

GO!.....GO!.....GO!.....GO!.....

GO!.....GO!.....GO!.....GO!.....

ETCETERA



FLIGHT..

YOU ARRIVING

GO!.....GO!.....GO!.....GO!.....GO!.....GO!.....

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etc. magazine is a publication of the School of Media Studies at Humber



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Letter from the editor

Summer may be over, but that's no reason to stop thinking about holidays. Christmas vacation and spring break are just

around the corner, and it's time to start thinking about what you will be

doing with your time off. We've come up with some alternative travel

plans, but beware. This magazine is for the adventurer, the free spir-

it who wants more than to soak up the sun on a tropical beach. If you want

make the most of your trip, catch a glimpse at how others have done it.

Discover how students can make big bucks abroad with vintage

clothing, see how nudist colonies have little to hide and decide if you have

what it takes to be outward bound. *Etc. magazine* has a ride, get

on board and check it out.

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& OUT

UPWARD

"They picked us up and told us we were going to a 'Home Place' which I thought was a nice, warm, cozy lodge...but I had a rude awakening. They just dumped us off in the middle of nowhere in the bitter cold, told us to change, take the stuff that we really needed and pack it into these little wee bags.

There were our dogs, and our camp was way over there - and that was reality at Outward Bound."

This was Betty-Ann Framssen's welcome to Outward Bound, a wilderness school known worldwide for showing campers the untouched attributes of Mother Nature. Although Framssen's dogsledding adventure was no tiptoe through the tundra, the co-owner of The Body Shop Canada saw this kind of organized torture as an empowering experience for women who had suffered abuse. The Body Shop now sponsors women to take part in Outward Bound expeditions as part of a campaign against violence towards women.

Canoeing for miles over pristine lakes, portaging over rugged terrain, kayaking over white water rapids and rock

climbing up 50-metre cliffs. These are all summer activities that Outward Bound campers tackle and accomplish. In the winter, expect to drive a sled pulled by huskies, blaze a trail over a frozen lake with cross country skis and set up camp underneath the Northern Lights.

Thinking this type of 'vacation' may not be suited for you?

Well it is.

Outward Bound is an opportunity for people of all ages and capabilities to experience the great outdoors and take on incredibly challenging tasks, which are designed not to be above the capacity of any participants, according to Outward Bound's information brochure.

"It's all about empowering yourself," says Spencer Higdon, a course advisor at Outward Bound.

"Going out and learning new tasks. Learning rock climbing, paddling and portaging, those are all metaphors in terms of empowering yourself. Building self-reliance, self-confidence, learning new technical skills and learning how to do things that you had no idea you could do before."

"...learning how to do things that you had no idea you could do before"

All year long, hundreds of willing campers who want to take a stab at roughing it, submit themselves to the elements and temporarily abandon the shelter of modern living.

"We take people out of their comfort zone and drop them in the wilderness and they have to make the course go. It's extraordinary how people pull together," says Higdon.

Patricia McRobb knows first hand about being taken out of her comfort zone.

"When you go on Outward Bound you're picked up at the airport and dropped off in the woods. My first day was coming from a plane and being put right into a kayak," says McRobb, who went on her first expedition at age 17. At 31 she continues to go on Outward Bound trips and also volunteers for the organization.

"I just went on an expedition last week. It was a refresher course, but after coming back to Outward Bound I got all of the same things out of it as I did before - courage, strength, spirit," says McRobb.

A typical nine-day canoeing expedition on Black Sturgeon Lake, north of Thunder Bay, costs almost

Outward Bound puts their participants to the life-altering, heart-pounding, soul-moving test



Courtesy photo

While excursions are high-priced, Outward Bound remains a not-for-

profit organization, with its own bursary programs.

OUTWARD

A nine-day canoeing expedition on Black Sturgeon Lake

WARD

will cost almost \$1200, while a 21-day course runs for about \$2295.



Rock climbing is just one activity for Outward Bound participants.

\$1,200. A 21-day course runs \$2,295. This is comparable to the cost of an all-inclusive vacation on a Caribbean island, but you won't be getting any poolside cocktails with little umbrellas.

"People think of Outward Bound as an executive adventure trip, but not that many people know about the good things that Outward Bound does that are non-profit," says Framssen.

Although excursions are pricey, Outward Bound is a not-for-profit organization. As well as being hooked up with organizations such as The Body Shop, who organize their own fund raising campaigns, Outward Bound has a bursary program for people that have specific therapeutic needs.

The "Women of Courage" program is designed for "women who have gone through some therapy or are coming out of the other side of an abusive situation and are trying to get on with their lives," says Higdon. More than 400 women have taken part in the course that aims to build self-esteem and build healthy, supportive relationships with other women, as well as develop a sense of personal strength.

"In some cases our bursary will completely cover the cost of a course. Generally our philosophy is that we try to give as much money as we can to a lot of individuals," says Higdon.

Subsidized trips, however, are not awarded to people who simply need a getaway. They are meant for people who are signing up for specialty courses like

"Women of Courage" or "Youth at Risk", a program designed for young people who have experienced behavioral problems.

The list of specialized courses for specific groups also includes trips for people with physical disabilities, Aboriginal people who want to learn more about their culture through nature, adults over 50, and of course, company groups hoping to enhance working relationships between co-workers.

Anyone signing up for this kind of enlightening crash course on nature had better be prepared to give back more than sweat and tears. Outward Bound participants are expected to give back to the community by volunteer-

"We take people out of their comfort zone and drop them in the wilderness..."

ing for a portion of their trip.

For Jae Burns, a 23-year-old Humber College student who went on Outward Bound eight years ago, this meant spending an entire day working for a local farmer.

"We had wheelbarrows and shovels and we had to clean out an entire barn that was knee deep in shit," says Burns, who is adamant that Outward Bound was one of the best things she ever did.

"It changed my life, it made me the person I am today."

by KATE CALDER

Upcoming Expeditions...

Winter Camping

Burk's Falls, Ontario

cross-country skiing, shelter building, and navigation

4 Days \$295 (plus GST)

Dog Sledding

Black Sturgeon Lake

leading a team of huskies, shelter building

8 Days \$995 (plus GST)

Black Sturgeon Lake

canoeing, rock-climbing, white-water kayaking, solo experience, community service.

Lake Superior

backpacking, wilderness canoeing, rock-climbing, solo experience, community service.

22 Days \$2195

9 Days \$1195

Snake River Expedition, Yukon

Class 1-3 whitewater rapids, hiking, 520 km in length.

Temagami Autumn Odyssey

wilderness canoeing, portaging, rock climbing, wilderness navigation, solo experience.

14 Days \$1295

TREACHEROUS TRAVELLING

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) - Oddarne Skaldebo wants one thing understood: He was not lost. The Norwegian hiker said he just underestimated how hard it would be to walk alone across 200 miles of central Alaska, over tundra and through lowland brush.

Lucky for him he walked into the village of Koyukuk on October 25, 1997, blistered, 40 pounds lighter and nearly a month overdue - a search had been called off a day earlier and he was exhausted.

"Alaska is the hardest trip I've ever done and the most interesting experience I've done in the wilderness," said Skaldebo, who has traveled alone through wild country on five continents. The 51-year-old geologist was in good condition at a Fairbanks hostel. He planned to rest for about a week before returning home.

CERRO GORDO, Calif. (AP) - At night, when the wind whistles through the craggy Inyo Mountains, you may hear the footsteps.

Shuffling, stomping, kicking, heavy-booted footsteps on the creaky, rickety 125-year-old American Hotel's second floor - a floor that hasn't had regular night visitors in decades.

Welcome, if you dare come, to Cerro Gordo, one of the world's only bed-and-breakfast ghost towns. For 99 bucks a day, it's all yours.

The town is perched 8,500 feet high above the dusty floor of Owens Valley, 220 miles north of Los Angeles. Death Valley is just over the next mountain range.

Owner Jody Stewart has dedicated herself to preserving and restoring the former rip-roaring 1870s silver town. Guests stay in the six cozy rooms of a 1904 bunkhouse - not the hotel - and are served home-cooked meals in the hotel dining room. They have unlimited access to the town, including the restored hardware store, the assayer's office, the well-preserved mining operation up on the hill and the remains of a brothel (Lola Travis' House of Pleasure).

BACKPACKING TIPS

Hostelling International's Michael Cavanagh offers a list of do's and don'ts for potential backpackers.

DO's

Pack Light - "Pack everything you think you'll need, throw half of it out."

Book ahead at least one stop - "It will ensure you have a place to stay when you get there."

Learn the language

DON'Ts

Don't travel with a closed mind - "You will have a far better time traveling with an open mind."

Don't worry about running out of something, it is easy to replace

Don't assume everyone will adapt to you

HOW NOT TO GET RIPPED OFF BY TAXI DRIVERS

Developed-world cities regulate the number of taxis on their streets so every driver will be assured a certain amount of business. In return every taxi is periodically inspected for safety, and must charge the same metered rate - about \$1.50 or \$2 to get in the cab; about \$1.50 per mile; and "wait time" of about \$12-\$20 per hour, which kicks in when the cab is stationary or moving less than ten mph. (This compensates the driver if he gets stuck in traffic.) Thus a two or three mile trip costs about \$5 in rich countries. source: ARTOFTRAVEL.COM

USELESS TRAVEL FACTS

- Scotland is the only country in the world where neither Coke or Pepsi are the market leaders in soft drink sales. Barr's 'Irn-Bru' is the top seller.

- The foreign city most visited by Americans is Tijuana.

- The two-foot long bird called a Kea that lives in New Zealand likes to eat the strips of rubber around car windows.

- Dominica, Mexico, Zambia, Spain, Kiribati, Fiji and Egypt all have birds on their flags.

- Australia is the richest source of mineral sands in the world.

- The province of Alberta has been completely free of rats since 1905.

- Mongolia is the largest landlocked country.

- The only four countries that start with the letter "D" are Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica and the Dominican Republic. The Dominican Republic was called Santo Domingo when it first gained independence.

- New York city is nicknamed the Big Apple after an early swing dance that originated in a South Carolina club (actually a converted church) called the Big Apple.

- The abbreviation "PDX" (Portland International Airport) is derived from the "P" standing for Portland and "DX" meaning long distance or wide reaching.

- The only continent without reptiles or snakes is Antarctica.

- All gondolas in Venice, Italy must be painted black, unless they belong to a high official.

- There is a city called Rome on every continent.

- Hudson Bay is the largest bay in the world, (larger than England) bordering only one country, Canada, and only two provinces and a territory.

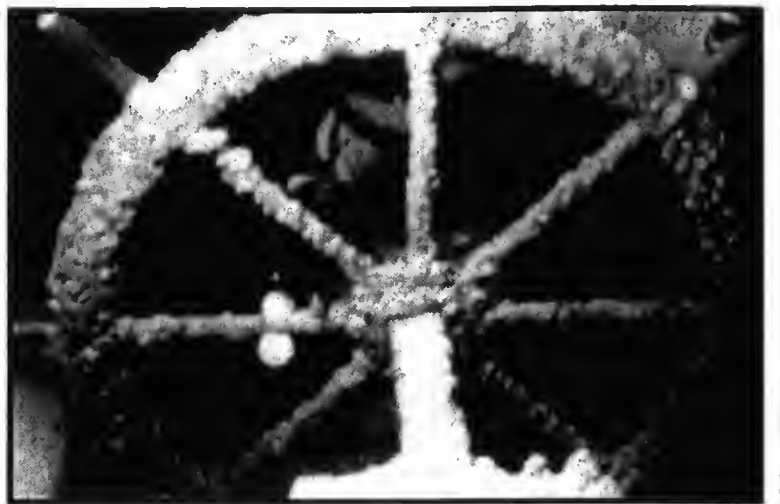
- The word for "dog" in the Australian aboriginal language Mbabaran happens to be "dog".

- Every Swiss citizen is required by law to have a bomb shelter or access to a bomb shelter.

- Brazoria County in Southeast Texas is the only county in the United States and Canada to have every kind of poisonous snake found in those two countries.

For more useless facts go to The Rind: <http://www.therind.com>

SHIP



The diver probes deeper and deeper, eyes straining, until a thin, towering shadow pokes up through the murky cloud. Slowly the shape of a hull materializes. The diver's hopes are confirmed. A shipwreck! An eerie chill seeps through the diver as he stares at this underwater grave. Did someone perish in this ship? What disaster had it suffered?

Across the globe, wreck diving is a growing trend as divers seek greater thrills to plunge into. With many wrecks in places such as the Caribbean, the Red Sea and the South Pacific, it is becoming apparent that pretty fish don't cut it for wreck divers anymore.

Here in Ontario, the frigid waters of the Great Lakes provides some of the best preserved shipwrecks in the world. Some are so good that the hardest of souls continue diving well into the fall and under the ice.

The volatile weather and the

"I still consider the Great Lakes to be the most unique diving experience in the world," exclaims Kohl.

lack of modern forecasting and radio equipment over the ages, have littered the lake bottoms with over 6,000 ships. For the hardened locals and adventurous foreign divers, these wrecks yield some exciting dive sites not to mention some valuable history.

Ships like the giant freighter Edmund Fitzgerald, which sank in a storm on Lake Superior in 1975, or the Hamilton and the Scourge, two U.S. schooners that sank during the War of 1812 are just three examples. Currently, they are sitting upright in Lake Ontario, a frozen timepiece in 300 feet of icy cold water. It was the discovery of these very wrecks in 1975 that would eventually bring the great explorer Jacques Cousteau to the Great Lakes.

"I still consider the Great Lakes to be the most unique diving experience in the world," exclaims diver Chris Kohl of Chatham, Ontario.

This is an impressive statement, considering Kohl's 23 years of diving have taken him across the globe to diving exotica like the Indian Ocean and the Great Barrier Reef of Australia. And Kohl can't stop talking about the subject. He is a fountain of knowledge, firing around historical tidbits and scientific facts about famous wrecks, significant places, even zebra mussels. He has also written five books on scuba diving and shipwrecks.

Out of Blue Productions, the research group he is a part of, searches the lakes for shipwrecks. When they have found their treasure, measurements and other analysis are compiled into video footage.

"We just released information to the media on a new wreck we found in lower Lake Huron last month. It was scuttled because it was an eyesore to the harbor," says Kohl. The ship, called the Canisteo, was one of the 10 ships taken from the St. Clair River and scuttled around the turn of the century in Lake Huron.

Because the wrecks contain a museum of information, research groups are very concerned with their preservation.

Formed in 1981, Save Ontario Shipwrecks (SOS) is a non-profit organization made up mostly of divers who are dedicated to saving

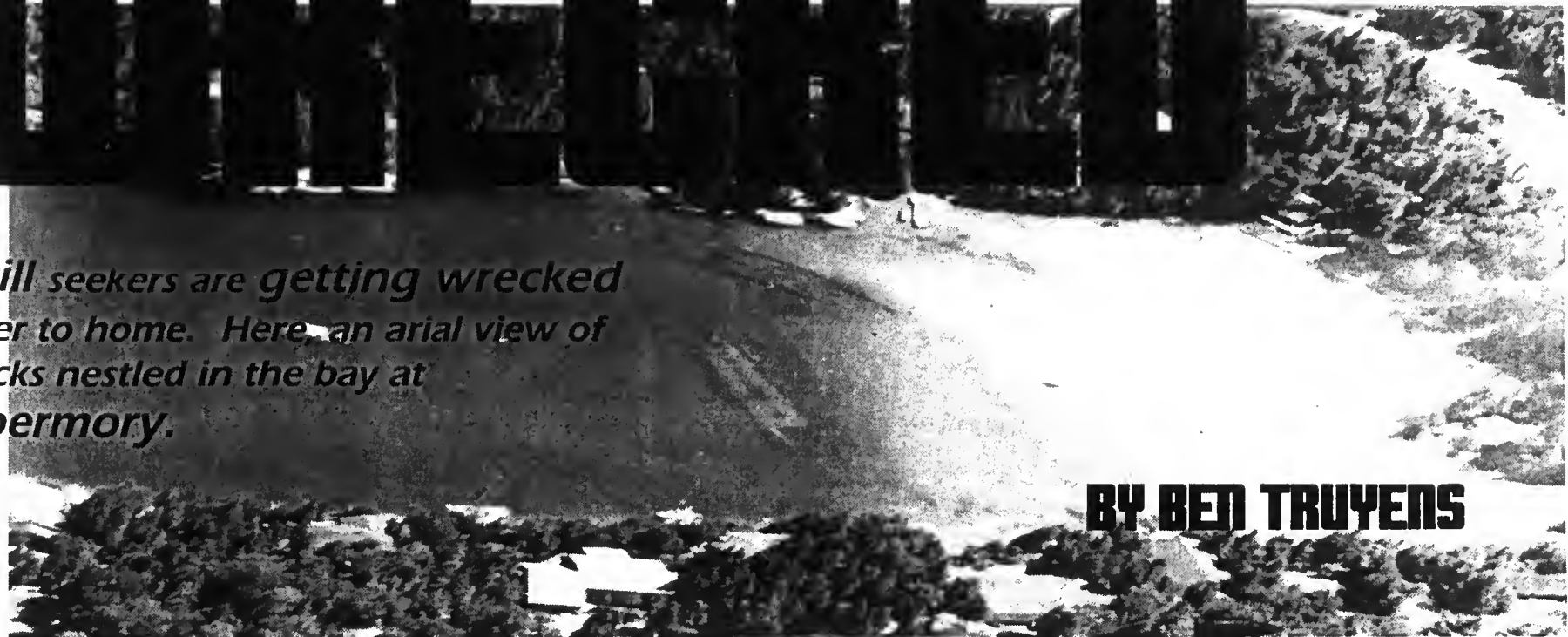
Add a few cups of warm water to your wet suit before

putting it on. It helps keep you warmer while you are in the water.

WARGOULDED

Thrill seekers are getting wrecked closer to home. Here, an aerial view of wrecks nestled in the bay at Tobermory.

BY BEN TRUYENS



Courtesy photo

Ontario shipwrecks. They were the first group to combine amateur divers with professionals in an underwater conservation project, along with a smaller Kingston-based group called Preserve Our Wrecks (POW). SOS is now the predominant force in preservation efforts, with close to 20 chapters across the province, working hand-in-hand with the government.

Often these concerns do not involve battles with the lake elements but with a nasty, wreck-stripping predator known as the diver.

"The idea behind the organization was to prevent wreck-stripping by giving divers a greater appreciation of the heritage," explains current SOS chairman Barry Lyons. "I think it's important to leave the wrecks intact so divers can see the ships relatively in the state they went down. It certainly adds to the diving experience."

Why would someone want to strip the wrecks?

Mostly for souvenirs. Anything from pottery, tools and bottles to an interesting square nail or a slab of wood may end up on diver's mantles. With the popularity of wreck diving and new ships being found all the time, this problem is still prevalent.

"I think wreck diving is the major draw for divers coming to Canada," says diver Carey French who since age 18, has amassed over 2,500 hours underwater and braved places like the Red Sea, the Indian Ocean, the Atlantic and the under-ice conditions of Resolute Bay in the Arctic.

For the abundance of wreck-seekers, both local and abroad, the laws are very fuzzy concerning shipwrecks.

"Technically we could be in trouble just being around some of these wrecks without a license but I personally don't see anything wrong with my looking," says French.

In Ontario, wrecks and other archeological sites are protected by the Ontario Heritage Act. Stiff penalties and sometimes jail terms can be given to an individual or group who removes anything from a wreck without government permission. Some cases are stranger than others.

Kohl tells the story of a diver from Marblehead, Ohio who, around 10 years ago, had his boat confiscated for stealing the anchor from a wreck called the Tasmania in Canadian Lake Erie.

The diver and a friend towed the anchor across the lake and left it temporarily resting on a home-town bank. Someone recognized the stolen anchor in an inn's painting done by a local artist who was struck by the sight of the beached anchor.

Ontario Provincial Police are still investigating a suspected attempt in September by two American divers to steal the anchor of the steamship Ohio

wreck in Lake Erie.

Newspaper reports said the suspected divers set sail when confronted a local diver, but not before retrieving a heavy-duty lift bag and leaving harnessing mechanisms attached to the anchor below. The steamship which sank in 1859 is known for its massive anchor which weighs about 750 kilograms.

"Obviously, the vast water space of the lakes is hard to police. This is why educating divers is so

"These people are thieves plain and simple. I mean the days of finders-keepers are long gone. These things should be returned or left for posterity."

important," says Peter Engelbert, Chief Marine Archeologist for Ontario.

Fathom Five National Marine Park in Tobermory, Ontario, is a federally-controlled underwater park. It was created in 1972 and is the first and only park of its kind in the Great Lakes.

A popular draw with locals and foreigners, it could be seen as another approach to the problem of wreck-stripping, luring casual sport divers into a more organized, observed setting. The park protects 20 ships within its boundaries on Lake Huron and offers wreck diving for all levels.

Still, some divers believe that only so much can be done for some of the more deteriorated wrecks in the lakes and the "leave it for the authorities" approach is a futile notion.

One diver, who doesn't want to be identified, admitted to taking something from a wreck site. The boat was located on the China reef in Georgian

Bay before it went to pieces in a storm.

"I took a wooden knee-brace that was completely dislodged from the ship and floating in the water," admits the diver. "I see nothing wrong with what I did. The boat was so torn apart I could actually see the waves lifting the decks. Most of this stuff would be completely

lost."

Kohl disagrees.

"These people are thieves plain and simple. I mean, the days of finders-keepers are long gone. These things should be returned or left for posterity."

"Most of the preservation efforts are not by the government but the diving communities. From what I've seen in Tobermory, the community looks after the wrecks much better," says Toronto diver Fred Brown.

The Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) currently offers wreck-diving courses in most of their facilities to any interested divers.



SOS diver working on sunken schooner Sweepstakes in Tobermory, Ontario.

Courtesy photo

BUYING AND SHARING TIME RISKY

A year-long investigation, called Project Timeshare, uncovered three marketing companies that swindled 2,500 timeshare customers of \$17-million. The O.P.P.'s Central Investigations Bureau (CIB) and the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations has joined together to investigate massive complaints made against the growing industry.

Larry Green, the detective sergeant responsible for Project Timeshare, says suspects made the sales right on the vacation property, defrauding both purchasers and the resort.

"I'm sure it all appeared very legitimate to those consumers," says Green. The swindlers appeared to

work for legitimate resorts.

This was only one of the growing number of complaints about timeshare marketing companies.

"Timeshare complaints are one of our biggest complaint files," says Diane Doucet of the Canadian Consumers Association.

One of the reasons for this, says Gloria Hollinson, director of the Canadian Resort Development Association, a group representing resort owners, is that resort owners are governed by neither public nor private authorities.

"The timeshare industry isn't self-regulated or overseen by the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations," says Hollinson. "Unlike a travel agency

which requires a license, a marketing company or resort doesn't need one to sell timeshares. So, a consumer doesn't know the background of these companies and this puts him at a disadvantage."

Meanwhile Ingrid Pongratz, who got back only a fraction of her investment when her timeshare went bankrupt, says "In the unlikely event I buy another one, I will make sure the resort has been in business for a long time. Too many timeshare businesses have been in business for less than a year. How can you expect them to honor contracts lasting over 40 years?"

- Paul Billington

HONG KONG'S SLIDE

Finding a hotel room, or an under-priced stock in Hong Kong on the eve of her July 1 succession to China was next to impossible. But things have taken a dramatic downward turn for the island nation, and rooms, as well as low priced stocks, are plentiful.

A 24% year-over-year dive in tourist arrivals on the Hong Kong shores in the month of August was recently released noted by the Hong Kong Tourist Association (HKTA).

This adds to a 4.5% drop in visitors recorded in the first eight months of 1997.

"We hope the international coverage given to Hong Kong during the IMF/World Bank meetings will overcome any lingering wait-and-see attitude in our major markets," says Amy Chan, HKTA executive director. "Our message to the world is 'Come and see the New Hong Kong'."

And if the drop in tourists wasn't cause for economic woes in a country with a heavy dependence on tourism, (US)\$10.8 billion in 1996, then her falling markets might.

In the third week of October, the Hang Seng Stock Index dropped a whopping 25% to 10426, adding to a net drop of 38% its August peak of

18,240.

Ironically, tourist visits in 1996 had climbed an impressive 14.7% from 1995 levels, to 11.7 million. This was attributed a last chance to visit the "democratic nation mentality".

Hong Kong officials are not happy with the loss of tourist dollars and the first meeting of the HKTA Special Task Force convened in early October to investigate.

"While keeping costs down is important, we all recognised that Hong Kong must rebuild its post-1997 image and broaden the scope of the experiences on offer," says Chan.

Chan says the task force found a gap between the cost to tourists of a



Hong Kong's Kowloon Harbour

Hong Kong vacation and the value they get in return.

"The key question of Hong Kong's image as an expensive destination particularly since virtually all our major markets have suffered currency devaluations- was of prime concern to us," says Chan.

-Ian Karleff

TRAVEL ECONOMICS

Canadians are busy finding exotic, back-to-nature destinations in South America and Africa but the rest of the world is looking to Canada for the same thing.

Canada has an exceptional natural resource base with an abundance of lakes and rivers that make it one of the most attractive outdoor adventure destinations in the world," said Joan Bell, project manager, Conservation Lands of Ontario.

The Canadian Tourism Commission (CTC) is committed to making ecotourism take-off by promoting Canada as the naturalist's dream to the rest of the world.

In Southern Ontario, known as the industrial heartland, The Conservation Lands Product Club brings together the Grand River, Halton region, Hamilton region and Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authorities and the CTC to develop new outdoor packages for tourists.

This partnership will involve outdoor recreation providers, restaurants and accommodation businesses.

The product club is committed to investing \$220,000 over the next three years, half from the conservation authorities and half from the CTC.

However, the reality for the tourists is to join the lineup behind naturalists,

sports enthusiasts and industry to make use of the dwindling virgin property left standing in Southern Ontario.

"The goal of the Conservation Lands Product Club is to become a model for co-operative marketing and sustainable ecotourism in an urban fringe area," says Bell.

Brian McHattie, co-owner of the Green Planet Tour Company and professional naturalist, says his company has worked closely with conservation authorities to make the union tourism and the environment a harmonious one.

"We have developed sustainable

Wacky world news

French find how pill-poppers travel

French billboard advertisements are telling consumers of a link between travelling habits and the kinds of non-prescription medicines they take, reports Reuters.

The ads quote a study performed by pharmaceutical giant, Avenir France and SOFRES, a popular French polling institute. The poll found car drivers tend to pop pills against tiredness and headaches while walkers seek out anti-stress pills.

The French are Europe's biggest spenders on health, consuming (US)\$2,050 per capita on healthcare products in 1996.

Father & son adrift six months at sea

A trip around the world by a Russian father and son team turned into a nightmare voyage.

Vladmir Medvedev, 44, and his son Maxim, 16, were adrift for almost six months without supplies after their 15-meter yacht ran into engine trouble in the Indian Ocean.

Their adventure came to an end on the shores of a Thai holiday island called Phuket. Reuters reported the pair survived on fish and rainwater after leaving Cape Town, South Africa.

The Bangkok Post newspaper said the Russians used telecommunications antennae as spears and rods to catch fish and prawns.

Packed commuter trains attract gropers

Gropers are fondling women in packed Japanese commuter trains, prompting Tokyo police to ask railway companies to introduce women-only cars in rush hours.

In the first nine months of 1997, 34 molesters were arrested at Ueno station - twice as many as were arrested during the same period last year.

Currently there is a publicity campaign warning against molesters. Conductors regularly announce encouragements to women to report gropers.

And this is not a new phenomenon. Ten years ago Japanese railway companies experimented with women only cars, but abandoned the trial when females in mixed carriages became greater targets.

Monkeys, pangolins, weasels take bus trip

Bus travellers in Vietnam found themselves sitting next to long-tail monkeys and other jungle animals on their way to China.

A local bus packed with 79 monkeys, nine pangolins and 16 weasels was discovered in a random check by Vietnamese forestry patrol officers.

The animals are part of a smuggling effort into China, where animal's bones and intestines are often used in traditional medicine.

-compiled by Ian Karleff

tourism guidelines and combined natural history, geology and culture with an understanding of how privileged we are to be appreciating the area," says McHattie.

-Ian Karleff

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Rock on Oct. 31

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X-Rated Style with MC Jay T & DJ Manzone.
Giveaways all night! Ladies FREE B-4 10:30

BLYTH SPIRIT

The wind blows unrepentently across the tundra as travel writer Lucy Izon scrambles off the Russian icebreaker into a five-metre zodiac. The inflatable boat will take her and the other tourists to a shore where few Canadians visit.

A few hours later, damp with the Arctic mist, but overwhelmed by the barren beauty of the isolated landscape, Izon and her party discover the remains of a hunting lodge; abandoned before Cleopatra was born.

If it weren't for Sam Blyth, such remote spots would remain undiscovered by tourists. Blyth packages and sells exotic, educational adventures for the well-heeled venturer.

"I think that someone who takes a vacation to 'get away from it all' and just lie on the sand is sad," says Blyth, a dreamer who turns extravagant and ambitious visions into reality.

In 1977, at age 23, he invested \$7,000 in himself and started Blyth & Company. Today it is a \$50-million business employing over 500 people around the globe. Blyth & Company is synonymous with exotic holidays: safaris to East Africa, hikes in the Himalayas and European grand tours for the children of Canada's establishment. He climbed mountains with Pierre Trudeau, and went to prison in Mozambique with Barbara Amiel (he shyly adds



Courtesy photo

Third from left, Pierre E. Trudeau. Third from right, Sam Blyth. "Trudeau was in great shape," says Blyth. "And it wasn't an easy climb."



that she was his "girlfriend"). Pierre Berton, Ken Thompson, David Suzuki, and Tony Onlic are only a few of his celebrated clients. Now his major projects are Arctic and Antarctic marine expeditions.

Helga Stephenson, chairman of Viacom Canada, has been a close friend of Blyth's for over 20 years and travelled with him extensively.

"Sam has wanderlust sewn in his jeans," she says. "Every trip with him is fascinating. He knows a lot about his surroundings, about the wildlife, the birds, the geology and the flora. If he doesn't know, he finds somebody who does."

Wearing loafers, chinos and a red vest over a blue checked shirt, Blyth looks like a Princeton college student. A soft-spoken man, he sprawls his six foot plus frame over the arms of a tub chair in his prestigious Hazelton Avenue office. But, he is as placid as a cat on hot bricks.

"There are lots of people who want to do something useful and educational on their holidays." - Sam Blyth

Born in 1954, the son of an army officer turned diplomat, Blyth (His first name is Graham. His father gave him the nickname, Sam) considers travel "a way of life...It's not a vacation or a particular adventure. It's part of the continuum."

From the age of 15, Blyth hitchhiked throughout Europe, visited Prague in the spring of 1968, just after the civil war, and Russia during its troubles of 1969 and 1970.

At 16, a student and short of money, he got a job with the Canadian firm of Butterfield & Robinson Travel, where he worked his way up from baggage handler to tour director in six years.

After earning a degree from Cambridge, Blyth followed up with a year at the Sorbonne in Paris. He returned to Canada in 1976 and was unable to adjust to working 50 weeks a year on Bay Street. Blyth then began to exploit the lucrative, exotic adventures market. This allowed him to justify his way of life.

One of Blyth's earliest adventures was the Canadian Show Train. As Toronto's then-famous Winston's restaurant provided meals, and Tom Kneebone and Dinah Shore performed, the CN train chugged from Toronto to Vancouver.

Passengers raved about the expedition, but it cost Blyth more than he budgeted. Luckily, former finance minister Walter Gordon was on board. A few days after the trip, Gordon invited Blyth to Ottawa where he showed Blyth why ticket prices were too low.

"It was very, very informative," Blyth says with a smile. "A few days later I opened a letter from Gordon and in it was a cheque to cover all my losses."

Blyth took Gordon's advice to send luxury show trains over the rails for the next four years. He followed this up with mystery weekends and flights to and from Toronto. He ran high schools in Europe and bicycle trips through French wine country.

However, Blyth is more famous for a train that did not run.

When VIA rail cancelled cross-Canada train service, Blyth & Company tried to put together a consortium with Royal Trust and Air Canada to operate a five star luxury hotel train complete with entertainment and cuisine.

However, his financial backing pulled out and the project never materialized. To date there is no luxury train crossing Canada.

Currently, Blyth travels for at least six months a year and

often leads a tour himself. An excursion into Bhutan with Pierre Trudeau evolved into a special relationship with that country after Trudeau introduced Blyth to its prime minister and other government officials.

"Actually I just phoned him (Trudeau) and asked him if he wanted to come to Bhutan and he said 'sure'. It was in the mid '80s." (Since then, Blyth has taken Trudeau on a holiday "every couple of years").

"I've always had an interest in Buddhism," Blyth explains. "I

to them and my kids love them. My house does smell a little like a bazaar in Bombay sometimes when they are cooking."

What's next for this entrepreneur who's been everywhere?

Blyth is enthusiastic about his latest venture, the Around the World Cruise Corporation: his new company for the millenium. Cruise ships are already in place to circumnavigate the globe and deliver adventurers to exotic places.

The focus of this cruise is on education and resource lectures,

"Sam has wanderlust sewn in his jeans," - Helga Stephenson, CEO, Viacom Canada

felt that in Bhutan you could find the least adulterated Buddhist and monastic life and so I wanted to go there for a long time. Bhutan was closed to outsiders until fairly recently. You had to work quite hard to get a visa."

"It's a beautiful place," Blyth says. "The purest cultural environment in the world, in terms of outside influence."

Ten years ago, Blyth set up a scholarship for Bhutanese children. Every two years, a 16-year old Bhutanese child is invited to Canada to attend Lester B. Pearson College in British Columbia (where Blyth is a trustee), and earn an international baccalaureate. Later, they stay with Blyth and his family in Toronto while attending university. Today, three Bhutanese children live with him.

"They are very bright. They speak good English and are in the top one percent of the students here...I get very attached

"rather than learning to square dance or play bingo." Blyth promises the cruise will appeal to a variety of

tastes. Blyth sums up his theory, "I never believe that work should be everything in your life."

What does a funeral railcar have in common with a theatre?

Blyth was told by CN he could not run a show train because CN did not have a theatre car. Blyth and a crew of workers hopped the fence at CN, revamped Diefenbaker's funeral car with lights and seats from Peter Gzowski's TV show. In the morning they had a 50 seat theatre. This guy is unstoppable!

Blyth sponsors environmental clean up cruises in the Antarctic.

Baja and Costa Rica which start at about \$2200.

BY NANCY LARIN

Tourism is the fastest growing industry in the world.

Canada made over \$41.8 billion in leisure tourism last year alone.

CANADA'S TOURIST TRAP

By BERNICE BARTH

tional visitors to Canada is the solution to Canada's tourism deficit problem.

But Canada's international tourism revenues are decreasing. Some of our major markets, including Japan, whose tourists spend a lot of cash visiting Canada, have declined significantly this year, largely due to currency fluctuations.



In an effort to combat Canada's flagging international tourist trade, the federal government and the country's travel industry created the Canadian Tourism Commission in 1994, an organization responsible for improving the marketing of Canada at home and overseas.

John Olsthoorn, spokesperson for the CTC, stresses foreign tourism still makes a positive figure (\$12.1 billion last year), which is remarkable given the global economy's recessionary years from 1989 to 1993.

In fact, experts at the CTC, the Conference Board of Canada and the BDBC predict strong growth in global vacationing up until 2010, unless another global recession hits. The federal government is counting on Canada getting its fair share of the market and eliminating the Canadian tourism deficit. And there's a good chance the hope will become a reality.

According to the CTC, Canada's outbound travel increases at a much slower pace than foreign tourism, which means a positive balance in Canada's travel account could happen as soon as 2002.

But the forecast is only just that, a forecast. French said there are too many factors affecting tourism revenues for an absolute marketing prediction. For instance, aging baby boomers in the United States and Western Europe may provide a lot of tourism dollars for Canada if it plays the right cards.

On the other hand, it's crucial that the Canadian dollar trades at about 74 cents US, otherwise foreign tourists might think it too expensive to visit the country.

French says that many global factors, such as natural disasters and political or social upheavals, are all inter-related and can have significant impact on Canada's tourism market. The tourism revenue of Canada may never break even, let alone gain a surplus.

Part of the problem is that the more money that comes into Canada, the more money Canadians have to spend

on holidays abroad.

Canada's success then, depends not only on drawing the international tourists in, but also keeping Canadians at home.

With this in mind, the federal government created a \$500-million Tourism Investment Fund, in July, to help finance a higher-ended tourism infrastructure in Canada. The fund is a partnership among the BDBC, the CTC and the tourism industry to help develop and market Canadian tourism.

According to Lemoine, the partnership plans to create mega-destinations that are open year-round. Essentially, a mega-destination is like a high-end resort; everything the vacationer could want is available at that one location. It's the mega-destinations, Lemoine said, that travellers want, and many vacationers agree.

Katherina Lemeir, a Law and Security student, believes all-inclusive is the best way to go.

"It's a different atmosphere in Europe. You just go there...chill out, you have a good time with your friends, same with Mexico. Everybody is down to earth.

"Canada is too stressful. In other words, I have to do this, I have to go here, I have to do that. In Europe you're just chilling, you know? That's it."

According to Olsthoorn, the fund will also sell Canada by marketing its unique cultures and attractions. Native Indian and Acadian cultures, outdoor adventures found in places like the Rocky Mountains and Cape Breton's National Park, the Calgary Stampede, the CN Tower and Mont Tremblant are only a few of these targeted areas.

Despite Canada's new advertising and rebuilding, it's still going to be a tough sell.

"I don't really travel a lot, but if I do it's outside of Canada," said Canadian university student, Patrick Wong. "I think Canada all looks the same. There's no point travelling to see the same thing."

Obviously Canada has its work cut out.

When it comes to holidays, a lot of people won't vacation in Canada because they see their compatriots as uptight, puritan throwbacks from the United States.

"I don't like Canada at all in terms of vacationing. It's a different atmosphere in Europe," said Katherina Lemeir, a York University student who vacations regularly in exotic places like Cuba, Spain and Hawaii.

"People in Canada, they're just so uptight, they don't know how to party."

Other people find Canada far too boring for their tastes. They go abroad for iguana sandwiches and the chance to wield a machete miles from anywhere except the next jungle vine.

"There's a barrier between Canada and the rest of the world, it's a very different kind of holiday here. Out here you drive to the tourist site, get out of your car, take a picture, get back into your car and then go to the next one," said Cliff Laidlaw, a Brampton store owner and typical family man.

"If you're in a Latin American country, there are far less distractions and more of a chance for culture."

While in Honduras recently, Laidlaw, his wife and two kids got a taste of the local culture when he asked a cook to prepare a typical Honduran family meal. The Laidlaw family soon dug into their "Honduran Rabbit" and "Honduran Chicken" dinners. It was only after a while the cook told them that rabbits can't be found in Honduras.

"The 'Honduran Rabbit' was actually guinea pig and the 'Honduran Chicken' was actually iguana," said Laidlaw. "Some of them quit eating as soon as they found out what they were eating and I'd have to say I started picking over mine a little more carefully. But it was pretty interesting."

Guinea-pigs-in-a-blanket, historical

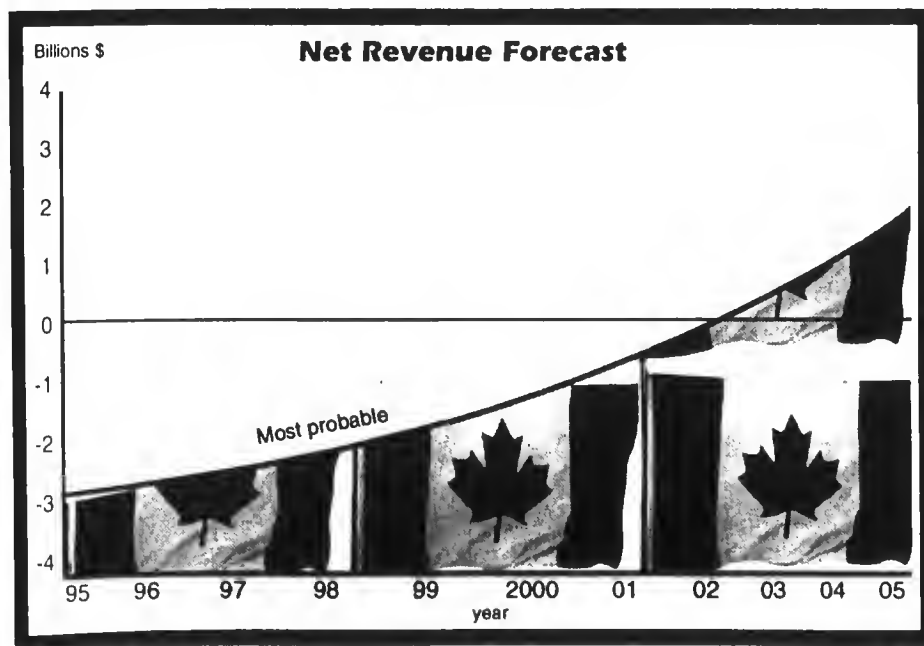
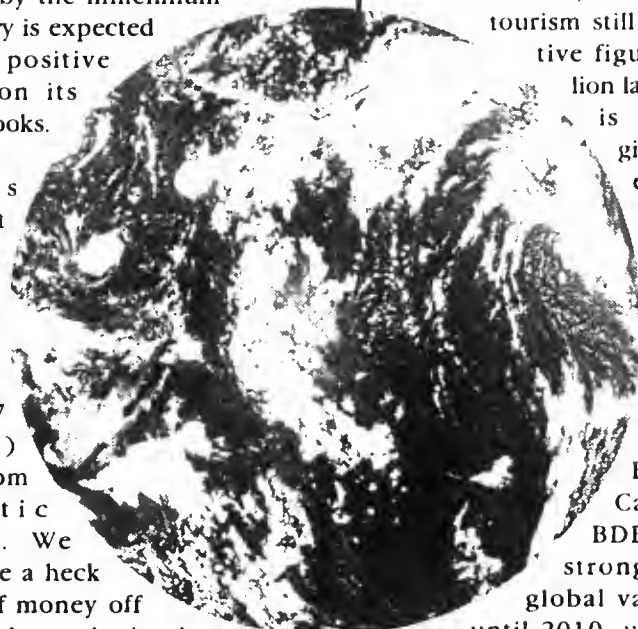
ruins, beaches that never end, volcanoes, coral reefs, elephant drinking holes and all the other things that Canada doesn't have, stop Canadians from spending their vacations here.

Unfortunately, all this spending outside our country means that, even though Statistics Canada says we made \$41.8 billion dollars in tourism last year, we still have a tourism deficit of about \$4 billion. Fortunately, experts say that Canada may no longer be in the red; by the millennium the country is expected to see a positive balance on its tourism books.

Canada's biggest tourism problem is that 75 per cent of its market (\$29.7 billion) comes from domestic vacations. We don't make a heck of a lot of money off Uncle Fred vacationing in his own country because he drives and stays with his friends and relatives to save money, say travel experts.

"Canada's biggest market is itself, but it's not as high-yield as the international stuff," said Harry French, director of the Canadian Tourism Research Institute at the Conference Board of Canada. "When you look at it on a per day basis, the international market stays longer and spends more money just to get here."

Experts like French and Jacques Lemoine, vice president of credit for the Business Development Bank of Canada, say attracting more interna-



source: xinfo.ic.gc.ca

France	10.4%
United States	7.5%
Spain	7.0%
Italy	5.5%
United Kingdom	4.4%
China	3.8%
Mexico	3.6%
Hungary	3.5%
Poland	3.3%
Canada	2.9%
Austria	2.9%
Czech Republic	2.9%
Germany	2.6%
Russian Federation	2.5%
Hong Kong	2.0%
Switzerland	1.9%
Portugal	1.7%
Greece	1.5%
Turkey	1.3%
Thailand	1.2%

Source: World Tourism Organization - % of 1996 global tourism

ETC • 11



Taking a break on the trail to refuel and absorb the beauty of nature.

TRENDY TRAIL MIX

The Bruce Trail stretches 800 kms along the Niagara Escarpment. In

More and more people are peeling themselves off the couch and getting out to bond with nature. Activities such as hiking, backpacking, and camping have become more popular. With the increase, outdoor equipment hasn't only become more versatile and functional, it's also more fashionable.

"Outdoor clothing and equipment is



New designs in high-tech gear help protect you against the elements.

more popular, I think, because the look is more popular and trendy, but also because people are more fitness-oriented," said Gordon Baker, assistant manager of Algonquin Outfitters, a store just outside of the west gate of Algonquin Park.

As outdoor activities grow in popularity, there is more competition between companies to produce better products, he said.

"Probably the biggest change that I have noticed is in clothing and fabrics. There has been much improvement in the way they work," said Baker, a 12-year veteran in the industry. "The equipment looks, feels and works better; and it is of better quality, smaller, lighter and fits better."

Another big change that Baker has noticed is that companies are making clothes specifically for women.

"Ten years ago there was hardly anything for women," he said.

Now there are lifejackets, sleeping bags, backpacks, hiking boots and outdoor clothing targeted at women.

Toshi Hunt, assistant manager at the downtown Toronto branch of Trailhead-Clothing Equipment and Adventure, said she's noticed an improvement in fabrics that can be used for camping and hiking and general travel use.

"Before, there were fabrics like cotton and canvas used, now there is treated polyester that keeps you dry, wicks moisture and when travelling, it's light and dries fast."

Rob Gordon, of Toronto's Mountain Equipment Co-op, a nation-wide outfitting store, explained that the materials in clothing have also gone from synthetic to natural and from nylons to waterproof synthetics. There's even fleece

that is made out of recycled materials, such as pop bottles.

Besides the evolution in clothing, backpacks have also changed from traditional external frame packs, those with a metal frame on the outside, to ones with internal frame support.

There are a variety of designs to choose from to best fit your body and activity. Some travel packs can also serve as both back pack and a duffel bag.

Camping gear is no exception to the trend. Tents have changed from that smelly old canvas to designs that are both waterproof and breathable, so you don't sweat to death, Hunt said. Some even have vestibules in which you can cook.

Hiking boots used to be extremely heavy, but now they are becoming lighter and more versatile. There are many different types of hiking boots available, such as the Approach or Cross-over series, which are hiking boots suitable for day hikes.

"There has been a huge advancement in this category with companies like Adidas, Nike and Reebok developing hiking boots," said Hunt. "This has been very successful."

According to Hunt, most outdoor clothing is now multi-purpose, because people are interested in a variety of outdoor activities.

And as outdoor gear changes, so do the benefits. Hunt explained that the new garb provides protection from the elements; keeping people drier and warmer in cold weather and cooler in hot weather.

"The advantage of the newer technology clothing is that the new fabrics are comfortable and they pack lighter and dry faster," said Hunt.

With the growing trend toward outdoor fashion, the introduction of extreme sports, and the population becoming more fitness-oriented, there has been a growth in the outfitting industry.

Gordon explained that young adults, who are into more adventurous outdoor activities, such as rock climbing, make up a big chunk of consumers.

Baby boomers with the "empty nest syndrome" are also a large part of the spending population, Hunt said.

"There are also people who are occasional users, who go hiking once a year and those that use the clothing for everyday use. It varies."

All the advances in outdoor equipment

BY KRISTAN JONES

"Outdoor clothing and equipment is more popular, I think, because the look is more popular and trendy, but also because people are more fitness-oriented," - Gordon Baker

and clothing make it easier to brave the elements and help to make your outdoor adventures more enjoyable. And now that wearing pop bottles around the camp fire or around town is trendy, who knows, maybe in a few years you'll be sleeping in a tent made out of recycled paper.

So get out and stay out!

How many peanuts you'll shell out

HIKING BOOTS

Approach/Cross-over Ave.	\$100
day hikers	\$150 to \$200
backpacking boots	\$200 up

BACKPACKS

travel packs	\$150 to \$200
backpacks	\$100 to \$600
day packs	\$50 to \$175

TENTS

\$225 to \$700

JACKETS

fleece	\$80 to \$225
winter	Ave: \$300
(jackets shown in photos below)	



A well adjusted pack makes life on the trails much easier.

In addition, there are over 290 kms of side trails.

LITTLE GADGETS

BIG BUSINESS

BY REBECCA MAXWELL

With a fondly reminiscent look in his eye, Jack Taylor steals a glimpse at the photos on his office walls. The Matterhorn in Switzerland, the Eiffel Tower and the ruins of Athens are but few. Despite his attraction to these larger than life objects, Taylor is more concerned with the little things that go unnoticed.

In fact, he's made them his life.

A former school teacher, vice principal and professional traveller in his own right, Taylor is founder and president of Austin House, the Oakville-based company that provides travel accessories for people around the globe.

From adapters and converters to money belts that attach to bras and socks, international tags and laundry soap in a tube, Austin House products can be seen around the world on luggage, bicycles, and people. Even perhaps at a gas station in Germany, where you may see a Canadian tourist using his Speedy German travel guide to say "Volltanken, bitte" ("fill 'er up, please").

"I guess people have said that we, Austin House, or I personally, were the creators of the travel accessory business because there was nobody in it before I started," Taylor says.

Austin House began when Taylor was not an entrepreneur, but an educator. In 1963, with his wife and two-year-old daughter, Taylor embarked on a three-year teaching stint at an air force base in Germany. Ten years and two children later the Taylor's left Canada once again to travel overseas, visiting every country in eastern and western Europe in the Volkswagen camper they purchased enroute.

When they returned home, Taylor decided he had to find a new game plan for his life.

"I kind of knew I was never going to be a principal, or superintendent...so I had to find something, what was I going to do with the rest of my life?" he questioned.

The answer came to Taylor after experiencing difficulty in preparing for his second trip to Europe.

"We were going to be away for a whole year. We needed small, compact things and we couldn't find them. Or we could, but it was really difficult, and took us a long time."

The solution? If you can't find what you want, make it yourself. And that's exactly what Taylor did and continues to do today.

"I guess one gets lucky and finds something," Taylor said, "you find a niche and you try to fill it."

For three years, Taylor worked as vice-principal at a Mississauga secondary school by day and businessman at night, creating products, establishing contacts and getting his business off the ground. All from the basement of his own home.

Twenty years later, Taylor is president of one of the most successful travel accessories businesses in the world, with distributors in Australia, Singapore,

"We do get a lot of business from students. We're selling products for the traveller, no matter how old or young they are," - Jack Taylor

Indonesia, Malaysia, Japan, Mexico, Chile, Saudi Arabia and the Cayman Islands.

Soaring sales in the last three years have triggered expansion for the company. Austin House will soon be moving from its present location, in Oakville, to a larger warehouse that can better accommodate their growing needs.

While roughly 93 per cent of Taylor's business is generated in North America, only about 20 per cent is generated in Canada. A whopping 70 per cent comes from the United States, where Taylor also has a warehouse in Buffalo, NY.

"I guess we conquered pretty well everywhere we wanted to be in Canada by 1983 and decided that since the United States market was wide open and nobody was doing what we were, we decided to go there," Taylor said.

Sounds simple, but not everyone could have spelled success as easily as Taylor, a man who knows his products and what sells them.

"They're impulse items. That's the most important part...When somebody walks by the display of travel accessories,

Money belts are the number one seller for Austin House.

Jack's Best



their eye is caught by what's on the display," Taylor says.

"We spend an awful lot of money on packaging. We spend it because that's what sells it. The sizzle sells, not the steak itself. It's the same thing with us."

Despite the cost of packaging, however, most of Taylor's products, which he often designs himself, average between \$5 and \$15. The low cost of Austin House products makes them readily accessible for a large cross section of travelers, regardless of age or income, a prime concern for the company's founder.

"We do get a lot of business from students. We're selling products for the traveller, no matter how old or young they are," Taylor said.

Far and away the most popular item sold by Taylor is the money belt which is designed in many different ways, attaching to underclothes, socks, and belts, keeping valuables hidden from the ever roving eye of the pick pocket.

The popularity of these items does not surprise Cindy Vieira, a sales associate at Collacutt Luggage, which carries Austin House products.

"Mini locks and waist safes are very popular right now because more people are being more cautious," she said, adding that safety is the prime concern of most customers who look specifically for many of Austin House's products.

For obvious reasons, the ever-growing population of laptop-toting travellers are also concerned about safety, but what they may not realize, Taylor said, is the need for a transformer: the device which allows the use of a non dual voltage computer overseas. According to Taylor, many people are still unaware of the difference in voltage between North America and the most other countries.

"The need for conversion adapter

"The Bugchaser"-This small device easily attaches to strollers, purses or belts creating an aura five feet wide to chase away annoying bugs, \$10.

"The Motionless Band"-Worn at the acupuncture point on the wrist by pregnant women, chemotherapy patients, and those suffering from motion-induced nausea, \$8 (regular size).

"The Water Waist Safe"-waterproof vinyl pouch with triple zip lock seal worn around the waist. Keeps passports, travellers cheques and valuables safe while swimming, sailing, hiking, skiing, \$8.50.

"The Neck Nest"-an inflatable pillow designed to be worn around the neck, offering head support on planes, trains and automobiles, \$6.50.

"The Bolt-a-Door"-the easy to use door lock. Installs in seconds in door jamb. Travel size makes it perfect for hotels, bed and breakfasts and dorm rooms, \$6.

"Easy Exchange Estimator"-pocket-size booklet with exchange rate tables, tipping information and metric conversion tables, \$1.50.

"Speedy Language Books"-in French, Italian, German, Japanese, Spanish and Russian; key phrases such as how to order food, asking the time, how to send mail, \$34 for all five.

Products available at most luggage shops

plugs has grown dramatically, but it surprises me that people still aren't very knowledgeable about it."

That's all right though, Taylor says, for that's what Austin House is all about.

"We don't mind having people calling us and saying 'I'm going to Slovenia, what's there?' We can't tell them tourist-wise, but we can tell them the electrical information they need to know."

Not surprising, since knowing is Jack's business. Keeping travelers in the know about the latest in travel accessories has taken Taylor to new heights, without having to climb the Matterhorn.



Taylor holds the "neck nest", used for support on long trips.

Different designs include the 'bra stash', 'sock safe' and 'je holster'.

OUR CITY, OUR WORLD

Kids and culture - a step in the right direction.

BY DENISE LOCKHART

Blong curls bounced as he tipped his tiny head back to look up at the seemingly huge buildings. Brilliant blue eyes sparkled with the excitement of seeing new things and different people. He held his mother's hand carefully so he wouldn't get lost in China Town.

The young boy tapped his tiny fingers against a window encasing chicken, squid, pork and other unidentified meats, and looked at his mother for answers as to why they hung there in the orange glow of heat lamps. She bent down and explained that this was a market like their grocery store back home.

This is a typical outing for single mother Sandy Cloes, who teaches her son Stephen about different communities within Toronto. "We don't have enough money to travel right now, so each week I take him to a new sight and expose him to different things. He gets a real kick out of it.

"I answer his questions as best I can, but I don't know everything," Cloes laughs as she pulls Stephen onto her lap.

Day trips around Toronto are a great way to teach children, have fun and bond.

According to the most recent Statistics Canada poll, in 1991, of 139,000 single parent families in Toronto, 38,000 were low income.

Linda L'Estrange, an operator

at Statistics Canada, said this number has increased significantly since then.

Cloes isn't sure if teaching Stephen about different cultures and societies at a young age is going to have any effect. "He'll probably forget every place I've taken him, but at least I will have tried."

Julie Dotsch, an instructor at the Bias Free Education Centre in Toronto, said "It's great to teach your children about different cultures, you can draw a map of your neighbourhood and label the different backgrounds

"I am trying to expand his mind so he knows there is more than Tonka toys and football," -Sandy Cloes

or physical characteristics that make each person special.

"If you have young children it may be easier to start by teaching them about genders and then move to cultures," Dotsch explains. "Let them know that boys and girls are different and that some people have glasses and freckles where others don't."

Deborah Bugden, who comes from a single-parent family, says she is sorry she missed out on day trips with her mom.

"I think it is an important step with your child. To set aside one day or night a week to go out and do something new.

"I see my mom doing it with my little brother and sister. She takes them to art galleries, and black-and-white movies, but we never did that. I think she was still learning when I was young," said Bugden.

Providing parents have the time to spend with their children, Toronto has a lot to offer for those special occasions.

"There is so much to do in Toronto it's unbelievable!" said Marlene Stewart-Madison of the Ontario Ministry of Culture. "It's such a diverse city. I would say that Harbourfront is the best

place to take a child to learn about different cultures in society.

"They offer festivals and music from around the world. There is dancing and theatre, and if you take the ferry across to the island

there are rides and a great place to picnic. It is very affordable."

Other places she listed were The Royal Ontario Museum, commercial galleries, the ballet, theatres, and The Art Gallery of Ontario.

Kerry McInerney, Human Resources manager for the ROM, said: "The museum is a great place to bring children, we have a lot of different activities and programs that run daily for kids."

Each community within Toronto has its own community,

continued on p. 32

GOING THE DISTANCE WITH ISIC

Imagine being able to spend \$399 for a trip from Toronto to Vancouver that could cost up to \$2,000 if booked on an airline at the last minute.

This is the type of savings students can enjoy with the International Student Identity Card (ISIC).

ISIC is distributed in Canada by Travel Cuts, a 23-year-old company owned and operated by the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), with outlets located on college and university campuses.

A full-time registered student whose school has a membership with the CFS is eligible for a free ISIC which can easily be obtained with a valid piece of student identification, passport photo and completed application form. Without membership the fee is \$15.

"One of the main purposes of such a card is to give students a recognized student status when they're traveling," says Denise Doherty, a researcher at the CFS in Ottawa. "A Humber College student card may not be recognized in Paris, but the ISIC would be because it's known internationally.

"ISIC can be used at any time throughout the year to obtain discounts on international or domestic flights, trains, buses or a combination of differ-

ent modes of transportation."

Other benefits offered with ISIC include a 40 per cent discount on any economy seat, anywhere, anytime from Via Rail, as well as 10 to 30 per cent off regular accommodation rates at most hotels and hostels.

Travel Cuts also provides students with an information booklet which gives helpful details about accommodations, banking hours, departure taxes, and discounts that can be taken advantage of in different countries, along with their discounted tickets.

In addition, students with ISIC can be entertained and educated at some of the best museums and art galleries the world has to offer, including the Royal Ontario Museum, for up to 50 per cent off the usual price.

Yet, students like Bardee Lewis, who attended Lakehead University, in Thunder Bay, and now lives in Toronto, have not found the card worthwhile.

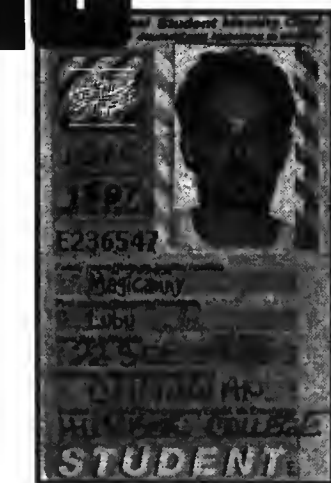
"I didn't bother getting the card because I didn't

see the point," says the science major.

"The airfare from Thunder Bay to

Toronto is pretty expensive, considering it's still in the same province. I wish I could have gotten a discount but apparently the card didn't apply up there."

Joseph van Veen, ISIC administrator for Canada explains: "It would be nice to have a discount everywhere, but the airlines decide what



they want to discount."

Travel Cuts approaches the airlines and negotiates rates for students. Often there are areas where no deal can be established.

"It's different from city to city," says Annabelle Seow, manager of the Travel Cuts branch on College Street in Toronto. "In Canada we give dis-

continued on p. 32

ISIC is recognized internationally in 93 countries and operates

with a free 24-hour travel and emergency help line.

BY TRICIA DOUGLAS

WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE

BY SOMA GOBIN

It's noon on crowded Water Street in Georgetown, Guyana. The market is a maelstrom of noise and color as food vendors bargain with hungry office workers. It's a sea of people — but I look out like I'm neon green.

This is my first time in Guyana since I left 10 years ago, and I'm puzzled at how easy other locals spot me as a visitor from Canada. After all, I still keep

strong ties to my culture—including my citizenship—so how can they tell?

A look at my reflection in the nearest store window screams the answer. The trendy, tinted red hair — unremarkable on Yonge Street — is a dead giveaway in the sea of natural black hair. The blue jeans and T-shirt set against

the dresses and skirts favoured by West Indian women shout "alien"!

Traditional everyday wear in the Caribbean rarely consists of short-

How men around the world react to seeing a pretty girl

The American lifts his eyebrows.

The Italian presses his forefinger into his cheek and whistles.

The Greek strokes his cheek.

The Brazilian puts an imaginary telescope to his eye.

The Frenchman kisses his fingertips.

The Arab grasps his beard.

Do's and Taboos Around the world, edited by Roger E. Axtell

shorts, stone-washed blue jeans, or close fitting outfits in synthetic fibres and loud tropical prints. West Indian women know that type of clothing, heavy make-up and perfume aren't practical in the mid-day sun.

Travel experts say it's essential to be aware of how visible you are in a foreign country. With non-traditional vacations and business travel by women on the rise, so are the dangers involved. The 1997 Canadian Embassy's Guide

for Cuba advises women not to disregard gender.

"On the street, women may be the subject of comments about their bodies or even sexual propositions," the guide warns.

Dalyce Newby, coordinator for the Intercultural Centre at Humber College, says when she visited the Canary Islands she found it was still common for men to pinch women on the bot-

tom. She was prepared to deal with it though, because she always reads travel brochures and researches a country's culture and customs before going there.

"There are many places for women to find information on travelling abroad," Newby says. "I know women who have back packed around the globe and didn't run into trouble. But it's a matter of having the self-interest to make sure you're safe."

Gita Narine, a University of Ottawa student, recently visited Guyana and was initially flattered by all the attention she received from local male admirers.

"Everywhere I went men would be whistling, or shouting out comments, or coming up to me with offers," Narine says. "But pretty soon it began to annoy me. I started to wear a ring and pretend I was married."

In Canada that ring wouldn't have made a difference. In Guyana, it did.

After Narine and her sister decided to visit a hotel lounge in Georgetown, she figured out pretty quickly that women who went into bars unaccompanied by men were assumed to be looking to pick some up.

It reached the point where a male

During a religious week in Saudi Arabia it is common to



White women living in Saudi Arabia do not have to follow strict rules like women of colour.

relative was required whenever they went out at night. At first it was very hard to adjust to the norm. Narine found herself thinking more and more about what she wore, where she went and how she spoke.

Rural areas of countries such as China and India still hold strong ties to tradition. The urban areas tend to be more accepting of Western culture, though, due mostly to the onset of globalization and the rise of the middle class in these countries.

Western style clothing may be popular in Bombay and Shanghai, but visitors should dress more conservatively than at home, according to recent travellers to these areas. Jeans, t-shirts and

"You can travel with a group and still get down to the roots of a country," Taskinen explains. "You don't have to be on a local bus in the middle of Thailand."

Usha Agrawal, a volunteer for the Association of Women of India in Canada, recommends using tour buses or the larger public transport to get around India. She says that during the day there is no real danger and it's safe to be alone. At night, however, she recommends traveling with someone.

Women make themselves more vulnerable by not taking the same precautions abroad as they would at home—it's just like walking in downtown Toronto late at night.

A stranger happens upon a woman in her bath. The various reactions of that woman would be as follows:

A Mohammedan woman would cover her face.

A Laotian woman would cover her breasts.

A Chinese woman (before the revolution) would hide her feet.

In Sumatra, the woman would conceal her knees.

In Samoa, she would cover her navel.

In the Western world, she would cover her breasts with one arm and her genital area with the other hand.

The Gift of Touch, Helen Colton

walking shorts are acceptable; very short or revealing clothing is still frowned upon.

"There is some western influence in China now," says Josaphine Cho, a University of Waterloo student participating in a co-op program at Humber College, who visited China two years ago. "Casual clothing is widely accepted in Chinese cities, but travellers should still dress conservatively. There is still a love-hate relationship between Chinese-born and raised in China and those who grew up in the western culture, but other foreigners are more accepted."

One way that travellers can avoid unwanted attention is through organized tours, which don't have to fit the stereotypical image of a bus full of old ladies visiting museums and flower gardens.

Shirley Taskinen, a senior sales consultant from Pacesetter Travel in Toronto, says many companies offer tours which explore the essence of a country. These tours stay in small local hotels instead of the bigger chains and are arranged so you can experience local culture.

Newby recommends reading travel brochures, using the Internet and speaking to travel agents to educate yourself before going abroad. Books such as Jean-Marc Hachey's "The Canadian's Guide to Working And Living Overseas" and "Do's and Taboos Around the World", edited by Roger E. Axtell, are very helpful and should be available in the travel section of your local bookstore.

The most important thing to remember while experiencing a foreign culture is to keep an open mind. At the least, you will return enriched with memories and new experiences.

"Don't pass judgment on other cultures," says Newby. "It makes it easier to understand the people and the differences in culture and cope with them. You may not be aware of what you are doing wrong, so pay attention to cross cultural differences such as clothing and gestures. If in doubt, look at how other people in that culture behave.

When in Rome.

see men walking through the streets hitting women with sticks.



JEANS

Enterprising travellers are reasons. How can you ticket to Hong Kong?

The German tourists make their way directly to the Levi Strauss 501's. The willowy woman follows them, smelling a sale. "Would you like to try them on?" she asks. Her tall frame stretches to get the 32-32 jeans being pawed by the woman. "No need. I need 15 pairs though," the tourist replies, handling the stiff, indigo-smelling jeans. "I'm taking them back home to sell to friends. So much cheaper here."

Traci Shute plays it tough. Only two pairs of the jeans make it out of the Mark's Work Wearhouse branch at Yonge and Steeles this day.

There is nothing actually stopping Shute from selling the 15 pairs, except for an "unofficial policy" not to sell large quantities of clothing to tourists trying to make a buck.

More and more enterprising tourists are finding ways to subsidize their travel expenses. Selling goods in other countries where they are rare is not a new fad. For decades, people on the move have transported drugs, foods and protected goods - such as wine - over borders. And they continue to make big bucks, provided they aren't caught.

Selling clothing, though, is just so easy to justify. Flogging a set of Canadian jeans in Hamburg, after all, hardly seems "criminal" or "dangerous."

But it is a problem for any company selling goods internationally. Assistant Store Operator Shute says Mark's has an unofficial understanding with Levi Strauss, because of the attention that the Levi label brings in other countries.

"We are suspicious when people do bulk orders," Shute explains.

cheaper here in Canada and then re-selling them to friends at home.

"Levi Strauss is a very big name here in Germany," he said, in a telephone interview from Munich. "For a new pair of Levi jeans in Germany, it can cost upwards of \$140 (Canadian)."

Even for Luttiberger, the lure of making a few deutsche marks to offset the cost of his visit with his fiancée in Canada was tempting.

Compare that price to Canadian prices. At Mark's, Levi jeans start at \$49.99, and top out at \$79.99. Obviously you can make a good buck, Shute says.

Questions to Levi Strauss and Co. about this issue tend to draw an uncomfortable silence. A spokeswoman at the San Francisco headquarters would neither confirm nor deny that they have knowledge that such activities exist. But she did say it's illegal for anyone to sell



courtesy photo

In a poll of 200 Humber students, 22% said that they had made

money while travelling...our favs: religious mural painting, prostitution, selling beer.

The Nike swoosh logo was designed by university student

Caroline Davidson in 1971. She was paid \$35 for the design.

TRAVELLER

singing the blues—for all the right recycle your jeans and turn them into a

Read on...

trademarked goods without permission.

It's not only Levi's whom you will annoy with your money-making schemes. Every country has their own importing laws.

One way that tourists are supplementing their travel budget and *not* being caught is by selling vintage items. These time-honored items do not attract attention; they hide in the folds between your dressing gown and your trashy novel.

Eddy Liptrott, 35, is known around the world for his ability to find vintage clothing, sell it, and make huge amounts while doing so. It's what's enabled him to travel much of the world over the past seven years.

He explains from his Richmond Street warehouse/living space that he rarely buys two-way tickets anymore. He uses the funds he makes on one leg of his tour to fund the rest of his trip.

Working as a scuba diving instructor in California, Liptrott used to spend his free time drifting in and out of stores along Rodeo Drive. He picked up industry trends in vintage sales, even in the 1980's when most people would have been ashamed to admit it.

But he found leather saddles

used and sagged of the range.

Liptrott found the supplier living in Texas, and eventually his interest drew him to the deep south.

Liptrott used this connection to fill his vintage shop on Queen Street. His relationship grew with numerous suppliers to the point where he was getting regular tips on what was hot in the Asia Pacific region.

"You have to know the trends," says Liptrott. "In the eighties, everybody wanted vintage cowboy wear—boots, jeans, the whole bit," he

explains. "But the trends change, just as with the regular fashion industry."

"This year, it's curling sweaters," he says.

Curling Sweaters?

"You know, the ones that are hand-knit with a zipper and a blocky picture of a hockey player, or a man riding a bronco. Styles change, and what was in last year is definitely not going to be in the next."

Air Jordans and vintage Levi Strauss jeans are Liptrott's time-honored specialty. They gave him 15 minutes of fame on the Dini Petty show. Levi's from the 50s and 60s will make you some coin, as will runners from the 70s, not just Nikes.

"You learn as you go. At first I was buying vintage jeans for \$100, wondering if I could get \$200 for them," Liptrott explains. Now, you can search the Internet and easily find Asian residents willing to pay \$500 and up for these sneaks and jeans.

Liptrott advises knowing your local customs. Going into individual stores to sell your goods in Japan is simply considered bad business and poor etiquette. Vendors there don't accept goods off the streets from just anyone.

Local laws, such as Singapore's infamous law against chewing gum, can land you in jail. Liptrott warns travellers that they're more likely to find themselves in this type of trouble than arrested for attempting to sell the

bustling and noisy, you can hustle your goods in the market without the cost of a table. Everyone is welcome.

The enterprising tourist has to know their product. Working with vintage clothing tradespeople is the best way to find out what makes an item desirable. What is in today could be out tomorrow.

Tony Serra, manager at Value Village, agrees.

"Someone who knows their stuff can really make some money reselling," he explains.

Goodwill's public relations representative, Jill Kehoe, agrees with Serra's sentiments on knowing your goods.

"Vintage clothing store operators come in here

every day; it is safe to say there are regulars. All sorts of people are doing it, and anybody can do it," Kehoe says of tourists who sell vintage abroad.

Goodwill collects 40 million pounds of clothing a year. Kehoe explains that Goodwill's mission is to sell donated goods without much work. Their goal isn't to make Goodwill a fashion house; it's to train out-of-work people to get jobs.

All jeans are thrown on a rack at \$6 a pair. Get in there and get your hands in the piles of donated goods, and you might just find that treasure that could fund your trip.

Kehoe knows of an instance where a customer bought a pair of jeans at Goodwill for six dollars and turned around and sold them in the southern US for \$2,000. Think about it: that's the equivalent of a plane ticket down, a week's accommodation, dinner and fabulous entertainment every night.

Liptrott's best story tops that. He knew of a vintage dealer in Utah who bought a pair of Air Jordan's for \$2,000. They were a very special colour, and only 10 pairs were ever made. Did the dealer make his money back?

You bet. He sold them for \$26,000.

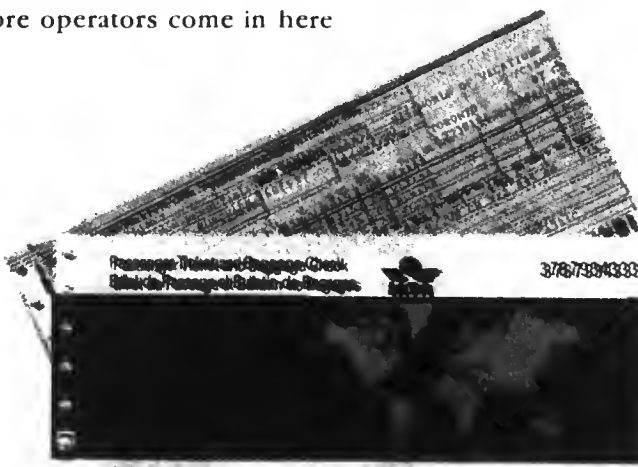
That's equivalent to a trip around the world.

Now that's vintage!

Levi Strauss and Co. recently announced the winner of the 'World's oldest Levi's jean jacket' contest. The winner from California found a jacket stuffed in the attic of his hardware store...which originally sold supplies to local goldminers, and has been in existence since the 1870s.

The jacket that was found was from the original Levi's catalogue...\$6.75 would have bought you a dozen denim coats from that catalogue, and another \$6.75 would have bought you a dozen jeans.

Source: www.levi.com



photos by Bethany Lee

Municipal Election
in the new City of Toronto
Monday, November 10, 1997



When and Where Do I Vote?

If you are a qualified elector, you may vote for candidates in the municipal election and answer questions on the ballot, either at an Advance Poll or on Election Day on Monday, November 10. **However, you may only vote once and at one location within the present Metropolitan Toronto, which will form the new City of Toronto.** This is a change from previous municipal elections. Voting more than once within Metropolitan Toronto is an offence and, on conviction, liable to a fine of up to \$5,000.

If you are on the Voters List, or have revised the Voters List by adding or correcting your entry on the list by October 10, 1997, you will receive a card telling you which Ward and Poll you are in, and when and where you can vote. **If you are not on the Voters List, you can telephone or visit any Clerk's Office listed below until Monday, November 10, 1997, to revise the list and/or learn when and where you can vote.**

There are seven Advance Poll days upon which you can vote:

From **Monday, October 27, 1997 to Friday, October 31, 1997**, between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., you can vote at your local Civic Centre or City Hall, listed below.

On **Saturday, November 1, 1997 and Wednesday, November 5, 1997**, between 12 noon and 8:00 p.m., you can vote at the Advance Poll location on the card you will receive in the mail. If you do not receive a card, check the Advance Poll listings for your municipality listed below, or telephone your Civic Centre or City Hall to learn where you must go to vote.

Borough of East York

Mr. William Alexander, Clerk
850 Coxwell Avenue
East York, Ont. M4C 5R1
(416) 778-2013

Advance Polls in East York

East York Civic Centre
Council Chamber
850 Coxwell Avenue

Trace Manes Centennial Building
Seniors Lounge
110 Rumsey Road

City of Etobicoke

Ms. Brenda Glover, Clerk
399 The West Mall
Etobicoke, Ont. M9C 2Y2
(416) 394-8101

Advance Polls in Etobicoke

Ward 2 Ourland Community Centre
18 Ourland Avenue

Ward 3 Richview Collegiate
1738 Islington Ave (NW entrance)

Ward 4 City Hall
399 The West Mall

Ward 5 Albion Community Centre
1485 Albion Road

City of North York

Mr. Denis Kelly, Clerk
5100 Yonge Street
North York, Ont. M2N 5V7
(416) 395-7300

Advance Polls in North York

Ward 6 Amesbury Community Centre
Gymnasium
1507 Lawrence Ave. West

St. Jude's Separate School
Gymnasium
3251 Weston Road

Ward 7 Driftwood Community Centre
Gymnasium
4401 Jane Street

Sheppard Public School
Gymnasium
1430 Sheppard Ave. West

North York Advance Polls continued

Ward 8 Centennial Centre
Senior Citizens' Lounge
580 Finch Ave. West

Columbus Centre
Foyer/Lobby
901 Lawrence Ave. West

Ward 9 Armour Heights Community Centre
Gymnasium
2140 Avenue Road

The Bob Rumball Centre for the Deaf
Lobby
2395 Bayview Avenue

Ward 10 Edithvale Community Centre
Gymnasium
7 Edithvale Drive

J. D. Griffen Adolescent Centre
Gymnasium
24 Silverview Drive

Ward 11 Don Mills Middle School
Gymnasium
17 The Donway East

St. Catherine's Separate School
Gymnasium
30 Roanoke Road

Ward 12 Onole Community Resource Centre
Multi-Purpose Room
2975 Don Mills Road West

St. Leonard's Separate School
Gymnasium
100 Ravel Road

City of Scarborough

Mr. Drew Westwater, Clerk
150 Borough Drive
Scarborough, Ont. M1P 4N7
(416) 396-7285

Advance Polls in Scarborough

Ward 13 Voting subdivisions 1-7 and 10-31
Birchmount Community Centre
Board Room
93 Birchmount Road

Voting subdivisions 8 & 9 and 32-61
Scarborough Village Community Centre
Seniors Lounge
3600 Kingston Road

Scarborough Advance Polls continued

Ward 14 Voting subdivisions 1-21
Salvation Army Citadel, Church Foyer
2015 Lawrence Avenue East

Voting subdivisions 22-43
Stephen Leacock Community Centre,
Craft Studio 1
2520 Birchmount Road

Ward 15 Voting subdivisions 1-29
Birkdale Community Centre, Craft Room 1
1299 Ellesmere Road

Voting subdivisions 30-64
Cedarbrook Community Centre,
Craft Room 2
91 Eastpark Boulevard

Ward 16 Voting subdivisions 1-26 and 29-33
Curran Hall Community Centre,
Main Hall
277 Orton Park Road

Voting subdivisions 27-28 and 34-52
Port Union Community Centre,
Activity Room B
5450 Lawrence Avenue East

Ward 17 Voting subdivisions 1-20
L'Amoreaux Community Recreation
Centre,
Studio Room 1
2000 McNicoll Avenue

Voting subdivisions 21-43
Agincourt Community Centre,
Craft Room 2
31 Glen Watford Drive

Ward 18 Voting subdivisions 1-13
Goldhawk Community Centre,
Main Hall
295 Alton Towers Circle

Voting subdivisions 14-30
Malvern Community Centre,
Craft Rooms 1 & 2
30 Sewells Road

City of Toronto

Mr. Sydney K. Baxter, Clerk
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ont. M5H 2N2
(416) 392-7036

Advance Polls in Toronto

Ward 19 Swansea Community Centre
15 Waller Avenue

Masaryk-Cowan Community Centre
220 Cowan Avenue

Ward 20 Trinity Recreation Centre
155 Crawford Street

McCormick Recreation Centre
66 Sheridan Avenue

Ward 21 Wallace-Emerson Community Centre
1260 Dufferin Street

Joseph J. Piccininni Community Centre
1369 St. Clair Avenue West

Ward 22 North Toronto Memorial Community
Centre
200 Eglinton Avenue West

Janet McGee Manor
71 Merton Street

Ward 23 Church of the Messiah
240 Avenue Road

Yorkminster Baptist Church
1585 Yonge Street

Ward 24 City Hall, Committee Room 4
100 Queen Street West

John Innes Community Centre
150 Sherbourne Street

Ward 25 Winchester Square Apartments
55 Bleecker Street

Matty Eckler Community Centre
953 Gerrard Street East at Pape Ave

Ward 26 Greenwood Towers
145 Strathmore Boulevard

Kingston Road United Church
975 Kingston Road

City of York

Mr. Ron Maurice, Clerk
2700 Eglinton Avenue West
Toronto, Ont. M6M 1V1
(416) 394-2511

Advance Polls in York

Mount Dennis Library Auditorium
1123 Weston Road

Vaughan Road Collegiate Foyer
529 Vaughan Road

On Election Day Monday, November 10, 1997, between 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., you may vote at the location shown on the card you will receive in the mail. If you do not receive a card, telephone your local Civic Centre or City Hall, listed above, to learn where you must go to vote.



Proxy Voting

If you are on the Voters List or have added your name to the List, and are unable to vote on Election Day or at an Advance Poll, you can appoint another person to vote for you. You must use the appointment form which is available at one of the Clerks' Offices listed above. You may only appoint one voting proxy.

The person you appoint must go in person to the Clerk's Office in your municipality to complete the application on any weekday from Tuesday, October 14, 1997 to Monday, November 10, 1997, during business hours, or on Saturday, November 1, 1997, between 12 noon and 5:00 p.m. If the information is complete and correct, the Clerk will certify the document.

The voting proxy must then present the certified appointment document at the place you are directed to vote, take the prescribed oath, and vote on your behalf. The voting proxy may also vote in his or her own right.

Alternative Voting Methods

East York, Etobicoke, North York, Scarborough, and York will be using vote tabulators. Electors are instructed to vote by filling in the blank space between the head  and tail of the arrow  pointing to the candidate of their choice.



NORMAN DEPOE SCHOLARSHIP
Donor: NORMAN DEPOE SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Winner: ANDREW DEVLIN
PETER K. DICKENS SCHOLARSHIP
Donor: CFRB LIMITED
Winner: KIMBERLEY SNOW
FAN 590 SCHOLARSHIP
Donor: FAN 590
Winners: IRA HABERMAN • ERIC SMITH
ESTHER FEDELE MEMORIAL AWARD
Donor: ENDOWMENT FUND
Winner: JENNIFER ANGER-REDSHAW
THE FORD COMPANY OF CANADA AWARD
Donor: FORD MOTOR COMPANY OF CANADA
Winner: DAVID ST. LOUIS
BYRON HALES MEMORIAL AWARD
Donor: ENDOWMENT FUND
Winners: DOUGLAS HAYTER • SIMON REINHART (tie)
HARBINGER COMMUNICATIONS INC. AWARD
Donor: HARBINGER COMMUNICATIONS INC.
Winner: MONIKA GUCMA-DERAS
HILL & KNOWLTON AWARD
Donor: HILL & KNOWLTON
Winner: MAUREEN GRICE
ILFORD ANITEC (CANADA) LIMITED AWARD
Donor: ILFORD ANITEC (CANADA) LIMITED
Winners: CAREY EVANS • MINMO GALATI
THE TINA IVANY AWARD
Donor: JOURNALISM ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Winner: BOBBIE ROBINSON
PETER JONES MEMORIAL AWARD
Donor: FRIENDS, FAMILY AND COLLEAGUES
Winner: ROXANA CUEVAS
KODAK CANADA MOTION PICTURE AND TELEVISION IMAGING AWARD
Donor: KODAK CANADA INC.
Winner: MARK ACHTENBERG
KODAK CANADA INC. AWARD
Donor: KODAK CANADA INC.
Winners: ROBERT SALVERDA • MATTHEW BLACKETT
KODAK CANADA INC. AWARD
Donor: KODAK CANADA INC.
Winners: BLAKE MORROW • CHARLES BODI
LANGDON STARR KETCHUM AWARD
Donor: LANGDON STARR KETCHUM
Winner: MAUREEN GRICE
THE STAN LARKE AWARD
Donor: HUMBER COLLEGE RADIO ALUMNI
Winner: MICHELLE MILLER
LISLE-KELCO LIMITED AWARD
Donor: LISLE-KELCO LIMITED
Winner: BRYAN PORTERFIELD
EDMUND LONG C.S.C. MEMORIAL AWARD
Donor: ENDOWMENT FUND
Winner: MATHEW BROOKES
THE MAMIYA AWARD
Donor: DAYMEN PHOTO MARKETING LIMITED
Winner: EVA GOLDBERG
MBANX AWARD
Donor: MBANX
Winner: JOLEEN DEMARCO
THE PETE McGARVEY SCHOLARSHIP
Donor: CKYC COUNTRY 59
Winner: CHRISTOPHER KANT
MEDIA 100 AWARD
Donor: MEDIA 100
Winner: VALERIA PUGLIESE
MEDIACOM AWARD
Donor: MEDIACOM INC.
Winner: BARBARA SINGFIELD
AB MELLOR MEMORIAL AWARD FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS
Donor: ENDOWMENT FUND
Winner: DAVID ST. LOUIS
WILLIAM JOHN MURRAY MEMORIAL AWARD
Donor: FAMILY, FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES
Winner: NELSON DAVIS
NARVALI PHOTOGRAPHY LIMITED AWARD
Donor: NARVALI PHOTOGRAPHY LIMITED
Winner: LUISITO ALVINA
NATIONAL PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARD
Donor: NATIONAL PUBLIC RELATIONS
Winner: TATIANA GOLOVANOVA
SHIRLEY-ANNE OHANNESSIAN MEMORIAL AWARD
Donor: FAMILY & FRIENDS OF SHIRLEY-ANNE OHANNESSIAN
Winner: BERNICE BARTH
OLD MASTER'S STUDIO AWARD
Donor: JON GURR
Winner: ELSA GEORGAS
PRECISION CAMERA AWARD
Donor: PRECISION CAMERA
Winner: JOSY PERCIBALLI
RAC STUDENT ENDOWMENT AWARD
Donor: RETAIL ADVERTISING CLUB - TORONTO
Winner: JOSEPH O'NEILL
ROGERS CANTEL INC. AWARD
Donor: ROGERS CANTEL INC.
Winner: RITA SALERNO
EDWARD R. ROLLINS MEMORIAL AWARD
Donor: ENDOWMENT FUND
Winner: VINCE PONKA
THE SOURCE SHOP AWARD
Donor: THE SOURCE SHOP
Winner: JOE TETREAU
680 NEWS RADIO AWARD
Donor: 680 NEWS
Winner: SARAH WOODLEY
STAEDTLER-MARS LIMITED AWARD
Donor: STAEDTLER-MARS LIMITED
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SCHOOL OF BUSINESS - LAKESHORE

November 6

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SCHOOL OF BUSINESS - NORTH

November 6

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for Highest Academic Standing in the Graduating Year
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BY CHRIS STEPHENSON

Years ago, Ulla Johanson decided she wanted to take a trip. Leaving her native Oslo, Norway, she planned to visit Sweden, Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic and Italy. She hopped on a plane and became part of the jet set, staying in posh hotels, eating at all the right restaurants and being chauffeured around in a stretch limousine.

Well, not exactly.

There was a lot of riding trains and staying in hostels. She decided to backpack across Europe, and now, looking back, says she wouldn't trade her experiences for the world.

"I loved going on trains and backpacking," Johanson said. "I stayed in hostels and also in private locations when the hostels

ROAMING FREE IN A HOSTEL ENVIRONMENT

were full."

Johanson is just one of a growing number of people who have tried backpacking as an alternative to the conventional, more expensive means of travel. In fact, she loved it so much, she got into the business.

Ulla now works for Hostelling International in Toronto, an organization with 68 locations across Canada. It is the largest hostelling chain in the world.

"There are independent hostels and bed and breakfasts, and there are a few other chains, but nothing of this size," said Michael Cavanagh, a veteran backpacker and fellow Hostelling International employee. "There's another chain called Backpacker's, I think. And that's only a few hundred hostels."

Hostels for backpackers can be found worldwide, and there are many reasons for their popularity. They can be found in all shapes and sizes.

"There are hostels in castles and in military barracks," said Cavanagh. "The one in Stockholm, Sweden is a 19th century schooner anchored in the harbor. I've slept in railway cabooses. They (sites) vary quite widely."

While each hostel will be different from the next, they often offer the backpacker something special.

"I think it's a last little leap of joy before you get serious and start your working life," Johanson said. "Once you have the travel bug it's very difficult to get rid of it. You have this kind of urge to go travelling. I think it's very useful to go travelling, to understand other people, how they think, the story of the country."

Saori Nakahara, a student travelling across Canada and the United States, has a different take on backpacking. She decided to do it for another reason.

"The freedom," said Nakahara. "I can do anything and everything."

Another attraction is the chance to meet fellow travellers. For Cavanagh the main attraction was meeting so many different people of various cultures.

"It's the reason I took this job in the first place," he said. "I had

so much fun meeting people from all over the world when I was travelling, [this job] seemed almost like travelling while I was living at home."

Even some of those who have the means to travel in luxury prefer the camaraderie of the hostels.

"It is definitely a philosophy as much a means of travel," said Cavanagh. "A lot of people staying at hostels have been doing so for 10 to 20 years. They are middle-aged, respectable and have the means to stay in Sheratons and the like. But they still enjoy being able to meet other travellers all the time. A lot of people, and I would include myself in this, find that when you travel, the more money you spend the bigger the wall you put up between yourself and what you came to see."

Hostelling offers a financial advantage over hotels and traditional travel to those interested in backpacking and exploring the country.

"We offer budget accommodations for backpackers and travellers," said Johanson. "You don't necessarily have to be a member. You can stay at the non-member rate."

In most cases, staying in hostels is much cheaper than staying in hotels. But, according to Cavanagh, the prices may be higher in the large cities as compared to staying in the countryside.

"Hostels usually run in the range of \$15 to \$20 a night," said Cavanagh. "Students [who backpack] spend basically the same as their parents [on a trip]. Only their parents do it in two weeks and the kids do it over the course of nine months or so. You are paying less for accommodation and transportation and you may stop to work for a month or two. Half the staff [at our location] are people on their way around the world who have stopped to work."

Backpacking may be a much more economical means of travel, but it is not something to be done on the spur of the moment. It requires forethought, preparation, dedication and, perhaps, some studying at the local library.

"It requires a little bit of planning," said Johanson. "Some people's budget won't last through the day. Basically, you need to know that you have to go to the market, you have to do your own cooking and stuff. It's much

Unusual hostel fact: In Stockholm, Sweden there



cheaper in the long run. We suggest people go to the library and learn as much as they can about the country they are visiting."

Backpacking also requires the proper investment of time.

"Some people say 'hey, I have a week, I'm going to Europe,'" joked Johanson. "That's not allowed, you're not allowed to do all of Europe in a week. That's taboo. No way. So just try to concentrate on one city."

While it is necessary to use common sense in planning your trip, you will also need to apply it when you have begun your travels. According to Cavanagh there are few, if any, inherent dangers in backpacking, but that doesn't mean you don't have to be wary of where you go.

"There are places I have travelled where I wouldn't have felt comfortable if I were a female or if I were alone or smaller," said Cavanagh. "Some people get worried when they first find out they are sharing a room with eight other people. But people hiking around the world don't want to steal from you and add to the weight in their backpack. Problems with theft in hostels are small. Certainly no more than a hotel - even less than a hotel."

There are many places to search for insight and advice regarding your trip. Backpacking information can now be found worldwide on the Internet. There is no shortage of online sites to be visited. Many offer backpacking sto-

"It is definitely a philosophy as much a means of travel." - Michael Cavanagh, Hostelling International

ries, helpful hints on planning your trip and ideas on what to take. There's even a site that allows backpackers to e-mail friends and family. Hostelling International in Toronto hopes to be online soon.

"We will be at some point, as more and more people are arriving and asking if they can book by e-mail," said Cavanagh. "We do get a whole lot of letters and faxes from people, but increasingly people get to the hostel and want to get online to send some mail home."

Johanson agrees.

"Many of the hostels are on the Internet," she said. "But we're a little bit behind. Hopefully we will be [online] shortly because we are looking for a prime location for Toronto. This is just temporary. We would like to have maybe 500 beds."

The Hostelling International location in Toronto has been at three different addresses since the start of the year. In the true spirit of backpacking they look to be on the move again.



Photo by Chris Stephenson

A backpacker in Toronto rests in the dining room of a hostel.

is a hostel that is situated in a boat resting in the harbor.

BEYOND THE



Photo by Victoria Pattison

KENNEL



Photo by Victoria Pattison

So your buddy calls because she won a trip for two to Acapulco.

Do you want to go?

A free trip to an exotic locale?

Of course! As you run around your house frantically trying to find your bathing suit and sunblock, something furry brushes against your leg. You look down into the eyes of your four-legged, little best friend. What the heck are you supposed to do with Fluffy while you are kicking back on a beach? Pets may be man's best friends, but as travelling companions, they suck.

What's a pet owner to do? You can't give up that trip. Luckily, you have more options than you think.

If you just can't bear to leave your pet behind, don't. If travelling by car, take your buddy. Vicky Precher from the North Town Veterinary Hospital in Brampton says driving with your pet can be simple if you think ahead.

"Try and take some breaks and supply water in the car," Precher explains. "If you're comfortable letting the animal roam around the car, that's okay too."

And luckily, if you are travelling to the pet-loving U.S., your pet is welcome with few hassles. "Crossing the boarder requires only that your pet have it's rabies shots, Bordetella and dhpp, (distemper, hepatitis, parvo, para-influenza)" says Precher. "These shots must be administered within 10 days of travel."

A plane may seem like a lousy place for a pet, but it can be made stress-free too.

The Ontario Veterinary Medical Association suggests that the would-be traveller buy a carrier that is "approved by an airline, pet store or veterinary clinic and let your pet get used to it before the trip." These carriers can cost as little as \$39.95.

Try travelling in off-peak seasons and on non-stop flights. Transfers can be hard on your animal, not to mention that there is a greater risk of it being misplaced (lost) by baggage handlers. If they can send your luggage to Russia instead of Mexico, imagine where your pet may end up!

In one well documented case, a U.S. Airline employee discovered a cat they were flying from one destination to another was dead. Remorseful baggage claim handlers attempted to replace the kitty with a look alike from a pound on a stop-over. A few weeks later, the Airline recieved a letter of gratitude from the owners. It seemed the flight had performed a miracle. The owners were shipping their dead cat to be buried and he arrived alive.

It seems they were shipping their dead cat to be buried and he arrived alive.

The Vet association recommends that all bolts and screws on pet carriers be secure and sturdy. Most pet travel accidents are a result of poorly constructed carriers, warns the association.

As for food or water, the association recommends training your pet to drink from a drip bottle much like those used with hamsters. It is the only practical way to keep your pet hydrated during air travel.

Taking your furry friend out of North America more difficult. In England for example, there is a six-month quarantine on all foreign pets. You'd be long gone before your pet even gets one sniff at the hydrant outside Buckingham Palace.

For stay at home critters, there are wonderful new-wave kennels. Fido no longer has to be locked away in a small cage in a smelly dingy room with other howling, clawing animals.

Jeanne Cole, owner of The Cat's Meow Motel in Streetsville, Mississauga, says she offers the lap of luxury to your feline.

"It was started by a woman who had four cats and nowhere to put them when she went away," says Cole as she walks around the motel with a long haired black cat perched on her shoulders, nuzzling her neck.

The front room is a medley of windows and scratching posts. Cats, with the owners permission, are allowed to roam the place. They are groomed, fed, petted and loved. They also meet other feline pals.

If your feline isn't too keen on other cats, you can request a private or semi-private room. These are carpeted cat condos about the size of a bathroom, equipped with private scratching posts, litter boxes and food bowls.

They are also named for exotic locales. So, while you are in Acapulco your pet could be in Cancun.

Always remember, if the fur ball is neglected in the slightest you'll pay for it. Animals hold a grudge. Just try and get Killer to play fetch or Fluffy to purr after you've left him for more than a couple of days. You'll be lucky if they don't use your leg as a chew-toy.

When Fido becomes Cujo:

How to calm a car-confined pup...

Open a window and let him stick his head out = instant doggie relaxer.

Let him sit in your lap, unless he's a Great Dane.

Bring along his favourite chew-toy, a bone, an old shoe, the mailman.

The average cat food meal is the equivalent of five mice. On average

cats sleep between 16 and 18 hours each day.

BY VICTORIA PATTISON

W

DARE TO GO

BARE

hen the words Nude Resort are mentioned, most people would probably picture countless numbers of beautiful, fit bodies doing everything buck naked. To the average person, after all, there are generally only two things that require our civilized species to be completely in the nude; bathing and sex.

The most common assumption would be that visitors at such a resort don't spend those hot summer days just bathing, right? Wrong.

The fact is most nude resorts are owned and frequented by naturists. Naturists claim to provide a totally non-sexual environment that is appropriate for the entire family.

"The atmosphere here is a warm, social setting and our guests include priests, lawyers, medical doctors, iron workers and psychiatrists," said Hofmann. "People from all walks of life and of all ages can socialize with other people they would never meet."

According to Hofmann, these resorts help people to deal with problems of negative self image.

"There are happy over-weight women here and no one stares, people begin to accept others as they really are and you then begin to accept yourself," Hofmann said, adding that nakedness is the key to complete relaxation and that it helps to improve body awareness.

"When you are in the nude you begin to feel good about yourself. It is not at all lewd when done in a natural way," Hofmann said. "For example, when you asked the average person how skinny dipping made you feel, the response will 99.9 percent of the time be a positive one."

Many assume that the atmosphere is perverse in some way, but naturist resorts monitor the male to female ratio to maintain comfortable surroundings.

According to Dave Fleming, president of the Federation of Canadian Naturists, there would be about ten men to every one woman if this were not done.

These numbers not only reflect the



The Ponderosa Nature Resort provides a non-sexual, family environment.

general population, but also the seemingly biological desire that men have to see women naked.

"Every resort has a different activity level. True Naturist resorts will be more directed towards couples or families. The general population of true naturists discriminates against all types of swingers," said Fleming.

Many assume that nudism resulted from the hippie generation and the sexual revolution. In fact, nudism was introduced to the west in the early 1960s by European immigrants who practiced it as a common lifestyle.

Fleming says the FCN is experiencing a large increase in the number of people interested in nude vacationing. They have received 645 inquiries in the past eight months, which is more than they received for 1996.

Society has recently become more tolerant of Nudism. This past year, feminists won the right to go topless in a public place.

In addition to naturist resorts across Canada, there are also several cruise lines that cater exclusively to nude vacationing.

Members come from ethnic backgrounds such as Chinese, Vietnamese, black, East and Native Indians. Facilities include Olympic size swimming pools, golf courses and volleyball courts.

"It is a means to an end, the end is to be relaxed and until you shed your clothes you cannot really do so," Fleming said. "We do everything as normal as any other place except that we are nude."

BY NADINE CARTY

a comfortable atmosphere, or there may be 10 men for each woman.

"When you are in the nude you begin to feel good about yourself," - Herbert Hofmann

"It becomes sexual when you are hiding something. Bathing suits do just that. To be nude is to be totally natural and there is nothing sexual about that," claims naturist Herbert Hofmann. "Children naturally love to be nude. Adults, women particularly have to unlearn many things that society has taught them."

Hofmann is owner of the Ponderosa Naturist Resort, just north of Hamilton

Although it may seem like a weird way to vacation, these resorts actually attract people from all areas of mainstream society.

— ON THE ROAD WITH —

CANADA'S MOST DANGEROUS BAND

Every band who has paid its dues burning rubber across the prairie spine knows of the need to alleviate tension.

After 11 years of touring with legendary Toronto hardcore punk band Dayglo Abortions, drummer Jesus Bonehead has too many tales of random destruction to tell.

In an interview with Etc. magazine, Bonehead recalled the following travel highlights:

1. "At an Arby's somewhere in the prairies, I don't really remember where, our singer at the time grabbed the cashier's microphone and screamed 'Everybody on the floor, now!' We then started smacking them on the head, so the people knew it wasn't a real hold-up."

2. "When we were on tour in the states, our run-down bus blew up, so we had to rent a van. We ended up getting one that belonged to Henry Rollins, and he had a whole list of don'ts like no smoking, no drinking, no drugs, no mess, etc."

"The first thing we did was spill beer and flick boogers all over the place. But it was such a nice van, we decided to keep it around for awhile."

"But that didn't last too long. By the time Henry Rollins' people found us in Georgia, the van was completely trashed, upholstery torn and burned with cigarettes, beer stains, ashes and food wrappers. It didn't explode, though."

3. "One night, Toronto Maple Leafs' goalie Felix Potvin,

who was really drunk at the time, jumped on stage to sing along to "Arrgh Fuck Kill" and he couldn't remember the words. (Note: those are the only words.)"

4. "After I passed out one night, Cretin and Mike painted my face with black lead-based model paint. When I woke up, I called the hospital, and they said 'Leadbased? Oh my god, get over here before you die.' I said, 'I'm not going out in public like this, I'm black!' So I had to spend three hours scrubbing my face with turpentine while the rest of the band danced around and laughed."

5. "In Peterborough, Ontario, we were playing a gig with Trigger Happy, and the club was attached to the town's gay disco. After sound check, the owner said we could go down to the disco, which was closed, and drink some beer. After getting wasted, we decided to play with the club's giant sound system and all sorts of bondage gear, which Al from Trigger Happy put on and started dancing on stage doing a strip tease. While this was going on, we coated the drummer's sticks with K-Y jelly, so when he tried to play, they flew out into the audience."

6. "In Winnipeg at the Louis Riel Hotel, we celebrated Super Bowl Sunday by throwing our furniture out of the window. It was on the 18th floor."

7. "Another time in Winnipeg, we were walking back to the hotel completely hammered, and decided to throw our bass through a sheet glass window into the arms of a store mannequin at Eaton's, setting off all sorts of alarms. We ran back to the Ramada and cele-



brated our escape by trashing our room until the manager arrived.

We told him someone must have broken in and wrecked the place. He then looked around at the broken furniture, holes in the wall, and the door kicked in two. He was furious and called our bluff when he noticed the door had been kicked out, not in. We had to replace everything."

8. "When we were on our way to Hamilton three years ago, our bus broke down, so we pulled over to the side and tried to fix it. An OPP car drove up to help until they noticed our stickers and CDs, and asked 'Are you guys the Dayglo Abortions?' We said we were. They immediately got back in their car and drove off, leaving us by the side of the road."

BY CHRISTIAN DE BRUIJN

SIGNALS IN THE SKY

W

hether you're floating down the Yangtze River through the Tibetan highlands or trekking towards the mystical Inca city of Machu Picchu, satellite phones allow you to make and receive phone calls - anytime, anywhere.

Today's phones are smaller and cheaper than some laptop computers, allow you to send and receive faxes, e-mail, and tap into the Internet.

According to California-based Action Cellular, Rent-a-Phone, over 60 per cent of the globe is not accessible via cellular phone and many desolate regions do not have an adequate terrestrial phone service.

British climber Chris Bonington used a satellite phone recently during his exploration of Sepu Kangri in Tibet - a mountain so remote that, until his recent expedition, geographers had only a vague idea of its location.

Currently, Inmarsat is the only global on-demand mobile satellite system.

Based in London, England, the 81-country consortium operates a global system of satellites to provide wireless communications at sea, on land and in the air.

Pierre Blais, manager of sales for Stratas Mobile Network in Ottawa, cautions that MSAT, the other major mobile satellite provider in Canada, is only regional, and "as soon as you get out of the coverage

area - all of North America and the northern portion of South America - the satellite phone becomes useless."

Inmarsat's new generation of Inmarsat-3 geo-stationary satellites are positioned strategically over the four ocean regions: Atlantic West, Atlantic East, Indian and Pacific.

Coverage is now available to 98 per cent of the world's landmass following the launch of the fourth Inmarsat-3 satellite in June.

But snags persist.

Mike Mulley, regional sales manager of Vancouver-based Glentel Mobility Satellite, says tall trees or buildings may hinder the satellite's ability to receive the phone's signal.

"The link between the handset and the satellite is less than half the power of a typical analog cellular phone," he explains. "Therefore, the satellite phone's antenna must see the satellite at all times."

However, Henry Waszczuk, host of a sport fishing program on TSN and publisher of Canadian Sports Fishing, has utilized a satellite phone "in extreme conditions where there was a number of trees with a very small window to shoot the signal through and the reception was still

good." Waszczuk found usage to be extremely limited during heavy cloud cover.

To work indoors the satellite phone must be placed near a window facing in the direction of the satellite, Blais says.

The Inmarsat-3 satellites are eight



to that weight, he says, could tax a backpacker's physical stamina.

"Satellite telephones are mainly for people who set up a camp site to fish and hunt," he says. "They are not for people who are constantly on the go."

However, if Iridium, an international consortium made up of Lockheed Martin Corp., Motorola, Raytheon and Sprint, is successful in deploying its low-orbit satellites by 1998, satellite phones could become smaller and less expensive.

Currently, signals are relayed from satellite phones to a satellite 36,000 kilometers into space and back to Earth via a land earth station, where they are then switched to the conventional telecommunications network.

"The amount of power and size of aerial needed makes it difficult to reduce the size and weight of the equipment below those of the note book," says Eric Kirchmayr, communication consultant of Vancouver-based Pacific Cellular Inc.

Iridium's network of satellites will be stationed about 1,500

kilometers above the earth and should ultimately result in the manufacturing of satellite phones that are very similar in size to Motorola's old hand held analog phone.

According to Kirchmayr, the equation is simple: smaller phones result in lower per unit manufacturing costs, lower prices and eventually vibrant sales.

Since Inmarsat launched its potent Inmarsat-3 generation satellites, the price of satellite phones has fallen by 30 per cent. As of August, the number of Inmarsat terminals registered for worldwide use has grown by 2,000 a month, according to a market report written by Warren Grace, director general of Inmarsat.

In the May issue of Communications Week, Joshua Shapiro, a New-York-based telecommunications consultant, predicted that if "Iridium is successful, Motorola could add more than (US) \$10 billion to its revenue over the first seven years of the project."

Learning how to operate a satellite phone is not very difficult.

"If you can use a cellular phone,



times more powerful than their predecessors, and since 1993 have been instrumental in reducing the size of a satellite phone.

Even with the size reduction in satel-

Waszczuk's travels have taken him to the Bahamas and the North-West Territories. And he is "pleasantly surprised that the phone's signal is as strong as it is - no matter where you are."

lite phones (Nera's WorldPhone weighs 2.4 kgs, the old clunkers weighed 13 kgs), Waszczuk still found the weight to be "cumbersome".

John Summerfield, travel guru and host of The Great Outdoorsman on the Life Network, says the ideal backpack weight is about 21 kgs. Adding 2.4 kgs

BY CARLOS
PUSTER-
BERGERO

then you can use a satellite phone," Kirchmayr says.

Inmarsat's satellites feature spot beam technology, which enables them to concentrate power on a small area of high use. This allows the user to roam freely around the globe without having to be precise when aiming the antenna.

Getting away from it all just got harder.

Two of the best

Currently providing access to the existing Inmarsat-3 Mini M international ...

The WorldPhone

- ✓ Product of Norway's AS Nera
- ✓ detachable waterproof antenna
- ✓ built-in battery charger allows 24 hours of independent standby power and 2.5 hours of on-line operation
- ✓ Backlit screen displays calendar & e-mail messages
- Built in sound signal detects and guides the user to the best satellite position
- ✓ \$(US)4,200, calls \$3 per minute, one-time activation fee of \$25.

The Mobiq

- ✓ Developed by BT and Norway's Telenor
- ✓ 2.4 kgs
- ✓ lid serves as an aerial
- ✓ Backlit screen has a built-in phone book, compass, LCD screen that warns you when you are on track
- ✓ Integrated battery charger, built-in battery provides 2.5 hours on-line operation and 24 hours standby
- ✓ \$(US)3,850, calls \$3 per minute, monthly charge of \$25

For adventure travellers bereft of deep pockets, renting equipment is an option. Vancouver based Infosat charges a monthly rental price of \$(US)885 for the Nera WorldPhone, calls \$3 per minute, activation fee of \$25.

Over 60 per cent of the globe isn't accessible via cellular phone. Sat-

ellite phone coverage is available to 98 per cent of the world's landmass.

Anyone interested in volunteering abroad can contact

BY LAUREN BUGH

the Canadian Federation of Students at (416)977-3703 or 979-2406.

Night after night, from the comfort of our living rooms we watch in horror at what's going on in the world around us. Images of war-torn countries and starving children flash up on the television screen, drawing a gasp from the average North American viewer.

For some, those images are enough to motivate them to get off the couch and do something.

It's a brave move, but those who have tried it, say by becoming an international volunteer, travel is made easy and you are well on your way to making a difference in this world.

Laurie Campbell knows first hand what it is like to embark on such a project.

After having spent five weeks this past summer amid terrorist activity at a summer camp, just north of Jerusalem, the 31-year-old Ontario emergency department nurse was among six Canadians sent overseas as part of World Vision Canada's Operation Helping Hand program.

World Vision is a humanitarian Christian relief and development agency that, for over 45 years, has partnered people and communities in more than 100 countries.

Campbell's peace mission was not an easy one, though. She recalls being near Jerusalem's central outdoor market when 13 people were killed by two suicide bombers. Although this experience still haunts Campbell, she believes that the experience of working with and getting to know the community made it all worthwhile.

The past few years have brought about major changes for international organizations that send volunteers to poverty-stricken countries around the world.

The current trend is for volunteers to help local communities manage their resources. By initiating projects that have volunteers working on a peer basis with local people, topics such as adult literacy, youth initiatives, population, family life education and the protection of human rights can all be addressed, say international aid agencies.

When Campbell first began looking into helping overseas she was frustrated by the sheer length of the commitment. She found that most missions required the volunteer to donate a year or more of their life. Since then, she's discovered several short-term projects that last anywhere from a few weeks to a few months.

Speaking from her home in Brampton, Campbell says that getting selected was a breeze. She filled out an application listing her skills and reasons for wanting to take part in the mission and submitted it with two reference letters.

After that "things just snowballed!" Campbell said. She was invited to an information session where she was able to listen to past volunteers talk about their experiences.

Within three months, after attending many World Vision sponsored workshops, and many hours of fundraising to get the \$2500 required for the trip, Campbell found herself waiting anxiously to board her plane at Toronto's Pearson International Airport.

"I almost turned around right then," Campbell says with a laugh. "Saying good-bye to everybody and heading off alone to the other side of the world is probably one of the most frightening things."

But Campbell wasn't alone. She headed off with a small support group consisting of other local volunteers and World Vision staff.

While in Bir Zeit, near Jerusalem, Campbell utilized her health care skills by working as a part-time nurse, drama teacher and English tutor for the Palestinians who frequented the camp.

Since communication was difficult she simply listened with the help of hand gestures, to overcome the language barrier. She discovered that the North American perspective that she had of this small community had been false.

The images before her contradicted all the violence and destruction that had been conveyed by many media reports. Quite the opposite, Campbell found that the Palestinian community was loving and open. In just five short weeks, she says, she "forged friendships that cannot be weakened by borders."

"Repression was a very real part of life in Bir Zeit," said Campbell. "It was very penalizing for the Palestinians."



Working hard to make a difference around the world

According to Campbell, it is common after any terrorist activity for Palestinian telephone lines to be cut and their movements restricted. "They are routinely stripped of freedoms we take for granted," she added.

Such is the case in many of the 120 or so countries that welcome emergency relief efforts from their first world allies, which is why Luisa Palmer first became involved in

ON A

MISSION

international affairs.

"I was very concerned about the problems and policies that surrounded these people," explained Palmer. "I saw it (peacekeeping) as a way to address international oppression."

She began her volunteer work in Guatemala in the late 80s, and for a year and a half lived under the same conditions as the Guatemalan people.

"It was a totally different life compared to the one I have here in North America," said Palmer. "We take so much for granted, so

al presence."

Peace Brigade International is very specific in the type of people it wishes to attract on a mission.

"We are not looking for adventurers," Palmer firmly explained. "We do everything that we can to explain that it is not an adventure, but a very serious task. Our expectations are that our volunteers will treat it as something very serious."

When applying:

- ✓Read the instructions on the application carefully and provide all requested information.
- ✓Indicate how flexible you are about geographic preference; the greater your flexibility, the greater your chances of placement.
- ✓Indicate a job preference that matches your experience and education.
- ✓When describing your experience, education, and other background info, include anything that makes your application more competitive: specialized coursework, civic or church involvement, summer jobs, etc.
- ✓Be thoughtful and honest on your motivation statement.
- ✓Pay particular attention to the Medical and Legal Information sections. Processing of applications is often delayed by incomplete information.
- ✓Don't worry if you don't receive a reply right away. It may take several months before the selection process is complete.

*"It was a **totally** different life compared to the one I have here in North America. We take so much for **granted**, so much..."*

much."

To date, Palmer continues her fight against international oppression although now she does it from behind her desk in Canada. She is coordinator of the Central America Project sponsored by the Toronto-based Peace Brigade International, the very organization that first sent her overseas.

According to Palmer, Peace Brigade International follows the concepts of Mahatma Gandhi: That individual citizens can do a great deal to promote peace in a non-violent way. "One major way to promote peace," explained Palmer, "is to create an internation-

RADIO FREE CANADA

Internet broadcasting allows CBC fans to tune in no matter where in the world they travel.



Patti Schmidt: dynamic voice

different situation."

What of the diversity of Canadian listeners? Given the country's multicultural make-up, wouldn't there be similarities in broadcasting internationally and nationally?

"Yes and no," Schmidt says. "What Canadians in Alberta embrace musically, and Canadians in Germany consider worthwhile, is not going to be the same thing. How do you pinpoint that? You cannot. The best solution is to leave it alone. That's what the CBC has done."

"By allowing international listeners to sample the shows through Real Time Audio, or on RCI, the interested will tune in if they wish to. We can't force people to, and I don't think the CBC is much interested in getting into a ratings war with radio stations across the world."

The resurrection of RCI and the birth of Real Time Audio are revolutionary for the CBC. One is living proof that a need for international radio by Canadians is a necessity; a claim to radio respectability like that of the BBC. The other, an experimental approach to an exciting new medium that is still defining itself, and redefining how the world works and plays. The CBC Website is www.cbc.ca.

BY LIAM LAHEY

The diversity of Canadian based international radio faced the threat of extinction in the last round of federal budget cuts.

But innovative and dynamic changes to programming and transmitting saved Radio Canada International (RCI) and paved the way for internet broadcasting by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC), as radio reinvents itself to keep up with the technological world.

Fashioned after the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), the CBC's programming services outside Canada are available via several technological avenues, in seven different languages.

"A number of Radio Canada International (RCI) programs are broadcast in a number of countries," says promotional and marketing coordinator Jodi Scotchmer from her Toronto office. "The signals are originally transmitted from Sackville, New Brunswick to the rest of the world, and we try to offer our international listenership the same diversity in programming we offer our Canadian audiences at home."

RCI was slated for extinction during the last series of federal government budget cuts, but the service was salvaged at the last moment by Heritage Minister Sheila Copps.

"Thanks to Sheila Copps' efforts, the RCI survived, and is running at full speed," Scotchmer added. "It would

have been a real loss if the government had killed it."

A wide range of information and arts programs are offered to CBC listeners in three distinct fashions.

CBC Radio 1; now titled "News and More," offers 24-hour national and international news. Broadcast on the AM band and in shortwave format abroad, Radio 1 aims to be Canada's voice to the outside world.

Radio 2 has been renamed "Classics and Beyond," and is the arts and entertainment channel. The CBC's third format, "Real Time Audio," is an extension of RCI, and offers listeners the opportunity to tune in to the program of their choice via the internet.

By logging onto the CBC website, listeners can choose either Radio 1 or Radio 2 and hear it live.

"Real Time Audio is just another way of saying 'live radio,'" Scotchmer continues. "To think, by offering our radio services worldwide via the net, and in seven different languages, we've managed to reach every Canadian, and every person anywhere in the world at anytime. It's very exciting."

What RCI couldn't do in the past, Real Time Audio is able to do. And in doing so, has made program hosts and producers equally pleased.

Patti Schmidt, host of the popular late night contemporary avant-garde music program, Brave New Waves,

which broadcasts weeknights from Montreal, is thrilled with the recent changes to the CBC.

"It's revolutionary for the CBC and also for the state of radio," Schmidt says from her Montreal studio. "By rebranding the sister stations 1 and 2 under the CBC radio umbrella, and by offering worldwide listenership over the internet, we're reaching out to the rest of the world. The possibilities are endless."

She adds there is an element of challenge in attempting to capture the attentions of Canadians in Halifax, Toronto, and Vancouver all at once.

"There is no real criteria the CBC itself imposes on shows that dictates how to reach such a mixed audience," Schmidt continues. "It's a real challenge, too. Especially now with national programs like Brave New Waves, which can be heard anywhere in the world."

Schmidt admits to feeling unprepared to face the world head on, but allows for the dynamic nature of her show to smooth out the rough spots.

"Since there is no precedent to follow when considering a worldwide broadcast, the best I can do is continue to do what I've always done with Brave New Waves," Schmidt says.

"From what I understand, that's exactly what other Radio 2 programs are doing too. It's not as cut and dried as news. It would be easier to capture the attentions of a listener in Greece news-wise, but musically, that's a very

JOBS ABROAD

BY JENNIFER SALIBA



nik Lindale's passion for travel carried him all the way to the other end of the world. He took his teaching certificate and BA to Japan and ended up staying for two years.

"I went for the international experience," says Lindale. "I needed to expand my horizons."

According to Lindale, there is a reciprocal agreement between Canada and Japan that makes it easy for Canadians to apply for a full-time visa. The demand for English teachers in Japan is escalating.

"There are ads in the paper all the time," says Lindale. "I arrived on a Friday and I was working by the following Wednesday."

Mel Tsuji, a TV instructor at Humber College, says the flagging domestic job market is the driving force behind the increasing number of students going abroad.

"When students graduated from college and university three to five years ago, there were virtually no jobs in Canada," says Tsuji. "It was a quandary for many students and the enterprising ones went abroad. They went to Hong Kong, Korea and Japan and found jobs."

"Many students choose to work abroad just for the experience of working in another country," says Dalcyce Newby, Intercultural Centre Coordinator at Humber College. "It's not necessarily related to their career. The only problem is the potential difference in culture and religion."

Lindale knew that immersing himself in a country where English is not the national language would be

difficult. He had no choice but to learn Japanese. "There are about as many Japanese speaking English as there are Canadians speaking French," says Lindale, who received a harsh lesson in Japanese culture when he looked for accommodations.

"Racism is very overt there," says Lindale. "There are ads in the paper that read 'Foreigners need not apply.'"

Michael MacMillan won't have to overcome that obstacle. He'll be travelling to Japan in January through an exchange program, where housing is arranged.

The cultural adjustment doesn't faze him. "I'll meet it head on," MacMillan says matter-of-factly. "I've always wanted to go to Asia. This gives me a chance to work and travel at the same time."

There's been an increasing need for English-language education in schools, explains Helen Collins, coordinator of the Japan Exchange Teaching Program (JET), partly because of the global nature of the economy.

"There are 857 Canadians teaching English in Japan through JET this year," says Collins. "Participants have a university degree and are placed in public schools through the local board of education."

However, having a degree is not always a prerequisite to getting a job.

"One student decided to teach English as a second-language in Spain," says Newby. "He put an ad in the paper and was swamped with offers from parents who wanted their children to learn English."

It's no wonder so many Canadians are seeking alternatives when they can't find work at home. Even unpaid positions are often hard to find this side of the Pacific.

When Cathy Koo sent out her resume for a journalism internship in Canada last January, she was disappointed with the results. That's when she decided to try her luck down South.

"I applied to ABC, NBC, CNN and CBS," says Koo, who is in her final year of the journalism certificate program at Humber College. "I pretty much just waited and called again and again and again."

Her persistence paid off when CBS called. "I had a phone interview and after about two weeks, they told me I got the internship," says Koo.

Her good fortune didn't end there. As soon as she accepted, ABC called and made an offer. After months of frustration, she was turning down offers.

Although opportunities across the border are sometimes more promising, deciding to relocate isn't easy.

"It's a difficult decision to make," agrees Tsuji. "Not only psychologically but socially and financially as well."

Koo took the pragmatic approach and gave herself a week to get settled before the internship started.

"After I got lost on the subway twice, I slowly got used to the transportation system," says Koo. "Slowly but surely, I made larger steps and eventually I got braver. There are a lot of stereotypes. New York has gotten a bad rap in general. You have to go there with an open mind. It's just street smarts."

"If you can survive in Toronto, you can survive in New York."

"One student decided to teach English in Spain. He put an ad in the

paper and was swamped with offers." - Dalcyce Newby

BARBADOS BOUND

With volcanoes and hurricanes threatening the idyllic Caribbean, many Canadian travellers are nervous about planning southern escapes.

Barbados, however, manages to escape such disasters, according to Gail Stewart, vice-president of Toronto travel agency Bensimon Byrne, which represents Barbados.

"We feel very fortunate...the last tornado we had was at the same time Hurricane Hazel hit Canada," she said.

According to the Barbados Tourism Authority, 50,000 Canadians travel to Barbados each year, with about half returning. For those hoping to escape cold weather, Barbados is a dream with an average year-round daytime temperature of 21 to 26 degrees Celsius, going down to 24 degrees at night.

If this whets your appetite, all you need is a return ticket and a passport. Although, if you are planning on staying for three months, you would need proof of your nationality in the form of photo ID and birth certificate.

A flight to Barbados is usually four hours. Daily flights can be had for as low as \$469. Barbados currency is two Barbados dollars (Bds) for one U.S. dollar. There is a departure tax of \$25 Bds if

you're staying more than 24 hours. Children under 12 are exempt.

Barbados offers more than 200 registered hotels, guesthouses, apartments, cottages and villas. Unfortunately, for the budget traveller, hostels are not available.

According to the Barbados Tourism Authority, accommodation rates vary based on the time of year. Guest houses have breakfast in bed for under \$20 a day in the summer. You can choose from a large, plush hotel, or an inn.

There are also hotels for sports enthusiasts, offering anything from water sports to tennis lessons and golf. The tourism industry in Barbados is built to suit travellers with any taste or budget.

Barbados is well known for its beaches, however, the entire island is not covered with sand. There are mangrove swamps, cliffs and tide pools.

Because of Barbados' Christian principles and conservative British background, there are no official nude beaches, and no private beaches. So if you go nude, do so at your own risk.

Beach vending is a regulated practice. Vendors are not allowed to roam the beach selling goods. Police patrol the beach on a regular basis, but it's not advisable to leave valuables unattended.

"Yes, there's crime there (in

Barbados)," according to Stewart "But no more than there is here."

Barbados has a large network of roads, which cover the entire island. If you'd like to drive, you need a driving permit, which is available from car-hire companies. A \$10 registration fee is tacked onto your rental fee.

Taxis in Barbados do not have meters, but the government regulates fares. There are also ZR Vans, "mini-vans" which roam around looking for tourists.

They don't have fixed schedules, but service is frequent, costing \$1.50 Bds.

It's not something the Tourist Authority recommends for the nervous traveller, because they stop frequently and abruptly while trying to pick up the most passengers in the least amount of time. The same fare applies for buses.

Barbados has plenty of restaurants to satisfy your appetite, and some add a 10 per cent service fee to the bill. Check your bill for this charge, and if it's not included, tipping is acceptable at the same rate.

For those born to shop, Broad Street features a plethora of stores in Bridgetown. Large department stores and duty-free shops abound.

Holetown in St. James and Speightstown in St. Peter feature craft shops and gift shops. Duty-free shopping

is popular, with prices ranging from 30 to 50 per cent less than Europe or North America.

When you're making duty-free purchases be sure to have your passport or airline ticket with you so you can have your purchases delivered to the airport. Most establishments will accept traveller's cheques, major credit cards, as well as Canadian currency.

While Barbados is meant to be a fun family island, there are dress codes, and because of Barbados' British heritage, formal dress isn't just worn at weddings or funerals. Women are supposed to wear traditional dresses, and bathing suits are best saved for times when you are swimming.

The signs point out a safe trip to an island full of interesting people and things.

"The island has a 97 per cent literacy rate and education is paid for by the government right through university, hence a more literate, better educated populace who are very proud of their island and know the importance of the tourism industry," Stewart said.

BY SCOTT YEDDERU

Gorgeous sunsets...and a few hurricanes.



SAC Multicultural Week - Nov. 3-7

Multiculturalism: through diversity and unity, by necessity implies change! As society is intent upon the blending of various cultures, we should recognize these individual beliefs systems and have the ability to integrate these various cultures into a harmonious society.

It is a cultural experience to taste the diverse foods, listen to the music and watch the various dances that represent the distinct cultures that make up Humber's community.

Our goal for this year is to create awareness and appreciation for other cultures through their food, dance and music.

SAC hopes that Humber students learn about the history and take away with them a more universal understanding of those around them. The second annual SAC/Ackee Tree patty eating contest is back as well as entertainment from Egypt, Africa, Ireland, Brazil, Caribbean, Japan, Asia, The Middle East, and Greece.

Be prepared for the launching of the **International Food Booth** during this week brought to your by **the Humber Room.**

Monday- European Day
Tuesday- Caribbean/Central America Day
Wednesday- Asia/Middle East Day
Thursday- Africa

This years **Multicultural Week** promises to ignite, excite and unite so get your taste buds ready.

SAC

BANCA NAZIUNALA SVIZRA Ventg Francs

See Us before you slip, slide and get-away to any destination!

Save **CASH** on changing your money over, before you leave!

The COIN & CURRENCY EXCHANGE
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 949 COIN 905 949-2646
 Currency/Jewellery plus Rare Coins and Stamps

£20 Bank of England

BY KRIS SCHEUER

A PLACE FOR EVERY TASTE

What's your travel personality?

So, you want to travel, but you don't know what type of vacation to go on. You can make your vacation work for you by deciding why you want to get away.

Looking for R & R?

Are you a sun worshipper or a party animal? Try an inclusive spa or sea resort, a cruise, sun or party holiday. These types of vacations packages are often geared specifically for students around reading week in February or March, in the summer or during the Christmas school break.

Websites to check out for ideas: Want to get down for Mardi Gras in February in New Orleans? Go to this site: <http://www.neworleansonline.com>.

You'll find info on spa resorts worldwide at www.resortsonline.com. Depending on where you want to go, this type of trip can include facials, massages, natural hot springs, health and sports activities, air balloon rides, horseback riding and more. Or look into <http://www.desertresorts.com>. Call your travel agent for where the student deals for sun and fun are and how much they'll be.

Is Nature calling you?

If you want to trade in the concrete jungle for the amazon jungle, it's time try one of the newest trends in travel: ecotourism. This is when you go to a place such as Costa Rica or Africa to see the natural habitat and wildlife.

For customized ecotours contact Tread Lightly Limited at 1-800-643-0060. For more info on Costa Rica call the Costa Rica Tourist Board at 1-800-343-6332 or look at their website <http://www.tourismcostarica.com>. Call Nature Expedition International at 1-800-869-0639 for small group setting tours that focus on wildlife, culture and history.

Aching for adventure?

G.A.P. (Great Adventure People) Adventures have small group tours, about 12 people, that offer authentic hands on adventure or ecological tours in Central and South America. In Canada, G.A.P. Adventure also represents nine other worldwide tour companies, offering tours to over 80 countries.

Jason Laycock, a Humber College Travel and Tourism grad who works at G.A.P., says that these adventures are suited for individuals who are independent, flexible and don't need to be pampered. To find out more call 416-922-8899 or 1-800-465-5600.

Why travel? For Morry MacLeod, it meant the chance to meet Mother Theresa on a trip he and some of his students took to India.

"We went to a special service that was held annually. It had an impact and was very moving. We went to her orphanage (in Calcutta) and saw the children there," said MacLeod, a social sciences professor at Humber College. "One student on the trip was so affected by meeting Mother Theresa that he woke up at five the next morning and went back to speak with her. He ended up giving up a future business career to work with youth in Toronto."

One of the benefits of travel is to learn about how others live and gain perspective, says MacLeod, a Scotsman raised in India until age 16.

While on their trip in India, they stayed in a five star hotel because the food and water were safer for consumption than anywhere else. One morning, many of the students grew impatient as they waited for their breakfasts.

Afterwards, they left the hotel and MacLeod asked them to look around. There was a young woman in her early twenties with a beautiful face and ragged.

"She had no legs and only one withered arm. She had one finger attached to this arm from which she dangled a cup for begging. She had a beautiful smile. As the sun shifted she tried to drag herself over into the shade," MacLeod observed.

"I pointed out her perspective and outlook on life. She was smiling. She was not cursing anyone as they walked by. We have everything and yet we complain about everything."

MacLeod said that when the group, ranging in age from late teens to early thirties, returned "they had a renewed respect for what we have in Canada. We have half of the world's fresh water supply. This is something that we take for granted, but isn't as readily avail-

able in places like India."

According to MacLeod, travellers fall into two major categories: resort lizards, who barely scratch the surface of another culture, and "real travellers" who dig into the heart and soul of a foreign land. The lizards "don't do much and it's something to add to their resumes. That's sad," said MacLeod.

MacLeod doesn't want his students to be reptiles. He asks his students if they've ever tried foods from other cultures, many of which are readily available in multicultural Toronto.

could go on the trips if they took the credit course beforehand.

The course, designed to teach culture and customs, were subsidised by the government.

Trips to India are no longer available through the college, MacLeod said, because they are no longer subsidised and a lot of people found them too expensive.

However, MacLeod, who left Nova Scotia at age 20, to work on a yacht for the summer, urges students not to use being broke as an excuse to stay at home.

"Do you smoke and drink? That's thousands a year. Do you want a new car or are you willing to drive something old? Money is there, we just chose to spend it on other things."

It is the experience of travelling that sticks. You can't buy that kind of experience, said the sociologist.

Kumaran Vairavanathan, a first-year computer programming student at Humber, is earning a diploma and travelling at the same time.

After obtaining his undergraduate degree in marine biology, at the University of Perth in Australia, he received a scholarship for a North American school. Since Australia is not that technologically advanced, Vairavanathan said he chose to take his computer training at Humber.

Vairavanathan, who is staying with an Italian family, in Mississauga, said that North

Americans aren't as laid back as Australians, but he believes that "everyone's the same everywhere. Human values—you want happiness—that's the goal in life."

Besides travelling to get an education, the cheery, dark-haired Australian has travelled to places such as Malaysia and New Zealand and said, "the things I cherished were the people. It's not my goal to go on a tour, on a bus. The Eiffel tower doesn't tell me about Paris."

However, Vairavanathan, says that travelling from place to place does have its drawbacks because it doesn't allow for a lot of really good long-term friendships.



Elephant riding in Northern Thailand on a G.A.P. Adventure tour.

"A lot of people don't know Canada, never mind elsewhere," MacLeod said. People can go to a country and come back with no knowledge of the place they've just visited.

"A lot of people go (away) to party and get drunk," said MacLeod.

Real travellers, though, are unconventional risk takers; the type who want and enjoy change, said MacLeod. These people want to go to a place and satisfy their curiosity or adventurous spirits.

The trips that MacLeod and other professors took to India tended to draw people who wanted hands-on experience

Anyone in the Metro Toronto area

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In a poll of 200 Humber College students 63% said they had travelled

for adventure—safaris, rainforests, mountains, oceans.

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Jenn Leva, a 24-year-old Torontonians, has lived a very different life. The former amateur model lives at home, and until last year, did not even own a passport.

Leva, who is of Italian and Welsh decent, left Toronto last summer by herself to join a Contiki tour and experience the joy of travelling and meeting people.

"You feel freer. You don't feel so constrained. I am usually very anal retentive. But, with the people you meet, there is a clean slate."

However, not everyone on the tour was there to learn about the history and culture.

"I met friends who were looking to get laid. A lot of friends had one-night romances with men who didn't speak the language (English)."

For her, travelling is "a very temporal way of living, which is great because when you are away, you want things to be more instantaneous."

Travel has left some lasting impressions on Leva. "I have changed. I came home more confident, self-reliant and more secure. I was able to navigate in countries where I didn't speak the language."

For Leva the travel bug has definitely hit.

She has already booked a trip to Australia for this December. Because she wants to leave her return date open, she is buying travel insurance for a year and getting a work visa.

Leva's advice is to "live every day like you are a tourist because when you are a tourist, you are more aware of your surroundings and people."



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OUR CITY, OUR HOME

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center which is a good place to teach children about culture, and it's free! You just have to find out where they are and walk in.

Some of the current exhibits at the museum are the ever popular dinosaurs, Egyptian mummies, Western Asian Cultures and current clothing fashions to name a few.

"Stephen loves the museum, his favorite part is the bat cave which is creepy and dark!" said Cloes.

"I think myself and the little gentleman are doing good, and the most important events in my life are times spent with him. I hope that all single parents take the time out of their schedules to spend time with their kids. Activities like the museum are fantastic because everyone has fun."

GOING THE DISTANCE WITH ISIC

continued from page 14

counts on bus trips, trains, and flights. Other countries may not have deals on transportation, but they'll give discounts on museums, photo stores, and galleries.

Clearly, as with most things, there are some drawbacks. For Lewis, and other students who travel within the same province, smaller trips don't offer the same type of travel deals that would be found in other parts of the world. Van Veen understands.

"It's very hard to negotiate with airlines between Thunder Bay and Sault Ste Marie because we pick, and the airlines give [discounts], on the most travelled routes. These routes are not travelled as much as some of the major ones that we try to get discounts for," he says.

ISIC was created in 1967 through a collaboration between the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Students and Travel Conference in Amsterdam. ISIC is issued in 90 countries and has its largest distribution in Brazil. It's also popular in Ghana, Ecuador, and London.

Van Veen says the card has experienced quite an upswing in this country. "Five years ago we had about 10,000 cards sold in Canada. Now with Via Rail accepting ISIC as the only student I.D. card for [discount] fares, it's sold a lot more."

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