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Unused ETSB desktop computers finding homes... See Page 3

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MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 2006

Hussars On The Prowl In B-M



DAVID ANDERSON/SPECIAL

Local Hussars, armed forces reservists, were in the Stanbridge East area over the weekend doing a variety of military exercises. The training is valuable because the environment is similar to rural Europe, said an official. See Page 5 for more details.

Tragedy on the slopes

By Patrick Lavery
STANSTEAD

Ayk Saakyan, a 17-year-old Grade 10 student at Stanstead College, died Friday afternoon while skiing at Mont Orford. Saakyan lost control while descending a slope and crashed into rocks. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Saakyan was originally from Russia and in his second year at the college. He was an active athlete at the college, participating in cross-country running, swimming, and rugby.

Students and faculty of the college were at Mont Orford for the day as part of the school's winter carnival activi-

ties.

"Ayk was a regular participant of our ski trips, we go skiing every weekend," said college Headmaster Michael Wolfe.

"I'd say he was an intermediate skier."

Wolfe believes that, based on what he has been told, Saakyan mostly likely died on impact and did not suffer.

Stanstead College, a private school on the Quebec-Vermont border, prides itself on its small class sizes and the close bond between students and teachers. Wolfe, who knew Saakyan



COURTESY STANSTEAD COLLEGE

Ayk Saakyan was 17.

well, said the whole school was in shock in the aftermath of the incident.

SEE YOUNG, PAGE 2

Customs union waiting to see if Tory promises will be honoured

By Maurice Crossfield

The union representing Canada's customs officers are hoping a change in government will mean they will soon have the resources to do their jobs properly.

"We are really pleased the new government announced in their platform that they will arm customs officers," said Jean-Pierre Fortin, regional vice president of the Customs Excise Union.

SEE ARMS, PAGE 3



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Futuristic X-ray machines soon a reality?

The X-ray robot has a lightweight flat-panel screen to capture and display injuries

By Sarah Staples

Robots that are becoming a fixture in North American operating rooms could soon be following you around in search of broken bones.

American engineers say they are close to finishing a prototype mobile X-ray machine that will diagnose skeletal and joint injuries while patients walk, climb stairs, get out of a chair or even engage in light exercise.

The X-ray robot, a modified version of

a PA-10 from Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, has extendible arms and a lightweight flat-panel screen to capture and display injuries.

It's hooked up to a real-time motion capture system consisting of cameras placed strategically around the room, which hone in on light-emitting diode markers fixed to the patient near the site of an injury. The system detects how a patient moves and directs the robot to follow the human.

It's a design that could solve a long-standing irony in orthopedics: injury to the body's most movable parts has been diagnosed using tools that can't move.

"Your skeletal system and joints exist solely for you to move, yet when we want to figure out what's wrong we tell people

to lay down, relax, hold still and oftentimes, hold your breath," said Scott Banks, an assistant professor of aerospace and mechanical engineering at the University of Florida, and the project lead.

"If we really want to understand joint injuries and how they influence motion, we need to observe that."

Banks' lab is about a year from having a finished prototype installed at the orthopedic clinic for human testing, and it could take at least five years before the robotic X-ray machine is ready for market, he said.

The device could prevent unnecessary surgeries. Given the limitations of static X-ray machines, CAT scanners, and modern fluorescent X-ray video available in some operating rooms, doc-

tors are often forced to operate to diagnose motion-related injuries, such as those of the patella, kneecap and shoulder. In contrast, the robot's arms move in any direction, including spinning in a circle. That means it could potentially take over some of the duties of a \$4 million CAT scanner — a bulky device that takes detailed 3-D images of the body by generating multiple X-rays.

Another benefit is that the robot 'isn't scary-looking.'

"We want people to walk or climb stairs without being concerned that there's this creepy thing walking around them," Banks said.

"If they're scared by what we want to examine them with, it's game over."

—CanWest News Service

LOTO QUÉBEC		Results	
TVA, the network of draws			
SUPER 7	Draw	WINNERS	PRIZES
	2006-01-27	7/7	0 \$2,500,000.00
09 27 30 33 35 36 45		6/7+	0 \$149,651.80
		6/7	70 \$2,137.90
Bonus: 17		5/7	5,062 \$100.50
		4/7	108,337 \$10.00
Total sales:	\$13,026,736	3/7+	98,635 \$10.00
Next grand prize:	\$5,000,000	3/7	888,082 Free play
649	Draw	WINNERS	PRIZES
	2006-01-28	6/6	1 \$4,519,986.00
09 19 22 33 37 46		5/6+	0 \$322,856.10
		5/6	140 \$1,905.00
Bonus: 35		4/6	7,145 \$70.70
Total sales:	\$15,676,476	3/6	131,682 \$10.00
Next grand prize (approx.):	\$4,000,000	2/6+	87,247 \$5.00
Québec 49	Draw	WINNERS	PRIZES
	2006-01-28	6/6	0 \$1,000,000.00
13 25 27 28 30 37		5/6+	1 \$50,000.00
		5/6	18 \$500.00
Bonus: 12		4/6	903 \$50.00
Total sales:	\$478,967.00	3/6	16,952 \$5.00
Extra	Draw	Extra	Draw
	2006-01-27		2006-01-28
NUMBER PRIZE		NUMBER PRIZE	
853002 \$100,000		860410 \$100,000	
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Claims: see back of tickets. In the event of discrepancy between this list and the official winning list of Loto-Québec, the latter shall prevail.

YOUNG:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

"He was a very well-liked young man," said Wolfe. "We're trying to deal with this as best we can. We have a counsellor here and we brought in some grief counsellors to speak with everybody. A lot of students wanted to go to church, so we took them out to the various churches in town."

As well, the school modified its carnival weekend. "We wanted to provide some activities to the

students to help them," said Wolfe.

Wolfe said that arrangements to send the body back to Russia have been made. "At some point, I'll take his personal effects back," he said.

Wolfe said the school would do all it could to support Saakyan's family and continue to offer counselling to its students.

"It's our number one job right now," he said. "We're trying to work through this. Everybody's coming to terms."

A statement on the college's Web site said a memorial service for Saakyan will be held at a later date.

BRIEFS

Blood donor schedule

Monday, Jan. 30

- Hemmingford recreation centre
550 Goyette Ave.

2 to 7:30 p.m.

Objective: 75

- Windsor

Le Bel-Âge regional centre

6 6th Ave

2 to 8 p.m.

Objective: 110

Thursday, Feb. 2

Sherbrooke — Carrefour de l'Estrie

Central mall

3050 Portland Blvd

10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Objective: 450

Correction

Activities planned for family literacy day: Radio story time for ages 5-9, every Wednesday from 5 to 6 p.m. on CJMQ 88.9 beginning Feb. 1.

Drinking water distributor fined for not testing water

Drinking water distributor Mijaro Inc. pleaded guilty to two charges of not following water quality regulations.

Between Dec. 1 and 31, 2003 and Jan. 1 and 31, 2004 the distributor didn't take any samples of the distributed water to ensure it met standards. This is against environmental regulations. The distributor was fined \$2,520.

Weather

Today: Snow with the risk of freezing rain. Snowfall amount 5 cm. Wind southeast 20 km/h gusting to 40 becoming west 20 late in the day. High minus 3.

Tuesday: Cloudy with 70 per cent chance of flurries. High plus 1.

Wednesday: Cloudy with 30 per cent chance of flurries. Low minus 6. High minus 1.

Thursday: Cloudy with 60 per cent chance of flurries. Low minus 6. High zero.

Ben by Daniel Shelton



ETSB's unused desktop computers to benefit distance education learners

By Joshua Bleser
COWANSVILLE

With the Eastern Townships School Board's laptop initiative hogging the limelight in recent months, another of the board's computer-learning initiatives has been allowed to slip under the radar screen.

As of Jan. 16, students enrolled in courses through the board's Distance Education program have the option of leasing a desktop computer for the duration of their studies, for a refundable deposit of \$50. The computers have been donated by schools across the board, whose students and teachers now have laptops.

"We realized that there are many students that would like to do computer courses, or communicate with their tutors through Internet," explains Distance Education coordinator Ilze Epnars. "We were looking at how we could offer adult learners the same benefits as the kids who have laptops."

Epnars has 75 computers on-hand, with more available if necessary. All are Internet-ready and equipped with the software necessary for the courses offered through Distance Education. Students are responsible for the maintenance of the computers in their charge.

The idea came out of an afternoon of brainstorming with school board administrators "on how to bring Distance



JOSH BLESER

The Distance Education offices in Cowansville have a roomful of computers, monitors, keyboards, and mice waiting for takers. "They're ready! We just need people to come pick them up!" says program co-ordinator Ilze Epnars.

Education to the next level."

"One of the joys of doing distance education is to do it when you're available, not when a computer is available," Epnars notes. The Distance Education program has been steadily growing

since its inception in 1998. It now offers 66 courses to anyone 16 years of age or older who lives in Quebec and does not have a DES or needs prerequisites for CEGEP or a DEP. It even serves Quebec students travelling or working abroad.

Last year, 600 students were enrolled, some of whom were living in Africa, Bosnia, and Peru. For more information on the Distance Education program and its computer lending initiative, call 1-877-463-3775 or 450-263-9710.

ARMS:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

"We are urging the government to do it as soon as possible."

The CEU is looking at a few security upgrades, beginning with providing firearms to customs officers. The union is also seeking an increase in the number of customs officers and the creation of a border patrol.

Fortin said the work of a customs officer has changed in recent years. Once seen as more of a collector of duties at crossings between Canada and the US, customs officers are increasingly focused on security issues.

In 2000 the federal government gave customs officers the same powers to arrest lawbreakers as police officers. The number one priority today is to ensure those who enter the country do so legally, are not a security threat and are not smuggling contraband such as drugs, explosives and guns.

"We have the same status as police officers but we are not as well equipped," Fortin said. Presently customs officers have batons and pepper spray, but nothing to deal with more dangerous situations.

A prime example of that was last

week at the border between Vancouver and Washington. Customs officers were told two armed men were making a run for the border. The unarmed customs officers, who have the legal right to refuse to work if they believe their lives are in danger, opted not to be the ones to bring pepper spray to a gun fight. The men were eventually caught before they made it to the border and the customs officers returned to their posts.

Customs officers walked off the job at Sault Ste Marie, Ont. on Friday for similar reasons. A US teenager armed with an M-16 rifle was headed towards the border. The work refusal snarled up the border crossing, creating a three-hour wait time for travellers. Once the teen was arrested by US authorities the border guards went back to work.

With no firearms and no immediate backup, customs officers have no choice but to let intruders into the country, calling the police to come and try to find them.

"It is simply a practical matter of how soon these officers can be trained and the firearms issued," said Conservative MP Vic Toews, who in the previous session of Parliament sat as the party's justice critic. In the new government, Toews may well end up being in charge of justice and security issues.

But don't expect to see customs officers packing heat just yet. Fortin said it would have to be decided which officers would be armed. Then there would be a matter of testing and training to ensure those who are issued sidearms are qualified to do so safely. That process could easily take a year to complete.

"We know that not everybody will have the ability to be armed in our service," he said, noting that some sort of arrangement will have to be made for those Canada Customs employees. Aptitude with firearms will also have to become a criteria for new recruits as well.

Firearms aren't the only concern. At many ports of entry, such as Clarenceville, a single officer works the night shift. Fortin said the CEU wants to see officers doubled up at remote locations. The creation of a border patrol would also mean faster backup for those on the line in times of need.

"It's a mixture of all these solutions that we want to discuss with the minister," Fortin said.

The demands

are in keeping with the Tory platform, which promised to arm customs officers and double staff at 139 crossings where they presently work alone. Fortin said former Liberal justice minister Anne MacLellan wasn't in favour of arming border guards, despite several reports that said such a move was necessary.

The CEU is now waiting to see who newly minted prime minister Stephen Harper names to the justice portfolio and will be seeking to meet with that person as soon as possible.

Fortin, who is the CEU's representative in charge of the border issue, said he hopes that meeting will happen within a couple of weeks, with government decisions coming shortly thereafter.

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Lone Conservative MP ready to serve

Voters wanted a change: Paradis

By Brion Robinson
SHERBROOKE

The Estrie region's only Conservative Member of Parliament says his party made a strong comeback this election because people voted for change.

The Liberals are worn out and people weren't interested in voting for the Bloc, said rookie Conservative Party of Canada MP for Mégantic-L'Érable Christian Paradis.

His riding had been jumping back and forth between the Bloc and Liberals for almost 10 years before residents voted him in last week.

Paradis, who spoke with The Record on his cell phone while driving to meet

party members in Ottawa, sailed into an easy win Monday night with almost 50 per cent of the vote.

His closest rival, Bloc Québécois incumbent Marc Boulianne, trailed him by over 17 per cent. The Liberal candidate amassed less than 11 per cent of the vote.

Although the Conservatives haven't held a seat following the last three elections, Paradis said the region has always supported the party.

"We always represented about 10 per cent of the popular vote," he said, noting his party is well organized and has a solid platform.

"I was ready to sell what we had to offer."

He wasn't the only Conservative who made an easy sale.

Following the election, the Conserv-

atives gained 10 seats in Quebec. They took seats from both the Liberals and Bloc in mostly French-speaking ridings.

Winning seats in rural Quebec was a major victory for the Conservatives where support for sovereignty is usually very strong.

Another new Conservative MP is Maxime Bernier, an insurance company executive elected in Beauce who may be named to Stephen Harper's Cabinet. He also beat his opponent by an easy 47 per cent margin.

Paradis said the sponsorship scandal helped his campaign but he didn't dwell on it.

"I wanted to present the positive aspects of our party," he said, noting his riding has a struggling economy and he wants to attract new businesses with financial incentives and set up on the job

training programs to encourage young people to stick around.

Paradis, who studied at the University of Sherbrooke, said he also plans to maintain strong ties with Sherbrooke and its Conservative candidate Marc Nadeau (who finished second with over 20 per cent of the vote.)

The rookie MP will be in Ottawa for a few days to meet with fellow MPs and organize his new office but said he's anxious to get back to Thetford Mines and start working with his constituents.

Paradis said his party deserves a chance.

"I hope MPs will give Mr. Harper time to govern and get things done," he said. "I don't think Canadians will want another election next year."

brobinson@sherbrookerecord.com

Security observers back PM's foreign spy proposal

By James Gordon

National security experts are praising prime minister-designate Stephen Harper's proposal to create a foreign spy service, but argue he should scrap plans for a full Air India inquiry.

The idea for a Canadian-style CIA was announced in the Conservative election platform, but received scant attention next to Harper's domestic promises at the time.

While University of Toronto national security professor Wesley Wark suspects it won't be at the top of the Tory priority list, he says the service would be a valuable tool for the country.

"I think this is, in fact, a good idea, and I think Canada should be going in that direction," he says. "I don't think it's wise to simply expand CSIS operations overseas, because you're never going to get the complete payoff that you might want from foreign intelligence collection."

While there were rumblings under the previous Liberal government about increasing foreign operations — possibly via the expansion of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service's mandate — the idea never took flight under then-public safety minister Anne McLellan.

It's believed the Conservative proposal would go much further, radically reshaping the Canadian intelligence community with spies solely dedicated to foreign operations.

Whereas primarily domestic CSIS can work on overseas operations directly related to the national security of Canada, Wark predicts the new agency would resemble the CIA or British Secret Intelligence Service (SIS).

Stationed in overseas embassies, consulates and missions, agents would work under diplomatic cover to gain first-hand insight into the conflicts,



CANWEST FILE PHOTO

PM-elect Stephen Harper has a plan to re-shape the Canadian intelligence community.

politics, militaries and economies of foreign countries to help shape Canadian policy.

"Presumably, its primary task in the foreseeable future would be to monitor overseas hot spots — sources of threats to Canada," he says. "A new service would need a permanent establishment overseas."

The government would have to overcome numerous obstacles to make that a reality, however. In addition to the cost of building an agency from the ground up, the time required to put infrastructure in place and work out arrangements with key allies would likely outlive this minority government.

The plan would also require the backing of high-level Conservatives

willing to push through what Wark predicts would be resistance from "official Ottawa."

"What you'd have would be a competition for resources between an existing CSIS and other parts of the Canadian intelligence community and the new agency," he says. "There would be all kinds of bureaucratic frictions and tensions around recruitment and retention of people."

Former CSIS watchdog Ron Atkey argues that despite the logistical hang-ups and view among some decision-makers that a foreign spy service is somehow "un-Canadian," the country needs one in the long run.

"I think as a matter of Canadian sovereignty, the ability to have our own information from abroad is important,"

he says, citing sabre-rattling this week over the Arctic as a prime example of the need for independence.

"I think to the extent that we rely on foreign intelligence — we rely on stuff given to us by the Americans and by the British — sometimes our interests are different.

"It will be costly and it will be difficult to achieve, but I think it's a goal that a new government like Harper's could embark on."

While Atkey praises the spy plan, he calls the Tory promise to hold a judicial inquiry into the Air India disaster an "impracticable" campaign promise.

"Now that the Conservatives are the government, they will have to take a very hard look at what is possible, and what is realistic in terms of meeting expectations of those Canadians who are directly affected by the tragedy," says Atkey, who conducted his own investigation into the 1985 bombing as former chairman of the Security Intelligence Review Committee.

The Liberal government last year asked former Ontario premier Bob Rae to review the file and make recommendations regarding how to deal with any unresolved questions. He called for a smaller-scale, fact-based and policy-oriented inquiry, and was quickly appointed to head one up.

Atkey says the Harper government should allow Rae's investigation to move ahead.

"Bob Rae came up with trying to steer a middle course ... and that was a brave attempt on his part to try to provide some more information, but at the same realizing that 20 years is a long time," he says. "A judicial inquiry would be extremely expensive, with the possibility that nobody may be further ahead as a result."

—CanWest News

Conservatives will not interfere in Quebec spending habits

By Stephen McDougall
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

A Conservative federal government will not try to dictate to the provinces how they should spend the money transferred to them by Ottawa, nor will it give them all the money they want, according to a party policy official in Montreal.

"We do not want to interfere in how the provinces spend their money," said Daniel Goulet, a Conservative policy and communications specialist in a recent interview. "The provinces have more responsibilities in their jurisdictions, even if some of the spending is considered wasteful. Remember that some federal spending is also wasteful."

Goulet was responding to a 24-year-old spending policy of the Quebec government which allocates one per cent of all its building budgets to art projects, especially when putting up new hospitals.

Last summer, it was revealed that two super hospitals planned to be built in Montreal by 2008 will require a minimum spending of \$8 million on art pro-

jects. The money is to come from the cash-strapped provincial health department.

The Liberal government of Jean Charest, along with the Parti Québécois, have long argued the health department's lack of money was caused by a "fiscal imbalance" caused by a lack of federal funding transfers.

Goulet said his party is ready to tackle the imbalance problem, but made it clear Quebec will not get all it wants.

"We will have to negotiate with them over this problem, but we do not plan to give them all that they want," he said. "I don't want to argue the details now, but we will not give them carte blanche on every demand."

The newly-elected Conservative party said during the recent federal election it would settle the imbalance issue with the provinces but would not say how the negotiations would be carried out.

Quebec and other provinces accused the previous Liberal administration of cutting transfer payments, especially in health

care, over several years while former Prime Minister Paul Martin was the federal finance minister.

They have claimed the transfer cuts have put many of their budgets in deficit status, but few have shown any significant efforts to cut their spending or services in departments other than health and education.

Newly-elected Prime Minister Stephen Harper said the imbalance issue can be resolved given the billions of dollars Ottawa generates in budget surpluses each year.

But Goulet said his party would not commit to putting any constrictions on how that new federal will be spent by the provinces.

"We are not here to fight the provinces on the issue of how they spend their money," he said. "It is up to them to change their system if it is considered too wasteful."

But Quebec's provincial government does not consider the spending on art

project a wasteful venture, even if many hospitals get overcrowded and schools continue to be closed each year.

Agriculture minister Yvon Vallières said the spending of \$8 million for art is "nothing" when considering the whole budget for the new hospitals.

"We are providing the services and making improvements all the time," he said. "When you consider the hundreds of millions going into new health facilities, \$8 million is nothing."

Vallières said the present arrangement Quebec has with Ottawa over revenue sharing is flexible and allows his government "to do what we want" when it comes to spending priorities.

But not all Conservatives are supportive of the policy.

During the election, Richmond-Arthabaska candidate Jean Landry denounced the one-per cent-for-art policy, arguing it is not something the federal government should continue to encourage.

One year later, Méлина Martin still missing

Staff

It has been just over a year since Méлина Martin of Sainte-Sabine went missing, and the Sûreté du Québec is still looking for any information to help locate her.

The SQ has assigned a new investigator to the case, who will be meeting with every witness already questioned by police. Detective Stéphane Caputo of the Sherbrooke-based Regional Investigation Bureau will be going over all available information in an attempt to find new information. Over the last year the Brome-Missisquoi detachment of the SQ had headed the investigation.

Martin, who would now be 14 years old, was last seen on Sunday, Jan. 23 2005 when her mother dropped her off at the Plaisirs sur Glace winter festival in Farnham at Parc Bourbonnais. She was supposed to meet her mother in a few hours at a local restaurant, but she never showed up. She also failed to appear at her high school on the following Monday. Police were never able to establish if Martin ran away or could have been abducted.

Martin's family is still holding out hope that she will be found alive and well. In the months that followed her disappearance friends and family scoured the surrounding countryside, distributing posters and looking for any sign of the young girl, but with no luck.

Méлина Martin is described as five-foot-four and weighing about 115 pounds. She has reddish blond hair, with several ear piercings and a piercing on her lower lip. Anyone with any information is asked to call the SQ at 310-4141, or the Info Crime line at 1-800-711-1800.



Illustration: Jacques Lefebvre

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EDITORIAL

Supreme Court swings low

Once the jokes and tittering die down, the reality of having a swingers club in the neighbourhood where partner swapping and group sex are the Saturday night special may sink in and people will grasp the full impact of a Supreme Court decision that determined such clubs do not breach Canadian standards of decency.

According to a Web site for swingers, there are roughly four million Canadians who have embraced the 'lifestyle' and in Montreal alone, there are 20 swingers clubs, most of which will now move their underground operations to storefront locations as a result of the Dec. 21 Supreme Court decision.

Last year, a group of Granby residents complained to police about the presence of a swingers club in their neighbourhood, prompting the owners to pack up their sex toys and inflatable mattresses and move to Sherbrooke.

Such clubs will no longer have to face the wrath of neighbours. They will now be able to wrap themselves in

a cloak of respectability provided by the Supreme Court of Canada.

Canada's highest court has determined society is not harmed by acts of debauchery, provided they are committed behind closed doors by consenting adults. The decision has emboldened swingers and before long, communities can be prepared to see the proliferation of clubs like the one that will soon open its doors in Ascot Corner.

Swingers, for those who may not be familiar with the term, participate in group sex and partner swapping with like-minded people, but pay their membership fees to club owners, and not to each other, then pay another fee every time they avail themselves of club activities. (Sort of like getting free green fees with your golf membership, then paying to play with another guy's clubs.)

Because the Supreme Court has deemed their activities legal, the clubs are able to advertise and promote their services and enjoy the rights and privileges of any other business in the com-

munity. Such legitimacy also sends the message to impressionable young minds that it's perfectly okay for mom and dad to have sex with the neighbours as long as they do it behind closed doors and everyone is okay with it. It also makes a mockery of sex as part of loving relationships.

The question is not so much 'do we want swingers clubs in our neighbourhood' as 'do we want seven Supreme Court justices becoming the sole arbitrators of community standards.'

Benchmarks for community standards of morality should not be the purview of the courts alone.

Social standards evolve with time, taking into account the values of society while maintaining individual rights. It's a delicate balance and one that must be constantly re-evaluated to ensure the collectivity is not imposing a set of standards that denies other members of society their rights just because they are different.

Nobody wants a return to the days

when adulterers and homosexuals were imprisoned, and most would agree with former prime minister Trudeau's assertion that the government has no place in the bedrooms of the nation. But publicly-operated sex clubs are not bedrooms and the government does have a place, along with community institutions and individuals, in determining acceptable standards of public debauchery which implicitly sanction behaviour that a majority of Canadians find repulsive.

It would seem to me it is the responsibility of every Canadian to aspire for standards that would meet the highest test of respect for individual rights while ensuring community standards don't plummet to the level of kennel dogs.

Our Supreme Court has failed that test and all Canadians along with it.

It is up to municipalities now to come up with some creative zoning regulations.

SHARON McCULLY



Harper flunks first test on ethical standards

At his inaugural press conference last week as prime minister-designate, Stephen Harper reiterated his campaign promise to make ethical reform the first priority of his new government. That commitment, following an election that revolved closely around the issue, renders all the more curious the decision by the parliamentary ethics commissioner to hold off his report on the Grewal-Dosanjh affair until after the vote last Monday.

In his report released on Wednesday, Bernard Shapiro correctly called the facts of the case "an unusual glimpse of politics in its least attractive form." It was a glimpse he was not prepared to share with voters, however, during the one point in our political cycle when they could have reacted in a meaningful way.

Shapiro was investigating the conflicting claims that came out of a series of encounters between then health minister Ujjal Dosanjh and Gurmant Grewal, the Conservative MP for Newton-North Delta. He concluded that Grewal was indeed seeking a benefit in return for agreeing to cross the floor in time for a crucial vote. What he could not establish conclusively, however, was Grewal's motivation.

Shapiro said he could not determine whether Grewal was truly seeking a cab-

inet post for himself and a Senate seat for his wife Nina Grewal, who was just re-elected as the Conservative MP for Fleetwood-Port Kells, or whether, as Grewal claimed, he was merely trying to entrap Dosanjh into improper conduct.

Seeking a benefit is a more serious offence than entrapment, but neither befits a member of Parliament. Grewal clearly made the right choice when he decided at the last moment not to run again. But he is not the only one who comes off looking badly.

Dosanjh was cleared of the serious charge of offering a benefit, but it is clear he was engaged in nefarious negotiations from which he should have walked away. We hope that the accountability package promised by Harper will clarify some of the rules of conduct for MPs and staff so that no one can have any doubt such negotiations are not only wrong but punishable.

Sadly, Harper has undermined some of his high moral ground already by failing to meet with Shapiro on the Grewal investigation despite repeated requests over several months. This leaves the impression that he is more enthusiastic about pursuing corrupt behaviour by Liberals than he is about rooting it out of his own party.

—CanWest News

THE RECORD

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

For the love of our elderly, don't privatize health care

Some people have been invoking the looming specter of the expected ageing of the population as justification for allowing the intrusion of the private sector into health-care funding. This argument, which is overblown, masks latent ageism.

The manifestos and reports of the two opposing groups in this debate refer to a "demographic decline" to describe population ageing. But just what is declining? How does an increase in the elderly population in a society constitute a decline? How can a group of people be stigmatized without anyone speaking out against what amounts to segregation, which, at the very least, is politically incorrect?

Imagine the hue and cry — and it would be quite justified — if a demographic trend of another group, such as women, immigrants, the disabled, homosexuals, or visible minorities, were referred to as a decline. But in the case of the elderly...silence and tacit approval.

And what's even worse, no one points out that the elderly are being ostracized, despite the fact that they built this country and deserve our respect. In fact, they established the measures of social solidarity that we now enjoy.

Ageing is the ransom that we pay for our progress in pushing back the boundaries of death and disease. It's a characteristic of humanity and advanced civilizations, not a defect that must be avoided at all costs, or even reversed.

European countries whose percentages of the elderly in the population that are already much higher than those that we are awaiting with fear are not declining. In fact, just the opposite is true.

Now that our society no longer tolerates bashing the gay community, women, ethnic communities, or blacks, the target has shifted to seniors...and nothing gets said or done.

While population aging will impact health-care costs, it won't be the apocalypse predicted by some. Baby-boomers, who represent the next generation of the elderly, will be in much better health than preceding generations.

Moreover, current projections of future demands for services clearly overstate the needs. Furthermore, these predictions fail to take into account that practices and treatments will continue to improve as they have done over the last 30 years.

In actuality, we are experiencing a revolution that will result in a significant reduction in demand for hospital beds, instead of the increase predicted in the '80s, taking into account population aging (sic). It's "déjà vu all over again!"

Ageing actually ranks fifth among factors increasing health care costs and there is not really anything that can be done about it. Indeed, we should really be much more concerned about the uncontrolled cost of medication, the blind recourse to costly diagnostic and treatment technologies without scientific proof or ethical considerations, inappropriate use of hospitals to compensate for the lack of primary care and home care, and, lastly, the privatization of health-care funding.

It's important to point out that privatization of health-care funding, even on a partial basis, will not save money, but actually generate costs.

This can be seen by looking at our neighbours to the south, who spend more than 15 per cent of their GNP on health care, in comparison to 10 per cent for countries with publicly funded systems (9.4 per cent here). And the United States ranks among the trailing industrialized countries when it comes to most health indicators.

In short, the U.S. system costs more but is less effective. Why? Because their system allows people with more money to buy services and treatments that are often unnecessary and inappropriate, while the less fortunate don't have access to effective essential services.

Moreover, the argument that a private-sector system costs less is fallacious. How can the private sector provide a service for less yet maintain a profit margin? By paying profession-

als less? Then professionals wouldn't be attracted to the private system and would stay in the publicly funded system. By paying staff less? The same argument holds true, with the added pressure of the unions, who will be there, as in the public sector, to protect worker interests. By reducing management costs? Management costs are higher in private health-care systems than in public systems?

Administrative costs account for 31 per cent of health-care expenditures in the United States, compared to only 16 per cent in Canada. New players flocking to the funding mix complicates management for the institutions, who must deal with many funders. This doesn't take into account the management cost of private insurers. And finally what remains to decrease the cost? Compromised quality... patients won't be fooled for long.

No, private funding — even if only partial — won't save money. It will simply divert funds to multinationals that manage health insurance and who are impatiently waiting for our market to open. The public health care system is our best weapon in dealing with population aging. The elderly and chronically ill are not choice clients for private insurance companies, who tend to focus instead on the young and healthy.

The outcome: Profits for the private sector and costs for the public. Even worse, the appearance of a parallel system would draw staff and professionals away from the public system, which would aggravate the current and expected shortages.

Predictions put nursing shortages in Quebec in 2020 at 16,000, with major shortages also expected among rehabilitation professionals.

As for doctors, the doubling of admissions to Quebec's four medical schools will, at best, only maintain current shortages for the next 20 years.

Some people contend that a parallel private system would enable physicians to maintain their public practices and add on private practices. This is false.

Over the last 20 years, the trend has shown that young physicians are spending fewer and fewer hours on professional practice. Instead, they are

striving to achieve a better balance with family and personal life, which, by the way, accounts for the errors in predicting resources back in the '80s.

One justification often cited is that the wealthy are able to pay for private services and should be allowed to. Then, why not invest instead in the public system to make it more efficient and effective?

The problem is that they are prepared to pay more for health care, but not in income tax. The solution: Health care should be financed from a fund separate from the province's consolidated fund. That's how it works in the case of car insurance, the provincial retirement pension (Régie des rentes), and employment insurance.

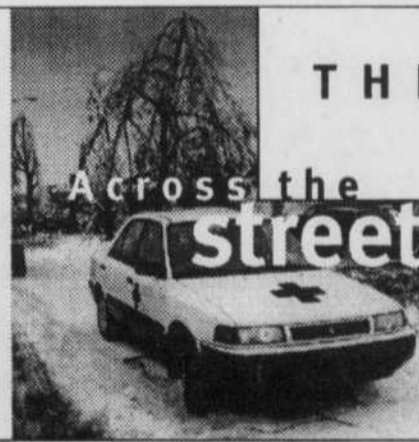
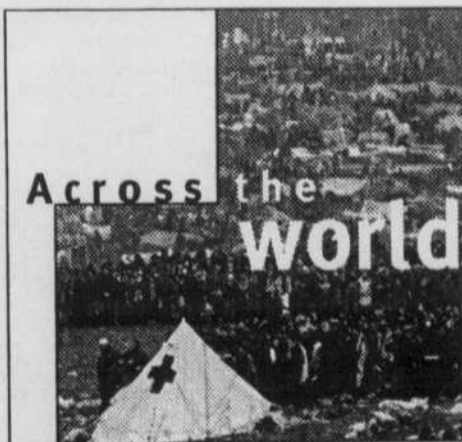
This could be a fund that would allow us to capitalize on the future to ensure intergenerational equity. A fund to which contributions would be based on wealth, not health. A fund to which smokers and sedentary people would pay a surcharge to compensate for the risks associated with their poor lifestyles. A fund for everyone, without segregation, unlike the old-age fund or the disability fund proposed in the Clair and Ménard reports. A fund that would pay out to ensure that everyone has access to quality services. A fund that most of the population would be willing to contribute to in order to preserve a health-care system that is public, efficient, and effective.

In short, our public, universal health care system is the best tool for dealing with the expected aging of the population. It provides the means to more easily adapt the services offered to the needs of the elderly with chronic diseases by integrating services, from primary to specialized care. It makes it possible to more effectively deal with the current and forecast shortages of staff and professionals.

On the other hand, it will call for greater investments and most of the population is ready to do their part as long as the funding is specific.

For the love of our elderly, let's keep our health-care system public and fend off the invasion of the private sector.

RÉJEAN HÉBERT, MD, MPhil
Dean, Faculty of Medicine
and Health Sciences
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Reservists take to the streets in B-M



If you were out and about Saturday morning in the Stanbridge East area of the Townships then you may have seen soldiers lurking around bushes and military vehicles parked by roadsides. The Royal Canadian Hussars used the Brome-Missisquoi area to stage a reconnaissance exercise. About 50 reservists equipped with a dozen military vehicles, including several new G-Wagons made by Mercedes Benz, practiced techniques and situations they might run into in a realistic environment. Reserve Major Jackson said his unit's job is to move into an area in advance of combat forces, check road conditions, look for obstacles, secure bridges, look for possible threats and work on communication. The exercises are valuable in training reservists in an environment similar to rural Europe, said Jackson.



PHOTOS DAVID ANDERSON/SPECIAL



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Children who hear benefit from learning sign language



CANWEST NEWS

Deanna Old leads two-year-old Emma Raugust, left, and Old's daughter, Bailee, 3, in a sign language conversation.

By Joanne Good
CALGARY

While baby Jersey looks on, three preschoolers gesture in a refined dance of fingers and palms to The Apple Tree Song.

Under the tutelage of day-home provider Deanna Old, the children are engaged in a second language that is kinesthetic, visual and passionate. And since these are children who can hear, there are whispers of their voices and the tinkling of the taped song.

Old learned the skills from Terese Westergreen at Wee Sign, where parents and caregivers learn how to introduce sign language to hearing children so they are able to make requests long before they can say what they want.

"I started with my daughter at seven months, and, by eight months, she was signing 'change' as in 'change diapers,' says Westergreen, who learned American Sign Language while studying to be a speech pathologist.

By her daughter's first birthday, young Talia had 10 signs to get her through the day. Signs for messages such as "more," "eat," "nurse," "fin-

ished" and "dog" are popular and useful for young children, says the mother of two.

While proponents believe signing has the potential to boost fine motor skills, IQ, spoken language, the bond between adult and child and co-operation between children, language researchers are tempered in their view.

Susan Graham, a University of Calgary psychologist and word learning researcher, says recent studies are not as outstanding as advocates have believed.

She cites a Canadian research paper called Baby Talk! Training Hearing Infants to Use Sign Language (Johnston, Durieux-Smith, Bloom, 2003), in which enthusiasm for childhood signing is quite reserved.

"The high accessibility of a wide range of baby signing products is not matched by good quality evidence that would reinforce manufacturers' claims," the report cautions.

That's not to say you can't use signs, Graham adds.

SEE LANGUAGE, PAGE 10

Got a question?

See Tuesday's paper for the answer from your professionals.

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Free Trade verses Fair Trade

Part I: Slavery under another name is still slavery

By Anna May Kinney

Having been born on February 9, 1947, it's been almost 59 years, when at two days old I received my first Valentine heart shaped box of chocolates from my father. Truthfully, my only memories of this heart warming occasion are the many stories my parents told me of the lovely decorated mixture of dark and milk chocolates my mother received and the tiny heart on top that was suppose to have been for me.

I am sure this scenario has played out around the world thousands if not millions of time and will continue to be the making of memories for many generations to come. When my 22-year old father bought chocolate for the two ladies in his life, I don't think he had a moments thought about the economic, political, environmental or social ramifications of his purchase.

Sadly, in many ways our world has become a place where the labor of the poorest is often exploited in order to provide for the needs of the more prosperous nations.

Today, everything we do from brushing our teeth in the morning to how many times we flush the toilet during the day has an impact on the environment.

Maybe if my father's generation had been more aware of how the effects of global expansion without the implementation of environmental and social safety nets would have affected the fu-

ture of his children and grandchildren, then maybe we would not find ourselves facing these socially unfair and complex environmental issues today.

SLAVERY THEN AND NOW

Do you believe that slavery does not exist anymore? You may have heard how in some places of the world people are still bought and sold into a "type" of slavery. Well, let me just

say, if it was you, your children, or a grand child of yours there are no "types" of slavery, because slavery under any other name is still slavery.

A couple of week's ago we all honored a great man that had a lot to do with changes in social justice here in North America. This was a man who had seen it all, from the days of his grandparents living through slavery in the south to the days when the first black woman refused to surrender her bus seat to a white person.

He was a man of deep foresight and one who understood that the ways of capitalism were that the rich got richer while the poor often became exploited at their expense. I wonder if he had any idea how prophetic these word would become some thirty years after his death, when Martin Luther King said, "Before you've finished your breakfast this morning, you'll have relied on half the world".

Today Americans and Canadians scream as they watch their jobs disappear to those in other countries willing to do the same work for less. We don't think of this as exploitation because

these people are being given a great chance of better themselves. But what about the many companies that hire children, pay them almost nothing for 16-hour work days, or even worse conditions OWN them for years to pay off some obscure debt that their parents had entered into?

You maybe saying this only happens a little bit and most of the people are paid fairly for their labors, this is what multinationals want you to believe, when it is anything but the truth. Let me give you one example: Many pineapple and banana plantations have been bought up by large multinational corporations, which pay their workers so little that they can not even afford to purchase the fruit that they carry on their backs from sunrise to sunset each day.

This may not seem like enslavement to you, but I bet to the family that has to get up each and every day at dawn, has to work till the sun goes down just to fill the bellies of their starving children it's nothing else. What are the signs (earmarks) of enslavement? Isn't it lack of freedom to do what you want to better your life and that of your loved ones, isn't it not receiving a far day's pay for a day's work?

So, If a poor family lives in a region where the only way to earn a living is to work for a multinational (because the family run farm or plantation was bought up by the multinational) and IF they have no means by which to leave their village and look for employment



ANNA MAY KINNEY



Fair Trade

COURTESY ANNA MAY KINNEY

somewhere else, isn't this equal to the days of slavery in the southern United States when rich plantation owners owned everything, and even after being "FREED" they had no choice but to stay on the plantations and work for almost nothing at all?

Next week we'll look at the differences between Free and Fair Trade and what you can do to help equalize things for those that need it most. Before you buy your Valentine that next box of chocolates, please read "Part II; Chocolate can leave a bitter taste" and see why we can no longer wear blinders to the world around us.

FEATURE STORY

LANGUAGE:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 9

And the reason comes from her research into the way youngsters, ages 10 to 30 months, make the cerebral leap from spoken words to the meanings they construe.

"This is a dog," a parent might say to a baby while pointing to Rover.

To a 12-to-14-month-old child, the word dog could mean Rover's leg, fur, ears or the fact the beast is alive, Graham explains.

"We've looked at the strategies children use to narrow their hypotheses or map that information . . . and unless I

give strong evidence to the contrary, the child seems to assume a word refers to whole objects."

Example: A parent points to the kitchen stove and uses the word "hot." A child may logically apply the word to the big steamy apparatus.

"Of course, they get beyond this (misinterpretation)," says Graham.

Children will learn a stove is a stove and, sometimes, it can be hot and it can burn you.

"From the beginning, hearing children are quite open to symbolic gestures," Graham notes, referring to the reason sign language advocates recommend the system in infancy.

When gestures such as signing add to a child's linguistic understanding of the messages sent by adults, it's not a bad thing, says the psychologist.

Just remember, she adds, "by 18 months to 26 months, children start to become more narrow and want to focus on spoken language."

Signing is not going to harm a child's

language development or delay their spoken words, the researcher adds.

Better yet, when signing helps a child express a need and gives parents a fun and focused way to tune into their children, "it's all good."

Just don't feel guilty if you don't do it, says the researcher, who opted not to sign with her own toddler.

Parents have to consider the effort involved, Graham concludes.

"I fully thought my husband and I would sign with our son, but . . . it didn't fit for us. Still, he's learned some signs (from a caregiver) and he likes the one for 'more' and says it and signs it."

With parents too busy to take on another task, or because they want their children to continue signing after the babies have learned the basics, more caregivers and educators are taking on the job, says Crystal McPherson, a long-time sign language advocate and teacher at Hands First Baby Sign.

For day-home providers, sign language can reduce frustration and noise

levels in a houseful of kids, she adds.

—For CanWest News Service

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FINANCE

We're not born with debt-control skills

By Wendy McLellan

It sounds like the perfect solution. With credit cards approaching their limits and a bank account that can't absorb this month's usual expenses along with the post-holiday debts, a debt-consolidation loan would clean up the mess with a single payment.

A new year, a new financial picture and in a few short years, the debt would be gone for good.

If only money problems were that easy to solve. Unfortunately, changing bad budget behaviour is as difficult as keeping that New Year's resolution to lose 10 pounds.

"Debt-consolidation loans don't reduce debt. They don't pay off anything — they just move it around," said Rana Chung, an investment specialist with Vancouver's Vancity credit union.

"There are a lot of good reasons to consider debt consolidation, but it can also be a vicious cycle. You do a consolidation, then rack up the credit cards again and the behaviour never changes."

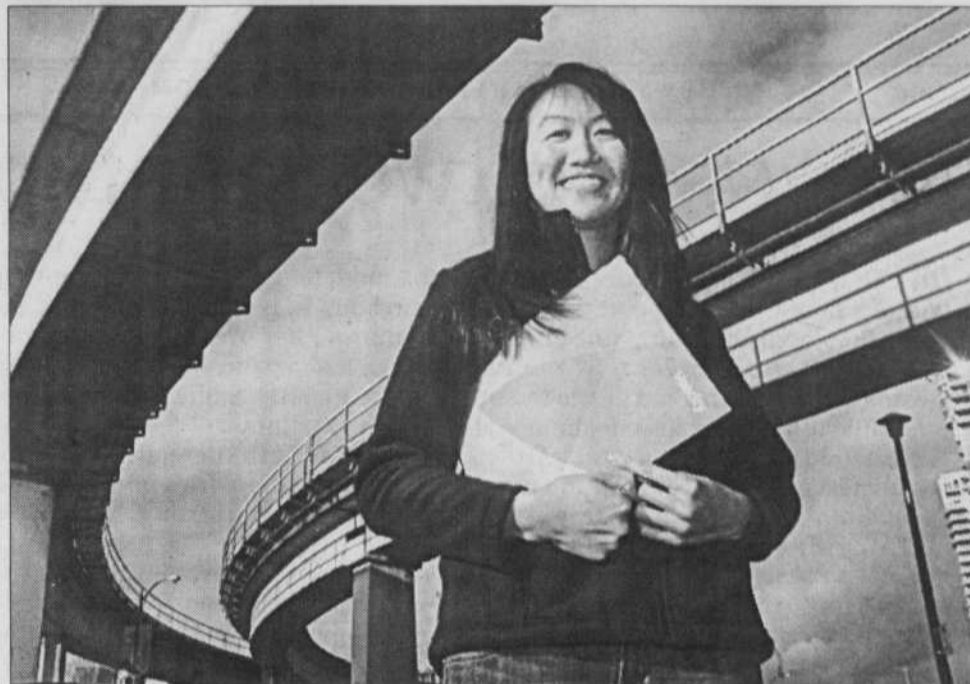
For people who have outstanding balances on several high-interest credit cards and find themselves living paycheque to paycheque, a consolidation loan may be a good choice, Chung said.

For those with equity in their homes and very high consumer debt — \$50,000 or more spread among credit cards, car loans and lines of credit — taking a mortgage may be the best solution, she said.

But, unless the consolidation is combined with a real change in spending and budgeting, the debts will be back. "Before we even look at debt consolidation, there are a few things we encourage people to do," said Scott Hannah, executive director of the Credit Counselling Society.

The non-profit based in New Westminster, B.C., teaches money-management skills and helps people solve financial problems through counselling and debt-restructuring programs.

"If it's important to you to get out of



CANWEST NEWS

Vancity investment specialist Rana Chung cautions that debt consolidation is not always the right solution.

debt, you need to develop a spending plan that fits your lifestyle and includes some fun and games so it's tolerable while getting out of debt."

Knowing your income and expenses, as well as separating the "needs" from the "wants," is the first step in developing a strategy, Hannah said. "It sounds obvious, but these are not skills we're born with — we learn by making mistakes, then adjusting."

Hannah said a realistic budget includes setting aside money for the monthly expenses as well as for anticipated annual costs. The average car, for example, will require \$900 a year in maintenance, which means saving \$75 a month to cover the bills. Then there are holidays, new clothing costs and, of course, Christmas expenses.

After accounting for all of these inevitable expenses, whatever is left is for discretionary spending.

Once you have a manageable spend-

ing plan, it's time to explore the best options to get out of debt. At this point, a consolidation loan may be a good choice, especially for people who have had difficulty maintaining a budget in the past.

Consolidation loans offer a single payment and definite start and end dates, unlike lines of credit. Using home equity to consolidate debt may be a good idea, but it will spread the payments over a much longer time, which increases the cost of the loan, and there may be legal costs.

"To get out of debt, you've got to stop using debt — stop using the credit cards," Hannah said.

"It's so critical to go through these steps before you get a consolidation loan — to protect yourself from incurring more debt. Even if a loan would offer a lower interest rate, you may be exposed to considerable risk unless you have a spending plan.

"You're at risk of using your credit cards again."

Vancouver resident Sujatha Ranatunge owed about \$6,000 on various credit cards when she decided to take serious measures to get out of debt.

After arriving in Vancouver from Sri Lanka in 2002, Ranatunge relied on her Sri Lankan credit cards to pay her expenses while she improved her English and found a paying job.

"I had heard about Canada a lot, that it was a very good country for women and a good place to live if you wanted to achieve something," said Ranatunge, 33.

Still, it took two years to find a regular job, and the bills piled up despite her frugal lifestyle. As soon as she got a paying job, she started work on her debts.

"I felt I had to do something and stop relying on credit cards," she said. "I just cut everything possible and controlled myself very hard."

She consolidated her debt with a line of credit from Vancity and became single-minded about her goal. Instead of taking transit to work, she walked to save the fare. She stopped shopping, cancelled her phone and Internet services, cut back on groceries.

Seven months ago, Ranatunge was debt-free and began saving money for a down payment on a condominium. She spends a little more on groceries and clothing, and she has a telephone, but she is determined to avoid credit cards forever.

"It was very difficult, but I did it and I am very proud," said Ranatunge, who now works as a teller at Vancity. "The most difficult thing is you can't spend your money. You can't buy what you want. If you're a normal human being, you want to buy everything you see, even if you don't need it."

"But if you want to achieve something, you have to sacrifice. People think they can't do it, but I know they can."

—CanWest News Service

TECNOLOGY AND YOU

Fox's 24 stretches reality with cell phone use

By Steve Makris

Fox TV's 24 protagonist Jack Bower (played by Canadian Kiefer Sutherland) quietly snaps a digital photo of a terrorist from his Treo smartphone and e-mails it to the CTU security centre.

The photo shows the code printed on a small cellular bomb triggering device which ...

— I am a devout follower of 24, partially because of the new tech gadgets the action-drama show uses with a fair degree

of reality. But this was a stretch. Today, even the best 1.3-megapixel Treo 700 PDA running on Windows doesn't even come close to such photographic heroics. I replicated the same scene and, with the best computer enhancement and optical character recognition software around, Mr. Bower would have needed Samsung's eight-megapixel cameraphone and send multiple frames for sub-detail recognition. I'm available as a consultant 24!

WHAT SONG ARE YOU WEARING?

There's a new dress out, woven with old audiotape recordings. For our young iPod readers, that's thin magnetic tape wound into plastic cassettes from which your parents used to listen to analog music. Sonic Fabric, the work of sound and visual artist Alyce Santoro started as an art experiment and a touch of her mom's dress making know-how.

— The weaved tape/cotton fabric dress includes a dangling Sony Walkman-tape head that picks up multiple tracks from

the old pre-recorded tapes. Not quite Vivaldi but a personal wear novelty no doubt. Santoro is pre-recording tapes with Tibetan monk-inspired sounds and thinks it's cool for folks to wear their favourites tunes.

Carmakers and consumer stores have expressed interest. Is this the final curtain call from the once popular Walkman portable player?

I'm sure it won't be long before iFabric does the dress justice.

—CanWest News Service

THE RECORD Sports



INSIDE
Impact cancel
game in
Quebec City,
Sherbrooke
still possible
... see Page 14

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Lady Gaiters sweep two, sit atop standings

By Mike Hickey
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

The Bishop's University women's basketball team took a huge step towards the Quebec conference regular season crown by winning a pair of games this weekend to improve to 9-1.

The Gaiters moved into undisputed possession of first place in the Quebec university circuit as they defeated the Concordia Stingers 72-50 on Friday and then followed that up with an exciting 65-53 victory over the nationally ranked Laval Rouge et Or on Saturday night.

The Laval win put the Gaiters a full game ahead of the Rouge et Or. The two teams will meet for the final time in the regular season this Sunday in Quebec City with the Gaiters holding a 2-1 edge

in the series. More importantly, the Gaiters now hold a 13-point advantage over the Rouge et Or in point differential, the first tie-breaker if the two teams are tied at the end of the season.

While it has been a two-team race all season long, Gaiters star Anouk Boulanger believes Bishop's can't afford a let down against the rest of the league.

"We still have league games against UQAM and McGill and they are capable of beating us if we are not ready for them. We have to understand that would ruin everything we accomplished tonight."

What they accomplished Friday was a masterful team performance. The Gaiters took control of the game midway through the first half. Laure Pitfield was

dominant in the post with 19 points and six rebounds. Boulanger, who continues to improve her overall game, added 18 points, had a game-high nine rebounds and four assists. Emile Crofton chipped in with 12 points.

Josianne Lafrenière also had an exceptional game with eight rebounds, five points and a strong defensive effort.

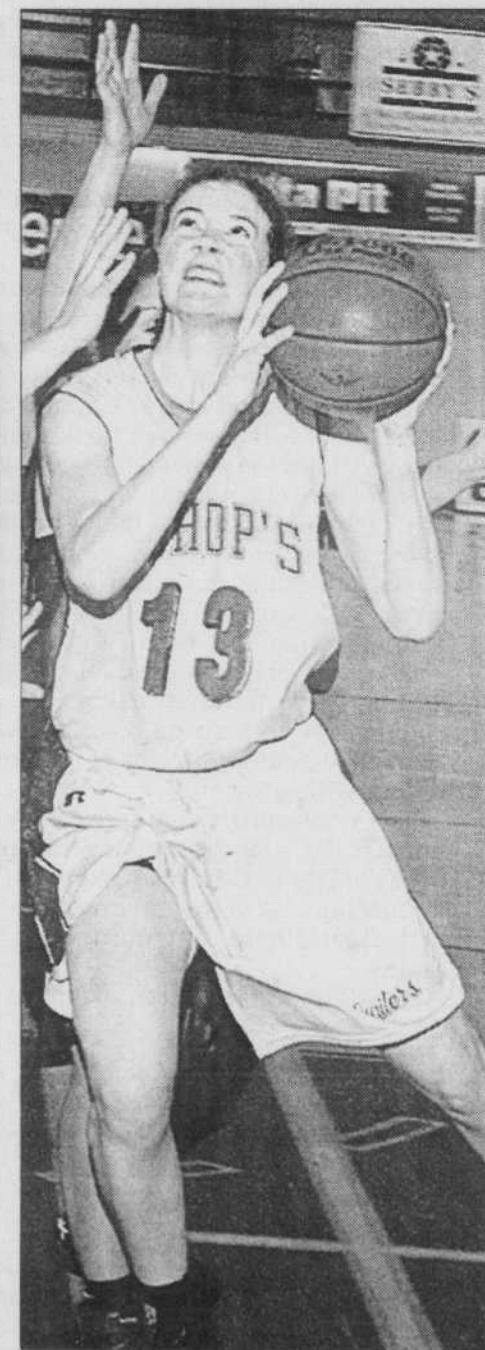
"Josianne has been our unsung hero for most of the season," head coach Rod Gilpin said. "When she plays great defence and is aggressive like she was tonight, she makes us a much better team."

The veteran forward appreciated the comments by her coach.

"I had a talk with Rod the other day

and told me that I didn't need to score a lot of points to help this team win," Lafrenière said. "It was good because I realize that part of my role is to rebound and play good defence. Even if I am not scoring a lot I am still helping the team."

SEE FIRST, PAGE 13



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

Laure Pitfield was dominant in the post against Laval with 19 points, six rebounds.

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MEN'S UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL

Gaiters drop one to Stingers, surprise Rouge et Or again

Staff

The Bishop's Gaiters men's basketball team knocked off the nationally ranked Laval Rouge et Or for the third time this season Saturday, 81-62.

With Laval's leading scorer, J-P Morin, on the shelf with a foot injury, the Gaiters' defensive plan was to stop all-star guard Dominic Soucy who touched the Bishop's defence for 35 points earlier in the season in a losing cause.

Bishop's head coach Eddie Pomykala gave the defensive responsibilities of stopping the fifth-year guard to Ricardo Telamon and Junior Nicolas. The pair did a good job of curtailing Soucy, who finished with 25 points but connected in just seven of 27 field goal attempts including two of 11 three-pointers.

"Covering Soucy is a tough assignment," Telamon said after the game. "I have a lot of respect for him; he is one of the premier guards in the country. The team has to take a lot of credit for stopping him, as a team we made it hard for him to get the ball."

During a see-saw first half, the Gaiters made a late run to take a 46-39 lead into the lockerroom at halftime.

"Thirty-nine points in a half is too much and we told the team at halftime that we needed to do a better job defensively in the second half," Pomykala said after the game.

Laval stayed in the game for the first few minutes of the second half before the Gaiters pulled away with a 15-4 run that gave them a commanding 67-49 lead. Laval cut the deficit to 10 points

but Bishop's responded with another run capped off by a crowd-pleasing slam dunk by Jeff Szita that sealed the win.

Szita, coming off a sub-par performance the night before against Concordia, led all scorers with 26 points on 12 of 13 field goal attempts.

Kevin Watson chipped in with 14 points and five assists while Nicolas added 11 points and Cam McDonald came off the bench to score 10 points.

"On Friday night, Concordia all-star Patrick Perrotte had a game-high 25 points, including three consecutive three-pointers, to lead the 10th-ranked Stingers to their second consecutive victory over Bishop's.

The Gaiters jumped out to an early lead thanks to some outstanding three-point shooting — four three-pointers in the first 10 minutes of play. However, Perrotte gave Concordia the lead with nine consecutive points as the Gaiters outside shooting cooled off.

Szita, the team's leading scorer was held scoreless in the first half and ended the game with just six points.

As in the Stingers' earlier win, rookie point guard Damien Buckley had a strong outing with 16 points and 11 assists.

"If someone told me before the game that we would hold Concordia to 69 points I would have liked our chances," Pomykala said after the game. "We did a very good job against a team that is averaging 86 points a game."

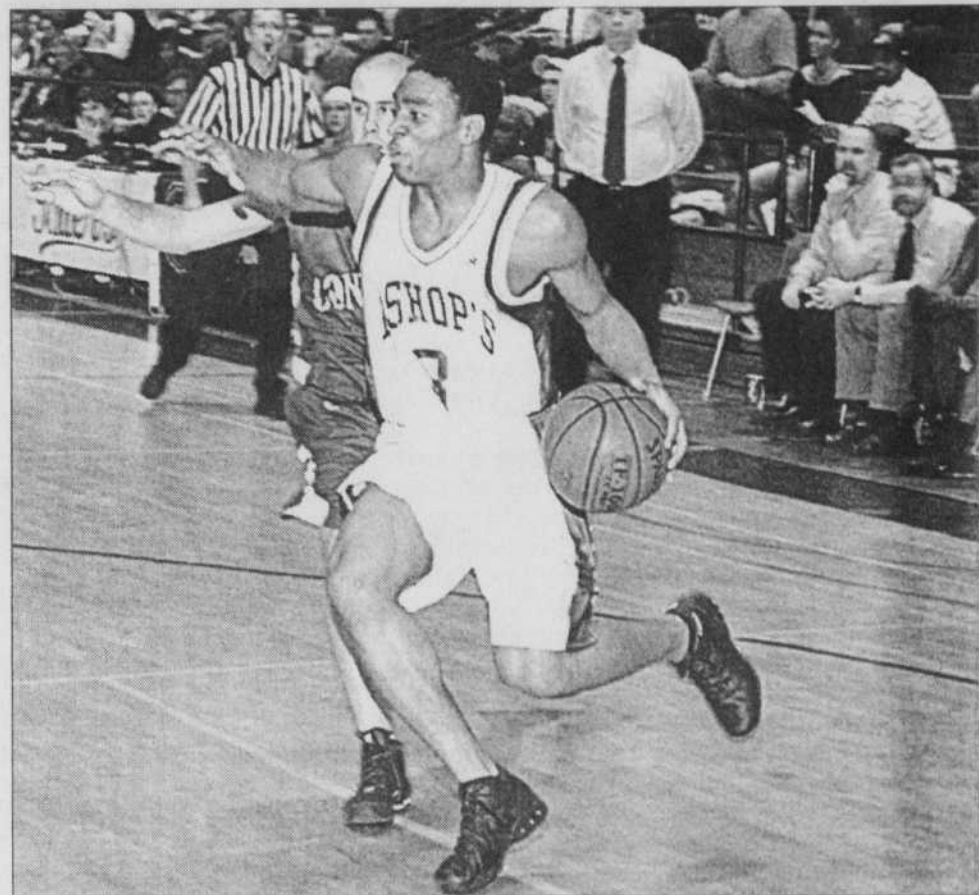
Bishop's is back in action Friday when it hosts UQAM. The Gaiters are in Quebec City the next day to face Laval.

Valuable Player Anouk Boulanger was equally effective for the Gaiters as she connected on seven of 12 shots to finish the night with 15 points, seven rebounds and seven assists.

The second half saw the Gaiters shoot 66 per cent from the field, make six of 10 three-point attempts and all six foul shots. They also limited themselves to just five turnovers.

"I'm not sure what the story was in the first half," Gilpin said Saturday morning. "I don't know if it was a case of rust because we hadn't played in two weeks or simply that we were looking past Concordia and thinking too much about Laval."

Laure Pitfield added 12 points to the winning cause as nine different Gaiters scored.



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

Besides playing tough defence against Laval on Saturday, Junior Nicolas had 11 points.

FIRST:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 12

The Gaiters got a scare the night before when an inspired Concordia Singers team took a 28-18 halftime lead and then extended its advantage to 15 points early in the second half.

The Gaiters, who were held to just 23 per cent shooting in the first half and missed all 10 three-point attempts, suddenly got hot.

Third-year forward Emile Crofton sparked a 20-3 run to give the Gaiters a 38-36 lead. She scored 12 of her game-high 18 points in the second half and her defensive play forced several turnovers that resulted in fastbreak points for the Gaiters. League Most

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SOCCER

Impact nix soccer game
in Quebec City*Sherbrooke still in
the running*

By Mike Hickey

SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

The Montreal Impact are still planning to bring the team to Sherbrooke for a regular season game.

The Impact, who recently cancelled a game scheduled for Quebec City for later this year, say there is a strong possibility the team will play in Sherbrooke but admit a firm date and commitment has yet to be reached between the United Soccer League team and local organizers.

The team will, however, visit the provincial capital this summer as part of a event in which all teams of the region will be able to participate.

The Quebec City cancellation was caused by scheduling constraints with the league, coupled with the limited availability of PEPS Stadium. It put an end to what had become an annual tradition.

"It's unfortunate that we were unable to schedule a game in Quebec City, considering the incredible success the event has had each year," said Impact president Joey Saputo. "But we are glad to be able to ensure a significant presence in the region this year thanks to an event that we will be organizing and that will allow young soccer players to come into even closer contact with Impact players. That way, we fully assume our role of promoting and developing soccer across the province."

Through a contest organized in collaboration with the Club de soccer des Rivières de Québec, two soccer teams from the provincial capital area will win a training session, in Quebec City, with

Impact head coach Nick De Santis and several of his players.

The Impact have played five games in the Quebec City area in its history. A first match-up was held in 1996, before 5,344 soccer fans, and the event was then repeated in 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005, each time in front of a larger crowd. Last Aug. 14, 12,128 spectators — a record crowd for a game played in Quebec City — cheered on the Impact at PEPS Stadium against the Puerto Rico Islanders. In five games, a total of 41,319 fans have seen the Impact play in Quebec City, for an average of 8,264 per game.

The Montreal Impact will kick off the 2006 First Division United Soccer Leagues season on Sunday, April 23 in Florida, against the expansion-team Miami F.C. The Impact will play the 13th home opener of its history at Claude-Robillard Sports Complex on Sunday, May 21, against the Minnesota Thunder.

In other news the Impact drafted a pair of Canadians playing in the NCAA Division I Tuesday in the 2006 United Soccer Leagues First Division College Player Draft. The defending regular season champions, selected midfielders Simon Gatti of Rhode Island University, and Vasilis Androustos from Fairfield University.

Gatti, 24, was the Impact's first pick and 12th player chosen overall. The Welland, Ont., native scored 10 goals and added eight assists for 28 points in 85 games, 79 as starter. He was named Team MVP in 2005, helping his club win the Atlantic 10 Division championship.

The Impact's second pick, and 24th overall, was Vasilis Androustos, played four seasons with Fairfield University, from 2002 to 2005. In his last season, he led the team with 28 points.

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Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 51
Open Trails: 69/76
Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MONT BELLEVUE

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 11
Open Trails: 6/6
Lift Hours: 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

THE BALSAMS (NEW HAMPSHIRE)

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0
Open Trails: 10 Lifts: 3
Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MONT ORFORD

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 16
Open Trails: 41/56
Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MONTJOYE

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 15
Open Trails: 14/27
Lift Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.

OWL'S HEAD

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 25
Open Trails: 37/44

Lift Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

BURKE (VERMONT)

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0
Open Trails: 17/43
Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

SKI BROMONT

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 19
Open Trails: 36/72
Lift Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.

SUTTON

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 24
Open Trails: 49/53
Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

SPORTS NOTEBOOK

Lueders claims overall bobsled title

Edmonton's Pierre Lueders captured the overall World Cup bobsled points title Sunday after finishing fifth in the four-man event at the final competition of the season. Alexander Subkov guided his Russian sled to victory to capture the season four-man title, just ahead of Lueders, who clinched the overall two-man title Saturday.

Subkov and teammates Sergei Golubev, Alexei Seliverstov and Alexei Vojevoda finished in one minute 48.04 seconds with runs of 53.91 seconds and 54.13. Matthias Hoepfner in Germany I was second with a total 1:48.19, followed by Yevgeni Popov in Russia II at 1:48.54. Lueders and his crew of Lascelles Brown of Calgary, Ken Kotyk of Rama, Sask., and Morgan Alexander of Calgary finished in 1:48.79.

The finish put Lueders atop the combined standings with 995 points, six more than Subkov.

Simard claims silver in GS

Genevieve Simard turned around a rough month of racing with a silver medal in Sunday's World Cup giant slalom. The timing of the result is good for the 25-year-old from Val-Morin, as the Olympics Games are less than two weeks away.

The women will race in two giant slaloms and a slalom next weekend in Ofterschwang, Germany, prior to the start of the Games on Feb. 10.

Simard was second to Australian Nicole Hosp, who skied a flawless second run for the victory.

Hosp's combined time was two minutes 33.51 seconds while Simard finished in 2:33.82.

Austrian Elisabeth Goergl was third in 2:34.08 to match her result from Saturday's downhill and Allison Forsyth of Nanaimo, B.C., was fourth in 2:34.11.

Simard won the giant slalom at this World Cup event in 2004. She and Forsyth, 27, were second and third respectively in a GS last season.

Federer beats Baghdatis to win Open

Swiss superstar Roger Federer came from behind Sunday to beat upstart Cypriot Marcos Baghdatis and capture his second Australian Open title in three years. The top-seeded/world No. 1 Federer dropped the first set at Melbourne Park before charging back for a 5-7, 7-5, 6-0, 6-2 victory at the year's first Grand Slam event. Federer titled here in 2004 by beating Russian Marat Safin in the final. Safin stunned Federer in an epic five-set semifinal here a year ago.

Federer is now 19-1 in his last 20 matches at Melbourne Park. The 24-year-old Federer is the first-ever player to win in his first seven Grand Slam finals and now owns 35 overall singles championships in 44 finals. His career prize money is already over the \$21-million mark.

The reigning three-time Wimbledon and two-time U.S. Open champion Federer has won the last three majors and seven of the last 11 Slams. His first-place check is worth \$920,000, while the 20-year-old Baghdatis pocketed \$460,000. Baghdatis was playing in his first-ever Grand Slam finale and his second overall career final (0-2). He lost in a title match in Basel last season.

Around Town

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

Memories of One Day in the Mines

*To work in the copper mines
Was a source of work you see
That some had to do
For all of eight hours
The wives were waiting for you.*

*I remember one day
I had rather not think of this
I had to tell Pop's wife
That he was working another shift.*

*Louise was all nerved up,
Pop had worked his shift how come,
Don't worry Louise
This does happen to some.*

*This all happened in year 1955
50 years in time,
Sometimes nearly mired
Pop and I made it out
Now we are retired.*

*The time has come
Though we are sick at times
To hear of all the other problems
I had rather not work in the mines.*

*Written and submitted by
William (Bill, Willie) Gauvin*

Ladies Auxiliary Branch #15 Richmond

On January 17, 2006 at 7 p.m. the Ladies Auxiliary held their first meeting since the change of date and time. Some members arrived a little late.

The meeting opened in the usual manner. Colors were presented by Cde. Helen Jones, Cde. Helen Knowles, Cde. Mildred E. Holliday, under the direction of Sgt. at Arms, Cde. Patsy Biggs.

The first order of business was the invitation of our new member, Cde. Shirley Letourneau.

The Pres. Cde. Bev welcomed everyone back after the holidays and expressed her sincere thanks to all who helped in any way with all the funeral receptions. There were at least three.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Cde. Lucie and accepted. Treasurer's report by Cde. Ann Nixon and accepted.

Correspondence consisted of more thank-you's than requests for donations this time.

Reports of Committees. Sick & Welfare: 3 cards had been sent out. Kitchen and membership had nothing to report. Ways & Means reported low on funds. Publicity also nothing to report.

Discussion of a drawing for our Flea Market to be held April 1, 2006. One or two articles were talked about. Will have more on this in February.

No further business, meeting adjourned and closed in the usual manner, followed by lunch and social hour.

Half & Half was won by Cde. Ann Knowles. Congratulations!

In comradeship,
Cde. Mildred E. Holliday,
Past-President

Birth

GAGNON - Proud grandparents, Dianne and Dale Bessant, are happy to announce the arrival of Kayleb-Xavier Norman Gagnon, born to Kathy Gagnon, weighing 8 pounds 9 ounces. A baby brother for Keyan-Alexander and another nephew for Tom and Julie Auger.

Card of Thanks

SIMPSON - The family of the late Rita Simpson would like to extend their heartfelt thanks for all the many acts of kindness extended to them at the time of death of their Mom. To those who sent cards and letters of sympathy, phone calls, food, flowers and donations to Kirkdale Anglican Church, Ulverton United Church, Canadian Cancer Society. Special thanks to the doctors, nurses and their staff for the excellent care at the C.H.U.S. Thank you to Rev. A. O'Donnell for conducting the funeral service and to Ann Clark for playing the organ at the service. We also wish to thank Barry Evans and directors of the Cass Funeral Home for the funeral arrangements. Thank you to the A.C.W. for providing the lovely lunch after the funeral. Finally to everyone who visited the funeral home and attended the funeral, we will always remember your kindness.

Sincere thanks,
JANE & DALE CARSON
ROBERT SIMPSON
AND GRANDCHILDREN

In Memoriams

ANNESLEY - In loving memory of Timothy (Tim) who left us so suddenly on January 30, 1995.

*There will always be a heartache
And often a silent tear,
But always precious memories
Of the days when you were here.*

Forever in our hearts,
THE ANNESLEY FAMILY



CLARK - In loving memory of Olive May Clark.

*One year already and you are still as present in my heart and always will be.
I wish we could've had more time, but will cherish the moments and that special bond we shared Forever.*

*I can only hope someday to find your strength, faith, your courage and the ability to live life to the fullest.
I miss you Gram.*

With love always, your granddaughter
MELISSA
PAT, TIMMY & FAMILY

GOYETTE, Dawn nee MURNS - Passed away, January 30, 2003.

Always loved and missed,
NORMAN (husband)
JUDY (daughter) & DENNIS
ANDREW & KATHRYN (grandchildren)
MARK (son), and CLARE
RYLEE, CANDACE, AIMEE & ERIC
(grandchildren)
and GRACE (friend)

PAGE, Ruth - In loving memory of our dear Mum who left us on January 29, 1977.

We miss you today and everyday, always.

YOUR FAMILY

Deaths

GIRVAN-CARTER, Shirley (nee Burrell) - Passed away Thursday, January 19 after a lengthy illness in her 70th year in Caroline, Alberta, surrounded by her family. Predeceased by her first husband Larry Girvan from Brome. She leaves to mourn her husband Jack Carter and her children Barry (Doris), Richard (Susan), Dail (Gary), Ted (Sharon), Stanley (Rebecca), Sandra (Rob). She also leaves 11 grandchildren. At her request, a private service was held on Friday, January 20, 2006 in Caroline, Alberta.



PAGE, Oprie nee Lunn (1923-2006) - It is with deep sadness that our family announces the passing of our beloved mother, Oprie, at Knowlton House, on Saturday January 28, 2006. Loving mother to Susan and Vance and daughter-in-law Linda, former wife and good friend of Clayton, mother to the late Bradley. She will be sadly missed by her grandchildren Steven, Timothy, Jody, Keri, Trevor and great-grandson Nicholas. She will be remembered with affection by her many friends who were so supportive during her short battle with cancer. Family and friends will be welcomed at the Emmanuel United Church, Cowansville on Tuesday January 31, 2006, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., followed by the funeral service. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory to the Canadian Cancer Society, Section Cowansville, PO Box 131, Cowansville, QC J2K 3H1 would be appreciated (forms available at the church). Funeral arrangement entrusted to the Desourdy Wilson Funeral Home, 104 Buzzell, Cowansville QC J2K 2N5 Tel : 450 263-1212, Fax : 450 263-9557 E-mail : info@desourdywilson.com DIGNITY MEMORIAL

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

DEADLINES FOR DEATH NOTICES:

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

For Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday's edition, call 819-569-4856 or fax 819-569-1187 (please call to confirm transmission) between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. the day prior to the day of publication. The Record cannot guarantee publication if another Record number is called.

Happy 60th Birthday



From your in- (out-)laws

Happy 80th Birthday Margaret Buckland



All our love and best wishes go out
to a wonderful Aunt as she turns 80.
Donna and Sid

Lennoxville Golden Agers

January 12: Members gathered at the United Church Hall for an afternoon of 500 cards, Bridge and Cribbage. Everyone is there to enjoy the afternoon.

A great supper meal was served to 72 members. Everyone enjoys Pegg's well planned meals.

Sincere condolences are extended to Elsie Vintinner's family, who passed away January 3, 2006.

Three new members signed up but unfortunately I have no names but extend a hearty welcome to all.

High score for cards was Fern Lapointe and Gerte Nutbrown.

David Price paid a short visit and reminded everyone to vote January 23.

January 24: Another pleasant afternoon was spent at the Church Hall where seven tables of 500, 1 Cribbage table and 2 tables of Bridge were played.

Seventy-nine members were present for supper. Lasagna, potatoes, veggies, homemade rolls, pickles and salad, tea and coffee, accompanied by a delicious lemon cake. Thanks Peggy and helpers.

President Beulah Turnbull asked for a moment of silence and recited Grace.

Dear Annie: I am at the end of my rope. My husband will not commit himself to anything, and I mean anything. I cannot even get a "yes" or "no" out of him. He usually says "maybe." When I ask him to be precise, he gets mad and clams up or accuses me of nagging him. He is so afraid of any confrontation that he would rather lie than be the "bad guy."

This has been going on for years, but lately, it has gotten worse. We recently had some construction done on our home and had a problem with some of the work. My husband refused to call the supervisor, and he wouldn't talk to the man when he came to the house. I finally had to do it myself.

Other people have noticed his inability to take a stand and have commented on it. Don't suggest counseling. I know he would refuse. I had counseling 15 years ago and begged him to come with me. He did, once, and just sat in the chair. He would only respond when the therapist asked him a direct question. The therapist even had to tell him to hug me when I broke down and cried.

Paralyzed with uncertainty

Annie's Mailbox

What can I do? — Lost in Indiana

Dear Indiana: Obviously, decisions are so stressful for your husband that he becomes paralyzed with uncertainty and chooses instead to do nothing. We suspect this behavior is rooted in his childhood, and although therapy would probably be very beneficial to him, you cannot force him to go.

Can you discuss this without accusing him? Perhaps he might consider treatment if you ask him if this behavior makes him unhappy, explaining that therapy can help him work on it. If not, we suggest you either accept this part of his personality and work around it, or go back to your counselor on your own for help deciding the best way to deal with the problem.

Dear Annie: I am in my early 30s and married to a man in the business world, and it requires that we often attend company cocktail parties. My husband will have a drink or two at each function, but I choose to drink diet soda.

How do I handle the adult peer pressure to drink liquor? I don't mind if others are drinking, but I'm sick of the questions regarding why I am not. If one more person asks me if I'm avoiding alcohol because I "have a bun in the oven," I am going to slug them. Any suggestions? — Sober by Choice in Montana

Dear Sober: Some people who drink like to see you with alcohol in your hand because it means you aren't judging them. You can avoid the questions by drinking soda water, ginger ale, etc.,

so they can't tell the difference, or you can simply smile politely and reply, "I'm the designated driver."

Dear Annie: This is in response to "California," whose wife, "Melinda," attended an out-of-state conference and did not tell him about dancing with some army officers on the last night. You told this man that he was "not wrong" to feel outraged at her deception. He was even thinking of leaving her. Are you kidding? Maybe his extreme overreaction was the reason she didn't tell him.

She went dancing. So what? You said Melinda's behavior showed poor judgment and a lack of respect. I think it showed a new mother who is married to a hostile and insecure man. She owes him no apologies. — Kentucky Girl

Dear Kentucky: A "girls' night out" is fine, but husbands are supposed to know about it. It's the lying and denying that get you in trouble. Hubby didn't sound hostile and insecure, he seemed surprised, hurt and uncertain. We agree that leaving her would have been extreme, but trust is a fragile thing, and treating it in a cavalier manner undermines a spouse's faith in his partner. Put the shoe on the other foot and tell us it wouldn't cause a little quiver if you discovered your husband went dancing with other women. Until 4 a.m. In another city. And didn't tell you.

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

Lennoxville United Church Women

The January meeting of the General U.C.W. of the Lennoxville United Church was held on January 9, 2006 in the Memorial Room. Helen Labrecque welcomed us all and we repeated our U.C.W. Purpose in unison. She then gave us some "food for thought".

The minutes of the December meeting were read by Karen Clark, Secretary, and were approved. The Treasurer's report showed a favourable balance after our allocations and bills had been paid in December.

Correspondence: two thank you notes were read.

U.C.W. report: A total of fourteen Poinsettias were donated to the church for Christmas decorations. Unit 5 packed and distributed twenty-one Christmas baskets of goodies and two small Poinsettias to shut-ins of the congregation at Christmas. This group had their Christmas dinner and gift exchange at Pep's Restaurant. Unit 6 reported they had packed nineteen Christmas stockings for distribution at the Grace Christian Home and had their Christmas dinner meeting at Continen-

tal Buffet. Our 2005 Christmas Bazaar and Cookie and Muffin Dough projects showed very favourable financial returns. The 2006 Bazaar and Turkey Supper is scheduled for Saturday, November 18, 2006 with this year's theme a "Gingerbread Christmas". Other dates from General U.C.W. meetings were set and the budget for 2006 was drawn up.

We are still collecting recipes from the congregation for the cookbook. We are reminded it is time to get our annual reports into the church office for the Church's annual report.

All enjoyed the Sunday School Christmas Pageant and the Choir's Vesper Service along with the Christmas Eve communion service.

The meeting was then adjourned by our President, Helén Labrecque.

Respectively submitted by
Esther Bassett, Publicity Convenor
Lennoxville United Church Women

Submitted by
Margaret Vintinner

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: X equals B

"TO HTY'O XSHFFTYF TD EVR
 BHY MV TO." — MTNNE MWHY
 "OPW OSTBJ TI FSVLTYF RU
 LTOPVRO FSVLTYF VAM."
 — BHIWE IOWYFWA

PREVIOUS SOLUTION — "Whoever thinks marriage is a fifty-fifty proposition doesn't know the half of it." — Franklin P. Jones

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KIT N' CARLYLE



HERMAN

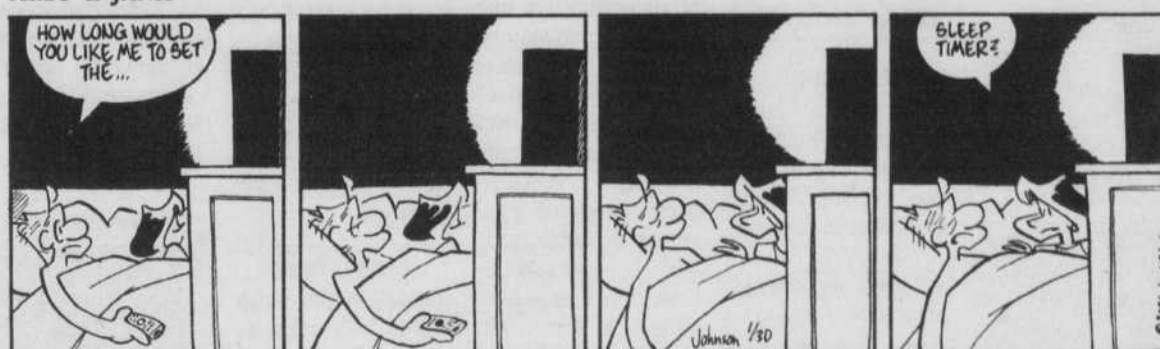


"If I lose... the bet's off, okay?"

ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



THE BORN LOSER



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THE ATELIER DU SOURIRE dental clinic seeks a trained dental assistant with the following responsibilities: patient care and preparation; operatory room care, sterilization and cleaning; management of equipment and materials, inventory, equipment repairs; managing laboratory cases, dealing with labs, making moulds and forms. Prerequisites: Completed training as a dental assistant, be available for three days a week from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and be bilingual (English and French). The ideal candidate will enjoy multi tasking, be self-confident and able to work both alone and as part of a team. The job is available immediately in Cowansville. Please contact Kathleen Lepage at (450) 263-4806. CV's can be sent by e-mail to lepage-kathleen@bellnet.ca, or by mail to 512 Sud, Cowansville, QC J2K 2X8.

140 Professional Services

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CLAUDE LEQUIN - GENERAL CONTRACTOR. Construction and renovation. Personal visits. For appointment and information (450) 531-5955.

RENOVATIONS

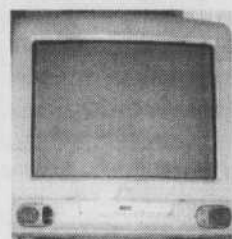
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145 Miscellaneous Services

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

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160 Music

HAMMOND ORGAN for sale, Commodore 300, with base pedals and bench. Very good condition. Call (819) 566-5835.

190 Cars For Sale

1989 NISSAN car parts, 240 SX. Call after 6 p.m. (819) 573-0709.

Cars, trucks, motorcycles, trailers... Look for it in the classifieds.

195 Trucks For Sale

1986 CHEVROLET SCOTSDALE, 2 wheel drive, 454 motor, TH400 transmission with cooler, in very good condition. Also 16ft. trailer, 5th wheel, ramps, 18" removable sides, posts for Christmas trees (12' high). \$5,500. for both (truck \$3,000., trailer \$2,500.). Call (819) 847-4725.

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WE BUY from the past for the future, one item or a household, attic or basement, shed or garage. We like it all, give us a call. (819) 837-2680.

330 Pets

TO GIVE AWAY - A beautiful black and white 3 month old puppy, she is part German Shepherd, a bit of Rottweiler and Blue Tick. She loves kids and other animals. Please call (819) 823-7584 after 5 p.m.

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WHY WAIT UNTIL SPRING, do it now! Inside painting. Call (819) 868-1413.

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From \$10K to Start!
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To sell or buy, consult our Classified ads.

RATES

25¢ per word
Minimum charge \$6.50 per day for 20 words or less.
Discounts for prepaid consecutive insertions without copy change
3 to 20 insertions - less 10%
21 insertions - less 20%
#84 Found - 3 consecutive days - no charge
Use of "Record Box" for replies is \$4.00 per week.

We accept Visa & MasterCard
DEADLINE: 12:30 p.m. working day previous to publication.
Classified ads must be prepaid.

Thank You For Checking

Please look over your ad the first day it appears making sure it reads as you requested, as The Record cannot be responsible for more than one insertion.

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(450) 242-1188

430 Personal

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440 Miscellaneous

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

It pays to advertise in the classifieds

HANDY POINTERS on writing a successful classified ad

It's easier than you think

Prepare an outline of your ad and then write it.

Be specific - buyers want useful information such as price.

Group related facts in the same sentence.

Avoid slang and abbreviations. Abbreviations are not needed because **The Record** charges by word rather than space.

Above all, don't forget your telephone number or address and when respondents may contact you.

A convenient and easy way to send your classified ad to The Record!



E-MAIL: classad@sherbrookerecord.com

You can send it anytime, 7 in the morning or 10 at night, at your convenience! Publishing deadline: **12:30 p.m.** the day before (example 12:30 p.m. Thursday for Friday publication). We accept Visa or Mastercard.

To confirm reception of your ad or prices, call:
(819) 569-9525 or 1-800-463-9525

Your Birthday

Monday, Jan. 30, 2006

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — There is a certain mystique about you today which others will find charming and appealing. It won't be necessary for you to put on airs in order to be captivating; it will come naturally.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — You're extremely perceptive today and you should be able to figure out a variety of ways to be successful which aren't readily discernible to others. This is especially true in work-related projects.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — It's good to be open-minded today. A conversation with a colleague could give you new food for thought and, as a result, may even cause you to change your mind about something about which you've been adamant.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — If you put out a little extra effort on behalf of another today to acquire what this person wants, you could change the environment for yourself in being able to get what you want.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You and someone important to you could reach a consensus of opinion today, which might even redefine your relationship in a good way. Long-hidden tensions may finally be eased.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Someone who likes you and has your best interests at heart will do all he or she can to help make your work easier today. You might even find that this person may

have never gone to bat for you previously, but is more than willing now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Beneficial tides are presently stirring, which can serve to bring you and the persons you love the most closer together. It could transform power struggles into power relationships.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Your greatest asset today is your ability to reconstruct outmoded and useless things into beneficial things. Take life into your own hands and make things happen.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Certain situations which you've contended with for some time with people you have to live with may get new legs today and start rearranging your immediate environment. It'll be good for all.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — If you are in need of anything today, especially material things, you may not have to go any further than turning to those who love you the most: your family.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Your ability to personally use new knowledge in ways that could turn things around for you is remarkable today. You will realize both profitable and practical avenues for new development.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — You have a substantial nose for rooting out new means to make money today. Don't be hesitant to follow your hunches as to where and how you can bring this about. Your windfall may be just around the corner.

Monday, Jan. 30, 2006

01-30-06

North
 ♠ 9 8 3
 ♥ A 6 5
 ♦ 4 2
 ♣ A K 9 7 6

West
 ♠ 4
 ♥ K J 10 3
 ♦ K Q 9 7 5 3
 ♣ Q 2

East
 ♠ 10 7 6 2
 ♥ Q 8 4 2
 ♦ 10
 ♣ J 10 5 4

South
 ♠ A K Q J 5
 ♥ 9 7
 ♦ A J 8 6
 ♣ 8 3

Dealer: South
 Vulnerable: North-South

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ K

high and conceded a diamond to West. If he shifts to a trump, declarer plays low from the board (East ducks if North plays the eight), wins in hand, and trumps a diamond on the board (or discards a heart). Anything correct from there got full marks.

2. If South returns a low diamond at trick two, West winning cheaply and shifting to his trump, what is the winning line? Again, declarer must go low from the board, win in hand, and play three rounds of clubs, ruffing the last high. Then he trumps a diamond on the board, and East cannot stop declarer from either ruffing his last diamond or establishing a long club.

3. What opening leads can defeat four spades? Any major-suit card.

4. How should the bidding go if East and West pass throughout? See the diagram. I also accepted a forcing one no-trump sequence.

5. Or if West enters the auction over South's one-spade opening bid? Probably West would overcall two diamonds. Then North does best to make a three-diamond cue-bid raise, which South will convert to four spades. If West doubles, North redoubles, then supports spades at the minimum level on the next round. Again, South would bid four spades.

The prizewinners will be announced on March 25.

Ho, ho, ho answers

By Phillip Alder

Here are the answers to my Christmas Competition. Santa Claus was in four spades. West led the diamond king.

1. Santa immediately played off dummy's top clubs and called for a low club from the board. Since Santa made his contract, how did he play? He ruffed

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Actor Jimmy
 - 6 Intervening space: abbr.
 - 10 Marine vessel
 - 14 German sub
 - 15 "Exodus" author
 - 16 Skiers' ride
 - 17 1775 rider
 - 19 City near Utica
 - 20 Compare
 - 21 Toothed strips
 - 22 Tokyo, formerly
 - 25 Potter's bunny
 - 28 Military forces
 - 30 "The Bald Soprano" playwright
 - 31 "The Wind in the Willows" character

- 32 Words to live by
- 34 Mr. Grace Kelly?
- 40 Alan and Cheryl
- 41 Goose's gullet
- 43 Begin, for one
- 47 Fanning of "Man on Fire"
- 49 Almanac name
- 52 Male or female
- 53 Markey and Bagnold
- 54 Mountain nymph
- 56 Porter of notes
- 57 "Goodbye, Columbus" writer
- 62 Solemn last word
- 63 Singer Feliciano
- 64 _ firma
- 65 Heels
- 66 Wimbledon units

- 24 Actor Epps
- 26 Coolidge and Wilson
- 27 French roast
- 29 Evil Amin
- 32 Army doc
- 33 California fort
- 35 Reds and Cards
- 36 Colombian city
- 37 Yuck!
- 38 Cupid
- 39 Cost per unit
- 42 Paraffin
- 43 Medicine that induces vomiting

- 44 Napa neighbor
- 45 Stirred up
- 46 Eve and Elizabeth
- 47 German three
- 48 Adjusts to fit
- 50 Lift up
- 51 City in Provence
- 55 Barrymore or Carey
- 57 Slumber suits, briefly
- 58 Clod chopper
- 59 Lode load
- 60 Three in Italia
- 61 Derby or Homburg

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

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

- DOWN**
- 1 Dine
 - 2 Wharton School deg.
 - 3 Promissory note
 - 4 Statuesque
 - 5 Band of color
 - 6 Quilt with a washable cover
 - 7 Dancing Castle
 - 8 Man with a title
 - 9 Half a fly?
 - 10 Disco blinker
 - 11 Some WMDs
 - 12 _ pentameter
 - 13 Voila!
 - 18 Stretches (out)
 - 21 Copier brand
 - 22 Dine
 - 23 Rain unit

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			



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2006



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Monthly Payment	Cash Down	Security Deposit
\$179	\$1,023	\$0
\$159	\$2,047	\$0

\$199
PER MONTH*

\$0 CASH DOWN
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Preparation and freight of \$1,045 included.

★★★★★ 5-star safety rating*

103-HP 1.6L 4-cyl. DOHC engine • Power-assisted steering and brakes • Block heater • Fog lamps • 60/40 split-folding rear seatback • 42 cubic feet cargo space when rear seats are down (1,190 L) • 5-year or 100,000 km limited powertrain warranty with no deductible • And much more!

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\$329	\$1,815	\$0
\$299	\$3,177	\$0

PURCHASE AT
\$25,995[†]

OR
\$369
PER MONTH*

\$0 CASH DOWN
SECURITY DEPOSIT
48-month lease term.
Preparation and freight of \$1,100 included.



★★★★★ 5-star safety rating*

185-HP 3.4L SFI V6 engine • 5-speed automatic transmission • Air conditioning • Fog lamps • CD player • Power windows and mirrors • Aluminum wheels • Remote keyless entry • Multi-Flex sliding rear seat with 60/40 folding seatback • Multi-functional cargo area system with 3-position shelf • And much more!

E/F HWY: 8.5L/100 km or 33 mpg
CITY: 12.6L/100 km or 23 mpg^{4U}



MONTANA SV6

Monthly Payment	Cash Down	Security Deposit
\$309	\$1,733	\$0
\$279	\$3,066	\$0

PURCHASE AT
\$20,599[†]

OR
\$348
PER MONTH*

\$0 CASH DOWN
SECURITY DEPOSIT
48-month lease term.
Preparation and freight of \$1,250 included.



★★★★★ 5-star safety rating*

OnStar Communication and Assistance system¹ • 201-HP 3.5L SFI V6 engine • 4-wheel disc ABS brakes • Air conditioning • Power front windows, swing out rear quarter and heated mirrors • Captain reclining front seats • CD/MP3 player • Remote keyless entry • Rear deep-tinted glass • 5-year or 100,000 km limited powertrain warranty with no deductible • And much more!

E/F HWY: 8.7L/100 km or 33 mpg
CITY: 12.9L/100 km or 22 mpg^{4U}



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\$219	\$932	\$0
\$199	\$1,865	\$0

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or coupe for
\$239
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