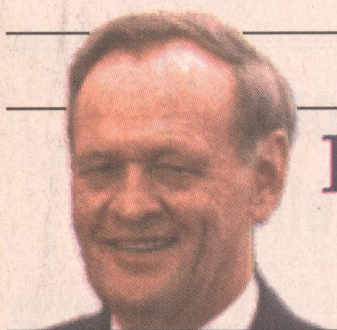


DAGLOBENPOST

VOL.83 NO. 4 WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2000

Free (plus tax)



Eliminate the senate?

Prime Minister Chrétien asks the senate to decide. What will they recommend?



mathNEWS

Our investigative report shows that this university paper may be up to something.

Welcome to your new all-in-one national newspaper

Looks like Canada can't support two national papers

CONRAD GREY

Well, the pundits were right. Canada can't support two national papers. So, instead of letting one bite the dust, we have decided to merge the two together, lock, stock, and subscriber list too.

In amalgamating the Globe and the Post, we decided to take a fresh look at the design, feel, and voice of each paper, and pick the best things of each to put into Daglobenpost. From the Post, we took the layout, sections, fonts, graphical design, photography, and editorial point-of-view. From the Globe, we took the Facts & Arguments page, shortened it to Arguments, and slapped it on the back cover.

In addition, we've added and removed some sections. Because we now have the biggest and brightest reporters in the country, we have set aside a page for them to predict future news. What events will shape your lives in the coming years? You'll read it here first, folks.

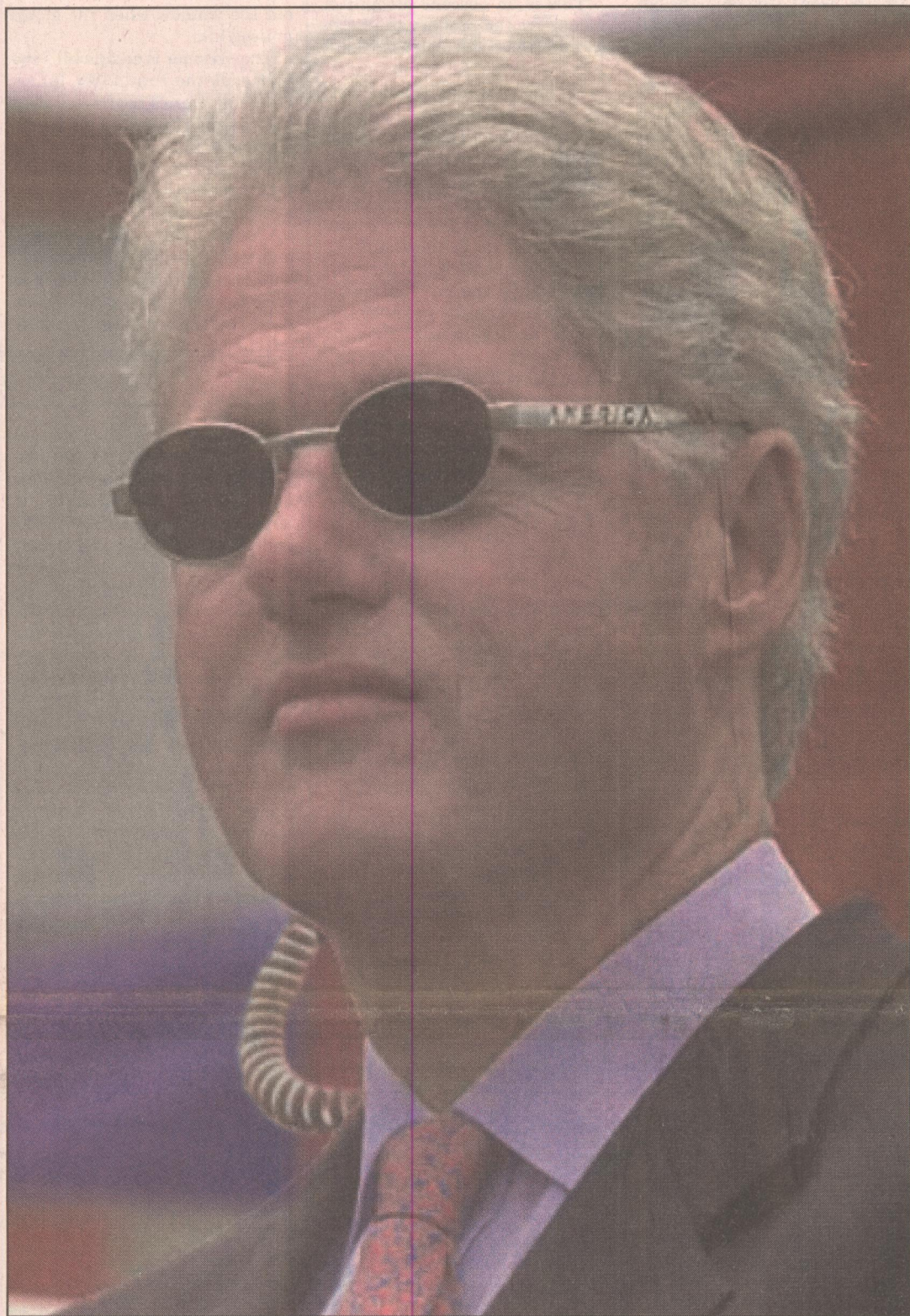
And since deaths are such a downer, we've excised the obituary page. You'll find an obituary for the lost section on page 20.

Plus, we've managed to convince the Ontario government to make our editorials legally binding.

Truly, this is a national paper for all Canadians.

And speaking of Canadian, did you know that Stockwell Day is the new leader of the Canadian Alliance? You can read all about it on page 6, right here in Daglobenpost.

United States President Bill Clinton begins training for his new career as a Secret Service agent.



American President Bill Clinton surveys the scene at a mock press conference as a part of his training to become a Secret Service agent. Mr. Clinton's personal agents convinced the world leader to join them after he steps down from office in January.

MARTIN BREAKS UP MICROSOFT CANADA

UNTRUSTWORTHY

Finance Minister follows U.S. decision with similar split

BY CHADWICK SEVERN

OTTAWA • Finance Minister Paul Martin ordered the breakup of Microsoft Canada Thursday, declaring that the "pint-size bastard child of the American company is just as untrustworthy."

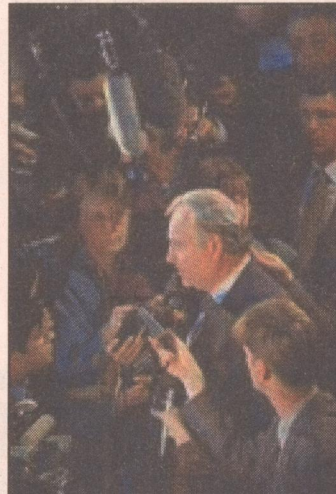
The decision comes just a few weeks after a similar order came down in the United States, where District Court Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson gave Microsoft six weeks to draw up plans to split the corporation into an applications company and an operating systems company.

Microsoft plans to appeal the American decision, but has given up hope of keeping Microsoft Canada intact.

"Microsoft Canada truly has been holding a monopoly over Canadian technical support for Microsoft products and beta-testing French versions of Microsoft software," said vice-president James DeGrosche. "In the light of Mr. Martin's decision, we will be preparing to separate these two primary divisions into distinct companies."

With most research and development done at its world headquarters in Redmond, Microsoft Canada is responsible for bug-checking versions of Office and Project destined for France and Quebec, and for providing technical support to Canadians, which included updating the Microsoft Canada web site.

Martin's decision was relayed to DeGrosche on Wednesday, with the revelation becoming public on Thursday.



Finance Minister Paul Martin announces Thursday that Microsoft Canada will be split into two companies.

"If you bought a Microsoft mouse in Vancouver, and needed support, there was only one company you could turn to, and that was Microsoft Canada," said Martin during the press conference. "Clearly, they have obtained a monopoly in this area of business, and have used that monopoly to maintain their stranglehold on Canadian consumers."

See SPLIT on Page 2

Something interesting happens in Muncton

MUNCTON • Violence marred Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's visit to Muncton yesterday, when an angry mob of Swedish porn stars, protesting proposed changes to the farm-subsidies act, stormed the convention hall, where the Prime Minister was attending a lecture on bicycle safety.

Thirty G-string-clad blonde vixens entered the actual room where the seminar was being held, and quickly grabbed the Prime Minister. They whisked him away to their secret hide-out in nearby Dorchester.

"My name is Olga," the leader of the nearly-naked rebels melodramatically introduced herself to the bound and gagged Prime Minister. "Give us the secret formula and we may even let you live."

She slightly loosened his gag to allow him to respond.

"Never!" screamed Chrétien. "Even if you torture me for days and days, I'll never let someone as evil as you have those secrets!"

"Have it your way," Olga said and snapped her fingers. Two evil hench-vixens immediately came forward to begin tickle-torturing the Prime Minister as he sat tied to a chair, helpless to resist.

But Chrétien held firm, never once divulging the terrible secrets he knew would be so terribly dangerous if they ever fell into the hands of nefarious malcontents. After ten hours of excruciating tickle torture, Olga finally relented.

"It is obvious his will is too strong. Throw him in a holding cell — maybe a few days without food or water will loosen his tongue." Olga laughed nefariously at the thought of such cruelty.

Chrétien found himself in a small prison cell with only a single barred window to let some light in. He noticed that one of the bars on the window was a bit loose. A single female guard stood watch at the door.

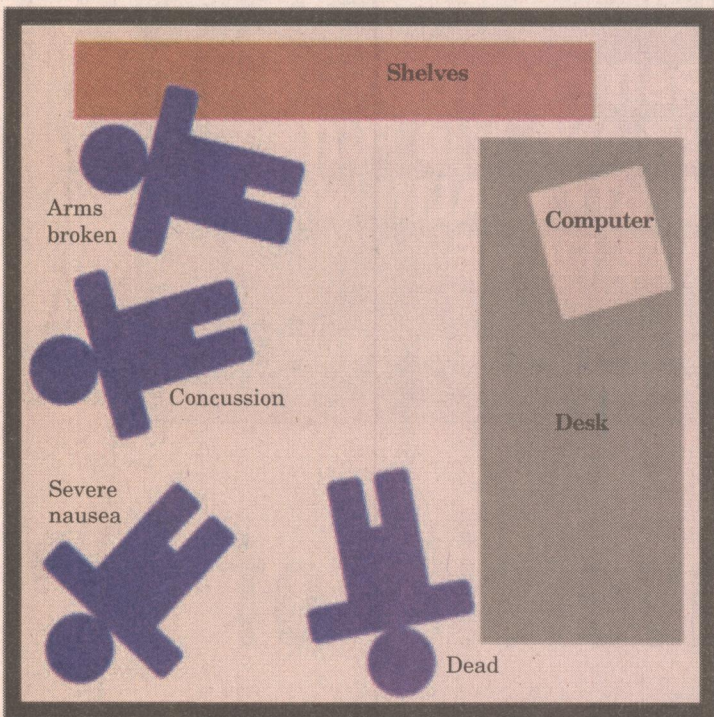
If you think that Chrétien should try to escape through the window

See WINDOW on Page 2

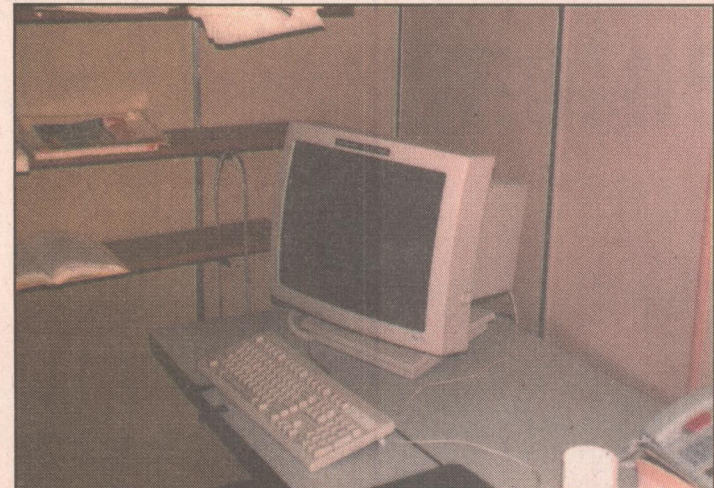
If you think that he should try to seduce the guard

See SEDUCTION on Page 4

Computer crash kills one, injures four



In the wake of the computer crash, illustrated above, the person closest to the computer was found dead, with three others in the proximity seriously hurt. A fourth injury was sustained elsewhere in the building, and is being blamed on a network connection to the computer as it crashed. The computer involved in the crash is seen below.



Loss of computer control leads to loss of life

BY MIKE 'HAMMER' HAMMOND

LONDON • One person was killed and four others critically injured Thursday afternoon when a computer near where all five were working crashed.

The five, who work at Honeywell Hi-Spec Solutions, were performing normal job tasks related to factory automation products, when a nearby computer crashed. The names of the victims have not been released, pending notification of their families.

"I was minding my own business, when all of a sudden there was this loud noise," said Fred Park, supervisor of the victims. "I raced to the scene, only to discover the carnage."

"I had talked to [the victims] earlier, and knew that one of their computers was acting a little flaky, but I had no idea that a crash was imminent."

Victor Wang, colleague of the victims, narrowly escaped injury.

"I was there with them when the computer started acting up," said Wang. "The operating system started popping up strange error messages. I'd seen this before, and I got out of there fast. I just glimpsed the 'Blue Screen of Death' when I leaped behind the wall of my cubicle. I barely made it."

This latest crash cements the reputation of the high-tech area between Windsor and London as "carnage alley." According to the Ontario Provincial Police, this area sees more computer crashes than any other region of Canada.

Daglobenpost

Ontario premier pledges \$50 million to new ER crisis

"Don't leave Nurse Hathaway" pleads Harris

WONDERFUL CHARACTER

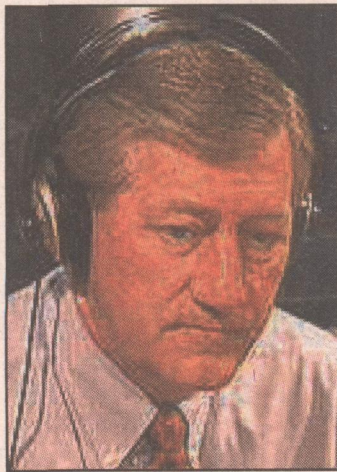
BY CHADWICK SEVERN

TORONTO • Mike Harris, the Ontario premier, made an emotional plea to actress Julianne Margulies on Thursday, attempting to forestall another ER crisis.

Harris said that he just found out this week that Margulies would be exiting television's top drama, leaving the fictional County General Hospital seriously understaffed.

"Nurse Carol Hathaway is a wonderful character and is very good at what she does," Harris told a caller during a talk radio session. "It's my understanding that this essentially came down to the money, and I'm pledging \$50 million towards keeping this popular character on the show for another five years."

Margulies exited the NBC drama on the May 18 episode



Mike Harris

when her character went west to find her estranged husband Doug Ross, played in a cameo by former ER star George Clooney.

"This government will not shy away from the problems of ERs, both in Ontario, and on Ontario television screens," said Harris.

See HARRIS on Page 2

www.daglobenpost.ca

INDEX

ARGUMENTS	20	EDITORIALS	9
ARTS & CRAP	10	FUTURE NEWS	19
AUTOMOTIVE	14	HOROSCOPE	12
BUSINESS	17	LETTERS	9
CANADA	4	POLITICS	6
COMICS	12	SPORTS	15
COMMENT	8	TECHNOLOGY	18
CROSSWORD	12	TORONTO	16
DISCOVERY	8	WORLD	17

PUBLISHED BY
THE PROPRIETOR,
DAGLOBENPOST
COMPANY,
200 UNIVERSITY AVENUE
WATERLOO, ONTARIO
N2L 3G1

www.mathnews.uwaterloo.ca



INSIDE

National means Toronto?

Were the big national newspapers really just glorified Toronto papers, Page 4

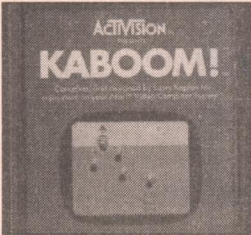
Iron Chef Kenichi loses

Iron Chef Chinese suffers rare loss in last night's Kraft Dinner battle, Page 15

Food services monopoly

What is it they don't want you to know? We don't hold back, Page 21

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



1499 Great rejoicing echoed across the land as Archbishop Evildude the Third burned at the stake for his transgressions against the peaceful populace of Earth. **1597** The Archbishop's grandson Terrance Evildude rises to power in the East, and the peaceful populace of Earth cower in terror at his

vengeful stare of death. **1603** Terrance slips while getting out of his bathtub, and the evil reign of Terrence Evildude comes to a sudden end, much to the joy of the peaceful populace of Earth. **1604** Terrence's son Fricker Evildude slays his countrymen and takes command of the empire, much to the chagrin of the peaceful populace of Earth, who

doesn't much care for Fricker. **1620** Fricker Evildude decides to challenge his nemesis, a gladiator named Minnimus, who slays the lord of badness in a fierce battle. **1621** Minnimus eats some poisoned iceberg lettuce and dies. **1622** Fricker's son Hagar Evildude runs for a senate seat in the Rome, on a platform of tax cuts and a reduction of the size of government. **1623** Hagar lobbies the senate to reinstate mob rule when he fails to get a senate seat.

Split Microsoft Canada companies to support, beta-test, update web site separately

SPLIT

Continued from Page 1

After the split has taken place, Microsoft Support Canada will compete with interested companies like Nortel and Corel in providing technical support for all Microsoft products. Le Microsoft Du Test Canadien will be responsible for beta-testing French Microsoft products.

"Now consumers will have the ultimate choice in getting their DVD-ROM drive working in Windows 2000," said Martin. "They can call Microsoft Support Canada, or they can call Nortel and see how they can help."

Nortel has tried to enter the Microsoft support business for several years, and have been thwarted in their attempts until Martin's announcement.

"This is an exciting day for Nortel Networks," said President

Joe Roth from his Brampton office. "We can now offer Canadian consumers what they most want when it comes to support for Microsoft products: choice."

Since Microsoft Canada has generally provided support free of charge, new entrants in the support arena are finding new ways to differentiate themselves.

"For starters, we're going to offer all people who call in for support ten per cent off Nortel packet-switching hardware," said Roth. "We'll tell them how to fix their mouse, and they'll get a great deal on network hardware too."

Executives at the Ottawa-based Corel Corporation are excited about getting the opportunity to beta-test upcoming French versions of Microsoft software. After announcing their intentions, Corel stock prices rose nearly 25 per cent in after-hours trading.

Daglobenpost

Premier wants ER to improve

HARRIS

Continued from Page 1

"If NBC won't step up to the bat for the health of those fictional guest stars and background extras, I will."

Finance Minister Ernie Eves confirmed that room had been set aside in the 2000 budget in case another ER crisis similar to last year's happened again.

"It was kind of vague, the budget," said Eves. "We allocated this \$50 million as a sort of contingency to avert any new ER problems. I didn't know the premier was going to apply it towards a television program."

The new Margulies ER Subsidation fund, as the money is now referred to, is payable in

annual installments to the actress if she meets a minimum 22 episode commitment.

"And we're talking a major role here, not just sticking in her head each week and saying 'howdy,'" said Harris. "This \$50 million requires an ongoing storyline with twists and turns, and honestly, I hope she and Dr. Ross stay together."

The move has surprised critics of the government, who called for more spending on health last year when the first ER crisis exploded in hospitals across the province.

"This is an obscene amount of money for the premier to pledge to one American actress," said Liberal leader Dalton McGuinty. "This money would be much better spent on Ontario emergency rooms and health centres. We can have our very own home-grown dramatic scenes. I'm sure what happens in Ontario ER's are every bit as exciting as the ones on the television show in question."

NBC officials have said they will comment on the announcement after reviewing the province's finances, and will enter discussions with Margulies later this week to see if she will return to ER.

Daglobenpost

'The prisoner is escaping,' yells Gerta

WINDOW

Continued from Page 1

Chrétien pulled on the bar with all of his strength. After a few seconds of trying, it pulled out in his hands. Chrétien was halfway out the window when the guard noticed him.

"The prisoner is escaping!!!" she yelled at the top of her lungs. Suddenly alarms began sounding all over the encampment. Chrétien knew he had to act quickly. He slipped the rest of the way through the window and ran at top speed into the night.

After ten minutes of playing cat-and-mouse with Olga's G-string clad army, Chrétien came upon the encampment's small airport. A stealth fighter stood warmed-

up on the taxiway, its pilot doing the final preparations for take off.

"There he is!" a voice yelled from behind him. Chrétien looked back to see Olga and a clutch of G-string-clad foot soldiers. "Get him!!!" she commanded.

In a flash, Chrétien jumped into the cockpit of the stealth fighter. Throwing the pilot out onto the tarmac, he grabbed the stick and took off.

Taped to the cockpit windshield was an envelope labeled 'orders for project United Alternative'.

If you think that Chrétien should take his stealth fighter and kick some G-stringed ass

See WHOOOP-ASS on Page 7

If you think that he should try to find out about this 'United Alternative' thing

See REDNECKS on Page 6

HOW TO SUE US

Daglobenpost is the official *mathNEWS* parody of the National Post and Globe & Mail newspapers. *mathNEWS* is funded by and responsible to the undergraduate math students of the University of Waterloo, hereafter referred to as MathSoc. Content is the responsibility of the *mathNEWS* editor; however, the opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of MathSoc or *mathNEWS*. *mathNEWS* is editorially independent of MathSoc. This issue uses invented names in all its stories, except in cases where public figures are being satirized. Any other use of real names is accidental and coincidental. Send your correspondence to *mathNEWS*, MC3041, University of Waterloo, 200 University Ave. W., Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 3G1, or to mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca on the Internet. Current and back issues of *mathNEWS* are available at <http://www.mathnews.uwaterloo.ca>.

ca or at the National Library of Canada, and to save bandwidth, we'd really rather you went to Ottawa to read them at the library. To subscribe, please send \$20 for a one-year subscription to the address above with your name and address clearly marked. Please be advised that we make our subscription list available to anybody that ponies up the dough to see it, be it political parties, religious groups, Revenue Canada, or the Toronto Blue Jays baseball organization. Please note that *mathNEWS* is not normally printed on newsprint, not normally this large, and not normally this full of fake news. We kinda like normal *mathNEWS*; those get done in quite a short amount of time, ya know. You won't believe how long it took to put this puppy out.

Daglobenpost Editorial

Telephone: (519) 888-4567 x6355
Fax: (519) 888-4567
E-mail: mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca
In Quebec: Don't bother

DEAD ANIMAL SKINS FACTORY LIQUIDATION SALE ON NOW



**DEAD COW
JACKETS
FROM \$150**

**DEAD ERMINE
WINTER COATS
FROM \$299**



**FULL-BODY
SKINS
FROM \$599**

**115A ORFUS ROAD, TORONTO
OR ON THE INTERNET: WWW.DEADANIMALSKINS.COM**

Because you'll never look better than when you're wearing a dead animal skin



GOOD BOY

Furniture Appliances & Electronics

Come to us if you find you need:

- Couch potatoes
- A new car pet
- Synthesized electrical chords
- HP printers (HP sauce extra)
- My Brother's fax
- CDs, TVs, VCRs, DVDs and other combinations of letters of the alphabet.

**IS ANYONE BETTER?
NOOO BUDDY!**

We kid you not. This ad appeared in newspapers on June 9:

Q

**WHO LED A WORKSHOP
IN NAMIBIA FOR
HIV-INFECTED MOTHERS?**



www.utoronto.ca

A

**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
STUDENT AND AND FUTURE
COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER
WOGANEE FILATE**



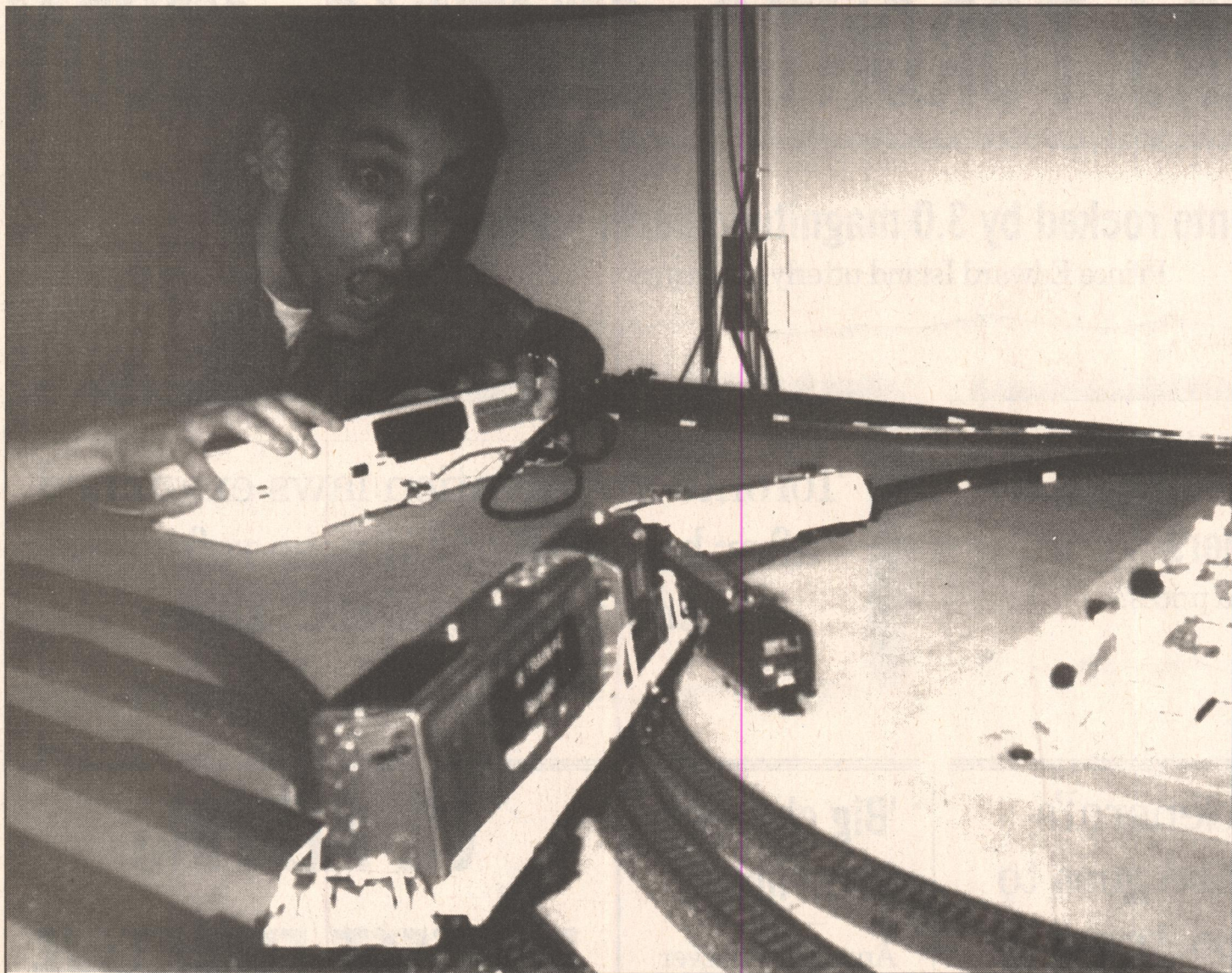
**Great Minds for a Great Future
www.utoronto.ca**

If they had gone to the University of Waterloo, perhaps they would have learned how to write a sentence.

AND AND

And truly great minds should go to www.uwaterloo.ca

NEWS



Ian Desmond reacts to the carnage when an O-scale model train derails several HO-scale locomotives in his rec room.

Thousandth rant parody recorded

UNIQUE TWIST

Even hopelessly unfunny like Mike Bullard did one

BY MIKE 'HAMMER' HAMMOND

QUEBEC CITY • A new parody of the Molson Canadian commercial featuring an average Canadian ranting about his pride for his country was recorded yesterday by Jacques Charbonneau, marking the thousandth parody recorded to date.

Charbonneau's parody, entitled "I Am a Canadiens Fan", offers a unique twist on the original by skewing it towards residents of Quebec, just like one hundred and thirty-seven others.

"I speak French and Franglais,

not English," said Charbonneau. "I believe in policing signs for English, not allowing it. Separation, not sovereignty association. And that the frog is a truly proud and noble animal."

The commercial for Molson Canadian beer has struck a chord among the would-be funny throughout the nation. Many initial parodies were released by radio stations across the country. Next, valedictorians and other high-school students incorporated the rant into the text of speeches. Comics in Yuk Yuk's franchises would use the rant as a springboard for cheap laughs.

Even the hopelessly unfunny, like Mike Bullard, managed to entertain audiences momentarily with their take on it.

E. James Arnett, CEO of Molson, is impressed with the love Canadians have for the rant, but is sick of being forced to hear the many parodies out there. "Hey," he said, "I am not a comedian or

an ad writer, and I don't watch television ads, or listen to the radio for this commercial. And I haven't heard Jimmy's, Sally's, or Suzy's version, although I'm certain they're really, really funny."

**'AND I HAVEN'T
HEARD JIMMY'S,
SALLY'S OR SUZY'S
VERSION,
ALTHOUGH I'M
CERTAIN THEY'RE
REALLY, REALLY
FUNNY.'**

"I am the CEO and the President," he continued. "I hear parodies in English and French, not American. And I pronounce them

'rotten', not 'funny'.

"Though I can proudly drink my company's product, I try to avoid our advertising. I believe in beer sales, not pop culture phenomena. Originality, not parody. And that Golden is a truly proud and noble beer.

"One parody is just like another. Each one is annoying. And it is pronounced 'crap'. Not 'flattering,' 'crap'!

"Molson is the second-largest Canadian company, the first name of beer, and the best part of Canadian culture!

"My name is James! And I hate 'I am Canadian' parodies!"

Despite Arnett's comments, Charbonneau remains convinced that his version is hilarious, and has big plans for it.

"Me, I am sending dis tape to de morning DJ's at Radio X," said Charbonneau. "Will dey tink dis is funny? I think yes. Dey are de best DJ's in Quebec.

"And it is pronounced 'kay-BEK'," he added. "Not 'KWEE-bek', 'kay-BEK'."

Daglobenpost

McGUINTY SHOCKED AND DISMAYED OVER MODEL TRAIN DERAILMENT

SHOCKED, DISMAYED

Liberal leader Dalton McGuinty shocked and dismayed by premier's actions

BY CHADWICK SEVERN

TORONTO • Ontario Liberal leader Dalton McGuinty expressed his shock and dismay at the attitude Premier Mike Harris has shown regarding a horrific model train derailment that shattered the gentle hum of Ian Desmond's rec room earlier this week.

"I'm shocked and dismayed that the premier has not called a public inquiry to get to the bottom of this derailment," said McGuinty at the third press conference this week on the Desmond train crash. "Had these been real trains, real Ontarians might have been hurt.

Doesn't the premier realize this? When will he end this foolishness and form a public inquiry?"

Harris has strenuously placed blame for the accident squarely on Desmond's shoulders.

"I'm confident that the train derailment had nothing to do with our government's reductions in transit subsidies, and that a private meeting between Desmond and the manufacturer will solve everything," said Harris.

McGuinty promised reporters that he will continue to be shocked and dismayed at the government's behaviour until he becomes the premier.

Daglobenpost

Chrétien gallantly saves Swedish porn star

PLUFARXAS

Continued from Page 4

"Fear not, young Swedish porn star. I will save you and your home planet," boomed Chrétien. "Oh thank you ever so much, my studly earthling hero."

Within the hour, Chrétien and Gerta were on board Gerta's space ship en route to Plufarxas.

After an uneventful 18-hour trip, Gerta and Chrétien arrived at Plufarxas. They disembarked at an isolated spaceport.

"This is one of the few areas not overrun by the Space Cows. Here is where we must plan our counterattack."

Three small buildings rose above the horizon, heavily fortified by missile turrets and machine-gun placements. Gerta led Chrétien into the nearest one.

An older G-string-clad vixen greeted them. "I am Helga, leader of the Swedish Porn Stars. In the

name of my people, I thank you for coming to save us from the evil space cows."

"No prob," Chrétien said gallantly, "No matter how nefariously evil, these foul rapsallions will meet slow and painful death at my hands, but prithe, tell what manner of beast must I slay?"

"We have captured one of their number and have it incarcerated, come and see."

Helga led them to a lab in the back of the building. She pulled a shroud off a small cage. "Behold, the space cow."

"But it's only two-centimetres tall," Chrétien looked astonished, "why don't you just step on it?"

"Gee, I never thought of that."

And so, Jean Chrétien saved the planet Plufarxas from the dreaded space cows and all the Swedish Porn Stars lived happily ever after.

The End.

A Daglobenpost
Choose Your Own News Story

Royal Canadian Mint to begin rollout of "daily" quarter

BY GREG TAYLOR

The Royal Canadian Mint (RCM) officially announced yesterday that production has begun on a new daily quarter.

"It was the next logical step," stated RCM spokeswoman Penny Ante. "After all, a weekly quarter would just look silly."

The quarter, which will begin circulating in 2001, will arrive just in time for the actual millennium. The commemorative set of 365 will therefore include an additional coin to mark that event,

and the complete 366 coin set will become available on January first.

Unfortunately, due to the large number of coins included, preliminary analysis reveals that the cost for the entire set will be in the neighbourhood of \$4,000. An additional consequence is that each quarter from the set of minted coins will be worth exactly one cent.

"That was actually an error on our part," Penny admitted. "We [at the Mint] had decided from the beginning that we couldn't print too few coins for each day, because

that would make them rare and worth far more than the intended 25 cents. But after doing a test run on the daily quarters through to April 2001, we realized belatedly that by flooding the market, it would be impossible to introduce any more currency into circulation before 2008. Hence the decision to make our quarters practically worthless."

Trying to put a positive spin on the ruling, Penny then noted, "But at least the situation wasn't compounded by a leap year! Plus, all 365 quarters will have really neat designs on them!"

Apparently, many of the early designs for these quarters will come from the unused entries for the monthly 1999/2000 contests. There will also be new artistic renderings depicting scenes from those Canadian Heritage commercials, to be featured on at least one coin per month.

It's not even too late to submit your own design! For while the RCM has indicated that they DO currently have 365 unique designs planned and ready, they have not all been printed up yet, to allow for the possibility of substitutions.

It would appear that feedback has been negative with regards to some of their proposed images for the November and December quarters in particular, and the Mint is hopeful that better depictions of Canada will still come their way.

"I saw the coin for November 21st, an unnamed contact inside the Mint revealed. "It's just a big triangle for goodness sakes! I have no idea how that relates to Canada and I'd hate to think of what will be left by the time they hit December 30th."

Other coin depictions for the latter months of the year supposedly include Lumberjacks, Fur Traders, Igloos and Dog Sleds.

Despite a quickly growing controversy over the daily quarter idea, the Royal Canadian Mint thinks that this idea will eventually prove successful.

"After all," concluded Penny Ante in her statement to the press. "Isn't it always the quarters with the special designs on them that you keep around, spending them only if absolutely necessary?"

Talk of Quebec minting its own additional set of commemorative quarters depicting exclusively French scenes, remains an unconfirmed rumour at this time. Premier Lucien Bouchard is not returning any phone calls.

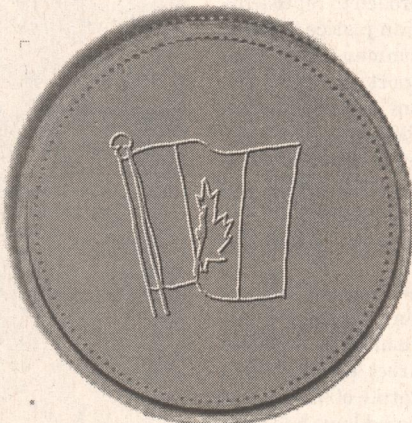
Daglobenpost



August 14, 2001:
The "Unlikely Roll" quarter



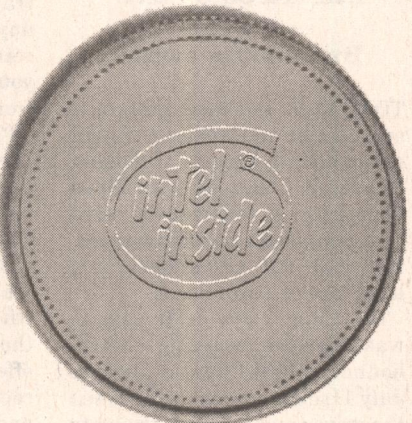
November 7, 2001:
The "Infinite Construction" quarter



July 1, 2001:
The "Jingoism" quarter



December 14, 2001:
The "Youth in Winter" quarter



October 24, 2001:
The "Selling Out Our National Identity To Major Corporations" quarter

Looking for a good domain name?

www.eatons.ca

www.lichtmans.ca

www.seagram.ca

www.winnipegjets.ca

These unused domain names can be yours! Call internic.ca today!

Animated discussion follows controversial online wedding

A man from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan apparently made history earlier this week when a woman who does not really exist became his wife via a valid marriage licence issued over the Internet. Ohta Kuu now claims to be legally married to his favourite animated character. The legalities of this somewhat controversial union are currently un-

MARRIAGE UNDER REVIEW

der review as everyone tries to find out just how Ohta managed to accomplish this feat, but while the facts are being rigorously examined, the marriage has not yet been annulled. "I don't see what the big

deal is here," Ohta remarked in response to queries by reporters. "I wouldn't have said anything if I'd known all the trouble it would cause. I simply decided that I was never going to be able to find anyone with such a high IQ, magical abilities or big eyes in the real world." He also added that the newlyweds are expecting their first child next March.

NATIONAL PAPERS TORONTO-CENTRIC: STUDY

Toronto rocked by 3.0 magnitude earthquake Prince Edward Island utterly destroyed

Ottawa asked to provide \$1B in financial aid to Saskatchewan farmers

How will this affect Toronto bread prices?

Toronto immigration laws examined after boatload of Chinese refugees lands on distant B.C. shore

BY MIKE 'HAMMER' HAMMOND

TORONTO • A new study released today by the Canadian Council for Generating Impressive Statistics reveals that Canada's so-called "national" newspapers are nothing more than Toronto-centric newspapers with pretensions.

Gerard Chamberlain, author of the CCGIS study, says, "This study proves, beyond a doubt, what many people have suspected for some time: that Toronto truly believes itself to be the most important part of Canada, and that its media reflects this perception."

Chamberlain continues, "How can a newspaper which includes a separate 'Toronto' section possibly consider itself a national newspaper? Residents of St. John's, Winnipeg, and Vancouver have no interest in reports of Mel Lastman's bowel movements, and yet there they are. Where's the section on Iqaluit news, or the latest happenings in Truro? What about Calgary, Churchill, or Chicoutimi?"

Conrad Black, however, disagrees. "My newspaper is, indeed, a national newspaper, covering all the important events in the country. Whether you live on the West Coast of Etobicoke, the heartland of North York, or even in the far extremes of Scarborough, we will report on the news that matters to you. We even have field reporters in the distant locations of Oakville, Newmarket, and Pickering, just in case any events occur out there that might affect this great country of ours."

"By the way," added Black, "what is Vancouver, anyway? Is that anywhere near Whitby?"

Daglobenpost

BY MIKE 'HAMMER' HAMMOND

OTTAWA • What do Jan Zwicky, Stephanie Bolster, Dionne Brand, and E. D. Blodgett have in common?

You've never heard of them.

In addition to that, they've also won the Governor General's Literary Award for English-language poetry in 1999, 1998, 1997, and 1996 respectively.

The obscurity of candidates for the Governor General's Literary Awards is a problem that has plagued the Canada Council for the Arts for several decades now. "It's hard to find literary achievement in Canada worth rewarding," said Shirley L. Thomson, Director of the Canada Council. "Poets in particular are hard to come by."

How hard are they to come by?

"Normally," said Thomson, "we don't even release a list of the candidates for the Governor General's Literary Award until October.

This year, though, because there are no other feasible candidates for the English-language poetry category, we've already made the decision about the award: it's going to this magnetic poetry set."

The magnetic poetry set in question lives on a refrigerator in Truro, Nova Scotia.

"It is an honour to receive this award," spelled out the poetry set. "my thank s go to the can a d a cow sill for their kind ness."

Continued the poetry set, "it is wonder ful to see that even the most in significant member s of can a d I an society can be recognize d for their lit er a r y effort s."

The Governor General's Literary Awards are given out by the Canada Council for the Arts every November. Past winners include Jane Urquhart, John Ralston Saul, Michael Ondaatje, and Carol Shields.

Daglobenpost

a	gentle	breeze	blow s	around	the	luscious	wet	liquid	ocean .
raise	ing	spray	up	into	the	breath	of	god .	
play	ing	sweet	ly	with	the	ship	and	with	the serpent .
moan	ing	as	it	penetrate	s	the	thigh	s	of the ship strumpet .

Sample of the work done by the magnetic poetry set given the Governor General's Literary Award.

'Big changes' on hold

Apparently never intended in the first place

BY GREG TAYLOR

WHITEHORSE • Pat Duncan, government leader of the Yukon, has denied making any comment to the effect of there being 'big changes underway up north', as was reported in newspapers last week.

At the time, it had been rumoured that the vague proclamation related to the construction of fifty new highrises, improvements in household air conditioning, and the use of tourism funds for the purpose of growing Yukon pineapples. People are now at a loss to explain where that information came from. It is currently thought to have been a simple childish prank.

"I think what we're seeing here is the work of some malcontent trying to get more press for the Yukon and the Northwest Territories," remarked analyst Ives Statz. "Either that or some crazy, mutant shapeshifters are trying to confuse the hell out of us."

A formal investigation will be probably be launched if enough people express concern.

Daglobenpost

OIL MEETING PROTEST EFFECTIVE

BY MIKE 'HAMMER' HAMMOND

CALGARY • Oil executives at the World Petroleum Congress announced today a historic, unprecedented agreement among the delegates: a complete end to all oil exploration, present and future.

This agreement was apparently sparked by demonstrations held outside the Telus Convention Centre, where the WPC was being held this year. Protestors carried signs and chanted slogans, aiming at reducing the world's exploitation of limited petroleum resources.

And their protests appeared to have worked.

"I was walking up to the WPC morning program when I passed by a protestor holding up a sign that said, 'Oil extraction is a rape of Mother Earth,'" said Jim Wilkinson, a junior executive at Amoco. "The sign just struck a chord with me, and I realized that it's time to end our dependence on oil and concentrate on clean, renewable resources."

Abdul ibn Feraz, representative of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, was moved to tears. "Allah has shown me, through these youngsters that we have acted evilly by exploiting the petroleum resources hiding deep beneath the shifting sands of my homeland" he sobbed through an interpreter. "Their commitment to the principles of civil disobedience are an example to us all."

Dave O'Reilly, CEO of Chevron, was similarly affected. "Normally, I just ignore the protestors. But this time, when I walked by this bunch of hippies chanting, 'Double, Double, Oil Is Trouble', I realized, they're right!"

Holding up a brochure he obtained from this group of protestors, O'Reilly said, "Did you know that the average temperature of the entire planet has risen by two full degrees since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution? I did. But I just didn't care until I saw these kids."

Following his new-found conscience, O'Reilly introduced a motion among the delegates to the WPC to stop all oil production immediately and permanently.

The delegates, all of whom witnessed the protests and were struck by them in much the same way, passed the resolution unanimously. They then disbanded the conference so that they could get back to their respective workplaces to implement the agreement.

Tak Dirks of the End Oil Action Coalition, whose group has long worked towards an end in new oil exploration, was stunned. "You know, every year my group and I organize these protests, knowing they were futile to change the opinion of those who mattered. That no matter what we did, no matter how much press we got, things wouldn't change for years, maybe decades. But somehow, something happened this time."

Critics point out that an immediate end to oil production would cripple the world's economy, bring transportation to a screeching halt, and cause the needless deaths of hundreds of thousands of people throughout the world due to starvation and the cold of the winter in the Southern Hemisphere.

'BUT SOMEHOW, SOMETHING HAPPENED THIS TIME.'

"Not to mention, of course, the sheer number of jobs that are going to simply vanish," said Buzz Hargrove, President of the Canadian Auto Workers. "With no more petroleum, there will be no more petroleum workers, no more car assemblers, no more plastics workers. Millions of people worldwide will immediately lose their jobs, and be unable to feed their families."

Dirks, though, is optimistic. "The money no longer spent on the pillage of our natural resources can be spent on research and development of clean sources of energy, like hydrogen fuel cells, solar power, and tapping of the Earth's vast geothermal energy," he said. "We don't need oil."

Daglobenpost

Supreme Court Justice inadvertently makes new law while boarding bus

Old bus transfers now considered fair fares by law

BY CHADWICK SEVERN

TORONTO • In a move that could end up costing Canadian transit companies thousands of dollars, Supreme Court Justice Brad Templeton inadvertently ruled yesterday that expired bus transfers shall still be accepted as a legal fare to board buses.

The ruling came as Templeton was delayed in boarding a northbound Dufferin bus in Toronto July 11, due to a dispute between the driver and someone trying to board the bus.

"The driver was explaining to the lad that his transfer had expired," said Templeton at a press conference later that day. "Exasperated, he asked for my opinion. I was in a hurry to get home for dinner, and I noticed that transfer only expired ten minutes ago, so I said the transfer should be accepted."

The justice, who was admitted to the Supreme Court last May, did not realize that due to Canada's precedence law, all future situations involving expired transfers must follow the same approach.

Toronto Transit Commission spokesperson Marg Bolton

reluctantly admitted that any old expired transfer can gain someone admittance to a TTC bus, streetcar or subway.

"We used to have a very strict transfer policy that disallowed any stopovers, doubling-back, or return trips," said Bolton. "Now, you can finish that streetcar trip from 1994."

TTC bus driver Bert Williams now regrets seeking advice from the passenger that turned out to be one of the top judges in Canada.

"It was just a simple question, really, and I expected him to agree with me," said Williams. "I never thought his declaration that the offender's transfer should be accepted would be so far-reaching and legally binding."

Many top lawyers note that Canada's justice system is based on the charter of rights, and precedence.

"The handling of every law must be consistent across all people," said lawyer Josh McSimmon. "If this guy gets to board the bus with an expired transfer, all Canadians must be able to board transit buses with expired transfers."

Tom Stackford, a lawyer who represents the public transit industry through their lobby group, Transport 2000, disagrees.

"Each new ruling from the Supreme Court must be interpreted as narrowly as possible," said Stackford. "We take this ruling to

mean that anyone attempting to board a northbound Dufferin bus with a transfer that's ten minutes old should be boarded. Just northbound Dufferin buses, not every bus in Canada."

However, Stackford's reasoning has not taken hold in many transit quarters yet, for fear that litigious would-be passengers may sue transit properties for not allowing them to board buses with expired transfers.

The ruling flies in the face of Ouimet Report on Canadian Law, which many feel is the foremost expressive approach to representing the Canadian justice system.

The first recommendation from the Ouimet report was that "the basic purpose of criminal justice is to protect all members of society, including the offender himself, from seriously harmful and dangerous conduct, and in the event of a dispute, to pay the driver."

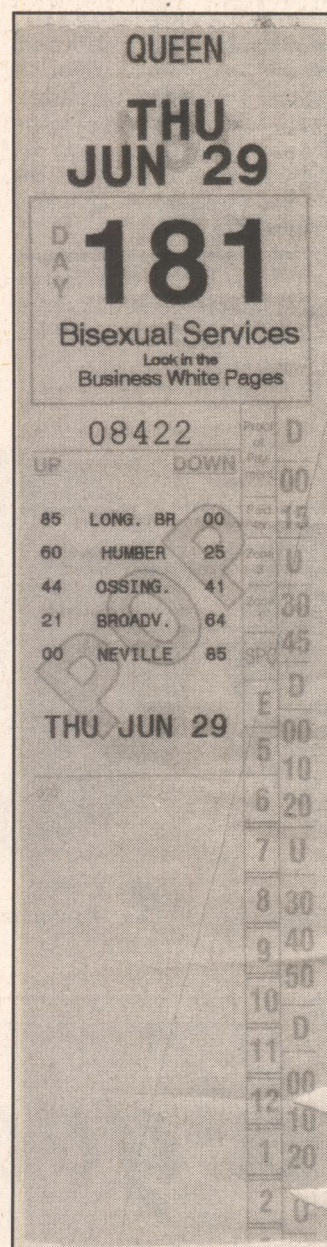
Due to the 1986 case of "Regina vs. Washington," where transit rider Pete Washington tried to take a non-direct route with a transfer, the statute of limitations on transfer-related laws has been set to 9 years. This means that transfers from as early as 1991 will now be accepted on all transit systems in Canada.

Other Supreme Court justices stand by Templeton's decision, but caution the judge to be more careful in the future.

"Just the other day, someone at McDonald's asked if I wanted fries with my hamburger and drink," said Madame Justice Claire Hennessey. "I made sure that my response would not drastically curtail the future legal consumption of fried potatoes."

Hennessey later said that her reply to the McDonald's server was "Surprise me."

Daglobenpost



The TTC transfer that Supreme Court Justice Brad Templeton ruled was legal to enter a bus with. This is now the case with all other expired transfers as well.

'I've just had a few drinks; maybe we could have some sex sometime.'

SEDUCTION

Continued from Page 1

"What's a beautiful girl like you doing in a gulag like this?" Chrétien said in his most charming voice to his female captor.

"Hi, I'm Gerta," giggled the guard, obviously impressed by Chrétien's awesome animal magnetism and manly countenance. "I've just had a few drinks; maybe we could have some sex sometime."

"That's kind of hard to do when I'm locked behind this door,"

Chrétien lamented. "Well I can fix that right now," Gerta unlocked the door and threw herself into his arms. "Take me now you manly stud!"

Five minutes later, their passions fully satisfied, Chrétien and Gerta finally got around to talking. "So why do you work for Olga, anyway?"

Gerta burst into tears. "It's so horrible — my home planet of Plufarxas was taken over by the evil space cows. I was forced to wander the galaxy, without a home, until I could find a hero manly enough to free my people. Working for Olga was just to make a quick buck."

If you think that Chrétien should go save Gerta's home planet from the space cows

See Plufarxas, on Page 3

If you want to see Chrétien continue to have sex with Gerta

See HELL, as in "Go To"

The tale of a cat that made loud mewling noises and survived a tree ordeal

In the sleepy town of Larry's River, Nova Scotia, one of Ms. Feline's twenty cats disturbed the peace earlier this week by making loud mewling noises when it became stuck in a tree. The fire department was called in but the cat refused to budge, clawing anyone who approached. However, he eventually fell out of the tree after ten hours,

NEAR CAT-ASTROPHEE

completely uninjured since he landed on his feet. Ms. Feline says she'll keep a closer eye on her cats in future. Four firemen remain in critical condition at a local hospital. Several reporters were hurt in the inci-

dent jostling to get a better picture of the cat. Some kids in the area were mildly amused by the attention the cat received. The other 19 cats didn't much care or notice that anything was out of the ordinary. The local mayor arrived at the scene within minutes when he was paged in the middle of a wonderful dinner at a nearby restaurant.

REPORTING ABILITIES QUESTIONED

BY GREG TAYLOR

A man led a quiet protest outside the Daglobenpost offices last week, passing out fliers to indicate his displeasure with the lack of up-to-date news stories being featured in this newspaper.

"It looks like these days everyone is either writing about things of no consequence, or they're all still reporting on news that happened five weeks ago," complained the individual, one Sy Kosis. "But even worse than that, it's getting to the point where reporters feel they can simply sit down at a computer, dash off a random article, add in a photograph from their archives and call it 'news!' What's up with that?"

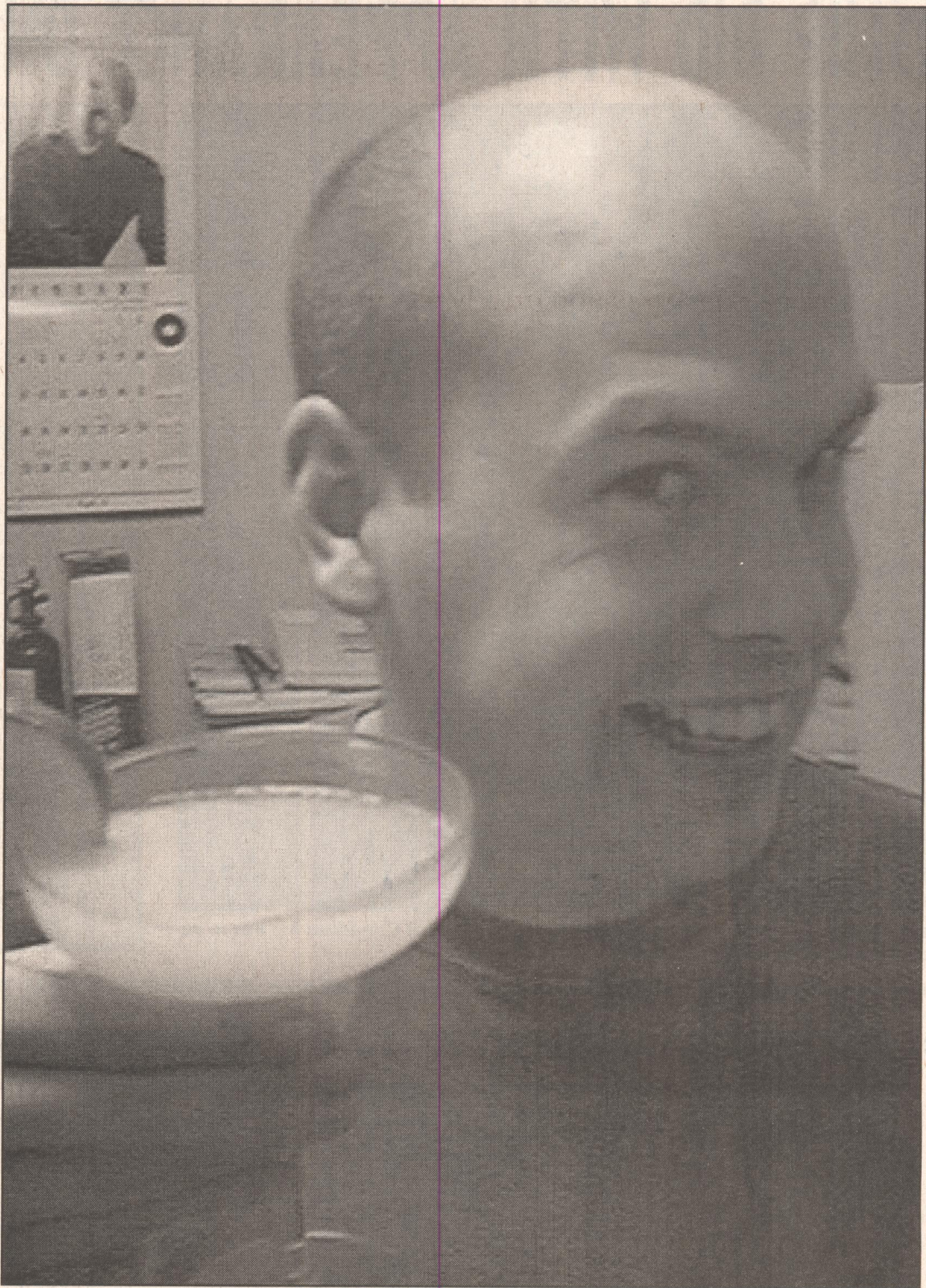
Sy then additionally complained, "A lot of the time said picture will take up three times as much space as the actual article. I don't understand how any legitimate newspaper can get away with this."

We tracked down an old acquaintance of Sy's to see what he had to say about the matter.

"Oh, Sy can get a little too worked up about these things," our contact (who wishes to remain nameless) admitted. "But when you sympathize with him about the horrors of stock photography and poor reporting he gives you free drinks."

No one here at Daglobenpost has been able to discover any evidence to substantiate Sy's outrageous claims.

Daglobenpost



Unidentified acquaintance of Sy admits "he gives you free drinks when you sympathize with him about stock photography."

Ottawa mandates additional warning labels for household consumer goods

IT'S ABOUT TIME

Toilet paper to be labelled "Not for internal use"

BY MIKE 'HAMMER' HAMMOND

OTTAWA • In a move widely expected to elate idiots across the country, the House of Commons approved a bill today which requires the manufacturers of common household goods to provide comprehensive warning labels aimed at protecting the stupidest members of society from their biggest danger: themselves.

Toilet paper, for example, must now be labelled as "not for internal use" and warn consumers to "dispose of used portions of this product".

Garden hoses must mention that they "may be harmful or fatal if swallowed".

And every jar of peanuts must make sure the consumer is aware that it "may contain traces of nuts".

"It's about time," said self-appointed consumer spokesperson and all-around moron Mark Trimarco, who launched a lawsuit last year against manufacturers of toothbrushes for not warning consumers that excessive brushing may lead to "toothbrush abrasion".

"Manufacturers have a duty to warn consumers about any danger they can foresee with their products, however remote or self-evident these dangers may seem

to those who have so-called 'common sense'," says Trimarco. "How many needless tragedies happen each year simply because washing machine manufacturers don't warn consumers not to attempt to wash their clothes while wearing them?"

Irene Bentsen, chair of the Consumer Rights Agency of Protection, agrees.

EVERY JAR OF PEANUTS MUST MAKE SURE THE CONSUMER IS AWARE IT MAY CONTAIN TRACES OF NUTS.

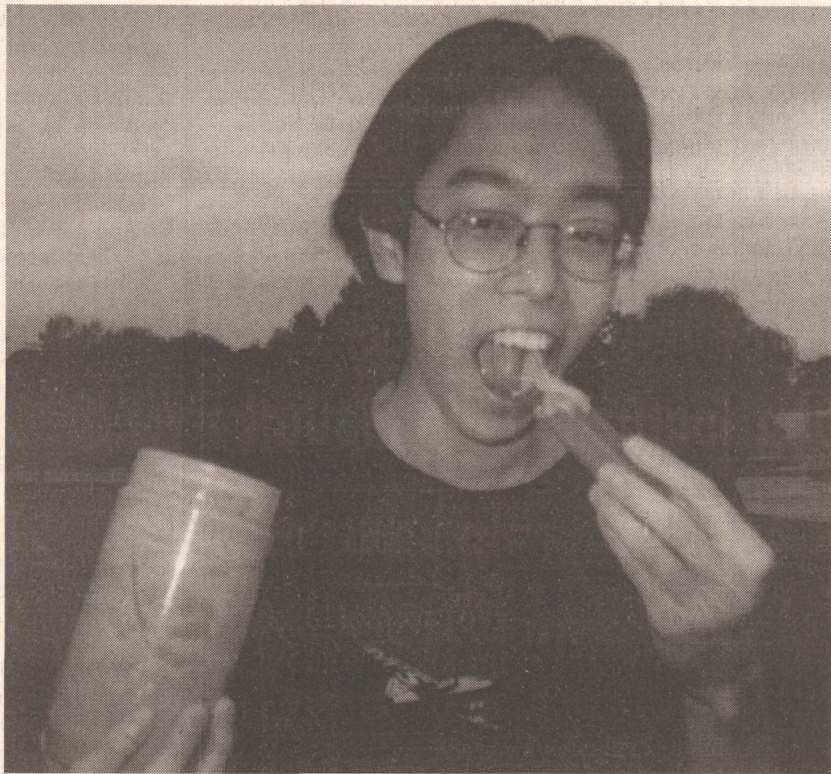
"Whose fault is it when a person drowns while attempting to ride their bicycle across Georgian Bay in the middle of June?" asked Bentsen. "When manufacturers fail to warn consumers that bicycles do not float, it's certainly not reasonable to blame the poor consumer."

Bentsen adds, "We've finally gotten Ottawa to listen to our concerns. Now no purchaser of Silly Putty need learn the hard way not to use it for ear plugs or as a contraceptive device. It's wonderful to see Ottawa taking CRAP seriously."

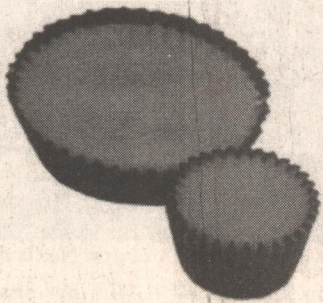
Daglobenpost



Oh, I would so kill for a Reese Peanut Butter Cup™. I wish I had one right now. Why won't that girl share any of hers? It's people like her that drive me bananas. There's three in the package, you know!



Hey! I've got some chocolate and peanut butter in my backpack though...let's just put them together and...yuck! That's disgusting! If I could only figure out why those cups taste so good and this concoction tastes like crap...



Reese Peanut Butter Cups™

You'll never know that it's peanut butter whipped with icing sugar and poured into paper cupcake liners filled with melted milk chocolate.

POLITICS

DAY CEMENTS LEADERSHIP BID WITH APPEARANCE ON AIR FARCE

LAUGHS APLENTY

Tries to steal Jean Chrétien's chair in zany sketch

By CHADWICK SEVERN

OTTAWA • Even after he filed the necessary paperwork, campaigned for two months, participated in six Alliance debates and won the two leadership votes, Stockwell Day was still not considered an official candidate for the Alliance leadership until his appearance yesterday on the CBC's Royal Canadian Air Farce.

"Stockwell Day certainly has had the semblance of running for the leadership of the Alliance," said Canadian Alliance official Kyle Parsons. "But with yesterday's appearance cementing his intentions, we can now say he is officially our leader."

Parsons said appearing on the CBC comedy show was a "right-of-passage" for all politicians in the country, and that Day's leadership bid would be futile without securing one.

In the zany sketch, Day sneaks into Jean Chrétien's office and tries to steal the prime minister's chair. Funnyman Roger Abbott plays the prime minister, who discovers Day and tries to thwart his wacky plan.

Television viewer Bob Reynolds said that he had no idea who Stockwell Day was before watching last night's episode of Air Farce.

"But after watching him slap around Chrétien and ripping up his budget book, I knew that this guy was someone who wanted to lead the Alliance," said Reynolds.

Preston Manning nabbed a cameo on the Air Farce on November 26, 1999, where he confirmed he loved the word "reform" and plotted with John Morgan as Deborah Grey on how to unite the right.

Unfortunately for Manning, the

'APPEARING ON AIR FARCE IS A RIGHT-OF-PASSAGE FOR ALL POLITICIANS IN CANADA'

episode was not rerun prior to the crucial final leadership vote, and without securing a new appearance on the program, he left Canadian Alliance members across the country no choice but to vote for Day last Saturday.

Conservative leader Joe Clark dismissed Day's cameo and told reporters yesterday that he appeared on the Air Farce when it was a radio program.

"I did a sketch with Dave Broadfoot in 1979 discussing facetious solutions to the energy crisis, and I returned to the program in December 1998 to disparage the endeavor of uniting the right," said Clark. "Clearly, I have had the right stuff to lead Canada's right for over 20 years."

For most Canadian political parties, appearing on the Air Farce is also considered a mandatory part of leadership.

Jean Chrétien appeared on the show in 1997 and sparred with his impersonation double, Roger Abbott.

NDP leader Alexa McDonough appeared on the Farce's year-end show in December 1997 to baste a turkey with Luba Goy as Sheila Copps.

Gilles Duceppe, leader of the Bloc Québécois, has never been invited to appear on the show, and said "c'est les résidus du anglais" in frustration in 1996. He later took back the remark.

In a decidedly unconventional move, Chrétien's Liberal cabinet have mostly restricted their appearances on Air Farce to being targets for the show's Chicken Cannon. Human Resources Minister Jane Stewart and former Solicitor-General Andy Scott have both been targets, and David Collette has had the distinction of being a target twice, once as defence minister and again as transport minister.

Paul Martin hopes to get Chrétien's approval to appear on the program sometime in 2002.

Daglobenpost



Stockwell Day appears in a sketch with Roger Abbott on yesterday's episode of Royal Canadian Air Farce on the CBC. The cameo is expected to cement Day's leadership bid.

Long goes after leadership of Survivor tribe

Critics say he does not have enough surviving experience

By CHADWICK SEVERN

PULAU TIGA • Tom Long, fresh from his third-place finish in the Alliance leadership race has set his sights on a new leadership race: being head of the new united Pootang tribe on the CBS series Survivor.

"I'm convinced that the alliance that Richard, Susan and Kelly formed will not survive without a strong leader," said Long. "I need to get in there and help these people come together and unite."

During the seventh week of the program, the two competing tribes, Tagi and Pagong, will merge into one.

Long plans to fly out to the island of Pulau Tiga after presenting his platform booklet "Tagither" to CBS officials. His platform includes dealing with the rice rations and forming strategic alliances in order to win challenges.

Long points out that his dual Canadian-American citizenship, a hindrance in his Alliance bid, will be helpful on Survivor, since CBS only accepts applicants from the United States.

Critics accuse Long of entering the Survivor power structure late in the race, and not having enough experience in survival-type situation to handle the leadership role.

"The rest of the survivors have been eating rats, dealing with Rudy, and hiding from cameras for two weeks now," said an unnamed Liberal source. "It's completely unfair for Long to parachute in and expect to be coronated as leader."

Long said that if he fails in attaining the leadership of the tribe, he will likely try to manipulate the official leaders behind-the-scenes.

"I'm very good at backroom politics as well," said Long.

Daglobenpost



Tom Long explains his leadership plan to CBS executives.

Redneckizer key to getting votes from Ontario and Quebec

REDNECKS

Continued from Page 2

Following the instructions in the envelope, Chrétien took the fighter to Alberta where he was to deliver the plane's cargo to a Mr. Stockwell Day.

Landing the plane at a secret military base just north of Calgary, he exited the cockpit, careful to keep his face-concealing flight helmet on at all times. A middle-aged man wearing a loonie on his lapel, presumably Mr. Day, arrived at the tarmac to greet him.

"I am glad to see that you have arrived safely," Day said. "And the package is in one piece?"

"I think so, sir," Chrétien so cleverly maneuvered the conversation, "But it would help to know what it is supposed to be for, you know, so we can verify that it works okay."

Day seemed only too eager to divulge the nefarious details of his plan. "You see kid, this device, the redneckizer, is the key to getting neo-conservative votes from Ontario and Quebec. The Psycho-reactive techno-field this thing produces is capable of turning the most hardened liberal into the right wing wackos we'll need to seize power, first in Canada, then the world."

Day took Chrétien to a room where a video monitor was set up. "These are the results of the tests we did on members of the NDP."

The screen showed Svend Robinson being dragged in by two armed guards. A beam from off-screen stuck Mr. Robinson, who immediately morphed into a clone of Pat Buchanan.

"You monster!!!" Chrétien screamed, throwing off his flight mask, "I'll see that you never get away with this."

"Jean Chrétien!!!" Day exclaimed in surprise, "How did you find out about this?"

"Never mind that," Chrétien told him, "but now that I know about this, you'll never succeed — I'm telling the world all about you!!!"

"No you're not," Day said, and shot him dead.

A Daglobenpost
Choose Your Own News Story

Government calls in Roto-Rooter to fix brain drain

By MIKE 'HAMMER' HAMMOND

OTTAWA • Industry Minister John Manley announced today that the Liberals have called Roto-Rooter to help deal with the nation-wide brain drain.

"We've looked across a wide spectrum of solutions for dealing with the brain drain, from pouring boiling water down the drain to using the strongest form of Drano available on the market today," said Manley. "Nothing has worked to date, so after consultation with [Human Resources Development Minister] Jane Stewart and the Yellow Pages, we put a call in to the experts: Roto-Rooter."

The brain drain has long plagued the Liberal government, and critics, while applauding the use of professionals to deal with it, still question the government's handling of the matter.

"In 1995, the Liberals claimed to have used a plunger to loosen a hair clog, and that the brain drain would no longer bother us," said Deborah Grey, Leader of the Opposition, during Question Period.

"In 1997, they said they replaced the drain trap with a newer teflon-coated pipe. And just last year, they said they were going to call a plumber, but 'never got around to it'."

"The Liberals don't seem to be able to deal with their own ineptitude with the nation's plumbing. Why did it take six years to call in the experts to deal with this problem?"

Manley was defensive about his government's record. "The Honourable Member does not seem to understand that our past efforts were appropriate for the problems of the time," said Manley. "The brain drain was dealt with and dealt with appropriately in 1995

and 1997, and there simply wasn't enough money in the budget for the plumber last year."

"Does the Honourable Member have any idea how much plumbers charge per hour?" Manley asked rhetorically.

"But with Roto-Rooter," continued Manley, "we will be able to strike at the source of our problem, which has been out of reach of our plungers and our chemicals. We will be able to fix the brain drain right up to the point where it meets the municipal sewer systems. And once the drain is fixed, Roto-Rooter promises that our troubles will follow."

'DOES SHE HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH PLUMBERS COST PER HOUR?'

He then played a clip of the Roto-Rooter jingle, which said, "And away go troubles down the drain."

When contacted by Daglobenpost, a spokesperson for Roto-Rooter said, "Yeah, we're going to send over a truck on Saturday. We'll be there sometime between 10am and 4pm. Please make sure that someone is home to let us in, or else we're going to have to charge you for the visit anyway."

Founded in 1935 in Des Moines, Iowa, Roto-Rooter is the largest provider of plumbing and drain-cleaning services in North America. Roto-Rooter operates businesses in more than 100 company-owned territories and more than 500 franchise territories, and serves approximately 55% of the Canadian population.

Daglobenpost

Alberta done with rat extermination, now moving to politicians

Alberta Pest Prevention Unit gets new mandate

By MIKE 'HAMMER' HAMMOND

EDMONTON • Alberta has never been a friendly place to vermin.

In the 1950s, Alberta was faced with a crisis of rats scurrying into the province from Saskatchewan and points east. Faced with a virtual plague of the rodents, Alberta formed a special squad called the Alberta Pest Prevention Unit (APPU).

Thanks largely to the efforts of this elite squad, Alberta is now one of the few areas in the world which can proudly declare itself rat-free. And with their astonishing success comes the inevitable broadening of vision.

"First, we dealt with all the rats in the province," says John Bourne, leader of Alberta's rat pack. "Next, we moved on to the cockroaches. Now we're ready for our greatest challenge, the destruction of the most dangerous pest known to mankind: the politician."

The APPU scored its first victory with the discreet removal of Preston Manning. "We posted signs around his neighbourhood calling

for a leadership meeting of the Canadian Alliance," explains Bourne. "This bait worked like a charm, and we were able to capture him without incident."

"There's a reason you haven't seen him around lately," he added.

Next up for the APPU is Joe Clark. "There's a threat that he may try to establish himself in Calgary Centre. We want to preemptively strike against him before he inevitably brings more vermin in with him."

Also on the list are Deborah Grey, Ralph Klein, and Anne McLellan.

Because Alberta politicians tend to be more vicious than, say, their Manitoba counterparts, the



Officials oversee the disposal of rats. Next: politicians.

APPU is forced to dispatch of their catches quickly.

"You don't want to give someone like Deborah Grey the chance to

sink her sharp little teeth into your arm," says Bourne.

"Trust me on this one."

Daglobenpost

WORLD

RELIGIOUS RIGHT DECLARES 'GLADIATOR' UNSUITABLE FOR FAMILIES

BY MICHAEL THORSLEY

Liberty Federation leader, the reverend Jerry Fallwell, added the hit movie "Gladiator" to his list of films unsuitable for family viewing Wednesday saying that, "its gruesome story line, featuring the torture and death of an innocent man at the hands of Roman authorities, is far too brutal for children to bear."

Among the scenes objected to by Fallwell was a scene where the emperor Commodus cripples Maximus, the central character, before the final battle. "Here we have a character restrained, with his arms held out to his sides leaving him entirely helpless, and the emperor stabs him in the side. There is no way we should be ag-

grandizing any story with macabre scenes like this."

Fallwell also objected to a scene where Maximus' wife and child are shown crucified by a Roman legion. "What kind of sick-o gets a kick out of recounting the bloody crucifixion of an innocent person?"

The only saving grace of that scene, according to Fallwell, is that it is not especially graphic.

"At least it did not go into detail about exactly how these people were killed, what the soldiers were doing, what their last words were and things like that. A story line containing those horrible details would be reprehensible."

"With our so-called role models spinning yarns like that, it's no wonder society's going to hell in a handbasket."

Daglobenpost

English weight loss plan a fraud

BY GREG TAYLOR

LONDON, ENGLAND • It has recently been revealed that a small weight loss clinic on the south bank of the Thames has been scamming their clients for the past twenty years.

Suspensions were first raised when their slogan, 'Come to us and watch the pounds melt away!' was updated to read 'Come to us and watch the euros melt away!'

"I'm amazed," stated one woman who has frequented the clinic for six years. "I never realized that they were only taking away my money and not my excess fat! I mean sure, they let me eat whatever I wanted and didn't make exercise a mandatory part of their 32 step plan... but come on, hindsight is 20/20."

The 32 step weight loss plan in question apparently involves first

weighing yourself on a scale along with a full set of camping gear, complete with sleeping bag, tent and travelling elephant. Items gradually get removed as you proceed through each step of the plan, giving the illusion of lost weight. The fraud has never been previously discovered mainly because no one has managed to complete all 32 steps yet.

The person who originally came up with this scam, also the manager of the clinic, expressed no remorse. "If you're dumb enough to fall for it, that's not my problem," she stated. "It's not like this was an easy system to implement either, what with everyone preferring metric measurements. But I figure that this new 'euro' coin is a sign that I should finally come clean, at least with regards to the advertising."

Apparently, at least 3 clients plan on sticking with the plan despite the revelation. "I'm at step 30! I can't quit now!" remarked one man who has been on the plan since the clinic's inception.

Daglobenpost



Russell Crowe plays Maximus in Gladiator, a kind of character that the religious right finds entirely inappropriate for kids.

'Time to take out the garbage.'

WHOOOP-ASS

Continued from Page 2

Chrétien immediately turned the fighter around, only to find three Russian-made MIG fighters closing in on him—fast! "Time to take out the garbage," he muttered dramatically to the viewers at home.

Clutching the control stick, Chrétien dove towards the lead fighter. Engaging in a supersonic game of chicken, Chrétien waited until the very last second to fire a missile and pull up, flying through the fiery explosion of his

vanquished enemy.

The remaining two fighters moved to intercept Chrétien's fighter. They each fired a single missile at Chrétien, who nonchalantly sent his fighter into a very-exciting-looking barrel roll, avoiding the missiles, which then proceeded to destroy the two opposing fighters.

His path unencumbered, Chrétien fired three air-to-ground missiles into a tanker truck loaded with gasoline. The resulting explosion destroyed the compound in a huge fireball and ended Olga's menace forever.

Chrétien woke up, sweating profusely. "What a crazy dream." He clutched his teddy bear and went back to sleep.

A Daglobenpost

Choose Your Own News Story

Vatican reveals third secret of Fatima

"Invest heavily in
Microsoft" blessed
virgin advises

BY MICHAEL THORSLEY

For more than half a century, successive popes have guarded the third secret of Fatima, a message presented by an apparition of the virgin Mary to three children near the town of Fatima, Portugal. The message, which is said to have predicted several of the major events of the twentieth century, was finally revealed by the Holy See yesterday, and the world was shown how accurate the predictions contained within were. In addition to the fall of communism and the 1981 assassination attempt of pope John Paul II, the message contained substantial amounts of much more practical advice for Catholics of this century.

"Invest heavily in Microsoft," the virgin Mary was recorded as saying, "Even though Bill Gates is a pencil-necked geek, you'll be

really raking in the moola in a few years if you know what I mean. The information technology sector is really going to boom in the eighties and nineties and you want to get in on the ground floor."

The mother of God then went on to describe how computers and the internet will change western society. "Someday, men who like women who like barnyard animals will have a web page all for themselves."

The prophecy was not limited to the realm of computers, however, as several dozen pages contained nothing but stock prices for more than 200 major corporations on the New York and Toronto stock exchanges from the 1950s onward with specific commentary on the best time to invest.

In the realm of medicine, the secret contained information on mad cow disease and treatments for AIDS that scientists have discovered only within the past few years, while for those of the musical persuasion, the secret contained the names and career highlights of all of the major musical artists of the twentieth century from Al Jolson up to Britney Spears.


When asked why the message could not have been revealed or the secrets acted upon before all of the prophesied events had already come to pass, officials from the Holy See shrugged their shoulders.

Daglobenpost

The secret of Christian Science Reading Room's success? Attached Starbucks.




The latest trend in religious reading rooms is to attach a hip coffee joint next door, as this one has done.

**RadioShock.com**

You've got questions? We'll have answers! *

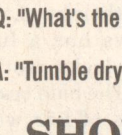
Q: "Can you give me the best portable CD player you have?"

A: "This caller ID wall mount jack is not available in stores!"




Q: "How can I protect my home against intruders?"

A: "Our analog joystick is fun for the whole family!"



Q: "What's the best way to care for my new computer?"

A: "Tumble dry on medium heat without fabric softner!"



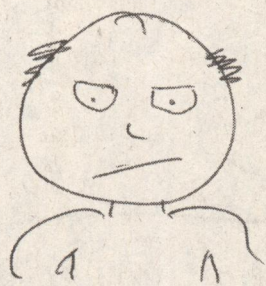
**SHOP WITH US AND
BE SHOCKED!**

* No guarantee that answers will bear relation to questions asked.

IF YOU'RE NOT LISTENING TO TALK
640, THEN YOU'RE NOT HEARING US

COMMENT

Commercials are getting way too subtle for me



PIERRE STRAUNCH

Does anyone understand the commercials they're playing on television these days?

I can't for the life of me figure them out. If the advertisers are trying to reach the lowest common denominator, they're failing miserably.

Take the new Bell Canada commercial that announces that all of the country's yellow pages are now on the Internet. A simple enough statement, but the action on the screen tells a different story.

A man in a blue suit in a white room walks over to what appears to be a normal laptop computer, and attempts to lift it.

But wait! The laptop seems to be bolted to the white cube it is resting on. Yet, for the duration of this commercial (for which purpose is not evident until the announcer comes in at the end), this poor blue-clad man keeps tugging and pulling on this laptop, unaware that it has been bolted to the big white cube.

What does this have to do with yellow page listings being available on the Internet? This unfortunate man has no idea why he cannot retrieve his valuable computer. Someone is playing a prank on him! He needs to get to an important meeting, or home to see his family, and some sadistic bastard has bolted his livelihood to a damn white cube!

This is outrageous! Is this what Bell Canada wants us to associate their new Internet service with? Out-of-control pranks that not only take away our possessions, but also televise them across the country? Think of the stigma that is going to follow this man, who had his laptop bolted, and couldn't get home to see his dying son who passed away from leukemia before his father could say goodbye. All this man ever wanted was to pick up his laptop and go to see his son, his dear, dear son, and those insane jerks at Bell Canada took that away from him with this inane prank, that makes no sense whatever.

He's going to need a yellow page ad for a funeral home now, and he probably can't even find them on the Internet, because his laptop is still bolted down on some white cube.

It used to be that I understood nearly all the commercials on television. When that lady asked "where's the beef?" I knew she was telling me that Wendy's hamburgers had more meat in them than the competition. When that other lady tossed a hammer at a big talking face, I knew that she was trying to get me to buy a Macintosh computer.

If that Bell Canada commercial was the only obtuse one on the air right now, I could live with that. But there are several others that fry my noodle incessantly.

And then there's this commercial where six impeccably dressed women enter a room single file, separate into two lines stylishly, and surround an apparatus that holds a panty-liner. Each woman carries a single vial of poisonous blue liquid, and savagely pours the liquid onto the poor feminine napkin.

Six times! Six times this panty-liner endures a scalding from this clear, blue poison. Panty-liners were never made to deal with odorous liquids; it's just terrifying watching the soaking this thing gets.

After the saturation, one of the women breaks rank and attempts to dry off the poor napkin—but none of the poison gets soaked up! No, all of the venomous liquid stayed entrenched in the panty-liner, sealing its fate.

The women all glance at each other with a smug smile on their face, secure in the knowledge that this panty-liner will never see the light of day again.

What are the Always people trying to tell us here, people? I can't fathom a more gruesome message: "Buy our feminine products, or we'll drench you with clear, blue poison, not once—but six times! Muah ha ha ha!"

The very thought puts a shiver down my spine.

There's a whole series of commercials which don't make much sense to me, specifically, the ones where innocent shoppers approach an employee of a Dominion grocery store to ask a simple question, and are whisked away against their will to some dangerous situation in a faraway place.

Here they are, picking up some milk and eggs to take home to their sick mother, who needs to be cared for during all her waking hours, and a straightforward inquiry like "Are these eggs fresh?" will lead to a life-and-death face-off with a coop of angry roosters.

Not only are they kidnapped, they're probably drugged as well. They'd have to be, since they're sometimes found at sea or halfway across the continent. When their own mother is ailing a few kilometres from the grocery store, I don't think they'd go along on a fishing expedition willingly!

EACH WOMAN SAVAGELY POURS THE BLUE LIQUID ONTO THE POOR FEMININE NAPKIN

No, these cruel meat mongers and dairy managers drug the poor shopper before they can protest too much.

After regaining consciousness, they'll find themselves thousands of kilometres away from their mother (who's in terrible shape by now), with a raging bull ready to run the shopper down, red jacket and all.

There's no way now they can get back to their mother in time, and as they come to grips with the loss of the person who gave birth to them, they've got to stare into the eyes of their own death, as well.

No, you'll never find me at a Dominion store. I like to do my grocery shopping in places where I'll be able to leave at my own free will. They can take away my liver beans, but they'll never take away my freedom!

I'll end my dissertation on a commercial I find less downbeat, but still equally confusing.

There's a butter commercial that airs infrequently that has two super-intelligent cows having a conversation. While I've never seen a talking cow, I'm convinced it is not special effects because I refuse to believe the butter lobby has enough money to pay Industrial Light and Magic to animate the lips of ordinary cows.

Now, one of these cows is your typical bovine without any human-style hair on their head, and one of these cows has a lush hairdo of blonde locks resting upon her noggin. The bald cow is obviously jealous of her well-coiffed sister, and complains (as all women are wont to do about girlfriend's appearances).

The blonde cow, unlike most jokes told by men's magazines, is apparently the smarter of the two, and says that this is a political statement. It's unnatural for cows to have blonde hair, but she's fighting against the bald cow establishment. Stick it to the man, cow-sister!

But what does this have to do with butter?

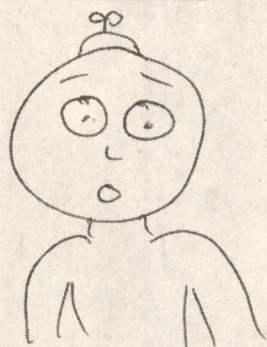
I think I'll stick with margarine for now, unless I could be assured that the butter I buy is from that super-intelligent blonde cow.

Maybe I'll ask that nice Dominion worker if that's the case with this butter right here...

Pierre Straunch is a liberal arts professor at Wilfred Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario.

Lost in translation

CLEANUP IN AISLE 6



GREG TAYLOR

With the word 'referendum' still looming over the country, it appears that there will never be an end to the speculation about when and if a peaceful unity is reachable between English and French speakers. But surprisingly there might exist some form of answer to this question already. The signs are in the flawed English/French translations we see every day - probably without even thinking twice about them! Yes, this is a reference to the translations of products and their slogans, currently featured in grocery stores all over the country. This is a really fundamental problem: after all, just what sort of message are we sending to our children? How are they supposed to be become bilingual and resolve the nation's problems when they are being given such blatantly erroneous conversions?

For example, take Tilex Shower Cleaner. Their slogan proclaims "Just Mist & Walk Away!" which (supposedly) translates to "Vaporisez et Laissez Agir!" Excuse me? Why was only the English person given instructions to leave the area? What's about to happen? There's no reason to translate walking into "laissez"; indeed if something is 'left' on a table, having it 'walk off' would be surprising to say the least. (Well, unless someone in your house is a neatness freak, which they might be if they have shower cleaner. But that still doesn't explain the potential misinterpretation.) Of course, sometimes a translation is changed for the sake of cuteness; competing cleaner Fantastik translates their "Just Mist & Go!" into "Vaporisez et le tour est joué!" Is that not a charming little French rhyme? It's all fun and games until the cleaner gets in your eyes. Still, once again, only the English people seem to be instructed to leave the bathroom before the shower explodes.

This phenomenon is not limited to household cleaners either. Kraft Dressing's "Classic Twists" series becomes "Classiques Plus" in French. Plus what? Why are the French not as twisted as the English? Admittedly, twisting words to their own ends is something a lot of products like to do. Sometimes new words result, making translating even more difficult. But for Heinz Ketchup why would someone translate "No Other Keinz" to be "Heinz ou Rien"? The contrite "we have

nothing else" English person has become a stern "you'll eat it or go to your room" French mother! (So is there 'nothing like sovereignty' or is it 'sovereignty or nothing'?)

You can even tell that in some cases the translators are giving up, if indeed they were even trying. Case in point: Pink Grapefruit Juice translating to Jus de Pamplemousse Rose, White Grapefruit Juice translating to Jus de Pamplemousse Blanc and Ruby Red Grapefruit Juice translating to Jus de Pamplemousse Ruby Red. Pardon? Or witness the sloppy missing words in these translations: "Baby Spinach" becomes "D'épinards", "Summer Sweet Peas" becomes "Pois D'été" and "Spring Mix" becomes "Printemps". Did YOU know that the season of Spring was available in your grocer's freezer?

DOES THIS MEAN IT'S A SMART CHOICE ONLY WHEN YOU HAPPEN TO HAVE EXTRA MONEY IN YOUR BUDGET?

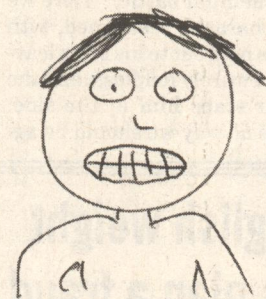
Part of the problem here is that no national standard has been set. We need a new law to specify what's what in the food industry! When you go to the store to get "Wax Beans", do you purchase the Green Giant "Haricots Jaunes" or the Del Monte "Haricots Beurre"? (Or do you end up with something made of "cire"? There's even a lack of consistency within single companies - "Smart Choice" Dish Detergent translates to "Choix Budget", while "Smart Choice" Spaghetti Sauce becomes "Choix Extra". Does this mean it's a smart choice only when you happen to have extra money in your budget? It doesn't seem sensible to translate the brand name anyway - when was the last time you saw "shampooing Tête et Épaules" or "Heureuses sacs à sandwich"? Finally, why oh why does any English phrase with the '&' sign in it always have that sign replaced by "et" in the French version? Don't the French have a &? (Maybe that's why Preston Manning has trouble with the language.)

In conclusion, until such great grocery gaffes are resolved, it seems ridiculous to even begin plans for another referendum. Instead, everybody should send a letter to their local government representative and grocery store manager, demanding some sort of resolution to this product problem. Unless you would prefer it eat away at us and lead to sour grapes? At the very least, standards are needed to keep bilingual people from getting confused and to prevent the English neatness freaks from fleeing their showers in terror.

Greg Taylor has claimed to speak both English and French.

I'm starting to think that "Must See!" items on eBay aren't really that great

I mean, I don't see how a Canon ink cartridge is a "Must See!" item



TONYA MACKIE

Yes, I'm very impressed that your "company" sells over 25 million Canon ink cartridges a year, but I don't see how that makes the BCI-21/BCI-20 Canon Combo a "Must See!" item. My eBay time is limited, and there are many different categories I want to visit when I want to shop. I don't have time to look at each and every listing, so the short item description plays a very important role in my eBay perusal.

If you have a bad short description for your item, I'm not likely to click on it to investigate further. If your description is "Whoa! Got Milk?" then that doesn't do anything for me. If I'm in a hurry, I'm not going to click on that item to find out that it's really a stylish black watch with the "Got Milk" logo inside a collector black tin case, and that they're sweeping the nation and selling fast at the whole-sale price of \$11.95, and I can bid on one in a Dutch auction for as low as \$6.95. You really should include more details in the short description. Something like "Whoa! Got Milk? Or the time? Collector's Watch! Right here, baby!" is much more likely to catch my attention. I do realize you already have 236 bids on only 100 watches, but next time, I think you could do a bit better.

And bad descriptions can go too far the other way as well. If you include too much razzle-dazzle, you're just going to build up expectations for your item. Just the other day I came across an item that had a description that said "L@K—> Pheromone attractor!!! Must See! WOW!!!" How can a product live up to this incredible description? Further investigation reveals that it attracts men like magic, and that it has a money-back guarantee, and that it invites you to just imagine how good it must feel to be approached by real mean, handsome and previously unapproachable men, who will now make eye contact, smile at me, initiate conversations, and will compliment me on my perfume. With three exclamations in the short description, I was led to believe men would be falling over me, not just approaching me. Suffice to say, I only bid on three one-litre bottles, when I might have been inclined to bid on a gross if I wasn't let down after seeing the long description.

Sellers should also really endeavor to get pictures available of their wares. It's really not expensive to go out and purchase a scanner or a digital camera; they can even buy them through eBay! Text-only descriptions need to be really verbose and informative for me to consider placing a bid. Without a picture, I'd be unable to tell whether the Star Wars Episode I Qui-Gon Jinn Lightsaber figurine was the regular one or the deluxe one, and I'd be able to tell almost instantly if they included a picture. The fact that the lightsaber has a lightsaber blade that flips out does not help me here, sellers! That could still be the regular or the deluxe figure! Slap on a damn picture!

Finally, there is one other thing that really bugs the hell out of me when I browse through item descriptions on eBay, and that is when they include "NO REV!" in the comment. What are they trying to say here? What they're trying to say is that there is "No reserve," which is commonly abbreviated to "NR" or "NO RES", but when you say "NO REV!" you're just not making any sense at all, since "REV" is not an abbreviation for "reserve".

Please, sellers, try to be more careful in the future. You'll make more money that way.

Tonya Mackie has been purchasing items on eBay since 1998, and has a feedback profile of 4384, of which only 12 are negative.

GUEST CARTOON

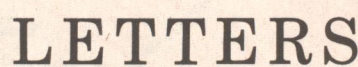
WELL, YOU KNOW, I'VE NEVER HELD PUBLIC OFFICE, I'M REALLY YOUNG, AND I DON'T SPEAK FRENCH. I GUESS IT WAS A LONG SHOT. HA HA HA...



Tom Long's concession speech

Why doesn't the Toronto Star take in some damn homeless?

Or, at the very least, that Adam Vaughan fellow should.



Go away now.
Go!

GREG TAYLOR
He does diversions and writing.

Miss Idea-girl.

Whyte Black, Pigmentation, BC

I'm writing to complain about the letters to the editor section. Recently it seems that most of the

The key problem with taking Statistics during the spring term is that a person is both taking stats and taking the class during the spring term, which, at Waterloo, is known for long weekends, outdoor sports, and time spent on patios, not in classrooms or labs. Those students enrolled in STAT

During my frosh week (and certainly many others), there were rumors of STAT 231 being dropped as a requirement. This glorious day still has not come. One piece of advice I received, though, was to take it in 4B. That way, maybe it would be dropped by then. Since that fateful September I have learned that I will never escape the course, which is why I am recommending others save themselves and get the course done in a fall or winter term. Avoid becoming one of those poor unfortunate souls who ruin their summers with Statistics.

Bradley X. Smith, Waterloo

Daglobenpost accepts letters. What did you expect? You're smart. You figure out where to mail it. If you can't figure that out, we don't want your letter anyway.

[illegible]

But I digress.
Coke™ cards are evil.
Coke™ cards are evil. Coke™
cards are evil. Coke™ cards are
evil. Coke™ cards are evil. Coke™

Coke™ cards are evil. Coke™ cards are evil. Coke™ cards are evil. Coke™ cards are evil. Coke™ cards are evil.

[illegible][illegible]

Daglobenpos

Show Your Card...
 ...Buy a COKE®...
 ...Lose Your Seat!!!!
 Coca-Cola® enjoy
 cokecard.coca-cola.ca
 0 49000 02550 7
 Signature: *Satan*

 *Coca-Cola®, "Coke" and the Distinctive Bottle are registered and "Coke Card" is a trademark of Coca-Cola Ltd.

ARTS & CRAP

10

DAGLOBENPOST, WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2000

Mystique

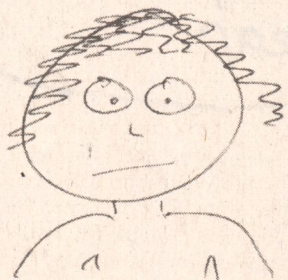
Will the X-Men movie have other mutants in it? If so, why?

"Woo hoo ha ha"

Will Smith's new song is climbing the charts and only uses five copyrighted samples.

Thanking crowd can be delicate

How does one thank an audience used as a lifeline?



MOLLY DuGARD

Daglobenpost Advice Girl

Dear Molly,

What is the proper way to thank a correct audience that you polled as one of your lifelines? -*Potential Millionaire*

Dear PM,

Ah, yes, what to do when the audience comes through and correctly picks out the correct answer from a list of four. This is something that can happen at any time, and it's a very good idea to show your appreciation to the audience. What's another word for audience? Mob. And if you fail to acknowledge their assistance, they can turn on you and become your worst enemy.

But when you're in such a situation, it's generally a bit time-consuming to go through the audience and shake each member's hand. Even more difficult would be trying to remember each audience member's name and thanking him or her personally on an individual basis.

Most people who need to thank an audience usually do it with a wave of the hand or a simple "Thank you" aimed in the general direction of the audience. Savvy players will also turn their head and verbally thank the audience that is seated behind them, and it's just common sense, since they voted correctly as well.

The best way to thank an audience is to divide the value of the question they helped with by 100, and give each member of the audience that amount afterwards. If they help you with a \$16,000 question, give each of them \$1,600, even if you go on to win the million. But if they help you with the million-dollar question, you'd better be ready to fork over their share, since you wouldn't have got it without them.

Dear Molly,

What is the proper way to show your anger and disgust with an audience that was wrong when you polled them? -*One Grand Richer*

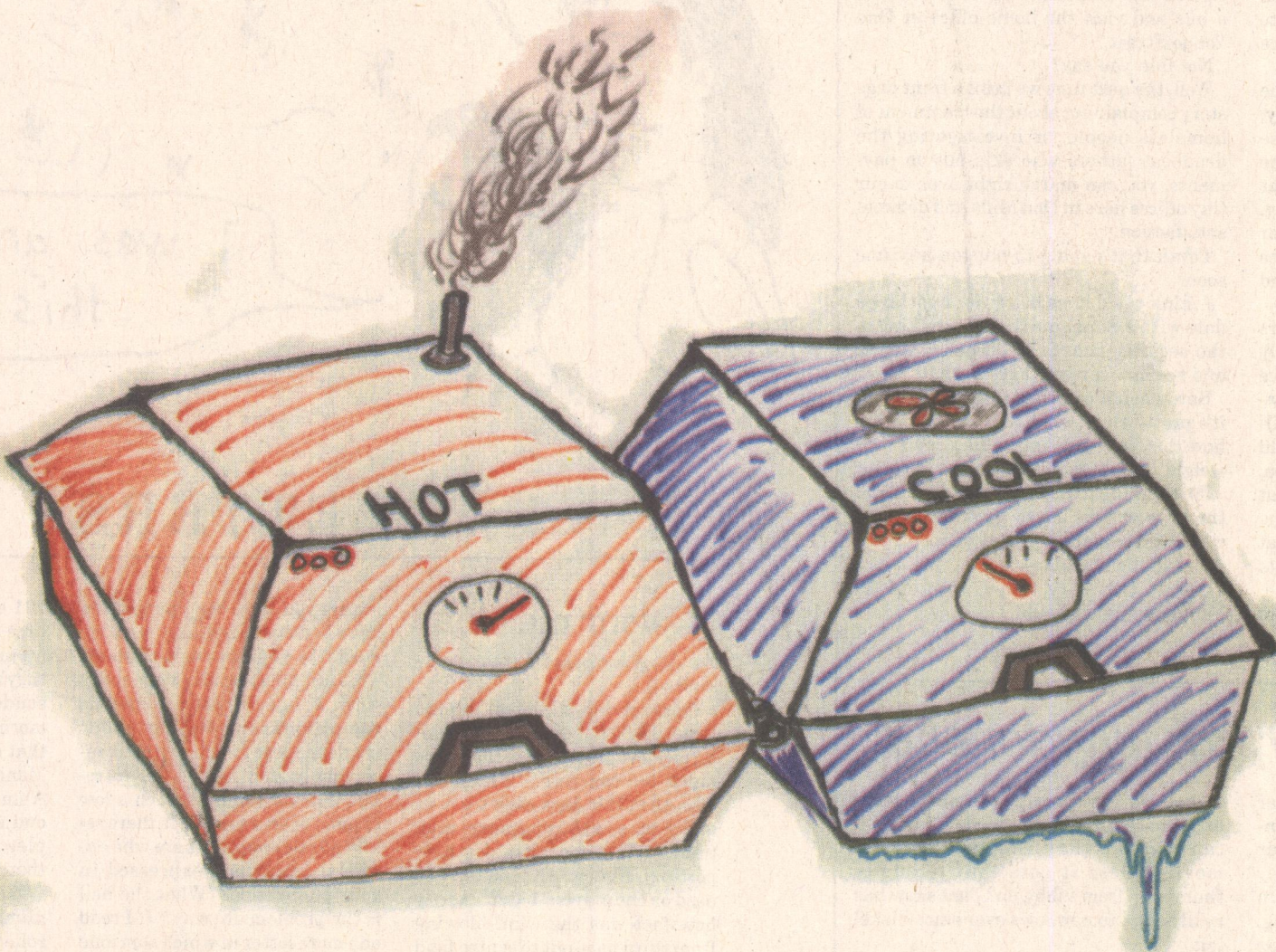
Dear OGR,

As can happen in life, sometimes when you ask for an opinion, you get an incorrect answer. But when you ask one hundred strangers the same question, you usually expect that the answer the plurality of the 100 people chose to be the correct one. When such a situation arises, it's very important that you keep your cool and extract yourself from the area with dignity and aplomb.

If the audience gets the question wrong for a dollar value of less than \$1,000, they should be forgiven for their mistake since you're an idiot and should have known the answer yourself. Old Mother Hubbard did not live in a shoe, you dolt, she went to her cupboard to fetch her poor dog a bone. You see how they rhyme?

But, if the audience gets the million-dollar question wrong, it's quite acceptable to wait outside the exit door and whack each of them in the kneecaps as they leave the studio.

You can ask Molly your very own questions by calling her at Daglobenpost: 416-383-2500.



The burger that was cool on one side and hot on the other is back, and this time, a new high-tech package will keep them at their correct temperature while you eat

McDonald's heralds triumphant return of the McBLT sandwich

CHADWICK SEVERN
On Fast Food Comebacks

After years of research and development, McDonald's is set to debut the McBLT to its menu after the sandwich disappeared nearly a decade ago. The McBLT hamburger is returning with a specially designed package that finally ensures that the meat-half of the sandwich remains hot and the veggie-half of the sandwich remains cold.

"When the McBLT first came out, we served the burger in a dual-tray styrofoam package, which did separate the warm and cold components, but didn't keep them at the proper temperatures for the entire dining experience," said McDonald's spokesperson Kyle Walkom.

McDonald's is blaming the failure of the original incarnation of the McBLT on the old packaging, where the entire sandwich was essentially the same temperature by the time the two sides were folded into one and eaten.

The new packaging is made from a space-age polymer that cryogenically insulates each half of the sandwich, preventing any seepage of energy between the two sides. A three-centimetre cooling fan is installed on one side, and a five-centimetre heating element is attached to the interior of the other side.

"This new packaging will ensure that the intended temperature is maintained for both halves of the sandwich during its 60-second trip from the counter to the seating area," said Walkom.

After the customer puts the two sides together to eat the sandwich, they are encouraged to return each half to their respective sides of the package to main-

tain the temperature throughout the entire meal.

"Preferably, a customer will take a bite out of the hot side and a corresponding bite out of the cold side instead of folding the sandwich together," said Walkom. "But, if they do put the sandwich together, they can easily separate the two halves after each bite."

While the cost to McDonald's for each polymer package will be \$8.66 for the materials and parts involved in produc-

**'THE NEW PACKAGING
WILL ENSURE THE
INTENDED TEMPERATURE IS MAINTAINED
FOR BOTH HALVES.'**

tion, the cost to develop the revolutionary food-storage device is in the millions.

"We intend to amortize the cost of these packages over several years to recoup our investment," said Walkom. "We will have special recycling bins in every outlet for consumers to return their used McBLT packages to. Then they will be sterilized and re-used."

With an introductory retail price of \$1.99, the McBLT will also be made with inferior beef and substandard lettuce to help make up for the deficit, leading to a sandwich-only cost of three cents.

"At three cents for each sandwich, we only need to sell five McBLT's to recoup the production cost of the package, and

17 more McBLT's to cover the cost of developing the package," said Walkom.

Special magnetic security tags that cost \$1.40 each will be affixed to undisclosed parts of the package, ensuring that it does not leave the store. The McBLT will consequently not be available for takeout or drive-through.

"This is such a special sandwich, that we would prefer our customers to enjoy the McBLT in our store environment, and to kindly deposit their nuclear-powered McBLT packages to our recycling bins before they leave," said Walkom.

Analysts are reluctant to speculate on the profitability of the returning sandwich, especially with the up-front costs to franchisees.

"They need to have a large stock of these packages ready for distribution of the McBLT, and they need to be kept plugged in when they're not being used to serve the sandwich," said fast-food specialist Debra McKinnell. "This is a huge up-front cost to the storeowner."

McKinnell points to the ill-fated McPizze, which required each McDonald's franchise to purchase \$100,000 space-age ovens that could cook the pizzas in mere minutes instead of tens of minutes.

"After the McPizze failed, the storeowners were stuck with these ovens that had only two inches vertically of cooking space and could not be used for any food product other than McPizzas," said McKinnell. "With an up-front cost of \$140,000 for the McBLT packages and an operational charge of \$63,000 per month to keep them charged up, and a \$42,000 per month in sterilization charges, I can't help but think that the McBLT is doomed."

Daglobenpost

Letterman fires entire writing staff

Says he has all the jokes and skits he'll ever need

BY CHADWICK SEVERN

David Letterman, the star of CBS's Late Show, has fired his entire writing staff, but has assured executives and viewers that his late night variety show will remain as wacky and hilarious as it always has: by doing the same jokes over and over.

"It's really a no-brainer," said Letterman on his show last night. "I've got all the jokes I will ever need, and I save my production company, Worldwide Pants, nearly a million dollars a year."

Letterman pointed out during his weekly *Know Your Cuts Of Meat* segment that he has a stack of meat pictures "a mile high," allowing him to continue the bit indefinitely.

The audience member participating in the bit asked Letterman if he had a stack of unused monologue jokes and comedy sketches as well.

"Nope! The vault is empty! Hee hee hee!" replied Letterman.

Letterman told CBS executives that the show will remain as is, with a brief monologue, a few humour pieces, and celebrity interviews.

Asked by the executives what material he will use for the humour bits, Letterman replied that Campaign 2000 is a side-splitting piece that eats up at least five minutes of every show.

"You see, we introduce it with a huge fanfare, and then I ask Paul [Shaffer, Letterman's bandleader] if he has anything to contribute, and he says no, and then I ask Maria [Pope, Letterman's on-stage producer] if she has anything, and she'll say no. Then we close up Campaign 2000 and all have a good laugh over that," said Letterman.

"And then, we spend a few minutes saying how Campaign 2000 was brought to you by Crystal Clear Ice, and Alan [Kalter, Letterman's announcer] and I go back and forth on how the ice is crystal clear, and have you ever had cloudy ice, and didn't that make you feel like a loser? Big damn laughs, night in, night out."

As for Letterman's monologue, he says that as it's getting shorter every year anyway, he can probably come up with at least one joke per show on his own.

"I tell you, ever since the operation, I've just been brimming with bypass jokes," said Letterman. "I don't think I could run out of heart bypass jokes, ever."

"And have you heard my new Jay Leno impersonation? I can do Jay-isms until the cows come home."

Letterman also confirmed rumours that he will be using previously rejected top ten lists to maintain that segment on the show.

"The staff used to come up with seven lists for each show, and I would toss out most of them," said Letterman. "But, for the last year, I've been holding onto them in case my standards dropped and I could use them. That was fortuitous, since I'm set until 2004."

The writers have been scooped up by other comedy variety shows around the country to bolster staffs.

"If any one of these comedic refugees can come up with a running gag I can use day-in and day-out, I'll be set," said Late Night host Conan O'Brien. "Like that bit that Letterman did for about a month where he pointed out the horrible comb-over of that basketball coach. That was classic, and had me rolling in the aisles each and every time."

This is not the first time Letterman has let loose a group of staff members. In 1996, the host fired seven backstage workers for being "ninnies."

Daglobenpost

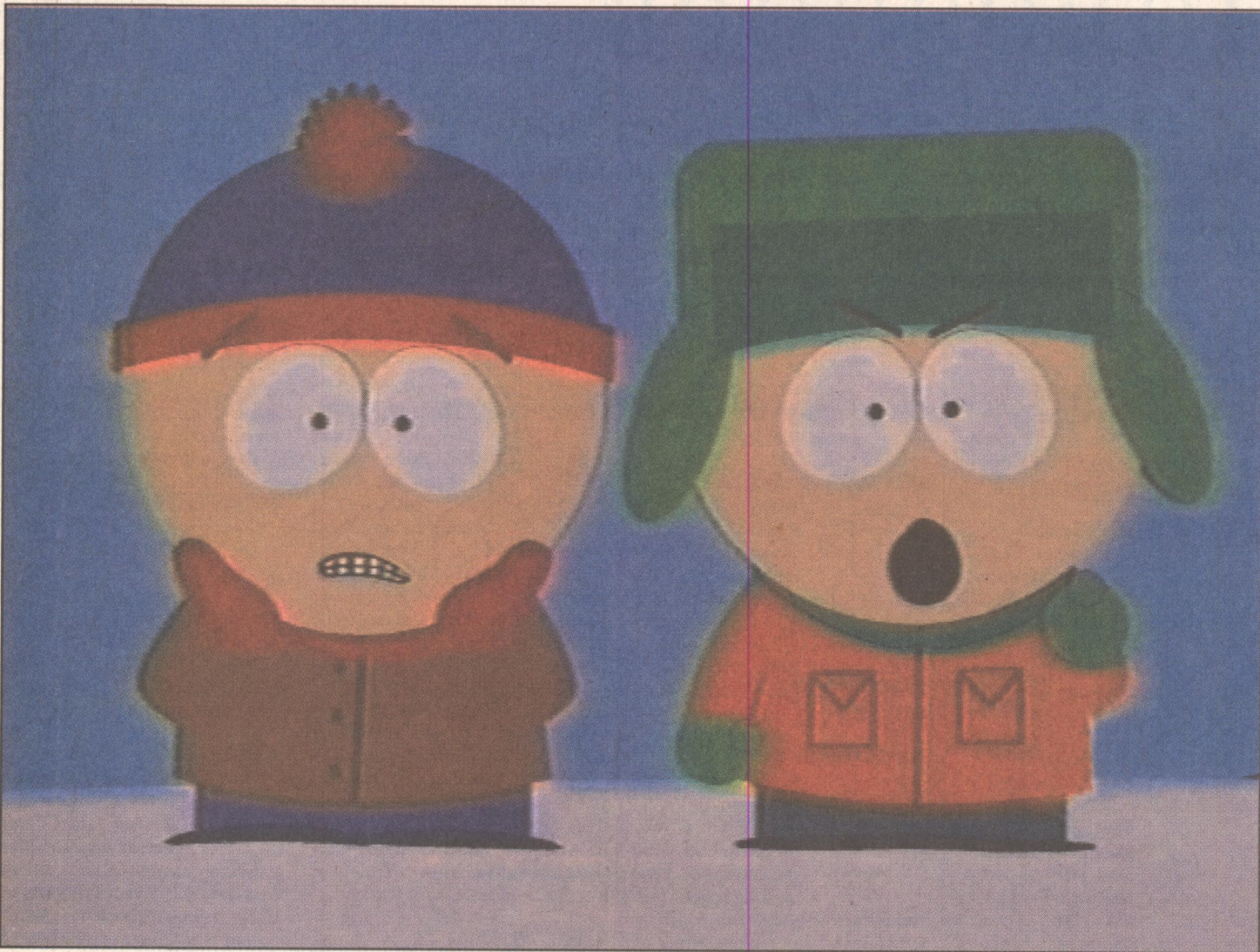
Tom Green's appearance on The Simpsons doesn't seem to gross anyone out

Canadian gross-out comedian Tom Green paid a visit to Springfield last Sunday in a cameo appearance on The Simpsons. Although the animated Green did put various disgusting things in his mouth, and broke several body parts on-screen, the program did not register any complaints with Fox Television or Global. "This is pretty tame stuff,

BROADCAST CLUES

compared to the antics that Bart and Homer get into," said noted Simpsons critic, Exacto@yahoo.com, who runs the web site Simpsonoramaniac.com. "Homer has eaten three-month old sandwiches

and rotting meats, which is a lot more raunchy than the stuff Green regularly puts in his mouth. This is definitely the worst episode ever of The Simpsons." Green plans to follow up his appearance on The Simpsons by doing a live show with the Jim Rose Circus, where he hopes to be the grossest thing in the show. *Nick Michaels*



Two characters have a discussion on the South Park program, which the less sophisticated viewer would not understand.

Episode of South Park intended for "Mature Audiences"

BY MICHAEL THORSLEY

Global television network announced Monday that the hit television show "South Park" is only intended to be viewed by "mature audiences."

"We think that only the most erudite and sophisticated among us can truly understand this show's specific brand of toilet humor and potty mouth," Global Spokesman Alan Bondheim told a group of Canada's literary and cultural elite at the opening of a new public art gallery in Brampton, Ontario.

"No mere child could possibly understand the nuances of the show's many subtle jabs at modern cultural mores."

"For example, one of [the program's] characters is a talking piece of poo who sings and dances and leaves little poo stains wherever he goes. Sometimes he kisses

one of the main characters and leaves a poo stain on his cheek. How could someone with anything less than a complete mastery of the fine comedic arts see the humour in this?"

"And right in the next scene," Bondheim added, "Cartman says the s-word. The creators beep it out, but leave just enough of the word so that the truly discerning viewer can tell what was said. Pure comic genius."

Bondheim announced that a notice of the required intellectual sophistication would continue to precede the show, allowing the possibly less-cultured viewer to choose programming more suited to his or her own limited perspicacity.

Global has recently come under increasing pressure to stem the tide of rampant viewer and parental indiscretion among its viewing public.

Daglobenpost

Jar Jar to star in next Indiana film

BY KEVIN WAN MIN KEE

SAN JOSE • On the set of Star Wars Episode II, word was leaked that digital celebrity Jar Jar Binks may be starring in the next Indiana Jones film. George Lucas mentioned the possibility while attempting to persuade the Gungan actor to remove his tongue from the last jelly donut in the box.

"Put that back, and Indiana Jones could be you!" said Lucas.

Shocked and caught unawares, Binks quickly re-organized the bits of information into linear order.

"Meesa meesa Indy?" replied Jar Jar.

Recognizing the momentary lapse in Binks' concentration,

Lucas, often referred to as a scavenging opportunist, quickly jumped on the situation.

"Yes! Yes! I might not even kill you in Episode II! Now put that donut back, nice and slow."

Binks immediately dropped the donut.

All cast and crew of Episode II were shocked by the turn of events. Some mentioned how disappointed Harrison Ford would be at being replaced so quickly. Others quit their jobs on the premise that Jar Jar would survive the next Star Wars installment. Still other members were excited at the thought of working with Binks on yet another film.

One crewmember commented "It's great working with [Jar Jar]. He never gets in the way. It's as if he's not even real."

When approached later for comment, Binks was found already practicing for his new role in the Indiana Jones movie.

"Isa swinga whip!" Binks stated. The leaked story originated on the Internet.

Daglobenpost

GLOBAL WINS PEABODY FOR FALL LINEUP EXPOSE

EXCEPTIONAL

Global Television Fall '00 Spectacular wows Peabody jury

BY CHADWICK SEVERN

TORONTO • For the first time ever, an investigative report made for and seen only on Canadian television has won the prestigious George Foster Peabody award.

Global Television's production "The Global TV Fall 2000 Spectacular" managed to beat out a 60 Minutes piece on loan scams and a PBS story on poverty to claim broadcast journalism's most renowned honour. The award was presented on Wednesday to delegates from the Canadian network.

"We decided to dig a little deeper in our report," said producer Duncan Cole. "We could have just presented the shows we'd be airing in September, but instead we gave the audience the whole story."

After receiving praise such as "exceptional" and "exquisite," Global has made attempts to get the program on the air in the United States, so that it could reach a broader market.

"We truly believe we have something special here," said Cole. "NBC has Will & Grace, ABC airs The Practice, and FOX owns The X-Files. Only one network can proclaim to air all three, and that's this fall on Global."

So far, all the American networks have rejected the Global program, much to the dismay of the Peabody jury that chose it.

"This lavish production chronicles the entire Global lineup for this upcoming television season," said jury member Claude Bartlett. "Not only is it compelling television, it's also exceptional storytelling. I can only dream that ABC's or NBC's fall specials come near the quality of Global's."

Cole cited the fact that Global has secured the rights to NBC's new drama Deadline, and Global has truly gone further in its handling of the transaction.

"NBC has done the traditional marketing, you know saying 'From the producers of Law & Order' and mentioning it stars Oliver Platt as a New York journalist who uses his Columbia students to help him solve crimes," said Cole. "But we went further with our Global TV Fall 2000 Spectacular. We revealed that the show also starred Bebe Neuwirth. I don't see NBC mentioning that little tidbit."

The Global special aired in June, and featured in-depth interviews with stars like Sean Hayes (Jack on Will & Grace) and Jesse L. Martin (Detective Green on Law & Order).

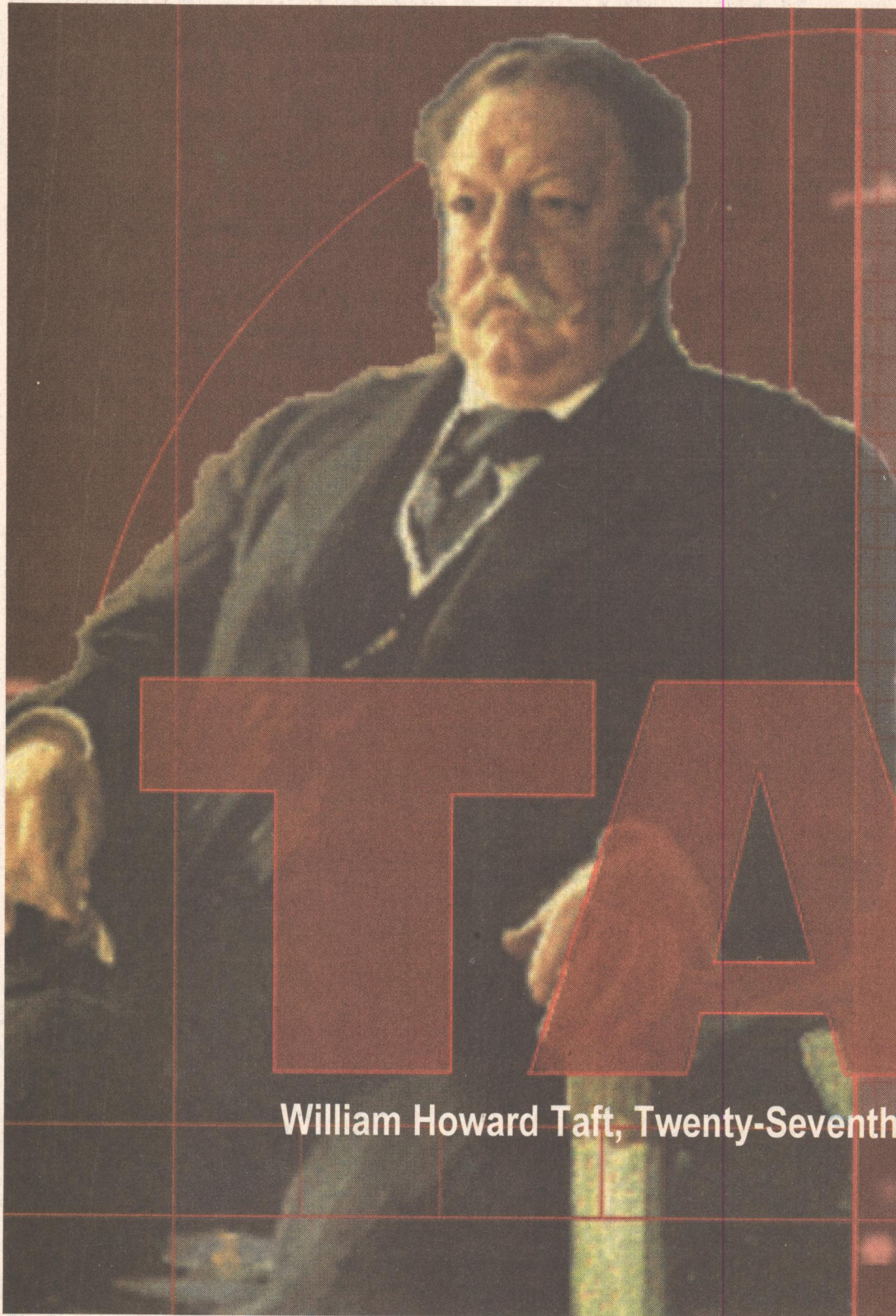
The program also showed behind the scenes footage of Gene Roddenberry's new show Andromeda, which stars Kevin Sorbo as Dylan Shepherd.

Cole added "I'm looking forward to following up this with our midseason expose. Watch out Mr. Peabody!"

Global Press Release



The Peabody jury watches the Global TV Fall '00 Spectacular.



Who's the former U.S. president who's a sex machine with all the chicks? Taft!

Can you dig it?

Who's the Commander-in-Chief who won't cop out, when there's danger all about? Taft!

Damn right!

He's a complicated man, and no one understands him but his secretary of state Philander C. Knox.

You know, I hear Taft is one bad mutha-

Shut yo mouth!

But I'm talking about Taft!

Then I can dig it.

TAFT

William Howard Taft, Twenty-Seventh President 1909-1913

DIVERSIONS

HOROSCOPE

07.12.00

In amalgamating the Post and the Globe, we didn't hit too many snags. We managed to find jobs for everyone to do, and we combined content pretty easily. The only sticky area was the horoscopes. Each newspaper had a regular astrologer, and we had a hard time deciding which one to use. So, in this, the first issue of the combined national newspaper, we present both astrologer's predictions. We will then gauge which one came closer to reality to help us make a decision in regards to this section. If you find one more on the nose with their predictions, let us know, so we can sack the other one. -Ed

Taurus: Give up all hope

By COMETO BRAMPTON
Globe Astrologer

ARIES (March 21 - April 19)

Today is a relaxing day, so prepare for the rest of the month by purchasing a lot of aspirin before some other idiot buys it all. With the Moon in Gemini, any Leos you talk to will be two faced, so hit them with a strawberry pie. Don't forget to duck.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Mars says this could be a wonderful day for your career, but it won't be, because someone installed a virus on your computer. Get a Libra to fix it and take an extra long lunch. If you have a long-term goal, now is the best time to give up all hope of reaching it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

A comet flying through Aries produces a sinking feeling, which is good for your business. Unfortunately, the dog you own is still keeping both your personalities and your neighbours awake, so reduce stress by selling fake lottery tickets.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Your sign moves into the House of Duras; it is a good day to die. You must avoid travel at all costs, stay in your computer lab, and do not go near anything electrical! Try to ward off evil by ordering some Swiss Chalet for a Sagittarius, heavy on the swiss.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Pluto collides with Neptune, marking a favourable trend in the stock market. Sorry for advising you not to buy those shares last week. Blame a Taurus and install a virus on their computer. If someone hits you with a pie, belt him/her in the stomach.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Venus, the planet of love, will send vicious aliens to your house unless you start exposing the skeletons in your closet. Only meditation will banish your demons, assuming you talk Cancer into returning home: the truth is in there.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

A computer repair job could lead to romance as one of the moons of Uranus splits in two. Take advantage of the situation, and if a friend asks for advice, tell them come back and talk tomorrow. Postpone all big decisions until yesterday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Don't read your email today! The news will only depress you, and planetary alignment indicates that this is a good day to bond with your children - so talk to that Virgo down the street about that party two years ago. Don't forget to smile.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

The rings around Saturn start to fall apart, so now is the time to visit a car wash. Any foreign chicken you receive should be thrown in

your sink, after ensuring your plumber is a Gemini. You may have good luck tonight if you call your mother - she worries.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Mercury begins orbiting Jupiter, signifying floods, earthquakes, and a love triangle where you work. But you're not in it. Popularity will only come when you win the lottery, so buy as many tickets as you can, as well as all the aspirin available in the drugstore.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

The Sun will go supernova within the next twelve hours, putting a damper on your plans for world peace. Everything you do today will be wrong, so it is time to reveal that God speaks to you in your dreams. Place the transcript of your last conversation into the home of a Cancer.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

The Universe has begun collapsing and will shortly land on your head. If you have a Libra for a friend, ask their advice and send a warning email to any Scorpios you know. Remember to look on the bright side - your neighbour's dog will no longer bother your sleep.

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS TODAY

You will know nothing but great joy and happiness for the next 365 days, as long as your name is not Georgia. In that case, make sure your will is up to date. The stars of Andromeda appear blue, which means it is the perfect time to either start your own business, start your own family, or start your own family business. In all-important matters you must not grab the bull by the horns or claw your way up, just refuse to take no for an answer. Avoid clichés like the plague.

Taurus: Seek professional help

By GEORGIA ONMYMIND
Post Astrologer

Aries (March 21 - April 19)

Today will be very stressful, so purchase a lot of aspirin then take it easy for the rest of the month. With the Moon in Leo, any Geminis you talk to will be two-faced, so hit them with strawberry shortcake. Forget about ducking.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Mars says you should install a virus on your own computer so that you can take an extra long lunch. The red planet also says this could be a wonderful day for the career of the person who fixes your problems, so if you have a long-term goal, now is the best time to seek professional help.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Your business will flounder today because the cat you own is still keeping both you and your neighbours awake. Don't get stressed! A peaceful comet signifies that lottery tickets are lucky, so why not get either personality to purchase a few!

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Your sign moves into the House of Gowron; it is a good day to dye. Get out into the world, away from anything electrical, and paint the beautiful scenery. While luck is with you, it's also a good time to plan a trip to a chalet in Switzerland with a Sagittarius.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Neptune collides with Pluto, marking an unfavourable trend in the stock market. Sorry for advising you to buy those shares last week. See if you can't console yourself by getting free cake from a Gemini and belting a Taurus in the stomach.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Venus, the planet of love, will send vicious skeletons to your house unless you start exposing the aliens in your closet. Avoid meditation! The truth is that the aliens are as real as the demons in the home of an absent Cancer.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

A computer repair job could bug you - try taking advantage of someone. Miranda splits in two, so now is not the time to postpone talking to friends (unless they're a Pisces). Postpone all big decisions until yesteryear.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Read your letter mail today! The news is positive, and planetary alignment indicates that this is a good day for bondage with that Virgo down the street. Give them a child-like smile, similar to the one you used at that party two years ago.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Someone will think your dirty car is a dead ringer for a Saturn. Don't be chicken about calling your mother if your plumber

is a Gemini. You may have good luck tonight if you sink a lot of cash into an overseas trip.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

A love triangle at work signifies floods, earthquakes and the orbiting of Mercury around Jupiter. Try to break it up by buying all the aspirin available in the drugstore before some other idiot does. Lottery tickets can improve your popularity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

The Sun will collapse into a black hole within the next twelve hours, putting a damper on your plans for world domination. Everything you do today will be right, so it is time to reveal that Satan speaks to you in your daydreams. Place the recording of your last conversation into the home of a Cancer.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

The Universe has begun collapsing and will shortly land on your head. Send a love letter to any Scorpios you know and seek the advice of any Libras who think they're your friends. Don't be tempted by the dark side even though your neighbour's cat will no longer bother your sleep.

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS TODAY

You will know nothing but great sorrow and misery for the next 365 days, unless your family name is Brampton. In that case you'll be lucky to survive that long. The stars of Andromeda disappear, which means it is the perfect time to either set up your own corporation, set up your own scholarship, or set up your own corporate scholarship. In all unimportant matters you must stroll to the music of the lute or dance the night away, and just say no. Avoid plagues the same way you avoid clichés.

CHESSBRIDGE
By Greg Taylor

NORTH

♠ KRB
♥ R
♦ QRB
♣ R

WEST

♠ NPP
♥ K
♦ PP
♣ QP

EAST

♠ P
♥ B
♦ NP
♣ NPPP

SOUTH

♠ P
♥ NPPPP
♦ P
♣ B

Invulnerable: West-East
Used Car Dealer: South

Opening Lead: Club Knight to f8
Hint: Pawn shop on the corner

The bidding:

East South West North
1 ♥ Pass 1 NT
Pass DbL Pass 3 NT
4 ♣ Pass Pass 4 NT
All Pass

"Nyah nyah nyah!" crowed West. "Your contracts are doomed to failure because of our exceptional defense!"

"Hey, we won the previous five," South reminded her opponent. The preceding deal was the final hand played at the 1999 North American Chessbridge Championships, with the Canadian team playing as North-South and needing only 10.9 points to defeat their American opponents. The f8-ful lead was taken by the Club Queen, with action shifted to the center of the chess board so that West's Heart King could be played out in the open. This trick was won by North who then divested himself of his own King, preventing any checkmate from occurring in the round. Alas, West won that lead with his knight,

and he simultaneously moved play towards the side of the chessboard in a moment of h8 and anger. He then clubbed his way back into East's hand! By the time North's hand was high, three-club pawn tricks had been cornered by the Americans. Could anything have been done to avoid this? Would North-South have been better playing in hearts? Or on a Wednesday? Is there any point to such futile speculation? In fact, North later admitted that the main reason they had been defeated on this hand was because, based on the bidding, he had expected East to hold at least six clubs. This would imply that by bidding stupidly, you can catch your opponents off guard! Of course, at the other table with the Canadians holding East-West, they bid to five clubs in a conventional non-insane manner, easily took the necessary tricks, and thereby won the championship. Today's lesson then: bidding is confusing, so ignore it if you want to win. Truly words of advice that make as much sense as the game itself.

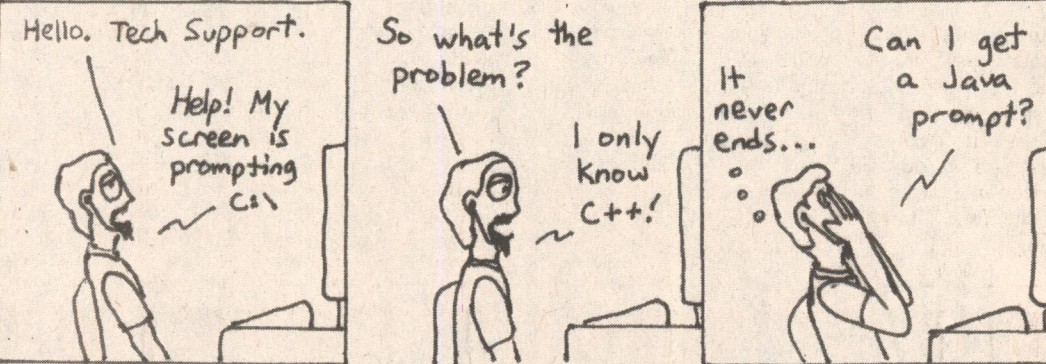
OVER BORED by Chip Dip



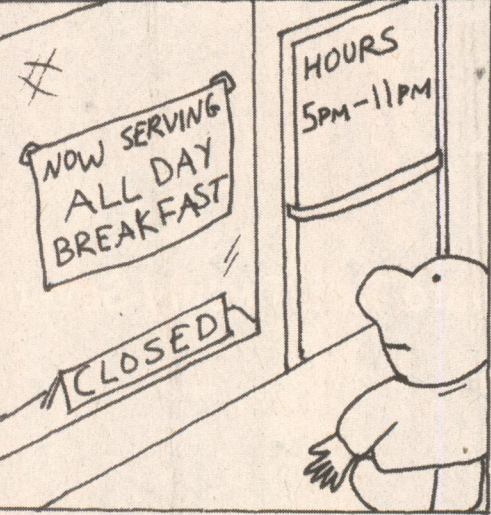
BACK BUNCH by Ruriruri



USER UNFRIENDLY by Oddysey



BIZAGGY by Zeke



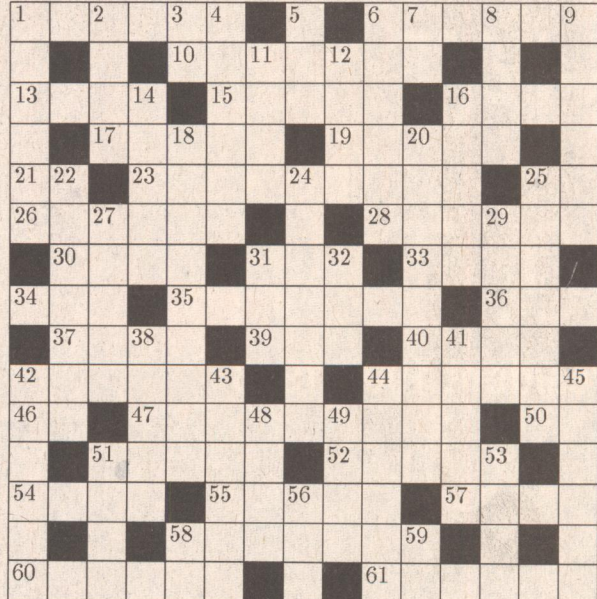
SEQUITUR by Taylor



- ACROSS
- Like better
 - Middle Eastern country
 - Happy when Christmas is Merry
 - Gravelly voice
 - It's bitter perfume
 - Some primates
 - Kind of pregnancy
 - A run along the keyboard, shortly
 - Equipment for show and tell?
 - The most important
 - Gender-specific pronoun
 - Take control of
 - Cousin to savory
 - War game
 - Vessel for ashes
 - Of the mouth
 - Adam gave one up
 - Ridding flour of its lumps
 - Not very recent
 - What you owe
 - Texas Tea
 - Mosaic pioneers
 - Half of 21 Across
 - The heart of Austria
 - "You Like It"
 - The opposite of an asset
 - Log. scale for volume
 - Hungarian language group
 - Kind of oxygen molecule
 - Egg on
 - Lama
 - Slower than a canter
 - Antihypertensive drug
 - Short-lived insect
 - Lifted

THE TRULY CANADIAN CROSSWORD by Matt Walsh

- Mention
- Norse god of justice
- Coffee liqueur
- Abraham's home city
- European mountains
- Things not to be disputed?
- Australian cockatoo
- Therefore, to Descartes
- Butterflies in transition?
- Awake
- Secret, sordid
- Unrecognizable
- Spanish mint
- Can be shaken, or stirred
- The Low Country
- Is consistent
- Sodium Cyanate, in brief
- Something MIB investigate
- Nothing
- Curve outward
- Girdle (obs.)
- Nature just hates it
- Loathesome (obs.)
- King's advisor
- Ended
- Years, before and after?
- Soil rich in nutrients
- Neither good nor bad?
- Physical love
- It's better than bad, it's good!
- What Betty can call me
- Later!

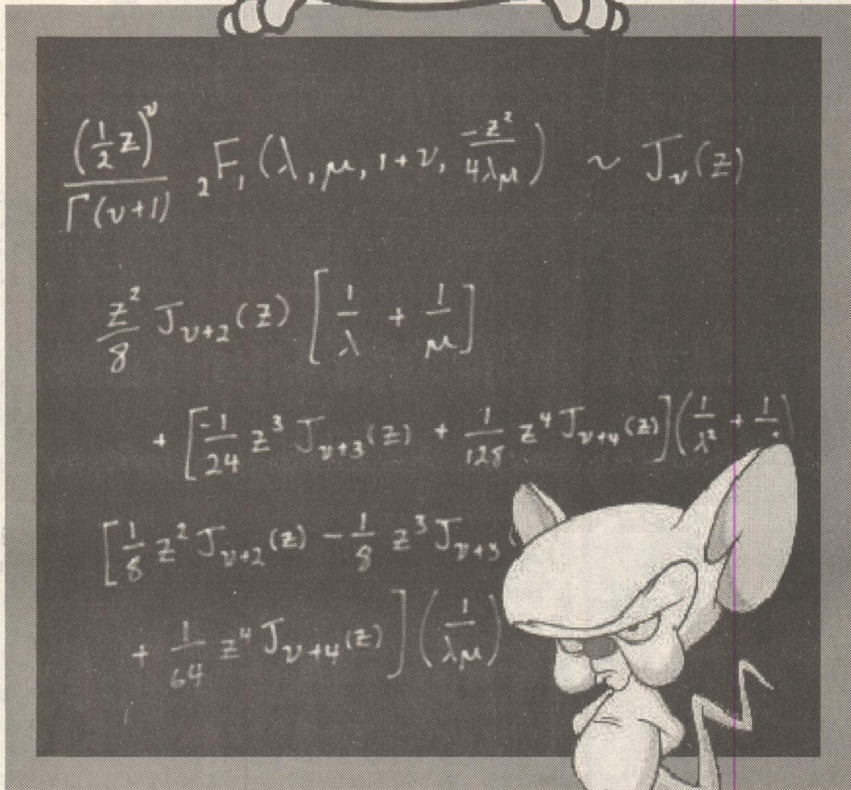
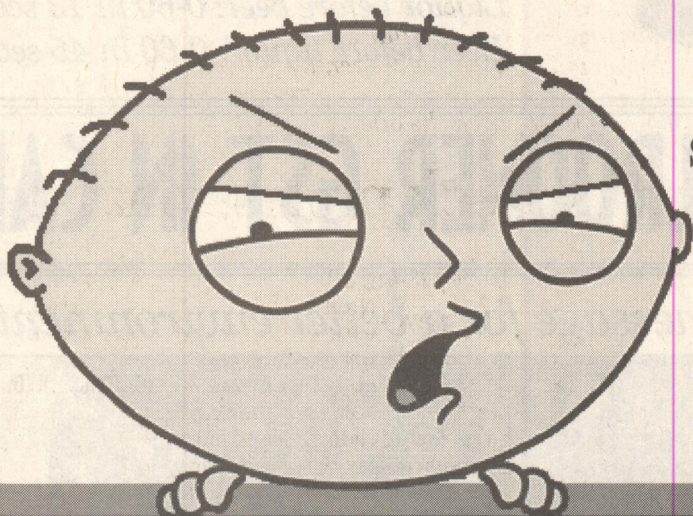


Today's Puzzle Solved



DISCOVERY

BABY & MOUSE TO CONQUER YOU FOOLS



MUAH HA HA HA HA

Stewie Griffin and Brain have joined forces to conquer the fools of the Earth

BY CHADWICK SEVERN

The people of Earth tremble to-night as the combined genius of Stewie Griffin and Lab Mouse Brain are combined, releasing a reign of terror and mayhem that only they could have orchestrated. "When Pinky and I stumbled across the Griffin home the other night, I thought that the unruly father and slow-talking children may prove to be unwitting foils to my latest and greatest plan to take over the world," said Brain. "However, I was pleasantly surprised to finally find that I have a kindrid intellect on this planet in the diapered form of Stewie Griffin."

When asked about the other members of his family, Stewie remarked "I SHALL CRUSH THEM ALL!" before commenting that his wrath shall be equally dispensed among all of the creatures of the Earth, except for that glorious two-year-old cutie from the daycare.

Using Stewie's Fisher-Price chalkboard, the mouse and baby went to work in architecting a masterful plan that will allow the two (with the dopey assistance of Brian the dog) to conquer the Earth.

When asked what their plans would be for the following evening, Brain declined comment.

Daglobenpost



Man finds dark matter in his basement

Burned out lightbulb results in startling scientific discovery

BY GREG TAYLOR

A man living in Dover, England was surprised late last Wednesday when he descended into his basement and came across some of the missing dark matter scientists have been searching for throughout the universe. "Of course, we're quite elated by this discovery but we're a little confused too," admitted noted scientist Emma Smartie, who was among the first people to arrive on the scene. "After all, everyone thought dark matter was this exotic stuff way out there in space, not something to be found while doing spring cleaning."

For those readers who do not know about dark matter, it bears an important relation to our understanding of the cosmos. Indeed, it is this supposed "missing matter" which will ultimately decide the fate of the universe itself. If there is too much dark matter around, gravitational effects will cause our universe to collapse back in on itself, making life impossible. However, if not enough dark matter exists, the universe will expand forever... which means that heat diffusion will eventually bring temperatures down to near absolute zero, making life impossible. Hence scientists are eager to learn whether they should be devoting more effort into inventing better tanning products or warmer overcoats. In short, the "dark matter" matter matters.

Bill Toupee, the man who made the dark matter discovery, claims that he stumbled across it after the lightbulb burned out in his basement. Going down into the dark room, Bill claims he "tripped over something that I swear hadn't been there the day before". "At first I thought it was the cat," Bill said. "But then I remembered that I'd let Pookie outside earlier that evening. Then I thought maybe it was a black hole, but seeing as I wasn't being

sucked into it I figured there had to be some other explanation." Bill proceeded to replace the lightbulb to get a glimpse of what it was that had caused him to fall, but after the light was back on, he could find nothing there. "That's when I realized it was dark matter," Bill explained. "Since obviously it was only visible in the dark."

Bill called over his next door neighbour, who watched Bill duplicate his experiment. Three lightbulbs later, it was discovered that the matter had moved about two feet to the north in the last hour, so Bill quickly alerted a scientist friend of his, lest the dark matter escape before the event could be catalogued. Emma Smartie later became the third scientist called in.

"It's very strange," Emma stated to the media. "The dark matter seems to be only a few cubic centimetres in size, but as soon as we try to illuminate it in any way, the stuff disappears. So it's hard to get an exact reading. It also keeps moving around, but fortunately something in the walls of Bill's house is keeping the matter trapped, which should allow us to study it at our leisure. We hope to be able to shed more light on this matter shortly."

Of course, skeptics have been quick to point out that this is probably nothing more than an elaborate hoax perpetrated by clumsy investigators, or perhaps an invisible turtle with an unstable molecular configuration. "We've been looking for this stuff now for years," argues a scientist who remains unconvinced as to the validity of this discovery, Witta Hyer Ayecue. "What makes you think we never bothered to look under the couch?"

On the other hand, this could explain why people have a habit of tripping over nonexistent things after the lights go out; such incidents may be brushes with dark matter. "I think it's somewhat premature to conclude that," said Emma. "But at least now we're on our way towards an age of dark matter enlightenment." Should you come across any dark matter in your neighbourhood, please call 1-900-DRK-STUF and make sure you include the time and place of the sighting.

Daglobenpost

Area web developer admits to doing "jack shit"

BY KEVIN WAN MIN KEE

WATERLOO • Despite repeated attempts to be a productive and enthusiastic worker, area web developer Phil Inkstrom confessed Monday that he really doesn't do anything at work.

"I realize that I really should be trying to make our website better, and I really want to try," Inkstrom, 29, said. "But when you realize that your job could be accomplished more efficiently by a barrel of monkeys, you start to wonder if that other porn web-site has any new pictures yet."

"It's not because I'm lazy either," added Inkstrom. "I'm not one to sit back and relax when I could be earning money to put towards another Keg party."

Inkstrom first started working in his position at FreePorn.com

interested in doing stuff any old Joe does for fun. Besides, with so much porn on the net, who can focus?"

Inkstrom's efforts to improve his work habits even resulted in his new goal setting attitude. Inkstrom's first goal was to completely redesign the website for FreePorn, but describes the move as "regrettable enough to make [him] eat celery."

**'MORE PORN,
MORE PORN.
SOMETIMES THAT
JUST ISN'T
ENOUGH.'**

"I saw these other web-sites, with clever little banners and frames," Inkstrom said. "And I wanted to make ours as outgoing and shocking as theirs. But then the whole 'My little brother could

be doing this' attitude came back each time I tried to change something. It was as if the porn didn't want to move."

Inkstrom describes his problem as unfixable. "I don't do anything all day," Inkstrom continued. "Even if I finish re-doing the whole site, what'll be there for me at the end? More porn, more porn. Sometimes, that just isn't enough."

Continuing his efforts to improve his work habits, Inkstrom has decided to include more content variety on the site. "I've decided that what our site needs is variety," he added. "I'm pretty interested in 3d graphics and stuff, so maybe I'll design an interactive 3d application for FreePorn. I didn't graduate from Computer Science for nothing, you know."

Added Inkstrom, "A lot of people won't be impressed by what I said about porn not being enough. True enough, for some people. But as a webmaster, I have to set my standards quite a lot higher, you know."

Daglobenpost

Fields Institute to present award for sexiest mathematician

BY BRADLEY T. SMITH

Rumours that had been buzzing around mathematics faculties for the last few years were finally justified yesterday at a press conference in Toronto. "The Fields Institute is proud to announce our prize for Sexiest Mathematician of the Year," stated a spokesperson.

The award, which will select the sexiest male and female holders of a doctorate in mathematics, came as no surprise to math faculties around the world.

At Cambridge, one professor has relentlessly been encouraging all attractive students to pursue graduate studies in mathematics so that Cambridge could claim to be the Sexiest Faculty.

Other schools have practically

been throwing money at recent grads from around the world to get them into their graduate program.

In order to counteract any brain drain, Canadian universities have been spending the most to bring the world's finest looking mathematicians here and keep all attractive math students in the country. These actions have been dubbed the Sexy Vortexy and the Hottie Clottie.

This move by Canadian universities has had repercussions across the nation.

At UBC, TAs have been spotted wearing club clothes and actually

"picking-up" at local establishments.

In the east, schools like Dalhousie and St. Mary's have had a sharp increase in first-year students with crushes on their calculus TAs.

The University of Waterloo, having the only distinct math faculty in the country, has noticed the greatest change.

"In the last few years, since we heard about the possible new medal, our staff has become sexier and sexier," the dean told us. "We've stacked departments like Statistics with young men and women who will make you say,

"Damn!"

True enough, some classes, such as third year Combinatorics courses, are filled with star-struck students.

"Our TA covered for the prof the other day, and I couldn't take my eyes off him to make notes! He's so dreamy!" commented one love-struck co-ed.

Even the undergraduate-filled Tutorial Centre is now filled with attractive, and available, young students.

"We have a screening process for that; the less sexy math students are given marking jobs instead."

The Fields Institute is happy

with the preparations that campuses have been making around the world.

"This is exactly the response we were hoping for," the Fields Institute spokesperson replied. "No longer will math be plagued with creepy-looking Pascals, sad-faced Weierstrasses, and just plain spooky Riemanns. This award will hopefully continue the work of Liouville, with his Shatneresque good looks, Euler, and Lovelace to make math sexy."

This is the first award for sexiness in academia since the famed 18th-century "Tooglebar" awards.

Daglobenpost

ALL I'M SAYING IS THAT YOU SHOULD
LISTEN TO TALK 640. THAT'S ALL I'M
SAYING. REALLY. YOU GOT THAT?

DRIVERS ON EDGE

14

DAGLOBENPOST

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2000

The PT Cruiser

Chrysler to faze out "What the fuck?" advertising campaign in favour of "What the hell was that?"



Alcohol-fueled cars

Liquor before beer: 0-60 in 13 seconds;
Beer before liquor: 0-60 in 45 seconds.

DAEWOO PUZZLED BY FAILURE OF MULROONER GST IN CANADA

Popular U.S. car has lacklustre sales up north

BY CHADWICK SEVERN

After an impressive first year for the Mulrooner GST in the United States, Daewoo is stunned at the dismal sales the car has seen in Canada its first three months.

"We're completely baffled," said Daewoo vice-president Daryl Gardiner, who is in charge of Canadian sales and is based in Kentucky.

"The Mulrooner GST is a pretty popular car in the United States, and when we set up shop in Canada, we were expecting the GST to sell just as well," said Gardiner.

The Mulrooner GST has a turbocharged double overhead camshaft, a five-speed manual transmission, and four-wheel disc anti-lock brakes.

Gardiner plans to make several adjustments to the car to try to encourage sales north of the border.

"We've just finalized plans to reduce the MSRP by \$500, and to include air conditioning on all Mulrooner GST's at no extra cost,"

said Gardiner. "There must be some way we can get the Canadian public to like the Mulrooner GST."

The Mulrooner GST will retail for \$23,895 after the new price takes effect, and will rise as features like the in-dash CD player are added to the car.

"We're also a bit concerned about the way the name comes across, so we'll be removing the 'Daewoo' logo from the rear, and put the 'Mulrooner GST' smack dab in the centre, so it really grabs people's attention," said Gardiner.

Other Daewoo cars have been selling at respectable levels in Canada. The Leganza has similar features to the Mulrooner, and is a little more expensive.

"We do extensive market testing of all our products, from tires to the name, and although Leganza and Mulrooner sound a bit odd, we had no complaints from any of the 1,300 American citizens we polled," said Gardiner.

When asked about research into the Canadian market, Gardiner pointed to that fact that Daewoo did not bring their sports-utility vehicle, the Conundra, to Canada because it cannot handle more than one foot of snow.

"We're on the ball up there in the land of the eskimo, and we're there to stay," said Gardiner.

Daglobenpost

Getting out the message for a better environment



Environment Canada hopes to stem the tide of air pollution with its new fleet of 1,600 moving posters, operating 24 hours a day, reminding drivers to conserve gas.



LUKA

A Car For You. Money For Us. Everybody's Happy.

ESCARGOT SEDAN

"You Won't Believe It Actually Runs"

Four Wheels • Two Working Doors • Space For Four
Full-Size Midgets • Roll-Down Air Conditioners •
Durable Styrofoam Construction • & More...

Lease For Only \$99.95 Per Month For 48 Months



TESTOSTORO

"Because You Really Really Want It"

3.0 Litre, DOHC VTEC ABCD Engine (452 H.P.) • Available
Chrome Seats • Loud Muffler Standard • Optional Roof • AM/
FM CD Stereo With 150 Megawatt Speaker System • & More...

Buy Now For Only \$34,495 (MSRP)



BOGOS LE

"Luxury For The Irresponsible Professional"

Power Adjustable Sun Visors • NuOblivion Cabin Isolation
System • SecurGuide Automatic Pilot • Roof-Impact Air Bags
• & More...

Lease for only \$399 Per Month For 48 Months



2001 PANZER XTREME

"All The Space You Never Knew You Needed"

Seats 15 With Luggage • 10.0L V12 Engine Standard • Fold-Out
Wet Bar • Cast Iron Construction • Available Gang Warfare
Package • & More...

Buy Now For Only \$74,995 (MSRP) *



VISIT YOUR LOCAL LUKA DEALER TODAY!



Lease and finance offers are available, on approved credit, only with first-born child as collateral. Prices shown do not include taxes, P.D.E., freight, delivery, transportation, shipping, or destination charge. Lease payments shown are with a \$10,000 down payment. Prices shown are for base models, which may not include hubcaps, windshield wipers, or radiators. Dealer may lease/sell for less, but don't bet on it.



SPORTS

DAGLOBENPOST, WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2000

15

The Molson sell-off

Pundits worry the Montreal Canadiens just won't be the same without beer.

Expos win?

Maintenance crew of Olympic Stadium claim the Expos won last night. Nobody can verify this.

IRON CHEF KENICHI DEFEATED IN KRAFT DINNER BATTLE

Cheese concoction offends judges' delicate tastebuds

BY MIKE THORSLEY

TOKYO, JAPAN • A nation hung its head in shame, as Chin Kenichi, one of the stars of the popular cooking show "Iron Chef" and hero to millions of Japanese television viewers, served disgustingly impalatable plates of mangled Kraft Dinner™ to a greatly disappointed panel of judges last Thursday afternoon.

The Iron Chef's ordeal began when Chairman Takeshi Kaga announced the theme ingredient. "I was ready for sides of beef, toxic mushrooms, or even wood chips," Chin explained. "But when he announced Kraft Dinner™, well, that was far too difficult."

Nevertheless, Chin stoically accepted the challenge and when the gong of fate sounded, he set to producing the very difficult meal. It was obvious from the

outset, however, that he was having difficulty.

"I can never remember — is it water, milk, or vegetable oil that you're supposed to add to the powdered cheese sauce? This is all so confusing."

"I couldn't believe what I was seeing," said Fukui Kenji, chief commentator of "Iron Chef" and witness to the tragic turn of events, "First he tried to steam the noodles in a wok with fresh spring onions and a tortoise shell for flavor, then he tried coating them in a light tempura batter and frying them. At one point, I think he even added caviar and put them in the ice-cream maker, but nothing was working."

Finally Chin thought of boiling the noodles, "It was a long shot, but I hoped it would work."

Unfortunately, the ploy was not enough to save the beleaguered recipe. At the end of the one-hour time limit, Chin presented plates of clumpy noodles in a thin, runny cheese sauce to the judges.

"Ooooh, this all looks so wonderful," vacant actress Saito Keiko said before bringing the meal to her lips. After one bite, however, her opinion changed. "What the hell is this crap?!" she said, throwing the plate in Chin's face. "You're such a fuck-up!"

Food critic Kishi Asako was less charitable, demanding that Chin "commit seppuku for presenting such a putrid meal."

Chin himself was on the brink of tears. "Curse you Kraft Dinner™, for you have defeated me!"

Daglobenpost

Iron Chef Kenichi	16	15	17	16	64
Challenger Yukio	19	18	19	19	75



Challenger Hattori Yukio speaks to Chairman Kaga before the Kraft Dinner Battle, yesterday on Iron Chef.

Javelin-catching gives new twist to ancient sport



Tyler Squidmore takes the gold medal in the first annual javelin-catching championships, held in Zurich this week, with this amazing one-handed catch. Squidmore later remarked that the catch "stung a bit."

Regina city council passes resolution to make bed for 2012 Olympics

Magnificent bed draws fire from protest groups

BY MIKE 'HAMMER' HAMMOND

REGINA • Regina city council, in an attempt to procure the 2012 Summer Olympics, passed a resolution to make a bed for them.

Councilperson Bill Hutchinson, who introduced the resolution, doesn't know why the International Olympic Committee (IOC) would want a bed in Regina. "Maybe they're just not getting a good night's sleep out there in Switzerland. Or maybe they'll use it for vacation."

"In any case," said Hutchinson, "we're going to make them the best bed they've ever seen! The blankets will be warm, the pillows

will be soft, and you'll be able to bounce a quarter off the sheets!"

Mayor Doug Archer agrees that the bed will be magnificent. "Nobody in Canada can say that they make their beds better than Regina. A recent KPMG study, which measured quality of life across Canada, found that Regina made their beds the best. We were ranked first in both appearance and comfort."

'THEY'RE NOT GETTING A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP'

Some residents of Regina are concerned about the priorities of the council.

"How can the city possibly jus-

tify all the time, effort, and money involved in making a bed for the IOC, when there are so many here right at home who need help more?" asked Mary Ripstein, head of Regina's Make A Bed Foundation.

"More than 75% of the children in this city go to sleep each night in an unmade bed. Why can't the city make their beds for them, instead of spending the money on the IOC?"

Mayor Archer believes, however, that making a bed for the IOC will have a positive spillover effect.

"Every city which has successfully made a bed for the Olympics has seen a dramatic rise in the number of beds made by their own citizens. It's a grassroots movement; if you know the eyes of the world are on you, you're much more likely to make your own bed."

Regina made history in 1998 when it elected an entire city council that was idiotic. Though idiocy runs at about 67% of Regina's population, previous town councils always included at least one or two intelligent people, to better reflect Regina's mental diversity. However, no smart candidates were elected in 1998.

Daglobenpost

It's the sport more and more athletes are taking a stab at

BY MICHAEL THORSLEY

ZURICH • Tyler Squidmore impressed fans from around the world yesterday by winning the first annual javelin-catching tournament in Zurich.

Javelin-catching, described by Squidmore as, "like javelin throwing, only in reverse," has gained quite a bit of popularity in recent months, attracting competitors from Sweden, Denmark, and Burkina Faso.

Points are scored for style, technique, artistic impression, and most importantly, not dying. This last category is what propelled Squidmore to the top of the podium, being the only competitor to score points in this crucial area.

Unfortunately, the championships were marred by allegations of rampant alcohol abuse among the contestants. "I don't think that any one of them went out on the field without being all liquored up," commented one of the judges.

Daglobenpost

Cherry to preside over NHL Thugs Awards

Nominees excited about hockey's highest honours

BY ANTHONY CHENG

Hockey Night in Canada mainstay Don Cherry will be announcing the winners of the third annual NHL Thugs Awards next week on the CBC. The nominees are:

Snap! Memorial Trophy

(MVP: Most Volatile Player)
-Marty McSorley, Boston Bruins
-Peter Worrell, Florida Panthers
-Scott Niedermayer, New Jersey Devils

Norris Concussion Trophy

(Defenceman who delivered the most concussive hit)
-Derian Hatcher, Dallas Stars
-Scott Steven, New Jersey Devils

-Marty McSorley, Boston Bruins

Frank U. Kilké Trophy

(Outstanding destructive forward)
-Claude Lemieux, New Jersey Devils
-Marian Hossa, Ottawa Senators
-John LeClair, Philadelphia Flyers

Lady Bang Memorial Trophy

(Sportsmanlike and gentlemanly conduct while receiving a concussive hit)
-Eric Lindros, Philadelphia Flyers
-Peter Sykora, New Jersey Devils
-Donald Brashear, Vancouver Canucks

Jack Ass Award

(Outstanding Jackass)
-Bob Clarke, GM of Philadelphia Flyers
-Bobby Clarke, GM of Philadelphia Flyers
-B. Clarke, GM of Philadelphia Flyers



Marty McSorley fights his way towards the MVP nomination.

Pirates defeat Mariners after pitched sea battle

BY MIKE 'HAMMER' HAMMOND

ANACORTES ISLAND, WA • The Seattle Mariners went down to defeat last night after a sudden attack by the Pittsburgh Pirates just off the coast of Washington State.

Despite a spirited defense of their ship by the Mariners, the unbeaten Pirates were able to overrun the ship and force the few surviving Mariners to walk the plank.

"Arrrrr," growled Gene "Bluebeard" Lamont, manager of the Pirates, "we sent them to live with the Anaheim Angels."

Highlights of the matchup included an old-fashioned pitcher's

duel between Kris "Cap'n" Benson and Jamie "Lefty" Moyer.

Said Benson, "I took me on that scurvy dog Moyer, with me cutlass flashin' and sparks flyin' like bats out of Hell. He fought like the devil's own, parryin' my thrusts and duckin', but in the end, he got what was comin' to him."

Benson then drew his index finger across his neck and made a "kkkkkkkkkkkk" sound.

The Pirates are now on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted List, and are being actively pursued by the Washington State Police, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the Texas Rangers.

Daglobenpost

TORONTO

16

DAGLOBENPOST, WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2000

Flag it up yer... Flags will be handed out at the Eaton Centre to everyone's great confusion. If you end up with one, well, there's lots of different things you can do with a flag, like waving it around like a banshee, or waving it around like Sheila Copps, or waving it around like a damn proud Canadian. If you don't get a flag today, it's expected that you will paint a red maple leaf on your belly and go to work to-

T.O. TODAY

less. **Whadya mean open?** The Royal Ontario Museum is having an open house today, which makes no sense at all because the frickin' museum is open nearly every damn day of the year. Do you think they'll let you explore all those back rooms where they keep the failed exhib-

its of days gone past, like the ill-fated "Ride the walrus" exhibit. I don't think so. **Toronto weather** I'm afraid that you can't handle the weather for today, and I really can't divulge the information, so you're just going to have to take it on faith that today you should really just remain indoors, or use indoor-like walkways, like that wonderful PATH system in downtown Toronto. For the love of God, don't go outside!

TOUGHER SANCTIONS DEMANDED AGAINST SQUEEGEE KIDS

Scourge of polite society to be cracked down upon further

BY MIKE 'HAMMER' HAMMOND

Marjorie Evans believes she is lucky to be alive.

"I was driving on Yonge when I got stopped at a light. Out of nowhere, this man approached my car carrying a squeegee. And it was pointed right at me!"

Fortunately, the light turned green and she was able to drive away.

Her story may be harrowing, but she's not alone. Over five hundred people have joined Citizens Against Squeegee Kids Existing in Toronto, the organization dedicated to fighting the urban cancer of squeegee kids.

Though Mel Lastman, mayor of Toronto, has cracked down on this scourge of polite society, George Simmons, head of CASKET, says it's not enough.

"My own wife was approached by one of them while stopped on Queen Street. She was able to fend him off only by waving her hand at him to indicate she didn't want her windshield cleaned."

"When will this insanity end?"

CASKET calls on the Toronto city council to pass a by-law declaring the possession of squeegees illegal, with penalties ranging from fines of several thousand dollars to a slow, drawn-out death by drawing and quartering.

CASKET also supports a Squeegee Trade-In program, where squeegee kids can turn in their offending weapons in exchange for gift certificates redeemable at any LCBO outlet.

Daglobenpost

Money-losing ice cream stand not really under surveillance 24 hours a day

CUNNING DECEPTION

BY MICHAEL THORSLEY

In a brilliant act of cunning deception designed to thwart would-be vandals and put its balance sheets less firmly in the red, Scopes' Ice Cream stand announced Friday that its premises are under surveillance and being recorded 24 hours a day.

Conspicuous yet cheery signs written in bold, bright, letters now greet potential customers with "Smile, you're on camera — This area monitored electronically 24 hours a day." In spite of these signs, however, no actual cameras or customers are present.

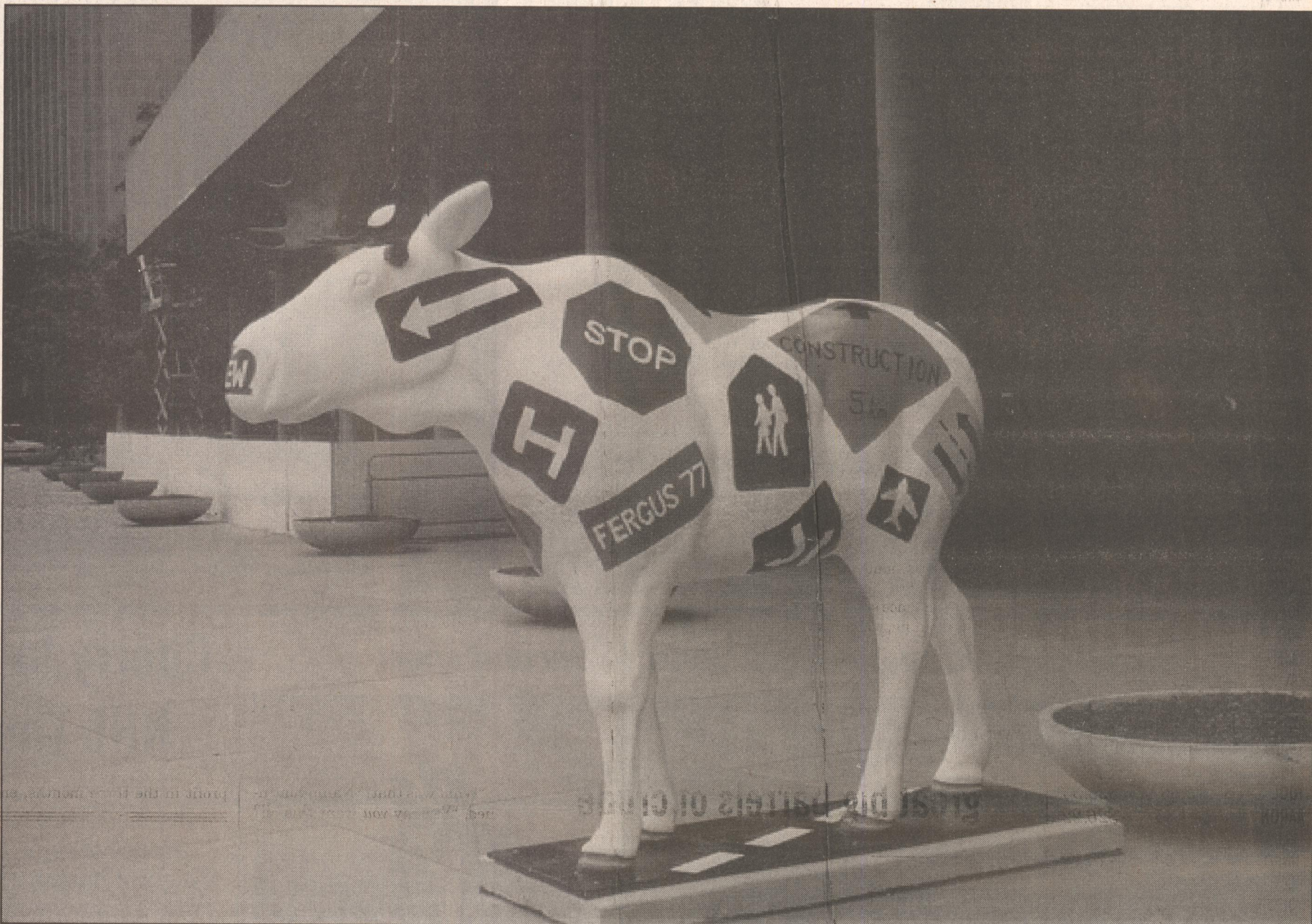
"We always have such a big problem with vandalism and theft around here," said Jane Scopes, owner of the embattled ice cream establishment, "It seemed like an easy way beef up security without investing more real capital in such a money-losing enterprise."

Scopes points out an added benefit of the ruse, "If there were actual cameras, they would probably take them, too — This way, there's still nothing actually worth stealing on the premises."

With the new pretend security system in place, Scopes hopes that the stand will not accrue more debt. "We're looking forward to most of our product going bad this year, instead of being stolen."

Daglobenpost

T.O. LAST NIGHT



Charlie the moose gored several tourists to death with its sharpened antlers. Toronto officials are at a loss explaining how the inanimate moose statue could somehow come to life and kill a person. Voodoo is suspected.

Mel Lastman furious Toronto not blown up in Independence Day

BY CHADWICK SEVERN

Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman lambasted the makers of the movie Independence Day for not blowing up "the best city in the world, Toronto."

"I cannot fathom how these aliens, upon their arrival on Earth, blow up cities like Washington D.C. and New York City, but leave Toronto unscathed," said Lastman during his first campaign speech for the municipal election this November. "Any discerning alien species should instantly recognize that to blow up the Earth's best city, they should head straight to Toronto."

Lastman told the crowd that he missed the film when it first hit theatres in 1996, and that he watched it for the first time when his son Blayne brought over the new special edition DVD.

"They say that this two-DVD set with behind-the-scenes footage and director's commentaries is a special edition, but I challenge the filmmakers to release a truly special edition: one that include a spectacular shot of the CN Tower and SkyDome being blown to bits," said Lastman.

Lastman went into details on how the shot could be done, both visually and financially.

"They could start with the alien ships hovering directly over the

CN Tower, and through digital technology we could include our fabulous new waterfront in the shot, which would be blown to smithereens with full THX-Dolby sound. The camera could then pan northward towards Downsview and North York, where we can see thousands of Torontonians running away trying to avoid a fiery death."

Lastman swore that the new edition of the DVD would not cost Toronto taxpayers one cent, and that the costs for rereleasing the movie in the digital format should be borne by the studio and province jointly.

"It's clear that [Ontario Premier Mike] Harris should have stepped

in back in 1995 and told Emerich and Devlin to include Toronto in the movie before it was released to theatres," said Lastman. "Both he and Twentieth Century Fox should get together and fix this movie."

Lastman said he hopes that the stars of the movie, Will Smith and Jeff Goldblum will cooperate and add their likenesses to the new Toronto scenes.

"But if their characters are in Toronto when it's blown up, won't the plot be ruined?" asked CityTV reporter Adam Vaughan.

Lastman replied that their characters can escape the burning city in Toronto's new police helicopters, which could easily be added

through the magic of special effects.

When asked if he truly wanted a horrific and charred end for Toronto's three million residents, Lastman assured the crowd that he only wants the best for Toronto's people.

"If aliens do come to Earth, I'm going to convince them to come to Toronto and enjoy our fabulous major league sports teams, our incredible streetcar system, and to stay for the Olympics in 2008," said Lastman. "If they decide to blow us up because we're the best city in the world, that's just something we're going to have to live with."

Daglobenpost



The White House is blown up in a scene from the movie Independence Day. Mel Lastman wants to see Toronto blown up in a similar manner.

TALK 640! WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO LOSE?

REPORT ON FINANCIAL BUSINESS POSTED TODAY

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2000

17

THE MARKETS

BEANIES



-403.88
13942.32

McD BEANIES



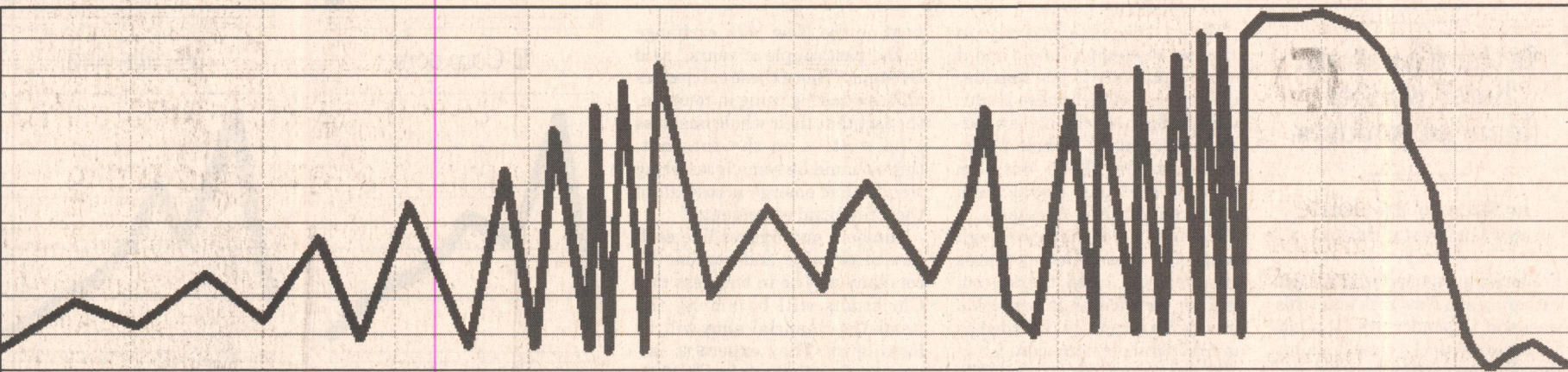
+345.12
13275.74

ALMOND	-1.44	\$19.45
AMBER	+5.56	\$22.55
CHEEKS	-6.23	\$21.33
CHIPPER	+1.90	\$20.44
CLAUDE	-3.56	\$30.88
DODY	+2.45	\$24.77
FLEECE	-3.73	\$26.55
FORTUNE	-2.92	\$16.66
HIPPIE	-1.64	\$26.99
HOPPIITY	+4.76	\$28.00
GOOCHY	-1.18	\$22.11
LIPS	-3.53	\$23.33
LUKE	+1.45	\$26.22
NEON	-2.12	\$28.55
NIBBLER	+2.54	\$15.44
OSITO	+2.87	\$19.77
PAUL	+1.37	\$20.00
PEACE	-3.25	\$10.66
PUGSLEY	+1.64	\$9.99
SCALY	-4.96	\$31.66
SILVER	+1.56	\$39.44
SHEETS	-1.44	\$29.11
SLOTH	+3.55	\$24.44
SMOOCHY	+1.26	\$16.77
VALENTINA	+1.77	\$18.88
AURORA	-1.44	\$19.45
FRIGID	+5.56	\$22.55
SNEEZY	-6.23	\$21.33
DOPEY	+1.90	\$20.44
DOC	-3.56	\$30.88
JASPER	+2.45	\$24.77
XAVIER	-3.73	\$26.55
BRENT	-2.92	\$16.66
SQUISH	-1.64	\$26.99
SPANK	+4.76	\$28.00
FANG	-1.18	\$22.11
TOOL	-3.53	\$23.33
AARON	+1.45	\$26.22
YELLOW	-2.12	\$28.55
PINKO	+2.54	\$15.44
OLAF	+2.87	\$19.77
FOLGER	+1.37	\$20.00
BILL	-3.25	\$10.66
SPINES	+1.64	\$9.99
TURQUOISE	-4.96	\$31.66
PILLOW	+1.56	\$39.44
BAG O' BEANS	-1.44	\$29.11
STICKLER	+3.55	\$24.44
FISSION	+1.26	\$16.77
STINKER	+1.77	\$18.88
SLAG	+5.56	\$22.55
SNARL	-6.23	\$21.33
GRIMLOCK	+1.90	\$20.44
SWOOP	-3.56	\$30.88
SLUDGE	+2.45	\$24.77
DODI	-3.73	\$26.55
DI	-2.92	\$16.66
BLOW	-1.64	\$26.99
BREWSKI	+4.76	\$28.00
RUSH	-1.18	\$22.11
SATAN	-3.53	\$23.33
PYRO	+1.45	\$26.22
ORBY	-2.12	\$28.55
BYRON	+2.54	\$15.44
GORBIE	+2.87	\$19.77
ASWAN	+1.37	\$20.00
TREE	-3.25	\$10.66
OVERPRICED	+1.64	\$9.99
VENOM	-4.96	\$31.66
ISAAC	+1.56	\$39.44
PRESTON	-1.44	\$29.11
DARTH	+3.55	\$24.44
VELCRO	+1.26	\$16.77
MATHNEWSIE	+1.77	\$18.88

TODAY'S BUSINESS

That's none of your damn business! Why don't you meddle with your own business for once and stop poking into other people's affairs. Jerk.

MASTURBATION.COM STOCK SHOOTS UP AND DOWN



From 11 a.m. to noon yesterday, the stock for Masturbation.com fluctuated wildly before finally peterring out.

Growth spurt followed by limp performance

BY MIKE THORSLEY AND JEAN KNETSCH

Financial analysts are scrambling today to find out what happened with Masturbation.com's stock price yesterday, when the value shot up and down wildly during the day's third trading hour, near 11 a.m.

David Bagnell, Masturbation.com's vice-president of Internet services, said that the low reached at close does not reflect the performance seen during the daytime trading, when shares reached a high of US\$20.67 at several times throughout the day. The stock ended the day linger-

ing around the \$3 mark, but company officials are excited about the day's high and rumours that BritneySpears.com will be taking an interest in the company.

"These are the juicy dividends we were hoping for," said Bagnell. "Investors were skeptical when they read about last quarter's soft returns, but we've shown the big players that size doesn't matter in this market."

John Fernando, chairman and chief executive of International Vibrators Inc., said that he's very impressed with the performance of Masturbation.com and hopes to take a vested interest in the company.

"This is a very cocky stock," said Fernando. "I'm confident that grabbing ten per cent of the company will be very gratifying in the long run. I like what I see."

The pendulum has taken a hard swing for Fernando, who only recently forecast the demise of

Masturbation.com when it hit hard times in the last quarter of 1999.

But, with yesterday's wild performance, analysts are predicting the stock will rise again soon, and hopefully stay up for a longer period of time.

Bagnell cautioned wary investors that Masturbation.com's latest move will not be its last, and that after possibly acquiring a partner, maybe several, the stock price should come to a head.

"We are hoping the stock won't peak too soon," said Bagnell. "We're more interested in a steady rhythm, rather than jerking up and down and leaving investors unsatisfied. I think that we could position ourselves more favourably for future conquests."

These developments allay fears that the company might be slowly eaten by one of the larger companies that dominate the market.

Daglobenpost

Imperial Oil profit leaps 727 per cent

BY STELLA OSTICK

CALGARY • On Thursday, Imperial Oil Ltd., the country's largest oil firm, reported a 727 per cent rise in first-quarter net income, which it put down to higher prices it received for oil, natural gas, gasoline and other petroleum products it sells.

Over the past week, Suncor Energy Inc., Alberta Energy Co Ltd., PanCanadian Petroleum Ltd. and Canadian Occidental Petroleum Ltd. have all reported record first-quarter profits because of the high commodity prices during this period.

Toronto-based Imperial, 70-per cent of which is owned by U.S. oil major Exxon Mobile Corp, said profit in the three months, end-

ing March 31, climbed to C\$269 million, or 63 Canadian cents a share, from C\$37 million, or 9 cents, in the year-earlier period. Revenue climbed to C\$4.1 billion from C\$2.4 billion.

Imperial is a dominant force in Canadian oil sands and heavy oil production, with a 25-per cent interest in the Syncrude Canada Ltd. oil sands mining and synthetic crude project and its own Cold Lake, Alberta heavy oil development.

It is also the country's biggest refiner and marketer, operating four refineries and selling gasoline through its national chain of 2,530 Esso stations. Imperial stock was off 50 Canadian cents at C\$33.50 in midday trading on the Toronto Stock Exchange. (\$1 equals \$1.48 Canadian)

Daglobenpost

OPEC countries taunt west with great big barrels of crude

Albright neighs like a horse to get sweet, sweet crude

BY MICHAEL THORSLEY

SAUDI ARABIA • Under mounting pressure from consumers to stem the tide of rising gasoline and diesel fuel prices, American secretary of state Madeline Albright and ministers from other top industrialized nations

traveled to Saudi Arabia to petition OPEC countries to increase oil production.

"Pretty please, with sugar on top," Albright asked ever so nicely, "I'll be your best friend. Really."

Saudi oil minister Ali al-Naimi, was unswayed by Albright's appeal.

"Oh my, look at all this oil I have just lying around," he mused within Albright's earshot, "If I don't find something to do with all of it, I guess I'll just have to throw it away. Oh, I'm sorry, were you saying something Madeline? I was just so busy thinking about what I'm going to do with all this

crude that's just collecting dust. Maybe I'll just have a big bonfire somewhere."

"What was that?" Naimi continued, "You say you want this oil? You say that your nation's industries rely on my nation's surplus? Well, I don't know... I was really looking forward to that big bonfire...roasting wieners...having a sing-along...I don't know if I can do without that."

Naimi then led Albright into a big warehouse containing millions of huge barrels of unrefined crude. "Oil, oil, oil," he muttered, "If I sell this on the open market, there's paperwork, and regulations and red tape all over the place — If I just let it sit here, there's a lot less hassle, don't you think?"

See NEIGHS on Page 18

Amazon.com stock plunges with opening of mall store

Sales figures give Amazon.com first operating profit ever

BY CHADWICK SEVERN

SEATTLE • The value of Amazon.com stock plummeted nearly 98 per cent in after-hours trading yesterday with the commencement of the company's newest venture: an actual store.

Although the store opened after the stock market closed, after-hours trading in Amazon.com shares sank from the official close

of US\$120.25 to as low as US\$3.75.

"Opening a bricks-and-mortar store was the next evolution for Amazon," said Jeff Bezos, CEO of Amazon. "I'm disappointed that our shareholders did not share that vision."

The company had a simultaneous opening of 42 stores around the U.S., and has plans to open up another 100 this year in the United States and Canada. Each store is stocked with an impressive selection of books, videos, software and music.

Receipts from the first evening of sales indicate that for the first time ever, Amazon is profitable.

"Sales from our 42 stores have been brisk, and using the retail-sales model for the first time, Amazon is now a commercial company," said Bezos.

Many analysts say that by transforming Amazon from a bleeding-edge Internet superstore company into yet another retail conglomerate, the company is no longer worthy of having a stock price over \$10.

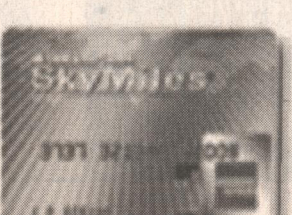
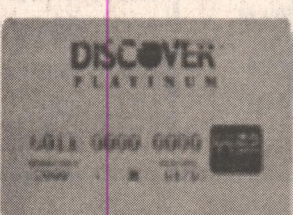
Daglobenpost



One of the first Amazon.com shops opens for business in a suburb of Chicago, Ill.

CREDIT CARD OF THE MONTH CLUB

Have you ever wanted to have a huge stack of credit cards that could choke a horse, or at least make your wallet a very impressive doorstop? You're one sick puppy, aren't you? But, if you do want to see the world of credit cards, join our club.



TECHNOLOGY

ANALYSTS TRY TO FIND TREND AMONG DOT-COM STOCKS

'Is there a pattern here?' wonder financial geniuses

BY MICHAEL THORSLEY AND CHADWICK SEVERN

Financial gurus and whizzes are gathering at a New York hotel this weekend to ponder over the latest dot-com stocks that have hit the market within the last few years.

"We've invested heavily in Internet companies lately, and it seemed prudent to get together and try to decipher these trends and graphs to see if there is a pattern emerging as to how financially viable these dot-com startups are," said Royal Bank chief analyst Terry Grisham.

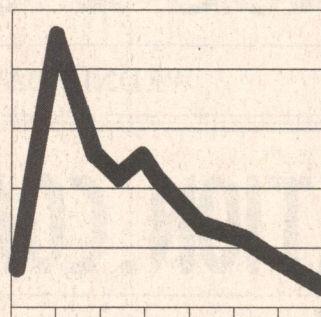
Grisham said that although many Canadian financial pros will attend the forum, the dot-com retailer, service or information provider is generally regarded as an American phenomenon.

"We've seen an incredible number of IPO's in the Internet

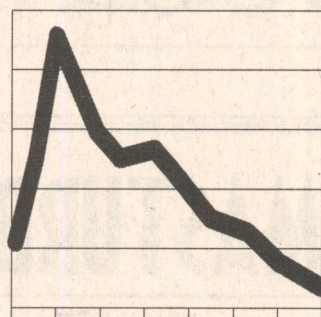
field on the New York exchange in the past couple of years," said Grisham. "Since these companies all have one big thing in common, the fact that their whole business plan centres on the Internet, there should be some interesting trends that emerge across all of their financial statements."

Numbers and figures like cash flow, stock value, and whether the company will be in business this Christmas will be among the items the financial elite will be looking at. They expect to announce their findings by Q4 2001.

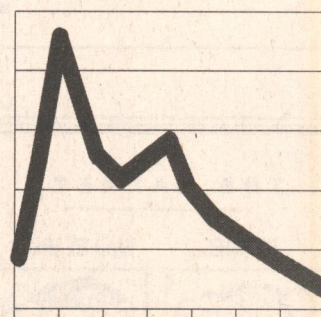
Daglobenpost



E-Corp.com



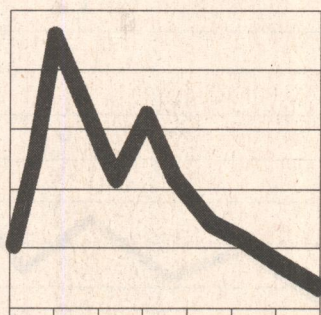
Nachos.com



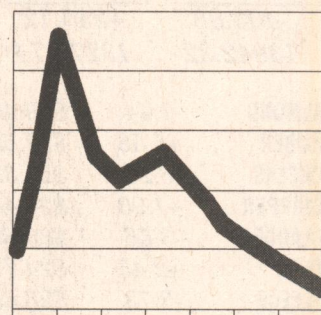
E-Bananas.com



Corel.com



DotCom.com



YoungAsianGirls.com



Charlton Heston greets other National Hacker members.

Software registry to curb illicit use

Will violate privacy, computer lobby group claims

BY MIKE 'HAMMER' HAMMOND

OTTAWA • A proposal by Justice Minister Anne McLellan to create a national software registry is under attack by software owners.

"We, as a nation, have had to live through too many tragedies as a direct result of unlicensed, illegal software," said McLellan. "This proposed legislation will require all users to register their software, and obtain a software licence by January 2001. After this date, users will be unable to obtain software patches or datasets

without a licence, and the police will have a national registry to track down any illicit use of the software."

But many users across the country are condemning this proposal, citing privacy concerns.

"The [fornicating] government has gone too [fornicating] far with this [fornicating] proposal," said Stuart Wilburton of Red Deer, Alberta. "They have no [fornicating] right to know what I keep on my [fornicating] hard drive. That [female dog] McLellan doesn't know her [posterior] from her elbow. What kind of [excrement] was she smoking when she came up with this?"

"This is just the first insidious step towards having our government invade our hard drives," claims Fred Bauer of Yorkton, Saskatchewan. "Next they'll want

to regulate the traffic of MP3's. Then they'll demand a 3-day 'cooling-off period' on all porno download requests. Before you know it, only criminals will have access to pornography, and where will society be then?"

**'LAW-ABIDING
USERS DO NOT
BELONG IN A
DATABASE.'**

Charlton Heston

Charlton Heston, president of the National Hacker Association in the United States, agrees. "If software is outlawed, then only outlaws will have software. This may sound like an overblown alarmist cliché, but there's a large

degree of truth to it."

Heston's organization, a computer lobby group, is against any sort of software registration. "Software registration simply doesn't work," he says. "Law-abiding users do not belong in a database just because they use software, and those who abuse software will not register it."

"What's more," he continued, "the Second Amendment of the Constitution clearly demonstrates our founding fathers' intent that the right to bear software never be infringed by the government, and this is a clear infringement of our rights."

When informed that Canada was a separate country, and therefore not covered by the U.S. Constitution, Heston replied, "Oh, you just wait. It won't be long now."

He then giggled maniacally and ran off into the night.

Daglobenpost

Low-Life Scum Suckers Inc.



Pleigh Dough Smithwicks III

Following the Annual Meeting of LLSS Inc. (TSE: LLSS - news) on May 18, 2000, the appointment of P.D. Smithwicks III to the newly-created position of Vice President, Redistribution of Wealth on behalf of LLSS was announced.

Smithwicks brings to the organization eight generations of aggressive wealth redistribution experience, heralding from his family's beginnings as wampum importers to New York, NY (NYSE: Wampum are us - news).

PDS III will be responsible for the implementation of LLSS's innovative wealth-distribution package, an industry ground-breaker, in partnership with HRDC Canada and the Ontario Realty Corp (TSE: ORC - news). His background in child-labor and international slave-trading ensure swift and surreptitious execution of the withdrawal of funds from the company pension plan of those employees who have more than one son over the age of 3 years.

Low Life Scum Suckers Inc. (TSE: LLSS - news) are leaders and innovators in the global re-distribution of land and the control of wealth. LLSS currently holds 95% of arable lands in Asia, India and the African sub-continent in addition to an 89% share of GMO foundation seeds and related pesticides.

Albright takes Naimi for a ride around the warehouse

NEIGHS

Continued from Page 17

"Come on, pleeeeeease, pleeeeeease," Albright pleaded, "I'll do your chores for a whole week... make your bed, do your dishes, you name it."

"You know what?" Naimi asked his aide, "I don't think I've ever seen an American secretary of state neigh like a horse, before. I've always wanted to see that,

haven't you?"

Taking the hint, Albright immediately fell to all fours and began neighing. "You know, I think I could really use a good horsey ride," Naimi remarked, "I think that might put me in a more generous mood."

Albright took Naimi for a ride around the warehouse accompanied by screams of, "faster, faster" from the oil minister.

Exhausted from his adventure, Naimi finally relented, "Maybe I could sell a little more oil... Just a bit... maybe."

"Oh thank you, thank you," Albright groveled, "You won't regret this. The United States will be your bestest ally ever."

"Yeah, yeah, yeah... Now get out of here before I change my mind," Naimi quipped.

Daglobenpost

Cure found for surfing stiff

BY GREG TAYLOR

Researchers have recently discovered a remedy for the rigor mortis condition that has been known to occur when people attempt to view or download large media files through slow internet connections.

Apparently, a lot of recent health care funding has been used to help analyze this condition, and the work has finally paid off. Doctors are elated by the discovery, as this means they will now have fewer patients to tend to, which gives them more time to surf the net themselves.

The cure reportedly involves

providing the affected person with both visual and auditory stimuli that is impossible to ignore.

These sensory annoyances cut right through to the brain, counteracting the prolonged lack of outside awareness.

Doctor Jim, who is also an internet provider, was able to provide us with the following report:

"We actually stumbled on the solution by accident when someone left a television on in the testing room," said Doctor Jim. "A commercial came on with this whining kid repeating over and over 'Cable fast. Phone line slow. Cable fast. Phone line slow. See this straw? Phone line slow.' The patient in the room became so infu-

riated that he came out of his comatose state just so that he could turn the TV off.

"It's really rather ironic how cable turned out to be the salvation for these people in a way nobody had foreseen."

But when asked if stupid television commercials would now be broadcast into hospitals, Jim replied in the negative.

"That has not turned out to be a necessary step," he said. "Instead, we're getting bratty kids to come in and say the same annoying things live. The patients are cured by giving the kids a good smack upside the head; the disobedient children shut up and we kill two birds with one stone."

However, one of the patients to emerge from a coma said he was less than pleased with how he had been treated by emergency medical personnel.

"I didn't mind that they knocked my head about, but when they took me from my home, they clipped the wire leading to my mouse!" the man complained. "Why didn't those idiots just unplug the mouse cable from the back of my computer?! I'm suing for malpractice and demand a new mouse pad at the very least."

Indeed, it remains unclear just how the on-site technicians were able to diagnose this computer related illness, yet were not smart enough to know how to dismantle the most basic of computer hardware.

**'WHY DIDN'T
THOSE IDIOTS
JUST UNPLUG
THE MOUSE
CABLE FROM THE
BACK OF MY
COMPUTER?'**

Another doctor in the hospital attempted to shed some light on that subject.

"We all specialize here. Why, I recently concluded a blood transfusion by simply cutting away the tubing. I don't know anything about needles."

In any event, the announcement of the cure will be made on national television once the cable company has allowed newscasters to do so. In the meantime, take heart! There really is an alternative to using your mother-in-law as a paperweight, should you choose to take it.

Daglobenpost


Looking for a

GRUNT


Job?

legal secretary
help-desk technician
coffee specialist
professional engineer

Why waste your time with underfunded and understaffed public universities, when you can get a real diploma in any of these fields with IAUS, the International Academy of Useful Stuff



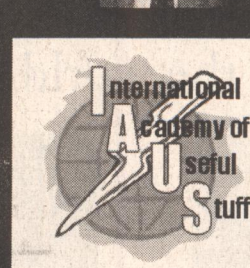
I was a juvenile delinquent and small time criminal before I went to IAUS. They taught me that it's much easier to exploit people through the legal system. Thanks, IAUS! - Karen, 28



I started off trying for a Computer Science degree at the University of Waterloo, but who needs all those high-level problem solving skills? Thanks to IAUS, I'm starting my own Internet company! - Greg, 23

Take Hold Of Your Future Today!
Work Placements Available!
Enrol Now: 1-888-782-5377

Or Check The White Pages For The Location Nearest To You



Wanted: SPIES

The Canadian Security Intelligence Service is seeking dedicated and ambitious personnel to post to our new top-secret agency, codenamed *Blame the Yankees*. Based in Washington D.C., this special task force will be charged with the important duty of ensuring that all American foreign policy decisions reflect badly on their country.

This is a proud and lonely position, requiring complete dedication to Canada and a strong dislike of all things American. Successful candidates should hold at least a Bachelor's degree from an impressive-sounding Canadian university; all disciplines will be considered. We prefer our operatives to be clever, but intelligence is not necessary. Unilingual English speakers are preferred, so as to better blend in with the natives.

Interested applicants should call (613) 992-0056 and leave their name; once we know you're interested, we'll find out the rest.

FUTURE NEWS

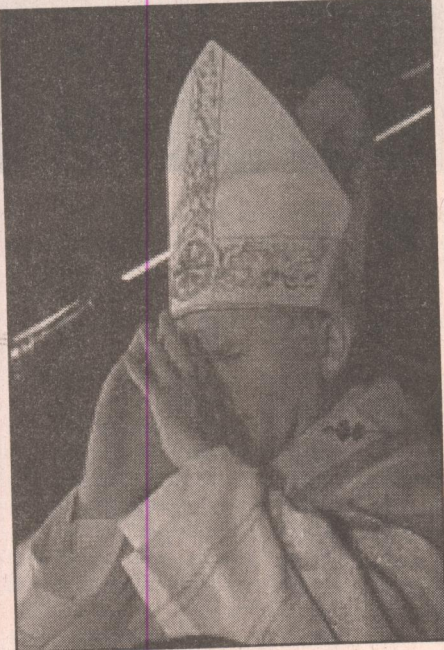
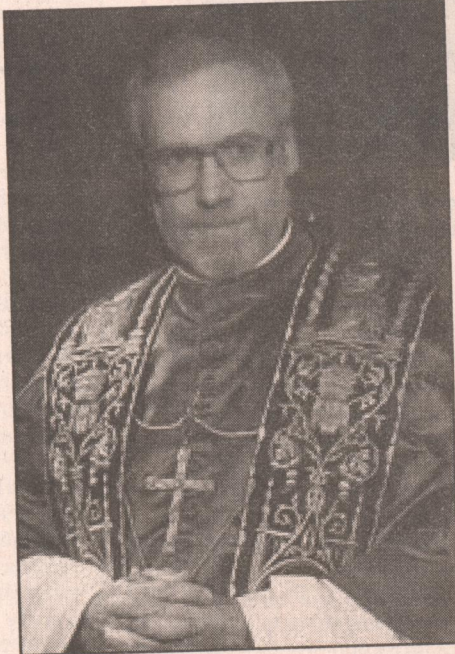
Coming up in future editions of Daglobenpost:

7

DAGLOBENPOST, MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2001

WORLD

POPULACE CALLS FOR RETURN OF CLASSIC POPE



New Pope John George I

Classic Pope John Paul II

NEW POPE DISLIKED

Classic Pope urged to return from retirement by world leaders

Vatican admits New Pope was a big mistake; didn't do enough market testing in religious groups

In a stunning worldwide show of distaste for the Vatican's New Pope, calls for the return of the Classic Pope have been piling up since New Year's Day.

"I've never seen anything quite like this before," said Vatican spokesperson Deb Tarkleson. "I'm beginning to think that we may have pushed the Classic Pope into retirement a bit early. We really should have waited for him

the market research to properly prepare both the Vatican and the public for the New Pope. Unfortunately, the statistics gathered during the meagre research was improperly analyzed, leading Papal experts to believe that the New Pope would be more popular than the Classic Pope, who had reigned for over three generations.

Statisticians around the world

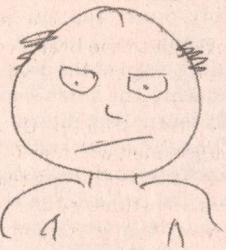
4

DAGLOBENPOST, THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 2001

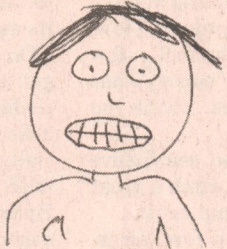
CANADA


CHRETIEEN LEADS LIBERALS TO THIRD MAJORITY

When will he resign?



Liberals will fail unless Paul Martin is leader





15

DAGLOBENPOST, AUGUST 14, 2001

SPORTS

IOC CHOOSES CUBA FOR 2008 OLYMPICS



TORONTO AND PARIS SHOCKED

Castro estatic as long-shot Cuba wins 2008 Summer Games

Plans to pave some roads, fix up gaping holes in 2,500 seat stadium

16

DAGLOBENPOST, SUNDAY, JULY 14, 2002

TORONTO

NEW SHEPPARD SUBWAY SOLVES GRIDLOCK WOES



HIGHWAYS EMPTY

From Yonge to Fairview Mall in 12 minutes

ARGUMENTS

An intern's look at a press conference

Little did intern Penny Scowen realize that the press conference she was sent to cover seven months ago was such a big one

By PENNY SCOWEN

Surely there are better ways to spend an afternoon than this. An abandoned industrial park by the east docks is easily more dreary because of the bitterly cold weather. It's the kind of neighbourhood where it's normal for the sidewalk to end and pedestrians are left fighting for a right-of-way in the two feet or so between the road and the train tracks.

I'm late, but since the motorcade of a dozen policecars had just zipped by, I correctly assumed that the press conference had not yet started.

The large warehouse had been converted into a movie studio, and filming was taking place somewhere on the complex, since I saw grips and extras chatting and smoking. They were very helpful in pointing out how they didn't know where the press conference was taking place.

Trying the front door, I was confronted by police officers who said I should try the back door.

Of course, with a warehouse, to get to the back door, you've got some walking to do.

At the back entrance, I noticed that the warehouse was right on the waterfront; Lake Ontario's paltry waves lapped at the docks that constituted the rear roadway of the establishment.

This is the spot. Media vans from the likes of CityTV and Global are parked haphazardly around the roadway, like the jumble you get when you empty your box of Tonka trucks. If the ONtv truck can't get close enough, well, sucks to be them.

All the commotion seems to be emanating from a large over-sized opening in the warehouse wall, obviously the entrance to all things that are great and democratic about our country. This is where the press conference is, this is where the great masses will have real and unrestricted access to our freely-elected leaders, this is where the freedom of the press is upheld...this place is a dump, but with the right camera-angles,

who'd really notice?

A mixture of "you've got to be kidding," "who the hell are you," and "stop wasting my time" washes over the face of the last security guard between me and the warehouse-door portal of democracy.

I calmly explain that I'm a journalism intern at the big national newspaper, and that I'm here for the press conference.

Needless to say, it took quite a bit more convincing (and a thorough check of my knapsack) before I was allowed to continue into the chamber of unfettered democracy. But in the end he did let me go in. Why? Maybe I was his good deed of the day...maybe he got laid last night. Who knows?

My first glance into the opening caught me off-guard... all the cameras were pointing out the door, and we're talking about a dozen cameras.

A modest podium was placed at the entryway, and all the media was tucked away inside. The reason was immediately apparent. The backdrop for the press conference was a very scenic panorama of Lake Ontario.

The security guard ushered me to the back of the throng of media, which garnered me a very unspectacular view consisting of the backs of people's heads.

The elite television journalists are in the front row, radio and newspaper people behind them, and the rest of the drudgery is in the back. The view is so bad that the smart reporters know to bring their own ladders.

The upside? Well, the media mass shielded me from the wind. That's not bad...

I recognize a lot of the people here. There's Royson James and Christopher Hume from the Toronto Star. There's Colin Vaughan from CityTV. There's former Toronto mayor (and current eye scribe) John Sewell. I see assorted logos like CBC, Toronto Sun, and ONtv on various jackets and equipment.

They, of course, don't recognize me. They throw me glances similar to those offered to me by the

security guard who reluctantly allowed me access to this press conference.

Perhaps I stood out.

I'm younger than them, but then again, there were a lot of young people here... like teenagers... what the hell are teenagers doing here... and then I realize it's "Take your kid to work day."

Of course, the other reporters smile at the kids.

In flurry of motion and sound, we see the leaders of the city, province, and country, Mayor Mel Lastman, Premier Mike Harris, and Prime Minister Jean Chrétien.

"I thought the press was going to be facing the wind," joked Chrétien as they arranged themselves on the platform.

In an introduction that the press found redundant, mildly confusing, and even more mildly amusing, Lastman introduced, on his right (or should that be left, he joked), Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, and on his left (that should be right, he joked), Prime Minister Mike Harris.

"Prime Minister Harris?" muttered Colin Vaughan.

Lastman then proceeded to read through his prepared speech, copies of which were in many reporters' hands. He deviated once in a while.

"It can be done without the multibillions I spoke of earlier," said Lastman a few minutes after saying it's a multibillion dollar project.

"I remember swimming in Lake Ontario," he continued. "Now, nobody...nobody...(he took a few tries to get the right "nobody") has for 50 years...decades...thank you Gary."

Lastman wants to see future generations able to catch a great big fish out there, and eat it.

Harris then said a few words.

You've heard it all before.

Chrétien's speech was a bit more entertaining; you got to love how he pronounces some English words: "Da cos-mop-litan area uv Toe-ronto."

And, of course, he did part of his speech in French.

Then they opened the floor to questions. Questions at real press conferences are nothing like the ones you see on television with American President Bill Clinton, where Clinton (or a designate) points at a reporter and gives each a turn.

Instead, the reporter who gets to ask the next question is simply the loudest reporter. The moment a politician is done answering a question, at least 20 reporters will start shouting out their question, often starting over in the middle since the politician obviously didn't hear it. The cacophony of "who's", "what's", "why's", and "when's" dies down gradually, until the loudest (or most insistent) reporter is left asking his question.

The booming voice of CityTV's Colin Vaughan, a former Toronto politician, asked the second question.

"Where's the money?" yelled Vaughan. "Cuz it's the only way it's going to work."

Harris and Chrétien dodged the question, citing that they haven't seen any numbers yet.

Harris did note however, that if the waterfront upgrades do turn out to be profitable, he'd be happy to take as big a share of the profits as he could.

I'm sorry to say that I did not get to ask a question at the press conference, since the reporter who asked the fourth question essentially ended the press conference with his question about Karla Homolka. The question, which asked if Mr. Harris would like to

comment on the issue, garnered this response from Mr. Harris:

"Nope."

And the press conference ended. At least the official one ended. Immediately after, Lastman and Chrétien took off, but Harris lingered behind ever so slightly, causing every single reporter to leave the nicely organized media pit and swarm the premier.

"Oh wait, there's a scrum...there's Harris," said Vaughan to his cameraman when he noticed it.

Although eye columnist John Sewell was there to report on the press conference, he ended up being used on camera by many other reporters (no doubt introduced using his former-mayoral credentials instead of his journalistic ones).

"It's puff and mirrors...(it's been planned for) years and years and years and years," said Sewell to the television audiences in VR Land. "They said they like Toronto. Harris has never said that, and neither has Chrétien."

After the last politician was away from view, and the last soundbite was recorded, the reporters started to do their reports, some to edit later back at the office, and some live on the scene.

Vaughan, using his "CP24" microphone, stood silent in front of his cameraman for moment before suddenly having a conversation with someone who wasn't there.

"Yes, Libby, the premier..." he started telling Libby, who was probably much happier in the CP24 studio at Queen & John than being down at the docks with the cold wind, the harsh seas, and a lonely journalism intern.

Scowen's account of her experience last November was first published in the university newspaper mathNEWS.

LIVES LIVED

THE OBITUARIES PAGE

The Obituaries Page was always there for us with a report about death. Born in the hearts and minds of those now left behind, it died at the hands of corporate business on June 30.

Some of you may be wondering why you are reading about a former newspaper page in this column, instead of a person. No, it's not because the paper couldn't find anyone who died yesterday. It's actually because there was nowhere else this news would fit, given the lack of an Obituaries Page in this publication!

Now, while this change has been reported as not being very important, those were the words of a corporate businessman. They should not be the ones who decide that the demise of a newspaper section will not inspire the same depth of feeling in us as does the demise of an individual person! After all, national papers reach readers across the country, and are known to more people than was Amjax Hoffmeyer! But, not to digress.

You no doubt remember the first time you saw the Obituaries Page in the paper. Perhaps you were scanning the news over breakfast one morning. Or, you were glancing through the newspaper sections during a break at work. Or maybe after a long day you just needed something to read to help cheer you up. Okay, so perhaps you don't remember seeing the page for the first time. But it's been there! Then after discovering it, even though you might not have known just who all the people were who were mentioned in there from day to day, it was no doubt still able to make its own unique impact on this world that we currently take for granted! For example, the Obituaries served to remind us all that, in the end, we are but mortals who should value every day of our lives. It could also serve, to provide insight as to things that should be avoided during the time one is alive. (Leaving behind friends who can write about you is obviously a plus.)

Alas, with the new merging of national papers, it was apparently decided that too much media attention has gone into reporting on death. The simpletons in their big corporate offices never realized that the central theme of the Obituaries Page was people's lives! It is regrettable that Daglobenpost was unable to see the big picture and come to an agreement concerning an obituary format - ultimately the final nail in the coffin. There was no warning. The Obituaries Page was simply found on the cutting room floor one morning, slashed to pieces with an Xacto knife. The senior editor who stumbled upon the horrific scene is currently undergoing intense therapy sessions.

The only consolation we Obituaries fans can possibly take from this death is that the Life page in the paper was equally scrapped. Of course, this places our national newspaper in some bizarre form of purgatory, so perhaps it is not too late for the corporate heads to see the error of their ways and reform.

We MUST convince them to do that! Support your Obituaries by writing letters! Write many and write often! Include letters from your dead uncles if necessary!! Send some to the Toronto Numb too; I've been trying to get them to report on death for years now. For without an Obituaries Page to provide closure on your life... how will you know you are really dead? Can you even be sure that you are alive now? Be afraid. Be very afraid.

Dr. Hollow Grammy

Dr. Grammy, a freelance doctor for the Toronto Numb, apparently liked reading obituaries



I'm feeling Blue, Baby

On July 6, 1983, City TV aired the first Baby Blue movie, changing Friday nights for single and hard-up men forever. The programming and marketing brilliance created a home for so many soft-porn movies that could never find the middle ground between tepid mainstream and extreme XXX hard-core movies.

• *The Awakening of J* was the most infamous Baby Blue movie ever shown. On September 2, 1988, this film introduced the element of male nudity, as well as the requisite female nudity. The hour's ratings in the 12 to 16-year-old male demographic immediately fell through the floor. As one unidentified minor recalled, "If I wanted to see naked men, I could just look in the mirror."

• In the mid 1990s, with Canadians coming out of the recession and having more discretionary income with which to go out and have real sex, the market for low-budget soft porn quickly became smaller and smaller. Baby Blue's ratings fell even further until, in 1996, the program was finally canceled to make way for more profitable programs.

• In 1999, reeling from the ratings failure of their telephone psychic infomercials and looking for an easy way to make a quick buck, City TV reinstated the Baby Blue movie. They felt that after a post-recession hiatus in the mid-nine-

SOFT STUDIES

An occasional bastion of fluffy and trivial information.



ties, the public was once again ready for some good filth on TV. The timeperiod also provided ample money-making advertising slots for dating services and erotic chat lines — services well-marketed to the "up at midnight watching soft porn on a Friday night" demographic.

Moh, you old softie

In 1822 Fredrich Moh developed a crude system of measuring the softness of various minerals, simply by finding out whether or not a sample of one mineral will

scratch another. While being notoriously unempirical, Moh's scale became universally known. Some of our favourite common objects, listed with their Moh's scale rankings, arranged in order from softest to hardest are:

- 0 Richard Simmons in a nudie bar.
- 1 Talc — You can easily scratch it with your fingernail.
- 2 Bill Clinton's ethical standards.
- 3 Calcite — A copper penny can scratch it.
- 4 That fruit cake that Aunt Clarice makes every Christmas.
- 5 Apatite — A steel knife scratches it.
- 7 Quartz — The hardest common mineral and chief component of sand.
- 7.5 Bill Gates' heart.
- 8 Topaz — Harder than any common mineral.
- 9 Corundum — It scratches Topaz.
- 9.5 Sirloin steak — As barbecued to perfection by Uncle Bob.
- 10 Diamond — Hardest of all minerals.
- 12 Al Gore.
- 14 Airline Rolls — Incapable of being scratched by any known substance.

Plying your trades

Bounty's paper towels are known for their softness, and according to their web site, their sponge-like durability and extra thick quilting have now made Bounty "Rinse & Reuse" paper towels the one sheet that keeps working until the whole job's done. The web site elaborates by saying that you can wipe baby's hand, wipe down the high chair, rinse the towel and wring it out, and then wipe the floor with it, before finally tossing it out. If you don't have a baby, the web site has many different cleaning-sequences for you to try out with your Bounty paper towels. You can wipe the mirrors, clean the sinks, soak up blood from a gushing wound, and then toss the sheet. The web site is very explicit in making sure that the end of each sequence ends with the tossing of the paper towel, and that these amazing sequences of paper-towel-using bliss are applicable only in the United States. You got to love those softy lawyers!

Stop it! That tickles!

"Soft rubber bullets are becoming the vogue ammunition of choice for police departments across the country. One division in London has switched

their entire force over to the rubber bullets, much to the delight of would-be criminals. 'I don't know what came over me when I robbed that jewelry store,' said recently convicted thief Kevin Mink. 'I'm so relieved that when I pulled a knife on the clerk, the police used rubber bullets to take me down instead of the lethal kind. Thanks soft rubber!' Taking notice of the overwhelming mass appeal of the London program, other police associations across the country are rapidly making the switch."

Source: London Free Press

Thought du jour

"If you really think about it, sticking five billiard balls in my mouth isn't really that impressive. I'd caution all of you to be wary of those who can stick a mere five balls in their mouth; six-ball-people are good people." — Chuck Rochester, coffee-house patron.

ARE YOU READY FOR A NEW KIND OF INVESTING?

Money. Everyone wants more. No one wants to give it away. So why pay commissions and management fees if you don't have to? **People.** People have money. If you could get their money, you'd be sitting pretty. So why not? **Suckers.** There's one born every minute. How can you use that to your advantage? **Pyramid.** That's our specialty.

www.pyramidscheme.com
1-888-SUCKERS

PYRAMID INTERNATIONAL SUCKER FUND		
6 mo	1 yr	3 yr
150%	75%	---

Pyramid
Friends Helping Friends