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Reading gave Donna Woodard a new lease on life . . . P.8

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2005

Richmond town workers ready to use pressure tactics

By Stephen McDougall
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

Blue and white collar employees of the town of Richmond are promising pressure tactics in the coming weeks if progress is not made soon on a new labour contract. But union official Yves Robitaille

will not reveal what those pressure tactics will be.

"We want to keep it a surprise," he said Wednesday.

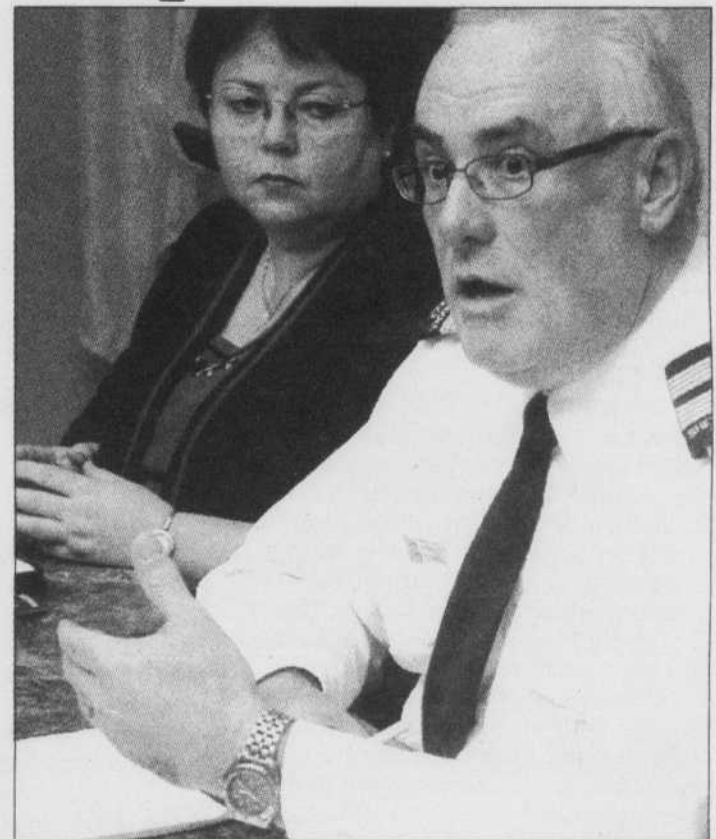
"If everyone knew what to expect, the pressure tactic would have little effect. We have to keep this a secret."

The 16 members of the mu-

nicipal union, both blue and white collar, are affiliated with the Canadian National Trade Unions (CNTU) and have been without a contract with the town since July, 2003. Robitaille said on Monday evening, 14 of

PLEASE SEE RICHMOND PAGE 2

Radical changes needed at cop shop- Pouliot



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

Sherbrooke city manager Louise Lapointe and Interim Police Chief Constant Robidas defend police department.

By Rita Legault
SHERBROOKE

Public security committee chairman Robert Pouliot started a storm of controversy this week when he commented that young police officers in Sherbrooke have an attitude problem and that radical changes are urgent at the municipal force.

PLEASE SEE POLICE PAGE 4

Noon-hour collisions



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

A 60-year-old man is in critical condition following a serious accident at the corner of Boulevard Bourque and Kennedy in Rock Forest around noon on Wednesday. Police say the man may have suffered a heart attack when he plowed into the back of a car stopped at the red light. Two others were injured in the crash. A similar accident occurred around the same time when a car rear-ended another on University Blvd near le Triolet High School. In that accident, a car was stopped at the yellow light when another plowed into it. Two were injured in the second collision.

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Family friend charged with sexual assault on 13-year-old

Staff

A 35 year-old man from St-Cecile-de-Lévrard will appear in provincial court on Feb. 28 to answer to charges he sexually assaulted a 13-year-old girl at her Thetford Mines home last November.

Stephane Tanguay has been charged with sexual touching and sexual assault on the girl, whose

name cannot be published because she is a minor.

Const. Yves Simoneau of the Thetford Mines police department said Tanguay was visiting the family of the girl and that the alleged assault took place at the family residence.

"He was considered a family friend," said Simoneau.

"The family trusted him with their

children."

Simoneau said the girl eventually went to the police and told them about what happened. He said the case was turned over to the local prosecutor's office and the charges were laid Wednesday.

Tanguay has been released without bail on condition that he show up for the Feb. 28 hearing. He has been or-

dered not to contact the girl or members of her family and to remain outside the border of Thetford Mines while the case is before the court. He is only allowed to enter the municipality if he needs to deal with a lawyer or with the court. Simoneau said Tanguay has no criminal record.

St-Cecile-de-Lévrard is 60 kilometers east of Trois Rivières.

RICHMOND:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

the 16 members showed up at a union meeting and all voted in favour of the pressure tactics.

In other municipalities, pressure tactics have included painting town vehicles with non-permanent paint, working to rule and quick work stoppages in order to assemble the employees for a demonstration.

CNTU official Jean Lacharité said negotiations with the town began last September, but little progress had been made since.

"We have had five meetings since then," he said.

"We could have had more, but the town has cancelled several of them and when we do meet, the town uses a different representative during the talks."

Robitaille said his union members are upset because the town is asking for a decrease in holidays, union workshop sessions and sick days it will pay for.

"These conditions have been in place for the past 20 years," he said.

"Now, all of a sudden, the town wants to take some of the days away. These are serious issues for us that require serious negotiations, and we don't see that happening now."

Robitaille said the union has no intention of calling a strike vote. He said the members would prefer to know why the town is trying to roll back past gains.

"If it is a question of money, we ask the town officials to tell us that. We

have never had to discuss this before. Why now?"

Town manager Guy-Lin Beaudoin would not comment on the current labour situation, saying he did not want to conduct negotiations through the media.

Robitaille said the town wants to reduce paid "union days" from 12 to six, paid sick days from 10 to five and statutory holidays from 12 to 10.

"If this is a game, it is not fair," he said.

Other issues being negotiated are a six percent salary increase each year for the next three years, a shorter work week and an assurance that workers will not lose their jobs if work has to be given to an outside contractor.

Robitaille said the town workers have had to put up with salary freezes or small raises averaging one percent for the past 15 years.

"We believe that a six percent raise is reasonable, given that we have lost a lot over the past few years," he said.

"Right now, a blue collar workers gets between \$13 and \$15 an hour, and a white collar worker gets between \$13 and \$19 an hour. This is lower than other municipal workers get in towns around here."

He said the town is offering a raise of 2.5 percent per year.

The union wants to reduce the blue collar work week to four days and four and a half for white collar workers. Robitaille said the town has refused that request, arguing a five-day week is necessary.

The issue of job protection assurance, he said, is still to be negotiated.

The ABCs of RRSPs for English-speakers

Industrial Alliance's Sherbrooke Agency will hold its first ever retirement planning workshop aimed exclusively at the English-speaking community of the Eastern Townships, to be held the evening of Thursday Feb. 3 at 7 p.m. at the agency's downtown Sherbrooke office.

Financial Security Advisors Michael van Lierop and Sarah Wilkin, both of whom joined Industrial Alliance's financial services team in Sherbrooke in order to better serve the English-speaking market in the region, will be facilitating the two-hour workshop.

The free workshop, entitled "The ABCs of RRSPs" will feature an overview of how RRSPs work, who can benefit most from them and how, as well as a demonstration of the various aspects of RRSPs with Industrial Alliance.

"Retirement planning can seem like an abstract concept for many people," said Sarah Wilkin. "We just want to open up the discussion and show people in our community that it's not difficult financially and can have major advantages, both for retirement and for reducing income taxes!"

The workshop will allow participants the opportunity to acquire information and engage in open discussions with the facilitators and

other participants in English.

Those who are interested in taking part must RSVP before Tuesday Feb. 1 at 5 p.m. by contacting Sarah Wilkin at (819) 569-2514 ext. 289 or Michael van Lierop at (819) 569-2514 ext. 297. For those who would like to bring a group of friends or neighbours to the workshop, email Michael at mic.vanlierop@agc.inalco.com with the names and phone numbers of all interested participants.

"The ABCs of RRSPs" workshop will be held at Industrial Alliance's downtown Sherbrooke office, at 455 King St. West, Suite 200, corner of Belvedere. Free parking is available in the parking garage off Belvedere Street North across from Place Paton.

SKI TICKETS

The Record has some great giveaways for ski enthusiasts.

You can qualify for a day on the slopes at Jay Peak Vermont, Burke Mountain or at Montjoye by clipping a ski report from The Record sports pages and sending it to The Record before Feb. 3.

Please note your preference on your entry form.

Weather

Today: Sunny. High minus 18.

Friday: Sunny. Low minus 25. High minus 12.

Saturday: Sunny. Low minus 24. High minus 5.

Sunday: Sunny. Low minus 17. High minus 4.

Normals for the period .. Low minus 18. High minus 6.

Ben by Daniel Shelton



Public-private school funding discussed by board

By Leah Fitzgerald
MAGOG

Despite strong feelings that the province was wrong to throw funding at Jewish private schools in Montreal, the Eastern Townships School Board decided against passing a resolution on the subject Tuesday night.

Funding to the tune of \$10 million was announced, and then quickly withdrawn last week by Education Minister and Orford MNA Pierre Reid and Premier Jean Charest.

Chair of the council of commissioners Magi Faulks said the Quebec English School Boards Association had already reacted to the initiative.

A press release dated Jan. 20 said QESBA and the nine public English boards it represents are ready to be partners in any new and effective education strategies to help create understanding in cultural diversity.

Faulks said she is definitely against public funding going into the coffers of private schools, even at the current level of 60 per cent of the public school's funding per student.

Commissioner Peter Riordon, who also sits at the council of the QESBA, said the school boards that would have benefited from managing the additional funds for the Jewish schools should take a close look at the detriment to the public schools.

"It's not only an inconsistently-treated question," he said. "It's a reminder that the funding from that system is needed in the public system."

Faulks read two resolutions passed by the Sir Wilfred Laurier School Board, asking the QESBA to act

against the province's decision to fund confessional schools at 100 per cent, and to ask school boards not to enter associations with confessional schools to help them acquire public funding.

Faulks asked the commissioners if they would like to pass a similar resolution in support of Sir Wilfred Laurier. Commissioner Ron Creary spoke out against passing any type of resolution, or of asking the QESBA to pass one.

"It would be trite," he said. "Like the Pope passing a resolution against abortion. Everyone expects the QESBA to come out against this. Who benefits from public funding being taken away from the private schools? The public schools."

Riordon said the school boards have seen many cutbacks in recent history, and that the money hasn't really come back to the boards. Riordon said he did see part of the 'reason' why the government funded some private schools — each student funded at 60 per cent was one more head not funded at 100 per cent in the public school system.

About 25 per cent of students in elementary and high schools attend a private institution in Quebec, the highest percentage in the country.

In other school board news:
• The board's 2003-2004 annual report is available on the Web site — www.etsb.qc.ca, as well as through the board's office. Only part of the report is in a printed format this year. The school pages are on CD-Rom this year in an easily accessible format for both Mac and PC.

• The school board will be renew-

ing its lease for its current offices at Place du Moulin in Magog. Commissioner Mike Murray, who heads the finance committee, said the board would continue to look for a new office space, whether its in a building already owned by the board, or one that the board acquires. Murray also mentioned the possibility of building a new office space. The main requirement for the school board's offices, location-wise, is to remain in Magog, which is considered the centre of the territory, within easy access of Autoroute 10.

• The ETSB's adult education centres in Sherbrooke and Cowansville are participating in a pilot project that provides career counselling to people looking for a new career path. As part of the project, the Cowansville centre made a DVD, which is available at no charge through local video stores, and will eventually be available on the school board's Web site. Titled Learning a Living, the DVD features music from a student at the centre as well as testimonials from students who have been helped by the centre's programs. The campaign also features a poster with a number to call to get through to career counsellors in either French or English.

• The school board hired Peter Hamilton as the new coordinator of complementary educational services. Hamilton will replace

Martine Auray, the former director, who resigned after the school board discovered, through an internal audit, that \$3,600 was missing from Farnham Elementary's budget. Auray was principal at Farnham in 2003-2004.

• The school board will be replacing eight buses this year through a ministry of education safety program. Last year, the school replaced 10 buses in its 50-bus fleet.

• The council passed a resolution modifying the criteria for enrollment for students for the 2005-2006 school year. The new criteria, in order of importance, are as follows:

- Current students registered at the school;
- Siblings of current students enrolled at the school;
- Students whose current residence is nearest the school;
- Siblings of students whose current residence is nearest the school;
- Students residing inside the school transportation basin;
- Students outside the school transportation basin, but residing inside the boundaries of the ETSB.

lfitzgerald@sherbrookerecord.com

Police seek help in finding teen

By Maurice Crossfield

Police aren't sure what happened, but are calling for the public's help to find a 13-year-old girl last seen in Farnham on Sunday.

Mélina Martin of Sainte-Sabine was dropped off at a winter festival being held at Parc Bourbonnais in Farnham Sunday. She was last seen at around 1:30 p.m. and failed to meet her parents at the Valentine's restaurant that evening. She also failed to show up at school Monday. At that point her parents reported her missing.

Initially media reports listed Martin as a runaway. But by Wednesday afternoon the Sûreté du Québec wasn't counting anything out.

"We don't know that for sure," said SQ spokesman Sgt. François Doré. "The only thing that we know is that she is missing."

Police say Martin has never run away before.

Martin is described as 1.6 metres tall (about five-foot-three), weighing 52 kilos (114 pounds). She was last seen wearing blue jeans with fur trim, a black jacket with fur trim, a fur hat and pink gloves. She has reddish-blond hair and a number of ear piercings. She also has a pierced navel and lower lip. She speaks French.

Anyone with information about Mélina Martin



Mélina Martin of Sainte-Sabine, 13, was last seen Sunday in Farnham.

or where she could be is asked to contact the SQ at 310-4141, or the Info Crime line at 1-800-711-1800. The Brome-Missisquoi detachment of the SQ is handling the investigation.



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AROUND THE BEND

*Drama by Jordan Roberts with Christopher Walken,
Michael Caine, Josh Lucas, Jonah Bobo, Glenna Headly.*

The skeletons in the family closet just came out to play. A tale of four generations of men, all of whom have had their offspring at a young age; a great-grandfather (Michael Caine), a grandfather (Christopher Walken), a father in his twenties (Josh Lucas) and a son who is about 7 years old. When the oldest member passes away, the trio heads out on the road together in the Southwest to search out an old family secret that connects to their past.

All profits will be handed to the Bishop's/Champlain
Refugee Sponsorship Committee

POLICE:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

The union representing police officers, the department's top brass, and city management reacted swiftly saying that everything is fine despite a few isolated incidents.

Pouliot's controversial comments come on the heels of guilty verdicts against Hugues Ré, Pierre Bégin, Denis Turgeon and Guy Hovington who were charged with beating Hugo Lemay while he was handcuffed from behind.

Last February the provincial police ethics commission also upheld a complaint of abuse of authority against officers Éric Labrecque and Médéric Laroche.

In a media interview on Monday, Pouliot said young officers have an attitude problem and lack respect towards citizens. He repeated and embellished those comment in several more interviews throughout the day Tuesday.

"It's as if when you have a revolver on your belt you gain 20 pounds and grow a foot," he said, noting that his comments were about cops with less than 10 years of service.

Pouliot complained that despite the recent hiring of 40 new officers, service to the population has not improved and that he gets frequent calls from citizens complaining about speeding.

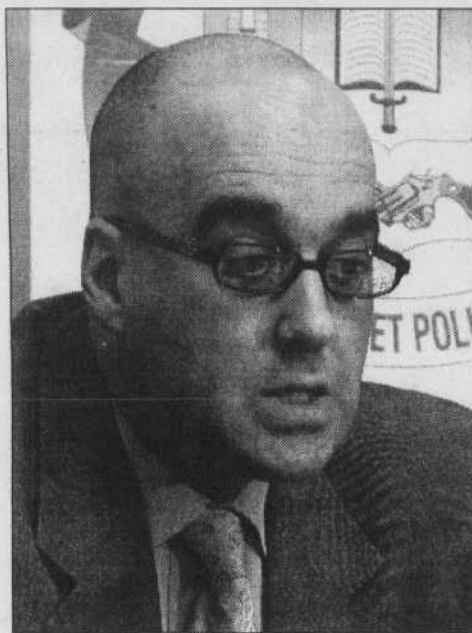
Pouliot said that when a new police chief is named in the next few months he will have to introduce a new culture in the police department.

"No matter who gets the job, a turn-around is needed. The culture that is encroaching upon the department will have to be broken. They will need to get orders and they will have to obey them. If they need more training, then we will have to favour more training."

Pouliot said he made similar comments at a city council caucus on the weekend in Magog and hinted that some councillors and citizens share his views.

"We get a lot of calls from citizens complaining of a flagrant lack of good conduct, especially in new recruits," he said.

Police union president Paulin Aubé



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

Police union president Paulin Aubé wants councillor Pouliot to get specific.

said that since last night, police officers are enraged by Pouliot's comments and he challenged the councillor to prove his allegations.

"We want to know what he's talking about when he makes those kinds of public declarations," Aubé said, asking Pouliot to provide the names of officers at the origin of his complaints. "Let him prove what he's asserting."

"I hope Mr. Pouliot is not making such public declarations on the faith of a few comments by citizens," Aubé said. These are serious allegations and accusations and they must be checked and analyzed before they are made in public."

Aubé said Pouliot's remarks are insulting and that he was ridiculing the entire police organization. He contends Pouliot has no idea what work is done by police officers and the police department.

"If that were the case he would not be talking about the need for a radical and urgent change," Aubé said, noting that Pouliot is denouncing the whole police department and all of its officers.

Aubé said he believes Pouliot is referring to a half dozen incidents over the

past four or five years. He said those complaints need to be examined in relation to some 300,000 police interventions for which there were no complaints.

Aubé also challenged Mayor Jean Perreault to confirm if Pouliot was truly speaking on behalf of many of his council colleagues.

City manager Sylvie Lapointe said council reviewed the last three years and discussed priorities for 2005 at a weekend caucus and that it approved the police department's action plan for the next year.

She said the police department and its new community policing division will look at the issues of speeding and traffic safety and seek some permanent solutions. She said the council also approved the department's mobilization plan to get closer to citizens and that includes being respectful and more available to the public.

Lapointe said she has not sensed the same situation as Pouliot in complaints to council and complaints to city hall.

"If citizens feel they are not being well served by police - or by blue collar workers or any other municipal service, they have a right to be heard," she added. "The public has a right to quality services."

Lapointe, a former councillor who was named general manager in August, admits that there have been some unfortunate events in the past, "but it is not a generalized problem."

But Lapointe does not agree with Pouliot that a complete about face is needed at the police department. She said the department is dynamic and led by an interim chief with a modern vision.

"In 2005 we will name a new chief and his mandate will be to build on the work that is already started and the planning that has already been done and changes that are well underway."

Lapointe also commented that she does not agree with Pouliot's vision of "giving orders and having them obeyed."

"That's not my vision of human resources," she said, noting that it's better to expect people to excel than to denigrate them.

Interim Police Chief Constant Robidas said that there have several complaints about police behaviour over the past years and that they were referred to the provincial police ethics commission charged with reviewing public complaints.

Robidas said 50 per cent of cases are unfounded, and 98 per cent are resolved through conciliation and never lead to formal charges. Robidas points out the situation is the same for all police departments throughout the province.

Capt Robert Pedneault noted there were 21 complaints against Sherbrooke police officers in 2004 and the vast majority were either unfounded or frivolous. And, he added, that's 21 complaints on some 65,000 interventions.

Police Chief Robidas also denied that his department was not giving young officers the wrong message when Police Capt. Danny McConnell testified for the defence last week during sentencing arguments for the four cops found guilty of brutality.

McConnell said the officers were a model to follow and that they were sorely missed.



FILE PHOTO

Councillor Robert Pouliot wants a shake-up in police department.

Robidas said the conduct of the four officers before the complaint was beyond reproach, but would not comment further because the matter is still before the court.

Capt. McConnell said later the four officers did have spotless records before the incident and that he felt compelled to testify on their behalf and point that out.

On the issue of speeding tickets, Capt. Pedneault said some 3,000 more tickets were handed out in 2004 and that 400 more speed traps, or some 4,090, were set up.

Union boss Aubé said that police officers handed out some 32,524 tickets for various traffic violations last year. That totaled some \$4 million in fines and was an increase of nine per cent from the previous year.

"Year after year we have more and more speed traps, but we are catching more people and traffic has not slowed down," Aubé explained. "Speeding tickets alone will not prevent speeding. It's a societal problem."

Robidas said the police department is working on a strategy to resolve speeding in the city.

"We can't put cops on every street corner but maybe we can put them in the right place at the right time."

For now, police are not calling for Pouliot's resignation.

"For now we just want him to prove his allegations and provide proof that a radical shift and change of attitude is needed," Aubé said. "I can't wait to hear his answer."

When asked the same question, Lapointe said it will be up to council to decide if Pouliot is still the man for the job. And the bitter debate is bound to remain public, as Aubé refuses to speak to Pouliot as he tossed his gauntlet in front of his entire union executive and a handful of other officers at a press conference Tuesday afternoon.

"He chose to make the debate. That's why I'm talking to him through the media," he said. "He started this debate in the media. We will finish it in the public arena."

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THE RECORD

21072

Come Read With Me a hit in local schools

By Leah Fitzgerald

With the highest participation in the province, the Eastern Townships School Board is leading the way in this year's edition of Come Read with Me, a literacy contest for schools held by Literacy Partners of Quebec.

The program, which is in its third year, has children in elementary school review Canadian books, which they read between today and mid-April.

As of last week, the ETSB had nine schools participating, and all the registrations were not yet in.

Wendy Singer, who coordinates the program for Literacy Partners of Quebec, says the contest was looking at its biggest year yet. And this year, for the first time, they have a special honorary chair: Children's book author and illustrator Marie-Louise Gay.

"Nobody can say literacy is not important," Gay says. "If you can't read, in any type of job it's a big problem."

What Gay likes best about the program is that it encourages teachers to be the model reader for their students.

"Literacy is learning, but it's also going further ahead. There are the ordinary things, like studying, but it also opens your mind.

"It's so important for children to have a chance to read many books," she says. "Even as an adult, you see yourself in the books you read. Kids need the chance to recognize their own feelings in what they read. It's personal and private, unlike videos and games, which are pre-digested."

During the program's three-month run, teachers present different books to their students to review. The teacher, Gay says, has to take the active role of reader for the program to be successful. The students then read a book, or many books, and write or draw reviews,



Children's author Marie-Louise Gay and Wendy Singer, coordinator of Literacy Partners of Quebec launch the 2005 edition of Come Read With Me.

which are then sent in for judging. The winners are then invited to a special presentation.

Gay was invited to speak about literacy to the winners of last year's Come Read with Me contest, and was invited to be the honorary chair of the campaign.

Gay didn't begin drawing until she was 17. Her family moved around quite a bit when she was child, passing from Quebec City, through Sherbrooke, Montreal, and Oakville to end up in Vancouver. She went to school in English, and found solace in libraries.

"I was a voracious reader," she says. "I liked a lot of stories. I thought I could use my art to illustrate stories."

Gay's first jobs were in commercial illustration, working mostly for magazines. She illustrated Dennis Lee's *Lizzy Lion*, among others.

"It inspired me to be a writer."

So, in her late 20s, Gay started writing children's books. In 1987, her book *Rainy Day Magic* won the Governor General's Award for best illustrations in an English book. She wrote the book as well.

She admits she got a bit of a late start for an author and illustrator.

"But I don't think it's ever too late," she said.

Her books, she says, focus on children discovering the natural world. In the *Stella* books, older sister Stella shows her little brother Sam the beach, the forest and other locations.

"These books resonate for kids. They recognize their own way of seeing the

world."

Gay says she hopes that by promoting literacy — and libraries — to a younger generation, she'll be able to instill a love of reading.

"You can't say that every child is going to be a bookworm," she says. "But they should at least have that chance."

Libraries, in Gay's opinion are a better investment than technology.

"I was in a Kindergarten classroom in Ottawa and the students were connecting dots in a game on the computer," she explains. "I wondered why they weren't doing it on paper. They can hardly hold pencils. They need to develop their fine motor skills."

Gay says computers dilute words, giving them less power than ones read in a book.

"It's like giving them a car before they can drive."

In last year's contest, four students from Butler Elementary, a student from Heroes' Memorial and a student from Cookshire Elementary were among the winners.

Come Read with Me was launched today in Montreal at Coronation Elementary School. The program runs until April 15. The program is a partnership between Literacy Partners of Quebec and the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages, and is sponsored by Canada Post.

For more information, visit www.nald.ca/lpq/read.htm or email lfitzgerald@sherbrookerecord.com

New Granby multiplex to start showing English movies

By Maurice Crossfield

Fans of English-language films will soon have a new option in the Townships, with Granby's new cinema complex testing the waters in the weeks to come.

"We are trying to bring English movies because we've had a fair amount of demand," said Sylvie Laroque, Marketing and Sales Director of Cinémas Ciné Entreprise. "So we're going to try it out to see how it works."

Ciné Entreprise has been in the movie business for over 40 years. Today the theatre chain has nine locations across Quebec as well as a drive-ins in Trois Rivières. They're all multi-screen cinemas, with over 50 screens typically showing French-language films.

In Granby the Cinéma Élysée recently opened its doors, offering eight screens at its Simonds North location.

"It's quite a theatre," Laroque said. It has the latest technologies in screens, sound, everything. It's a beau-

tiful place."

Typically English-language films are in short supply in the Townships, with Galaxy Cinemas in Rock Forest and the Cinema Princesse in Cowansville about the only options available north of the border. Those living closer to Vermont can also venture to places like Newport or St. Albans to get their English-language movie fix, or check out some of the older films at Centennial Theatre in Lennoxville.

Laroque said the English films should begin sometime in the next couple of weeks. She said there are big plans in store for Ciné Entreprise and its Granby cinema in 2005. An announcement is expected at the official inauguration of the Granby multiplex on Feb. 23.

To find out what's on at the Cinéma Élysée, get on the Internet and go to www.cinentreprise.com (then follow the links), or call (450) 776-6908. The cinema is located at 160 Simonds North in Granby, not far from the Galeries de Granby shopping centre and the Granby Zoo.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Code is ignored

DEAR EDITOR,

I read with interest your recent article on "Union wants less students on buses." I, being a school bus driver, share many of the problems encountered by the bus drivers in the article. Previously there was a section within the Highway Safety Code which stated to the effect that when transporting secondary students that the bus capacity was reduced to two per seat. A 24-seat bus that had a capacity of 72 students was reduced to 48 students when transporting secondary students (two per seat). The Highway Safety Code that replaces this article is section 46 "The driver of a school bus shall not authorize nor allow more than 3 school children to sit on the seat of a school bus" and section 47 "In addition to Section 46, the driver of a school bus shall ensure that school children being transported are seated safely and that the aisle is free of obstructions." This allows the driver to exercise some discretion. If three secondary students can be seated within the confines of the seat and not protrude into the aisle, then this is allowed.

However, when a student can no longer be seated within the confines of the seat, then the student is no longer "seated safely" and is also obstructing the aisle. Article 47 then applies, and the capacity of the seat is reduced to two students.

In practice, article 47 of The Highway Safety Code is continuously ignored and the transporters often load the buses to their capacity without taking into consideration the size of the students and article 47. The result is that the students are frequently not seated safely and the aisle is often obstructed in violation of article 47. The school bus drivers are continuously voicing their objection to the overloading of buses by the transporter but are generally ignored. Ultimately they, the school bus drivers, are responsible and subject to fines but to refuse these conditions would place their jobs in jeopardy.

I realize that in today's situation with rising costs and decreasing funding that the transporters are trying to make ends meet. The fact remains that a problem exists and it needs to be resolved.

ROBERT MCKEAGE
School bus driver

Win a dream date with Pierre Pettigrew!

In last year's federal election, only 38 per cent of 18-30-year-olds bothered to vote. That's up from 25 per cent in the previous election but still pretty abysmal.

Just think how much better some parties would fare with a stronger turnout of 21-year-olds? Okay, the Green and the Marijuana Parties would do better but that's not the point. The point is, how do you reach these young people?

The answer: Get them hooked before they can vote. Bombard them with the same overwhelming pre-teen marketing that convinces 12-year-old girls that anyone on the Disney Channel is sure to be a fantastic singer. The best venue for this is through those teeny-bopper magazines that clog the newsstand. And so, I introduce you to:

MmmmmP! Magazine

What's HOT on the Hill for Teens

In this issue:

- Why Stephen Harper can't find love
- Are you a cheapskate or a shrewd financial planner? Fiscal fun with Ralph Goodale
- Sheila Fraser's sob session: "I hate being the bitch!"
- Judy Sgro's shocking confession: "Strippers? I thought they were making slippers!"
- An MmmmmP! exclusive: A sneak peek at Bill C-132, the long-awaited sequel to Bill C-131!
- Adrienne Clarkson's fashion hits and misses. And guess how much she you paid!
- Stéphane Dion fesses up about lip-synching during Question Period

What's HOTtawa?

Bloc Québécois leader Gilles Duceppe responded to his critics at the recent Hull premiere of his autobiographical documentary *Does It LOOK Like I'm Having Fun?*

"I am totally not a diva," said Gilles. "I am just a regular person who puts his pants on one leg at a time so I can destroy this humiliation of the Québécois collectivity that is the Confederation of Canada."

Gilles was reacting to tabloid reports that he blew up at his caucus because there were too many apostrophes in his committee report entitled "The 2004 Throne Speech: An Overreaction."

"Yes, I got 'angry' in caucus but I was just doing my Bernard Landry im-



ROSS MURRAY

pression," chuckled Gilles, who is trying to change his rigid image by writing the introduction to *The Collected Humour of the Office de la Langue Française*.

Legislatin' across the nation!

MPs wanna party all the time! BC's Liberal backbenchers introduced a private members bill last month to amend the Charter of Rights and Freedoms to include "The right to get jiggy with it."

Are Commons' "sexiest" pair serious?

Conservative heartthrob Peter MacKay and Bloc babe Caroline St-Hilaire – voted the sexiest MPs in the House of Commons – have laughed off the annual survey results but aren't laughing about being linked romantically. Press attachés for both hotties denied rumours that the two were caught canoodling in the Peace Tower. But an inside source told MmmmmP! that the two were seen making googly eyes at each other during a budget debate.

Paul Martin: "I've got feelings too"

On what it's like stepping into a former PM's shoes: "Sometimes, I feel like Harry Morgan after McLean Stevenson left 'M.A.S.H.' Uh, that was an old television show. Kind of like 'The O.C.' except involving a United Nations police action."

On meeting George W. Bush: "I said, 'Pleased to meet you, Mr. President' and he said, 'Call me Dubya' and I was like, wow, he is way cool. Then he said, 'Nice little democracy you got,' which was awesome. He even gave me a nickname: 'Pool Boy.' I'm not sure what that means but it's pretty neat."

What makes a girl a hottie: "Milky white shoulders, penetrating eyes, and knowing a T2124 tax form from a T2032."

Cool/Not Cool

Cool: Getting to third reading of your private member's bill.

Not cool: Getting to third base in the Red Chamber.

Cool: Heckling another MP during Question Period.

Not cool: Stealing another MP's boyfriend during the Annual Caucus Mixer.

Cool: Tsunami disaster relief.

Not cool: Stephen Harper's disaster of a haircut.

THE RECORD

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**AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO USERS OF THE STS
AS WELL AS TO THE CITIZENS OF SHERBROOKE**



Société de transport
de Sherbrooke

**“THE EFFICIENCY OF OUR SERVICES AND YOUR SAFETY
ARE OUR HIGHEST PRIORITIES.**

WE ARE WORKING HARD TO INSURE THEM.”

» **AN IRRESPONSIBLE STRATEGY**

During this winter season, the bus drivers of the Société de transport de Sherbrooke (STS) have announced pressure tactics in support of the **ideological war** that the Syndicat canadien de la fonction publique (SCFP) is bringing against the Quebec government.

» **DEPLORABLE CONSEQUENCES**

Unfortunately, these measures could have **major repercussions on the number of buses** available on some circuits, **on their frequency** and, consequently, **on circulation on the streets of Sherbrooke.**

» **A REGRETTABLE SITUATION**

We sincerely regret that the workers, students, seniors and all the users of the STS are held **hostage in a symbolic war against the TEMPORARY measures** formed by the shuttle service to a commercial sector which has barely begun to be developed and which, at the moment, does not have much clientele.

Rest assured that all the alternatives for servicing the Plateau Saint-Joseph have been seriously examined by the administration, including the five union proposals, and the shuttle service remains the best option.

» **UNLAWFULNESS: ZERO TOLERANCE**

Nevertheless, we wish to reassure you that **we are doing whatever is necessary to insure the efficiency of the circuit and your safety, and for the situation to return to normal as soon as possible.** The STS rule of conduct with regards to all illegal actions which may occur can be summed in two words: **ZERO TOLERANCE.**

» **STEPS TO TAKE**

In the case of an **illegal driver walk-out**, we recommend that our users **plan their outings at least one half-hour in advance** and, if possible, **plan for alternative methods of transportation** (such as car-pooling).

» **YOU WILL BE INFORMED**

The STS has taken **steps to inform you quickly:**

1. Pertinent and useful information will be forwarded quickly to the medias, especially **before working hours** for offices, businesses and schools.
2. Our customer service staff (**564-2687** or **service.clientel@sts.qc.ca**) will be increased.
3. The STS internet site (www.sts.qc.ca <http://www.sts.qc.ca/>) will be updated more often.

» **THANK YOU TO RESIDENTS OF SHERBROOKE**

Thank you for your understanding, your patience and your confidence. Rest assured that our determination to **manage public funds in a rigorous and responsible fashion**, and to continue our work toward **developing a public transportation circuit that is efficient, that performs, and meets your expectations and your requirements.**



Learning to read changed Mansonville woman's life

By Brion Robinson
SHERBROOKE

People tell Donna Woodard, 28 she talks a lot more since she started to learn to read four years ago.

"I couldn't say words clearly and I stayed in the house," she said. "When I went out people would ask me to read something and then laugh at me."

Woodard enrolled in the Youth Group Strategy program at the Potton Learning Centre in 2001 because she said she wanted a "good job."

The program helps young people (16-25) get ready for the work force and is run by the Mansonville's Citizen Advocacy group.

Woodard said there were seven students, including her, involved in the program and they learned about gardening and did community work.

"We called ourselves the magnificent seven," she said.

While working in the program she met Jane Patrick, a former teacher and volunteer at the centre at the time. Patrick eventually became Woodard's tutor and they still meet for lessons once a week.

"We meet at 1 p.m. every Monday afternoon," she said, noting that lessons can last from one to four hours.

"She helped me out a lot," Woodard said, adding that Patrick knew how she was feeling.

"People thought it was easy to learn to read on your own," she said. "It isn't easy."

Her favorite books are Franklin the Turtle books which she types out and saves in her computer.

Woodard said she copies the stories so she can read them over again when she brings the books back to the library. The articles she used to read consisted of small words and lots of pictures. "It was just easier to follow," she said.

Patrick is currently helping Woodard



BRION ROBINSON

Donna Woodard wanted a good job some day so she knew she'd have to learn to read. But learning to read brought more than better job prospects.

get through book five in a series of eight books designed to improve her level of reading.

Before learning to read, Woodard worked at manual jobs that required little or no reading.

"I was usually busy raking lawns or shoveling snow," she said, adding that she usually started shoveling at 5 a.m. and finished by noon.

"It was wet and cold work," she added.

Most people had no idea she had difficulty reading. One of the ways she fooled people into thinking she could read was by copying the words from flyers to make a grocery list.

"If anybody asked I just told them I

was checking out the items on special," she said, noting that a woman at a dépanneur just down the street had no idea she couldn't read.

"I did fool a lot of people," she said.

She's not hiding behind flyers anymore and now she wants people to know her story.

Donna's Story, an essay about how reading changed her life, won the 2004 Canada Post Literacy Award for Individual Achievement in 2004 that came with a new computer and a subscription to Maclean's Magazine.

Woodard keeps her magazines in mint condition in plastic folders like hockey cards.

Last September she spent time under the white and red tent Yamaska Literacy Council had at the Brome County Fair to answer any questions people might have about literacy programs. Her essay was on display for people to read.

"If you can't read it's hard," Woodard said while looking down at her magazines. "I know how it is."

Organizations like the Yamaska Literacy Council are taking advantage of Family Literacy Day Thursday, Jan. 27 to encourage reading in the home.

"The longer you wait, the harder it gets," said Wendy Seys, coordinator for the Yamaska Literacy Council. "But it's never too late to learn."

Seys explained that it's important for parents to read to their children at an early age and explain the importance of being literate because it encourages children to learn.

"Reading is the key to anything else you want to do in life," Seys said. "I've heard people who can't read describe life like a prison."

Seys explained that most adults who have had trouble learning to read in the past just didn't have the help and resources.

"Everybody learns at a different level," Seys said. "Some people just need one on one tutoring."

Seys acknowledges that teachers work very hard and that school resources are stretched to the limit but some people just don't get the attention they need.

"Most people who can't read feel like they're the only ones in the world," she said, noting that most people are afraid of being labeled "stupid."

Seys said that reading is a skill like most everything else and it's just something we have to learn.

Anyone interested in contacting the Yamaska Literacy Council can call 1-450-263-7503 or toll free at 1 800 337 7503.

brobinson@sherbrookerecord.com

Read with a child and make a difference

Today is Family Literacy Day...a day to celebrate the family and its role in raising readers.

This year, the Yamaska Literacy Council is sponsoring a writing contest open to students in Cycles 1, 2, 3, and Secondary 1 through 5, as well as to the Council students. Students are invited to write a one-page article about their community: people, places, events or activities (fiction or non-fiction) One grand prize winner will be selected as well as one student in each cycle and one Council student. All submissions received on or before March 31, 2005, will be published in a booklet to be distributed to all entrants.

FAMILY LITERACY FACTS

- Simple things like reading and telling stories to a child at 18 months are powerful stimuli for brain development

in the early years.

- Reading to children more than once a day has a substantial positive impact on their future academic skills. In addition, research indicates children with early exposure to books and reading are better at performing mathematical tasks.

- Children aged 2 to 3 who are read to several times a day do substantially better in kindergarten at the age of 4 and 5 than youngsters who are read to only a few times a week or less.

- According to recent research, parents should pay careful attention to three potential reading slump times that can hinder a child's reading development: when a child enters kindergarten, at grade 4, and when a child enters high school.

- Having a parent or other caring person to read aloud with helps children

learn listening skills, vocabulary and language skills, as well as develop imagination and creativity.

- The time a parent spends reading aloud with his or her children will result in a higher level of attachment, a sense of security, and knowledge by children that their parent feels they are worthwhile people with whom to spend time.

- Some experts say that for 80 per cent of children, simple immersion in reading and books will lead to real, independent reading by school age.

The great thing about Family Literacy Day is that you don't have to participate in a formal event to be a part of this initiative. Family Literacy Day can be celebrated by simply setting aside 15 minutes of family time to read with your children, playing board games like Scrabble, writing a letter or even following a recipe together. Here are some other tips

and activities to assist you in making family literacy a priority in your home:

For more information on literacy, visit www.abc-canada.org

The Yamaska Literacy Council is a non-profit volunteer organization that helps English-speaking adults of Brome-Missisquoi communities improve their literacy, numeracy and life skills. Students are individually paired with trained tutors who volunteer time and expertise. Success is achieved through highly effective EACH ONE TEACH ONE tutoring, a method that is both accessible and meets individual needs.

For more information about family literacy or the Student Writing Contest, contact the Yamaska Literacy Council at 450-263-7503 or toll-free at 1-866-337-7503 or email: yamaskalit@endirect.qc.ca

Stanstead Review

SERVING STANSTEAD AND
ITS BORDER COMMUNITY



ALSO SEE:
Robbie Burns
takes centre
stage
... see Page 10

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2005 PAGE 9

Locals get earful about diabetes



NANCY NOURSE/CORRESPONDENT

Angelique Michaud offers to take the blood sugar level of those attending. Madelaine Curtis takes this subject very seriously.

By Nancy Nourse
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Despite receiving a fair share of useful information, many Stanstead area residents came away from a recent conference at the CAB Rediker Centre on diabetes wanting even more.

In town to inform locals about the disease and their organization's services, Angelique Michaud and Ginette Poulin from the Sherbrooke office of the Quebec Diabetic Association said they were willing to help organize another similar conference at a later date.

In Quebec there are over 600,000 people afflicted with diabetes. Unfortunately, some 200,000 of these people either choose to ignore the symptoms or are unaware that they even have the problem. In the Eastern Townships alone there are over 5,000 living with the illness every day.

"Unfortunately, diabetes is incurable but that is not to say that it is not controllable. Through proper care, better eating habits and a good exercise routine, it does not have to keep you from living a full and happy life," explained Poulin, adding that Diabète Estrie is affiliated with the Quebec Diabetic Association.

Their mission is to inform, promote awareness and educate, to offer services, to help in funding research and to defend the rights of diabetics.

"When someone is first diagnosed with diabetes, it may seem very big to cope with and a lot to learn. This is where our organization comes in," continued Poulin.

SEE INFO, PAGE 12

Family literacy should be celebrated all year long

By Nancy Nourse
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

People of all ages throughout the region have been planning events and new projects to celebrate a special day — Family Literacy Day.

Created by ABC CANADA Literacy Foundation in 1999, Family Literacy Day is a national initiative that promotes the importance of reading and learning together as a family. Every year, on Jan. 27, families and communities across Canada celebrate this special day at literacy-themed events co-ordinated by literacy organizations, schools and libraries.

Among those people are Anne Marie Boushel and Sonny Bechimol of Literacy in Action who have been working on getting the new Stanstead Resource Centre up and running. They are both

currently involved in literacy programs with both Sunnyside Elementary and Ecole Jardin-des-Frontières.

"We have set up a program where even the Pre-K and Kindergarten classes can participate. Each child is encouraged to take home two books per week as a way of promoting not only literacy in schools but also within the family at home," explained Boushel, who has been involved in literacy programs for five years.

"We also go into Grades 3 and 4 and read a variety of books in a storytelling format. Everyone involved seemed to be quite excited about the program. We have had a lot of support from the teachers, too."

SEE READING, PAGE 12

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The most depressing time of the year

Just the other day, I read on the CBC Web site that a professor in Wales has proclaimed Jan. 24 to be the most depressing day of the year.

He even has a formula to prove it: $1/8W+(D-d)3/8xTQ MxNA$.

Where:

W: Weather

D: Debt

d: Money due in January pay

T: Time since Christmas

Q: Time since failed quit attempt

M: General motivational levels

NA: The need to take action"

Maybe you are a math type and find comfort in this equation but the formula made me glaze over. Formulas always bring out the duh-factor in me even if it's supposed to be funny.

The gist of his conclusion is that lack of light, bad weather, paying off the Christmas debt and broken New Year's resolutions have a way of depressing us to death. Moreover, this academic is not struggling through a Canadian winter — and he thinks that he knows what de-

pressing is?

Nonetheless, I agree completely. February, March and November used to be my three least favourite months of the year but that was a long time ago. January is the month that I call the dark night of the soul. It is the hands-down winner in being the very worst month of the year.

The days may be getting longer but it's pretty hard to notice. At least, February and March have markedly longer days as well as the potential for thaws in which you can smell the slightest wisp of spring in the air. When it thaws in January — as it has already — you know that you are still in for a very, very deep freeze where the front driveway will become a skating rink and one of your two legs is in real danger of finding itself plastered up in a cast.

Last week was just too darned cold. My husband came down with the flu

SOMEBODY'S MOTHER



ELLEN
GOLDFINCH

and dog walking became my sole responsibility. Sub-zero temperatures in Fahrenheit show what a pathetic feminist I am. When in good health, my long-suffering husband will take one look at my pained face as I stare at the thermometer and he will say, "I'll walk the dogs." I thank him profusely and huddle by the fire. What a guy!

There was no such respite for me last week because I was the one with the foresight to get a flu shot back in October. On went the long underwear, the pants and then the ski pants. On went the two pairs of socks, a toque with a wool tube hat over it and the warm mitts. On went the big winter jacket. Then off went the mitts because I couldn't get the leashes on while wearing the mitts. It's an easy thing to forget.

I emerged from my home looking like a cross between the Michelin Man

and an astronaut but I was warm and protected from the blistering cold winds. The only problem was that once I was in the woods, I had to walk up a fairly steep hill. I was carrying a fair bit of extra weight with all those layers.

While my dogs scampered merrily around the woods like happy puppies out of a Disney film, I dragged my many layers up the hill with a kind of robotic drag that would never be called feminine or alluring.

By the way, this was at 6:30 in the morning before sunrise. Depressing? You bet. I know that I wouldn't be this depressed with an umbrella practicing my pronunciation of the names of quaint Welsh towns.

There was once a beach with my name on it somewhere in the Caribbean but the waves erased my name long ago. Oh well, spring is a month closer than it was at Christmas. It won't be long now. Please tell me that it won't be long now!

ELLEN GOLDFINCH MAY BE REACHED AT RADIOMOTHER@HOTMAIL.COM

Stanstead celebrates Robbie Burns

By Nancy Nourse

RECORD CORRESPONDENT

The Haskell Library was the setting this past weekend for a tribute to Robbie Burns, one of Scotland's finest writer/poets.

This celebration is usually held on the closest Saturday to his birth date which was Jan. 25 (1759). In addition to writing both English and Scottish poetry, Burns also gave us such well-known tunes as 'Auld Lang Syne' and 'My Love's Like a Red, Red Rose.'

Filling the Reading Room and the adjacent hallway at the Haskell to capacity, those attending were not only treated to the customary tunes on the Scottish bagpipes by accomplished piper Eric Thornloe, but by the dancing of 12-year-old Caroline Marie Lowry and Naomi Scott as well.

The 22-year-old Scott has been dancing and competing since she was quite young. She is planning a trip to Europe next year to visit Ireland and Scotland.

Prior to the musical performances, Kim Prangley, the Haskell's director and head librarian, explained that Highland sword dance was regarded as a victory dance, done either before or after battle.

Lowry was obviously aware of the superstition that touching swords brings ill fortune as she nimbly danced around the sword blades, avoiding them with ease.

Scott, who teaches Scottish dance, presented a jig and a hornpipe which is referred to as a 'character dance' — traditionally performed by sailors.

American Burt Porter was on hand to give the audience a taste of his favourite songs on the fiddle.

Another addition to this year's tribute was a performance by Chris McCloud Kazowski whose golden tones and knowledge of the Gaelic language delighted everyone. McCloud is well-known in the border area through her work as a United Church minister. She is currently living in Vermont with her husband and two young children.

The guest speaker for the event was Alistair Patton, a filmmaker and writer from Montreal who has a



NANCY NOURSE CORRESPONDENT

summer home in Georgeville.

Prangley and assistant Nancy Rumery had door prizes for young and old, each one having a Scottish connection. A children's story was read, which brought a chuckle from the adults as well, and some participated in a game on the meaning of various Scottish terms.

And what would a Scottish celebration be without the haggis, a Scottish dish made from a variety of ingredients — sheep's heart, liver, windpipe and lungs combined with suet, onions, oatmeal and powdered herbs, stuffed into 'a sheep's bag' and served warm.



NANCY NOURSE CORRESPONDENT

Top, right: Piper Eric Thornloe holds the haggis as it receives a proper blessing from Alistair Patton, guest speaker for the event. Top, left: Burt Porter was on hand with his fiddle.

Prangley said the haggis had been carefully made and shipped from Muir's Bakery in Ontario (run by the same family who owned a bakery in Rock Island for many years). Patton was also given the honour of blessing the haggis.

Stanstead
REVIEW

QNEK holds auditions for its 12th season



NANCY NOURSE/CORRESPONDENT

Lynn Leimer, artistic director and founder of QNEK Productions, posing with one of the props from last season's *Jesterfest*.

By Nancy Nourse
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

QNEK founder Lynn Leimer couldn't have been happier with the large number of people who showed up at the Haskell Library last Sunday to audition for parts in the upcoming season.

QNEK Productions is the resident theatre company of the Haskell Opera House. The Theme for this year's program is "A la Carte — a menu of theatrical delights to whet the most discriminating appetite."

"Auditions have been unbelievable. There were over 50 people who came to try out — both Canadian and American, aged from 8 to 81. There were many of the usual actors but it was also great to see so many new faces as well," explained Leimer, who also acts as the company's artistic director.

"The Theme this year centres around food a la carte with productions such as *A Bad Year for Tomatoes* — a roaring, fast-paced comedy written by Ken Ludwig — *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Don't Dress for Dinner*."

The company will also be doing *Memoires* which evolves around the lives of seven women, done in reading theatre style, with music.

"We are also glad to be able to present once again *Mezzo Madness* which is a two-women play," added Leimer.

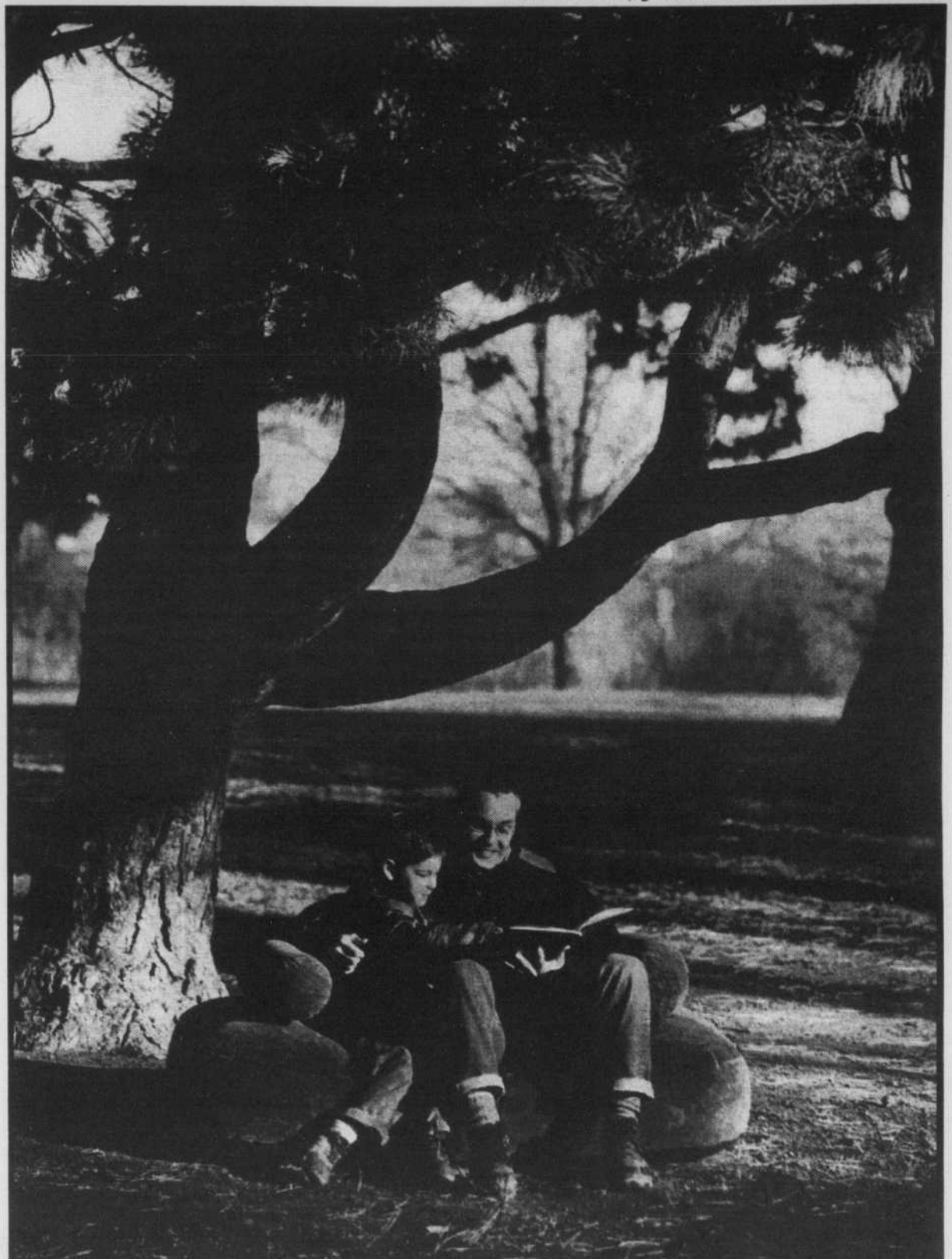
Leimer is especially happy that *Memoires* will include a performance by her mother, Condelia, a well-known stage actress.

Each year, QNEK produces a children's theatrical performance as well. This is a project near and dear to Leimer's heart. Each summer, The Academy for Children in Theatre holds a summer camp for aspiring actors, aged 9 to 13, at the Haskell Library. During the week-long camp, the young people not only work on their theatrical skills but also learn what it takes to put on a production. This year's closing presentation will be *Hansel & Gretel*, on July 20.

Susan Lynn John will be co-directing once again.

The season will also include a raffle of prizes in keeping with the theme of QNEK's 12th season — a basket of gourmet treats and the QNEK Just Desserts Cookbook which is filled with recipes from the cast and crew of this season.

The first production, *A Bad Year for Tomatoes*, is scheduled for April 29-30, May 6-7 with a matinee on May 1.



Learning can happen anywhere.

On January 27, celebrate Family Literacy Day in your community!

Set aside family time to read with your children. Help them become good readers and good learners. For family literacy tips, activities and event information, visit www.fld-jaf.ca.



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THE
RECORD

Wagons enjoy a luxurious renaissance.

By Angela Forgeron
For CanWest News Service

TORONTO - A few years ago, at the height of the sport-utility vehicle craze, wagons (of the station variety) were long forgotten. Hulking SUVs appealed to those who turned up their noses at minivans (the other family mover), and wagons were altogether squeezed out of the mix.

But that's quickly changing.

Wagons are enjoying a renaissance - a luxurious one at that. BMW makes them. So do Mercedes, Audi, Jaguar, and Volvo. Wagons, once in every U.S. automakers' stables, now make their niche in the exclusive entry-level

exhilarating.

Gear changes in the manual XT are by way of a five-speed transmission. Subaru says it used Computer-Aided Design (CAD) technology to decrease the overall weight of the tranny while increasing shift feel, rigidity and responsiveness. The result works - the system is nimble, throws are short and the gears quickly find the proper place when nudged.

Agility is also top drawer for the Outback XT. There is always a natural instinct to watch the rear-view mirror in stop-and-go traffic. You know the scenario: Highway traffic is moving along just fine around 80 kilometres an hour when, suddenly, it comes to a stop

all four tires, the system makes for better traction and provides better stability when cornering.

While this urban driver hit the country during test week - road tripping more than 100 kilometres outside city limits - there were no off-highway mud baths or fallen timber to traverse. But I wouldn't be nervous taking this wagon off mainstream routes. Of the SUVs and Subarus I see roaming the city, it's the latter that are often splattered in dust and dirt, a true testament to the brand's go-anywhere toughness.

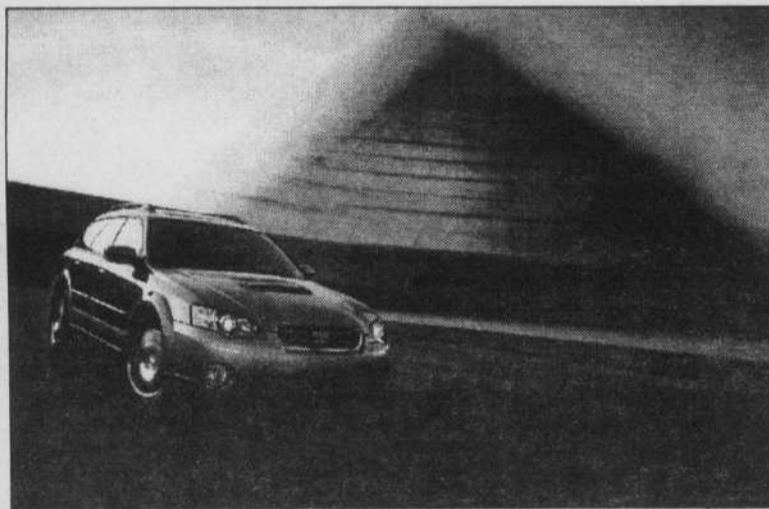
Outside, the body's redesign still looks rugged - hawk-eye headlamps, flared wheel arches, plastic cladding on the lower part of the car to protect it during romps in the woods, and the sporty XT's functional hood scoop. The XT (and other top-line Outbacks) also have integrated side-mirror LED turn signals.

From behind the wheel, driver and riders sit higher than in a sedan, though entry is low - one steps across and in rather than up as in an SUV. The wagon displays the characteristics of a sedan: It feels shorter than its actual length and scoots in and out of parking spaces with ease.

Titanium-look material makes up the Y-shaped centre stack where climate and audio controls are close at hand. A trip computer, standard in Outbacks, tracks numbers such as the time since leaving home and fuel economy. Electro-luminescent sporty gauges perform a full sweep on startup, and they glow white on black with red needles. The half moon that makes up the binnacle for the tachometer, speedo, temperature and fuel gauges is framed perfectly by the steering wheel.

One of the great advantages of Subaru is that the vehicles come fully stocked. There's not much to add when a twin-panel, power glass sunroof (that reaches from the front seat to the rear), six-disc CD changer, dual-zone climate control with air conditioning, cruise control, power-adjustable and heated front seats and mirrors are all standard equipment (the 3.0R adds the coveted steering wheel-mounted controls). Black perforated leather drapes the seats of the \$42,895 Outback XT.

There is also room to grow: From the back seat, a height-endowed 6-foot-4 passenger fit comfortably behind a petite front-seat rider. Often, the taller of the two's head sweeps the ceiling and his knees jut up around his chest in most mid-sized cars, but even in the wagon's back seat there is room to spare.



Subaru's completely redesigned and re-engineered 2005 Outback voids every wagon stereotype. It's compact in size, sits tall, can wander off-road, and has a lot of power.

luxury and high-end segments. As for the nouveau crossover vehicles, they're slimming down, going faster and becoming more refined.

Subaru's completely redesigned and re-engineered 2005 Outback - in this case the 2.5 XT - voids every wagon stereotype. It's compact in size, though it still fits a ton of people and gear. It sits tall. It can wander off-road. It doesn't sport any wood panelling - outside or in. And it goes like a greyhound (the four-legged variety rather than the bus company).

Pull out of a parking lot or gun it through an intersection at full throttle and the turbocharged 2.5-litre, four-cylinder boxer engine gets riled up to the tune of a police siren. The instant burst of power - 250 h.p. and an equal amount of torque produced at a mere 3,500 revs per minute - comes with the same cry as a cop cruiser in pursuit. It's a bit startling at first, but it quickly becomes both familiar and

like a brick wall. The halt usually catches a few BMW-driving, cellphone chatting drivers off guard. In such a situation, the nimble XT quickly reacts and scoots out of the way into a nearby empty lane in time to miss the butt crunch.

Otherwise, highway driving is smooth, steady and often speedy. The Outback XT's abundant torque means you need to keep your eyes on the speedometer - it likes to sneakily kick it up a notch or two, even with just a toe tap.

A completely new chassis and body structure set the foundation for the Outback. Four-wheel disc brakes with ABS and electronic brake-force distribution are standard goods, and they stop the Outback in its tracks. Adding to its confidence is the symmetrical full-time all-wheel drive system, which is used across the board in Subaru's lineup. By transmitting power through

Stanstead REVIEW

INFO:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 9

"Our staff is well-informed not only about new products but also on new ways that you can access help from the government. There are many plans out there but few are aware of them. It is our job to make people aware that they do not have to do this on their own. There is a toll-free line that exists to help answer your questions or to refer you to the person or organism that will be able to help you. We also sponsor courses on diabetes, that are constantly updated, that have proven very effective."

The speakers also explained the differences between Type I and Type II diabetes and Hyperglycemia and Hypo-glycemia. Type I diabetes is insulin dependent - the body is almost totally insulin insufficient and is found especially in young adults and children. Type II is non-insulin dependent meaning the body either produces an insufficient amount of insulin or has built up a resistance to the insulin naturally produced by the body.

When the glucose level in your body becomes too low, this is called hypoglycemia. Symptoms associated with this form of diabetes are change in character, trembling, paleness, perspiration, dizziness, headache, blurry vision, extreme fatigue and hunger. While one or more of these symptoms may not seem worth a trip to the doctor, if you experience multiple problems such as these, it would be wise to make an appointment to see your family doctor, according to Poulin.

Hyperglycemia is when you have too much glucose in your system. Symptoms to watch out for are extreme tiredness, dry mouth, extreme thirst, drowsiness and the frequent urge to urinate, especially at night. Some of the more general symptoms of diabetes are slow to heal cuts and other injuries, dry skin, tingling sensation in the fingers and toes, mood swings and nausea and vomiting. A simple blood test can confirm the presence of diabetes in people suffering from these symptoms.

The next conference planned by CAB Rediker will be held on Feb. 22. It is entitled 'Demystifying Alzheimers.' For further information, contact the CAB Rediker Center at 819-876-5611.

READING:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 9

The new Resource Centre, which shares space with Youth in Action at the former Catholic Church Presbytery on Notre Dame, also has programs for children between the ages of 8 and 17 - a homework club after school and drop-in family time from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Fridays.

Access to a satellite library has been established with the co-operation of the Haskell Library. The Centre has resource material not only surrounding literacy but also family living.

Boushel is also excited about a new project that offers regular reading sessions. The first book on tap is Silver Wing by Kenneth Oppel, an award-winning Canadian author. The activity will take place on Tuesday evenings, from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. starting March 1.

It is open to families as well as individuals. Admission is free but advance registration would be appreciated to give organizers a chance to set things into action. Refreshments will also be served.

Boushel will be doing some of the reading herself but is also lining up guest readers from the community. She is always looking for men and women who have a special talent for reading and making a story interesting to listeners.

Those working with Literacy in Action throughout the Eastern Townships are actively dedicated to improving the local literacy situation. According to statistics, 22 per cent of adult Canadians having serious problems with printed materials.

In Quebec, 28 per cent of the population reads below a Grade 6 ability, 26 per cent read below a Grade 8 level, 39 per cent read below a Grade 10 average while 8 per cent read at a Grade 12 ability and up.

For more information on Literacy in Action and its programs in the Stanstead area, contact 819-346-7009.

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THE RECORD Sports



INSIDE
American
Andy Roddick
is headed to the
Australian Open
semi-final
... see Page 14

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2005 PAGE 13

Football and hockey making noise

As we approach the first weekend in over six months without a live football game (if you count the Canadian Football League and we do), there appears to be a lot of action off the playing fields.

The National Football League is taking the week off so it can further hype the most over-hyped sporting event in the world – the Super Bowl – while the National Hockey League is in need for some direction.



MIKE HICKEY
FROM THE BLEACHERS

The two competing teams in Super Bowl XXXIX, the Philadelphia Eagles and defending Super Bowl champion New

England Patriots, left for Jacksonville Tuesday accompanied by over 1,000 media types looking for an exclusive story or unknown angle to next Sunday's championship match. From now until kickoff, observers will hear stories ad nauseam about Terrell Owens' injured ankle, the genius of Bob Belichick, and numerous tales about the keys to the game.

I make it a point to spend as little time as possible reading stories and watching interviews that do not directly relate to the game. However, I find Owens and Belichick interesting for totally different reasons.

Owens is a superb athlete who overestimates his value to society as a whole and the Eagles in particular. He was a force to be reckoned with during the regular season but Philadelphia has proven it can win big games with Owens on the sidelines. The All-Pro receiver will be in the news from now until game time as doctors and pundits ponder the extent of his ankle injury.

Owens saw his doctor Tuesday, one day after telling reporters he would play in the Super Bowl.

Dr. Mark Myerson saw things a little differently. Myerson said that while he was pleased with Owens' progress, he maintained that the surgery requires a recovery period of eight to 10 weeks. Any attempt to accelerate the rehabilitation process would pose a risk of re-injuring the ankle.

Myerson inserted two screws in Owens' right ankle and a plate on the outside of the ankle three days after he was injured against Dallas on Dec. 19. By not clearing Owens to play, Myerson is absolving himself of any blame should Owens go against his wishes and re-injure the ankle.

Regardless, Owens said he plans to be in uniform for the Eagles in Jacksonville. The final decision will be made by the Eagles' doctors and training staff.

Owens was expected to test his injured ankle on the field this week and could try running as early as today.

He was told after surgery that he had only an outside chance of returning for the Super Bowl, which was 6 1/2 weeks away at the time. He rehabbed vigorously and in -

sisted he's going to play.

Owens is a wonderful athlete but I lose interest when he, or anyone else for that matter, resorts to talking about himself in the third person. Whether he dresses or not, the Eagles are going to have a hard time beating the New England Patriots – and their head coach Bill Belichick.

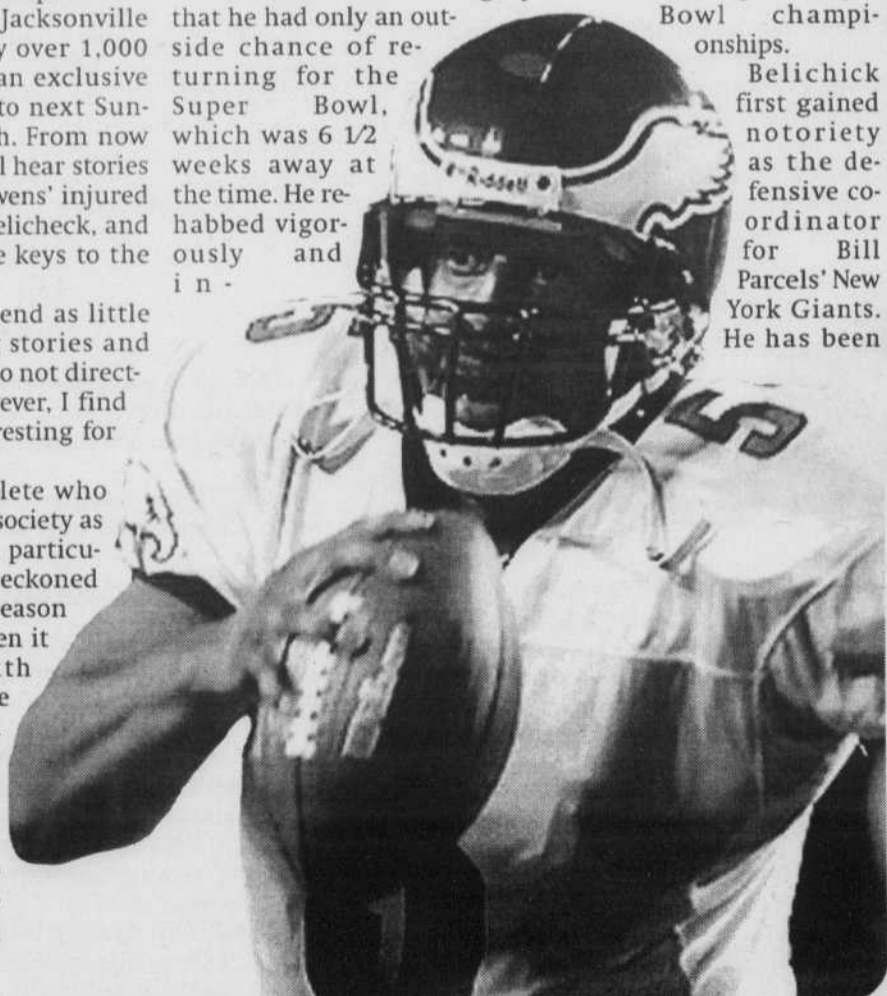
In the last couple of weeks, Belichick has been described by many as the greatest coach in the game today and the difference every time the New England Patriots take the field in the post season. His playoff record is an incredible 9-1, including two Super Bowl championships.

Belichick first gained notoriety as the defensive coordinator for Bill Parcells' New York Giants. He has been

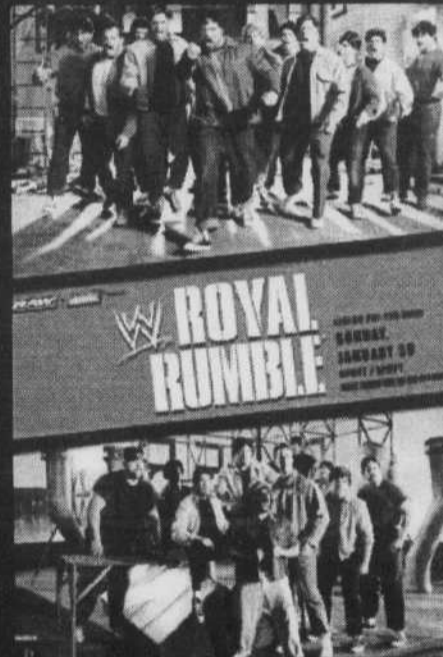
lauded for his game plans and defensive schemes but just as important is his ability to have his players sacrifice their own individual agendas for team goals.

This season that ability was needed when two All-Pro defensive players were placed on the injured reserve list in mid-season. Yet the Patriots continued to

SEE HYPE, PAGE 14



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SPORTS COMMENT

HYPE:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 13

win in impressive fashion and are headed for their third Super Bowl title in four years.

It is worth noting that Belichick hasn't always been a genius. His first head coaching position, with the Cleveland Browns from 1991-95, was not very successful. In five years he reached the playoffs just once and finished with a combined 36-45 mark including a 0-1 record in the post season. His best season came in 1994 when the Browns were 11-5 but an early playoff exit followed by a 5-11 season the following year cost Belichick his job.

He was tabbed as a great defensive co-ordinator who couldn't handle a head coaching job and the label remained after the 2000 season when he returned to the head coaching ranks with the New England Patriots. That year the Pats were a woeful 5-11 but the New England brass stuck by their man and now they have the best football organization in the world.

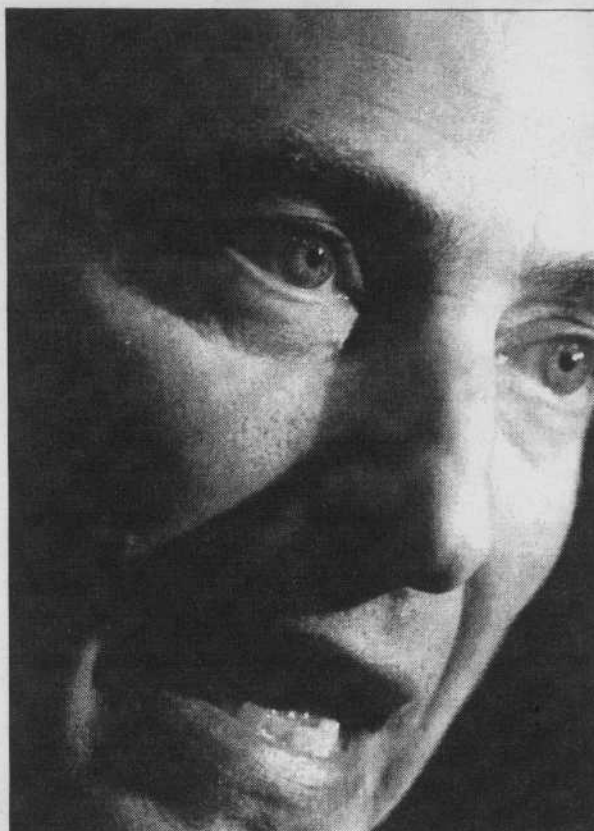
There is a lesson here for fans and owners that patience is often its own reward. Too often we jump all over players and coaches who need to be molded into a championship unit. If the Browns had a little more patience in 1995 they might be in Jacksonville this week instead of New England.

NHL TALKS RESUME

Another round of hockey negotiations began in earnest this week but without Commissioner Gary Bettman, union chief Bob Goodenow or a new proposal from either side.

"I think the setup of these meetings is what's important in terms of the small-group dynamic, the open discussion and dialogue," NHL chief legal officer Bill Daly told a news service prior to the meetings. "It's less formal or structured than the meetings we've had in the past, and I think that's helpful to the process."

Just like last week, when talks were held for two days, discussions will continue in three-man groups and without Bettman and Goodenow. The hope is that an open dialogue will help generate



CANWEST FILE PHOTO

Is NHL commissioner Gary Bettman out of the loop?

ideas better than working on a formal proposal.

It was Vancouver centre Trevor Linden who came up with the idea last week to talk in smaller groups. While the set-up was apparently successful in generating ideas and discussion, it did little to close the gap in the so-called "philosophical differences" over such issues as salary cap and luxury tax.

It is still doubtful that the 2004-05 season can be saved but if that is the case how about getting a deal for 2005-06 done now rather than later.

The one positive thing about the recent proceedings has been the emergence of Linden as a leader and a voice of reason. Both sides could you use more people with Linden's courage, integrity and foresight.

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JAY PEAK (VERMONT)

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 3
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 38
Open Trails: 64/76
Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MONT BELLEVUE

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 5
Open Trails: 6/6
Lift Hours: 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

THE BALSAMS (NEW HAMPSHIRE)

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 5
Open Trails: 11/16 Lifts: 3/3
Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MONT ORFORD

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 17
Open Trails: 49/56
Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MONTJOYE

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 11
Open Trails: 13/27
Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.

OWL'S HEAD

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 15
Open Trails: 31/44
Lift Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

BURKE (VERMONT)

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 5
Open Trails: 24/43
Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

SKI BROMONT

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 3
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 13
Open Trails: 35/56
Lift Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.

SUTTON

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 2
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 23
Open Trails: 35/53
Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

SPORTS NOTEBOOK

Alpine Canada names Worlds team

World Cup medallists Geneviève Simard, Allison Forsyth, Emily Brydon, Thomas Grandi, and Erik Guay are set to lead a team of the 18 best Canadian Alpine Ski Team racers to Bormio, Italy, for the 2005 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, Alpine Canada Alpin Chief Athletic Officer Max Gartner announced Wednesday.

Seven women and eleven men were named to compete in the World Championships that begin with opening ceremonies on Friday and run until Feb. 13.

"We've got a great blend of experience, consistency and enthusiasm in this young team," said Ken Read, president of Alpine Canada Alpin. "Our veteran racers have had a consistent season claiming podiums and top 10 finishes on the World Cup circuit."

Alpine Canada Alpin 2010 Strategic Plan of Excellence has set a stretch goal of attaining two podium results and finishing ranked in the top five nations in the world at the upcoming World Championships.

The FIS Alpine World Ski Championships are held every two years and bring together the best athletes from every snow-sport nation. Canada is gaining momentum across all disciplines and will have strong athletes competing in all disciplines including the new Team event which combines super-G and slalom and will be held for the first time ever at these World Championships.

Roddick, Hewitt set up for semis

Former world No. 1s Andy Roddick and Lleyton Hewitt will square off in the semifinals after both posted quarter-final victories Wednesday at the 2005 Australian Open. The top four men's seeds all reached the semis at the year's first Grand Slam event. The second-seeded Roddick was leading 26th-seeded Nikolay Davydenko 6-3, 7-5, 4-1 when the Russian retired in the third set, complaining of breathing problems on yet another hot day in Melbourne. The capable Davydenko hadn't dropped a set at this '05 fortnight until Wednesday. Roddick, now a three-time Aussie Open semifinalist, improved to 4-0 lifetime against Davydenko, who also suffered breathing problems in his fourth-round match two days ago.

On TV

THURSDAY

- **TENNIS: 1 p.m.;** 2005 Australian Open, women's semi-finals, TSN.
- **GOLF: 4 p.m.;** Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, second round, TSN.
- **BASKETBALL: 8:30 p.m.;** National Basketball Association, Charlotte Bobcats at Chicago Bulls, Sportsnet.

Around Town

To submit your sporting event, fax it to 819-569-3945, e-mail newsroom@sherbrooke-record.com or contact Mike Hickey at 819-569-6345.

UPCOMING

- **WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY VOLLEYBALL: Friday,** Laval Rouge et Or at Sherbrooke Vert & Or, University of Sherbrooke, 6 p.m. **Saturday,** McGill Martlets at Sherbrooke Vert & Or, University of Sherbrooke, 1 p.m.
- **MEN'S UNIVERSITY VOLLEYBALL: Friday,** Laval Rouge et Or at Sherbrooke Vert & Or, University of Sherbrooke, 8 p.m. **Sunday,** McGill Redmen at Sherbrooke Vert & Or, University of Sherbrooke, 3 p.m.

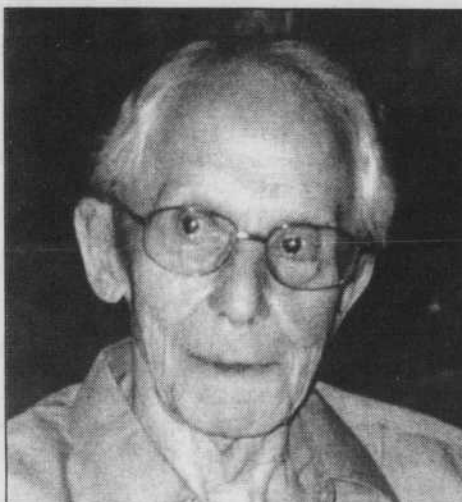
Deaths

Death

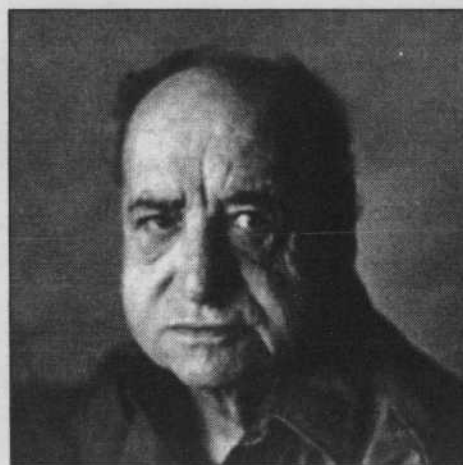
Deaths

Death

BARTER, Ellen - Peacefully at the CHUS Hotel Dieu Hospital, Sherbrooke, Que., with her family by her side, on Monday, January 24th, 2005 in her 78th year. Ellen Jespersen, beloved wife and soul-mate of Elmore Barter, cherished mother of Barb (Murray Ward), Lloyd (Buzz) (Karen Holder), Steve (Sue Kirby); loving gram to Paula Ward (Troy Bean), Sandy Ward (Murray Sutor), Andrew Ward (Angela Nutbrown), Jared, Tristan and Tara Barter, Joshawa and Jesse-Sue Barter; special great-gramma to Chad and Cody Bean and predeceased by her great-granddaughter Arianna Ward. The family will receive condolences from family and friends at the Cass Funeral Home, 554 Main St., Bury, Que., on Thursday, January 27th from 2 to 4 p.m. A private interment was held in the Bury Protestant Cemetery. As memorial tributes, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society, 3330 rue King W. office 130, Sherbrooke, Que., J1L 1C9 or to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Quebec, 2630 King W. office 150, Sherbrooke, Que., J1J 2H1 would greatly be appreciated by the family. 564-1750 www.casshomes.ca



BOISVERT, Louis 1916-2005 - Peacefully at Foyer Sutton, on Tuesday, January 18th, 2005, Louis Boisvert in his 89th year, he leaves to mourn his companion of 54 years, Arlene Royea, his sisters: Mariette Couture, Françoise Martel, many nieces, nephews, and dear friends. Family and friends will be welcome at the St-André Catholic Church in Sutton on Saturday, January 29th, 2005 from 10:30 a.m., the service will be held at 11 a.m., followed by a reception at Chez Camile. Interment of ashes at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory to Foyer Sutton Volunteer Committee at 50 Western, Sutton, Que., JOE 2K0, would be appreciated. The family wishes to thank the Staff at the Foyer Sutton for the wonderful care given to Mr. Boisvert. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the Désourdy Wilson Funeral Home, 31 Principale Sud, Sutton, Que., JOE 2K0, tel.: (450) 263-1212, fax: (450) 263-9557, email: info@desourdywilson.com Dignity Memorial.



HARTWELL, Willis (Kelly) - Peacefully at the Maison Aube-Lumiere on Wednesday, January 26th, 2005 in his 87th year. Willis (Kelly) Hartwell, beloved husband of the late Muriel Kingdon, dear father of Wesley and Walter (Barbara Drew), cherished grandfather of Kristian (Robert) and Shawn. Kelly is survived by his brothers Chester and Bill (Donna) and his sister Meryl (the late Stuart Nutbrown), also several nieces and nephews. Resting at the Cass Funeral Home, 6 Belvidere St., Lennoxville, Que., where friends and family may visit on Friday, January 28th, 2005 from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. and on Saturday, January 29th, 2005 from 1 to 2 p.m., followed by the funeral service at 2:00 p.m. Rev. John Vaudry officiating. Spring interment in the Reedsville Cemetery, North Hatley, Que. As memorial tributes, donations to the Maison Aube-Lumiere, 220 Kennedy N. Sherbrooke, Que., J1E 2E7 would greatly be appreciated by the family.



MacAULAY, Gordon Duncan Ernest - Gordon MacAulay of Bishopton, Que., passed away peacefully at the CHU Fleurimont on January 25, 2005 at the age of 80 years. Beloved husband of Myrna Hughes, dear father of Merrilee. Son of the late Florence Fraser and Ernest D. MacAulay. Survived by sisters Dorothy Taylor and Marion (Gerald) Peck, all of Sherbrooke, Que. Fondly remembered by his niece and nephews, Penny and Malcolm Taylor; Gregory, Brian, and Calvin Peck and their families. Sadly missed by many friends. Resting at Steve Elkas Funeral Homes, 601 Conseil St., Sherbrooke, Que., J1G 1K4. Tel.: 819-565-1155, fax: 819-820-8872, email stevel.elkas@videotron.ca Visitation will be held on Friday, January 28th from 2-4 p.m. and from 7-9 p.m. Funeral service at Bishopton United Church on Saturday, January 29th at 2:00 p.m. and with Rev. Barb Willard officiating. Interment following the service at Lakeside Cemetery in Bishopton. Please Note: There will be no visitation on the day of the funeral. As a tribute to his memory donations to Lakeside Cemetery Company, P.O. 168, 92 Main St., Bishopton, Que., JOB 1G0 or to the Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated.

BEAUDOIN, Shirley (nee Pope) - Peacefully at home in the presence of her loving family, Wednesday, January 26, 2005, in her 65th year. Beloved wife of Gabriel Beaudoin. Cherished mother of Robin (Arthur McKelvey) and Holly (Denis Perreault). Loving grandmother of Brad (Jessica), Sabrina (Guy), Tya, Spencer (Kim), Justin, Ian, and Katrina. Shirley will also be very sadly missed by her five great-grandchildren, sisters Lois (Richard Dunbar), and Gwen (Dale Stevens), brother Willard (Tanya Gustin), many brothers and sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Predeceased by her former husband Turner Hunter and her parents Weyland and Alyce Pope. There will be visitation at the Cass Funeral Home, 900 Clough, Ayer's Cliff (819-876-5213) Friday, January 28, from 2:00 to 4:00 and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., where family and friends may come to visit. The service will be held in the funeral home Saturday, January 29 at 11:00 a.m. Spring interment in Barnston Cemetery. As a tribute to her memory, donations to the Centre de Sante de la MRC de Coaticook, 138 Jeanne-Mance, Coaticook, Que., J1A 1W3 would be greatly appreciated by the family.

In Memoriam

NUGENT, Murray - In loving memory of our beloved husband, father and grandfather who passed away January 27, 1993.

Never more than a thought away
Quietly remembered every day,
No longer in our lives to share
But in our hearts you are always there.

JOY
AND FAMILY

Sawyerville

Jean Evans

Hank and Jean Evans accompanied Conan, Wanda, Elizabeth and Evan Moore to Manchester, N.H., Barbara Blair drove, Glenna, Hope and Trudy. We attended the funeral service for Harrison, our dear brother, brother-in-law and uncle. We left on Friday and all spent the night at the Holiday Inn. The service was on Saturday at 11 a.m. After the service we went to Bev's home for lunch and visiting. it was great to see all our

nieces, nephews and cousins. Those from afar and those in the area - Nancy and Russ from Florida, Tony from Texas, Andy from the Coast Guard in Alabama, Karen from Oregon. Jeff had been there from Germany but had to leave to go back on Saturday morning. It was nice to see everyone but too bad it had to be at such a sad time.

Hank and Jean spent Christmas in Kana-ta with the Moore's.

HODGSON, Betty Starr (nee Manson) 1918-2005 - Passed away peacefully on January 24, 2005 at the Brome Missisquoi Perkins Hospital, Cowansville, Qc in her 87th year. Beloved wife of the late Francis Harold Hodgson, loving mother of Kathryn Jill (Marcel Heyligen). Cherished grandmother of Timothy, Jennifer and Melissa. She also leaves to mourn her sister Nora and predeceased by other sister Audrey, both from the Halifax area. She will be missed by several nieces and nephews and their children. Betty graduated from the Toronto Conservatory of Music and passed on her love of music to many students in Toronto, Montreal and Bedford. The family will receive condolences at the Wesley United Church, 51 River Street, Bedford, Que., Saturday January 29th at 1:30 p.m., followed by a funeral service at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donation to the Brome Missisquoi Perkins Hospital Foundation, where she received loving care, would be appreciated. Funeral arrangements entrusted to: Joseph Dion & Fils Ltee, Bedford, Que. Tél (450) 248-2911.

In Memoriam

PAIGE, Franklin - In cherished memory of a dear husband, father, grandfather and great-grampy who passed away January 27, 1996.

In life we loved you dearly,
In death we love you still.

Sadly missed and always lovingly remembered.

HELEN, FAMILY
GRANDCHILDREN and
GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

**NORTH HATLEY**

Waterville-Hatley-North Hatley United Church Pastoral Charge: A Joint Service of worship will be held on January 30th at North Hatley United Church at 11 a.m.

LENNOXVILLE

Lennoxville United Church, corner of Queen and Church Street: Anniversary Sunday worship and Sunday School on January 30 at 10:00 a.m. followed by refreshments. Rev. James Potter, (819) 565-8449.

NOTICE

Please note that as of February 1, 2005,

the cost for advertising in the Townships Crier will be \$7.00 for 1 time, \$10.00 for 2nd insertion or \$13.00 for 3 insertions of same notice.

LENNOXVILLE

Military Whist Fundraiser for Men's Renovation at the A.N.A.F. Hut, 300 St. Francis, Lennoxville, on Saturday, January 29 at 2 p.m. To reserve a table call: Emily: (819) 562-8683 or Helen: 569-3598. Lunch and door prizes. Everyone welcome.

LENNOXVILLE

St. George's Church Hall, 500 card party on Friday, February 4 at 2 p.m. Prizes and lunch. Everyone welcome. Sponsored by the afternoon A.C.W.

LENNOXVILLE

St. George's Church Hall - Valentine Tea with mini Food and Craft Sale on Saturday, February 12 from 2 p.m. to 4:30

p.m. Fun and prizes. Sponsored by the Parish Guild. Everyone welcome.

LENNOXVILLE

St. George's Church Hall - Tuesday, February 8th, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper from 4:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. Everyone welcome to come and enjoy Pancakes, maple syrup, sausages, baked beans and the friendly atmosphere! Sponsored by the Parish Guild.

LENNOXVILLE

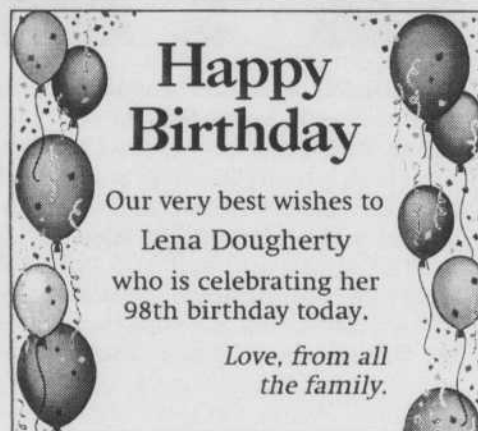
The Lennoxville Girl Guides will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast to benefit the girls who are going on a 10 day trip to Ontario this summer. It will be held on Saturday, January 29 from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at St. George's Anglican Church Hall, 84 Queen St., Lennoxville. Admission will be charged. Everyone welcome!

SHERBROOKE

This year's community-wide celebration of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity takes place in Saint-Esprit Church, 2290 Galt West, Sunday, January 30 at 2 p.m. Refreshments and fellowship after the service.

• • •

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

**Huntingville
Alice Price**

Leona Raymond and friend Roger of N.H. spent Christmas with Freeda Raymond.

Sympathy goes out to the Chute family in the death of their husband, father, and brother-in-law, Douglas Chute.

Best wishes for 2005 and please phone me with your news.



Twelve members braved the elements to attend the meeting on December 8 which was held at Foyer St. Joseph. Many brought gifts and other items

which will be delivered to l'Escale, the women's shelter. Some Parishioners of St. Patrick's Parish also donated items for this cause.

President, Monica Galvin, welcomed those present and prayers were said for the sick and deceased. The minutes of the previous meeting were unavailable. The financial and correspondence reports were given by Teresa Quenec'hdu and Mary Jackson. A donation will be made to Development and Peace. Fair Trade coffee is available from Monica Galvin.

Beverly Gingues read a selection fitting for the feast of the Immaculate

Conception and a story of a Christmas play, which, thanks to the ingenuity of a young child, gave the message that "Christ was Love".

Committee reports were short due to the absence of some Chairpersons. Members were reminded that dues are payable on January 1, 2005 and that the end of the year signals the time for annual reports. Efforts will be made to recruit new members since 4 members were called to their reward in 2004 and one moved to British Columbia.

The shortened meeting was then adjourned and a special time was spent celebrating Owenie McKeon's 100th Birthday. Other guests arriving for this feast were Father Doyon, Pastor of St. Patrick's Parish and League Spiritual Advisor, Frank MacGregor, Choir Director at St. Patrick's Church where Owenie had been a very faithful member for many years, and Gerry Bourdreau,

friend of Owenie. Maura McKeon, cousin and godchild of Owenie, and her husband, Robert Wilkins, arrived from Montreal. Robert offered a very fitting tribute to Owenie citing the remarkable work she had done during her active lifetime and the vision that she always projected. Helen Fitzgerald spoke a few words on behalf of the Catholic Women's League. Sandwiches, cake and fellowship followed. Hostesses were Sarah Corrigan, Patricia Dupuis, Ghislaine Sutor, Priscilla Noonan, Stella Mayhew, Monica Galvin and Maura McKeon.

At 4 p.m., members and friends gathered in the Chapel where Mass was celebrated by Fr. Ringuette, Chaplain. Owenie was most appreciative of the honor given her at this special time.

To all, a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year!

-Priscilla Noonan

Thank you for bringing enlightenment

Dear Annie: As a faithful reader of your column, I'm hoping you can help me get the word out about something I have to deal with almost every day. I am a 49-year-old male married to a 37-year-old woman. It's my second marriage and her first. My wife and I are expecting a child this May.

What's my problem, you ask? It is the misconceptions that people seem to carry around with them. You see, my wife is black and I am white. Sometimes when people are introduced to my wife for the first time, you can see that they are taken aback. I even have received scowls from people I don't know when they see my wife and me holding hands in public.

It's the 21st century, people. Interracial marriages are happening every day. Stop assuming that because a person is white, black, purple or green that their spouses are of the same pigmentation. When I look at my wife, I don't see her skin color. I see the woman whom I dearly love and who is carrying my child. That's what other people should see, too. Thanks for

letting me vent. — Grateful in Illinois

Dear Grateful: Interracial couples are hardly unusual, but there are still areas where they are uncommon, hence the startled looks. That doesn't necessarily imply racism. The scowls, of course, are another story. Thank you for bringing enlightenment to those who need it and demonstrating that love knows no color.

Dear Annie: We have a neighbor in his 60s who has many health problems (according to him). We are 30-somethings with children, jobs and activities. "Mack" calls our house every day, numerous times. If we do not answer the phone, he waits 10 minutes and calls again. This goes on all day, every day.

Mack tells us the same things over and over, and if we remind him that we've heard it before, he gets angry. If we say we are busy, he just keeps droning away as if we never said a word. Mack's wife knows he calls us, and obviously she can't do any

Annie's Mailbox

thing about it, either.

We want to be good neighbors, and we are happy to help in time of need, but we have no desire to sit on the phone with Mack every day. We don't like ignoring the ringing phone, but if we don't answer, he calls until we do. If we answer, we have to listen to the same stories for 15 minutes, and he will still call again later.

We know Mack takes a ton of medicine and he usually sounds drunk, slurring and repeating himself. We also realize Alzheimer's is not out of the question, but are we expected to live like this from now on? — Need a Break in Virginia

Dear Virginia: Being a good neighbor does not mean being abused or taken advantage of. And we'd bet Mrs. Mack is thrilled he is annoying you instead of her.

Here are your choices: You can change your phone number and make it unlisted. You can invest in an answering machine and let it screen all your calls. You can tell Mack after a few minutes that you are

busy and must hang up — then do it. Repeat as needed, even if it's 30 times a day. (Pretend he's a telemarketer.)

Dear Annie: This is in response to "Mrs. My Own Name." When I married, I asked my husband if he was going to change his name to mine, and he said, "No," so I chose not to change my name. I use the title "Ms.," along with my own last name.

When my husband and I receive an invitation, it is addressed to both of us using our first and last names. If we receive one addressed to "Mr. and Mrs.," with only my husband's last name, I find an opportunity to correct this with the sender, and that takes care of it. — Happy with My Own Name in Virginia

Dear Happy: Good advice. Most people are more than happy to address you as you prefer, provided they know about it. So speak up.

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

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: K equals C

"ZCW JXZODZ RADZ DJB OZ
MOZCYAZ DJBOFU OZ."
- TAEW WVVOFUZYF
"JXZ'D RYDZ WLLWKZOSW / MCWF
KYFKWJVWT." - YSOT

PREVIOUS SOLUTION - "Every autobiography... becomes an absorbing work of fiction, with something of the charm of a cryptogram." - H.L. Mencken

KIT N' CARLYLE



HERMAN



"What's it gonna be: go for walkies, or have this bone and watch the game on TV?"

ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



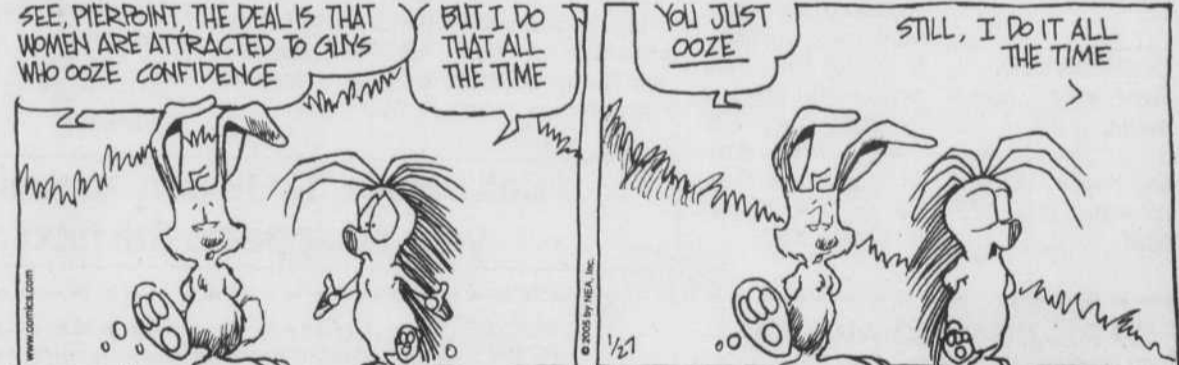
THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



GRIZWELLS



SOUP TO NUTS



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145 Miscellaneous Services

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

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145 Miscellaneous Services

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

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290 Articles For Sale

MAMA BEAR WOOD stove. Call (819) 566-6845.

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295 Articles Wanted

PAYING CASH for horse hay, year round. Need 1st and 2nd cut square bales, 35 lbs.+, stacked, tight cords, no dust, 700 bale load. Also need portable hay elevator, 20 or 24 ft. long. Call (819) 876-5872.

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Your Birthday

Thursday, Jan. 27, 2005

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — To avoid great disappointment today, don't pretend serious matters will rectify themselves without you taking the appropriate actions. Strive to be realistic about issues that confront you.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — You will end up with huge feelings of remorse if you allow yourself to be hoodwinked today into being overly generous with a friend who doesn't truly deserve it. Be kind, not a patsy.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — In competitive situations today, bank more heavily on knowledge you've acquired than trying something new you think is needed. There will be no free rides being offered by Lady Luck.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Sadly, you may reject a person's ideas today merely because it comes from someone at whom you're presently peeved. By doing so you'll only be working against your best interests.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Unless you are extremely diligent and cautious in a common interest you share with another today, there's a possibility that the larger slice of the out-of-pocket expenses will fall on you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You may have difficulty getting along with others today because of a tendency to not trust their honesty or integrity in a joint involve-

ment. Unexpected negative consequences could result.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — It is likely that you could be saddled today with a plethora of unpleasant tasks to do because of hanging out with dependent individuals who can't fend for themselves.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Don't place a financial imposition today on someone who you once helped out in a small way. This person will greatly resent your using an unfair leverage on an unequaled turn-about.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Today you might take a course of least resistance and allow a relative to pressure you into doing something you'd rather not do. The resentment you'll feel won't be worth the peace you achieve.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Unfortunately, you'll be judged more severely for your mistakes than the credit you'll get for achievements. Avoid unpleasant developments by thinking your moves through thoroughly.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — In order to escape an embarrassing encounter today, clear up an old obligation you had incurred before you're called on it. The degradation might be more than you can handle.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Avoid getting together today with an individual who always opposes your way of doing things. Don't think this person has changed; he or she will once again put a damper on your efforts.

Thursday, Jan. 27, 2005

North 01-27-05			
♠ A Q 4			
♥ 10 3 2			
♦ A K Q J 10 8			
♣ K			
West		East	
♠ 10 6 3		♠ 9 8 7 5	
♥ A 8 7		♥ K J 9 6	
♦ 9 7		♦ 5 4	
♣ J 10 9 7 5		♣ A 6 3	
South			
♠ K J 2			
♥ Q 5 4			
♦ 6 3 2			
♣ Q 8 4 2			
Dealer: North			
Vulnerable: East-West			
South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass
Opening lead: ♣ J			

none may tarry long."

Russell wasn't a bridge player, but he should have been. That quotation can easily be made to apply to us: The life of a bridge player is a long march through each deal, surrounded by invisible foes, tortured by weariness and brain strain, towards a goal that we all hope to reach, but where we cannot tarry long, because the next deal is beginning.

Will a misdefense cause you pain in this deal? You are East. Your partner leads the club jack against three no-trump. How would you plan the 13-trick march?

North is right to shoot out three no-trump. It is unlikely that five diamonds will make and three no-trump fail.

If you return a club at trick two, how many tricks will declarer have at his disposal? You should see that it is at least nine: one club (the queen), six diamonds and two spades (you know that the finesse is working if South needs it). So, that habitual play cannot be right. Instead, you must hope that your side can take four heart tricks. But this requires some care. If you lead the heart six, declarer might play low from his hand, giving him a stopper. Instead, you should shift to the heart jack, our old friend the surrounding play. You have dummy's (RHO's) top card surrounded, along with a higher, nontouching honor-card. Here, this play results in happiness, not pain.

The visible foes can be defeated

By Phillip Alder

Bertrand Russell wrote, "The life of man is a long march through the night, surrounded by invisible foes, tortured by weariness and pain, towards a goal that few can hope to reach, and where

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Singer McEntire
- 5 Perform
- 10 Part of a door frame
- 14 WWII powers
- 15 Turn signal
- 16 Hydrox rival
- 17 Start of Samuel Johnson quote
- 19 Close tightly
- 20 Loves
- 21 Captivate
- 23 Madrid mister
- 24 Dance in triple time
- 26 Part 2 of quote
- 32 Lettered sandwiches
- 36 Purulent skin eruptions
- 37 Tonsorial tool

- 38 Island do
- 39 Pseudonym
- 42 Verve
- 43 Actress Woodard
- 45 Center opening?
- 46 Table staple
- 47 Part 3 of quote
- 51 Dad of Beau Bridges
- 52 Battery terminal
- 57 Discussions
- 61 Weds on the wing
- 62 Lipinski jump
- 63 End of quote
- 66 Bone-dry
- 67 Zaps
- 68 Cleveland's lake
- 69 Kentucky fort

- 27 Hot spring
- 28 Blots
- 29 Poet Pound
- 30 Seethe
- 31 Jogging pace
- 32 Spill the beans
- 33 Lollapalooza
- 34 Wilson's predecessor
- 35 Browse the web
- 40 Copied
- 41 Knightly address
- 44 Fitzgerald of jazz
- 48 Unpigmented

- 49 Even chance
- 50 New Haven campus
- 53 Nuzzled
- 54 Musical drama
- 55 Jeans material
- 56 First name in cosmetics
- 57 Vintner's barrel
- 58 Yoked pair
- 59 Fictional sleuth Wolfe
- 60 Bend
- 61 Leader for a while?
- 64 Alias acronym
- 65 For each

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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

DOWN

- 1 Indian princes
- 2 Ooze
- 3 American buffalo
- 4 "The Jetsons" dog
- 5 Corn units
- 6 FDR's Blue Eagle
- 7 "Exodus" hero
- 8 Sportscaster Howard
- 9 Jackson's note
- 10 Kid
- 11 Vicinity
- 12 Signify
- 13 Take off
- 18 Gilpin of "Frasier"
- 22 Russian ruler, once
- 24 Knitting yarn
- 25 Apprehension

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14				15					16					
17				18					19					
20							21		22					
23						24	25							
				26	27					28	29	30	31	
32	33	34	35		36				37					
38					39			40	41		42			
43					44			45			46			
47					48	49			50					
					51					52	53	54	55	56
57	58	59	60						61					
62					63			64	65					
66					67						68			
69					70							71		

By Jeff Armstrong

1/27/05



Quality care by people who care

CHUS

Centre hospitalier
universitaire de Sherbrooke
www.chus.qc.ca

By Colette Pellerin, Special to the CHUS
Photos: Martin Blache, Robert Dumont
and Yvanick Plante

2004: Looking back with pride

The CHUS saw a number of major developments in 2004 that helped make it one of the top hospitals in Quebec in terms of leadership, influence and service. Patients, not just from the Estrie region but from all across Quebec and Canada, benefited from the CHUS' excellent health care.

1 \$1 million for basic equipment

In January, the Fondation du CHUS donated \$1 million to the hospital to purchase basic equipment, including stretchers, beds, wheelchairs, heart monitors, etc. The funds also helped purchase surgical equipment, including operating tables, retractors, lamps, etc. These acquisitions led to improvements in patient care and working conditions for staff.



2 New centre for digestive disorders at Hôtel-Dieu

Located in a newly renovated section of the Hôtel-Dieu, the centre for digestive disorders opened in March, bringing together all gastroenterology services previously divided between the Hôtel-Dieu and Fleurimont hospitals. The CHUS is also the only hospital in North America that offers perineology, a specialty focused on the pelvic floor.



3 Action plan to control hospital-acquired infections

Preventing hospital-acquired infections has been a priority for the CHUS in 2004-2005, with the hospital introducing a series of preventive measures in April. The results: our latest statistics indicate that the number of *C. difficile* cases has dropped by more than 50% compared to the previous year.



4 Angiography unit opens in June

Angiography uses liquids injected into blood vessels to check for arterial blockages in the arms, kidneys, stomach, etc. Thanks to a partnership with Toshiba Canada, the new angiography unit at the Fleurimont hospital is equipped like no other hospital in Quebec, attracting doctors from across Canada to the CHUS for training.



5 Welcome to our new CEO

At the end of August, Patricia Gauthier became the CHUS' new Chief Executive Officer. For the previous two years, she was responsible for administrative services and business partnerships at the CHUS. Previously, she held various administrative positions at a number of Quebec hospitals.



Patricia Gauthier, CEO

6 Also in August, first child receives Gamma Knife treatment in Quebec

The CHUS became the first hospital in Quebec and only the second in Canada to offer this state-of-the-art technology, which treats brain tumours non-surgically using radioactive waves. Nine-year-old Samuel underwent "radiosurgery" for a malformation that led to a cerebral hemorrhage. The first child to undergo Gamma Knife treatment in Quebec, Samuel is doing fine today.



8 Also in October, new magnetic resonance imaging machine for research

Acquired at a cost of \$4.9 million, this Clinical Research Centre project supported research in imaging for small animals, an essential element in developing imaging applications in humans.



7 Gamma Knife officially introduced in October

CHUS neurosurgeon Dr. Brendan Kenny shows the Gamma Knife to former colleague Dr. Philippe Couillard, now Quebec's Minister of Health. Chief Executive Officer Patricia Gauthier and Dr. Réjean Hébert, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the Université de Sherbrooke, hosted the visit.



9 The 25th Fondation du CHUS telethon

The Fondation du CHUS celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2004 and broke a record by collecting more than \$2.5 million during its November telethon. The fifth annual golf tournament collected \$600 000 under the honorary presidency of Domtar President and CEO Raymond Royer. Money raised will help support the CHUS' future Centre Femme Jeunesse Famille.

