

THE
RECORD

THE VOICE OF THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SINCE 1897

No room at the soup kitchen... See Page 3

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2006

Christmas Eve fire destroys Usinex

By Maurice Crossfield

It was anything but a Merry Christmas for the owners and employees of Usinex in Milan, with the factory completely destroyed by fire Sunday night.

At about 11 p.m. firefighters were called to Maisons Usinex, on Route 214 in Milan. In all some 60 firefighters from six area volunteer fire departments came to the scene, but were unable to stop the blaze. The factory, built in 1992, was completely destroyed.

Sûreté du Québec spokesman Const. Marc Butz said the damages are estimated at about \$3 million. The cause appears to have been an electrical cable running from the factory in order to power demonstrator homes located next to the plant.

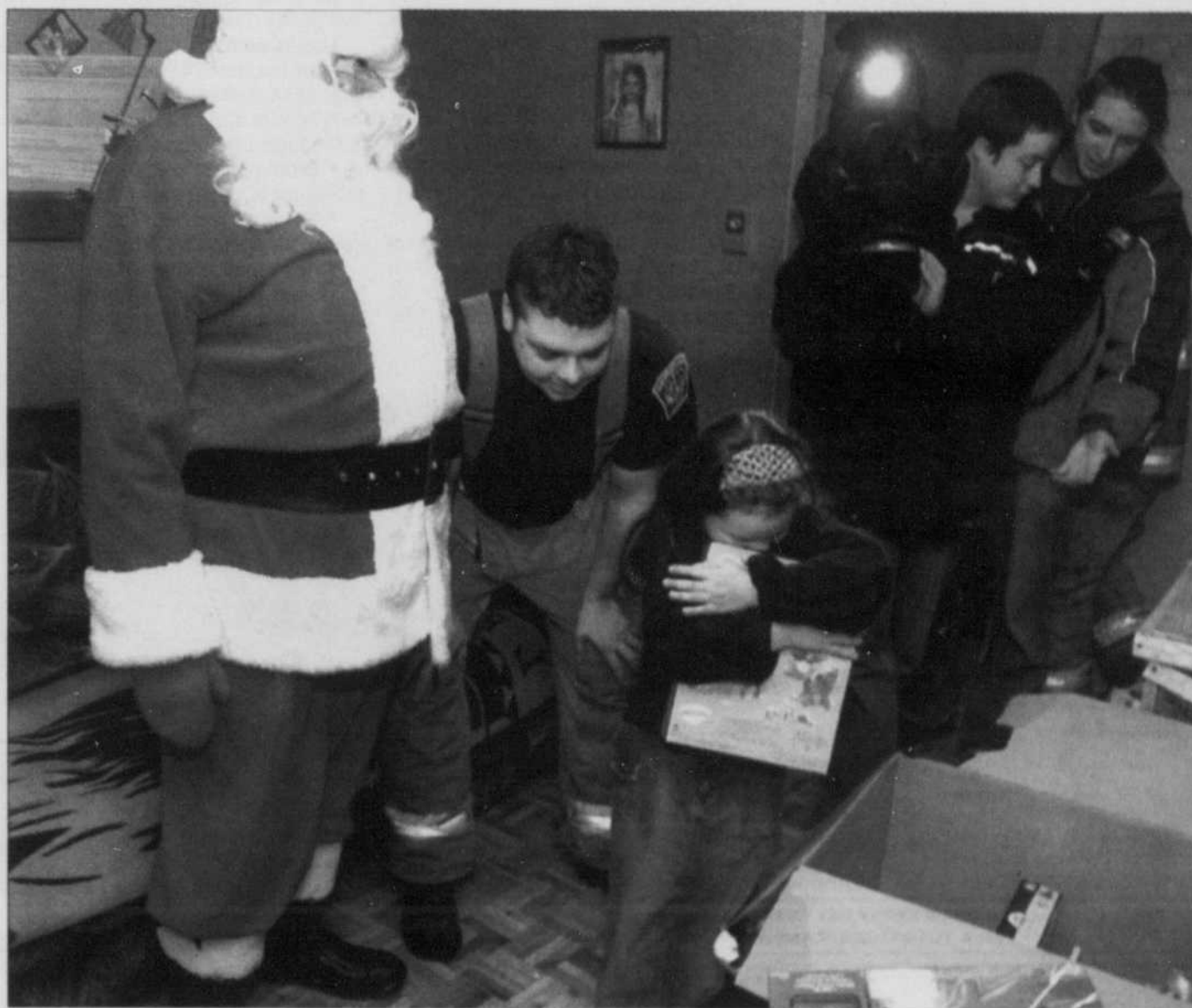
"The cable was apparently used to keep the homes heated and lit," Butz said. Exactly why the cable overheated during a relatively mild Christmas Eve is not yet clear.

But the damage goes even beyond that: Some 75 employees are now out of work.

Usinex was founded by six brothers of the Morin family. Using kiln-dried lumber, the plant built homes and then shipped them off to customers. By al-

PLEASE SEE USINEX ON PAGE 9

The Gift



COURTESY BRUCE PORTER

Santa Claus and Sherbrooke firefighter Yanick Dumas watched this child react to a Christmas gift. Please see more on page 4.

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Home for the holidays?

Consider staying home even longer than this

By Marie-France Lafaille

The Make Way for YOUth program in the Coaticook MRC is looking for 15 young graduates to offer them a special gift: Exploratory Weekends! But act quickly, because the places are disappearing fast.

Make Way for YOUth has kicked off its 2007 Exploratory Weekends participant recruitment campaign. Completely free, the "exploratory weekends" are aimed at countering the exodus of youth toward large urban centres and helping them to settle and integrate into the regions. These weekends are offered to 18- to 35-year-old grads or soon-to-be graduates of vocational, college or university programs. They are scheduled for Jan. 27 and 28, Feb. 17 and 18, and March 17 and 18.

COMMITTED PEOPLE

Exploratory Weekends are sure to se-

duce. On the menu: visits to tourist attractions, workshops, presentations and superb meals. But the pièce de résistance is the chance to meet a multitude of passionate and committed people from the region's political, socio-economic, cultural and business environments.

Participants will find out about the realities and opportunities of the Coaticook region, and will also be able to build and enlarge their network of contacts. They will get to meet and speak with employers in the region, and who knows, perhaps even find a job.

A BIG PAY-OFF

Across Quebec, Make Way for YOUth (Place aux jeunes) has proven itself: Over 16 years and in more than 70 MRCs, two-thirds of the participants in the Exploratory Weekends have settled in the regions! According to Claudia Beaugard, a former participant from the Haut-Saint-François MRC, Make Way for YOUth gives participants a fresh look at rural life,

KEEPING IN TOUCH
TOWNSHIPERS' ASSOCIATION

and explodes the myth that the regions are boring and lack dynamism.

Claudia, who worked 13 years in Montreal in communications, decided to move back and start her own business in her home region. She said, "Make Way for YOUth gave me the confidence and encouragement that helped me change my life."

"By choosing my MRC, I chose to be closer to my family, to live a healthier lifestyle, and to live on a more human scale, where the effects of my participation in the community are visible."

The mission of Make Way for YOUth is to stem the flow of youth away from the regions of Quebec. The main goals are to:

- Prevent and halt the exodus of youth to the large urban centres;
- Promote and support the social engagement of youth in rural regions;
- Promote and facilitate their professional integration into the regions;
- Alert youths, their friends and family, as well as the local population, to the impact of this out-migration;

• Stimulate the creation of businesses in the region.

Make Way for YOUth is made possible thanks to the financial support of the Quebec government's youth secretariat (Secrétariat à la Jeunesse), the Mouvement Desjardins, and many other businesses and organizations. The Coaticook project was proposed by Townshippers' Association, Eastern Townships CEDEC and the Carrefour jeunesse-emploi des Cantons de l'Est, and is being carried out in close collaboration with the Carrefour jeunesse-emploi de la MRC de Coaticook.

If you or someone you know would be interested in participating or finding out more about this initiative, visit the Make Way for YOUth website at www.placeaux-jeunes.qc.ca, or contact Marie-France Lafaille at mfl@townshippers.qc.ca or 819-849-7014 (toll free 1-866-566-5717).

Marie-France Lafaille is the Make Way for Youth/Desjardins migration agent.

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LOTO QUÉBEC Draw Results: 2006-12-23

6/49	04 06 19 22 23 45	43	bonus
WINNERS	PRIZES		
6/6	0	\$4,269,110.00	
5/6+	6	\$50,822.70	
5/6	179	\$1,407.30	
4/6	8,786	\$54.30	
3/6	150,457	\$10.00	
2/6+	89,197	\$5.00	
Total sales:		\$15,433,610	
Next grand prizes (approx.):		\$8,000,000	

Extra 7262320 \$500,000
*decomposable in both directions

LOTO QUÉBEC Draw Results: 2006-12-22

6/49	01 08 20 45 46 49	42	bonus
WINNERS	PRIZES		
6/6	0	\$1,000,000.00	
5/6+	0	\$50,000.00	
5/6	21	\$500.00	
4/6	813	\$50.00	
3/6	16,649	\$5.00	
Ventes totales:		\$518,117.50	

Extra 1744341 \$500,000
*decomposable in both directions

LOTTO 6/49 Draw Results: 2006-12-22

6/49	03 06 13 31 38 40 45	37	bonus
WINNERS	PRIZES		
7/7	0	\$30,000,000.00	
6/7+	14	\$38,779.40	
6/7	298	\$1,821.80	
5/7	18,043	\$102.30	
4/7	383,831	\$10.00	
3/7+	351,032	\$10.00	
3/7	3,205,535	Free play	
Total sales:		\$46,870,760	
Next grand prizes (approx.):		\$32,000,000	

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In the event of discrepancy between this list and the official winning list of Loto-Québec, the latter shall prevail.



The 15 participants from 2006 in the MRC Les Sources. Two-thirds of them chose to settle in the MRC after participating in the Exploratory Weekends.

Weather

Today: Cloudy with sunny periods and 60 per cent chance of flurries. High minus 4.

Thursday: Sunny. Low minus 16. High minus 10.

Friday: Sunny. Low minus 22. High minus 10.

Saturday: Sunny. Low minus 18. High minus 1.

Ben by Daniel Shelton



Got the blues?

Depression spikes right after Christmas

By Brion Robinson
SHERBROOKE

This time of the year it's not uncommon to be greeted with a "happy holidays", but for many it's anything but a holly jolly Christmas.

Late December and early January can bring on feelings of loneliness and depression for many people, said Dr. Pierre Beauséjour, a psychiatrist at the Centre hospitalier universitaire de Sherbrooke's adult mental health clinic.

This is when researchers say the "seasonal spike" occurs in the number of calls to employee-assistance programs (EAPs) around depression, stress, substance abuse and violence, according to a study released by EAP firm Warren Shepell.

Recent data compiled from about 200,000 employee case files across Canada showed a 50 per cent increase in the number of calls to access EAP help, such as mental-health services, from December to January.

"There's usually a spike right after Christmas," Beauséjour said, noting it's possible fewer people visit the clinic during this period because they're spending time with family and friends.

"Many may just want to get through Christmas," he said.

Beauséjour said mental health clinics are a good barometer of the mental health problems people are facing this time of the year.

"Usually the ones coming in have depression-related problems," he said. "A person that's normally open will start to withdraw."

His clinic has 26 psychiatrist nurses and other staff, he said, adding they treat a variety of mental illness from bi-polar conditions to schizophrenia.

The clinic receives patients from 18 to 100 years of age, and Beauséjour said referrals are almost evenly split between men and women.

"We get eight to nine new referrals every day," he said.

People suffering from mental illness tend to spend more time alone, the doctor said, adding that family members need to reach out to them.

"If you're interacting with other people you get a better sense of who you

are," he explained.

The doctor noted some lonely people turn on the radio or television to fill the social void, "but the best thing to have around is a real person."

Others turn to drugs and alcohol, a popular holiday activity Beauséjour doesn't recommend.

"Drugs and alcohol are depressants," he said, noting their jolly effects wear off quickly and then the blues kick in. People who have been holding back depressive emotions may lose control after consuming too much alcohol, he added.

"We all need time by ourselves," said Beauséjour. "But we also need time with others. I think the key is not to isolate yourself."

For more information call the CHUS at 819-346-1110. Or check the phone book for your local CLSC number.

No room at the soup kitchen

Space all booked up

By Brion Robinson
SHERBROOKE

The Estrie region's soup kitchens welcomed dozens of hungry people Dec. 25 with a hot turkey suppers – but many were sent home with empty stomachs. "We had to turn some people away Dec. 25 because we didn't have enough space for everyone," said François Lemieux, of La Chaudronnée de l'Estrie soup kitchen.

Lemieux said there was lots of food. But there was only enough room to feed about 80 people that night, he said, noting those who didn't reserve their place ahead of time weren't permitted inside.

"People have to book their spot," Lemieux said. Reservations open in early December and are usually filled within three days.

He said those who were turned away may have found a meal with other social groups and churches in the city, such as the Salvation Army or the Grande Table Inc. Representatives of those organizations couldn't be reached for comment Tuesday.

The Chaudronnée soup kitchen, which has been operating on Bowen Street for years, serves breakfasts and dinners to some of the city's most impoverished residents. Each meal costs \$2.

In 2003, the soup kitchen served some 30,000 people and many expect those numbers to rise by the thousands every year.

The facility also provides services to help people find jobs and live more independently.

Lemieux, who has been working at the soup kitchen for four years, said most of the people who show for the supper are men who are alone.

"About 75 per cent of our clientele are men," he said.

The soup kitchen will be open throughout the holidays, but will be closed Monday, Jan. 1.

Almost half of Canadians, 49 per cent, say they are just one or two missed pay cheques from being poor, according to information gathered by the Environics research firm in November.

The firm, which interviewed 2,021 adult Canadians by telephone, considered the accuracy of the poll to be within 2.2 percentage points.

The interviews also indicated that about two-thirds of Canadians (65 per cent) believe that most people have not benefited from Canada's economic growth and that benefits have mostly gone to the very rich.

brobinson@sherbrookerecord.com

Centraide Thanks



DAVID ANDERSON

Last week at a small ceremony in Waterloo, Yvon Lessard, the Richelieu-Yamaska Centraide representative, handed out certificates thanking people for their hard work in fundraising. Waterloo donated an average of \$90 per employee (Mayor Pascal Russell is pictured at left). Also thanked were Centre d'action bénévole Waterloo director general Josée Archambault, as were Daniel Rondeau and Dominique Cabana, representing the Maison des jeunes de Waterloo. Mélanie Malouin of the local Home Hardware store also received an award; her staff donated an average \$83 per employee to the fund.



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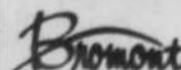
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Giving Santa a helping hand

For the 66th year, Sherbrooke firefighters distributed toys for Christmas. The anticipation by more than 100 volunteers of seeing the joy on the faces of the children

receiving gifts couldn't stop the rain from falling outside, but it did warm the hearts of the participants. More than 40 donated vehicles formed a parade on Saturday along King Street be-

tween Jacques Cartier Boulevard and 13th Avenue, delivering toys to almost 800 children in the Sherbrooke area. Photographs by Bruce Porter.



Sherbrooke firefighter Michel Valade was just one of the dozens of volunteers braving the rain while loading up delivery vehicles with toys for children.

Volunteers busily emptied the basement of Sherbrooke fire station #2 so that volunteers outside wouldn't have to stay out in the rain any longer than necessary.

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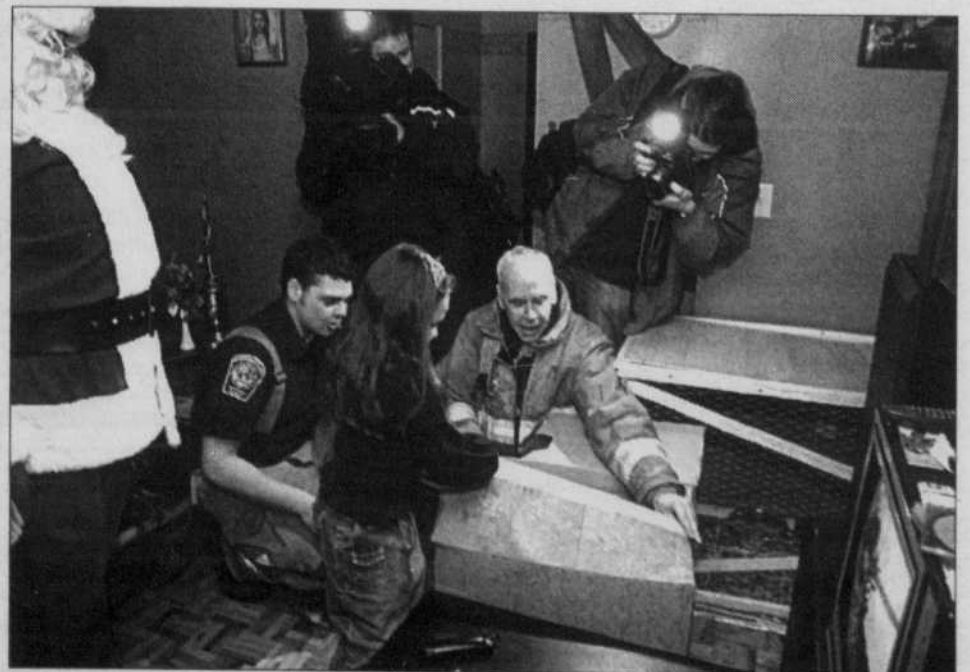
Thank you!



16050

THE RECORD

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Sherbrooke firefighters Yanick Dumas and Gilles Ferland, supervised by Santa Claus himself, helped the Beaulieu children open their boxes of gifts.

BRIEFS

Sherbrooke garbage pickup

Because of the holidays, the City of Sherbrooke has pushed back garbage and recycling pickup.

Pickups normally scheduled for Monday, Dec. 25 and Monday, Jan. 1 will instead be collected the following Friday — Dec. 29 and Jan. 5.

Municipal offices will be closed through Tuesday, Jan. 2. But Hydro-Sherbrooke has different hours. Its offices will be open today, Wednesday, as well as Dec. 28 and 29, from 9 a.m. to noon, and again from 1 to 4 p.m. The offices will be closed Jan. 1 and Jan. 2.

The Eva-Sénécal library will close at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 31. It will also be closed Jan. 1 and Jan. 2.

The ticket outlet at the Palais des sports Léopold-Drolet will be closed through Jan. 2, although tickets will be available to Dec. 30 for the bantam hockey tourney (see page 14).

Skating rinks?

The City of Sherbrooke has issued a press release about municipally-run skating rinks. "Outdoor rinks are obviously not yet open, but the city wishes to inform residents that employees are working on it."

The rinks are being watered at night, and staff are hoping that a cold spell will mean the rinks could soon open. "Skating fans must be patient as we wait for Mother Nature to cooperate."

Accused robber nabbed

The Sûreté du Québec is crediting tipsters using the Info Crime line for catching a man suspected of robbing a corner store in Compton.

On Nov. 28 a man armed with a knife entered the Relais du Domaine and demanded the contents of the cash. He then fled.

Looking to move the investigation forward, the Coaticook detachment of the SQ released information about the robbery to the public. That in turn generated information via the popular crime prevention line (where all calls are anonymous and confidential).

On Dec. 20, Michael Nadeau, 18, was arrested in Drummondville aboard a car. He put up no resistance and was brought in by police. He was also wanted on no less than seven arrest warrants, some for similar crimes to the Compton robbery.

Nadeau appeared in court in Sherbrooke the following day, where he was charged with armed robbery and breaking the conditions of his bail.

If you have any information about any crime, you can call the Info Crime line at 1-800-711-1800. Callers are given a file number which can be used to help collect a reward for the arrest and successful prosecution of the person who committed the crime.



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Did Irish monks got here first?

DEAR EDITOR

Those who, for many years, have followed my research in archaeology know very well that the Establishment is scandalized when I propose that the Americas witnessed European settlers long before Christopher Columbus' celebrated voyage of 1492.

Skeptics will be confounded! When I recently visited research colleagues in the state of Maine, I had the great pleasure of receiving a real Christmas gift: I was given a copy of the autographed Account of the International Catholic Scientific Congress held in Paris in April 1891.

The topic of one of the speakers, Dr. Luka Jelic, was The Evangelization of America before Christopher Columbus.

This 11-page document is outstanding.

Dr. Jelic did not limit himself to the myths and legends of his time concerning pre-Columbian America, but searched into very ancient documents such as manuscripts, world maps and the Vatican Archives.

Dr. Jelic put forward that the evangelization of the New World went as far back as around the year 500 of our era when Irish monks, led by Saint Brendan, crossed the Atlantic and spent time in these new lands.

Later, beginning in the 10th century, the Vikings' sagas tell of the Christian faith established not only in Greenland but also in the American Northeast including Labrador, the Maritime provinces and New England, then known as Vinland. At that time, all of these lands were under the diocese of Gardar located in Greenland.

In the year 1050, the Saxon Bishop Jonus went to Vinland as a missionary where Norsemen had settled. Later on, in 1121, the Irish Bishop Eric-Upsi pursued evangelization there and his preaching was very fruitful.

In addition, around 1390, Antonio Zeno reported the discovery of Latin books in Vinland.

Another proof of the Catholic pre-Columbian worship in North America came from Father Christian Le Clerc, a French missionary in the Gaspé and Acadia territories beginning in 1675.

He reported that all the "indigenous savages" (then called Porte-Croix or cross-bearers) who he encountered, held traditions based on the Bible, knew a prayer similar to 'Our Father' and expressed a great respect for the cross that was present in all walks of life.

According to him, these religious traditions originated from missionaries who worshipped in these countries long before he did.

The evangelization occurred at the time of the Crusades led by the Vatican wishing to reconquer the Holy Land. To finance these wars with the participation of the Knights Templar, the Pope needed a lot of money and heavily taxed all of his dioceses, including the far reaching ones in North America. Worshippers had to pay in cash or with goods.

Accordingly, one finds in the Vatican Archives for the year 1307, tithes paid with goods from Vinland. These could have been either seal or walrus teeth, fish, copper or iron ore, or timber.

These Catholic missions in the New World support the evidence of well established colonies and it is certain that the Knights Templar, founded in Jerusalem in 1118, contributed to this endeavour. These settlements flourished for years but vanished.

Why and how? Dramatic cooling of the North Atlantic climate? The suppression of the Knights Templar in 1312? The Black Plague? Hostilities with Indians? Abandonment by the home countries? Probably a little of all that.

More details in a book in preparation.

I have summarized here the efforts of evangelization of the New World centuries long before Christopher Columbus' voyage in 1492.

Even though the history and archaeology Establishment refuses to admit a pre-Columbian European presence in the Americas, Dr. Jelic's paper clearly confirms it.

He added a new convincing argument in the file of the innumerable unexplained stone works which various researchers have described in the American Northeast. This is a presence that I have personally documented in Potton Township and elsewhere in the Eastern Townships.

GÉRARD LEDUC
 Potton Township

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COURTESY

Port Canaveral from the deck of the casino ship; our columnist played the 5 cent slots.

No ocean liner for us

Playing the slots on a tugboat's spawn

Yesterday, we took our first cruise of the season. I'm not talking about one of the magnificent ocean liners that sail out of Fort Lauderdale or Miami. Ours was a puny five-deck, 308-foot long boat that looked more like a cross between a tugboat and ferry. Here in Florida they call them casino cruise ships.

From the inside, however, there was no way you could mistake her mission. Her 65-foot wide decks were equipped with rows and rows of bright colourful slot machines and game tables that included every game from blackjack to Caribbean stud poker.

Instead of the usual long-in-advance reservation, a simple telephone call to the casino cruise line office is all that was required. After selecting the closest port, we were told a bus would pick us up at a nearby big-box store at 8:15 a.m.

Had our RV park's local travel agent been able to find a sufficient number of interested residents, a deluxe bus

would have picked us up practically at our door at for the modest sum of \$15 ("includes five hours of gambling, hot buffet \$7 value and \$10 in coins to start you gambling").

Just as we had been promised, a large luxurious bus pulled into the store parking lot and whisked us — within an hour and a half — to Port Canaveral, where the Sun Cruz XII was docked.

The passengers seemed equally divided between both sexes and all were over 60. Very few projected a high-roller image. Like ourselves, most just wanted to have some fun and excitement. There were also a few who looked as if they'd gone through difficult times and were hoping to hit a jackpot.

And talk about cheap entertainment — not only was the transportation free, but the 100-mile trip provided a glimpse of the pleasant side of inland Florida. From Leesburg (where we picked up a half dozen gamblers) to Orlando, we were surprised by the gentle rolling terrain, lush parcels of land and occasional lakes.

Boarding the ship was no big deal even though Port Canaveral is reputed to be one of busiest cruise ports in the United States. After showing our ID and going through the standard metal detector, we were met by a diminutive-looking captain in plain clothes who welcomed us aboard.

For sailing aficionados turned RV landlubbers like ourselves, the five-hour cruise was a truly a pleasant change. At the same time it allowed us to see Port Canaveral from the Atlantic ocean along with Jetty Park (where we'll be spending a week in February).

After meeting a nice couple from St. Albans, Vermont, we spent a good two hours on the outside deck, sharing our respective sailing experiences on Lake Champlain while enjoying the sight of a pod of frolicking dolphins. No doubt to discourage the passengers from spending too much time away from the slots and gaming tables, the sitting arrangements were limited to old and uncomfortable plastic seats. As for the entertainment, there were two lone guitar players performing country classics, one on deck one, the other on five.

But who's complaining — it was all free!

During the two hours I played the five- and 25-cent slots, I actually made a few bucks, enough to easily offset my spouse Madeleine's minor losses.

There is something to be said about winning 1,000 five-cent credits while the ship is seesawing over large swells. As a further surprise, upon updating our Player's Club card, we were given a \$20 cash coupon for our next cruise.

This wasn't our first casino cruise

PLEASE SEE CASINO ON PAGE 9



HENRY R. KEYSERLINGK



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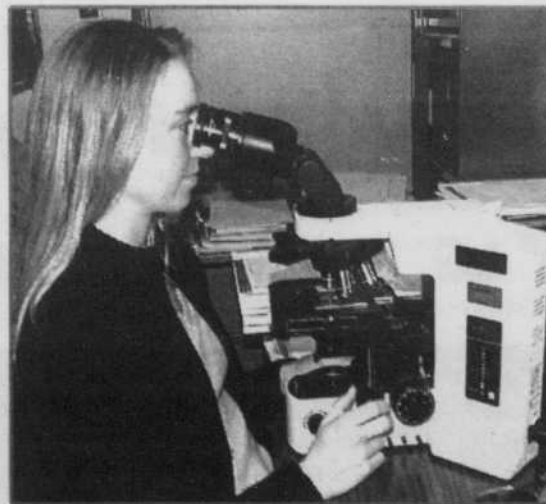
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The Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Sherbrooke, has equipped itself with three microscopes used by the pathology department. They allow magnifying the images between 40 and 600 times. This then allows the pathologist and residents in pathology to see and interpret the cells found on the slides. They allow users to establish a precise diagnostic in order for the surgeons to choose the appropriate course of treatment.



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Lake algae 'caution'

You might not feel like swimming in any of the region's lakes at this time of year, but the Montérégie public health authority is still advising caution when coming into contact with algae-laden lake water.

In a press release addressed to users of Lake Boivin, Brome, Roxton Pond, Selby, Waterloo and the Choinière Reservoir, the public health authority said winter has made it difficult to determine water quality in these lakes, all of which were closed down this summer due to blue-green algae, also known as cyanobacteria.

Still, the communiqué stated that in general cyanobacteria levels drop off as the water cools. But:

- Do not consume water from any of these lakes. Boiling the water will not kill the cyanobacteria and most treatment systems will not kill the toxins.

- You can however use the water for things like baths and showers, as long as you avoid swallowing the H₂O. You can also wash clothes. To be on the

safe side however, keep exposure to a minimum.

- You can occasionally consume fish from these lakes without any ill effect. (Due to the warm weather, it may be awhile yet before ice fishing is an option.)

Exposure to cyanobacteria can lead to skin rash, sore throat, nausea, stomach cramps, diarrhea and vomiting. Call your local Info Santé line for medical advice.

Liquor looters

The Sûreté du Québec are looking for two men who worked together to steal a pricey bottle of booze from the Waterloo SAQ store on Monday, Nov. 27 (one suspect is pictured, below right).

That day around 12:25 p.m. one man created a diversion while the other grabbed a bottle of liquor worth about \$50 and headed out the door. Police say the two men were working together to steal from the Société des Alcools store at 4910 Foster St.

Both men are described as being white males about 40 years of age with short, brown hair. One is just under six feet tall and weighs about 200 lbs.,

USINEX:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

ways working indoors and using assembly line techniques, Usinex was able to control costs and assure the quality of its finished product.

The company completed its first home in 1992 before construction of the factory was even complete. Usinex thrived in those early years despite the economic downturn of the mid-1990s. Since then Usinex had expanded, and recently began shipping its finished homes to Ontario, New Hampshire and Maine.

Along with the main production facility in Milan, Usinex also has sales offices in Mirabel and Chicoutimi.

Usinex has also garnered its share of awards along the way: In 2005 it was named the Provincial Homebuilder of the Year for the second year in a row. In 2004 it was also named Manufacturer of the Year-Modular Homes. And a company-built home is raffled off annually in at least one area hospital fundraiser.

Just what happens next for Usinex is unclear. The Morin brothers met Tuesday to discuss the future of the company. They could not be reached for comment before *The Record's* press time.

while the second man is just over six feet tall and weighs about 230 lbs.

Anyone with information about this theft is asked to contact the Haute-Yamaska detachment of the SQ at 450-539-3252; ask for the head of criminal investigations. You can also make a confidential call to Info Crime, at 1-800-463-9525.



CASINO:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 8

that went nowhere. Neither will it be our last.

The Florida casino industry has a variety of boats in operation ranging from the smallest in Key Largo (that carries 149 passengers) to the largest in Port Canaveral (which can cope with 1,800). Twice a day they sail the three miles into international waters, beyond the reach of the state's anti-gambling laws. From the west coast, the boats travel nine miles out into the Gulf of Mexico.

If we included a casino theme in this year's trip through Florida, it wasn't accidental. It all started when we decided to tack on a four-day cruise to the Bahamas from Port Canaveral and then changed our mind.

We figured that since we were traveling on both coasts, why not use the fare on a dozen or so casino cruises?

Would it be worth it? Without turning our odyssey into a gambling road trip, at worst we would have 12 days of fun and excitement to lose our money. Had we decided to spend it at Disney, two days would have

been our max.

At last count there were 10 ports offering casino cruises and except for Key Largo and Port Everglades, they all are on our winter circuit. The ports include Hollywood, Jacksonville, Palm Beach, Port Canaveral, Miami, Daytona Beach and Madeira Beach.

Depending on the ship, port and agenda, this gives us some 80 cruise operations to choose from. The costs vary from free to a \$5 boarding fee. Some ships charge up to \$7 for the meal, while others offer a free all-day snack buffet, free coffee and soda, and free drinks to players.

If time and location permit, we might even try our luck at a few land-based casinos, especially the ones which provide camping facilities.

If I used the word "few", it is mainly because gambling in Florida is also legal at Indian casinos. Greyhound dog tracks and horse racing tracks.

On our way to Fort de Soto we plan to stop at the glitzy Seminole Hard Rock Casino in Tampa. As for the one in Hollywood which has a 12-storey Mediterranean style hotel tower, it is on our list of definite stopovers, seeing as it allows overnight RV parking.

One thing is certain, if we decide to stop off at all of Florida's 137 casinos and pari-mutuel facilities, we'll need a few extra months along with a loaded Brink's security truck in tow.

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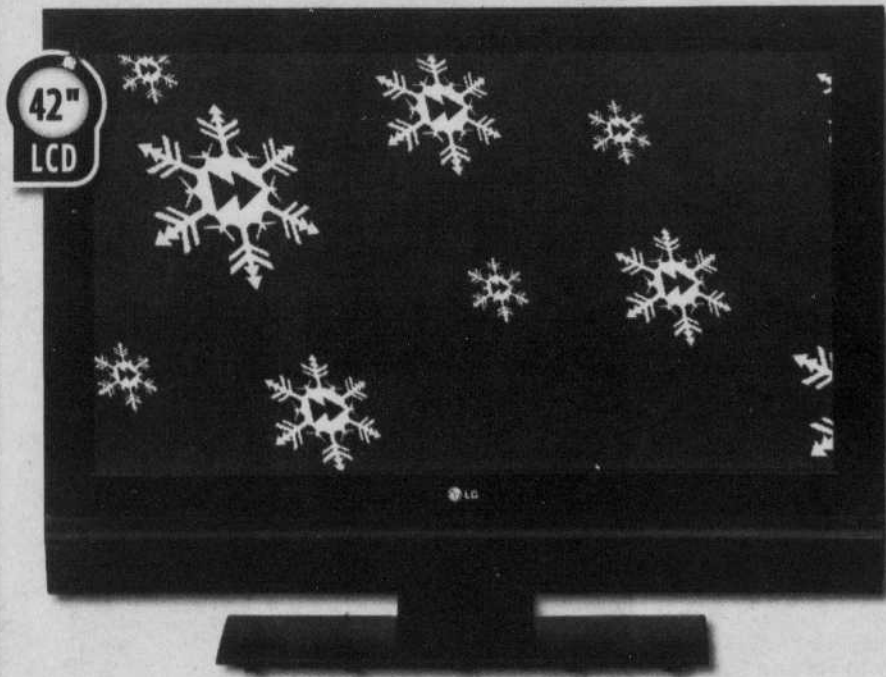
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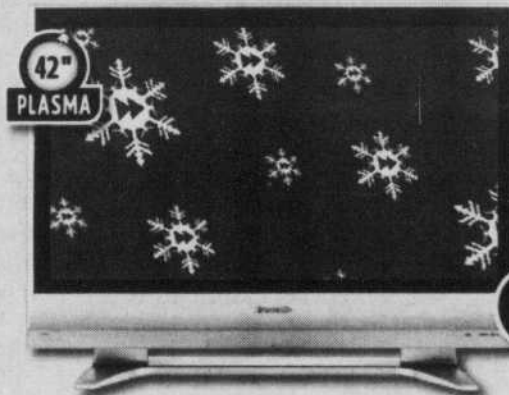
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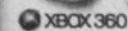
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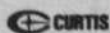
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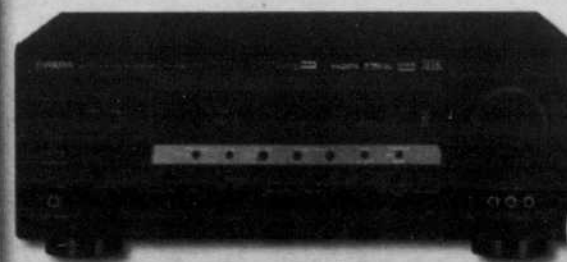


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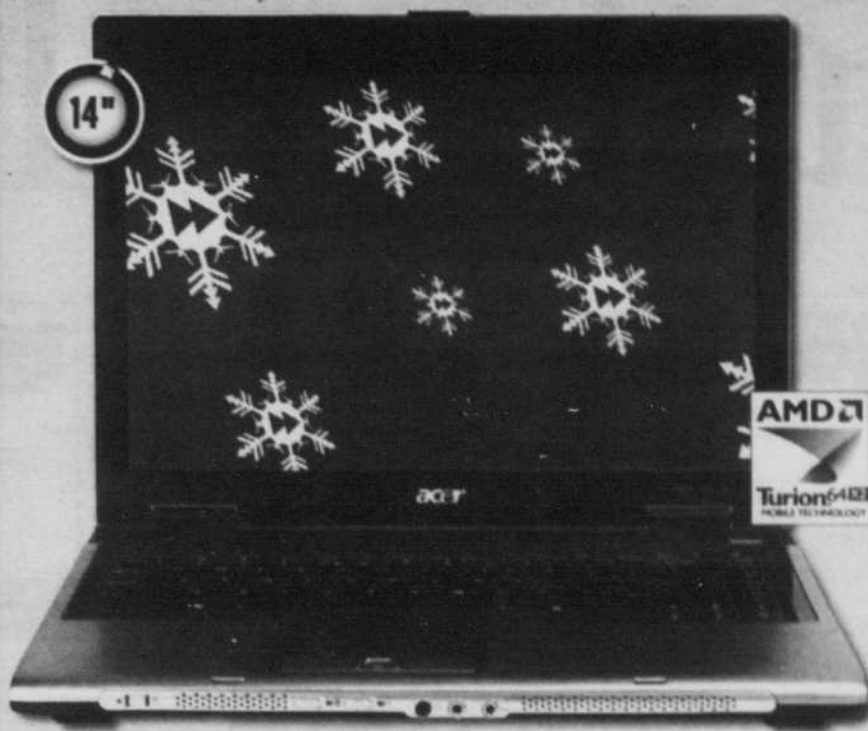


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INSIDE
TIBS
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NEWSROOM@SHERBROOKERECORD.COM WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2006 PAGE 13

Chemistry key to Canada's medal hopes

By Mike Hickey
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

The Canadian Junior team began its pursuit of a gold medal at the 2006 World Junior Hockey Championships Tuesday with a 2-0 win over the host Sweden squad. While nothing brings together a nation's conscious as much as the Olympics or World Championships, there is also a local interest for Montreal Canadiens fans as coach Craig Hartsburg announced prior to the game that Carey Price will start in nets and it is likely the Canadiens' draft pick will see the bulk of the action in the prestigious tourney.

Price, who plays with the Tri-City Americans in the Western Hockey League, was the Montreal Canadiens first round pick in 2005 and many hockey experts expect him to be in the Montreal line-up sooner rather than later.

The selection of Price came on the heels of Canada's final exhibition game, a 3-2 loss to Sweden, in which Leland Irving handled the goaltending duties for head coach Hartsburg.

While it was obvious that Hartsburg used the exhibition game to work out some kinks and determine his line pairings for yesterday's opener, the game also exposed some potential problems for the Canadian side.

To begin with, Canada blew a two-goal lead 3-2 and the players have to realize that they must finish a team off when given the opportunity; a 60-minute effort is needed against the tournament's better teams. And that requires staying out of the penalty box.

"We need to be better," coach Hartsburg said after the loss. "We need to play our game. In this one, we got off track. We took too many penalties. We got a little sloppy at times. The big thing is we have to get everybody on the same page."

As the game ended Steve Downie, a veteran who has paid in the past for losing his temper, got a double minor and a 10-minute misconduct for butt-ending. He'd been given a 10-minute misconduct in the first period for arguing an interference penalty.

"We certainly have to have more composure," Hartsburg said Friday. "There were times we got frustrated by some of the calls."

"Discipline is going to be a huge part of this thing. We certainly can't be taking penalties during the game, or at the end of a hockey game that could be costly to us."

The encouraging note to the exhibition loss was that Canada, despite failing to score, dominated play in the third period. But that is also a two-edged sword. Canadian junior teams in the past have dominated medal round games only to come up on the losing end of the score due to an inability to capitalize on their scoring chances.

The loss prompted Hartsburg to make some line

changes as he placed winger Sam Gagner on the second line alongside Ryan O'Marra and Jonathan Toews. The team's first line at practice featured Andrew Cogliano skating between Brad Marchand and Steve Downie while the third line consisted of James Neal, Tom Pyatt and Bryan Little.

On defence, the pairings were Marc Staal with Ryan Parent, Luc Bourdon with Kristopher Letang, and Kris Russell with Cody Franson.

Canada has talent in every position but the key to their gold medal hopes lies more in the ability to play as a team and to give an all-out effort every time they hit the ice. Hartsburg is fully aware of the importance of good team chemistry and took a page out of Scandinavian tradition to help bring his team together.

One of the first things the team did together when they got off the plane in Finland a week ago was to take a dip in a cold lake after spending some time in a hot sauna. At first the players were wary but the practice soon became a team-building ritual.

"There's no better way to get to know your team mate than naked in a cold lake," laughed Hartsburg after the fact. "It was a lot of fun."

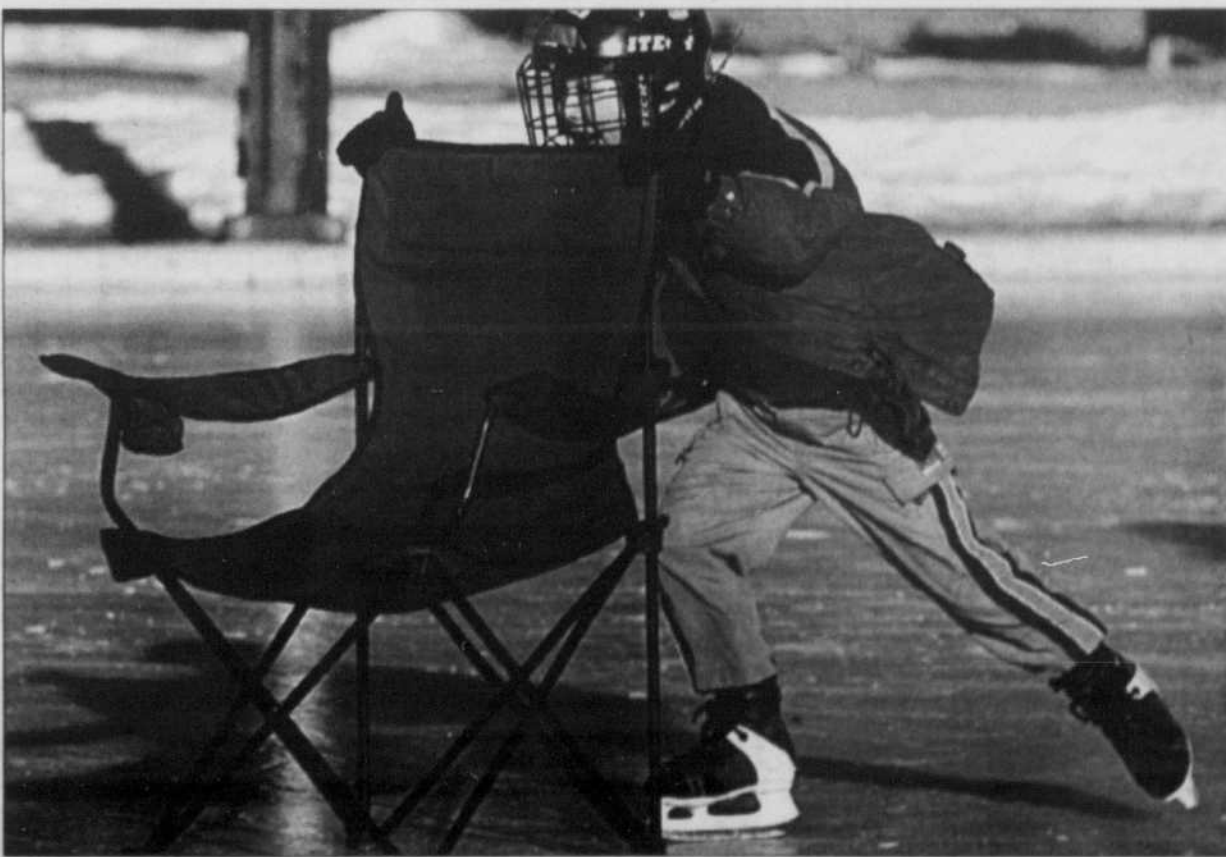
"There was an all-in mentality when we started those saunas. Not everybody wanted to get in (the lake), but by the end, everybody got in. That was really impressive. I thought that was a big step."

The players celebrated Christmas on Saturday by exchanging gifts that also served to bring the team closer together.

Ryan O'Marra presented defenceman Marc Staal with a flashlight so he could "find his way out from under the shadow of" brothers Jordan and Eric, who are both currently starring in the NHL.

"That was probably the lowest blow of them all," O'Marra admitted. "Marc took it in stride. He can handle it. He's very proud of his brothers." Now it is time for young Staal, and his team mates, to make his brothers proud of him by bringing home a gold medal.

With A Little Help



CANWEST NEWS PHOTO/GRANT BLACK

Six-year-old Ryan Spry used a chair for balance at a Calgary skating rink on Christmas Day.



PERRY BEATON

Richard Lacroix, Denis Marcotte and Marc Vachon showed off the TIBS logo earlier this year.

TIBS offer exciting hockey to local fans

Opening ceremonies tonight at Palais des Sports

By Mike Hickey

SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

While the Canadian sporting world has eyes focussed on the World Junior next week, local hockey fans are enjoying the 25th edition of the Econosports Sherbrooke International Bantam Tournament (TIBS).

That began yesterday and will run until Saturday.

While the pressure for these bantam players may not match that pushing down on the National Junior team, the intensity and desire displayed in Sherbrooke arenas over the next four days is a pleasure to watch. If past years are any indication, fans will be treated to exciting, wide-open action.

This year's tourney includes 42 boys' teams playing 90 games in three different categories, as well as two girls' teams that will play an exhibition match.

Although local organizers were unable to bring in any teams from Europe as in past years, there are five teams from New England in the mix.

The eight local teams include Quasar des Cantons de l'Est (CC), Shermont (BB), Mineurs de Sherbrooke Ouest (BB), Cantonniers d'Orford (BB), Vics de Granby (BB), Progress Plastic de Drummondville (BB), Castors de Sherbrooke (AAA) and Cascades des Bois Francs (AAA).

Today's matches will begin at 9 a.m. at the Palais Des Sports when the Richelieu Patriotes take on the Richelieu Scouts. A half hour later, across the parking lot at the Eugene Lalonde Arena, The Vaudreuil/Dorion Gladiators battle the St-Bruno Phoenix while the Ahuntsic Braves meet the Varennes Blitz at Fleurimont's Julien Ducharme Arena.

Games will be played throughout the day at all three arenas but the day's highlights will take place in the afternoon at the Palais Des Sports. At 3:30 an exhibition match between the Lac St. Louis AA girls' team and the Windsor AA squad will take place followed by the opening ceremonies at 5.

It is during these ceremonies that recently retired sports writer Jean-Paul Ricard will be honoured for long contributions to local sports in general, and more particularly for his support for the TIBS over the many years he covered the tournament.

Round robin play will continue tomorrow and Friday morning with playoffs starting at all three venues Friday afternoon.

The action wraps up Saturday with semi-final play at both the Palais and Eugene Lalonde arenas beginning at 9:30. All three title games will be played at Eugene Lalonde with the CC championship match scheduled for 2 p.m., followed by the BB final at 4 p.m. and the AAA championship match slated for 6 p.m.

'Comrade, come sink with me...'

Not sailing, but subbing

By Helen Womack

ST. PETERSBURG

LONDON DAILY TELEGRAPH

After nearly 20 years in the planning, a Russian inventor's ambition to sail to sea in his homemade submarine has hit a snag. Not surprisingly, perhaps, Mikhail Puchkov can't find anyone to join him.

The eccentric factory worker has devoted almost all his spare time to assembling the five-metre, glass-fibre submarine in a heated shed at the glass plant where he works in St. Petersburg.

"People thought I was mad; many still think I'm mad," said Puchkov, who began building the craft in secret as a teenager on the top floor of his parents' dacha, the wooden house where they spent each summer.

So far, the farthest he has journeyed in the underwater contraption was a 20-mile jaunt up the Neva river, to Kronstadt, on the Gulf of Finland.

The leg-aching trip was achieved entirely on pedal power, and was so exhausting that the 43-year-old enthusiast decided to fit the vessel with a small engine.

He now plans to sail out into the Baltic sea, but before he can boldly go where none have gone before — at least in a DIY submarine — he needs to find a willing co-pilot and a new diesel engine, costing around \$15,000.

Puchkov has invested all his free time and a large portion of his wages in the craft. He once even took it on holiday with him, loading it on to a trailer behind the family car.

As a child, he dreamt of flying but, fearing that the Soviet authorities might suspect him of planning to defect if he built his own plane, he opted instead for the life of a submariner.

He collected the parts he needed for the craft through friends who worked at local factories. At first, his parents had no idea what all the banging and ratcheting coming from upstairs meant. "I wasn't a revolutionary or a democrat either," he said. "I wanted personal freedom, to see nature and to travel. That was it in a nutshell.

"And I liked technical things."

The authorities have not always seen things this way. Puchkov once got caught in a net stretched across the Neva and had to endure a long interrogation by the police and the KGB, who suspected him of spying.

His submarine has no navigational equipment other than a small periscope and lights on the bow and stern, but its inventor insists it is quite safe. "It's more dangerous on the roads than in submarines," Puchkov insisted.

Now he is attempting to find paying passengers for future underwater adventures, in the hope that this will help him to raise the cash needed to buy the new engine.

It may prove more difficult than he expects. Sitting inside the submarine is akin to what it might be like to be in a coffin; when asked the main attraction of underwater life, he did nothing to dispel that impression.

It was the silence, he said, adding, without any sense of irony: "It's as quiet as the grave."

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In Memoriams

DESCOTEAU-McNAB, Travis: December 25, 1960 - December 27, 1980. In loving memory of our dearest son, Travis, taken from us so suddenly and unexpectedly 26 years ago.

Days of sadness still come over us,
Tears in silence often flow,
Our memories keep you near us
Though you died 26 years ago.
The special years will not return
When we were all together,
But with the love within our hearts
You will stay with us forever.
Loved with a love beyond all telling,
Missed with a grief beyond all tears.

MOM, DAD
CHRIS (brother)
AND FAMILIES

SMITH, Calvin - In loving memory of a dear father who left us suddenly December 27, 1990.

You're not forgotten father dear,
Nor ever shall you be,
As long as life and memories last,
We shall remember thee.

Sadly missed by your son
FREDERICK & BERNICE

Death

ELDRIDGE, Richard Murray (1939-2006)

— Following a courageous battle with cancer and surrounded by his loving family, passed into God's welcoming hands on Christmas Eve, 2006. Beloved husband of: Suzanne Osborne; cherished father of: Thomas (Shawn), Sheri (Perry), Lisa (John); fondly remembered by: Carole, Andrew, David (Janice), Harold, Laura (Harry). Survived by his loving siblings: Anthony (Dorcas), Douglas (Brenda), Bonnie; his brother-in-law: Victor Osborne. Will be forever remembered by his many grandchildren near and far. Arrangements entrusted to Les Résidences Funéraires Bessette, 5034, Foster, Waterloo, tel. : 450-539-1606 or 1 888 730-6666, fax :450-539-3035, www.famillesbesette.com. Visitation: Thursday, 2-4 and 7-9 including Masonic Service at 7:30 p.m. The Celebration of Life Service at 2 p.m. on December 29th, 2006 at St. Luke's Anglican Church in Waterloo with interment in Knowlton Cemetery. Rev. W. Davidson officiating. Donations may be made to the BMP Hospital Foundation, Brome County Historical Society or to the Candian Cancer Society. Forms will be available at the funeral home. Many thanks for the compassionate care provided by Dr. Chagnon, and the Palliative Care Team, especially Marie-Helene Duhamel, as well as Dr. Koopman and the Oncology Team at the BMP Hospital.

Deaths



ARMSTRONG, Eric Thomas (1930-2006)

— The family of the late Eric T. Armstrong are sad to announce his sudden passing on Friday, December 22nd, 2006, at the age of 76. Loving husband of 52 years of Mary Bush and dear father of Debra (Ron Squire), Patricia (Richard Stott), Marion, Dayle (Brian Wilkins), Jackie (Howard McGlynn), Leslie (Susan Hannan), and Sandra (Doug Wilkins). Eric also leaves to mourn his grandchildren, Billy, Laurie, Sarah, Ricky, Kyle, Jesse, Stephanie, Julie, Jacob, Amelia, Jennifer, and Terry, his great-grandchildren Ryan, Brady, Dominic, and Kiara, along with his sisters Lucy (late Jack MacKinnon) and Pauline (late Ray Andrews), his sister-in-law Doris (Earl Davidson), brother-in-law William Bush and many other nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. Resting at the Cass Funeral Home, 819-826-2502 / www.casshomes.ca, where friends may visit on Wednesday, December 27th from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. and on Thursday from 1 to 1:45 p.m. A funeral service will be held in Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Denison's Mills, on Thursday, December 28th at 2:00 p.m. with Rev. Andrew O'Donnell officiating. Interment in the Holy Trinity Cemetery, Denison's Mills. Donations to the Holy Trinity Anglican Church Fund, c/o Kirk Robinson, 545 Ch. Denison, Danville, QC J0A 1A0 would be greatly appreciated by the family.

MacDONALD, Ivy (nee Nichol) — At the Hotel-Dieu Hospital, Sherbrooke, QC, on Saturday, December 23rd, 2006 in her 101st year. Beloved wife of the late Kenneth MacDonald. Cherished aunt of Bernice Laurila and Lois MacDonald. Great-aunt to Joyce Rankin (Paul Lorticht), Gail (Dale Farrell), Vernon Nicholson, Kerry (Carl Rogala) and Norman Laurila. Also survived by other nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. In respect of her wishes, cremation was held. A graveside service will be held at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to the Cass Funeral Home, 3006 College St., Sherbrooke (Lennoxville), QC, tel: 819-564-1750 / www.casshomes.ca.

Deaths



BEATTIE, Edith — Peacefully at the St. Vincent de Paul Pavillon, Sherbrooke, QC, on Sunday, December 24th, 2006 in her 71st year. Gwendoleyn Edith Walker, beloved wife of the late Lloyd Beattie, dear mother of Robert, June (Don Steinhoff), Ricky (Christina) and predeceased by infant daughter Heather Ann, cherished grandmother of Brian Steinhoff. Edith is survived by her brothers, Wesley (late Margaret), Howard (Michlene) and Harold (Joanne) and she was predeceased by Cecil, Bernice, Harriet (Ken Paulley) and Herbert (the late Ethel). Resting at the Cass Funeral Home, 3006 College St., Sherbrooke (Lennoxville), tel: 819-564-1750 / www.casshomes.ca, where friends may visit on Wednesday, December 27th from 10 to 12 p.m. and from 1 to 2 p.m., followed by the funeral service at 2 p.m. with the Rev. Barbara Willard officiating. Interment in the Malvern Cemetery. As memorial tributes, flowers or donations to the Canadian Cancer Society, 3330 King St. West, Sherbrooke, QC J1L 1C9, will be gratefully acknowledged by the family.

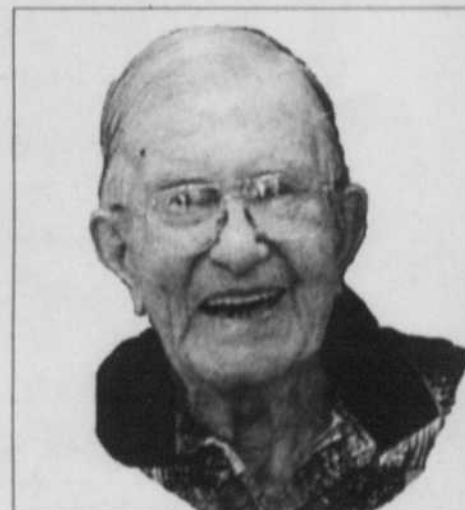
SPAULDING, Garfield - Peacefully at the Domaine de la Sapinière Home, East Angus, QC on Saturday, December 2, 2006. Garfield Spaulding at the age of 86. Beloved husband of the late Jennie Olson and loving father of Lorne (Pat), Colleen (Gregory Goode) and Lynn (Irma); cherished grandfather of Kelly, Connie and David Spaulding; Steve, Tammy and Matthew Goode; Ashley and Emma Spaulding; great-grandfather of Jaden, Hannah, Connor, Madison, Brooke, Paige and Summer. Garfield is also survived by other relatives and friends. Resting at the Cass Funeral Home, 15 Station St., Sawyerville, QC (819) 564-1750 / www.casshomes.ca where friends may visit on Thursday, December 28, 2006 from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. and on Friday, December 29 from 1 to 2 p.m., followed by the funeral service at 2:00 p.m. with the Rev. Barbara Willard officiating. Interment in the Island Brook Cemetery. As memorial tributes, donations to the Island Brook Cemetery, c/o Neil Burns, 1382 Rte. #212, Cookshire, QC, J0B 1M0, will be gratefully acknowledged by the family.

Deaths



CÔTÉ, Fanny-Bretta (born Mace) —

Peacefully at the Wales Home in Richmond, on Thursday, December 21st, 2006, at the age of 87. Beloved wife of the late Marcel Côté. She leaves to mourn her children: Edward (Joan); Angie (Robin); Gerald (Dawn); Raymond (Judy); Suzanne (Yves); Guy (Rhoda); Liz (Robin); Barbara (Kurt); 17 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. Visitation and funeral were held December 23rd, 2006 at Centre Funéraire Yves Houle, South Durham, with burial in St-Fulgence Cemetery in South Durham. If desired, donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Pauline Fecteau, Director.



SCOTT, Alden Johnston - (Member St. John's Lodge No. 27 A.F.&A.M., G.R.Q. for 50 Plus Years) - Peacefully at Parisien Manor on Thursday December 21, 2006.

He was 96. Beloved husband of the late Estella Darlymple (Findlay) Scott. Dear father of David Johnston Scott of Toronto. Predeceased by his parents, Francis James and Annabelle (Ferguson) Scott, 3 brothers, Harry, Millar and Frank and one sister Kathleen. Friends may call at the M. John Sullivan Funeral Home, 341 Pitt Street (across from city hall) Cornwall, on Tuesday from 2 - 4pm and 7 - 9pm and on Wednesday from 9:30 - 10:15 am. Funeral Service Wednesday, December 27, 2006 at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Martintown, at 11 am. Reverend Ian MacMillan officiating. Committal to follow at North Branch Cemetery, Martintown. As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations to the Heart & Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

See more
on page 16

Lennoxville General United Church Women meeting

The General United Church Women of the Lennoxville United Church met on December 11, 2006 in the Memorial Room with Helen Labrecque, President, in the chair. The meeting opened with a welcome and the repeating of the U.C.W. Purpose followed by some "food for thought."

The agenda as printed was accepted with two additions. The minutes of the October meeting were read and approved. Business from the minutes: five life memberships were presented during the October 15 church service and two more given on November 26. The cook books have arrived and are on sale on Sundays after church or from Helen Labrecque, Pat Smith or Bev Ross. Cost is \$10.00 per book. The cookie and muffin dough arrived on December 13 and those who purchased some picked it up on December 13 and 14 in time for Christmas baking and giving. A total of

824 tubs of dough were ordered and sold.

The treasurer gave a very favourable report including the results of the Christmas Bazaar. All outstanding bills are to be paid - these include our commitment to the Board of Stewards, and monetary gifts to the four members of the church staff.

A thank you note was read from Mary Scholes, Vice President of the Sherbrooke-Stanstead-Scotstown Presbyterial, for providing lunch at the Fall Fellowship Day held in September.

Portfolio reports are as follows:

The Stewards reported the new doors for the Gertrude Scott Hall have been ordered.

The flower convenor reported twelve poinsettias have been donated to the church for Christmas.

The Christian Education Committee will go caroling the evening of December 17 and the choir's Carol Service will be that morning.

Publicity - reports have been sent to The Record, Happenings and The Spirit newslet-

ter.

Unit 5 reported having catered to two funerals, served Tea at the Wales Home in November, have packed and delivered Christmas baskets to the shut-ins of the congregation, donated to the General U.C.W. and to the Breakfast Fund of A.G.R.H.S. and to the Hot Lunch Program of Lennoxville Elementary School. Their Christmas dinner and gift exchange was held at Pep's Restaurant on December 5. They decorated the church for Thanksgiving.

Unit 6 reported on having a very successful Garage and Rummage Sale in October. They decorated the church for Christmas. Several members helped with the Golden Age Christmas dinner and have project "Hope" on the go for cancer patients. Their Christmas gathering was held at the home of Kristan McKercher on December 18.

A nominating committee of three was formed and they will contact members regarding their positions for 2007. A theme, "Winter Wonderland," for the Christmas Bazaar 2007 was chosen and Jennifer Edwards volunteered to act as co-ordinator. Esther Bassett reported that new tables for the Turkey and Pie Rooms are needed and she will look into the purchasing of these along with

tablecloths for the Sunday School Room where the Bazaar helpers eat.

Helen Labrecque adjourned the meeting with Holiday Greetings.

Respectively submitted,
Esther Bassett,

Publicity Convenor

Lennoxville United Church Women

Cont'd from
page 15

Death



DUBEAU, Elsie — Peacefully at the CHUS Fleurimont Hospital, Sherbrooke, QC, on Monday, December 25th, 2006 in her 78th year. Elsie Beulah Wood, beloved wife of Norman Wesley Dubeau and dear mother of Lois (Douglas Walker), Ernest (Judith Langevin), Paul (Anne-Marie Yeates) and the late Beverly. Elsie is also survived by her grandchildren: Elsie Walker (Jeff Thibault), Trishia Walker (Daniel Bruneau), Lisa Dubeau (Nick Johnson), Ernest Jr. Dubeau (Melanie Fillion), Heather Dubeau (Gilles Poulin), Jason Dubeau and Stacey Dubeau (Martin Papillon) and her great-grandchildren: Vanessa, Corey, Skyler, Patrick, Marc, Derek, Travis, Matthieu, Tylor, Nathaniel, Nicholas, Owen, Brandon, Riley, Joey and Valérie. She was predeceased by Sunny Jay. Elsie was also survived by many other relatives and her many friends. Resting at the Cass Funeral Home, 554 Main St., Bury, QC, tel: 819-564-1750 / www.casshomes.ca, where friends may visit on Friday, December 29th, 2006 from 7 to 9 p.m. and on Saturday, December 30th from 1 to 2 p.m., followed by the funeral service at 2:00 p.m., with the Rev. Sister Mary Florence Liew officiating. Interment in the Island Brook Cemetery.

Lordy, Lordy! Look Who's 60 December 27, 2006



Happy Birthday
Grampie Russell

Love
Nolan, Hailey and Kyle
Nora
Steven and Jodi
Family and friends

Stanbridge East

The Stanbridge East Embellishment Committee 2006 chose the following as this year's Christmas Decoration winners:

Star Village: Peter Beaucage, 9 North.

1st Prize Village: Noella Vallieres, 24 Maple.

2nd Prize Village: Kenny Monette, 8 Depot.

Star Country: Ferrier Fortin, 154 Ridge.

1st Prize Country: Geraldine and Norman Jourdenais, 19 Route 202.

2nd Prize Country: Micheline Couture and Pierre-Andre Bessette, 97 Riceburg.

Appreciation and thanks to the judges: Sharon Pasher, Bernard Brodeur and Madeleine Gaudreau.

Submitted by Thelma Rhicard

Bulwer Golden Age

Dec. 11, the community Center was full of chatter and in a very festive mood. The table and hall were in the Christmas theme - very impressive.

Cards and bowling were enjoyed for a while then came our very impressive musicians whom were Henry on the accordion, the violin by Chilston and Dorothy on the piano. Grant sang for us, we had a sing along. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Dancing was also enjoyed.

Grace was said by Rev. Barbara Willard. Seventy-one members and guests sat down to a traditional turkey meal, pies were plentiful. This tasty and delicious meal was served by Peggy and kitchen helpers. Thanks to all. Peggy and staff were presented gifts of appreciation.

Happy birthday wishes to Ronnie Westman, Eileen Lowe and Archie Nelson.

Alberta thanked Gerald and Catherine Lowd and Beverly and Russel Nutbrown for preparing the hall.

Dorothy Cassidy thanked everyone for her get well wishes and wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Special prizes: Serena Wintle, Doreen Rand and Thelma Picken, Frances and Donna Davis.

Peggy's special baking prizes: Garth Call, Madelyn Betts, Eleanor Taylor, Keith Vintinner, Eva Hunt, Thelma Picken, Fern Lapointe, and Norma Brown.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and may 2007 be a good healthy one.

Submitted by
Margaret Vintinner

Diabetes The New EPIDEMIC

REACT NOW!

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: H equals J

" M G Z F U U J B K N Y S O T U F G A F
N G F F U A U F V K E Y U B S N N S W Z K
F U G P W P M U A F H G O T J G B G A O U , G
E P D U Z S L M U M O S A . " - V M B B K
O P K N E G B

PREVIOUS SOLUTION - "All writers are vain, selfish and lazy, and at the very bottom of their motives lies a mystery." - George Orwell

ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



GRIZWELLS



SOUP TO NUTS



KIT N' CARLYLE



HERMAN



"And don't wish me a Happy New Year because I do not want one, thank you."

CLASSIFIED

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E-MAIL: classad@sherbrookerecord.com
OR KNOWLTON: (450) 242-1188 BETWEEN 9:00 A.M. AND 4:00 P.M.

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

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LENNOXVILLE - Very large 3 1/2 room apartment, quiet. \$465. per month, nothing included. Call 819-820-5668.

045 Room Mate Wanted

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230 Tires

WINTER KING 195/65/15, on steel rims with hub caps, fits many GM models, 5 bolt pattern like Grand Am, Alero, Impala, etc. Like new. \$400. firm. Call (819) 566-0446.

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290 Articles For Sale



Have something to sell? Make your classified stand out. For \$10. more per day, run a photo with your classified! Deadline: 2 days before publication. Drop by our office in Sherbrooke or Knowlton. **819-569-9525.**

THULE 250 SKI BOX, with locks, 12 cu.ft., excellent condition, \$250. Some car/van adapters and bars available. Call 819-566-0446.

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

The Record classified hours during the holiday season.

- Friday, December 22:** 8:30 a.m. to noon.
- Monday, December 25:** closed
- Tuesday, December 26:** closed
- Wednesday, December 27:** 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Thursday, December 28:** 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Friday, December 29:** 8:30 a.m. to noon.
- Monday, January 1:** closed
- Tuesday, January 2:** closed
- Wednesday, January 3:** back to regular hours.

The deadline for classifieds will be **11 A.M.** instead of 12:30 P.M. during this period.

Thank you.

I wish to take this time to wish you all a very joyous and safe holiday.

Janet Daignault, Classified Advertising.

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Black & white value

What is black and white, read all over and serves as a great teaching tool? The newspaper, of course.

Teachers can use the newspaper in a number of ways in the classroom to enhance students' education. They can cut several pieces of art from the paper and have young students just learning to write name them, or clip a feature story from the paper and have older students respond to it in an essay.

Whatever the activity, newspapers benefit students. When used in the classroom, they improve students' reading, writing and critical thinking skills, inspire them to participate in discussions and debates, and expand their knowledge of past, current and future events.



THE RECORD

Your Birthday

Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2006

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — At present, positive influences are starting to permeate your affairs in ways that might not be totally discernible to you. You're likely to get the first hints of them.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Some good news you get from someone who is closely aligned with you for a common purpose will elevate your expectations. It pertains to something you've been wishing for.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Lady Luck might intervene on your behalf to put you on a new track that will be far more lucrative than any you had been designing for yourself. Count your blessings.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Conditions in general continue to look rather benevolent for you both socially and materially during this holiday period. You won't have any problem keeping one foot in each camp.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Something of a financial nature could come your way from someone to whom you are closely linked. It'll be one of the nicest things done for you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — A wonderful gesture may be extended by an unlikely person because of your abilities to treat everyone equally, regardless of standing and position in life.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Don't be fearful to elevate your sights where your objectives and goals are concerned at this time. If you sense that you're lucky, then you're right. So why not take advantage of it?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — You're likely to continue to be fortunate with your social connections, either through an individual or a group involvement of some kind. Make your presence felt.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — While people in general are in a benevolent mood, this might be a great day to present your case to someone who can do you a lot of good. Your chances for gaining his or her input are excellent.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Someone who has been lucky for you previously might make a decision that could spill over onto your interests and have far-reaching, favorable effects on your affairs.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — If you're looking to find ways to increase your earning capacity, today might be the day when you'll stumble onto the perfect formula. Keep your mind, eyes and ears alert.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Endeavors on your part that affect your social affairs have excellent chances of producing fortunate results. The more involvements you get yourself into, the luckier you be.

Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2006

North 12-27-06			
♠ 9 8 5 2			
♥ Q J 4			
♦ K 9			
♣ A K 7 6			
West		East	
♠ —		♥ K 10 7	
♥ A 10 7 6 3		♦ 8 5 2	
♦ 7 5 4 2		♣ 8 6 3	
♣ 9 5 3 2		♠ Q J 10 8	
South			
♠ A Q J 6 4 3			
♥ K 9			
♦ A Q J 10			
♣ 4			
Dealer: North			
Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♣	Pass
4 NT	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
Opening lead: ♥ A			

At the bridge table, we draw inferences from our opponents' and partner's calls and plays. We ought to be able to trust those deductions from partner's actions. (If not, it is time to get a new partner!) Drawing conclusions from the opponents is less reliable, because they might be trying to mislead you. But most of the time their play will be trustworthy, because each will be afraid that a falsecard might fatally mislead his partner.

In this deal, South was in six spades. West promptly led the heart ace and continued with another heart. What should the declarer have done next?

In the auction, South adopted a pedestrian but practical approach. The contract rated to be at worst on a finesse.

The original declarer thought that West, because he led quickly, could see what he thought was a second defensive trick. This could be only the spade king. So South laid down his spade ace ... and conceded down one when West discarded.

In general I approve of following one's feelings, but not when they go so against the odds. The chance that West will have a singleton spade king is only 13 percent. East will have the spade king 50 percent of the time, nearly four times more often. Declarer should have taken the spade finesse (twice, when the 3-0 split comes to light) and made his slam.

Percentages usually outweigh feelings

By Phillip Alder

Doctor and botanist Jacob Bigelow wrote, "It is common error to infer that things which are consecutive in order of time have necessarily the relation of cause and effect."

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Paid player
- 4 Rugby formation
- 9 Sufficient
- 14 Debtor's letters
- 15 "Common Sense" writer
- 16 Reveals
- 17 Dissension at the NCAA?
- 20 Move upward
- 21 Microsoft man
- 22 Golf props
- 23 Maps in maps
- 26 Sort
- 29 Harris and McMahon
- 30 Cuts and splices
- 31 Emmy winner Falco
- 32 Quench

- 33 Basketball formation
- 35 Dissension at the WBA?
- 38 With 10D, Rosalind Russell movie
- 39 Merchandise
- 40 Crimson and scarlet
- 41 Gardner's Mason
- 42 School org.
- 45 Worldwide worker's grp.
- 46 Twisted into ringlets
- 48 Incursion
- 49 Floppy
- 51 Mortar's partner
- 53 Dissension at the USGA?
- 57 Old pieces of a pound
- 58 Colossus
- 59 Food scrap

Lauda

- 25 Long-time Yankee skipper
- 27 Describes the length of a fish?
- 28 Author Kesey
- 30 Sch. designation
- 31 Goes astray
- 32 Some NCOs
- 33 Fencing
- 34 Buffalo Bill
- 35 Kindling
- 36 Habitually lazy
- 37 Writer Vidal
- 38 "Exodus" role

- 41 Magic word
- 42 Barbeque sites, often
- 43 Masonic doorkeepers
- 44 "___ Fideles"
- 46 Singer Leonard
- 47 Mil. morale grp.
- 48 Q-U connectors
- 50 In the past
- 52 "___ kleine Nachtmusik"
- 53 Cockney aspiration
- 54 Soup legume
- 55 Ducats
- 56 Israel follower

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

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

DOWN

- 1 Buccaneer
- 2 Awakened
- 3 Pound parts
- 4 Twirl
- 5 Office seeker
- 6 Fix a roulette wheel?
- 7 Actress Merkel
- 8 Comes together
- 9 Is adjacent to
- 10 See 38A
- 11 Acted as chair
- 12 Writer Deighton
- 13 D.C. hours
- 18 Old video game initials
- 19 Gangster's gun
- 24 Formula One driver

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13	
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THE RECORD

Make your home less inviting

Dear Annie: During the past year, the mother and

stepfather of some friends moved into a home that is just a couple of houses away from us. My husband and I have known these two for some years.

In the past, we've chosen to avoid our friends' parents as they both are drunks and the husband talks nonstop and has roaming hands. Unfortunately, my husband and I have become their favorite neighbors, and they often come over in the early evening to chat. They rarely leave, even when we tell them we have to eat dinner. They will tell us, "Go ahead. We'll entertain ourselves," which they do with the booze they brought. Sometimes I sense they are snooping around while out of our line of sight, so I often invite them to eat with us so we can keep an eye on them.

Annie, the man creeps me out. While he can be very funny, he only talks about what he owns and who he knows. But the worst part is he always positions himself near me and finds some reason to squeeze past me in tight corners. He is very quick to brush off any crumb that appears on my blouse.

The wife is totally oblivious to what is going on. I have discussed this with my husband, and we don't know how to avoid this couple. Even telling them we don't have time to visit doesn't deter them. If we close the door or walk away, they say they'll be back later. And they are.

Should I talk to our friends and ask for help with their parents? — Can't Stand Our Neighbors in Nuevo, Calif.

Dear Nuevo: We doubt your friends can help. You must be more direct. Tell your intrusive neighbors that you need time to unwind when you get home and you cannot have visitors. Every single time they pop in unexpectedly, tell them it's inconvenient and close the door. If you do it consistently, they will find their entertainment elsewhere. And if the husband gets too friendly, say in a loud voice, "Please keep your hands off me." In order for them to leave you alone, you must make your home less

Annie's Mailbox

inviting.

Dear Annie: I am 92 years old. I was

married to the most wonderful man for 70 years. We adored each other. A year ago, he began to have problems walking. Then came the cane, the walker and, just before he died, four months in a wheelchair. Every night I walked the floor crying, knowing he would soon be leaving me. A month before he died, he was in and out of a coma. Brokenhearted, I was forced to send him to a nursing home. I visited him every day from morning until night.

When he died in my arms, I was crying, yet I had this overwhelming wave of relief. How could I be relieved when I loved him so much? I cry every time I think of him and am consumed with guilt. Please help me. — Suffering in Florida

Dear Suffering: The relief you feel is normal. Your husband's death ended both his suffering and your anguish over his impending loss. It has nothing to do with the depth of your love and devotion. Please consider some grief counseling. The nursing home should be able to recommend someone.

Dear Annie: This is for "Had Enough," whose friend, "Bob," is grossly overweight and wrecks the chairs.

Chances are, Bob already knows he damages the furniture, so I think it's time "Had Enough" invested in folding camp chairs. My husband and I are big people, and one year at a local fair, we found someone selling camp chairs that hold up to 500 pounds. She can bring them out when Bob visits and put them away after.

She is not being rude to request that Bob sit in those chairs. It's HER house. And it may be a relief for him, too, not to end up on the floor after breaking another chair. Plus, everyone can relax and enjoy themselves. — Resting Easy

Dear Resting: What a great suggestion. Thanks for passing it along.

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

Lennoxville Golden Age

Dec. 5, on a sunny and crispy day, the club met upstairs for a fun afternoon. Donna welcomed everyone and wished all a fun afternoon. The Late Bloomer played some fine dancing music which many got up to dance.

Dufferin Annesley read an article which brought many laughs. He also told a few stories. Very enjoyable. We also enjoyed a sing along. A surprise visit from Santa surprised all. He enjoyed a dance with our president to the tune of Jingle Bells. Then gave everyone an orange.

Before going down to a fabulous turkey supper Rev. Potter said grace, Donna thanked Peggy and helpers for the great meal. Supper was served 81 members.

Thank you, May Hodge, for the festive table settings. Thanks to the UCW women for helping serve.

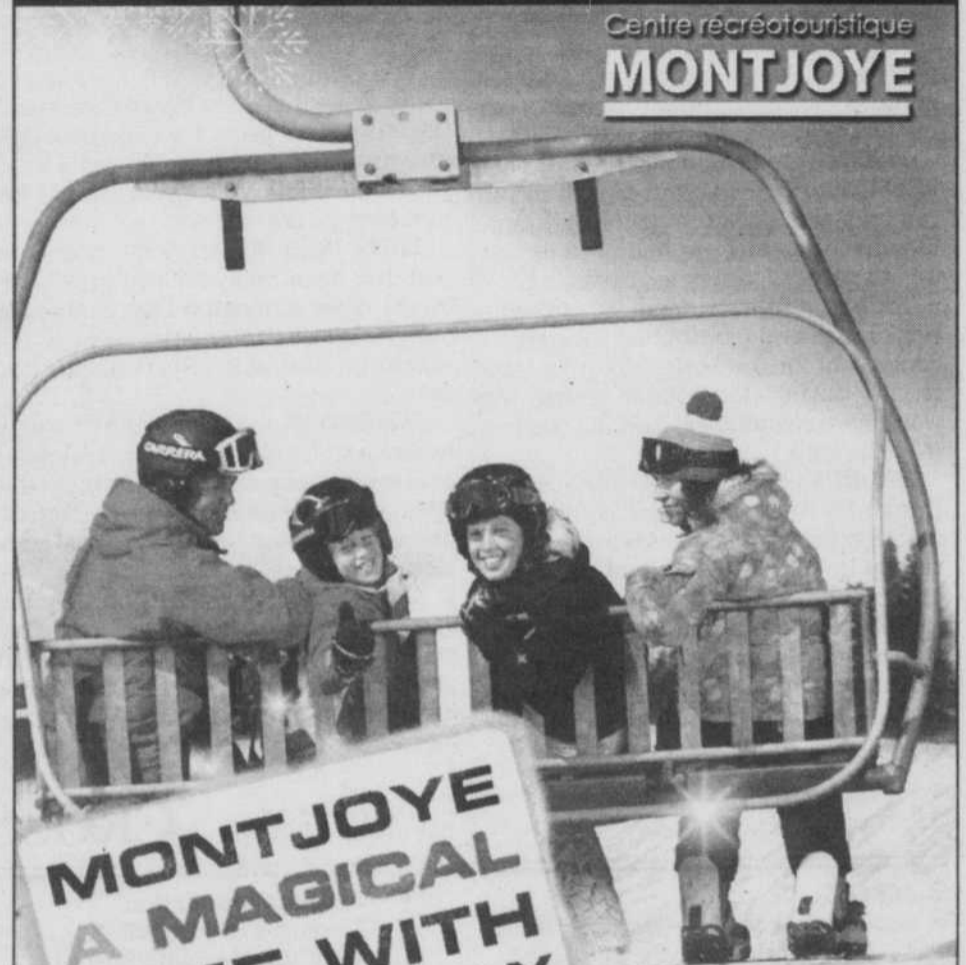
Our past president Beulah was presented with a gift for all the hard work she had done in her term by Donna (pres.) Beulah thanked all who had helped her during her term. Wishing everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. In closing Donna reminded everyone the next meeting, January 9, 2007 and extended her wishes. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and good health.

Submitted by
Margaret Vintinner



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