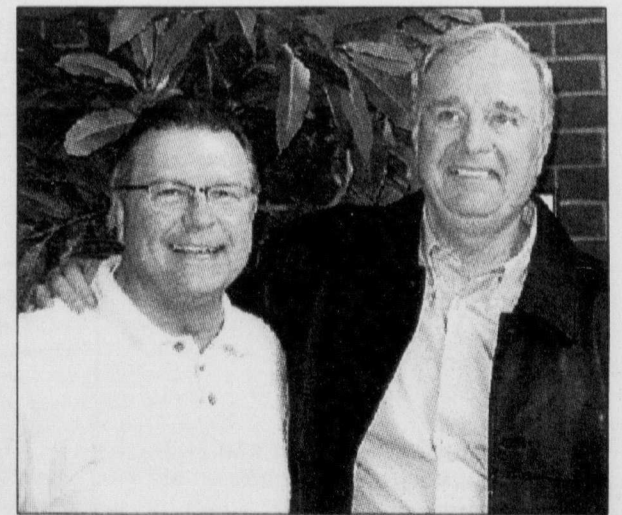
To get some mileage out of the Liberal budget pledges, Martin personally announced more than \$1 billion in farm aid for struggling farmers in Alberta on Monday.

Canadians have said time and again their main priority is health care and the government set aside \$400 million for a new Canada Public Health Agency that will manage medical emergencies like the outbreak of SARS, emergency preparedness and chronic diseases. More was set aside to improve immunization programs across the country.

There was also \$18 million set aside for the New Horizons Program which supports community-based program for seniors.

That new spending comes on top of Martin's \$2 billion pledge to the provinces in increased health care transfers.

PLEASE SEE BUDGET PAGE 4



WEB PHOTO

Finance Minister Ralph Goodale with Prime Minister Paul Martin.

A world of top opportunity right here

On Wednesday, Townshippers' Association is launching a new web site, www.topportunity.ca <<http://www.topportunity.ca>>, that offers a plethora of information in English about employment prospects and educational resources right here in the Eastern Townships. The web site will be launched at an open house 12 - 2 p.m. at the Association's Cowansville office, 203 Principale. The event will be co-hosted by the Emmanuel United Church. Members of the public are invited.

The new resource will contain the results of more than two years of research by Maria van Sundert. Her research identifies and describes the top 40 employment prospects in the region, and opens a window for Eng-

lish-speakers onto a variety of resources in both English and French. It will be of special interest to persons choosing a career path or thinking of changing careers.

The Topportunity project is an initiative of the Townshippers of Tomorrow Committee of Townshippers' Association. The committee's mission is to ensure that young people are informed about the advantages and opportunities that living in the Eastern Townships has to offer, and to facilitate their reaching full potential.

"Topportunity proves in many ways that all manner of career, educational, and entrepreneurial opportunities exist here in the Eastern Townships,"

KEEPING IN TOUCH

TOWNSHIPERS' ASSOCIATION

said Michael van Lierop, chair of Townshippers of Tomorrow. "The Top 40 Job Prospects is just one of the ways we have given Townshippers evidence that. For many people, living here and making a living here are not the same thing. Topportunity helps to prove that they can be the same thing."

The open house will provide a networking opportunity for those interested in regional youth retention, employment, and education. "We want this web site, this initiative, to be the pivot point for the region and its future. At the end of the day, the future of our community will be determined by the ability of young Townshippers to identify a future for

themselves that is interesting, profitable, and long-term," van Lierop commented.

Topportunity was made possible in part by financial contributions from the Development of Official-Language Communities Program of Canadian Heritage and Townshippers' Research & Cultural Foundation. The web site also profited from the writing and editorial skills of Matthew Farfan and the collaboration of the Eastern Townships School Board and Human Resources Development Canada.

For more information about Topportunity and the Townshippers' Association's Cowansville open house, call 566-5717 (toll free 1-866-5717) or email ta@townshippers.qc.ca.

BRIEFS

Champlain College International Studies to host symposium Thursday

On Thursday, March 25, Champlain Regional College International Studies will host its annual symposium to highlight an international issue of concern to students and the public. This year the one-day conference, *The World's Children - Obstacles and Paths to Wellbeing*, will include four sessions focusing on issues such as street-active youth, children in war, HIV/Aids and children, and education as a potential path to well-being.

Speakers include Emma Rooney, Youth Program Director of Streetkids International Canada, Kali Galanis, Assistant Director of War Child Canada, and representatives from Save the Children Canada, The Institute for Social Ecology and local faculty and students.

The symposium will be held in the foyer of Centennial Theatre on the

Bishop's University campus in Lennoxville and is free and open to the public. Talks are scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. and will run until 3:30 p.m. Everyone in the community is invited to attend.

The day will close with an evening potluck supper at 6 p.m. in the Champlain Faculty Lounge to raise funds to assist schools for Burmese migrant and refugee children on the Thai-Burmese border. The cost of the supper is \$10.

For further information, contact Mary Purkey at 564-3666, ext 621.

Ecumenical study day at U de S

There will be an Ecumenical Study Day today, Wednesday March 24, at the Centre Culturel (Côté jardin) of the Université de Sherbrooke, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

This activity is organized jointly by Father Pierre C. Noël of the Faculté de théologie, d'éthique et de philosophie de l'Université de Sherbrooke and the

Canadian Centre for Ecumenism.

The following panelists will participate in the activity: David Oliver (Anglican), Daniel Pourchot (Lutheran), Gilles Bourdeau (Catholic), David Fines (United Church), Horia Roscanu (Catholic) and César Vasiliu (Orthodox).

Please note that it will be possible for every participant to intervene, after the presentations of the panelists, in French or English.

For any further information or to reserve a place, please contact Marc Nadeau, at marc.nadeau@usherbrooke.ca or Professor Pierre Noël at (819) 821-8000, poste 1008.

Antique sale at Carrefour de l'Estrie

Sherbrooke's third annual antique show will be held at Le Carrefour de l'Estrie March 26-27-28.

Twenty exhibitors from Sherbrooke and surrounding areas of Magog, North Hatley, Eastman, Shefford, Knowlton, Lac Brome, West Bolton,

Coaticook, Val-Joly and Quebec City will present their treasures for the public.

Shoppers and antique buffs will find furniture of all kinds including beautiful Quebec furniture (primitive), popular art, collection articles, antique dishes, decorative articles and restored household electrical appliances.

Everyone welcome, free admission.

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

Thursday, March 25

Fleurimont

Galleries Quatre Saisons
930 - 13th Avenue North
10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Objective: 165 donors

Monday, March 29

Richmond

Knights of Columbus
Community Hall
820 Gouin Street
1:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Objective: 140 donors

Weather

Today: Sunny. High plus 2.

Thursday: Cloudy 60 per cent chance of showers or flurries. Low minus 4. High 8.

Friday: Periods of rain. Low 1. High 12.

Saturday: A mix of sun and cloud. 70 per cent chance of showers. Low 2. High 4.

Normals for the period: Low minus 7. High plus 4.

Ben by Daniel Shelton



Jeffrey Mine hopes to be debt free by May: Coulombe

By Stephen McDougall
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD
ASBESTOS

The former head of the Jeffrey Mine hopes to have the asbestos open pit operation free of major debt by this spring, but only if Quebec taxpayers are willing to accept less than what the debt is worth.

"It was our debts that caused the receivership and has been our burden these past two years," said Coulombe in an interview Monday.

"Every time we wanted to use the mine to fill orders for clients, we had to go to the courts for permission because of our debts to creditors."

Coulombe, now chief consultant for receiving firm Grant Thornton, Raymond Chabot, said the main debt of \$57 million to the Caisse de depot et placements should be eliminated by May.

But he added the Caisse, which is a Quebec Crown corporation, has to agree to accept less than the full amount.

Coulombe would not say how much less the Caisse is willing to accept.

The Caisse is funded by money from the provincial public pensions. The crown corporation invests the money in Quebec economic projects in order to stimulate development and jobs in the province.

Caisse officials could not be reached for comment at press time.

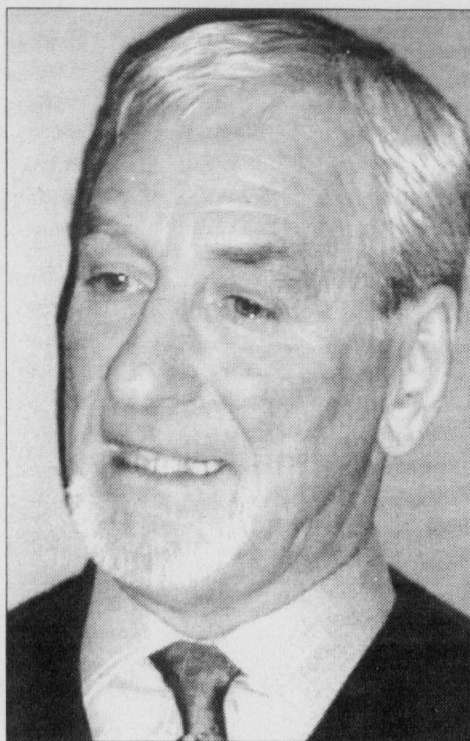
But Yvon Vallières, the local member of the Quebec legislature and the government whip in cabinet, said any loss of this sort is acceptable to the government.

"We have to allow the Caisse a bit of latitude in this matter," he said.

"We have to look at the long term. If we demand all our money and put the mine into bankruptcy, we get little back and the mine is closed forever. We do not want to see this happen."

Coulombe said the mine had some other "minor" debts that would have to be handled later in the year once the Caisse debt is settled.

According to a report made at the time of the mine's receivership in Oct. 2002, JM owed creditors close to \$120



STEPHEN MCDUGALL

Former Jeffrey Mine president Bernard Coulombe said the company's \$57 million debt could be paid by May if creditors accept less.

million. Apart from the Caisse, other creditors included Hydro Quebec, Noranda, the town of Asbestos, the JM employees pension funds and various other suppliers.

The debts stem from an underground mine shaft worth \$130 million JM undertook under Coulombe's stewardship in the mid-1990s. When demand for asbestos fiber was reduced by a 1998 economic crisis in Asia, Coulombe turned to the Quebec government for a loan guarantee to help complete the underground project. After two years of negotiations, the government agreed to protect 85 percent of the loans made by the Caisse along with two minor partners, the Desjardins Credit Union and the National Bank of Canada.

When that line of credit was used up, the mine continued the underground project with its own funds despite a continuing weak market for the fibre world-

wide.

According to one source in the company, financing the underground shaft was more important than paying the bills.

"They were robbing Peter to pay Paul," said the former employee.

"This is how they got into so much debt."

Again out of funds, JM finally stopped the construction project in December, 2001 when close to 90 percent of it had been completed. After the mine tried in vain to secure two loans from the Quebec government later that year, it declared itself in financial trouble, called in the receivers and shut down the mine.

The mine stoppage left 350 people unemployed.

The receivership also caused over 1,200 retired JM employees to lose up to 40 percent of their retirement benefits. The company pension funds were underfunded and could not be topped up by JM because of the receivership.

Coulombe denied that JM had gambled with company funds, employee pensions and benefits and government guarantees in order to build the underground mine.

"No one could have predicted the Asian crisis or that Russia and other countries would start dumping cheaper fiber on the world market," said Coulombe.

"This was not mismanagement, it was just a difficult economic situation."

Coulombe also played down the condition of the mine just as it is gearing up for another two month operation period this coming April to fill some fiber orders.

He admitted the two processing mills are getting old, but argued the equipment is still "the best in the asbestos industry."

Mill five, he said, is over 50 years old, while the more automated Mill 6 is over 25 years old.

He said a recent fire at Mill 6, in which a high voltage cable overheated and created a fire in a main electric panel, has been repaired. A roof leak in Mill 5 earlier in the year has also been repaired, along

with the damage the water did to some drains and electric motors.

A large crack in the foundation of the mine's truck garage, he said, is not serious.

But he admitted if the mine is to continue producing fiber, it will have to start extracting more of it from deep in the open pit rather than from the sides and the top.

"We have the funds to go back down in," he said. "That is planned for the fall."

He said JM is not giving up on the idea of using the underground shaft, but admits world wide demand for asbestos has to increase and the price for fibre must rise.

"If it does, we can work for longer periods each year and eventually start using the shaft," he said.

"It is almost all finished. All we have to do now is drain it and install the automated equipment needed to run it. We would like to see that done by 2007 or 2008."

But Coulombe admitted further investment will mean borrowing more money from creditors in the coming years. He said the present scheme to resolve the debt with the Caisse is only a temporary measure.

"Once we have more contracts, we plan to repay what was lost by the Caisse so that our credit can be restored to a healthy status," he said. "We also want to find some partners who would be willing to invest in the mine."

For now, there are no indications that market demand for Chrysotile asbestos will rebound. To date, no action by Canada has been taken to counter underselling tactics undertaken by Russian, African and South American asbestos mines.

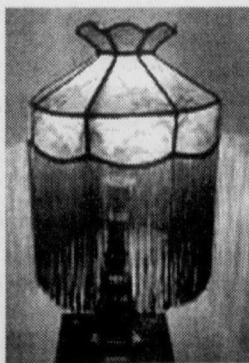
JM's competition in Thetford Mines, LAB Chrysotile, recently had to extend its layoff period for its Lake Asbestos open pit mine, meaning 459 workers will not see a paycheck until April, while its 253 Bell underground mine workers will be laid off from April until November.

LAB officials say the extended shutdown has been caused by a continued weak asbestos market.

Photograph and lantern exhibition at the North Hatley Library

This spring the North Hatley Library will be hosting a beautiful and unusual show. Bettie Nadeau will exhibit exquisite photographs taken on a recent trip to the Yunnan province in southwestern China. Enchanting Chinese lanterns made by Geneviève Oligny will complement the pictures.

All are invited to the vernissage, on Saturday, April 10 from 4 to 6 p.m.



The exhibit runs until May 2 and may be visited during Library hours: Tuesday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 12:30, Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 8:30, and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.. The show will be also open on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

FUTURESHOP

The Panasonic CQ-C1120 Car Deck (sku# 10039706) was incorrectly advertised in our March 19th flyer as having MP3 and WMA playback capabilities. This model does not offer that functionality. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our valued customers.

CRTC



CRTC PUBLIC NOTICE Canada

1. SHERBROOKE (BROMPTONVILLE), Qc. FABRIQUE DE LA PAROISSE DE STE-PRAXÈDE DE BROMPTONVILLE requests authority to amend the licence of CJRF-FM Sherbrooke (Bromptonville) by changing the frequency to 93.1 MHz (channel 226LP). EXAMINATION OF APPLICATION: 35 Larocque St., Sherbrooke (Bromptonville), Qc. If you wish to support or oppose an application, write to the Secretary General, CRTC, Ottawa, Ont., K1A 0N2. You may also file your intervention by fax at (819) 994-0218 or by e-mail at: procedure@crtc.gc.ca. Your comments must be received at the CRTC on or before **5 April 2004** and **MUST** include the proof that you sent a copy to the applicant. All information submitted, including your email address, name and any other personal informations provided, will be posted on the CRTC's web site. For more information: 1-877-249-CRTC (Toll-free) or Internet: <http://www.crtc.gc.ca>. Reference document: Public Notice CRTC 2004-9.



Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission

Conseil de la radiodiffusion et des télécommunications canadiennes

Martin's first budget as PM displayed caution

BUDGET:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

In education, Goodale invested \$100 million in a new savings bond project to help low-income families save for their kids' education. Student loan limits were raised to \$210 a week from the current \$165 and the government will also double the Canada Education Savings grants for families earning less than \$35,000.

For municipalities, the budget followed through with February's throne speech pledge to give cities a full rebate on the GST they pay for goods and services. That will be worth about \$600 million in the 2004-2005 fiscal year and \$7 billion over the next decade.

The government also accelerated infrastructure spending for crumbling roads, transit and clean-water, ensuring the \$1 billion earmarked for such programs is spent over five years instead of the next decade.

Goodale also pledged some \$3.5 billion over the next decade to clean up contaminated federal sites as well as an additional \$500 million to remediate other toxic sites including the Sydney tar ponds in Nova Scotia. There is also spending of at least \$1 billion on environmental technologies over the next seven years. Goodale said those measures will be funded with the proceeds from the long-planned sale of the government's remaining 19 per cent stake in Petro-Canada which was announced earlier in the day before the markets opened.

About \$250 million was earmarked to encourage environmentally sound inventions that have a commercial purpose.

The government also pledged some \$270 million to provide venture capital for start-up technology companies and help get private-sector financing for leading-edge technologies. The Tax Act will also be amended to allow businesses bigger write-offs on computers, heavy machinery and other capital investments.

The Canadian Armed Forces, which had been hoping for major influx of cash, will get a mere \$300 million for new equipment such as search and rescue planes. More money may come after the government completes a review of Canada's foreign policy and defence.

The military will also receive \$250 million, including \$50 million to cover Canada's commitment to the international stabilization force in Haiti and \$200 million for its mission in Afghanistan.

Goodale announced an income tax holiday for soldiers on high risk missions overseas. The tax break, which is retroactive to Jan. 1, will save soldiers and police officers about \$30 million a year.



FILE PHOTO

Brome Missisquoi MP Denis Paradis said the budget reflected Canadian priorities and government responsibility.

There was also a \$1.5 million pledge for the Juno Beach Centre in Normandy, France that commemorates the 60th anniversary of D-Day landing in the Second World War.

The unpopular air security tax surcharge is also expected to fall to \$12 from \$14 for round trips within Canada. The tax for international flights will be cut to \$40 for a round trip from \$48.

The government also pledged an additional \$248 million in foreign aid.

One billion a year of the new funding will come from the reallocation of funds taken from lower priority programs.

Not surprisingly, government critics were not impressed with the budget.

New Democratic Party leader Jack Layton said there was not enough spending for health, education and other priorities and likened the budget to paying down the mortgage faster when you have a leaky roof, a sick grandmother and a child who needs financial help to go to university.

Sherbrooke's MP Serge Cardin said the budget was an admission of Liberal past sins and did little to address the needs of Canadians and Quebecers.

"It's still a Martin budget," said the opposition Bloc MP noting that Goodale predicted a surplus of about \$4 billion. Cardin said the Bloc believes the number is closer to \$9.1 billion which they say should have been spent on health, education and social spending.

"This budget did little to correct problems of child poverty which the government unanimously denounced 12 years ago," Cardin said, noting that education bonds will do little to provide the needy with necessities like

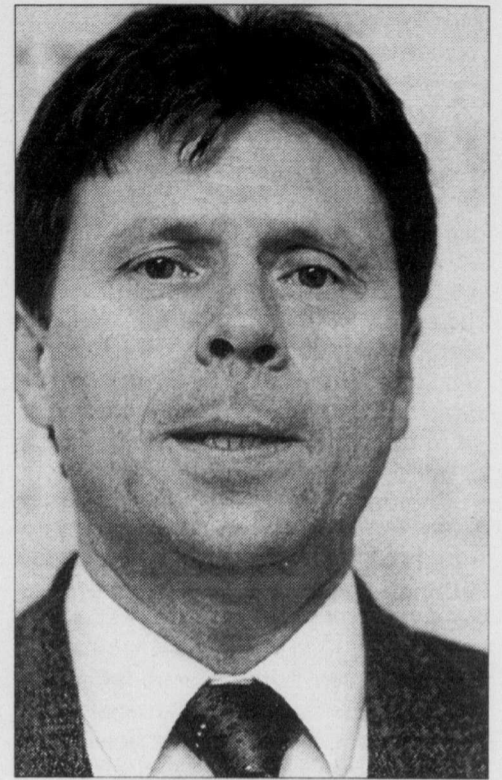
food and affordable housing.

Normand Gilbert of Sherbrooke's Solidarité Populaire Estrie echoed that sentiment, noting that the Liberals will use any leftover reserves to pay down the debt and not to invest in social programs - "as if the situation in health care and poverty were not urgent."

Gilbert and Cardin also complained the budget did nothing to correct problems with the employment insurance fund. Gilbert said the Liberal government has robbed the fund of some \$44 billion to erase the deficit and create surpluses while reducing access to insurance payments for Canada's neediest.

But Brome Missisquoi MP Denis Paradis defended his government's budget, noting that it reflected not only Canadians concerns that the government has to be a prudent and responsible manager of public funds, but also the themes of Martin's throne speech which he said mirrored concerns he heard during recent pre-budget consultations.

Paradis said Canadians were concerned about health, education, the survival of municipalities as well as research and development and the commercialization of new and promising technologies. All of those issues were addressed by Goodale's budget, he said.



FILE PHOTO

Bloc MP Serge Cardin said the budget was an admission of Liberal past sins and did little to address the needs of Canadians and Quebecers.

2004 federal budget highlights

HEALTH

- \$165 million for new public health agency
- \$100 million for public health surveillance systems
- \$400 million for national immunization

LEARNING

- Starting in 2004, a \$500 Canada Learning bond will be provided to each child at birth for families earning less than \$35,000 and then \$100 bonds every year until age 15.
- Double to 40 per cent the amount Ottawa contributes to registered education saving plans for low-income families
- New grant of up to \$3,000 for first-year, post-secondary students from low income families
- \$2,000 grant for post-secondary students with disabilities

CITIES AND RURAL SUPPORT

- \$500 million GST tax rebates for cities
- \$100 million over five years for rural infrastructure

NATIONAL DEFENCE AND SECURITY

- \$250 million for Afghanistan mission
- \$50 million for Haiti mission
- Tax exemption for soldiers serving in high-risk international missions
- \$605 million for security and reduce air travellers security charge

BUSINESS

- \$270 million for start up technology companies
- increase capital cost allowance 45 per cent from 30 per cent
- Increase small business deduction allowance by \$300 million
- \$100 million for commercial research
- Increase registered retirement saving plan limits to \$15,500 from \$13,500 in 2004 and \$18,000 by 2006

ECONOMIC AND FISCAL PROSPECTS

- 2.7-per-cent economic growth in 2004 and 3.3 per cent in 2005
- Maintain \$3-billion contingency fund and restore \$1-billion economic prudence fund
- \$508.7-billion national debt

CanWest News Service

LANGUAGE:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

The language initiative, Canuel explained, will improve the delivery of language arts to both English and French mother tongue students.

"Right now, we're teaching French mother tongue students French as a second language and English language arts," he said. "We need to adjust this."

Canuel said it will be up to each school to decide how to deal with the mix of French and English students. The 450 minutes proposed in the language initiative amounts to about 30 minutes more a day for more students.

Canuel also addressed the number of French mother tongue students in the school board. He said the numbers cited by the school board, 45.9 per cent at Richmond Regional, 17.2 at Massey-Vanier and 25.3 at Alexander Galt are based on the reported mother tongue by parents at the time of student registration.

"Those statistics are used by Stats Can and the government," he said.

Though the school board stands behind their stats, the schools themselves have claimed the number of French mother tongue students - especially at Richmond Regional - are much higher. The number of French mother tongue students is also likely to keep increasing. Schools like Drummondville Elementary, which feeds Richmond Regional, have as many as 90 per cent French students at some grade levels.

But as for statistics on success rates for the elementary schools, Canuel explained that it would be impossible to show that improved results, which purportedly will be shown in the upcoming 2002-2003 annual report, can be linked directly to the language initiative.

"There are so many factors right now - the reform, teachers retiring and new ones coming in - that we can't just point to the language initiative as an influence on improved results."

Canuel stressed the school board was listening to the concerns of parents about their right to choose what's best for their children, and the possibility of a negative impact on some students' performances.

In terms of the right to choose, though, Canuel emphasized that there are parents in the school board pushing for a faster implementation of the language initiative.

"They want their children to benefit from the increased French," he said.

Canuel admitted that ideally, this process of discussion of the initiative should have happened last year so as not to delay implementation. A reso-



FILE PHOTO

Director General Ron Canuel responded to questions raised at the February meeting of the school board.

lution for a deferral is still on the table at the ETSB's Council of Commissioners.

Administrators acknowledged they were trying to win students with the legal right to attend English school, back from the French school boards.

"We're up against Bill 101. It's easy to swap (schools) and come back," Canuel said.

"Why can't we offer more French in our schools?"

Canuel said the school board was taking this week to listen to the concerns of parents on special education (no children with integrated education programs will be forced to take extra French if it's determined to be detrimental), specialists being forced out in favour of bilingual teachers, and choice, the big issue with parents at the meeting.

DEFINING CONSULTATION

The school board did listen and respond to questions put forward by the people in attendance, but the focus was really on getting out the pre-prepared answers to questions posed at the Feb. 24 Council of Commissioners meeting.

The Fédération des comités des parents has a document available on their web site, Consultation: A Duty to Perform or a Power to be Mastered?, which describes their position on how a parent consultation should run.

The pamphlet notes: "The timing of a consultation is crucial: it is before a decision is made that the consultation process should take place; be-

tween the decision and the action, it is a little late to go back." Leaflet 23 is available at www.fcpcq.qc.ca.

Canuel displayed a typed version of the questions asked at the Feb. 24 council meeting on an overhead, and then read, and discussed, the school board's responses. Questions were taken from the audience, but only until the time limit of 9 p.m., which was surpassed, by about 15 minutes.

One person asked why students were not consulted. Canuel said that historically, pedagogical decisions were made by school boards and administrators with the best needs of the students in mind.

"You, as parents, empowered us to make the best decision for your children," he said. "Decisions are made by teachers and by the parents. No curriculum ever had students consulted."

Secretary-General Chantal Beaulieu said she would trust the school board with making the decisions for her children's education.

Her comment was met with groans from the crowd.

Beaulieu also brought up the idea of choice, warning that a challenge to the school board's authority based on Article 24 of the Basic School regulation act would not bring the desired results.

"A judge would acknowledge the right under Article 24, but it would force the school board to bring up the illegality of the article," she said.

Article 24 reads, in English: "For students admitted to an English language school, French as the language of instruction for subjects other than French as a second language may be used with the parents' authorization."

The French version, which takes precedence as the official version, reads: "Pour l'élève admis à recevoir l'enseignement en anglais, le français comme langue d'enseignement pour d'autres matières que le français, langue seconde, peut être utilisé, avec l'autorisation des parents."

In French, translated directly, it reads: "a student admitted to receive English language instruction," rather than "students admitted to an English language school."

Beaulieu explained that because that section of the regulation only applies to English schools, it is therefore discriminatory under the Quebec charter.

"The PQ put in this act to make English schools less attractive," she said. "There's not the same section for the French system."

Beaulieu said this enables streams at schools in Montreal and Quebec City, which have the numbers to offer options, but restricts smaller boards like the ETSB.

"You have to tell us what would be the best option," Canuel said. "The time is now to have this debate."



FILE PHOTO

Secretary general Chantale Beaulieu warned those in attendance that legal challenges can be a double-edged sword.

Canuel and Beaulieu said it's up to the individual high schools to decide how they want the choice made - through the governing board or through some form of individual parent choice.

Alan Gauthier, chair of the Massey-Vanier governing board, said the governing board has the right, through the time-allocation function of the board, to determine what classes the high school will offer in French.

The administration wavered between it being the prerogative of the principal because of teacher allocation, or the choice of parents, who would choose what class, if any, the child would take in French.

"Mother tongue proficiency is the main prerogative of the school board," Gauthier said. "Parents here clearly want to have a tool available. The governing board decides what is required in the students' best interest."

The school board countered saying that Article 24 really does leave choice up to parents, and said before anything can be decided, it has to go to the Council of Commissioners.

ETSB chair Margaret Faulks said the board would have to determine whether a choice would be given to parents.

The motion deferring the Language Initiative's high school implementation until the 2005-2006 school year was tabled until after the consultations were complete.

A council of commissioners meeting was scheduled to take place last night after The Record's press time.

Community Forum

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hope not all Anglicans judged by actions of a few

DEAR EDITOR,

Once again we are subjected to the problems of St. Luke's Church in Magog. Thank you for not putting it on the front page!

As an Anglican, I, and many others, are tired of these people airing their dirty laundry in public. Isn't it about time that they grew up?

Whatever happened to "Forgive and forget and move on with your life?"

How about "Love thy neighbour"? Maybe it is time they started acting like Christians and this includes those men of the cloth who are supposed to be setting an example of how Christians act. Are these people actually proud of having their childish behaviour reported in a newspaper in order

that everyone may read about it? What a waste of time and energy that could be put to good use to better the situation.

I hope that all Anglicans are not being judged by the image that these people are depicting.

This has gone on far too long and people are tired of hearing about the actions of a group of adults who are acting so ridiculous.

SHIRLEY CHAPMAN
Waterloo

Disgraceful spectacle at St. Luke's

DEAR EDITOR,

I am writing concerning the disgraceful antics at the Church of Saint Luke in Magog on Sunday, March 14, when police were called in. Imagine the scene, several police cars in front of the church and constables at the

front door. One will ask who was responsible, and in my opinion full blame lies on the shoulders of Rev. Fred Richardson and his former warden. A week earlier the annual parish Vestry meeting was held, when Richardson, enraged by some members attending, stormed out without adjourning the meeting. Those who stayed resumed the meeting, appointed a new chairman, elected wardens and other officers. They also decided to ask Richardson by registered mail to continue conducting services, stating that if his reply were not received by the following Friday, a substitute cleric would be engaged to conduct the March 14 Sunday service. Richardson didn't comply, and when that substitute arrived, he and his former warden were enraged. Someone called the police and Magog's Anglican Church had a first for this community, when police had to settle a dispute.

I have attended this church for over 65 years, handled many chores, such as looking after fires, doing repair work, helping raise funds and handling other responsibilities. I was proud of my church, that is until conflict between the Bishop at Quebec and St. Luke's started some two and a half years ago. I can understand why many are dissatisfied with Richardson, being the loyal follower and sworn servant of the bishop that he is. However, when he lets that loyalty stand in the way of dialogue with parishioners, and acts as he did on March 14, his actions are inexcusable.

As for the person or persons who called in the police, it is probably best that they leave the church with head or heads hung low....that person or persons displayed terrible judgment and only served to bring embarrassment to this parish and its people. Shame on you!

DONALD WHITEHEAD
Magog

DEAR EDITOR,

On behalf of the work integration teams of the CNDE/Dixville Regrouping we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to The Record for the excellent coverage of our "Evening of Tribute" held March 16, 2004 to honour our work integration of people living with an intellectual disability or a pervasive development disorder. More often than not, the challenges these people face, their big, and not so big victories, do not make front page news but Ms. Legault and The Record staff chose to make it front page and by doing this, they help promote integration all all levels.

Our thanks also go out to everyone who attended this evening. Employers, "stagiaires" and personnel from both Centres gathered to make this evening a true celebration of integration!

ANN MARCOUX
For the work integration teams of the CNDE/Dixville Regrouping

Pet owners must take more responsibility

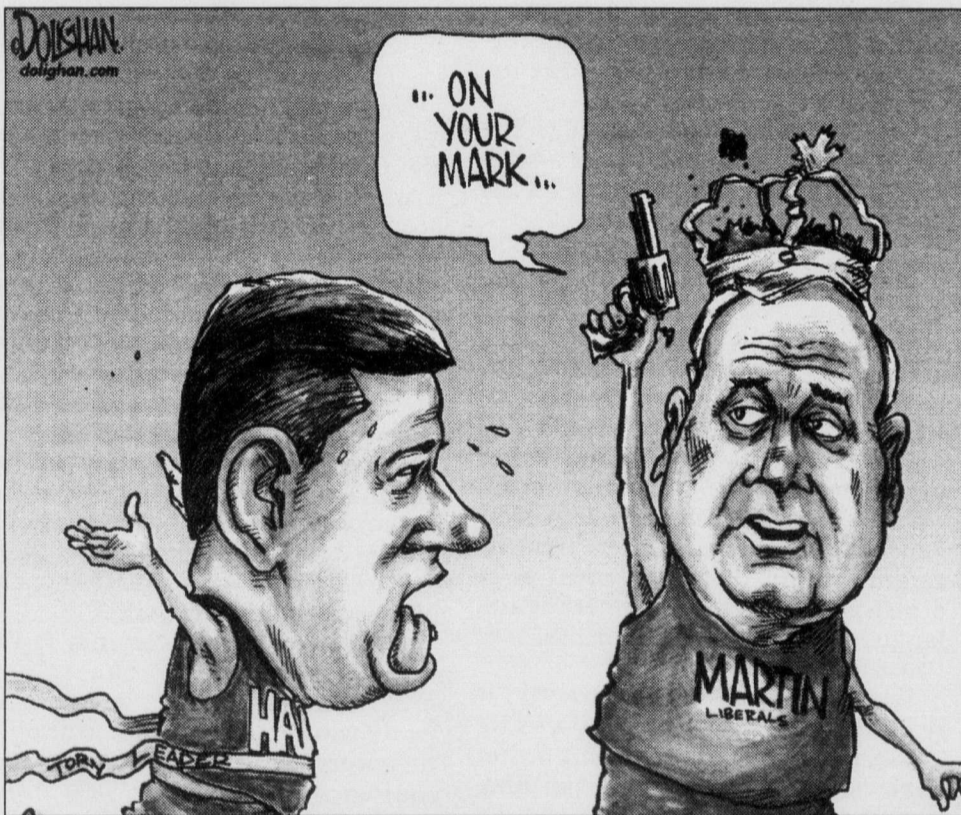
DEAR EDITOR,

To the City of Sherbrooke, I agree that people should scoop when they walk their dogs, but this should mean that they take the waste home and deposit it in their garbage and not throw the plastic bag and the contents onto some spare lot or down some water drain. What about the people who let the dogs walk themselves? You can say this is not allowed, but it happens all the time. There are 19 dogs in an area of 1,200 feet around one block. Eight of these dogs are seldom tied but are loose to "go" whenever they wish. Two more are less fortunate, they are tied outdoors 90 percent of the time no matter what the weather. They are not social animals but I feel sorry to see them on a short rope with only snow to lay on. Some days they bark constantly for attention.

Cats are also free spirits and there are 10 in this very same area. They are put outside every night to howl and fight. I wonder where they can go when it is -20C. The shrubs around the house smell and it is difficult to find a clean area to plant something in the garden.

People should not get pets unless they intend to set aside at least an hour a day for them. Even guard dogs need attention. I realize the S.P.C.A. is supposed to help with these problems, but a 9 to 5, five-days-a-week seems to only have the time to collect for and give out licenses.

E. EVANS
Lennoxville



Good things come to those who wait

DEAR EDITOR,

We were delighted to spy Ross Murray's photo and column "Perspectives" in Thursday's Record. We look forward to a wonderful and well-written read each morning (his column will be appearing each morning, won't it?). This proves that good things do come to those who wait.

Welcome back to print, Ross. We missed you!

JACK AND FRANKIE NOBLE
Ayer's Cliff

Accomplishments were front page news

THE RECORD

P.O. Box 1200 Sherbrooke J1H 5L6 or 1195 Galt E., Sherbrooke J1G 1Y7
FAX: 819-569-3945 E-MAIL: newsroom@sherbrookerecord.com
WEBSITE: www.sherbrookerecord.com

RANDY KINNEAR PUBLISHER (819) 569-9511
SHARON MCCULLY EDITOR (819) 569-6345
NELSON AFONSO CORRESP. EDITOR (819) 569-6345
RICHARD LESSARD PROD. MGR. (819) 569-9931
SERGE GAGNON CHIEF PRESSMAN ... (819) 569-9931
FRANCINE THIBAUT PROD. SUPERV. (819) 569-4856

DEPARTMENTS
ACCOUNTING (819) 569-9511
ADVERTISING (819) 569-9525
CIRCULATION (819) 569-9528
NEWSROOM (819) 569-6345

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Perspectives

Did Michael Jackson get preferential treatment?

Based on the way Michael Jackson, was arrested and booked it might be tempting to conclude that a two-tier justice system, is a fact of life, especially in California. After all, here was a 45-year-old suspect against whom the Santa Barbara county District Attorney had issued an arrest warrant for a series of child molestation charges but who did not appear to have been treated like any ordinary suspect.

However, before criticizing the Santa Barbara's sheriff's department, the real question is whether it is even possible, considering the media craze, to treat celebrities of the likes of Jackson as ordinary suspects.

While the entire episode lasted less than an hour and therefore was much longer than the highly publicized televised snippets, the little we saw was nevertheless highly revealing.

The first snippet revealed his private jet rolling into the hangar followed by Jackson disembarking and walking towards the law enforcement officer who met him half way and who shook his hand. Would an ordinary citizen for whom an arrest warrant had been issued be met by police officials at an airport hangar as if he were some head of state?

Of course not, especially when the arrest had to do with charges of child molestation which normally brings out the worse in police conduct.

Jackson was then seen handcuffed and placed in the back seat of a police car. Why the handcuffs since he just flew in on his own volition and clearly had no intention to escape? Because, we are told, this is standard practice.

The real question is whether the hangar incident was even necessary.

While it may be argued that the police wanted to arrest him upon his arrival in California, the hangar sequence

could have been avoided had Jackson's attorneys delivered him directly to the sheriff's office.

Since he wasn't arrested in Los Vegas where he was holed up and flew back home on his own volition, what difference would it have made had he gone straight to the Santa Barbara's Sheriff's Department headquarters, on his own steam?

Could Jackson have avoided the paparazzi had he surrendered himself in such a manner? It certainly wouldn't have been the first time he avoided the media. Even under normal circumstances, Jackson is known to rely on multiple limousines and disguises to throw off the paparazzi.

My point is that with a little help, Jackson could have given himself at the sheriff's office without the media being privy.

Furthermore, it wouldn't be the first time that an accused received some help to avoid the media glare. How often have we seen police officers charged with serious crimes being hustled in and out of courthouses by their colleagues, through back or side doors and even elevators reserved for judges? Despite the usual protest by the media and accusations of favoritism, such practices continue.

The next televised snippet that caught my attention was when Jackson arrived at the sheriff's office in sight of fleets of media trucks and armies of cameras. While being hustled inside, the cameras showed him waving to his diehard fans as if were heading to one of his many performances. One of the police officers was heard asking him, "Is everything all right, Mr. Jackson?"

The presence of the media circus



HENRY R. KEYSERLINGK

could have very well been the result of a police tip. Police occasionally use the old-fashioned cop-house reporter connection to tip a journalist with a hot story from "reliable sources." Marketing the "efficiency" of the police and its investigators is often like the marketing of any major corporation. The objective is to look good which accounts for why most police departments have their own PR and media representatives.

The last snippet involved Jackson walking out of the Santa Barbara sheriff's department, entering into his chauffeured limousine and waving from the window to his fans. It would be hard to blame the sheriff's department simply because Jackson's diehard fans were waiting anxiously for his release. On the other hand, how many ordinary accused persons can afford to put up a \$3-million bond in order to secure their freedom?

Just because the sequence of events had been orchestrated long in advance between the sheriff's office and Jackson's bevy of attorneys, does not necessarily prove that he wasn't treated like an ordinary citizen.

The fact that the negotiations with the police included the undertaking that once booked, he would be released on payment of the bond, may appear to some as if it perverted the course of justice.

However, such arrangements with the police are not unusual and apply just as well to ordinary suspects. Lawyers occasionally make arrangements with police authorities to deliver and accompany their clients who are the target of a country-wide arrest warrant in order to avoid the disgrace of a public arrest.

Such arrangements also take place in

Canada, even if we don't always hear of them. They usually begin by the attorney being instructed by the client to contact the police in order to make the appropriate arrangements for an official surrender. In other instances it is the lawyer who advises his client to give himself up. Since the police usually have no idea as to the whereabouts of the client/suspect, they are usually happy to oblige. Part of the agreement is that the lawyer will present him or herself at a predetermined time and place together with the suspect.

Until "delivered" it is tacitly, if not expressly, understood that the police will not arrest the client.

If the lawyer has any concern that his client will be manhandled by the police he will have him examined by a doctor before the actual "delivery" and then photographed from head to toe. Such precautions can also include the lawyer tipping off the media in order that the client's "good" physical condition be "observed" at the time of the delivery.

While the Santa Barbara's sheriff's office can be accused of having gone overboard with the hangar "reception," the booking itself appears to have been pretty standard despite the overblown media coverage. Seeing that in criminal cases the appearance of justice is just as important as justice itself, having the media present at all stages was probably the best way to deal the Jackson "arrest".

Had Jackson surrendered himself directly at the sheriff's office and had he been processed and released within an hour without the media being informed there would have been a firestorm of protest. Ironically, both the media and public would have charged the police with having granted Jackson favorable treatment.

comments: henryk@endirect.qc.ca

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

New doesn't mean better

DEAR EDITOR,

Tell Mrs. Blake I am proud of the words she wrote. More of us should air our complaints about guaranteed products that fail. I purchased a refrigerator from B.&M. and have seen the technician "ie: repairman" enough times for the neighbors to think I am having an affair. I needed him three days after the purchase and I am still getting frozen lettuce. This is why I got rid of my old fridge. I am still trying to get it fixed right. Anyone with a market for frozen lettuce let me know.

New does not always mean better. Thanks for printing her letter.

PATRICIA KEANE
By e-mail

A blooming good cause

DEAR EDITOR,

The Frontier Animal Society is selling bulbs and perennials to raise funds for its shelter. This is a wonderful opportunity for those of you who enjoy gardening. The prices are very competitive and every purchase comes with Vesey's usual guarantee of 100 per cent satisfaction. What's more, the Frontier Animal

Society makes 50 per cent of the sale. So when you order your flower bulbs from the Society, you help support a very worthwhile cause.

The cats and dogs that end up at the shelter were all either abandoned or neglected. They have nowhere else to go. They rely entirely on the care and kindness provided by the shelter workers who, in turn, rely on your generous support. Without you, they would not be able to rescue these animals and find new homes for them. If you would like to support them by placing an order, call Mary Rolland at 838-1421. Please don't delay. The deadline is April 15.

CÉCILE BOILEAU
Magog

Many contributed to success

DEAR EDITOR,

On behalf of the Compton County Agricultural Society I wish to express our thanks to those who gave food, prizes, money, worked at the event and attended our annual luncheon and card party held in the Bury town hall.

Thanks to everyone this was a great success. Hope to see you next year.

ERWIN WATSON
Bury

FAPAQ seizes largest haul of illegal game meat

By Tom Peacock

Yesterday, the Société de la Faune et des Parcs du Québec (FAPAQ) announced the largest seizure of illegal game meat in the history of the province.

The seizure took place last January. Officers from the Société seized 20,000 kilograms of caribou, whitetail deer and moose meat from a wholesaler's warehouse in Montreal and from a hundred or so restaurants and stores across the province, including in the Eastern Townships, which had unknowingly bought and then resold the illegal meat.

"The game meat was mostly caribou, but there was also some deer and a little moose," said Maurice Carrier, spokesperson for the Société.

Carrier said the meat wholesaler, whose operation was not entirely illegitimate, had been in operation for two and a half years, during which time he sold thousands of kilograms of illegal game meat to restaurants all across the province.

In Quebec, it is illegal to sell most meat from game shot with a sport license. "Rabbit meat and bear meat and some meat from trapping can be sold, but you cannot sell partridge, or big game like caribou, moose or deer that has been hunted on a sport license in Quebec," explained Benoit Champoux, another spokesperson for FAPAQ.

Champoux said it is impossible to legally buy moose meat in Quebec, since there is no commercial hunt, but there is a commercial caribou hunt in the province.

"The government gives some people the right to go and hunt, and to then



COURTESY FAPAQ

Crates of illegal game were seized during the operation.

sell the meat, but the meat has to be inspected by officers from the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation (MAPAQ), in order to ensure that people will have good meat," Champoux said.

Carrier said the wholesaler, who cannot be named, duped restaurants into believing the meat was legal, and he even passed off some of the caribou and deer meat as buffalo or wapiti meat.

"We don't want to place the blame on the restaurant owners, since they

were buying the meat with the belief that it was produced legally," Carrier said.

The FAPAQ inspectors began looking into the situation in the fall of 2002 after the Société received complaints about the wholesaler's operation. After inspecting the meat at several restaurants and checking some of the paperwork from the orders against meat the wholesaler had legally procured, they determined that a sizable chunk of his meat wholesale operation was operat-

ing outside of the law.

"The wholesaler here bought some meat from the commercial hunt in Nunavut, but our investigation showed that he would sell more meat to the restaurants than he would buy. Then we just needed a little more information to catch him properly," Champoux explained.

Carrier said some of the illegal game meat was inspected by MAPAQ, the inspectors found the meat did not present a health risk to the public — even though it was illegally procured, it was well-preserved and carefully handled by the wholesaler.

The FAPAQ inspectors are still trying to determine how the wholesaler was able to procure so much game meat, enough to support an illegal operation worth up to \$200,000 per year.

Carrier said a lot of the meat was likely taken from people who went to the wholesaler to have their meat prepared, and from hunters from the US and Europe who often leave behind most of their kill when they fly home.

Although FAPAQ does not have the authority to close down the wholesaler or lay criminal charges, Champoux said the Société will charge him hefty fines for the multiple infractions, up to a maximum of \$180,000.

Champoux said he was unsure whether the provincial police were planning on pressing charges against the wholesaler.

"It's a special case, and it's the first time we've seen something like that," he said. "We don't know where it will end. Usually we do our own thing, and if the SQ wants to press charges, they do it on their own."

Registry will determine fate of Sutton town garage

A registry on a borrowing bylaw in Sutton today could have a serious impact on the location of a new municipal garage.

Following the merger of the Town and the Township of Sutton a couple of years ago, the decision was made to close down the two existing municipal garages in favor of one building to suit all needs. After studying several sites the municipal council opted for a site south of the village on Route 139, near the municipal snow dump and sewage station.

"The new garage will provide a safe and proper working area for all our outside employees and be the first step in building a strong united Sutton we can all be proud of," the municipality wrote in a newsletter

circulated to residents.

However the plan was met with opposition in the community, including the municipal zoning committee. The zoning committee did not recommend the project, stating that the property leaves no room for future expansion and would be unattractive.

Today's registry concerns the borrowing bylaw for \$580,107, to be paid back over 10 years. The registry will be open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the town hall. If more than 486 residents sign, the matter could either be put to a referendum or dropped.

If the borrowing bylaw is not opposed construction would begin this spring and be completed by the end of the summer.

Liquor Store fire was criminal

By Tom Peacock

Investigators from the Memphrémagog Police Force have determined that a fire which destroyed the Liquor Store on Main Street in Magog last September was deliberately set.

"We cannot disclose the reasons we are sure, because we do not want to threaten the ongoing investigation," said Capt. Yves Denis, spokesperson for the Magog police.

All the police would say is that tests on some of the material from the scene showed the presence of gasoline. Eye witness reports also helped the police reach their conclusion.

Denis said the investigators have a suspect in the case, but are not certain when they will be able to proceed with an arrest. "It's very difficult to determine. It could be a long time, or it could be very soon," he said.

The investigation has determined there is no connection between the

criminals behind the fire and the owners of the bar, Sylvain Cournoyer and Myko Bégin. They have also concluded that there is no link between the fire at the Liquor Store and another rash of fires set by delinquents recently in Magog.

"It's not the same group, because we already made arrests in those cases," he said. A recent fire which claimed two residential buildings on Dollard Street in Magog was ruled accidental.

Bégin and Cournoyer razed the burned out heritage building after determining it would be too expensive to restore it following the fire. They moved the Liquor Store bar next door into the former home of the Grosse Pomme restaurant bar, and are now planning to build a terrace in the empty lot where the old bar once stood.

Eating together is about more than the food

By Susan Schwartz

A friend stomped back to the office the other day, indignant over a lunch she'd had with someone with whom she had not wanted to have lunch at all.

"I don't like to eat with people I don't really like," she said. "Eating is an intimate activity: You should eat only with people you like."

And you know how, sometimes, someone says something and it so resonates that you swear you hear a tumbler click somewhere in your head?

Well, that's what happened to me.

She is totally right, of course.

If I think of eating as pleasure - and I do - then eating with someone I like is pleasure shared. It should never feel like work, which is why I can't stand the notion of, say, working lunches or eating with people with whom I feel obligated to eat, out of guilt or some misplaced sense of duty. Bread is too important, too significant, to be broken with just anyone.

The late, great food writer Laurie Colwin, in the introduction to her final collection of essays, *More Home Cooking* (Perennial Classics, 2000, \$18.95), called the table a meeting place and gathering

ground, a source of sustenance and nourishment, safety and satisfaction. She said even the simplest food is a gift.

Alice Waters, founder of Chez Panisse in Berkeley and one of the world's most renowned chefs, told *New York Times Magazine* writer Peggy Orenstein in a recent issue that she considers food the vehicle for social change, no less, suggesting that if we ate better food - she means organic food grown by local farmers using sustainable techniques - we could have better lives.

"If we would eat caring meals at the family table rather than scarfing Happy Meals in the minivan, we would restore family values, transform our communities and stabilize the environment," she said.

I think Waters is right. And it's precisely because in eating together there is intimacy. And in intimacy we make ourselves vulnerable.

I wrote a story once about a woman who had sacrificed her career to stay at home and look after her mother, who had become disabled with a degenerative disease to the point that she could not bathe or feed herself.

The daughter was in her 40s when we met; she'd been looking after her mother

for 20 years and had just won a community award for what she was doing. As we spoke, she fed her mother her evening meal - she pureed everything because her mother was unable to swallow or even chew very well - with a spoon, catching the bits that dribbled down her chin. And I had to look away.

For me, to watch this woman eating would have seemed as invasive as looking on while she was being bathed.

In a silly romp of a novel called *How to Cook a Tart* (distributed by Raincoast, 2003, \$20.95), Nina Killham weaves a tale of a round and remarkable cook named Jasmine March whose husband, Daniel, despondent over his impending 40th birthday, is cheating on her.

Jasmine retaliates by serving the incredible birthday meal she had intended for him to her teenage daughter's boyfriend, Troy, who is lusting after Jasmine: baby profiteroles stuffed with lobster, the oyster bisque, the venison stew, apricot creme brulee - all sensual, all divine.

When Daniel walks in on Jasmine serv-

ing this dinner to Troy, his dinner, he feels betrayed that she has "bestowed all that cooking on another man... Jesus, all he had done was have sex with Tina... But Jasmine, she had offered her very soul. She had cheated on him absolutely."

When I think of people I have come to dislike or turn away from in my life because they have in their way been unkind or uncaring, and I then picture them eating, I feel myself soften toward them. Despite everything.

I think of one man with whom I shared my life for a time and remember one evening in particular. We were out to dinner with friends and I remember him leaning over the bowl in front of him so far that his face was practically in it, ineptly sucking up his fettuccine alfredo. I could feel my heart breaking for him.

I knew already things would not work out - I expect he did, too - and I hated the knowledge that when I thought of him, even years later, it would be that evening, when he looked so vulnerable. I was right, of course.

CanWest News Service

Student freezes to death after drinking game

Police are investigating whether drinking games at a university party were a factor in the death of a 19-year-old student found frozen to death in a field in Saguenay, Que., last week.

They're awaiting the results of an autopsy and toxicology report, expected in about two weeks, before deciding whether or not charges will be laid.

Friends of Dany Tremblay said he was at the party, organized by the student society of the Université du Québec campus in Saguenay - about 250 kilometres north of Quebec City - as part of its winter carnival.

Contestants in the Century Club game had to drink one ounce of beer every minute for 100 minutes, the equivalent of about eight beers in an hour and a half. About 30 students par-

ticipated, although it's unclear whether Tremblay was one of them.

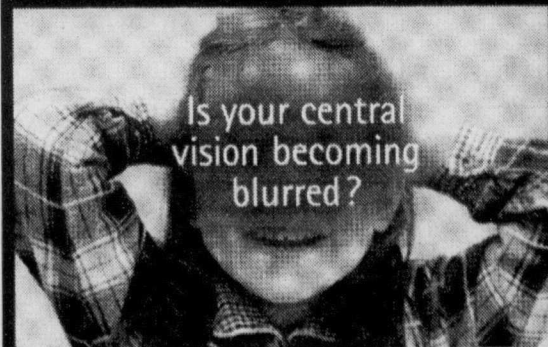
Police say a friend saw Tremblay get off a bus two kilometres from his family home at 10:45 p.m., even though the bus went all the way to his house. He then walked more than a kilometre in the wrong direction, ending up in a field.

Tracks showed he stumbled in circles, fell into a deep ditch and climbed out, police said. His body was found on the other side of the ditch, missing a shoe. It was minus 20 C the night he died.

University spokesperson Jean Wauthier said the university was putting a halt to all activities that promote excessive drinking until the investigation is completed.

CanWest News

"Watch me, Grandma!"



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Specs appeal

By Mari Sasano

Did you see Liv Tyler at the Oscars? Her dark Givenchy couture gown, her white skin and black Marcel waves and then - POW! - those glasses. It was all about the glasses.

The way she gently put those heavy cat-eyes on to read the teleprompter, combined with her breathy, "Happy Birthday, Mr. President" elocution, it was the perfect performance.

It seems you can now be sexy not in spite of your specs, but because of them.

After all, wearing glasses means you can take them off in public.

And then there's the intelligence factor. There's a Lenscrafters TV commercial showing a woman with the message that reads, "Glasses make you look smarter."

"They can!" laughs West Edmonton Mall Lenscrafters manager, Michelle Pombert. "They can make you look fun, smart or trendy, too."

A little savoir-faire and chutzpah (to mix ethnic idiom) go a lot farther than just a pretty face ever will.

As with most personal style issues, it's mostly about attitude. Think role models: the late Carrie Donovan, for one, will eternally be more fashionable than most of us, thanks to her brazen choice of eyewear.

Local writer/filmmaker Leslea Kroll has for over a decade sported unique, often vintage frames that set her apart. Over the years, she has had rhinestone-studded glasses, vintage metal frames and other bold looks that define her individual style. Naturally, originality means digging a little deeper to find exactly the right pair.

"I found one of my favourite pairs at the Spadina flea market off Queen Street in Toronto," says Leslea. "The frames were squarish and made of some kind of metal with a silver finish. I had blue tinted prescription lenses put in; they made excellent sun glasses, although the metal conducted cold and on bright winter days they produced a wicked ice-cream-headache effect."

She currently sports a pair of green/violet plastic cat-eye frames, and she delights at the selection we find at optometrist Larry Louie's shop on 124th Street. "I will dream of glass-



CANWEST

Leslea Kroll loves unique frames and delights in the colourful, elegant designs currently popular, such as these at Larry Louie Eyewear.

es tonight."

Louie clearly loves to match frame to face and keeps up with the trends: in a couple of weeks, he will be travelling to New York to scout out new product. "Basically, what's really popular are the full frameless ones, and a couple years before that were the plastic and metals. Now it's black metal, pressed steel or titanium in rectangular or flat shapes, heavier on the top and rimless on the bottom. Colours are also very popular, not just black and tortoiseshell but reds and purples."

The new shapes are architectural, drawing attention to the face with the bold lines and colours. Louie pulls out a few favourites, like the l.a. eye-works frames (\$394) made of the flat,

black metal he mentions.

They are a strong look, but classic, with fun, striped detailing on the earpieces.

The KLIK and prodesign lines from Denmark both make several models in colours, plastic and metal, available in the \$240 - \$300 range.

For a more funky, distinctive look, lafont creates retro-look multi-coloured plastic cat-eyes that run at about \$250.

Label addicts will recognize names like Chanel and Anna Sui, who decorate their products with rhinestones, while Prada offers wide, clean lines that echo the sensibility of the clothing label.

Tag Heuer, the Swiss watchmaker, makes appropriately high-tech titani-

um eyeglasses featuring rubber arms (\$360), for a durable and lightweight alternative to contact lenses - popular for those sporty types.

"It depends on the personality of the patient. People in the arts field tend to want to stand out, with a stronger contrast to the face with linear, angular or cat-eye shapes. Rhinestones and bright colours or a clear plastic with a tint is really hot."

Over at Lenscrafters, it's a similar story. "Right now, the latest look is in drill-mounts (frameless), and still by far the most popular are the plastics," says Pombert. A nice pair of square rimless Emporio Armani costs \$204.95.

"Colours - mauves, blues, reds, and fashion-tinted lenses in purples, teals and pinks are popular. It's a very retro look." A colourful pair of plastic frames by Anne Klein, Moschino, Salvatore Ferragamo, Vogue or Versace can set you back around \$149.95 - \$239.95.

Pombert owns three pairs of glasses, and having multiple pairs is becoming more common.

"You can't pull off a look or image with only one pair!"

And while artistic types like Louie (who is an avid photographer) and Kroll can appreciate the elegant design of all the frames, Leslea also has philosophical and esthetic reasons for opting for glasses.

"There was a while there when I would take my glasses off a lot. It's kind of hard to explain, but it was a bit like being in my own bubble: creating some distance between myself and the rest of the world. The space that was blurry and fuzzed out was my padding, my comfort zone.

"Although needing to have your vision enhanced is something of a liability, it does make me think about different perspectives and that none of us sees things in quite the same way. Surely, this is a good thing in terms of collective differences and the basis for exchange of ideas. Isn't that what makes for good art, writing, conversation, relationships - sharing and expressing our own unique visions?"

Smart!

CanWest News Service

NEXT TRAIN

18:34

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FOOD

Sweet maple syrup

By Lynn Ogryzlo

It's maple syrup time. Since the mid-16th century, maple syrup has played an important role in Canadian cuisine. The thick, super-sweet golden nectar is an important ingredient for creating some of our most delicious dishes, from gourmet foods such as maple-glazed meats and creme brulee to rich and sweet snacks like maple ice cream and fudge.

Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia are maple syrup-producing provinces. Together, they produce an incredible two-thirds of the world's supply, with the United States supplying the rest.

Maple syrup production is everywhere right now, yet if you don't have your eyes open, you just might miss it. While driving down a country road, I noticed what appeared to be a rope tied from tree to tree. At first I thought it was a farmer's makeshift fence until I examined it more closely and noticed what looked like stakes driven into each tree. Then I noticed it wasn't a rope at all, but a tube. All along the road they were tapping for maple syrup. It was like driving through a sugar bush. Ah, the excitement!

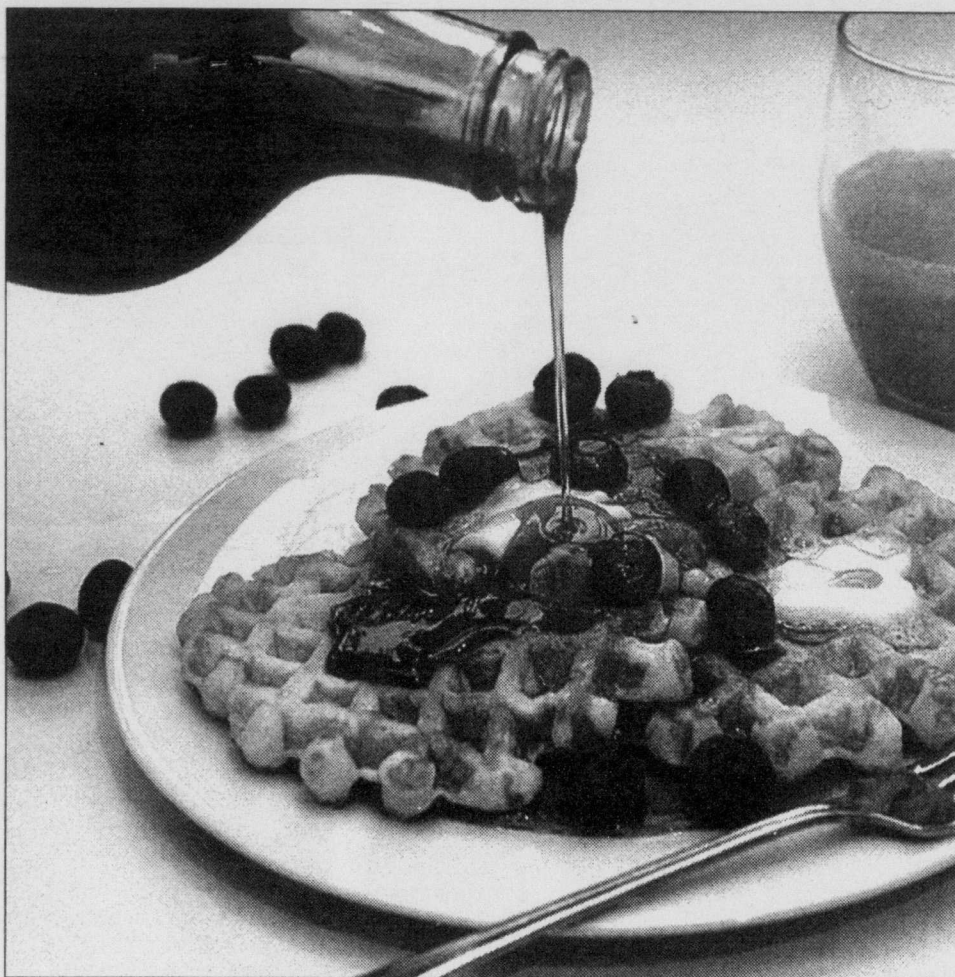
Maple syrup may be a seasonal harvest, but it's a product that lasts the whole year. You can use it on pancakes, as most people do, or be creative and use it in your baked goods, appetizers, main meats and desserts. I even came across a maple salad dressing, proving there are no boundaries with this regional treasure.

If you like maple flavour in your baked goods, you can substitute 3/4 cup (175 mL) maple syrup plus 1/4 teaspoon (1 mL) baking soda for each cup (250 mL) of granulated sugar, and reduce another liquid in the recipe by three tablespoons (50 mL).

Maple syrup will keep if left unopened in a cool, dark place, but once opened, remember to refrigerate it. If you're not going to use it for awhile, you can freeze it. The syrup does not freeze solid because of the high sugar content, but it does become too thick to pour easily, so you will need to let it stand at room temperature for an hour.

When asked about maple foods, many people remember the traditional hot crock of maple-baked beans, a holiday treat of maple-glazed carrots or the seasonal surprises of maple sticky buns or thick maple French toast. But the syrup goes into preparing many dishes other than the obvious.

A maple barbecue sauce slathered over grilled ribs is more than finger-licking good, and baked squash with a light brushing of syrup is delicious.



CANWEST

Pour it on! Of course maple syrup is great on pancakes and waffles. But why not try it with baked goods, appetizers, meats and desserts?

Many love the flavour of walnuts mixed with maple in ice cream, fudge and baked goods, and the combination of maple syrup and pumpkin in an autumn cream pie is truly Canadian.

This golden treat adds a delicate and often light flavour to many foods when basted on before cooking. Pork shish kebabs with a maple glaze are divine as are sticky maple-coated chicken wings right from the oven. And let's not forget everyone's favourite, baked ham with a maple glaze. For cheese lovers, try a chunk of Parmesan cheese drizzled with a bit of maple syrup or surprise your taste buds with an exquisite dish of roasted sweet onions,

kissed ever so lightly with maple syrup and served with Gorgonzola toast.

Niagara's first harvest of the year is definitely a reason to celebrate. The sap that drips from the region's maple trees each spring is filled with delicious goodness. A pity most people think of it as just something to pour over pancakes.

.....

There's a good reason why maple

.....
This is a simple, elegant dish with lots of flavour. Serve it as an accompaniment to a thick cut of tender beef or lamb.

Maple Roasted Onions With Gorgonzola Toast

Serves six
6 medium red onions
3 tablespoons (50 mL) extra virgin olive oil
2 garlic cloves, minced
salt and freshly ground black pepper

4 ounces (100 grams) walnut halves
1/4 cup (50 mL) pure maple syrup
5 ounces (125 grams) Gorgonzola cheese, at room temperature
dash of Tabasco sauce
dash of Worcestershire sauce
3 tablespoons (50 mL) cream
1 baguette, sliced and toasted

Preheat the oven to 350 F (180 C). Quarter the onions but do not peel. In a medium-size bowl, stir together the olive oil, garlic, salt and pepper. Add the onions and stir to coat well. Place them in a shallow baking dish and bake for 40 minutes. Add the walnuts and bake for an additional 10 minutes. Remove from the oven and drizzle generously with

maple syrup. Set aside to cool.

In a medium bowl, stir together the Gorgonzola, Tabasco and Worcestershire sauces. Thin with enough cream to make the mixture spreadable. Spread mixture on toast. Arrange the onions and walnuts on a platter and surround with Gorgonzola toast.

.....

This is a delicious maple glaze that goes well on pork ribs, chicken wings and legs.

MAPLE GLAZED CHICKEN

Serves four
4 boneless and skinless chicken breasts
1/2 cup (125 mL) pure maple syrup
1/3 cup (75 mL) chili sauce
1 small onion, chopped
2 tablespoons (25 mL) cider vinegar
1 tablespoon (15 mL) mustard
1 teaspoon (5 mL) Worcestershire sauce

Combine the maple syrup, chili sauce, onion, cider vinegar, mustard and Worcestershire sauces in a shallow dish. Marinate the chicken breast for a minimum of four hours in the refrigerator, keeping covered and turning occasionally. Grill or broil the chicken breasts until thoroughly cooked, basting occasionally.

CanWest News Service

MAPLE WAFFLES

Serves four
1 1/2 cups (375 mL) all purpose flour
2 tablespoons (25 mL) sugar
1 tablespoon (15 mL) baking powder
1/2 teaspoon (2 mL) salt
2 eggs, beaten
1 1/2 cups (375 mL) milk
1/4 cup (50 mL) melted butter
plenty of pure maple syrup

Put flour, sugar, baking powder and salt into a mixing bowl and stir with a whisk to combine. In a large measuring cup, add milk and eggs, beat well with a fork and when it becomes yellow, add melted butter. Pour into the mixing bowl with flour and beat only until incorporated. Fill a hot waffle iron according to its instructions and bake until they stop steaming. Serve warm with butter and pure maple syrup.

Surgery eases hip pain

By Mario Toneguzzi

The hip pain for Calgarian Jim Dokken was so excruciating at one point that he had to resort to 16 Tylenol 3 pills a day.

It was a massive dosage to combat the constant and persistent pain. The progressive degeneration of his right hip occurred over a period of three years.

"It kept me from walking properly," says the 59-year-old safety officer with the City of Calgary. "I couldn't play golf. I couldn't dance."

He had trouble driving. He even had trouble putting on his socks and shoes.

"Almost every realm of your everyday life (was affected)," he said.

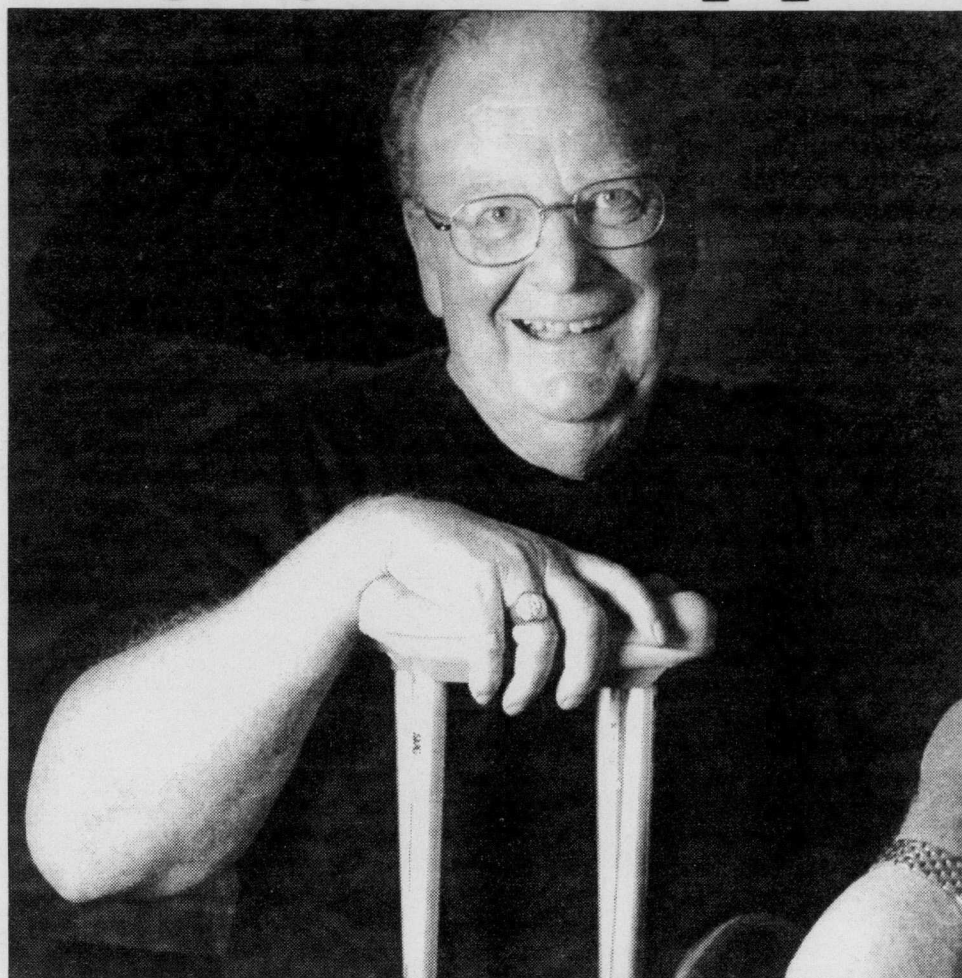
But Dokken, like thousands of other Canadians, found relief in the form of hip replacement surgery. He was walking with the help of crutches the morning after his Dec. 15 operation and he hasn't used crutches now for three weeks.

"For me, the pain was gone even in the recovery room," he said, adding he's lost 40 pounds since his surgery. "It's changed my life."

The Canadian Institute for Health Information reported recently that the number of total hip and knee replacements is on the rise in Canada. In 2001-02, doctors performed 44,792 total hip and total knee replacements, a seven-year increase of 39 per cent since 1994-95.

Since 1996-97, the number of total knee replacements has surpassed the number of total hip replacements every year and the gap has been increasing over time.

The CIHI says the numbers seem to



CANWEST NEWS

The number of hip and knee replacements is on the rise in Canada.

suggest that baby boomers have the highest increase in the number of knee replacements, with an increase of 154 per cent in seven years. Women aged between 45 and 54, for example, recorded

an increase of almost 170 per cent in knee replacements over that period.

Women are outpacing men for both hip and knee replacement surgery. In 2001-02, women accounted for 58 per

cent of total hip replacements and 61 per cent of all knee replacements.

Alberta has the highest rate of hip replacements with 72.2 per 100,000 population. The national average is 57.4 per 100,000 people. The province also has the third-highest rate of knee replacements at 87.7

per 100,000 population, compared to the national average of 72.4.

Howard May, spokesman for Alberta Health and Wellness, said that in 2001-02 there were 2,076 hip replacements in the province and 2,443 knee replacements. Three to four per cent were patients from outside the province.

He said the volume of surgeries for hip replacements continues to rise due to an aging population and new technology available for diagnosis and treatment. He said knee replacement surgeries are also rising because they are being performed today for more conditions than before.

May said osteoarthritis is the main condition that leads to joint replacements. It is characterized by degeneration of joint cartilage and adjacent bone and can be the source of chronic, even debilitating, pain.

May said 93 per cent of knee replacements and 81 per cent of hip replacements were because of osteoarthritis.

Dr. Rick Hu, medical director of the Calgary Health Region's bone and joint health program, said long-lasting knee and hip replacements are becoming more common today as technology improves.

"Until we reach a point where we are able to provide a balance between services and patient medical need, the rate of surgeries will continue to increase," said Hu.

He said about 1,500 people in Calgary are currently waiting for either a knee or hip replacement.

It can take six months to a year to see an orthopedic surgeon. The waiting list for surgery after that can range from several months to a year or even two years, added Hu.

Nicole de Guia, co-ordinator of the Canadian Joint Replacement Registry, said there is an increasing demand for both hip and knee surgeries and it is important that the health-care system keeps up with that demand.

She said the main factor in both is osteoarthritis. And she predicted the number of cases involving this chronic disease will increase in the future as the population ages.

"We're just seeing the tip of the iceberg," she said.

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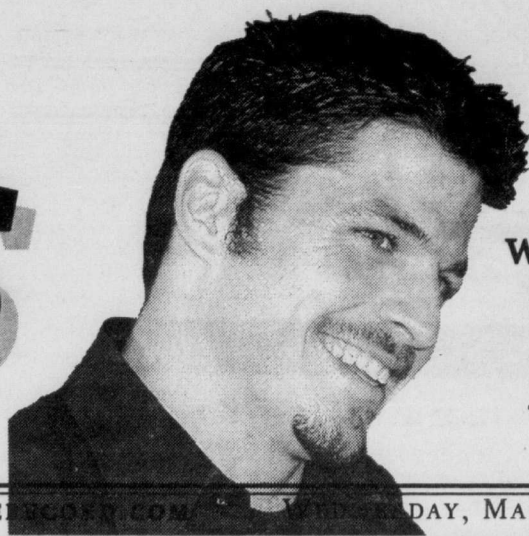
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THE RECORD Sports



INSIDE
Patrick Carpentier will remain with team Forsythe after all ... see Page 14

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FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2004 PAGE 13

NCAA to announce graduation rates

U.S. schools fall behind Canada in commitment to student-athletes

Bishop's University faculty and students returned to the classroom Tuesday which was a very good thing. After a week-long strike by the faculty it was back to business as usual and that business is students pursuing a university degree.



MIKE HICKEY
FROM THE BLEACHERS

One would think that such a pursuit would be the goal of every student attending a post secondary institution, but apparently that is not the case in the United States where colleges are struggling with the poor success rates of student-athletes in several

big-time athletic programs.

The NCAA, the governing board for intercollegiate sports in the U.S., announced Monday that it will collect its own information to determine 2003 graduation rates so it can publish more representative data concerning its members.

The NCAA made the move after the U.S. Department of Education decided last August that it would not publicize graduation rates. The move by the Department of Education presented a stumbling block in the organization's attempt to bring credibility to big time athletics.

There were reports that four schools that entered March Madness, the annual men's basketball tournament that features the country's top 65 teams, had a graduation rate of zero while another 12 schools have a graduation rates of 25 per cent or less.

The change in NCAA bylaws authorizing the Association to collect the data was adopted by the governing bodies of all three NCAA divisions earlier this year. This will mark the first time the NCAA has collected the data direct-

ly from its membership since 1997.

The Department of Education informed the Association prior to publication last August of the graduation rates of student-athletes who entered in 1996, those rates must be suppressed for programs where there are fewer than three student-athletes on scholarship or fewer than three in a specific cohort who graduate.

"There is no question that the publishing of graduation rates, especially those of programs where academic success has been lacking, has been an important impetus to the academic reform efforts of the last 15 years," NCAA President Myles Brand told the Media recently.

"Academic reform has been successful with the overall Division I student-athlete population," Brand said. "We were able to report last August a new rate of 62 percent for these individuals — an all-time high. But we continue to have problems in football and especially men's basketball, and the Department of Education's suppression decision makes it more difficult to identify the problem programs."

Brand's comments are interesting and encouraging. Recently, two sports analysts suggested student-athletes should not be required to go to class at all. The two announcers felt that Division I basketball and football players were in fact employees of the school and didn't have time to attend class or study.

Oddly enough that belief is supported by others who fail to realize that collegiate athletics should not be a money-making enterprise for the university or a free developmental league for professional sports.

When one considers that only 2 per cent of college athletes make it as a professional athlete and that the majority of Division I schools do not make money with their intercollegiate teams, then perhaps student-athletes should spend more time in the library and a little less in the weight room.

Bill Bradley, a former U.S. senator, professional basketball player, author, and Rhodes Scholar who was able to combine athletics and academics at the highest level, proved without a doubt that you can commit to school and



CANWEST NEWS SERVICE

The Carleton Ravens recently won the CIS men's basketball title for the second straight year.

sports.

It can be done but we need universities and coaches who insist on it, not players looking for ways to by pass the educational process.

In Canada, Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) has tried to create a healthy balance between academic and athletic pursuit, a balance that prepares student-athletes for life after university — when dreams of professional stardom are over.

It is a better way.



Fig. 16

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SPORTS NOTEBOOK

Carpentier to race with Forsythe

Patrick Carpentier will not be leaving the Forsythe Racing team in 2004, according to published reports out of Montreal.

Le Journal de Montreal reports Gerald Forsythe will field a third car for Carpentier this season.

The news comes two weeks after Carpentier confirmed at the Champ Car season premier in Long Beach that his full time spot on the former Player's-Forsythe Racing team was being taken by Rodolfo Lavín and his Corona beer sponsorship.

At the time, Forsythe officials said they had the necessary equipment to run a third car but not the adequate financing for a full-time effort. It's uncertain if Forsythe has found additional sponsorship to field a third car or if Carpentier is supplying the sponsorship dollars himself.

At the spring training event earlier this month, Forsythe had yet to confirm any sponsorship for Paul Tracy's car this season.

Reports indicated that Carpentier was seeking a release from his guaranteed contract with Forsythe, if an alternative, competitive ride could not be found for him this year.

Simon suspended for two games

Calgary Flames forward Chris Simon has been suspended for two games, without pay, for a kneeing incident during Monday's game against the Dallas Stars.

Simon, who was suspended for two games in January, 2004, is considered a repeat offender under the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement and forfeits salary based on the number of games in a season, rather than the number of days. He will forfeit \$36,585.37. The money goes to the Players' Emergency Assistance Fund. The incident occurred in the first period when Simon struck Stars defenceman Sergei Zubov. No penalty was assessed on the play.

Simon will miss Wednesday's game at Phoenix and March 25 at San Jose. He will be eligible to return March 27 against Los Angeles.

On TV

WEDNESDAY

- **SOCCER: 2:30 p.m.;** UEFA Champions League, Chelsea at Arsenal, TSN, RDS.
- **BASKETBALL: 8 p.m.;** Dallas Mavericks at Indiana Pacers, Sportsnet.
- **HOCKEY: 7:30 p.m.;** National Hockey League regular season, Montreal Canadiens at Buffalo Sabres, TSN, RDS.

THURSDAY

- **GOLF: Noon & 4 p.m.;** PGA Players Championship, first round, TSN, RDS.
- **SOCCER: 2:30 p.m.;** UEFA Champions League, PSV Eindhoven vs. Auxerre, Sportsnet. **4:30 p.m.;** Marseille vs. Liverpool, Sportsnet.
- **HOCKEY: 7:30 p.m.;** National Hockey League regular season, Montreal Canadiens at Ottawa Senators, Sportsnet, RDS. **8 p.m.;** Detroit Red Wings at Colorado Avalanche, TSN.

Around Town

To submit your sporting event, fax it to (819) 569-3945, email newsroom@sherbrookerecord.com or contact Mike Hickey at (819) 569-6345.

FIGURE SKATING

Blues Tuesday at worlds

By Terry Bell

Tuesday was blues day in Dortmund. But don't try telling that to the three Canadian couples who glided around the ice to Midnight Blues, this year's compulsory dance ditty at the 2004 World Figure Skating Championships.

Marie-France Dubreuil and Patrice Lauzon (pictured, bottom), the Canadian champions from Montreal who train now in Lyon, France, are tied for fifth overall after finishing third in the Group A half of the draw. Megan Wing and Aaron Lowe, the Vancouver couple who train in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., are tied ninth after finishing fifth in Group A.

Then there are Josée Piche and partner Pascal Denis, of Repentigny. They're tied for 23rd after coming 12th in Group B, but they're ecstatic just to be in their first worlds after 17 years as an ice dance team.

"It was fun," said Dubreuil, who got marks of 5.1 to 5.4 for required elements and 5.2 to 5.6 for presentation. "It was the first time we did that dance and we started learning it six weeks ago. It has a good feeling to it."

This is their fifth worlds. They placed 10th in 2003, 2002 and 2000 with an 11 in 2001. They may be poised to move up into the top five or six placings, which would be a major breakthrough.

There's a feeling here that the judges may be inclined to defy tradition and actually place some skaters on merit as opposed to reputation. Dubreuil and Lauzon beat Americans Tanith Belbin and Benjamin Agosto despite finishing well behind them at the Grand Prix Final in Colorado Springs in December.

"It's great to see that," she Dubreuil. "That's the way it should be. See more of that, then maybe it's a sport."

The compulsory is worth 20 per cent of the mark.

Lowe said he felt a little jet-lagged after getting into Dortmund on Saturday. But they did their job here with marks of 4.7 to 5.1 for technical elements and 4.9 to 5.2 for presentation and are now poised to improve on the 12th place they managed at 2003 worlds and the 15th in 2000.

"This morning was a little tentative but to go out and do the compulsory the way we wanted, we're pleased," said Lowe, who has been together with Wing since they were kids at the Riley Park Community Centre in Vancouver.

"We're achieving our goals," said Wing, who picked Lowe as a partner because he was only one of two boys skating in the club.

It was also a big day for Piche and Denis, who like Wing and Lowe have been together for 17 years. Unlike Wing and Lowe, they've never been to worlds before.

"In the warmup I felt like, my God, here we are," said Denis, 29. "It really felt great."

"I was a bit (nervous) before stepping on the ice," she Piche. "But then I thought it's like

the other competitions, just a little bit bigger."

Piche, 28, is a secretary when not skating. He's a student at University du Quebec at Montreal and sometimes the grind of working, training, competing and studying gets to be a little too much.

"Sometimes we think like that," Piche said when asked if they'd ever considered packing it in. "But we have goals. This was one of our goals."

They got 3.4 to 4.2 for technical elements and 3.3 to 4.3 for presentation.

Denis said skating is a year-to-year proposition for them. They'll decide this summer how much longer they might like to stick around. But the 2006 Olympics in Turino are closing in and that's a goal too.

"That's the next goal, the only one that's not on the resume," said Denis.

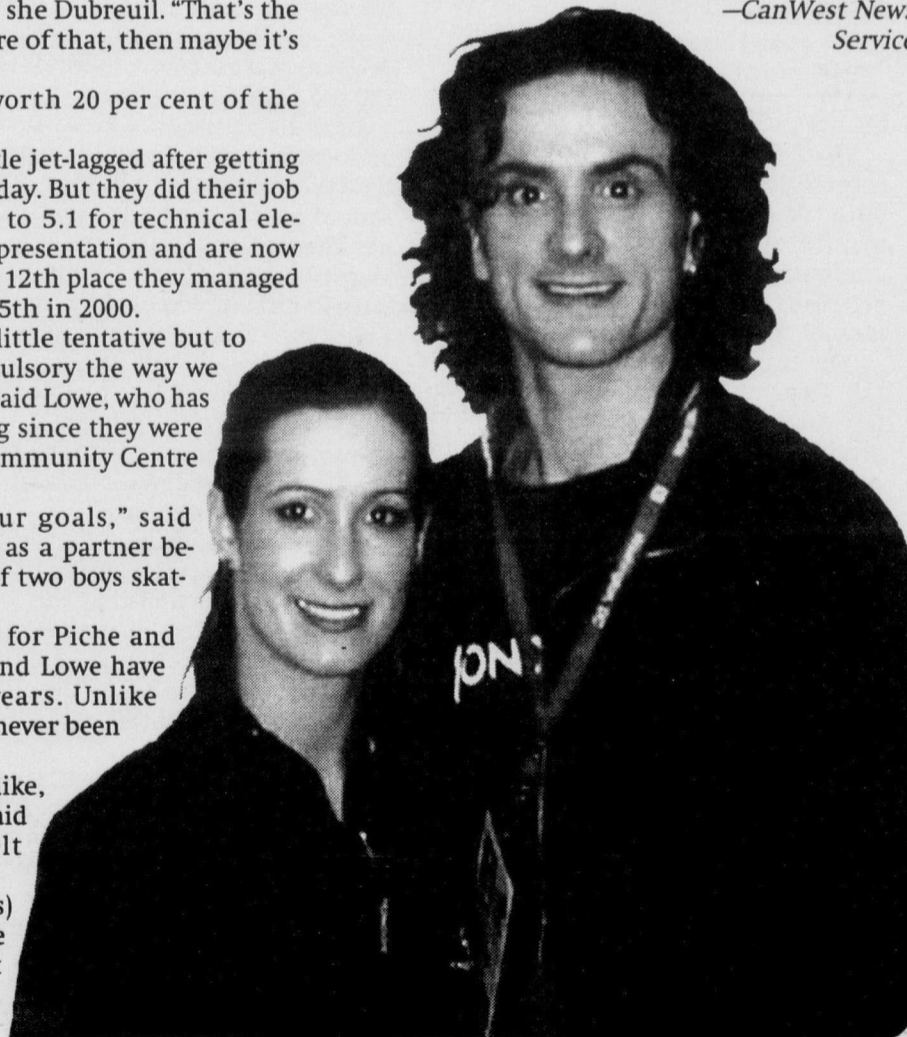
Meanwhile, Gananoque, Ont., skater Belbin and her American partner Agosto are waiting for her to get her U.S. citizenship, hopefully in time for the Olympics in February, 2006, in Turin, Italy. Belbin applied two years ago and the process generally takes five years but she's not planning to seek any intervention to speed things up.

"No, and that's not just a moral issue but a legal issue," she said. "I'm not going to go stalking someone, saying 'figure skating is so important.' I realize that not everyone's life revolves around figure skating so that's a lot to ask of someone to make it happen for me."

The couple got together six years ago when she went to train in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., with Igor Shpilband, who also coaches Wing and Lowe.

Ice dancing continues Thursday with the original dance.

—CanWest News Service



Two by Two

Did you look out your window
On the seventeenth of March
And observe a rare event?
Did you witness a parade
Not for a patron Saint?
Did you witness a parade
Of creatures on a course
Of creatures on a course
All decked in shamrock green?
Did you witness a parade
Of creatures two by two
On a mission definite?
Not teams of hefty horses,
Not pulling gaudy floaters,
But in their own parade
Representing their own kind.
Their destination was unheard of.
To a great ship they would go
To be saved from a fate
That would on others fall.
Legend has a story
To tell to all who'd hear;
On March, the seventeenth
Many aeons ere our time
All creatures tame and wild
Marched in a long, long line
And entered the great ark
Built by Noah and his clan
To be saved from God's frustration
With creatures of human kind.
And as the rains fell down
From skies rent open wide
By God's most powerful hand,
These creatures and the man
And his family were kept dry
To once again at sunrise
Populate and multiply.
As a rainbow crossed the sky.

Ellis Clark, March 2000

Waterville United Church Women

On March 10th a meeting of the Waterville United Church Women was held in the church hall with eight present. The president, Doris Fidler, welcomed everyone and read the poem, "The Friend Who Just Stands By."

In the absence of Pat Hurley, the Rev. Lynda Harrison led in devotions. She read excerpts from Psalm 27 and Psalm 91. She spoke of Josh Grobun who in writing to his fiancée, urged her to be mindful of Jesus' and God's love. Everyone enjoyed listening to a new C.D. called, "You Raised Me Up." The period closed with a prayer.

A discussion took place concerning the dates of the fall rummage sale. Final plans will be decided at the April 12th meeting. All people were asked to give whatever they can in support of Nancy

DROUIN, Omer - We would like to express our sincere thanks to family and friends for cards, phone calls, flowers, donations, food brought in. Special thanks to Ellis Clark for the nice service, Barry Evans of Cass Funeral Home, the organist Francine Beaubien, Sharon Bean for the lunch at St. Anne's Church and to the one's that came from Ontario, New Hampshire, Montreal, Drummondville, Sawyerville, Lennoxville, Sherbrooke. Thanks to the six grandchildren, as bearers, Shane, Shanna, Corey Kydd, and Nicole, Patrick, Daniel Drouin.

RETA & FAMILY

HARRISON - I would like to take this time to thank everyone, our friends, neighbours, etc., for all the lovely cards, letters and flowers I got while I was in the hospital and to all those who brought in food for Richie while I was in the hospital from December 3 to March 14 with an injury to my back. Nice to be home. To all the nurses and doctors for the wonderful care I got at the CHUS Hospital and the Sherbrooke Hospital for therapy, and to all those who drove Richie back and forth from the hospital, all very much appreciated. I'm home at last, gaining slowly. Thanks ever so much.

LORRAINE HARRISON

Montgomery's trip to Zambia where she will work with the poor and deprived.

Workers for the May luncheon, to be convened by Doris Fidler and Paulette Caron; food table, Vi Derby and Barbara Carbonneau; sales table, Shirley Barter and Pat Nurley; solicitans, Paulette Caron, Shirley Barter and Glenna Smith.

Communion will be held on Psalm Sunday, April 4; Easter Sunday service on April 11 and the next UCW on April 7.

The Rev. Lynda gave a benediction after which stamps and soup labels were prepared for missions. The hostess, Shirley Barter served refreshments at the chose of the day, assisted by Lorna Lundeborg pouring tea.

Glenna Smith

Cards of Thanks

Deaths

Deaths

BICE, Vivian Erma (nee Connors) 1904-2004 - Of Magog and Montreal in her 100th year. Predeceased by her parents; James and Ellen (Delmage) Connors of Magog and husband, Almer and her sister, Agnes of Montreal West. Passed away at the Centre Hospitalier Memphremagog in Magog, Que., after a long illness. Vivian spent many summers at her cottage near Austin, Que. During WW II she was a great worker in the I.O.D.E., in the U.S.A., in support of Britain and her allies. Many of her years were spent in the U.S.A., where her husband, Almer worked in the textile industry. Survived and lovingly remembered by cousins; Ken Connors of Huntsville, Ont., Ross Connors of Cornwall, Ont., Elsie Smith of Dorval, Que., and Joan Barrows of Burlington, VT. Graveside service at the Pine Hill Cemetery, Magog at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to James E. Connors Bursary, at the Princess Elizabeth Elementary School, 420 Bellevue, west, Magog, Que., J1X 3H2, SPCA Sherbrooke, 1139 Queen Blvd., north, J1H 5H1, CNIB, P.O. Box 553, Stn Place-D'Armes, Montreal, Que., H2Y 9Z9 or to the Montreal Oral School for the Deaf, 5851 Upper Lachine Rd., Montreal, Que., H4A 2B7, would be greatly appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the Cass Funeral Homes Inc., 6 Belvidere St., Lennoxville, Que., (819) 564-1750.

MACKAY, Vivian - Peacefully at the Connaught Home, North Hatley, Que., on Thursday, March 18, 2004, in her 98th year. Vivian Maude Little, beloved wife of the late Richard Mackay, loving mother of David (Margaret), Belleville, Ont., cherished grandmother of Paul, Carol (David Churchill) and Bruce (Tanya); great-grandmother of Taylor, Anna and Abby Mackay; Katie and Jacob Churchill and Isaac Mackay. Resting at the Cass Funeral Home, 15 Station St., Sawyerville, Que., where family and friends may visit on Thursday, March 25, 2004 from 2 - 4 and 7 - 9 p.m. The funeral service will be held at the Sawyerville Baptist Church on Friday, March 26, 2004 at 11 a.m. Rev. Ernest Keefe officiating. Spring interment in the Bury Cemetery. As memorial tributes, donations to the Gideons, the Alzheimer's Society D'Estrie or to the Connaught Home, North Hatley, Que., would be greatly appreciated by the family.

McVITTIE, Gertrude (Bess) - Peacefully at the Connaught Home, North Hatley, Que., on Sunday, March 21, 2004, in her 100th year. Gertrude Elizabeth Morrisette. Beloved wife of the late Robert McVittie and dear mother of Bob (Ann), North Hatley, Que., and was predeceased by her daughter, Margaret (John Crease). Cherished grandmother of Jeffrey (Laurie), Dana (Mario) and Gregory McVittie, Timothy Crease (Claudette) and Patricia (Joe) and loving great-grandmother of Stephanie, Caleigh, Tamara, Katryna, Philippe and Daniel. Resting at the Cass Funeral Home, 6 Belvidere St., Lennoxville, where friends may call on Tuesday, March 23, 2004 from 7 - 9 p.m., and Wednesday, from 1 - 2 p.m., followed by the funeral service at 2 p.m. Interment at the Lakeview Cemetery, at a later date. As memorial tributes, donations to the Connaught Home, 77 Main St., North Hatley, JOB 2C0, will be gratefully acknowledged by the family.

PARKER, Sterling - Suddenly on Monday, March 22, 2004, at the CHUS Hotel Dieu Hospital, Sherbrooke. Sterling Henry Parker in his 76th year. Beloved husband of Gwendolyn Pitman, dear father of Susan (Guy) and Michael (Debra); cherished grandfather of Matthew, Stephanie and Kimberley. Sterling also leaves to mourn his sister, Thelma (Doug Pitman), his brother, Warren (Faye), his sisters-in-law; Aileen Lord and Doris Pitman. Resting at the Cass Funeral Home, 6 Belvidere St., Lennoxville, Que., where family and friends may visit on Wednesday, March 24, 2004 from 3:15 - 5:15 and from 7 - 9 p.m., and on Thursday from 1 - 1:45 p.m. A funeral service will be held on Thursday, March 25, 2004 at 2 p.m., at Lennoxville United Church. Rev. James Potter officiating. Interment in the Reedsville Cemetery. Donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Quebec or to the United Church Memorial Fund, Lennoxville, Que.

SKILLEN, Joan Elizabeth May - In her 57th year, passed away peacefully in Brampton, Ontario. She is formerly of South Durham, Que. Dear mother of Joey Rainsburger (Sara). Loved daughter of the late Lorne and Elizabeth Skillen. Dear sister of Leslie, Nadine, Beverley, Lary, Eric and Gail and loved by numerous nieces and nephews.

RATES and DEADLINES: ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES

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

Text only: 32¢ per word. Minimum charge \$8.00 (\$9.20 taxes included)

Discounts: 2 insertions - 15% off, 3 insertions - 30% off

With photo: additional \$18.50. DEADLINE: 11 a.m., day before publication.

BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY & GET-WELL WISHES, ENGAGEMENT NOTICES:

Text only: \$7.00 (includes taxes)

With photo: \$20.00 (\$23.01 taxes included) DEADLINE: 3 days before publication.

WEDDING WRITE-UPS, OBITUARIES:

\$19.50 (\$22.43 taxes included) WITH PHOTO: \$29.50 (\$33.94 taxes included)

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

DEADLINES FOR DEATH NOTICES:

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

For Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday's edition, call 819-569-4856 or

fax 819-569-1187 (please call to confirm transmission) between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. the day prior to the day of publication. The Record cannot guarantee publication if another Record number is called.

Minutes of the Sherbrooke Hospital Nurses' Alumnae

The Alumnae Association of the Sherbrooke Hospital School for Nurses held its first meeting, the annual meeting, on Tuesday evening, February 17th, in the Frances Whittle conference room of the Norton Annex. Ten members were in attendance when our president, Mrs. Heather Bowman, brought the meeting to order.

Under old business, notes of appreci-

ation were read which had been received from our colleagues, Miss Lola Bean and Mrs. Doreen Mapes, for the Christmas visits and gifts they had received. Mrs. Joanne Smith also noted the pleasure and thanks that she and Mrs. Joan Frank had received when they had visited Mrs. Phyllis Osgood, Mrs. Marion Perkins and Mrs. June Wells. A letter of thanks was also received from

the Argyll Pavilion for the electric bed which our alumnae had donated.

Mrs. Bowman, on behalf of the members, thanked our social convenors Mrs. Eileen Clarke and her committee for the success of the Fall Buffet Supper.

Being no further old business, Mrs. Bowman relinquished the chair. Mrs. Muriel Watson chaired the meeting for the readings of the Annual Reports and presented the Slate of Officers for 2004. The Annual Reports did reveal that our alumnae is still in good health, both financially and socially although the active membership is gradually diminishing.

The Slate of Officers for 2004 were then presented, accepted and are as follows: president Mrs. Heather Bowman, first vice Mrs. Lynne Beattie, treasurer Mrs. Donna Smith, corresponding secretary Mrs. Carol Hobbs, recording secretary Mrs. Joanna Smith, and card distributor Miss Frances Whittle. We have not been successful in obtaining a social convenor for this year, but are hoping one of our members will consider accepting the position. Mrs. Watson thanked the executive for agreeing to retain their offices and returned the chair to Mrs. Bowman.

Mrs. Bowman began by thanking the members for their continuing support and on behalf of everyone thanked Mrs. Dorothy Taylor for the 48 years of dedicated service as the treasurer of our association. Mrs. Taylor will still be involved, in assisting Mrs. Smith in the intricacies of our finances.

Since the membership is declining, a discussion ensued as to the future of

our alumnae. All agreed that we continue, as an organization, for as long as possible. Further discussion will be held at the next meeting.

Due to the diminishing attendance, it was decided that we change the Constitution pertaining to the number of meetings held yearly. According to Article VII, section 1, no alterations can be made without the proposed changes being read at three consecutive meetings, moved and seconded at the first two and voted upon at the third. The first reading, to change the number of meetings from four to three a year was read by Mrs. Watson, moved to accepted by Mrs. Shirley Hopkins, seconded by Mrs. Amy Husk and unanimously agreed upon.

Mrs. Bowman noted that the Ladies Auxiliary of the Argyll Pavilion will be holding a Tea, April 3rd, from 2 to 4 p.m. We were also informed that a new wing would be started, at the Argyll Pavilion, beginning this fall.

Being no further business, the members adjourned to enjoy the delicious refreshments served by our hostesses, Mrs. Hobbs and Mrs. Hopkins. The door prize was won by Mrs. Watson.

Our next meeting is to be held on Tuesday evening, April 20th, 7 p.m., in the Frances Whittle conference room of the Norton Annex. It is hoped that our colleagues, living in this area, will consider becoming active members and join us in planning the future of our association.

On behalf of the alumnae, I would like to thank The Record for the publishing of our meetings and special events.

Joanna R. Smith, Recording Secretary

March 17th - It's a great day For the Irish!



Once again members of some of the oldest Irish families: Hayes O'Boyle, Corrigan, O'Gallagher, Scallon, Galvin, Branswell, McDonough, Cogan, Hand, Baldwin, MacGregor, McEachern, McCourt, Tanner, Mulhahland, Sullivan, Murphy and Kelly united to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, Sunday, March 14, the day began with a Solom High Mass celebrated by Father Pierre Doyon accompanied by Irish music. Following the Mass a delicious corned beef and cabbage dinner was enjoyed by all.

You will need her support and understanding

Dear Annie: I have been married for over 20 years, and my wife and I have three teenage children. After many years of soul-searching, I have come to accept the fact that I am gay.

I cannot begin to describe the stress and humiliation of living this lie, and I feel the time has come to tell my family. My biggest fear is what the announcement will do to my children. Their well-being is my biggest concern. Please tell me how best to handle this. — Frank

Dear Frank: Is your wife aware of your sexual orientation? You will need her support and understanding when you break the news to the children. For information on the best way to do this, please contact PFLAG, 1726 M Street, N.W., Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20036 (www.pflag.org).

Dear Annie: I read the complaint from "Too Much Stuff," whose husband travels a lot on business. When he returns home, he showers his children with expensive gifts. You recommended family therapy for the couple.

Why don't you and Mom go talk to the therapist and leave Dad alone? Among the gifts Dad bought were cell phones. Why do you imagine he did this? Here is a clue: He wants to talk to his kids when he's on the road. I did the same thing. I also gave my

Annie's Mailbox

children computers with e-mail accounts so they can write me. Along with the gifts, I use my frequent-flyer miles to bring my wife and kids to meet me.

Annie, there are a lot of things we miss as we go to places we have never been and try to do business to provide for our loved ones. Give us a break, please, and let us enjoy our kids when we can. — Dad on the Move

Dear Dad: We are all in favor of enjoying your kids, setting up e-mail accounts and, if you can afford it, splurging on cell phones so they can call you anytime. The woman who wrote, however, also said her husband took the kids for excursions to the video arcades as soon as he walked in the door, and he bought them bikes and sports equipment. To top it off, the children were unappreciative. This sounds like an attempt to buy their affection, and Dad needs to find a better balance.

We know how hard it can be for parents who travel on business. Our mail indicates that most travelers long to be in their own homes, with their spouses and children. Those who find ways to stay in close touch deserve encouragement.

Dear Annie: Please allow me to vent in the hope that one person out there will see

him- or herself and change. I am a waitress in a family restaurant, and often, customers come into the restaurant for reasons other than food. Specifically, they come to conduct business meetings or interviews. Some of them even have the audacity to ask where there is an outlet so they can plug in their laptops.

These people usually sit for hours and rarely eat. I keep their beverages filled and check back often to make sure they are satisfied. In return, I get a meager tip based on the two cups of coffee they had. I could have made a lot more money on that table in the three hours they occupied it.

I find it extremely rude for them to sit as long as they do, only to leave their pocket change as a tip. They should save it for the office. — Fed Up in Wisconsin

Dear Fed Up: Some restaurants encourage patrons to make themselves at home for as long as they want, but many prefer to free up those tables for paying customers, especially if the place is packed. Folks, if you are taking up an excessive amount of a server's time and preventing him or her from earning tips, please remember to compensate generously when you leave.

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

Happy 93rd Birthday

Happy 93rd birthday wishes to Ernestine Hodge on March 24. Friends and family are invited to share cake and ice cream on Sunday, March 28, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., at the Grapes Residence, Sawyerville.

Love and best wishes from the staff and residents

Kinnear's Mills Audrey Allen

Pauline and Ulric Nutbrown were Sunday afternoon callers at the home of Eric, Helen and Lynn MacRae.

Donald and Marlene Nugent of Pointe Claire, were weekend guest at "Tweedside" home of Joy, Dale and Hélène Nugent.

Members of the Kinnear's Mills Women's Institute met at the home of Flora McNaul for the first meeting in the New Year.

Congratulations to Lois and Oliva Paradis, who celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary with a family gathering at Restaurant - L'Etoile.

CELEBRITY CIPHER by Luis Campos

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

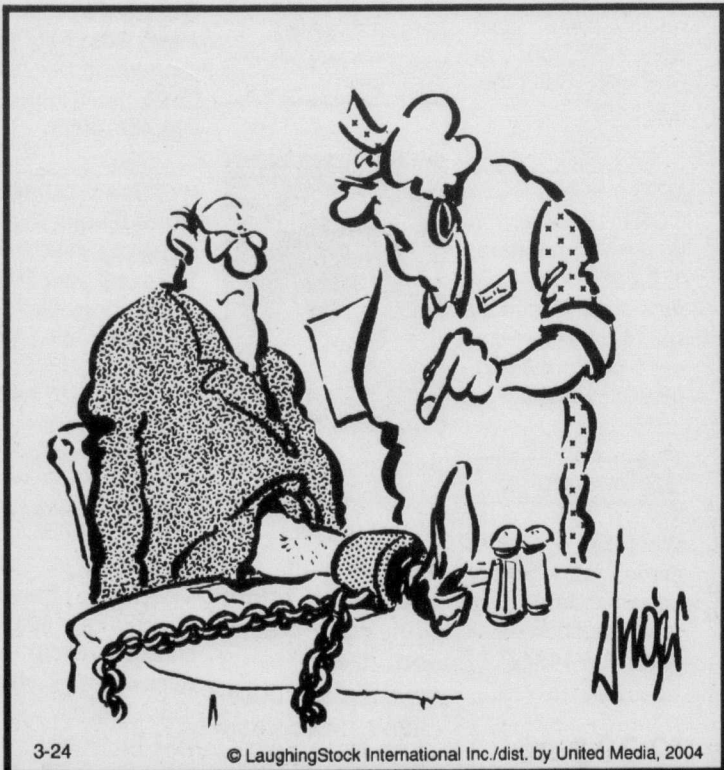
"XDW HRXJSJBX JB CEX XDW
PHC UDE BHGB XDW VJSWV JB
IJVXG. XDW HRXJSJBX JB XDW
PHC UDE RZWHCB NY XDW
VJSWV." - VEBB YWVEX

PREVIOUS SOLUTION - "Writers as a class ... have the egotism of actors and rarely the good looks or charm." - Raymond Chandler (c) 2004 by NEA, Inc. 3-24

KIT N' CARLYLE



HERMAN



ALLEY OOP



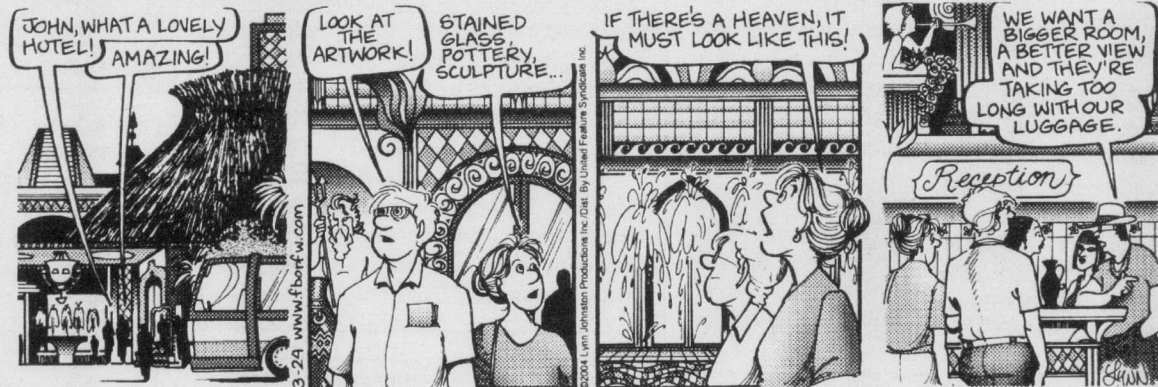
ARLO & JANIS



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FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



GRIZWELLS



SOUP TO NUTS



"You'd be surprised how many people walk out without paying!"

CLASSIFIED

CALL SHERBROOKE: (819) 569-9525 BETWEEN 8:30 A.M. AND 4:30 P.M.
E-MAIL: classad@sherbrookerecord.com
OR KNOWLTON: (450) 242-1188 BETWEEN 9:00 A.M. AND 4:00 P.M.

DEADLINE: 12:30 P.M. ONE DAY PRIOR TO PUBLICATION
OR MAIL YOUR PREPAID CLASSIFIED ADS TO
THE RECORD, P.O. BOX 1200, SHERBROOKE, QUEBEC J1H 5L6

- 001 Property for Sale
- 050 Rest Homes
- 100 Job Opportunities
- 100 Job Opportunities
- 140 Professional Services
- 150 Computers
- 290 Articles For Sale
- 330 Pets

TO SELL OR PURCHASE a home, call **Rodney Lloyd**, Affiliated Agent, Groupe Sutton de l'Estrie, (819) 823-7474.

DREW'S RESIDENCE, Ayer's Cliff, has a private room available. Family atmosphere, home cooking. Call Gary at (819) 838-5045.

WOULD LIKE TO buy old 2 story house in Richmond or surrounding area close to Richmond. Call (819) 474-2930 after 5 p.m. week days.

ROOM FOR RENT for elderly person, with caregiving services, in the country. Please call Mary at (819) 842-2650.

LENNOXVILLE - James Street, 2 1/2, 3 1/2, heated, hot water included. No pets. Call (819) 565-7692.

100 Job Opportunities

HOMEWORKERS WANTED. \$529.27 weekly. Process mail or assemble products at home. (416) 703-5655, 24 hour message. www.TheHomeJob.ca or write: Consumer 599B Yonge St. #259-430, Toronto, ON M4Y 1Z4.

LENNOXVILLE - Renovated apartments, 3 1/2, 4 1/2, 5 1/2. Pool. Close to town and buses. Includes hot water. (819) 823-5336.

WANTED: English speaking, * female, live-in nursing caregiver. Reply to Box 349, c/o The Record, 1195 Galt St. East, Sherbrooke, QC, J1G 1Y7.

NORTH WARD - Available July 1. 4 1/2 rooms, heated. 1 bedroom, kitchen, living room, dinette, stove and fridge included. No pets. Call (514) 861-6106 or (450) 672-1263.

THE RECORD
IS LOOKING FOR AN OFFICE CLERK

Applicants must be bilingual, have a car, have good communication and telephone skills, be flexible. Job involves data entry, some accounting background would be an asset.

This is a part-time position (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.). The applicant must be able to work full time during vacations and sick days.

Send CV with references to:

THE RECORD
Office Clerk Position
1195 Galt st. East,
Sherbrooke QC J1G 1Y7
or fax to: (819) 821-3179

or e-mail: classad@sherbrookerecord.com

Only those candidates considered will be contacted. No phone calls will be accepted.

- 100 Job Opportunities
- 100 Job Opportunities

TEACHERS WANTED

English teachers are required to teach adults for a private language school in Sherbrooke and the surrounding area. If interested in flexible full time or part time work, please forward your resume, including references by:

fax: (819) 564-7423
or e-mail:
clcnetwork@clcnetwork.com
c/o Mrs. Doreen Morissette, Director.

Thank you in advance for your interest. Only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

- 100 Job Opportunities
- 130 Courses

OFFICE CLERK required for The Record. Applicants must be bilingual, have a car, have good communication and telephone skills, be flexible. Job involves data entry, some accounting background would be an asset. This is a part-time position (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.). The applicant must be able to work full-time during vacations and sick days. Send C.V. with references to: The Record, Office Clerk Position, 1195 Galt East, Sherbrooke, Qc., J1G 1Y7, fax: (819) 821-3179, email: classad@sherbrookerecord.com.

REACH MORE PEOPLE!
Our classifieds are online.
www.sherbrookerecord.com

INVESTMENTS
Want to save for a rainy-day? Invest for retirement, renovations, or a new car? Let's meet and talk about the only tax shelter available to Canadians, that combines insurance protection with non-taxable gains. A good investment at any age. Curious? Give me a call. Michael at (819) 569-2514 ext. 297.

145 Miscellaneous Services

DAN'S SERVICE - Service on household appliances: washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators, etc. Tel. (819) 822-0800.

LENNOXVILLE PLUMBING. Domestic repairs and water refiners. Call Norman Walker at (819) 563-1491.

150 Computers

COMPAQ PC with: Intel Celeron 500 MHz, 128 MB of ram, 6.4 GM H/D, CD Rom, 3 1/2 floppy, 2 USB ports, 2 p/s ports, two 9 pin COM ports, onboard sound and video, printer port, network card, keyboard and mouse included, Win98SE, \$400. 15" monitor, \$125. extra. Free delivery in region. (819) 564-2303.

CONGRATULATIONS, YOU'RE approved. Get a genuine MDG Horizon computer system including a Samsung 17" flat monitor for only \$899 or just 81 cents a day, no money down. Call today! 1-800-791-1174.

DON'T PAY A CENT for 60 days! IBM Pentium 4 for only \$1. a day! Fast delivery! Almost everyone's approved! 1-866-286-3701. www.BrandsNOW.com.

NEW IN COWANSVILLE! Walk-in Clinic. Computer repair, Thursday evening, March 25, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Our first three clients will pay half price on services. Visit us online at www.polbeland.com or call now (450) 260-1313 to reserve your place.

160 Music

HONOLULU MAGI MUSIC, 201 King St. East, Sherbrooke, (819) 562-7840. Sales, trade-in, rental, repairs, teaching of all musical instruments. Full warranty since 1937. Visa, Mastercard and lay-away plan accepted. Honolulu Orchestra for all kinds of entertainment.

190 Cars For Sale

1992 FORD VAN. 170,000 km., runs, needs some body work. \$1,000. or best offer. Call (450) 538-6451

1993 FORD ESCORT, 2 door, 5 speed standard, 212,000 km. but runs fine. Priced to sell, \$1500. (Moving out of province). (819) 564-2303.

220 Snowmobiles

WANTED - older model Bombardier snowmobiles - in any condition. Call (819) 868-1487.

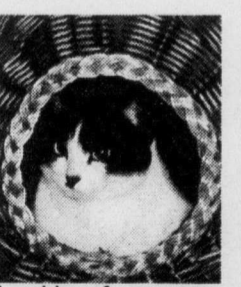
BERNINA 830 sewing machine with cabinet (4 drawers), electric machine, jersey seam, overlock seam, embroidery, button holes, etc. Asking \$650. Call Lynda (450) 538-3387 after 6 p.m.



Have something to sell? Make your classified stand out. For **\$10.00** more per day, run a **photo** with your classified! Deadline: 2 days before publication. Drop by our office in Sherbrooke or Knowlton. **(819) 569-9525.**

MOVING OUT SALE - Swing set, end table, coffee table, fridge, single bed and dresser, etc. See on April 3 at 562 Prescott, Bury or call before at (819) 872-3716.

330 Pets



Looking for a new home for your pet? Make your classified stand out. For **\$10.00** more per day, run a **photo** with your classified! Deadline: 2 days before publication. Drop by our office in Sherbrooke or Knowlton. **(819) 569-9525.**

TO GIVE AWAY to good home: male kitten, born October, white with dark spots, good with children, healthy, litter box trained. Call (819) 346-3403, leave message.

425 Bus. Opportunities

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430 Personal

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MYSTICAL CONNECTIONS thanks you for rating our Psychics # 1. Reveal your 2004! Love-money-life? 24 / 7, \$2.99/ min., 18+, 1-900-677-5872 or Visa/ MC 1-877-478-4410. www.mysticalconnections.ca

440 Miscellaneous

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For **.50** a word - **bold** it.

NOTICE OF INVENTORY CLOSURE

THE ESTATE OF THE LATE ROBERT JOHN HARRIMAN

Conforming to the provisions of article 795 of the Quebec Civil Code, notice is given by these present of the following event:

Robert John HARRIMAN, residing in his lifetime at 207 route 143 at Ulverton, Province of Quebec, JOB 2B0, died in Sherbrooke on October 2nd, 2003.

An inventory of his possessions was done before the undersigned notary and can be consulted at his office at 92, Principale Street North in Richmond.

Mtre Denis Tanguay, Notary
Sollicitor for the Liquidator

Call before 12:30 p.m. to make sure your ad appears the next day.

Your Birthday

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — It's quite likely that your ideas will be better than those of your peers today, but if want your thoughts to be readily accepted over their own thinking, make sure there's something in it for them.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Friends or associates are likely to take you into their confidence today because they'll sense that you're someone who can be trusted to keep things to yourself. You won't let them down.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Chances are you're the one who'll be called into situations that others feel are the greatest challenges or the most difficult to perform because, for you, they'll be the easiest to manage.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Act in harmony with your thinking today because the ideas and concepts you perceive concerning ways to further your ambitions will work out as you envision them.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Your greatest advantages today are apt to come from situations that are initiated by others rather than from those you begin yourself, but you won't mind so long as they're successful.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — When there is a family matter at stake today, you can serve as an effective catalyst to get all of the clan acting in harmony and pulling to-

gether for a common purpose. Don't hesitate to do so.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Anything that is disorderly or unsightly can take on a new look under your competent direction today. Involve yourself in those types of projects that need beautification.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — A new source of adding to your resources may present itself today. It'll not come about by accident; you'll be instrumental in coming up with something that'll be timely and in demand.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — It's highly likely that you'll be in a sociable mood today, but you won't have to go out on the town to find stimulating company. Your friendliness will draw fun friends to you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Do not hesitate to use terms of endearment in your meaningful relationships today. Individuals who are important to you will be highly receptive to hearing how much you care.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Focus your smarts on your goals and wishes today, because when you introduce your thoughts into conversations, successful ways and means can come through intellectual exchanges.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Ambitious objectives can be achieved today, but you'll need to use both intellectual arguments and charm to convince your audience. A combination of both will be a winner.

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

North 03-24-04			
♠ A 4			
♥ K 3			
♦ A 10 9 6 5 3			
♣ 9 5 4			
West		East	
♠ 10 8 6 5		♥ Q 9 7 2	
♥ J 10 4		♠ A 9 8 7 5	
♦ J 8 7 2		♦ 4	
♣ Q 7		♣ K J 2	
South			
♠ K J 3			
♥ Q 6 2			
♦ K Q			
♣ A 10 8 6 3			
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass
Opening lead: ♠ 5			

Denis Young, on which this one is based. It features a defender always playing his second-lowest card!

South opens one no-trump, showing 15-17 points. The doubleton diamond honors are a drawback, but the five-card suit is a plus. North, hoping his long minor will be worth tricks, leaps straight to the nine-trick game.

West leads his fourth-highest spade. (It is normal to lead a major after this auction, because the responder didn't investigate a possible major-suit fit. Also, West, because his hand is so weak, might start with the heart jack, hoping to find his partner's length and strength. Here, though, South can survive that lead.)

South takes East's spade queen with his king and cashes the diamond king. West should play the seven, the famous second-lowest. And when South leads the diamond queen, West must drop the eight — again, his second-lowest.

A careful declarer will overtake the diamond queen with dummy's ace and continue with the diamond 10 to drive out the jack. Then, nine tricks are assured. But South, thinking that West must have started with J-8-7 of diamonds and East with the doubleton 4-2, may see overtricks in his future. He might let the diamond queen hold, planning to cross to the spade ace to run the diamonds. Here, though, that play costs the contract. Five diamond tricks suddenly become three; 11 tricks suddenly become eight.

Isn't that the way it always goes?

By Phillip Alder

Once one opens a floodgate, the water never stops pouring in. For the last eight columns, I have been discussing declarer playing his second-lowest card. Then, suddenly I saw a deal reported by Australian

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Hill crest
- 5 Medieval toiler
- 9 Out of kilter
- 14 Stanton film, "___ Man"
- 15 Spoken
- 16 Vacation vessel
- 17 Latin & others
- 18 Laertes or Ophelia, e.g.
- 19 Mongolian range
- 20 Union mutinies
- 23 U.S. retirement act
- 24 Sleeve card
- 25 Divested
- 27 Stimp's pal
- 28 Mineral ore of uranium
- 33 Belgian battle site
- 35 Nat. with Seoul

- 36 Desert stops
- 37 Barbara or Sir Anthony
- 39 Greek letters
- 41 Teatime treat
- 44 ___-jongg
- 45 Labels
- 49 Payload's heaviness
- 53 Packed-house letters
- 54 Shift dirt
- 55 TV add-on
- 56 Like some kitchens
- 58 Fancy dress event
- 63 Religious principle
- 64 Alone
- 65 Digestive juice
- 66 Disney's mermaid
- 67 Press
- 68 Mined products
- 69 Harebrained
- 70 Mach-2 breakers
- 71 Hardy lass

- 21 Price ceiling
- 22 CSA soldier
- 26 Some French
- 29 Cholera
- 30 Heavy weight
- 31 Old card game
- 32 "___ of Eden"
- 34 Las Vegas rival
- 38 Lawn moisture
- 39 Old cloth
- 40 LBJ's VP
- 41 Universal meas.
- 42 Barth novel
- 43 Naturally grown

- 44 Reflects
- 46 "Top Hat" star
- 47 Car front decorations
- 48 Like a family of girls
- 50 Morgantown sch.
- 51 Successful transplantation
- 52 Driving spot
- 57 Superior of a monastery
- 59 Search for
- 60 4 times per yr.
- 61 Scads
- 62 Puts on
- 63 Game of marbles

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

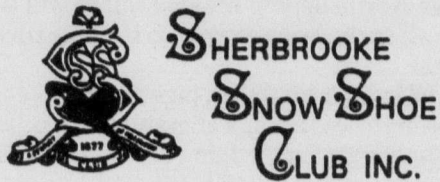
P	A	P	A	S		C	A	L	M		S	A	G	A	
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C	H	A	P	T	E	R		L	E	I		A	B	E	
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A	V	E	R		O	K	I	E		T	I	L	D	E	
T	E	X	T		B	E	A	N		S	T	Y	E	S	

DOWN

- 1 Beer plant
- 2 Goes to bed
- 3 Like a translucent gemstone
- 4 Chalk hills along the Humber
- 5 Soft drink
- 6 Part of Q.E.D.
- 7 Pillage
- 8 Chase movie
- 9 Jai ___
- 10 Dairy product
- 11 Practical trainees
- 12 City near Fort Ord
- 13 ___ Lanka

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13	
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SSSC Celebrate First day of Spring



Did any of you remember that this year 2004 is a 'leap year'? Well that meant that the first day of Spring, the vernal equinox, was Mar 20. 'Equinox' translated means 'equal night'. The sun passes over the equator and, throughout the world, in all places, both night and day are exactly 12 hours long. We look on it anticipating a change in seasons. Hurrah!

I looked back on last year's minutes and noted that on Mar 21, last year's equinox, we had a foot of snow overnight. Just like this year. The Snow Shoe Club got together on the first day of Spring, to celebrate one of nature's gifts- 'Sugar on snow'. The parking lot was full and more than one hundred folk arrived to celebrate this scrumptious ritual of Spring. I just love those meetings when we invite the ladies. You know that I am single and to see so many lovely ladies at the Club really makes this get-together one of my favorites. You know that "In the Spring a young man's fancy turns to" What it turned to was keeping from falling over. As I went in the door I had to watch my step as I negotiated finding my way through the heaps of building materials stacked here and there. It seems that between our last meeting on March 03, and the present, some members have been busy designing, and purchasing materials for, a new Ladies washroom. Every lady to whom I mentioned 'new washroom', stated "I hope that it is upstairs and that it is warmer than in it's present location". In the big hall near the back wall, standing in all its glory, was a toilet bowl of the latest design. It looked so inviting that I was afraid that someone might try it out. Anyway, to get back to the meeting, it did not take long for the big hall to fill up. Tables were laid out around the room each bearing a big tub of snow. There were pickles and those big fat doughnuts too. Don Lougheed and Ron Smith were kept busy bringing in pitchers of hot toffee and pouring it on the snow as members and friends could hardly wait to 'dig in'. We had invited widows of members and they came. Ada Hicks, Vera Gillam, Helen MacDonald, Emily Von Berg, and Rena Leckie. Non-members were invited today and I got to talk to many of these visitors. I talked to Jean McIver, welcomed Margorie Rick with her son Rob, young Don Lougheed, with his wife Karen and children Jeremy and Dylan, Lois Daigle, Alice Price, Michel Forest, who spoke to us in December about Sherbrooke's Art History and Statuary, Janine Divens, Georgy Charland, and Andrew Ward with his wife Angie Nutbrown. There are some friends of the Club that I look forward to seeing each year and they never let us down. I welcomed Ron Smith's parents Frank and Nyla. Mr. Philbrick was there. Last year he missed

but this year he got his son-in-law, ex member Sidney Patton, to drive him and his good lady to enjoy the toffee. Sid's two children, Nathaniel and Kaitlyn, were there too and were busy forking up the 'sweet stuff'. I should mention that to keep the toffee flowing requires that someone be out in the 'sugar house' boiling down the syrup. As usual Ken McBurney was tending the sugaring-off pans. Only his expertise assured that the toffee would jell when it hit the snow. If you don't get it right the liquid sinks to the bottom of the snow. Get it 'too well done' and your first bite sticks to your dentures and you spend the rest of the afternoon trying to pry it off your teeth. Ken's wife Marg was with him to give support. Janet McBurney was in and out, assuring that the finished product as it hit the snow had proper Quality Control.

There were liquids to whet your whistle, coffee and soft drinks. Easy listening music by John Foster on accordion, Roger Tetreault on a guitar-banjo, and Robert Woollerton completed the party atmosphere. To complete a pleasant afternoon in the proper Snow Shoe Club fashion, the heavens opened and gave us a new fall of snow.

Well, the season is officially over. I would like to express our best wishes to all of you readers. May you have a pleasant, happy and healthy summer. To the good folk at THE RECORD, we thank you for publishing our minutes. Each of you is invited to drive by the Clubhouse to watch the progress as we update our building. We hope to get rid of the graffiti, to repaint the emblems on our doors, and to put on a new roof. We want to make the Club attractive to you, both the building and the programs. Our sincere desire is to assure that this Anglophone Men's social Club, now ending its 126th season, will be around for your grandchildren and mine to enjoy, with families to whom we will only be a memory or a faded picture on the wall. God Bless you all.

Sincerely,

Cec Blenkhorn, Hon Secretary, SSSC

Signs Of Spring!!

Hurrah! spring is getting nearer
Sun is shining bright,
Snow is slowly melting
Leaving such a dirty sight!

Snow banks are so dirty
As the sun is melting them each day
Leaving mounds of stones and gravel
After the snow has melted all away.

In the distance are the mountains
Capped with huge drifts of snow
And when the sun shines on them,
I see the glistening snow.

So the signs of spring are showing
As I drive along the way,
To-day, I saw some pussy willows
I know that "Spring" is on its way!

Composed and submitted by
Verna Mahannah Patterson

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