

Humber Et Cetera's
Summer Magazine

Summer 1998

etc.
magazine

<http://etcetera.humberc.on.ca>

*T.O.'s Best & Worst
Public Potties*

*Where to Take
the Kiddies*

*Jazzing Up
Queen Street*

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CONTENTS

Fun

ing • 16

er • 18

amp • 19

wheels in

e • 20

s • 20

T.O.

at-they will come • 6

or the holy flush • 7

ght ball • 8

own cheer • 8

ven after 11 • 9

summer nights • 10

t's a secret • 11

• 12

n the bus go... • 13

under the dome •

mmercize!!! • 15

buns • 15

T.O. International

Ragin Cajun sounds on Queen Street • 21

Latin Nights in T.O. • 22

Go for the Green • 24

Daytripping

To be or not to be in, Stratford • 26

A little bit of the wild west • 27

Riding the rapids • 27

Heading for the hills • 28

Historical look at Huronia region • 29

Niagara region wines and dines • 29

The lure of the urban myth

Sound familiar?

What exactly is an urban myth? It's a story that has a timeless attraction to people, generally dwelling on fears or desires.

The following E-Mail is floating around. I have had it sent to me as a real letter at least three times. I went to the American Cancer Society website to see what they have to say. You can link to it too, below. As always, if you can show this, or any other myth to be true, please let me know at unclerken@ix.netcom.com

Subject: FW: American Cancer Soc. - a final wish

JESSICA MYDEK IS SEVEN YEARS OLD AND IS SUFFERING FROM AN ACUTE AND VERY RARE CASE OF CEREBRAL

CARCINOMA. THIS CONDITION CAUSES SEVERE MALIGNANT BRAIN TUMORS AND IS A TERMINAL ILLNESS.

THE DOCTORS HAVE GIVEN HER SIX MONTHS TO LIVE. AS PART OF HER DYING WISH, SHE WANTED TO START A CHAIN LETTER TO INFORM PEOPLE OF THIS CONDITION AND TO SEND PEOPLE THE MESSAGE TO LIVE LIFE TO THE FULLEST AND ENJOY EVERY MOMENT, A CHANCE THAT SHE WILL NEVER HAVE.

FURTHERMORE, THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY AND SEVERAL CORPORATE SPONSORS HAVE AGREED TO DONATE THREE CENTS TOWARD CONTINUING CANCER RESEARCH FOR EVERY NEW PERSON THAT GETS FORWARDED THIS MESSAGE.

PLEASE GIVE JESSICA AND ALL CANCER VICTIMS A CHANCE.

ADD ACS@AOL.COM TO THE LIST OF PEOPLE THAT YOU SEND THIS TO SO THAT THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY WILL BE ABLE TO CALCULATE HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE GOTTEN THIS. IF THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS, SEND THEM TO THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY AT

ACS@AOL.COM

THREE CENTS FOR EVERY PERSON THAT RECEIVES THIS LETTER TURNS OUT TO BE A LOT OF MONEY CONSIDERING HOW MANY PEOPLE WILL GET THIS LETTER AND HOW MANY PEOPLE THEY, IN TURN, PASS IT ON TO. PLEASE GO AHEAD AND FOR-

WARD IT TO WHOEVER YOU KNOW- IT REALLY DOESN'T TAKE MUCH TO HELP OUT.

Here's the response from the American Cancer Society.

The American Cancer Society is greatly disturbed by reports of a fraudulent chain letter circulating on the internet which lists the American Cancer Society as a "corporate sponsor" but which has in no way been endorsed by the American Cancer Society.

There are several variations of this letter in circulation, including one which has a picture of "Tickle Me Elmo" and one that is essentially a paraphrase of the letter above.

As far as the American Cancer Society can determine, the story of Jessica Mydek is completely unsubstantiated. No fundraising efforts are being made by the American Cancer Society using chain letters of any kind.

Furthermore, the email address ACS@AOL.COM is inactive. Any messages to the American Cancer Society should be instead sent through the American Cancer Society website at <http://www.cancer.org>.

This particular chain letter with its heartbreaking story appears to have struck an emotional chord with online users. Although we are very concerned that the American Cancer Society's name has been used to manipulate the online public, we applaud the good intentions of all who participated in this letter.

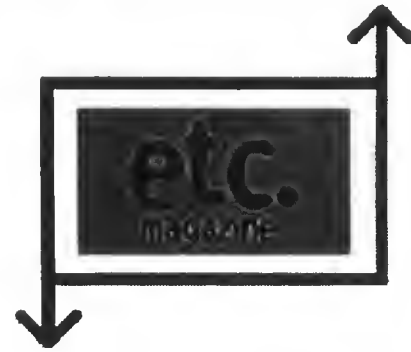
We are pleased to note that there are so many caring individuals out there and hope that they will find another way to support cancer research.

Jessica Mydek's story, whether true or false, is representative of that of many cancer patients who benefit daily from the efforts of legitimate cancer organizations nationwide.

(Ed. Note for additional proof say the name Jessica Mydek slowly.)

Source: The Internet

For more urban myths check out pages 11 and 25.



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HUMBER Et CETERA IS A MEMBER OF ONTARIO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION.

SPECIAL THANKS TO KEMERER FOR HER TIME AND HELP.

Letter from the Editor

It's here at last! Summer. Time to take off your socks and slip into some sandals. Time to hit the pavement in search of jobs and/or stuff to do.

This issue of *etc* focuses on summer in and around the city. When was the last time you visited Harlon's Point to sun your buns, checked out the new exhibits at the ROM, or took a course in Latin dancing?

Well, this is the time to do it. There is so much more to do during this season than just Wonderland or Soap watching. We hope to give you some ideas and excite you about the places and people you can discover.

Last summer I worked my butt off saving money and basically had time left over to do nothing. Reading and writing the stories in this magazine has shown me that summer is not a time to be wasted. There's something to stopping and smelling the roses and maybe even picking them (as long as they're not from your neighbours yard).

So, get up off the couch, take a day off and explore the place you thought you knew. What's the worst that can happen? You could get lost in the concrete jungle or the wilds of suburbia, or maybe you'll just have a good summer. And in the words of Homer J. Simpson, "I like those odds!"



Victoria Jackson

50 POUNDS OF PORN



Bill Ketchell, one of three good people who work for the TTC in the Lost Articles division (located around Bay and Bloor), has had to endure ungrateful "foundees" a multitude of telephone calls to track down

- * cats, dogs, turtles
- * lost Japanese tourists
- * wheelchairs, motorized scooters, bikes
- * an artificial leg (brought to him in a bag)
- * a multitude of umbrellas, eyeglasses, and discmans (discmen)
- * karaoke machine
- * dentures
- * a baby

thing on the TTC, Bill is the one to

talk to — and he's seen it all.

Bill and his staff recorded 3,852 misplaced items in March alone. The total for 1997 was more than 42,000 lost articles. Only 32 per cent are ever claimed.



neglectful owners, and the strain of lugging a 50 lb suitcase filled with "skin-ner" magazines. If you've lost any-

compiled by Paul Van Hooydonk

And the sign said the words of the prophets are written on the subway walls — Simon and Garfunkel, Sounds of Silence

Matt Blackett's cover design for last summer's etc Magazine won second place honours at the 1988 OCNA awards competition April 4th.



Photo by William Oldacre 416-588-3118 www.interlog.com ~oldacre

HOT OFF THE WIRE

TAMPA, Fla. (Reuters) - Police said they had ticketed a car parked at an expired meter without noticing a man was dying inside after being bound and shot in the head.

They said a parking meter officer noticed the man in the black BMW only after another officer had already ticketed the car, parked a block from city police headquarters.

The man's hands and feet had been bound and he had been shot several times in the head, police said. He was taken to Tampa General Hospital in critical condition and died there shortly after.

Police identified him as Robert Enlow, 69, of Naples, Florida. According to local news reports, he was a witness at an upcoming bank fraud trial.

Police said they believed he had been shot elsewhere and driven to Tampa.

HELSINKI, Finland (Reuters) - A drunken driver who last Christmas rammed his car into a Santa sled pulled by a reindeer escaped with a light sentence, STT news agency said.

The judge said the 69-year-old man deserved leniency because his surprise at seeing the Father Christmas and reindeer was partly to blame for the crash. The man, whose blood

alcohol level was only slightly over the legal limit, was fined \$270.

CHICAGO (Reuters) - Computer mogul Bill Gates had a couple of his own run-ins with technology as he kicked off a convention where Microsoft Corp sought to impress with its most user-friendly new offerings.

It was awkward enough when the presenter had trouble getting his microphone to work ahead of Gates' keynote speech. But then Windows 98, Microsoft's updated version of its operating system software, crashed during Gates' presentation.

"While we're all very dependent on technology, it doesn't always work," Gates joked.

Gates was presenting his "Windows Principles" — of which Windows 98, to be released early this summer, is an example — at the COMDEX/Spring '98 convention here.

Windows 98 is designed to make the computer simpler to use whatever the purpose, and uses a browser to find everything from documents on an individual computer to Web sites on the Internet.

TORONTO

*Put a chair out —
they will come*

Etc. Magazine's Summer Guide To Patios in the Mega-City

by **Sherri Platt**

Patio Lounger

Bored? Staring out the window for hours on end? Nursing the same drink and watching the dust bunnies shuffle in front of the T.V.?

You may be suffering from patio withdrawal, but don't panic, help is close by.

A simple cure is a trip to a patio restaurant/bar to soak up the warm weather with a healthy dose of people watching.

Torontonians slip from parkas to patios with ease. Once the sun comes out and the ice is gone, outdoor tables and chairs seem to spring up faster than dandelions.

Patios mean big business for restaurants and bars across the city. Some establishments as much as double their capacity once the weather turns warm. Patio junkies are not bothered by car and bus exhaust fumes, humidity or the odd bug. Put a chair out — they will sit.

A successful season, however, depends on the weather. A rainy summer or a cold spring will put a serious dent in profits.

"It's day to day. At early points in the season we use our other staff for the patio because you can't be sure if it's time to hire anyone. Last year was a bad year, we only had a lunch and a couple of cocktail hours by May," said Helena Mann, manager of Remy's Lounge in Yorkville.

Everyone has a favourite place, whether it's an out-of-the way patio for lunch in the shade or a standing room only social scene.

Whatever the reason, summer seems to bring excitement.

"Our experience is people just love to get outside. People can be seen in shorts and a T-shirt as soon as it gets warm, even if it's really temperatures they'd wear jackets for in October," said David Randall-Smith, general manager of the popular Madison Avenue Pub.

Even if your favourite patio is the one in your own backyard, it's worth checking out some of Toronto's open-air hot spots. There is a place to suit your every mood.

Picking Up

The Docks, 11 Polson St.

With over 41,000 square feet, licensed for more than 3,000 people outside, The Docks is the undisputed king of patios.

Plenty of tables with room to socialize or enjoy the view of the water — and of course, the volley ball players nearby. The Docks attracts all kinds from club kids to young suits.

The entertainment complex has expanded, now offering a golf driving range, Dr. Splatter Paint Ball, and 10 regulation size fully lit sand volleyball courts.

"It has all sorts of recreational activities people want, and then

The Sure Thing

There are countless places conducive to a quiet evening for two. In fact, anywhere with a warm breeze and a quiet table can bring out romance, but a great fail safe is 7 West at 7 Charles St.

Take the stairs to the third floor of the converted house and head out to the patio. Small tables bring out the funky atmosphere inside. Satisfy cravings day or night, including meals, desserts, coffee or drinks. It's not easy to get a table Saturday night when the nearby Varsity Theatre gets out, but late at night or during the week it's not too much of a problem.

Hours: 24/7

tables and high stool tables, it's a great spot for a group or having a beer with a friend.

Located in the Annex, it traditionally attracts a university age crowd. However, loyal goers keep coming back year after year, providing a mix of young professionals.

The three levels give you plenty of variety. There's a bar on the ground floor, a tex-mex outdoor cooking station, added to the second floor in 1997, and a non-smoking patio on the top floor.

Thursdays are packed, so go early if you want a coveted spot upstairs.

Hours: 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. 7 days
Serves: Tex Mex and the typical pub food.

And Be Seen

Remy's rules Yorkville from its rooftop patio at 115 Yorkville. Guaranteed a crowd anytime from lunch onwards, the 250-seat patio offers up a view of Hazelton shoppers and trendy hangers-out. Friday is the traditional busy night with a college crowd doing the scene. Always a crowd and usually a line.

Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. 7 days
Serves: lunch and dinner

Chairs With a View

Who'd have thought that Joker, 318 Richmond St. W., would have one of the best rooftop patios around? In summer, you can escape the pounding dance-floor heat to get some air and check out the city.

The techno beat carries upstairs, so you can sit at tables, enjoy the music and still carry a conversation. Best of all are the waiters, pushing hot-dog-vendor carts with beer and coolers to your table.

Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. 7 days

There are also other places in the city that won't steer you wrong. The trendy College St. strip west of Bathurst St., anchored by Cafe Diplomatico, has a ton of spots to sit outside and stare.

There is also the Queen West stand-bys like The Bamboo, 312 Queen St. W. and The Rivoli, 334 Queen St. W.



The lake front view from The Docks is spectacular during the day and night. There is room for more than 3,000 potential patio loungers.

they can sit and have a beer. It's not hot, sweaty and crowded out on the patio and volleyball area. You're out in the fresh air and you don't leave smelling like smoke," said Josh Gluskin, event co-ordinator for Beach Blast, the company running The Docks' Volley Ball program.

The patio has 11 full service bars and a dance floor to keep everyone busy. Keep an eye out for special events on Mondays and foam partys on Thursdays. Sunday nights are open to all ages.

The Docks is open during the day for activities along with the pool and 25,000 square foot beach.

Go early, line-ups on Fridays and Saturdays are guaranteed.

Hours: Mon-Fri 6 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Sat & Sun 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Serves: fast food club — munchies inside, or a sit down restaurant

Serves: lunch, dinner, snacks, dessert.

To See

Smack in the middle of club central, Al Frisco's, 133 John St., is a prime piece of people watching real estate. Exhaust inhaling edge-of-the-sidewalk seats provide the best view of the action. There is always a scene, especially the post happy hour, where you can find a young upwardly mobile crowd loosening up after work.

Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 2 a.m.
serves: lunch and dinner

The Madison Ave. Pub, 14 and 16 Madison Ave., has a great 15-year history as a premier patio. From spring to fall, all three floors are open, and heat lamps take the chill off when necessary. The most popular section of the converted house is the upstairs. With picnic

AROUND

The Search for the Holy Flush

Where to go when you gotta go in T.O. !!!

by Billy Iksipentarchos

Bathroom Guru

No Lord, please not now! Shivers and goosebumps run up and down my arms. Just five minutes is all I'm asking. Oh, why did I try to justify the four tacos and bowl of Chili I ate just minutes before.



Billy Iksipentarchos

Where is this porcelain paradise ???

My four friends begin to ask questions. "Why are you so quiet all of a sudden?"

The temperature in the car is rising. "Is anything the matter? You look pale."

The car is shrinking. Everyone is too close to me.

"Would you like another burrito?"

"Stop, the car!"

The car screeches to a halt. I emerge slightly bent over, searching for rescue like a Vietnam soldier looking for a fox-hole.

I stumble into a restaurant. The end is near, I think, until a tiny, decrepit, bald man clutches my right arm.

"The room you seek is through that hallway," he says in a shaky voice as he points the way to redemption.

There is no time to thank him. I begin to run. Charging through the door with determination, I behold a more magical scene than I expected. A place where serenity flows from the water taps and despair can be flushed away with a simple hand movement.

I leave the bathroom wanting to thank the man who provided salvation, but he is gone. It could be the glow of the moment, but I decide to dedicate time to helping others find inner peace.

For those who are unlucky enough to find themselves in the middle of the city

needing to perform a number one or, even worse, a number two, we have compiled a list of bathrooms that should ease fears. The bathrooms have been researched for women as well as men.

Esso Gas Stations

Yes, I know many people have had traumatic experiences at gas station bathrooms, but welcome to the millennium. If you spot an Esso gas station with a new convenience store add-on, give it a try, you might be surprised. It is a large unisex bathroom with one toilet and a door with an excellent locking mechanism. It is located within the store, and kept immaculate. The four I visited across the city were a pleasure to use.

Very spacious floors allow you to stretch out.

The choice of liquid soap provides a nice bouquet of scents and there are paper towels instead of annoying hand dryers. Plus, they are conveniently located at busy intersections where you wouldn't think bathrooms could be found.

Hotels

The most posh bathroom experience goes to the Four Seasons Hotel. Each stall, in both bathrooms, is carpeted and each has its own entrance with a real door like you would have in your bedroom. Once inside, your senses will be tickled by a fresh deodorizing spray that makes your heart tingle with joy.

Close behind is the Chestnut Park Hotel on the corner of Chestnut and Dundas, just two and-a-half blocks west of the Eaton Centre.

The bathrooms have a similar set-up, not as posh, but they offer a unique safety feature. All stalls have their own sprinkler head, meaning if there is a fire in the hotel, you can remain and finish your duty without being disturbed or rushed.

Now, if you are not staying in the hotel, it doesn't mean you can't use the

facilities. I remained in the Four Season's bathroom for more than 20 minutes and no one bothered me. If I learned one thing, it's that the rich even take a dump elegantly.

Book Stores

The winner for best kept secret bathroom experience goes to Chapters book store. You can bring reading material into the bathroom. Every location has a Starbucks coffee shop. So pick up a book, get an expensive cup of Java and, when ready, enter at your leisure. While in the bathroom, you will hear a gentle chorus of classical music to complement the reading. Each bathroom comes with a baby change centre. Heck, you can actually make a day of it at Chapters.

In second place for surprises is the World's Biggest Book Store located downtown. It used to be they had the worst bathrooms, but they renovated and, considering the traffic those bathrooms see, they are incredible. Once again, while downtown, you can take a break, look at a few magazines, then relieve yourself without ever feeling guilty that you didn't buy anything. There is a refrigerated water fountain, a rare luxury downtown.

Don't go here because..

Finally, you must be aware of the bad bathrooms so you don't waste your time on them. Here are the five worst bathrooms, to be avoided at all costs.

(5) The 7-Eleven bathroom at Royal York, north of Eglinton. A unisex bathroom suited for something other than humans. You can see the smell seeping from under the door.

(4) Steak Queen Restaurant on Rexdale Blvd., east of Kipling. Both bathrooms are disasters, especially after 1 a.m. on a club night. Just trust me on this.

(3) Any subway station. At the Bloor-Yonge connection, even if you can handle



Billy Iksipentarchos

Subway station bathrooms like this can scare you off with their smell alone.



Billy Iksipentarchos

Did you know the Devil lives here ??? Our Bathroom Guru found out the hard way.

the smell, you won't survive the freaks. At Finch Station, in the men's bathroom, there were two toilets missing from the stalls. In the women's bathroom, there were two crack-heads.

(2) Most bathrooms in China Town.

And the number one most disgusting bathroom in Toronto goes to the outhouse on Bay Street. If you're ever on Bay across from College Park, take a look at the parking lot behind you. There should be an outhouse. In it you will find no relief, only sorrow and a possible slow death. Take a look for yourself. If you thought there was no Devil, he lives in the outhouse on Bay Street.

The final and most prestigious award, the Billy Archos Big Kahuna Flush Award, goes to my favourite place, the Mandarin Restaurant near Highway 27.

Both bathrooms are masterfully designed. The stalls have a soft gray tile design adorning the walls with matching floor tiles. In the background, soft meditation music plays, giving the user a relaxing, soul-searching experience. This bathroom should definitely be on your things to do list.

These tips won't save your life, but they might save your pride someday. Just like that old man saved mine.

Final Words of Wisdom

The Best and Worst in Fast Food Bathrooms

If your situation is urgent, I would recommend a fast food restaurant.

Which one is the best?

The battle of the fast food industry might never be won, however the bathroom of choice would have to go to McDonald's. The top five breakdown for fast-food bathrooms goes as follows.

- (1) McDonald's
- (2) Burger King
- (3) Mr. Sub
- (4) Subway
- (5) Taco Bell

McDonald's and Burger King had close and similar designs in their bathrooms, both were relatively clean.

However, McDonald's has one clear advantage. I attended seven McDonald's bathrooms across our Mega-City and I was never hassled. No employee, from fry guy to manager, has ever bothered me



McDonald's is tops in fast food bathrooms, our Bathroom Guru says so.

or stopped me from using the bathroom, even if I wasn't eating there at the time.

Convenience makes McDonald's the clear winner. Surprisingly, Taco Bell came last. You would think, for a place that causes more people to go to the

bathroom than Ex-Lax, it would be equipped with the latest in technology.

What a let down.

The bathrooms are extremely small. There is barely enough room for one person, which makes it horrifically awkward when another person enters. Taco Bell may make you go to the bathroom, but you won't want to stay there.

Behind the Eight Ball

by Vince Versace

Pool Shark

The smoke stings your eyes instantly. The murmur of voices fills your ears as you approach the table. The green felt has a heavenly glow under the high voltage light. You choose your cue carefully, rolling it back and forth, back and forth, along the table top making sure it isn't warped. Your opponent racks up the balls and takes away the triangle. The beautiful brunette waitress lightly touches your forearm, with two fingers, getting your attention before you put your game face on. You lean towards her and whisper, "gin and tonic." She smiles and walks away, you smirk and return your attention to the matter at hand. It's Minnesota Fats time, you think to yourself, it's time to shoot some serious pool.



Marlee Billiards has a lot to offer to pool players, from the casual player to the true professional.

Well, most of us would love to be able to shoot pool like Minnesota Fats or Paul Newman in *The Color of Money* but realistically, that won't happen anytime soon. Most of us are lucky if we don't tear the felt on the pool table or we actually sink

two balls in a row.

When partying and wanting to enjoy mega-city nights this summer, you might want to rack 'em up in two of the classiest, little known pool lounges in the city.

Marlee Billiard Lounge and Spacco Billiard Bar and Eatery offer the best overall pool playing experience. However, both places are different in atmosphere and are not conventional, dark, smoky, testosterone-filled pool halls.

Each pool hall has perfected the club, bar, restaurant and pool playing experience all in one. They are the proud recipients of the Humber Etc Magazine Golden Cue Award.

MARLEE BILLIARD LOUNGE

247 Marlee Ave.

Phone: 789-9115

Here's a comfy little pool hall that has it all. The atmosphere is friendly and the wait staff is always quick to smile and serve. Its motto, "The Alternative to the Regular Bar Scene", is printed on the main doors. Marlee's is located on Marlee Avenue, one block north of Eglinton Avenue, above Fat Phill's, home of the sloppiest, biggest hamburger in the former North York.

Marlee's has a juke box with hit rock tunes of the '60s, '70s, and '80s, from Led Zeppelin to Depeche Mode. It's well lit with 17 pool tables to choose from.

There is a separate eating lounge with a big screen television, piano, and bar. The menu offers a variety such as chicken wings, hamburgers, pizza and fries.

What makes Marlee's so comfortable is the laid-back nature of the patrons. Also, the dark oak finish of the walls and tables gives it an authentic, professional pool hall look.

Rookies are as welcome as sharks and there is never a threatening attitude. If



Spacco's Billiard Bar and Eatery is for people who want to be seen. The happy atmosphere is contagious and pool playing can become a secondary thing for all players.

you bump into someone and ruin their shot, the usual response is, "No problem." You can shoot pool here and not take yourself too seriously. Neither will the people around you.

TABLE RATE: \$10.00 an hour

AVERAGE BEER: \$3.50

MIXED DRINK: \$4.00

HOURS: 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Monday to Sunday

SPACCO BILLIARD BAR AND EATERY

2415 Yonge St.

Phone: 489-4163

Spacco's is one of the classiest pool lounges around. Its ads declare that Spacco's is the place for people who like to play with their food. It's on Yonge Street, just north of Eglinton Avenue, tucked away from the sidewalk.

It attracts a 25-and-over crowd. People go there to be seen, and a social atmosphere fills the place.

The 11 pool tables are beautiful to play on, but the people playing and eating in the restaurant area are where the real game is at.

The food and desserts are to die for. The pasta dishes are so good they will make your mamma proud. The cheese

cake will have you grinning with delight for hours. Courteous and prompt service in such a busy place is a welcome surprise.

Spacco's is the perfect mixture of club excitement and hard core pool playing. If you're a pool shark, this is your stage to perform, especially if your ego needs to be fed. Then again, if you're horrible, but can look good at being bad, you'll get the same amount of attention.

TABLE RATE: \$13.00 an hour.

AVERAGE BEER: \$4.00

MIXED DRINK: \$4.75

HOURS: 11:30 a.m. to 3 a.m. Monday to Sunday

HONORABLE MENTION GOES TO:

CORONATION BILLIARD ACADEMY

378 Eglinton Avenue

Phone: 483-5321

TABLE RATE: \$10.00 an hour

AVERAGE BEER: \$4.50

MIXED DRINK: \$4.50

HOURS: 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. weekdays

24 hours on weekends

NOTE: You must be a member to play here. Memberships cost \$10 a year.

BREW UP YOUR OWN CHEER

Making Beer At Home Can Be so Easy !!!

by Paul Richardson

Brewmaster

You're sitting on your porch on a hot summer night, with a beer in your hand. You take a long, slow sip. The theme from Cheers is running through your head and you hum along. The beer soothes your parched throat. What makes it sweeter is that you made this beer yourself.

The neighbourhood bar is still popular, but home-brewing is gaining popularity. Brewing shops are booming businesses across the city, especially during the summer.

"It always peaks in the summer months," brewmaster Wilf Riebesehl said of the Brew Kettle in Scarborough. "That's normal, because if it's hot, people think of beer." Brew-your-own businesses sell the supplies necessary for brewing.

"We sell home brewing supplies and wine making supplies to the general public," said Harvey Nelson of Brew-Your-Own. "We've always felt that we're somewhere in the middle - between the places where you go in and do it, the premise locations, and the traditional home brewing stores."

For those starting out, Nelson advises starting small.

"We would sell you a basic hardware set, which usually ranges from \$50 to \$75, and the ingredients are about \$25 to get going to make a batch. After that, you would only buy the ingredients for a second batch (and so on)."

He said it is important to give budding home brewers the proper learning materials to read.

"We start people into the process with our own 20 pages of instructions to start, so that they land on square one," said Nelson. "In two or three batches, they're well lauded, making great beer for the rest of their life at a dollar and a quarter a

litre forever."

Nelson says the learning curve for making good beer increases during the first three batches made.

"You get 75 per cent of the way there on your first batch. On the first batch we would cover all the boring fundamentals ... to make sure that you've got the fundamental backbone of a decent beer. And then, we start right in on batch two and three with all of the fancy stuff."

Ontario and British Columbia are the only provinces that allow brew-on-premise establishments.

The Brew Kettle is one such establishment. Riebesehl takes customers through the beer making process, step by step. From helping the customer interpret their own taste in beer to matching it with one of the 135 recipes he has on file, Riebesehl helps them go from brew kettle to bottled beer.

At The Brew Kettle, a 50 litre batch of regular beer costs \$85 and a 50 litre batch of premier beer costs \$95. Customers may

also buy a kit of ingredients for \$15 to \$17.

Once made, Riebesehl says the beer, if kept properly cooled, will last for "about two and a half months in good conditions."

According to Riebesehl the two most important ingredients in making beer are hops and yeast.

"The basic ingredients are identical for any beer you make. The difference in beer, in terms of why is this beer different from any other beer, is basically a matter of hops," said Riebesehl. "There are about 10 to 15 different hops available commercially speaking, and they come from different countries and, depending on which strength and which mixture, will determine the taste of your beer. Hops is the taste giver to the beer. It gives a bitterness to the beer, as well as gives flavour."

Now that sounds like something that would have the gang at Cheers or yourself smiling in the beer.

While downtown this summer – bar-hopping, hitting clubs, or just being a general nuisance to people in general – you’re going to have to eat at some point.

On opposite corners of Dundas and Centre Streets, sit two possible remedies for your grumbling stomach: The Hong Shing Chinese Restaurant and Wah Too Seafood Restaurant. Open from lunch-time until 5 or 6 a.m., the restaurants are old favourites with the business and club crowds.

After a Friday night of pushing through crowds at the Government and Apothecary, food was on my mind. It had been there all day. Off to Hong Shing I went.

We walked in through the kitchen. The door was open, so it was a Goodfellas moment. We were greeted by one of the many waiters who showed us to our seat.

Hong Shing has one large dining room with a smaller room off to the side. Shortly after we were seated owner/manager Ricky Wong came by, with a smile, to run down the menu.

First of all, if you’re a novice with Chinese food, you need not be embarrassed. I muttered something about the typical guilo combo. Wong laughed and

Each dish was delivered promptly, hardly giving me time to finish my DuMaurier. I did have time to notice the lobster tank though (two for \$21.95). While tempting, I was hungry and didn’t feel like opening nature’s packaging and running the risk of wearing my dinner.

Owner Ricky Wong’s secret to success? Being happy, smiling, and “making sure people have a good time here,” he confided, before his duties to the patrons called him back to work.

On Saturday night, my mission continued. Unfortunately, the boys saw fit to party as though it was 1999, so I needed a new partner. Fortunately, my girlfriend was feeling courageous and decided a trip into downtown Toronto would be in order.

After parking illegally, for the second time in as many nights, we entered Wah Too’s.

While the dining room is small, it has ample space for diners and the odd take-out customer. The dining room has mirrors from waist-level to the ceiling, showing just how stupid you look while eating. According to my companion, the girl sitting directly behind me spent the entire time giving her date the “Yes, uh hmmm” treatment as she checked her hair and make-up. I couldn’t verify it because



I caught my father trying to sneak some at lunch.

Pop’s palate fell victim to the Chili spicy chicken.

“Aaaaah !! Ish hot,” was all he could manage before he doused the fire with water.

CHOPSTICK HEAVEN

AFTER ELEVEN

by *Jeremy Relph*
CHOPSTICK MASTER

recited the staples of the novice dish.

“Fried rice, chicken wings or chicken balls – maybe some chop-suey. Just ask for it, no problem.”

The guilo combo is one of my guilty pleasures and Wong set it up quite nicely with the chicken fried rice weighing in at \$5.75. But that’s just scratching the surface of what they offer.

More experienced diners might have the General Tao Chicken, mussels (at \$3.95, you can’t lose), or the spicy fried squid (\$8.95). For my European palate, the spicy fried squid was sufficiently hot. The garlic beef dish was filling.

“The spicy fried squid is done perfectly here, not too crispy, not at all rubbery, and not nearly as greasy as I’ve had elsewhere,” Michael Sasso, my inebriated colleague, noted. He was not the only one at Hong Shing’s feeling the effects of alcohol, but there were no rowdy stupid drunks there, much to my relief.

checking out another fine female might have gotten me a chopstick in the eye.

Again, I sampled the spicy fried squid (\$7.95), the chicken fried rice (\$5.50), and the chili spicy chicken (\$8.95). My palate was scathed. I didn’t feel too bad. However, my girlfriend’s more tolerant palate was also treated to a wake-up call of spicy delight.

While I didn’t see anyone of note at either place, Wah Too’s manager, Eric Chung, said many different stars have dined there. If you’re intimidated when it comes time to order, keep in mind sprinters Ben Johnson and Donovan Bailey have trouble ordering.

“They don’t know how to order,” Chung said, keeping a watchful eye over his establishment. “Whatever their friends order, they eat.”

Having completed my mission, Sunday was a day to look forward to left-overs from both restaurants.



Above and top right: Karate chop your late night hunger with dishes like these at Hong Shing Chinese Restaurant and Wah Too Seafood Restaurant. Both their spicy fried squid dishes are phenomenal.



Hong Shing Restaurant is located at the corner of Dundas and Centre Street. Across the street is Wah Too Seafood Restaurant. Stop by during one of your mega-city summer nights and you’ll be hooked for the rest of the summer.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Hong Shing Chinese Restaurant is located at 195 Dundas Street West. Reservations not necessary, and take-out is available.
(416) 977-3338

Hours:
Sunday - Thursday: 11:30 a.m. - 4 a.m.
Friday - Saturday: 11:30 a.m. - 5 a.m.

Wah Too Seafood Restaurant is located at 197 Dundas Street West. As with the above reservations are not necessary and take out is available.
(416) 971-6567

Hours:
Monday - Thursday: 11 a.m. - 5 a.m.
Friday - Saturday 11:00 am - 6:00 am.
Sunday 11:30 a.m. - 5 a.m.

Most plates at each establishment range from \$5 to \$10. Creating your own combination with your friends is simple.

SUPERNATURAL SUMMER NIGHTS

DISCOVERING THE AFTERLIFE TORONTO HAS TO OFFER



This lion wards off evil spirits from entering the Hsin Kuang Restaurant in Chinatown.

by **Himani Ediweera**
Ghostbuster

What goes bump in the night and whispers sweet nothings to you as you sleep? If you're lucky, it will be your significant other. However, you may be unfortunate enough to have a horrifying encounter with something a little less mortal than the ordinary companion.

Toronto may not be on the top list of ancient places to live, but it is still rich with history. It was more than 200 years ago that Lieutenant-Governor John Graves established a garrison on the site now known as Fort York. Archaeologists have found evidence of human activity in Toronto from more than 6000 years ago. Therefore, there's bound to be a ghost or two around the megacity.

John Robert Colombo, otherwise known as Canada's Mystery Man, has brought some of Toronto's haunting tales to us in his book, "Haunted Toronto". The book explores alleged hauntings of houses and other places in the Greater Toronto Area. Colombo said the average person has not experienced any paranormal activity, but usually admit that a friend or family member has reported an unexplainable event.

If you're looking for something out of the ordinary, something other than a cold beer on a hot summer day, the following ghost sites are definitely worth visiting. A little skeptical? Check them out for yourself and determine how long your skepticism lasts.

The Haunted Chinese Restaurant

Hsin Kuang Restaurant
346 Spadina Avenue
(China Town)

The building was erected in 1929. In 1970, it was bought by a company in Hong Kong that operates a chain of restaurants. Since opening day, the business has had difficulties. The new owners tried some major renovations to it but every effort was met with failure. The restaurant has remained closed for some years now.

It is said the site was originally used to store the dead bodies of Chinese people until they could be shipped back to China.

Two stone lions proudly sit outside the front of the restaurant. They were placed there to ward off evil spirits. There have been numerous complaints of unaccountable

manifestations Colombo said. Apparently, the problem is two billboards located directly across the street from the restaurant. The two giant billboards are positioned diagonally and point directly at the restaurant. The point resembles the tip of a knife or arrowhead, which acts as a passageway inviting evil spirits into the building.

The lions act as a safeguard against new spirits which may come through the passage way. However, those already inside are in no hurry to leave.

"I drove by it, by chance, and felt the force flow from the arrow-head of the billboards across the street and the emanation of the mighty grimace of the ceremonial lions," Colombo said.



These two billboards on this building are across the street from the restaurant. Notice the arrowhead shape they make.

The Keg Mansion

515 Jarvis Street

Some say the Keg Mansion is the most haunted place in Toronto. It also just happens to be the most popular Keg Restaurant located in the Toronto area. What draws people to this restaurant? Is it the history, or is it the idea of having dinner with ghosts in a mansion?



The Keg Mansion can serve you up steaks and ghosts all in the same night. No need to worry, you don't have to tip the ghosts.

The mansion was built in 1867 for Lord McMaster (the illustrious Canadian who founded McMaster University). In 1882, he sold it to Hart Massey for \$33,000. Massey named the house Euclid Hall and it served as the Massey's home until the 1920s. The Mansion has also been an art gallery, convalescent home, and a restaurant called the Bombay Club. The mansion joined the Keg Restaurant chain in 1976.

There are numerous stories about the mansion that fuel its haunted reputation. After Lillian Massey died in her second floor bedroom, a grief stricken maid hanged herself in the vestibule above the main foyer. Her hanging apparition is said to appear there every once in a while. There have also been sightings of a small boy running up and down the staircase, and laughter coming from upstairs, where the children's sleeping quarters were during the Massey's stay in the Mansion. Music can be heard where there are no speakers.

"One night when I was closing, I swear I heard music coming from the upstairs washrooms. There are no speakers up there," said Keg Mansion Manager Phil Nott.

Nott said Lillian Massey's bedroom was located where the washrooms are now. "The first time I heard music, I didn't want to investigate," he said.



This is the famous haunted Keg Mansion staircase on which a little boy has been seen running up and down.

Nott also explained that a psychic had come to the Mansion for dinner one night. She refused to use the women's washrooms and insisted on using the ones reserved for the staff.

SHH !!! IT'S A SECRET

Festival Cinemas Give You More For Your Movie Dollar

by Antonio Tedesco

Movie Mogul

OSAP has just run out, you have to wait a few days before you get paid. You barely have enough to eat, but you can't stay home. You have to get out and do something or go crazy. But what's there to do in Toronto that you haven't done yet? Coffee? No. Drinking? Can't afford it. Dinner? Maybe McDonald's. You could catch a movie. Everyone has seen a movie, but not everyone has seen a movie at the Festival Cinemas.



Catching a movie at The Royal Cinema can be a culturally enlightening event.

Scattered throughout the downtown area (and a few in the West End), the Festival Cinemas' revue theatres are one of Toronto's best kept secrets. Unless you're a movie nut or a film student.

"The thing I like about our cinemas is that we have big houses and big screens," said Carmelo Bordonaro, marketing and publicity representative for Festival Cinemas. "So we get bigger laughs, and bigger cries. We have a human staff, as opposed to robots taught to sing. We're as

cheap as video except there are no returns and no late charges. And we have our own program that we distribute every two months."

From the moment Tom Litvinkas and Jerry Szczur (affectionately known as Tom & Jerry) saw the 'For Rent' sign adorning the Kingsway Theatre in 1974, the revue cinemas have been providing a varied crowd of smokers, tokers, beer-guzzlers, suits and artsy-fartsies, while providing a different movie experience for everyone passing through the door.

Known more for their alternative movies and first-run screenings of both foreign and non-Hollywood films, the revue cinemas have been providing audiences with an alternative to the mainstream. Famous for Rocky Horror Picture Show events, festival showings, and the Texas Chainsaw Massacre incident, the revue cinemas have kept their audiences entertained, informed, and frightened for more than 20 years.

"One night, at the Kingsway Theatre, they were showing Texas Chainsaw Massacre, and just when the scene with the guy in the wheelchair comes on, someone kicks in the back door, and jumps in front of the screen carrying a chainsaw," Bordonaro recalls. "He has it over his head and he cranks it. The whole audience ran out of the cinema. People were running a mile later. There happened to be a reporter in there that night and he got on the wire and the story ran all over North America the next day."

Many movies screened at the revue cinemas are one-shot deals, with little chance of making it to the big screen again. Unlike the various selective Hollywood runs at the revue cinemas, many foreign and alternative films will never be seen on a big screen, which is why, to some members (membership is \$6 per year) of the revue cinemas, it's important to come out and support the smaller shows.

"You get to see movies that Cineplex Odeon and Famous Players won't play,"

movie-goer Vinnicus Bajor said. "You have the pleasure of seeing more honesty in most of the films at the Festival Cinemas than you could on the silver screen."

"There's more humanity in these foreign and alternative films," he continues, "Because a lot of the people are not actors, they're real people. It's not Tinsel Town."

Due to their diverse selection of films, the revue cinemas have never taken a backseat to controversy. They have screened a slew of taboo topics not often seen on a Hollywood screen. Ranging from fetish films, documentaries concerning Waco, Texas to gay and lesbian comedies, the revue cinemas have taken their place as valid alternatives to Hollywood.

With the opening of The Royal, tucked away in Little Italy, and The Music Hall on the Danforth, Tom and Jerry have taken the Festival Cinemas to new levels of excellence. With a noticeable desire for great theatre and sound, all the cinemas will undergo a facelift, with The Bloor as the next client in the beautician's chair.

"People like nice cinemas and The Royal and The Music Hall were beautiful theatres," Bordonaro said. "People like big screens and great sound. That's what we're starting to see. If all our theatres were up to par, with state-of-the-art sound and big screens, the people would come."



The Bloor Cinema may not show the colossal movie Titanic, but the movies running there are titanic in quality. Check 'em out !!!

When it comes down to it, the Festival Cinemas are screening a variety of films, while trying to provide great entertainment at a reasonable price. "If it weren't for us, what would you be seeing out there?," Bordonaro said.

Festival Cinema Locations:

- Bloor Cinema - 506 Bloor St. W. (1/2 block east of Bathurst Subway)
- Kingsway Theatre - 3030 Bloor St. W. (1/2 block west of Royal York Subway)
- The Fox - 2236 Queen St. E. (In the Beaches)
- The Royal - 606 College St. (4 1/2 blocks west of Bathurst)
- Revue Cinema - 400 Roncesvalles Ave. (3 blocks south of Dundas Subway)
- The Music Hall - 147 Danforth Ave.
- The Paradise - 1006 Bloor St. W. (2 blocks west of Ossington Subway)

THE LURE OF THE URBAN MYTH THE KIDNEY HARVEST CAPER

The Humber Etcetera is looking for Toronto urban myths. Here is a popular one from Uncle Ken's Urban Myth Web Page.

This story is reputed to take place in several major North American cities. The most recent version is in New Orleans, although Houston and Las Vegas have their version as well. Like most urban myths, this story changes slightly from version to version. The one I like best follows. This is an excerpt from the article.

Feb. 17—Urban legends are intriguing. The stories are generally fascinating, but more interesting is that these stories take on eternal lives of their own. One such myth is making the rounds again, but it's as bogus as it sounds. The theft of human kidneys.

The story sounds like the perfect setup for a wild punch line. A man, usually the roommate of a brother's best friend, or something similarly bizarre, is sitting at a hotel bar in Las Vegas. A beautiful woman approaches, and they strike up a conversation.

After a few drinks, the woman invites the man to her room. She puts on some romantic music and makes drinks. She hands the man the drink, he takes a sip, and he blacks out.

When he regains consciousness, he's lying in a bathtub full of ice. There's a telephone nearby, with a note attached, telling him not to move and to call 911 immediately.

The man calls 911. The operator answers. He reports that he is groggy and sitting in a bathtub full of ice. He barely gets into his story when the operator interrupts him with the bad news. His kidneys were harvested for sale on the black market. It's a common occurrence, and ambulances have already been dispatched.

According to this story, the entire setup is quite elaborate. In the adjoining room, a team of rogue physicians had created a make-shift operating room. The woman lured her victim to the room, slipped him a drug, and he passed out. The surgeons next door removed his kidneys, sewed him back up and left him in the bathtub, leaving instructions to call

911 so that the victim doesn't die. The victim is faced with a lifetime of dialysis treatments.

I've heard this story on at least three occasions. In each case, the victim is just two or three times removed from the storyteller (far enough removed to make verifying the story impossible). I've never heard this story from an actual victim, nor have I ever had opportunity to speak to a victim.

The man calls 911...his kidneys were harvested for sale on the black market.

A little amateur detective work in this case paid off. I called the Las Vegas police department and spoke with a dispatcher. She confirmed that this story is a huge hoax and that this scam doesn't happen.

Additionally, I've spoken to a few people who have read studies about this report — studies which conclude that the harvesting of organs from living donors

in this fashion simply would not work. Because of the critical timing of transplant surgery, these organs could not be preserved long enough to find willing buyers on any black market. This is one of a few urban myths that circulate forever, but are untrue.

Now remember, I'm just one guy. And I spoke with just one representative of the Las Vegas police department. So if you're a victim of this kidney harvest scheme or if you can put me in touch with somebody who is a victim, I'll change my story. Until then, this gets filed with the rest of the urban myths — right into file 13.

If you can document this, or any other urban myths, or have any urban myths to suggest for inclusion, then please e-mail me.

Uncleken@ix.netcom.com
No Matter their Shock Value, Urban Myths Are Still Hoaxes Source: The State The State via Knight-Ridder/Tribune via Individual Inc. : By Clifford B. Kurt Knight-Ridder/Tribune Business News
For more Urban Myths check out pages 4 and 25.

OVER THE EDGE

How safe is the T.T.C. ???

by Jennifer Peck

Transit Authority

The fluorescent lights are dim in the underground tunnel. She walks cautiously, scanning the platform for anyone suspicious-looking. She inhales the recycled air and hears the sound of grinding steel, leans against the cement wall and waits for the train.

Silvana Sandovski no longer walks confidently on the platforms of the TTC



Recently, some T.T.C. riders feel uneasy riding the train.

subway station as she makes her way to work. The 23-year-old York University student had been a regular commuter since she was 15 and had always been comfortable walking around the platform.

All that changed Sept. 26, last year when Humber graduate Charlene Minkowski was shoved to her death beneath the thundering wheels of a subway train.

"The scariest part about it was that it was so random. He (alleged killer Herbert Cheong) just picked her out because he didn't like the way she looked. She was my age ... it could have just as easily been me," said Sandovski.

She is now extremely cautious when riding the subway to and from work.

"I always sit on the bench when I'm waiting for the subway. If there is no bench, I'll stand against the wall."

Before the incident, Sandovski wasn't overly concerned about riding at night but now says it makes her nervous.

"I get a little paranoid of the people around me — especially if they look weird or dangerous. For the most part, I make an effort to stay in the public eye. If you're alone in a secluded area, that's when it becomes dangerous," she said.

During the summer months, many students, including Sandovski, will be using the TTC as a way of getting around the city. But Sandovski's attitude about the attack seems to be the exception in her age group. In an informal poll of Humber College students and other transit users, two out of three respondents said they

still feel secure riding the subway.

Twenty-six-year-old Humber College film and television student Joe Tetreau says he is comfortable riding the subway to his work on Spadina and Queen.

"There are usually other people around. I can sit in the (subway) car with the driver if necessary. But the most important thing is that I stay aware of who or what is around me. If someone is threatening or bothersome, I'm free to move or leave," he said.

Lara Sawaya, a 19-year-old fashion arts student, rides the subway downtown to Queens Quay to work. She's seen dangerous horseplay among young boys during a few commutes.

"Many times I've seen boys 'car hop' the trains, where they will jump out of the train and try to hop on another before it starts. Or they try to pry open doors while running alongside the train," said Sawaya.

However, this doesn't stop Sawaya from using the train. She says she still feels it is a safe ride.

"Most of the time I don't stand near the rails and I often move away from strange passengers," she said.

Carolyn Whitzman, a facilitator for The Safe City Committee at Toronto City Hall, says there are some

things commuters can do this summer to feel more confident on a subway platform.

"You have to stay closer to the walls because it could make a difference when your keeping an eye out," she said.

Whitzman says though there are pushing incidents at subway stations, they are still "rare occurrences." She cautions people to not just look for dangers, but also to use common sense.

"About the only thing you can do is not to start walking forward when the train comes in. Not just because of an attack, but also in case of an accidental fall caused by crowding," said Whitzman.

TTC spokeswoman Marilyn Bolton says measures have been taken to increase safety on the subway platforms.

"The scariest part about it was that it was so random. He picked her out because he didn't like the way she looked."

"We have a poster going up which tells people to stand three to four feet back from the wall. We also have an announcement every 15 minutes over the P.A. system requesting customers to stand back from the yellow line," Bolton said.

She said even the drivers of the trains are helping to keep the passengers safe.

"The drivers are asked to blow their horns, when they're approaching the station, if they see anyone standing too close for comfort. It's good because it's an attention getter and it alerts them," she said.

In the five months since the Minkowski tragedy, there have been five more incidents of subway attacks.

In October, a man attempted to push a woman on to the tracks at the Dupont station. Then in November, an 18 year-old girl was pushed on to the tracks at the Sheppard station. That was followed by a man trying to push a six year old boy out of a train at St. Clair West Station in December. A man was rescued from the tracks at Osgoode station after being pushed off the platform in January. Lastly, in February, a 19-year-old male was pushed on to the tracks at St. George Station.

Bolton says she believes the latter incidents occurred because of the huge amount of media coverage during the last six months.

"All these incidents were caused by someone who was mentally ill. People who are mentally vulnerable could read the coverage (by the media) and might perpetuate it further," she said.

Bolton says she believes the media are responsible for the repeated cases by keeping the story alive so long.

"The media is perpetuating the issue by continuing to publish it. They are wallowing in it and making more of it then what it was."

Joe Andrews, a broadcast co-ordinator for the Humber School of Media Studies, says he agrees certain stories are covered a lot more than others.

"That particular story is one of many that can end up being heightened because of a snowball effect. It is an important issue and you have a situation where the media has a responsibility to report facts for the issues as accurately as they can," Andrews said.

However, Andrews says the attacks



Paul Van Hooydonk

T.T.C. authorities recommend standing far back from the edge of the platform.

were not necessarily due to coverage of the issue.

"You're going to get copy cats in anything," he said.

He says the media has a responsibility to bring up important issues.

"The media is again going to be perceived as the bad group who are constantly harping on the issue, but it's also a fact of life that people need to know about these things ... it affects society," he said.

As for Sandovski, she says she won't feel comfortable riding the subway anytime soon.

"My number one priority is saving my money to buy my own car. Then I'll feel more in control," she said.

Until then, her back will always be to the wall.



Paul Van Hooydonk

Subway riders should be careful riding into the summer. Take care and stand back!

What T.T.C. Riders Have To Say.

Do you ride the subway to work?
YES - 29
NO - 16

Do you ride the subway alone or with others most of the time?
ALONE - 24
OTHERS - 18
NEITHER - 3

Do you still feel safe riding the subway after the subway attacks?
YES - 31
NO - 11
DEPENDS - 3

Do you think passenger safety on the TTC could be improved?
YES - 40

NO - 1
DON'T KNOW - 4

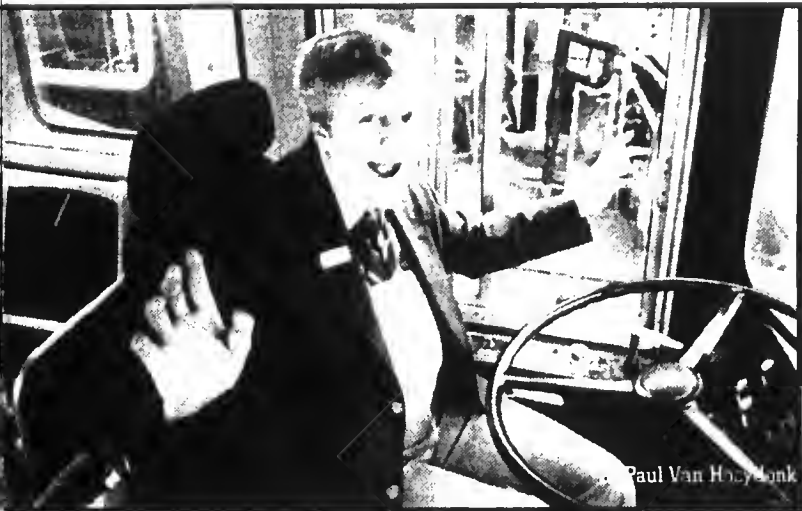
Would you be willing to pay extra if the TTC could make it safer for you?

YES - 32
NO - 10
NO OPINION - 3

Have you ever been in, or witnessed, a dangerous situation at the subway station?

YES - 5
NO - 40

THE WHEELS ON THE BUS GO ROUND ...



by Paul Van Hooydonk
Bus Boy

After minor prodding and the reassurances of a partisan crowd, Audrey Nikiforos lightly blushes and gripes the two-way radio link as though it were a microphone and she were performing for dusty-eyed fans. She clears her throat, leans forward, and begins to sing in a grandmotherly-like cadence that reminds one of sticky candy and falsetto-inflected birthday wish songs. "Dashing around the street, on a TTC bus, on the potholes we go, bumping all the way."

If the pacing of this song sounds familiar, just add "bells on Bob's tail ring" and it should become clear.

What began as her version of Christmas cheer 15 years ago, has turned her into a minor Toronto celebrity—the singing bus driver.

"I started singing my version of Jingle Bells on the bus during Christmas. Soon after Christmas was over, I stopped singing and people started to complain. 'Why don't you sing us a song.' It was getting near February and I thought people would get sick quickly from listening to Jingle Bells, so I started singing my version of 'The Wheels on the Bus Go 'Round and 'Round.'"

If the fear of perpetual Barney-like sing-songs irk you, don't be concerned.

"Oh, I don't sing out the stops," Nikiforos reassures, with a wave of her hand. "The only time I sing is when I'm leaving or entering a subway station, or when I'm on a long route. Close to the end of the route, I'll start."

Even with sporadic singing, you'd figure a few feisty teenagers would rattle her renditions and put a frog in her throat.

"I think I maybe had two or three times when someone said, 'Aw, shut up.'"

"When it happens I just keep singing because I know most of the people really look forward to it. When teenagers first encounter me, they just shake their heads and they don't know how to handle it. They'll get off the bus and they'll be, 'This driver's looney.'"

She dismisses the thought of people's possible perceptions with a self-deprecating laugh. "After a couple of times, they're looking forward to it."

Nikiforos, a sturdy lady of surprising height, holds tremendous commitment for her work. Ten years ago she had laryngitis (caused by allergies, not singing) and couldn't talk, let alone sing. Her replacement driver was unfamiliar with the area, so she came to work regardless of her laryngitis, now coupled with nausea, and sat in the front of the bus to assist the driver and any passengers who were newcomers to the route.

On this particular route she usually picked up a pack of about 40 high schoolers daily.

"I was talking to one of the girls who was asking me why I wasn't singing. I explained to her that I had laryngitis and couldn't sing. Well, she walked to the back of the bus and told her friends. When they got off they sang, 'The students on the bus say have a great day to the driver.' I wasn't singing to them, they were singing to me."

Nikiforos, who began her career as a TTC bus driver in 1975, says her singing, if nothing else, gives people reason for conversation.

"It's amazing how many strangers start talking to each other when they are sitting on the seats beside each other," says the mother of one daughter and wife of a truck-driver. "I give them something to talk about."

Aside from her penchant for incantation, the harmonizing bus handler is also a published poet—although she readily admits she does not read or write poetry for enjoyment. She insists her stint in the realm of published poetry was a one-shot deal.

The decision to write the poem came after she saw a poetry contest listed in the comic section of the Toronto Star. She immediately began scratching out lines and ran down to the mailbox before she had time to change her mind.

A short time later she found out her poem was selected for publication, along with 1,830 other national and international poems under the title: "Lasting Moments."

Why does she sing?

"I don't sing to be recognized. There are so many people living alone. Somebody gets on your bus and you don't know what problems they are carrying. I feel I have an obligation to lighten that load a little bit."



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ABOVE THE RIM UNDER THE DOME

by Mike Rawn

3-on-3 King

Exhausted by a gruelling evenly-matched game, the players on the court try to find one last bit

of energy to make the last shot.

The ball is inbounded. A screen is set.

One player gets open for a

split second, and that's all it

takes. The ball leaves the play-

er's hand. A defensive player

lunges, but it's too late.

He watches helplessly as the ball

soars toward the basket. Swish,

nothing but net.

It's a familiar summer scene in

school yards and playgrounds

across the country.

However, this scenario is

different. It's three-on-three

basketball tournament, one of

the hottest mass partic-

ipation sports today. For

thousands of hoop fanatics, it's a

religion.

"Players participating represent all of the different skill

levels, from great players to players who pick up a ball once a year," said

Laura Zamprogna, manager of special events for the Toronto Raptors who are

hosts of the annual Raptorfest three-on-three tournament in Toronto.

For people unfamiliar with the game, three-on-three basketball follows the basic

rules of basketball. However, three-on-three games are played in a half-court setting.

Winners are determined by the first team to rack up 16 points. One point is awarded for each

basket and two points for each shot made from beyond the 20-foot line. Each team consists of four

players, three play and one is an alternate.

Three-on-three tournaments, like Raptorfest, are open to male and female players with varying levels of skill.

There is also a wheelchair division. Teams fill out entry forms stating ages, heights, playing experience, and the number of times they play basketball in one year.

The information is entered into a computer, and teams with about the same skill level are put in the same division.

"Last year we had 636 teams participate, with four players on each team. There are almost 50 different divisions, from the couch potato division all the way up to college and university players," Zamprogna said.

The entry fees for tournaments range from \$90 to \$110 per team. The fee includes a T-shirt for each player, a minimum of three to four games, and prizes for the winners.

For players who are too busy to commit to playing in a league for an entire summer, these tournaments take up only one weekend. Games usually begin Saturday morning, with the championship games in each division starting mid-to-late Sunday afternoon.

"I play in a basketball league all winter, against the same people every week. It is fun to play against new competition, people you have never seen play before. Plus it's great when you win," said Eric Issler, a six-year veteran of three-on-three tournaments.

Other events outside the tournaments make the weekend more enjoyable. Skills competitions, such as a three-point shootout and a slam dunk competition, are open to any player who wants to participate. NBA players are often present to sign autographs. Damon Stoudamire attended last year's Raptorfest tournament.

"There is also the social part of the weekend. We always go out as a team after the games. It is fun to relive the games over a few beers," Issler said.

With so many different divisions and games played throughout the course of the weekend, volunteers are a big part of the success of these tournaments.



Michael Jordan wannabe's try their best to imitate the "His Airness" at the SkyDome during a 3-on-3 game.



Mike Rawn

A 3-on-3 player takes it to the hoop in the NBA Hoop-It-Up tournament held last summer. Drive the lane like him by entering your team. Just Do It!

"My high school basketball team all wanted to help out at the tournament, and it was a fun weekend. You get to meet a lot of different people. Like with any competition, tempers flare from time to time, but generally the players are pretty fair. They are there to have a good time," said Jody Lavigne, a volunteer court monitor.

Mike Whaley, a three-year veteran of three-on-three tournaments, said, "I love the thrill of the competition. I know I'm not the best player out there, but it's fun knowing that anything can happen - anyone can win one of these tournaments."

The NBA Hoop-It-Up three-on-three tournament came to Canada for the first time last summer. Sponsored by Canadian Tire, it attracted more than 300 teams. This year, they will team up with Raptorfest and hope to attract more than 1,000 teams.

"For teams in the top gun division (elite players), the top men's and women's teams qualify for a finals tournament held in Toronto in August," said Alison George, manager of communications for NBA Canada. "They will play against the best teams from six different cities in Canada. The winners from the tournament play in the United States against the best teams from the U.S. and South America. Last year's tournament took place in Venice Beach, California."

So whether you are a top-notch player who wants to match skills with other great players, or a weekend warrior who simply wants to get out for a weekend of fitness and fun, three-on-three tournaments are worth checking out.

The Raptorfest/NBA Hoop-It-Up tournament is scheduled to take place July 25 - 26, at an undetermined location. Registration forms will be available at Canadian Tire stores in April. Forms can also be obtained by calling (416) 426-7207.

IT'S TIME TO SUMMERCIZE !!!

by Juliette Duffus

Health Pro

Don't become a statistic, get out and be active this summer! That's the advice of registered nurse and fitness guru Stephanie Taylor.

According to statistics published by the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute, almost two-thirds of Canadians are at risk of early death, heart disease, adult onset diabetes, colon cancer and other medical conditions due to a sedentary lifestyle.

"As an RN, I look at fitness as health promotion and disease prevention," says Taylor.

There are a million things to do in and around the greater Toronto area to keep fit. Here are some suggestions.

Stretching:

No matter what activity you choose to do, stretching before and after is a crucial step. "Stretching keeps the body flexible and it feels great. Stretching relaxes the body and warms up your muscles, which helps to reduce possible injuries," says Taylor.

To get the full benefit of stretching, hold each stretch for at least 30 seconds and breathe deeply. It's also important to ease into each stretch and never force any movements.

Walking:

What's the easiest cardiovascular workout that you do everyday? Walking is! Fitness walking isn't a leisurely afternoon stroll, it's fast paced and an incredible way to get fit and toned while enjoying the great outdoors. While basic walking skills are mastered early, there are some important things to remember for fitness walking:

- stand up straight and look directly ahead
- relax your shoulders, bend your arms at the elbow at about 83 degrees and swing your arms naturally as you walk

-keep strides short and fast. The faster you move the better the cardiovascular workout

-keep a heel-to-toe motion throughout. As you walk, your heel should be the first part of your foot to hit the ground. Roll along the length of your foot and push off with your toes

-comfortable shoes with support and cushioning are essential

Hiking:

An inclined version of walking, hiking offers great scenic sites. Ontario's Hiker Mike features hike trails and events each week. Call (416) 426-7362 for more information about upcoming events. For hiking trails in your area, e-mail Hiker Mike at hikermike@cfrb.com

In-Line Skating:

One of the fastest growing sports in North America, in-line skating is fun and an excellent workout for the legs and calves.

"It requires balance and co-ordination, so don't put on your skates until you're in reasonably good shape," suggests Taylor.

Cycling trails are the safest place to in-line skate. "Toronto's Kew Beach is the best place for blading, it extends throughout the city," says Taylor.

It's also important to follow the standard rules of the game - wear all of the necessary protective gear.

In-Line Essentials:

- protective helmet
- wrist, elbow, and knee pads
- partner for safety and fun

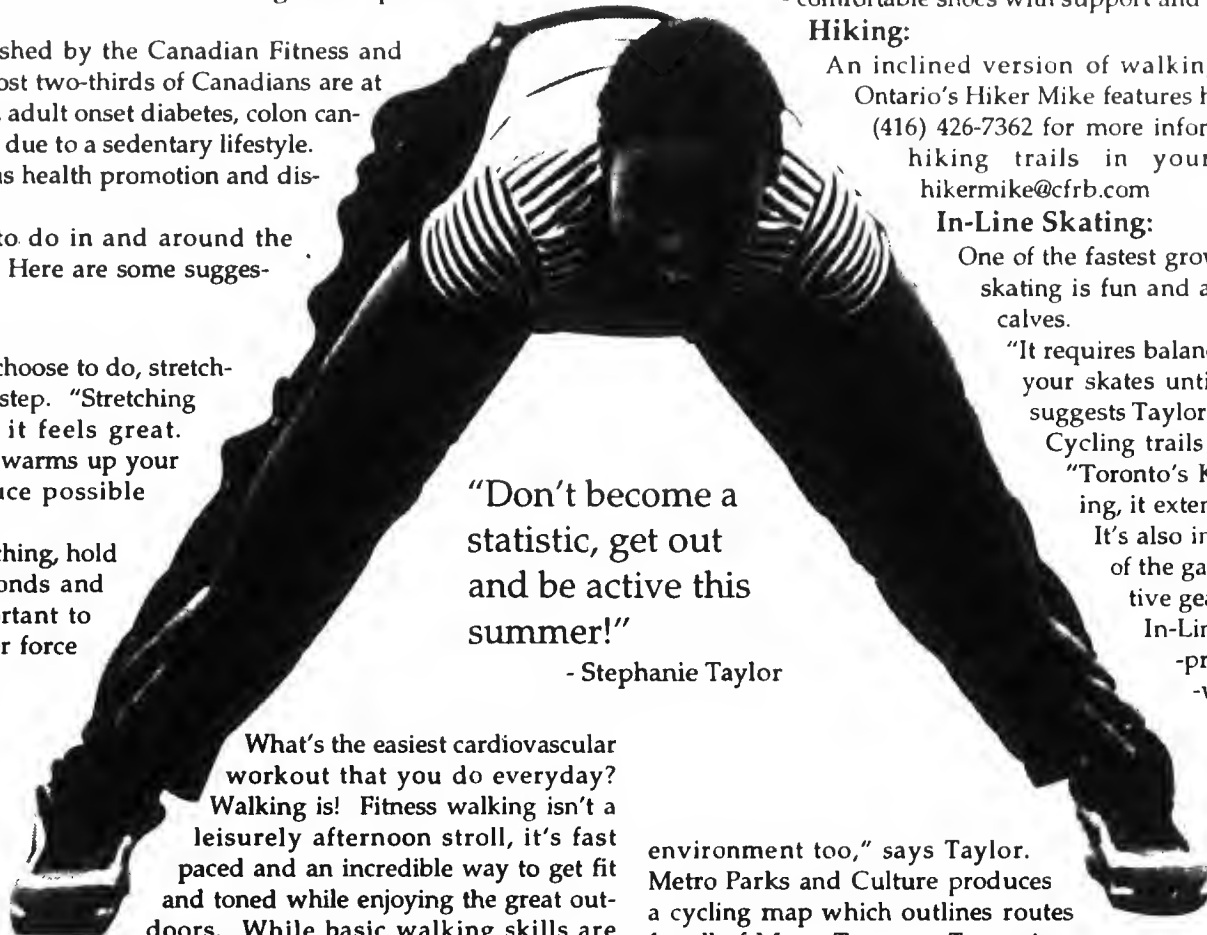
Cycling:

"Cycling is a great means of transportation and it's better for the

environment too," says Taylor.

Metro Parks and Culture produces a cycling map which outlines routes for all of Metro Toronto. To receive a map, contact Metro Parks and Culture at (416) 392-3355.

With all outdoor fitness activities, it's important to keep well hydrated and sun-protected. Along with healthy living, there's a need for healthy eating. According to Taylor, "Fitness isn't just one aspect, it's both nutrition and being athletic that equates fitness."



"Don't become a statistic, get out and be active this summer!"

- Stephanie Taylor

SUNNING YOUR BUNS

You Can Sunbathe Nude in Toronto BUTT Don't Get Caught

by Heather McKinnon

Bums Connoisseur

Feel like being a little risqué this summer? Maybe live a little dangerously? Then hop aboard the ferry and head on over to Toronto's Centre Island.

It's a world away, yet so close to home. If you're lucky, and no one's watching, you can actually strut your stuff at Hanlon's Point - in the buff.

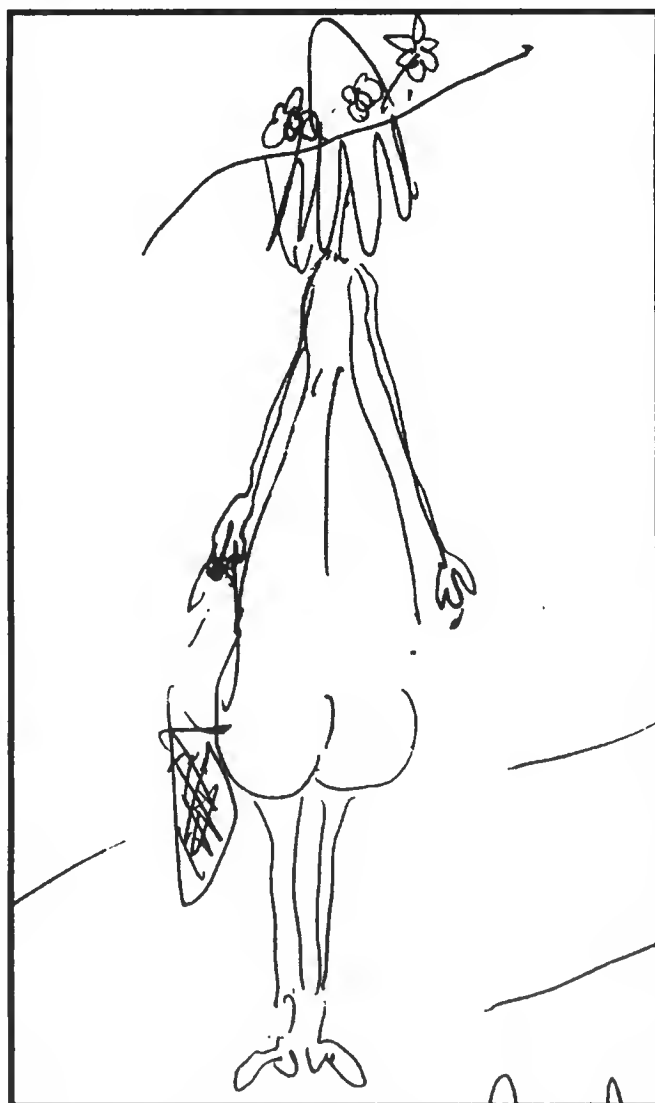
"Hanlon's has always been off the beaten track for privacy, so there is certainly going to be nude sunbathing," said Gerald Hannon, freelance writer and prostitute.

I experienced this firsthand last summer. Feeling a little lethargic, I headed to Hanlon's to check it out. It was definitely more private than the other beaches on the Island. It was a great choice.

"People do it because it's fun and it doesn't hurt anybody. Probably nine times out of 10, it happens without the police knowin'."

I laid my towel on top of the sand and sat down. The perfect spot. But not an hour later, I saw a naked man standing back in the bushes. He wasn't doing anything wrong. Just standing there naked. He looked relaxed and stared innocently up at the sky.

Horried, my first thought was that he was a stalker or he was a pervert. I had no idea that folks like him had been doing this for nearly three decades.



But bathers, beware! This pastime is illegal and, if you get caught, you will be fined.

"Nude sunbathing is definitely an arrestable offence," said Sergeant Gerry Zidner, of the Toronto Police Marine Unit. "It has always been illegal, there's been no change in the law and the penalty ranges from a fine to a term in prison."

Zidner said the average fine for those convicted is \$100 for indecent exposure. The problem is that a lot of the time the skin cops only arrive on the scene in time to catch a glimpse of disappearing pink flesh.

"It's really about being in the right place at the right time," Zidner said.

Hannon, who used to be a professor at Ryerson Polytechnical University, admits Hanlon's is a hot spot for homosexual men to meet and sunbathe in the nude.

"The first Gay Pride Day in the city was in 1972," Hannon said. "It wasn't officially recognized, and it was very small. But I remember they held a picnic at Hanlon's Point because it's out of the way and not very visible to the city. Ever since then, it's always been a very popular place to meet."

For some, the act of sunbathing nude is not a big deal. It's harmless and - well, a lot of fun.

"People do it because it's fun and it doesn't hurt anybody. Probably nine times out of 10, it happens without the police knowing," Hannon said. "There's little incentive to stop. If you can get away with it, why not do it?"

But nude sunbathing isn't really up Hannon's alley.

"I would definitely go there, but not naked. I always find things a little more erotic with a bit of clothing on. I guess I'm more of a voyeur than an exhibitionist."

Family *planning*

by Jennifer Oxley

Entering the Zoo Zone

"I'm going to the zoo zoo zoo, how about you you you?"

Yes, it's that time again. The time when the cool winter winds are exchanged for the warm summer breezes. It's time to visit the Toronto Zoo and see what excitement the animal kingdom has in store for the summer.

The Toronto Zoo, located in Scarborough, offers a day jam packed with family fun. Whether it's riding on a camel's back or watching the monkeys hang around, the zoo has kept people coming back since it opened in the summer of 1974.

At just \$12 admission for adults and slightly less for children and seniors, the zoo is a relatively low-cost day out.

Toby Styles, public relations director, says he thinks that's one of the reasons the zoo is still popular with families.

This June, the Africa Savanna Exhibit opens. With over 30 acres of "interactive" exhibits Styles says there is something for everyone.

Styles says it will be a walking safari and visitors will be able to catch glimpses of elephants, hippos, rhinos, giraffes, baboons and many species of plant life. This \$18 million exhibit will transport people to the heart of the African savanna without ever leaving their own city. He said visitors will be able to climb into trees, examine termite mounds and follow animal tracks.

For those who want to jump start this season with a trip to the zoo, April marks the return of the majestic white lion.

The only way to see the animals on the move is to arrive early - preferably on a cool day. Most animals, especially those from the cat family, will be found sleeping hot summer afternoon away. So the rule is rise early and get there when the gates open.

If children are getting a little tired of seeing animals laying around, take a trip over to the polar bear exhibit. These bears are born entertainers and will put a smile on a child's face. They love to show off their diving techniques, especially when going in after a fish. Get a closer look by going underground and looking at the bears swimming through underwater windows.

Be prepared to have tired feet by the end of the day. The best bet is to take advantage of the benches under the big trees and sit down and get out of the sun for a bit. This also makes the perfect place to stop and have a snack.

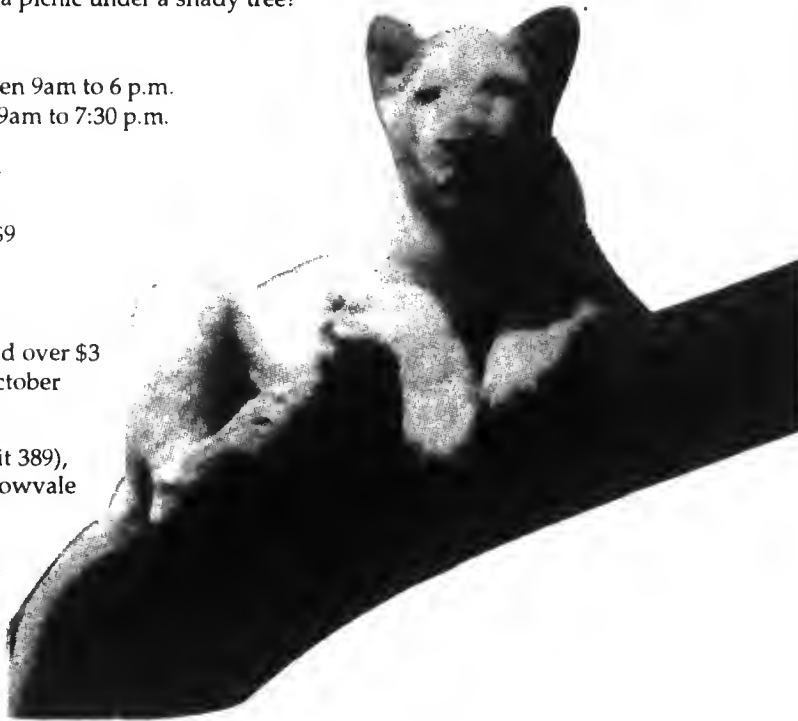
There are a few fast food type restaurants at the zoo. The prices are quite high and the food is what you expect from McDonald's. So why not pack a lunch and have a picnic under a shady tree?

Zoo Hours:
March 14 to May 15 open 9am to 6 p.m.
May 16 to Sept 7 open 9am to 7:30 p.m.

Admission:
Adults: \$12
Youth 12-17 & Seniors \$9
Child 4-11 \$7
Under 3 free

Zoomobile ride four and over \$3
Parking \$5 March to October

How to get there:
401 to Scarborough (exit 389),
then go north on Meadowvale
Rd and follow the Zoo
signs.
TTC info call (416) 393-
4636



Whether you prefer animal attractions or have a long time love of treasures from the past, this summer will provide fun for the family that is sure to be a thrill.

Science Cent

Death, disease, a pant at the Ontario summer.

Visitors can part New Disease Dang disease-causing microbes get them, and what do about them.

Outbreak is the la SciencExpress ex changing exhibition ject every six month you kids to the Germ

Ever wonder wh detergent, or how "whiter than white that with the right c a water droplet can l



Thrill Ride, a Sony Pictures Classics release explores the science in Florida.

Now a go at the AGO

For admirers of impressionist art, The Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO) is the place to visit this summer

June 10 to Sept 20, the AGO will be host to the Courtauld Collection from the Courtauld Institute of Art in London. It is said to be one of the world's finest exhibitions of impressionist and post-impressionist art.

This will mark the first North American venue for the exhibit which includes more than 80 works. Paintings by Manet, Degas, Renoir, Cézanne, Monet, Seurat, Toulouse Lautrec, Pissaro, Modigliani and others will be featured.

Because of the anticipated popularity of this show, tickets will be for hourly timed entrances, every half hour.

When the heat is just too much to bear, escape to the AGO and spend an hour enjoying the works of world's

greatest impressionist artists.

Open: Tuesday to Sunday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Ticket Price:

Adults \$25, Students \$20 and Children \$12.50

Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday - Adults \$20, Students \$16, Children \$10

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Seniors \$16

Audioguides \$5

The AGO is located at 317 Dundas St. W., Toronto. West of University Ave.

For more information on the exhibit call (416) 979-6625.

Tickets can be purchased through Ticket King at (416) 872-3333.



Masterpieces of the past, in the Courtauld Collection at t

Science Sights

and dirt will run rampant. The Science Centre this

participate in Outbreak: Bacteria and learn where germs live, how you can (and can't)

test installment of the exhibition. This ever-changing show looks at a new sub-atomic world. Don't forget to take a walk on the play area.

What goes into a box of laundry detergent? It's even possible to create a chemical combination that becomes "wetter."

Tide detergent sponsors The Science of Clean and it promises to "give the inside dirt" on how modern cleansers work – and the innovations of the past five decades that have made it all possible.

The Science of Clean runs until May 31.

While at the Science Centre, why not stay for a show at the Shoppers Drug Mart Omnimax Theatre? There are three shows running now: Cosmic Voyage, Alaska: Spirit of the Wild, and Thrill Ride. Omnimax offers head-spinning IMAX films every day on the 24-metre wrap-around screen.

Open: Wed 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Thurs 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Fri 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sat-Tues 10 a.m. To 5 p.m.

July 1 to August 31 open daily 10 a.m. To 8 p.m.

Prices: Adults \$10, Seniors \$7, Children 5 to 16 \$7, Children under 4 free.
Family Pass 2 adults and 2 children \$25

Omnimax Theatre:

Open 11 a.m. To 8 p.m.

Prices: Adults \$8, children and seniors \$5, kids free.

There are package prices for both Science Centre and Omnimax theatre admission.

For more information call Science Centre 24 hour hotline (416) 696-3127 or Omnimax theatre at (416) 696-1000.

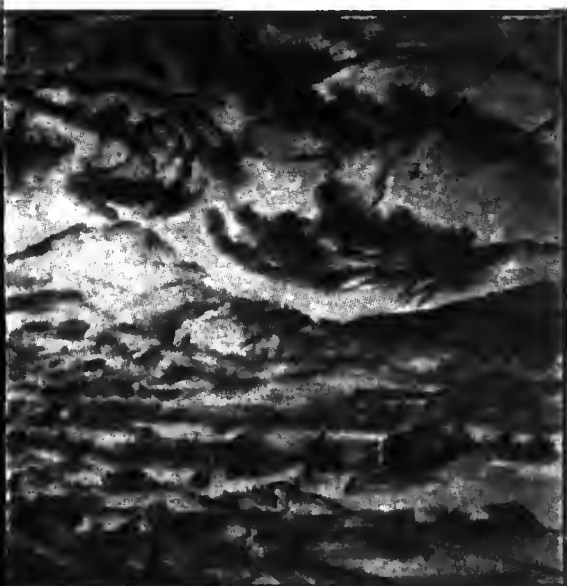
The Science Centre is located at 770 Don Mills Rd. Toronto, south of Eglinton Avenue East.



African elephants will be seen in their new African savanna opening in June at the Metro Toronto Zoo.



...of fun. It's like being on the Busch Gardens roller coaster



...cluding this painting by Cézanne, are representing the Art Gallery of Ontario starting June 21.

Recent to the ROM

Imagine admiring Leonardo da Vinci's notebook, worn and well thumbed. Royal Ontario Museum President Dr. Lindsay Sharp says the people of Toronto will have the chance when "A Grand Design: The Art of the Victoria and Albert Museum" arrives June 21.

On display will be articles from the scientific notebook of Leonardo da Vinci and the original manuscript of Bleak House by Charles Dickens and paintings by John Constable and Dante Gabriel Rossetti. It will showcase 250 objects, many associated with some of history's most famous people.

This will be the only Canadian stop for the exhibit. "What a thrill for me, what a thrill for all of us," Sharp said.

The exhibit will run until September 13 and advance tickets are available. The exhibition is included in ROM admission.

The ROM was founded at the beginning of the century by Ontarian Dr. Charles Trick Currelly. He was strongly influenced by the V & A collections.

Do You Know Any Curators To Be?

Parents – would like your child to spend the summer at the at the ROM? Starting June 29, and running through August 21, children, aged six to 14 years, can take part in the summer club.

More than 30 programs available in art, archaeology, and science will be available. Parents can choose from half or full-day two-week sessions in programs such as Jurassic Jaunts and Egyptomania. Children will have special hands-on access to the museum galleries, artifacts, specimens, and behind-the-scenes labs.

For information call (416) 586-5871 or check out the Summer Club website at: www.rom.on.ca/eyouth/summerclub.html.

Continuing exhibits:

- Ancient Cyprus: A Selection of Pottery and Sculpture – indefinite run
- Corsets to Calling Cards: The Etiquette of Victorian Women's Clothing – until July 1, 1998
- Five Generations: Images of Japanese Canadians – until November 8, 1998
- Lost Sense: An Installation by Catherine Widery – until September 27, 1998
- The Maiasaur Project – The Life and Times of a Dinosaur – indefinite run

Hours: Monday to Saturday 10 a.m. To 6 p.m.
Tuesday 10 a.m. To 8 p.m.
Sunday 11 a.m. To 6 p.m.

Admission Prices:
Adults Until June 20, \$10 as of June 21, \$15. Seniors until June 20, \$5 as of June 21, \$9
Students with ID until June 20, \$5 as of June 21, \$9. Children (five to 14 years of age) \$5 as of June 21, \$9
Infants (four years of age and under) free
Family Groups (with two adults and four youth 17 years of age and under) \$22 until June 20, \$30 as of June 21.

On Tuesday after 4:30 p.m., admission is pay-what-you-can. One hour before closing every day, admissions free. pay what you can does not apply to "A Grand Design."
The ROM is located at 100 Queen's Park, north of Bloor Street.

Family FUN



by **Kellie Lemos**

Lisa DiMarcos' idea of a good time is a computer or an evil-smelling concoction bubbling atop a Bunsen burner.

In summers past, the 11-year-old student - who says she's always on the computer - would do her own science experiments.

Trouble was - there was no one else around to share this stuff. This summer, that's about to change for Lisa and kids who share her interests.

Kids can learn while having fun with math, science, and computers at alternative summer camps across Ontario.

With a mix of science and good old-fashioned fun, children have a chance to experience it all. The camps are now open for summer registration.

Jennifer Zngaloul, co-founder of Jr. Web Wizards at Rosedale Heights in Thornhill, has put together a summer camp that includes aspects of technology such as learning the World Wide Web, using HTML, and creating personal Websites.

The camp still leaves room for outdoor recreation and traditional summer activities. "We wanted to incorporate computer programming with aspects of a regular camp," Zngaloul says. "It's camp with technology."

The camp is for kids, ages eight to 14, and runs from July 6 to August 14 in two-week sessions.

The camps help give

grades seven to 11, focuses on learning about computers. Participants spend the greater part of the day working with programs and learning new and exciting aspects of computer technology. Each week-long session revolves around a different project.

"Through May and June we go to the different schools and spend one-hour sessions with the kids so they get a chance to see what the camps are all about," Maraj says.

Both Venture and Adventures run eight one-week sessions throughout July and August at McMaster.

The University of Toronto also caters to the fun side of science at its Science Outreach summer camp program. "Our aim is to get kids interested in science," says Terrence Eta, program director for Science Outreach. "All of our programs are based around that."

The program runs from June 29 to August 31, in one-week sessions, for students eight to 15. Each child can participate in a maximum of two sessions.

According to Eta, the kids get to create experiments that really work.

"We've built roller coasters, synthetic apple pies and one year we built an entire city with working pipes and all."

The program is all about hands-on skills. The kids don't just hear about it, they actually do it. "We do a lot of fun stuff here. The kids really enjoy it because we show them the fun side," Eta says.

Web, graphics, and animation. "Our main focus is the Web," Zngaloul says. "The kids learn to design their own Web page using HTML and animation."

This is the second year of operation for Jr. Web Wizard. According to Zngaloul, both parents and kids were enthralled by the camp. "We've had a great response from parents. They like that their kids are learning new things. After our first year, things just really took off."

Each day is split into parts - computers, indoor crafts and activities and outdoor organized sports.

Hamilton's McMaster University has similar camps based on the fun side of math, science and computers. "We focus on the different disciplines learned at Mac," says Cindy Maraj, camp organizer.

Venture Engineering and Science Camp, now in its seventh year, has shown kids from grades five to eight another side of science. "I think it's wonderful. It shows kids that math and science don't have to be boring. It gives them the fun side," says Maraj. "One year we even had the kids build a cooler that really worked."

"My youngest daughter is really into computers, so I thought that it would be great to get her into a program where she could learn and still have summer fun," says Rosa Silva, mother of a fifth-grader.

Adventures in Engineering and Computing, for

Adventures in Engineering and Computing, Venture Engineering and Science
McMaster University,
Hamilton Ont.
Phone: 905-525-9140 ext. 24906.

Jr. Web Wizards
Markham Ont.
Phone: 905-707-9575
e-mail: camp@jrwebwizards.com

Science Outreach
University of Toronto,
Toronto, Ont.
Phone 416-978-0795.

Creative Encounters with Science
University of Guelph,
Guelph Ont.
phone 519-824-4120

Do your teachers want a strike in September? No. We want . . .

Quality Education

There has been a 20% reduction in full-time faculty over the past 3 years. What this means for you is larger classes, less class time, stressed teachers. We want to preserve limits on faculty workload.

Recognition of Full Time Faculty Work

More of your classes are being taught by contract teachers and support staff. We want the college to recognize this teaching as full-time faculty work. We want people doing teaching to be fairly classified and paid accordingly.

Fair Pay

We haven't had a raise in 5 years. We currently earn less than most high school teachers.

Teachers, librarians and counsellors in Ontario's colleges have been trying to negotiate a new contract for over 2 years. Our current contract expired August 1996. What do these negotiations mean to you? Find out more about the issues. Ask your teachers or call ext. 4007 to speak to an officer of the Faculty Union.

OPSEU

SEFPO

Setting Up Camp

BY MARCEL WATIER

Summer's coming and so is a terrifying realization for many parents. The kids are finished school for two months.

For some parents, this can be earth-shattering. For others it's no big deal. But many parents are left wondering how they are going to keep their children busy for the summer.

One alternative is summer camp, a tradition that, for many campers, will provide the most cherished memories of childhood.

"I went to Columbus Boys' camp for eight years and I loved it. I hated turning 16," says former camper David Wiggins, a second-year McMaster University student. "I wanted to go back to be a counsellor the next year, but it just didn't work out."

Wiggins adds that, through the camp, he made many friends and was able to keep in contact with most of them.

"Some of the guys I went to camp with are also the same guys that I now go to school with at McMaster. They have become my family away from home."

Columbus Boys' Camp chairman Sam Ferrando says that Wiggins' feelings are normal for many past campers.

"Most of our staff are ex-campers," he says. "They liked it a lot as campers and then they continue on as senior staff."

According to Wiggins, the camp gave him a glimpse at a different lifestyle.

"It was a great escape," he says. "I lived in a rough area where most of my friends were into things like break and enters, and other petty crime things. The camp exposed me to other things that I most likely wouldn't have gotten if I didn't go. I got to have fun and to build things and to be in the country."

Not every past camper shares this rosy view. Margaret Hamilton, a 21-year-old former camper, says camp was not what she imagined.

"It was boring. I didn't know anyone. I had no friends," says Hamilton.

Despite this, she says she would still send her children to camp because it is a place to meet friends, have fun, and relax.

"It (overnight-camp) is all fun and games. It has nothing to do with education," she says.

But Hamilton complains day camps and sports camps are not about fun, but about learning.

"You spend 10 months a year in school to learn things. Summer is supposed to be about fun," she added.

To single mother Joanne Patton, overnight camp is a great thing. Patton's four children range in age from 25 to five-years-old. Her two oldest have been through the camping experience and enjoyed it. She says she would



The promise of good times and new friends attract campers to the overnight experience.



The first day means unpacking and meeting your bunk mates. Where does all this stuff fit?

not hesitate to send her other children.

"My only concern would be Robert (her youngest). He doesn't talk, he's very shy, he doesn't like girls, and is a very fussy eater," Patton says.

She went on to say it would help to know more about the counsellors' backgrounds.

"It's just an extra measure of safety," she said.

Ferrando is quick to point out that camp staff are carefully chosen.

"We've never had any problems. People are screened before we hire them," he said.

When asked which she preferred, day camps or overnight camps, Patton said overnight camps win easily.

"I don't think day camps are such a good idea. A lot of parents may like it, but not a lot of kids necessarily will."

She adds that overnight camps also have other advantages.

"Kids would be away. They're camping out. At a day camp, you get dropped off in the morning and picked up a few hours later."

Ferrando is neutral, but notes that overnight camps at least offer the promise of a vacation for both parents and kids. "We actually give (parents) a holiday, I would suspect."

Camp also teaches children about getting along with others.

"I'm sure it helps them to live with other people and learn new things," Ferrando said.

Friends, education, good times and new experiences are a few of the many things that can be taken home from camp. And if that's not enough to lure you - there's always the food and bug juice to look forward to.

Keeping Your Wheels

BY NOREEN O'LEARY

Children throughout the Greater Toronto Area are dusting off their bikes with anticipation of warm summer weather.

But an increase in biking comes an increase in bike-related injuries and deaths, according to the Ontario Coalition for Better Cycling (OCBC).

"Bike riding is a great activity for kids," said Leslie Griffin, a Markham parent of two boys, aged five and nine. "But there's always the concern that they're going to get hurt. A scrape or a cut is one thing, but a serious fall is another."

Griffin refuses to let her children ride their bikes without helmets. Although she knows helmets are unable to provide complete protection, she says she is reassured knowing her children are wearing some protective gear.

"You can't be watching them every minute of the day, and you can't expect them to ride their bikes in armour suits," she said. "Even if they're just riding on the driveway, they have to have their helmets on. It's a rule in our house. You never know when or where a child is going to fall."

Griffin is right. According to the Ontario Head Injury Association, 80 per cent of all bike accidents occur less than five blocks from home. Bicycle helmets are able to reduce the risk of serious head injury by up to 85 per cent.

Since October 1995, it has been mandatory for those under 18 to wear helmets while bike riding.

Constable Mike Moran, of the York Regional Police, agrees bike helmets are instrumental in preventing injuries and deaths.

"Many bike injuries involving children are a result of them being thrown from their bikes," he said. "A helmet will help to prevent head injury by absorbing a lot of the impact."

But even the best helmet does not make a bike rider invincible. According to William Coffman, of the Canadian Standards Association, "A bicycle helmet is strictly for falls."

In Motion

York's Const. Moran says knowing the rules of safe bike riding is just as important as a good helmet.

"It's important (for bike riders) to be aware of what is going on around them," he said. "Even small things, like adjusting the seat properly or putting reflectors on a bike, can help prevent injury."

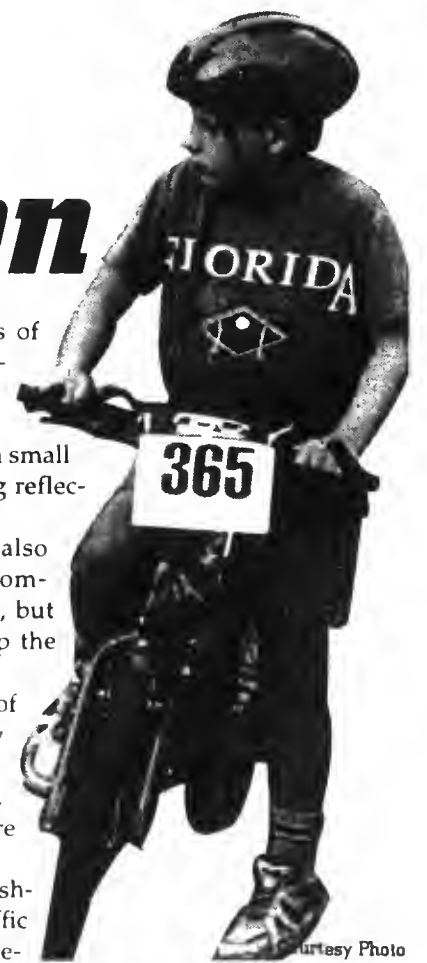
Const. Moran stresses proper footwear can also make a difference. He does not recommend riding bare-foot or in flip flops, but rather in shoes that will properly grip the pedals.

According to the OCBC, 80 per cent of child cycling accidents are caused by cyclist error, including colliding with fixed objects and falling from bikes. The other 20 per cent of accidents are caused by motorists.

Two of the most common causes of crashes involving cars are riding against traffic and riding out of a driveway or a sidewalk into a street. The OCBC strongly urges parents to teach their children the concept of yielding right of way, particularly at the end of driveways.

"I love riding my bike," said Griffin's five-year-old son. "But Mom says I have to wear my helmet and be careful so I won't get hurt."

For safe summer riding, all kids should be doing the same.



- Tips:**
- Ride with the flow of traffic
 - Stop and look both ways before entering a street.
 - Stop at all marked and unmarked intersections
 - Use hand signals and look in all directions before turning.

Island Escape



Jennifer McLaughlin

by Jennifer McLaughlin

As you hop on the ferry to the Toronto Islands and wave goodbye to Toronto's skyline, you'll notice changes in sounds. The breeze and quacking of ducks replace the noise of cars and subways. The Islands are paradise when compared to the bedlam of downtown.

"There's a certain intimacy about it," said Stuart Morris, a regular visitor to the islands. "You know that there are four million people across the way. It's a five-minute away escape."

During the summer months three ferries run frequently to Ward's Island, Centre Island, and Hanlon's Point.

The Toronto Islands, part of a sand bar that begins in downtown Toronto, were part of the mainland until 1858 when a storm separated the peninsula. Today they are

a major recreation area in Toronto.

Pathways and bridges connect the islands providing great scenic walks. There is something for everyone to do, unless you're a race car driver.

"The fact that there are no cars on the Island is definitely a bonus," said Rob Skeoch, who comes to the island to play the frisbee golf course. "I don't have to worry about running into traffic."

According to Langdon Prue of the Toronto Parks and Recreation department, Centre Island attracts the most visitors. "There is lots for families to do, including Centreville and Far Enough Farm," he said.

Centreville is a children's amusement park designed as a miniature village. There are many rides including a turn-of-the-century carousel. Far Enough Farm, the petting zoo, has southern Ontario farm animals for kids to see.

Long Pond Lagoon, another attraction on Centre Island, rents out canoes, rowboats and paddleboats.

For those who want to remain on land, there are bike rentals and paths for cycling and rollerblading. There are also tennis courts, frisbee golf, and baseball diamonds. Visitors don't have to be highly active, but they do have to be prepared to do a lot of walking. Without cars, the five mile distance between Ward's Island and Hanlon's Point may seem far, but there's plenty of space for picnics, and beaches to lounge on.

Hanlon's Point has a small airport for flights to Ottawa and Montreal and a small beach for those who want to relax.

"Only a small per cent of Toronto's population comes here," Skeoch said. "It's almost like being part of a special club."

"The scenery's great," said Mark Osler, a frequent visitor to the Islands. "You see the same people all the time. It's really nice."

The Toronto Islands are a full day of fun for families and individuals. The breeze off the lake is also an incentive when the heat is on.

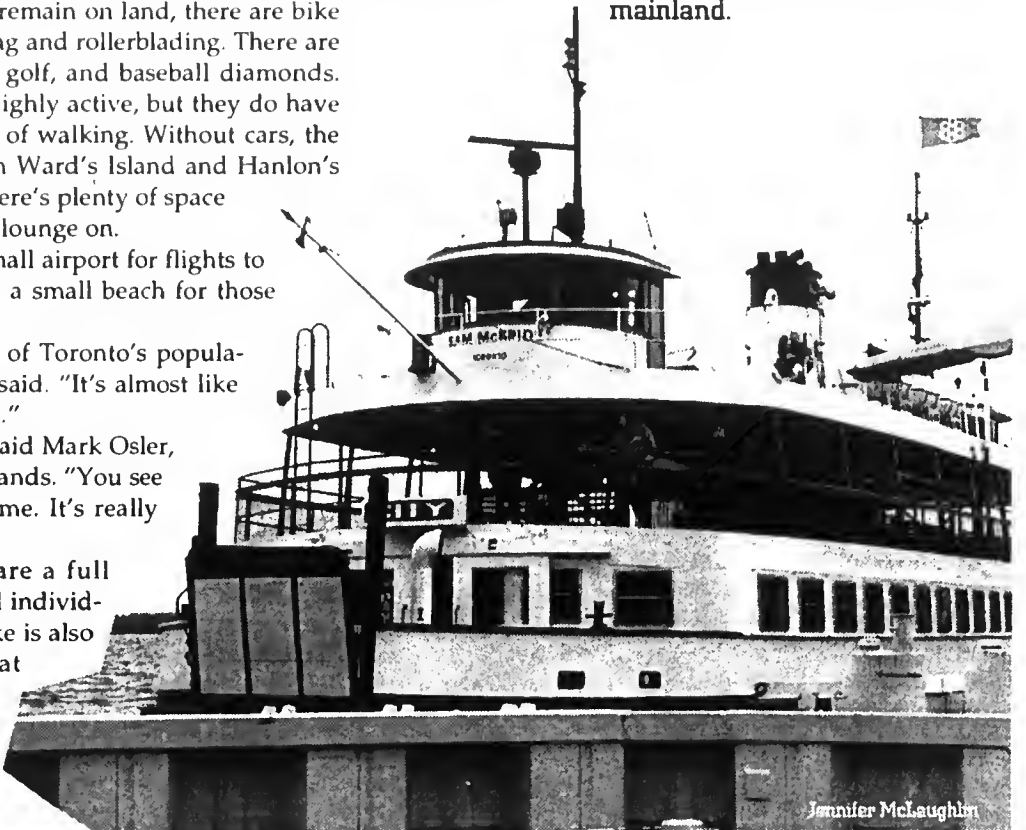
"It's cool when you need to get out of the humidity of downtown," Osler said.



Jennifer McLaughlin

Above: Spring visitors take advantage of Centre Island's frisbee golf course.

Below: The ferry gets ready to return to the city mainland.



Jennifer McLaughlin

By Wendy Inkster

The day was hot and humid. Six-year-old Katie Gray had been waiting in line for half an hour to get her face painted and her mother was trying to convince her to eat lunch.

But you know what? You couldn't wipe the smile off her face.

This is what special events in Ontario are all about. "It's an opportunity to go out into the community and do things together," says Heather Smith, City of Toronto Special Events Office co-ordinator. "People are busy with work and getting the kids to hockey practices, but events like these are important to family and community life."

The highlight of this summer's line-up is the Celebrate Toronto Festival beginning Canada Day (July 1). The family festival will mark the coming together of the new city and will celebrate the attributes that have collectively earned Toronto a great reputation.

"It's hard to believe that a city as fantastic as ours could get any better," Mayor Mel Lastman said in a press release from the Special Events Office. "Joining together as a unified city gives us even more reasons to be proud, more great neighbours, restaurants, shops, parks, attractions, all the reasons why Toronto is the best place in the world to live, work, and play."

The event will feature Canada Day celebrations in communities throughout the city. Multiple stages will feature a range of music, jugglers, chalk artists, mimes and magicians.

There is something to please every member of the family, according to Joanne Clark, a mother who attends family festivals regularly with her husband and three-year-old daughter.

"It gives a chance for families to all come together and they don't have to pay," says Clark.

If there is a cost involved, it is always minimal.

Entrance and entertainment is usually free, with a minimum charge for extras like face painting or candy floss.

So what can families expect to find at a summer special event?

Let's use one of Ontario's largest one day family festivals as an example. More than 10,000 young people are expected to flock to Burlington, 45 minutes west of Toronto, for the seventh annual

Barr; one of Canada's best known children's performers, Cindy Cook of Polka Dot Door, juggler Craig Douglas, and Jimbo the Clown.

According to Mike Mueller, City of Burlington special events co-ordinator, "You certainly get a good feeling knowing that the kids are having a good time, and it's also self-satisfying to know that you have played a part in helping the positive development of a young person."

"The summer events provide a positive choice for families. They have a place to go where they can enjoy the company of their respective peers in a good environment."

He says that, on different level, it is important for "tax payers to see their money being used in a way that they want it to be used."

Special event co-ordinators are trying to attract sponsors for the events to provide a greater return on tax-payer's money.

"It's easy to say that there is not enough money, but special event organizers have to know the way the industry is going or else they won't survive," Toronto's Heather Smith says. "They must be mindful that there is not enough funding for everything they want to do so they have to fulfill the needs of sponsor."

When tax-payers enjoy the special events in their community, they can understand where their money is going.

According to entertainer Doug Barr, seeing where the money goes is not the only benefit. "It's important for children to see live shows that are produced and hand-crafted by Canadians, it's a celebration of Canadian culture."

Barr has entertained children for 18 years. He has recorded four albums, performed coast to coast, and appeared on TV shows such as Mr. Dressup. "You get their attention with song and then when you add in a colourful, wacky personality like mine, that makes them laugh."

This summer, put at least one day aside for the family, pack the picnic basket, put on some sunscreen, and enjoy some hot fun in the summertime at a special event.

FESTIVAL FINDS



Courtesy photo

Last year's sixth annual Burlington Children's Festival Children's Festival at Spencer Smith Park on August 9.

Kids of all ages will see top Ontario's performers, Kids at water-ski show on Lake Ontario, have their faces painted and explore dozens of exhibits. Among the attractions are a large petting zoo with 75 animals, a story-time tent, and two stages featuring acts like Doug

Ragin' Cajun Sounds on Queen

**Musicians from around the world to perform at the
10th annual Beaches Jazz Festival**

by Wylie Rogers



The Crocs' Southern style puts the bite on music fans (left). A strong percussionist provides the framework for The Crocs' peppery zydeco melodies (bottom).

Deep in the bayou, among the swamps and folklore, there's a music that resonates rhythm and ignites the desire to dance.

Zydeco, rooted in blues, rock, county and reggae, combines the musical styles of traditional Cajun and Creole cultures into a spicy, spiritual groove.

The Crockodiles, a band from Southern Ontario, capture the essence and purity of this roots-based sound with their traditional zydeco lineup — accordion, vocals, scrubboard, guitar, bars, and drums. And this summer they'll be takin' their music to the street — Queen Street, that is.

The 10th annual Beaches Jazz Festival will feature

We're going to put on a better show than last year...Interaction is the most important thing.

—Stella Long, singer

"over 50 bands performing nightly on selected corners, balconies and rooftops on Queen Street East between Woodbine Avenue and Neville Park," said festival spokeswoman Roxanne Tracey.

Music lovers will come out of the woodwork for some of the best live music Toronto has to offer. Free admission sweetens the appeal, making for an affordable, entertaining weekend.

"The key thing for the festival is that it appeals to all ages," said Stella Long, the Crocs' lead vocalist

and percussionist. "We get a great kid response. They seem to go crazy."

The festival's mile-long StreetFest closes the streets to traffic during performances and the great music and party-like atmosphere echoes the Mardi Gras celebrations in New Orleans.

"The (Beaches Jazz Festival's) 10th annual celebration is going to be a commemorative milestone," said Lido Chilelli, the festival's president and producer since 1989. "There has been a tremendous response so far."

Vendors and musicians will interact with the crowds, selling arts and crafts and sharing a passion for good tunes.

Long said this year's show will be the best yet. "We're gonna put on a better show than last year. It's going to be hard, but we plan to get the crowd into it. We get them involved with our shakers. Interaction is the most important thing," she said.

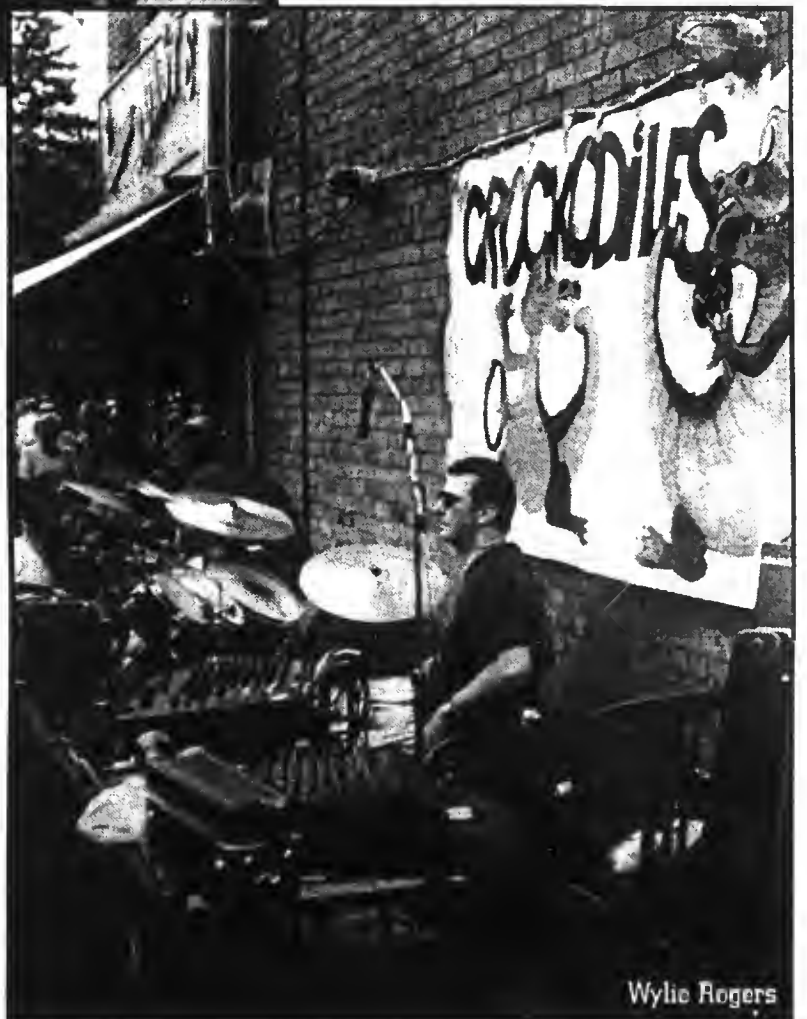
Rest assured, there'll be dancin' in the street.

"It's primal. It's the beat — it just grabs you," Long said.

The festival takes place July 23 to 26, from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

On the first three nights of the festival, more than 300 musicians will play calypso, new age, Latin, fusion, blues, Cajun and jazz music.

On July 25 and 26, from noon to 6 p.m., local and international artists will play at the Alex Christie Bandshell in Kew Gardens.



Wylie Rogers

LATIN NIGHTS IN TORONTO

by Julia Kuzeljevich



It's a Monday evening, the kind of sultry early summer evening that rouses Torontonians from winter hibernation. On the top floor of a warehouse-like building on Yonge Street south of Bloor, a flurry of hand movements and stamping feet on a glossy, waxed floor signal the beginning of Elena La Comadre's flamenco class at Arte Flamenco.

Long, flounced and ruffled black skirts have replaced office clothes and jeans. Even without the energy of the

dance, these skirts have a life of their own — one dancer hikes hers up to better show off the polka-dotted ruffles underneath.

"There's a human need to dance, and flamenco is about rejection and pain. (It's) an aggressive and, at the same time, very sensual dance," says Deborah, a student who's been taking flamenco for three-and-a-half years.

Lydia, another student who has studied many Latin rhythms, now concentrates on flamenco. "It really pulled my gut in. I was so transfixed by it — the feet, the arms, the rhythm — I thought this is something I really need to learn in my life.

"I felt like a brain on a stick. With Latin dance, you feel grounded. You use your brain and your body. It's very centring and esteem-building," says Lydia.

Deborah and Lydia echo the feeling many have about flamenco and other forms of Latin dancing, which have taken the normally-staid city of Toronto by storm. In a typical conversation about Latin dance, words like "empowerment," "sexiness," "coquettishness" and "romance" come up again and again.

Unlike most Latin Americans, who grow up with dance as an everyday part of life, Canadians are generally not known for being social dancers. The appeal of Latin rhythms like the rumba, cha-cha, samba, meringue, salsa and cumbia are raising their curiosity and awakening their sensuality.

Increased travel to the Caribbean and South America is partly responsible for the increased interest, but North Americans have considered Latin culture "exotic" since the days of Fred Astaire and Carmen Miranda movies.

Latin dancing technically refers to dances that fuse rhythms from Europe, the indigenous population and slaves brought to work in the New World. The samba, rumba and cha-cha are well-known, but lesser-known steps like the jive and the paso doble, or the "two-step," are also Latin dances.

In the American south, the jive was also called the "cakewalk," because dancers would compete to win a cake. For many North Americans though, Latin dance also includes Spanish gypsy dances like flamenco and commercialized moves like the macarena.

Because of its romantic connotation, many couples take Latin dance classes in preparation for their weddings. But attending lessons and maintaining skills afterwards is difficult unless they frequent Latin nightclubs. Many are also reluctant to take up the Latin rhythms, which can look daunting.

Joe, a systems analyst, recalls being dragged to a beginners' class by his enthusiastic girlfriend. At first, all the men stood around looking uncomfortable as the teacher showed them the liquid hip and leg movements of the meringue.

"Pretty soon, though, we all wanted to get the moves right. What got us going was the teacher saying it was up



Julia Kuzeljevich

Flamenco instructor Elena La Comadre (above left) teaches her students (above) the fiery gypsy dance.

to us to guide the ladies. Our girlfriends were all leading us!"

Many men find learning the basics especially difficult. "North Americans haven't grown up with these movements and, especially for the men, it's been a sissy sort of thing to do," says Leslie, who's been taking Latin dance off and on for five years. "It's such a great feeling though, to know a movement and to feel it with the music."

Make no mistake. In Latin dance, el hombre is still the boss. "Traditionally, the men do the leading," says Mary Adams, who teaches children and adults. "But women tend to take direction and release their body movements faster."

Many believe the key is a lot of hip movement but the secret to moving to Latin rhythms is a composed upper body, structured arm movement, and a combination of the ankles, knees and hips working together. For some dances, like the meringue and samba, picturing a figure eight in your head can better direct the moves.

So you've learned the basic moves, but what about fine-tuning?

Latin clubs across the city are addressing the need for practice by combining fees for lessons with the club cover charge.

At Alberto Gomez's La Classique on St. Clair Avenue West, which recently celebrated its fifth year of operation, couples at different levels of ability come every weekend for lessons before the nightclub crowd arrives and then stay until about 3 a.m.

"If you go to the lessons, you pay your cover for the night. It's a good deal," says Gomez, who's been teaching for 15 years.

On one Saturday night, the advanced salsa class takes over the club floor until the regulars pour in, usually after 11:30 p.m. The atmosphere is electric — dancers



Alberto Gomez, owner of La Classique on St. Clair Avenue West, kicks up his heels with an enthusiastic señorita.



Dance partners Josie and Marius practice their fancy footwork for upcoming competitions.

Julia Kuzeljevich

here definitely want to be seen — and are incredibly hospitable. Young and old enjoy each others' company, showing off their newly-acquired skills. The fiesta-like atmosphere brings many of the students back every weekend.

Deals like this are common at all the big Latin clubs — like Berlin, El Rancho and Plaza Flamingo — around the city. Plaza Flamingo's end-of-the-week dinner and flamenco show packages are popular and at Berlin every Tuesday is salsa night with lessons before the club opens.

The recent approval of Latin and ballroom dance as an Olympic spectator sport is also responsible for attracting new participants. Though many of the details still have to be worked out, the new "dance sport" category means increasing enrollment in many dance classes across the city.

At Violetta's Dance studio, on Dufferin Street south of Glencairn, a poster on the wall reads "Hot Dancing in the Big City." While the beginners' class ends with the cha-cha, the intermediate and advanced students are limbering up.

Violetta's dance syllabus, compiled by the Canadian Dance Teachers' Association, lays out the required steps for all dances. Levels are determined by the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dance for international-style ballroom and Latin dancing. There is an American style as well, for which the syllabus is not quite so established, allowing for differences in style from schools like the Fred Astaire school or the Arthur Murray school. When it comes to the "street dances," like the salsa and meringue, traditional styles are often modified by trends going on in the clubs.

Beginners in these dances soon master such exotic steps as "alemana," where the man guides the woman into a spin, the "New York," where they walk with hands linked in one direction then another and the "cucarachas" where dancers imitate the action of stomping on cockroaches. In fact, the rumba, in its rural form, was a sort of pantomime of barnyard animals.

For Josie and Marius, these steps are already a fait accompli. Off on their own during much of the intermediate class, they spin like tops across the expanse of the room. This dance-pair came to Latin dance from folk dancing and in three years have reached the adult category of competition. They rose through pre-bronze, bronze, silver, gold pre-championship and championship groupings in the juvenile and then junior categories, which includes the cha-cha, rumba, samba, jive and paso doble. The adult category is for those over 16 years, but Josie and Marius, both 17, have the sophistication and professionalism of veteran dancers.

"The most important thing is getting the right partner," says Josie. "The most necessary thing to have is to work with the same sense of rhythm or everything's off."

Pairing up for competitions can cause problems. "It's like a relationship that starts off very exciting because both of you are into learning. After a few months though, the personality differences start coming out. And it becomes almost like a marriage of sorts," says Lydia, who now dances mainly flamenco.

Josie says that although dancing is not a lucrative occupation, she hopes to continue performing and eventually teach. Despite the hours she commits to practice, she never tires of it.

The tables in Violetta's are set with shimmering centerpieces and bright tablecloths. Every weekend, the dance studio hosts a party, with a \$5.00 admission fee, for those wanting to put to practice those hard-earned steps.

Inside, entranced couples are lost in the dance. Outside, Toronto is gearing down from the day, oblivious to those dancing their hearts out to a Latin beat.

ARE YOU A FULL TIME STUDENT?

Make It Count

You Can Vote

NOTICE of Annual General Meeting for the Central Students Association & Special Meeting for Council of Student Affairs Members

Please attend on April 29, 1998

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Place: SAC North Quiet Lounge

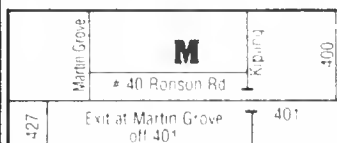
NOTICE OF C.S.A. AGM & SPECIAL MEETING

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GO FOR THE GREEN

by Glenn Weir



He is the image of Alberta,
The side-street near Chicago,
The grim beauty of Toronto.
(“Lightfoot,” Bachman/
Cummings 1969)

Dads pushing prams? Toddlers learning to walk? Teens tossing frisbees? No, it's not a strawberry social — it's Allan Gardens, one of the delicious little patches of green frequented by Torontonians.

The grounds of Allan Gardens are ordinary enough (paths, rain-worn benches, trees). The land has changed very little since it was established by Sir John Colborne in 1834. Under the first horticultural society in Ontario (sorry, Upper Canada) Allan Gardens was intended to

encourage the introduction and cultivation of improved varieties of fruits, plants and veggies. Today, Allan Gardens boasts one of the most beautiful public greenhouses in Toronto.

“You can just wander in this place,” says John Lewis, a 41-year-old Toronto resident. “You can lose yourself in any greenhouse, but this place is something special. They really love what they're doing here. I'm not into camping at all but I love to — if you'll excuse my cliché — get back to nature. This is a great place to frit away an hour or so. It's just so relaxing.”

Go west, young person! You'll hit a little spot called Queen's Park. Located just north of the University Street courthouse, Queen's Park has been around since the city leased the land from King's College in 1859. Named after Queen Victoria in 1860, Queen's Park is an under-30s haven. There are rollerbladers, bikers and couples — everybody is so full of pith and vinegar.

“I see this area when I come to visit my girlfriends,” says Sofia Lopoukhine, a 24-year-old federal government clerk. “Queen's Park is not unlike a lot of parks in Ottawa because it's so quiet and peaceful. What is really nice to see, though, is the number of student-aged people on the grounds. It's a great place to just sit and relax. Parks like this are very important and I'm glad they're around.”

10 COOL SPOTS IN T.O.

place	in a word	where?	subway
Allan Gardens	festive	Jarvis/Carlton	College
Balmy Beach Park	balmy	Beech/QueenE	NO
Dufferin Grove	interesting	Dufferin/Sylvan	Dufferin
Edwards Gardens	beautiful	Leslie/LawrenceW	NO
High Park	big	High Park/BloorW	High Park
Marilyn Bell Park	refreshing	LakeShoreW/Aquatic	NO
Moss Park	peaceful	QueenE/Sherbourne	Queen
Queen's Park	central	Queen's Park/WellesleyW	Museum
Riverdale Park	removed	Broadview/Langley	Broadview
Trinity Bellwoods	green	Strachan/QueenW	Osgoode

Parks are important, indeed. Janet Eagleson, director of the Metro Toronto Region Conservation Authority, says parks play many important roles in the urban environment. “Parks aren't only environmental, they're also public and recreational,” says Eagleson. “They give us that peace of mind and spirit, that sense of well-being. That's important for everyone, especially people who live deep in the city, in apartments.”

Some of T.O.'s outdoor sanctuaries lie just off the beaten path. High Park, for example, is just steps from the High Park subway station, and attracts people of all ages.

“High Park is definitely one of (Toronto's) main spots, for sure,” says Joyce, also a Toronto Recreation and Parks Authority employee.

“With everything from Shakespearean plays in August to outdoor pools all summer long, High Park is an all-ages place. It's located in a very clean neighbourhood. That's not to say you should be walking in the park at midnight. It does have a night (security) watch but it's a always better to take in High Park during the day.”

The big three ... Allan Gardens, and Queen's Park and High Park. They're out there. Get a book, slip into your Bermudas, and let's hit the parks.



Just north of
Mike Harris's bunker is
a grassy oasis that
rejuvenates tired urbanites.

Glenn Weir

SCHOLARSHIPS for STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Three scholarship programs have been announced for students with disabilities attending Humber.

1.) Student Access Awards Program

Value: \$2,500 annually
Open to students attending Humber college programs, who meet scholarship criteria.

2.) The Imasco Scholarship Program

Value: \$5,000 annually
Open to students enrolled in the pre-university G.A.S. Program, or those planning to transfer from a college diploma program to university

3.) The Mattinson Endowment Fund

Value: \$2,000 annually
Open to students enrolled in the pre-university G.A.S. program or those planning to transfer from a college diploma program to university

For more information, contact:

Liz Sokol - North Campus, D128-675-662x4743
Joy Trenholm - Lakeshore Campus, A120-675-6622x3242

PHOTOGRAPH

Another famous Internet urban myth

Source: the Internet

Part one surfaced as a chain letter in November of 1997 (many thanks to Kate Bishop for forwarding it here). The gist of it is that Bill Gates is personally testing an "email tracing program," and will give \$1000 to the first 1,000 people who forward the letter.

It's all poppycock, of course, though highly entertaining.

Here, first, is the original message, short and sweet:

Subject: FW: Must Read!!!! Bill Gates (tw)

Hello everybody, My name is Bill Gates. I have just written upon e-mail tracing program that traces everyone to whom this message is forwarded to. I am experimenting with this and I need your help. Forward this to everyone you know and if it reaches 1000 people everyone on the list will receive \$1000 at my expense. Enjoy.

Your friend,
Bill Gates

Is there any remote possibility that the offer is for real? No, none. Microsoft was quoted as follows in the Chicago Sun-Times for February 15:

"This message did not come from Mr. Gates. There is no such program and no such offer is being made to our customers. Someone is playing a bad joke."

For more urban myths check out pages 4 and 11



etc.
magazine

Online?

<http://etcetera.humberc.on.ca>

SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT UNIVERSITY STUDY IN U.S.A.

The Hites Scholarship Foundation has awarded two scholarships to Humber Students graduating from a 2 or 3 year diploma program, who want to continue their studies in an American University.

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- a letter of application describing your academic, career and personal goals
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We're open all summer and here to help!

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WITH

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ALUMNI

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The **REAL WORLD**'s pretty exciting. Go out and conquer it!

TO BE OR NOT TO BE, IN STRATFORD



The Festival Theatre (left) is one of three theatres used during the festival. Stratford celebrates all of the arts. (below)



by Wendy Inkster

Get your tickets, now!

The Stratford Festival opens May 11, so why wait to plan a heavenly get-away? If you can't afford a trip to England, Stratford is the next best thing.

"Stratford is a city with top notch accommodations, unique quaint shops, and world class theatre," says Karen Harmer, Stratford Festival's media relations manager.

You don't have to dig deep in your pockets to have a first-class trip. Each indulgence is very affordable and the drive is quick and scenic. Everything in the city is centred around the downtown core. Which means visitors can park the car and walk for the rest of the day. "People coming from larger urban cities really enjoy the small hometown feeling that Stratford has to offer," says Harmer.

Former Torontonian Carol Grant who owns and operates a bed and breakfast in Stratford says the biggest benefits of Stratford are free, but often overlooked.

"There are so many wonderful opportunities here, and it's a much slower pace. You can walk down to the river and feed the ducks or have a picnic in the park," says Grant.

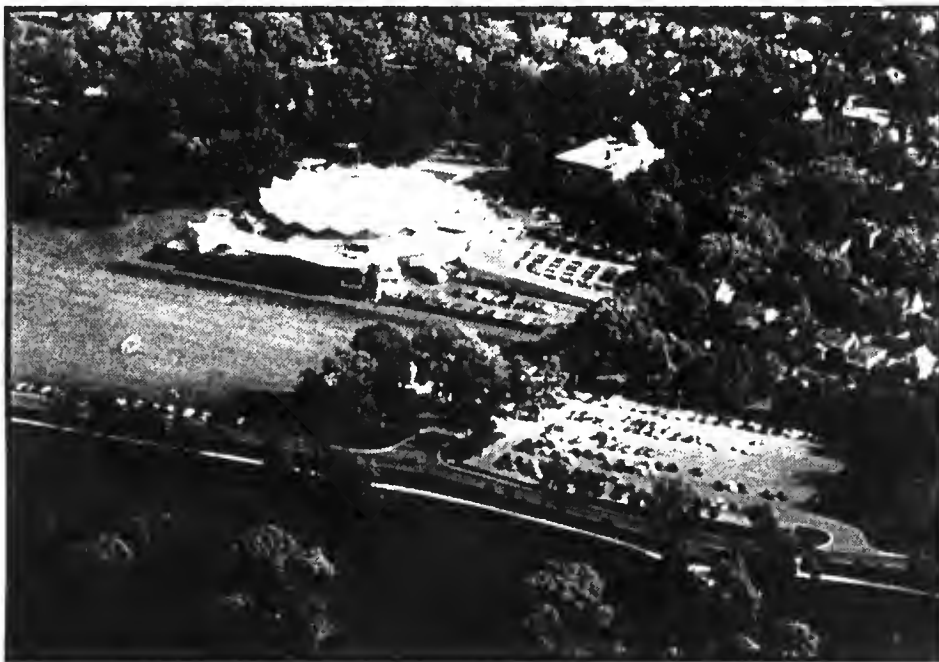
Lynda Keast, a Torontonian who attends the theatre annually, says: "If you just spend one day in Stratford, it is possible to see almost all of the exciting tourist attractions because everything is very accessible."

Tourists have a chance to discover the surrounding countryside and villages and be back in time for dinner and the theatre.

"Many people don't realize

dips into woodlands, and ascends hillsides. Incredible scenery and friendly hellos aside, the spectacular theatre productions are impossible to ignore.

July and August are the ideal



An aerial view of the Stratford Festival Theatre. One of three theatres used for the festival.

that there is so much more to Stratford than the theatre. Personally, I can't go without riding my bike along the Avon Trail," says Keast.

The Avon Trail links the Thames River and Grand Valley trails. It winds alongside rivers,

months to attend the Stratford Festival. During the summer, 12 of the greatest productions are showcased. This year, enjoy Man of La Mancha, Much Ado About Nothing, A Man for All Seasons, or one of the other celebrated classics being presented.

The Stratford Festival was honoured with the Lieutenant-Governor's Award for Art in 1996 and in 1997.

In the 1998 Visitors' Guide, Richard Monette, Stratford Festival Artistic Director, speaks highly of his performers

"Not even the greatest play can come to life until its words are spoken upon a stage, and at the Stratford Festival those words are spoken by actors who are indeed among the best and the most versatile in the world," he says. "We are proud to be the home of not only good plays, but of great players too."

Tickets range in price from \$25 to \$43. Student discounts are sometimes available.

The Stratford Festival Accommodation Bureau provides a toll-free number (1-800-567-1600) for purchasing theatre tickets and booking accommodations.

Tickets can also be purchased at Roy Thompson Hall, or at any Ticketmaster outlet.

Festival highlights for the 1998 season, May 11 to Nov 8.

Festival Theatre

Julius Caesar:
Stephen Russell, Benedict Campbell, Lally Cadeau

Man of La Mancha:
Juan Chioran, Cythia Dale, Susan Cuthbert

A Man for All Seasons:
John Dolan, Douglas Rain, Roy Lewis

Avon Theatre

The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie:
Wayne Best, Cara Hunter, Brian Tree

Much Ado About Nothing:
William Hutt, James Blendick, Eric Donkin

Tom Patterson Theatre

The Winter's Tale:
Geordie Johnson, Claire Jullien, Kate Trotter

The Cherry Orchard:
Sarah Dodd, David Jansen, James Blendick

The Night of the Iguana:
Sean McKenna, William Needles, Patricia Collins

A Little Bit of

the Wild West



Rawhide Adventure owner/trailboss Carl "Crusty" Cosack with friend Buck leads ranch visitors on a thrilling wilderness adventure ride.

Saddle Up Buckaroo and get ready to ride the range

By Joanna Wilson

The sky was the color of alabaster and the breeze was cold upon my face. The only sounds were the pounding of horses hooves on the hard ground and the twittering of the birds high in the trees. Nothing else. No cars, no horns, no shouting people.

Just me, Buck, and 1100 acres of field, forest and farmland 90 minutes northwest of the noisy crowds and road-rage of Toronto.

Peace Valley Ranch, located in Shelburne, is the home of Rawhide Adventures where people have the chance to travel on horseback, western style, through the most beautiful countryside along the Niagara Escarpment.

The ranch is also the home of 175 cows, calves and bulls, as well as 20 of the most well-tempered, good-natured, reliable quarterhorses. Only 14 horses sporting such names as Billy, Honey, Bart, Chester and of course Buck, are used on trail rides.

Carl "Crusty" Cosack, and his wife Susie, are the owners of Peace Valley Ranch and founders of Rawhide Adventures. While sitting in the Cosack's brightly-lit country-style kitchen, Crusty said Rawhide was somewhat of an accident because it was never intended to be more than a cattle ranch. Horses were ridden frequently to check on the cows, fix fencing and perform other farm work.

But the idea that started by taking friends for leisure rides on only two horses, became a full-time business for

the Cosacks, along with their cattle ranch.

Rawhide has been officially in business for more than three years now and most of the clientele comes by word of mouth. Crusty says he is pleased with the response and the many cards of thanks.

"We give them something decent to experience and talk about," he said while eating a plate of pancakes and

RAWHIDE RATES

Two hour ride (plus meal) - \$65.00 per person
Four hour ride (plus meal) - \$125.00 per person
Overnighter (all inclusive) - \$185.00 per person
* there is also an hourly charge

sipping his morning coffee.

Rawhide offers a different kind of adventure. Depending on your skill and ease with horses, the trail rides can give an experienced rider a good challenge or a novice an easy, comfortable journey.

"Our horses are alert and bright and accommodate a variety of riders," Susie said as she hurried about collecting breakfast dishes, wrapping a present, and getting ready to take her daughter to a birthday party.

Before you hit the trails, the Cosacks like to sit down and have a cup of coffee and get to know your experience with horses. By doing this, they can ensure that you will ride a horse that suits your skill and personality.

"Nobody goes out without feeling comfortable with their horse. I find a horse that will suit the person's needs," Crusty said while the breadmaker hummed softly as it churned dough for fresh bread later.

Instructions are given as the riders don Australian outback coats and western safety hats, supplied by the Cosacks.

Corral time is free as each rider is given time to get to

know their horse, to learn its rhythm and personality.

"Safety is so important but you don't want to stifle their (the rider's) enthusiasm," said Crusty.

Denise Chandler, an experienced horsewoman who boards horses at the ranch, helps out with the trail rides.

Both Crusty and Chandler are presently taking a Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation and first-aid course. They do not recommend people taking cellular phones, but they carry one along with them for emergencies.

Once on the trail, the experience can last from a two-hour ride, to an overnight campout.

"One of our strengths is that 70 per cent of the time it looks like you are breaking new ground," Crusty said. That is a great feature for frequent visitors, and there are many of those. "Repeat business is tremendous. The more times you go, the more you can do."

People can learn about cattle and ranch work such as roping, opening gates (on horseback) and checking fences. Obstacles can also be set up to improve your skills. Clinics and lessons are also available for the more timid but enthusiastic riders.

One of Rawhide's selling points is the Rangerider's Night. This two-day adventure will have you working like a cowboy or cowgirl, with lots of riding.

During the ride, Crusty encourages people to ride side-by-side instead of nose-to-tail. He wants everyone to be able to talk without straining necks. Also, he avoids taking more than eight people on a trail ride at a time.

After a long day a campfire is made at the designated campsite and tents are pitched. Rawhide supplies everything except for rider's toiletries, clothes and bedding.

Crusty said he likes this time of the day best. Sitting around the campfire eating a hearty meal, laughing about the days adventures and getting to know fellow riders.

"Fresh air always seems to make things taste better," he said with a laugh.

Riding the rapids

What could be more exciting than tumbling down the Ottawa river in a raft, fighting the rushing rapids of the Greyhound Bus Eater, Rollercoaster Rock 'n' Roll, and the perilous waters of the Coliseum?

Wilderness Tours Resort Centre, located near Forester Falls offers a variety of summer fun activities, but the main attraction is the exhilarating ride of whitewater rafting.

The rafting trips are from four to six hours and are directed by experienced guides. The

rapids are approximately 15km long.

Depending on your adventurous nature and rafting skills, the rapids can offer a challenge on any level.

Wilderness Tours operates daily from May through September.

Prices vary with age, time and package. For more information, call (613)646-2291 or to make reservations, call 1-800-267-9166. Wilderness Tours website: wt@wildernesstours.com

by Joanna Wilson



HEADING FOR THE HILLS

by Andrea Friedli



Summer is just around the corner and you're a little strapped for cash. Chances are, you don't want to sit around all day, waiting for something to happen.

Grab your bike, a lunch, and your kid brother and head for the hills—Hardwood Hills. It's just an hour north of Toronto, lies on tranquil ground, and is perfect for an eventful getaway.

With 81 kilometers of trails, Hardwood Hills provides something for everyone.

Whether you are a hard-core mountain-biker, or just want to unwind, whether you are 60 years old, or just four, you are sure to find a route just for you.

Track lengths vary from a quarter of a kilometer to a few kilometers long. Most trails are linked, so you could string together an incredibly long ride.

Shawn Marshall works at Hardwood Hills, and enjoys using the trails himself.

"Probably what I like best about the Hills is the variety of the terrain and difficulty. Trails range from being pretty easy and nice, you know, you don't have to think too much, to very technical and very challenging. It's nice to be able to have a variety like that to choose from," says Marshall.

Don't worry if you aren't too sure on a bike. The Hills provide training sessions for those who would like to better their mountain-biking skills, or have no skills at all.

A private lesson or one of the one-day clinics, Mountain

Biking 101, and Mountain Biking 201, will help you along the way. For the competitive types, the Hills also offers a two-day racer-development camp for those who know how to bike.

Being the official Ontario Mountain Bike Development Centre for the Ontario Cycling Association, as well as the Home of the Ontario mountain bike team, Hardwood Hills hosts many mountain bike competitions.

These include the Wednesday Night Series, with six different categories from beginners to expert, and the highschool race series for teens, and the kids series.

Other favourites include the 24 Hours of Adrenaline team relay, the Ontario Cup, hosted by the Ontario Mountain Bike Association and the Canada Cup.

There is no fixed age group at the Hills, Marshall says. "It's really varied. We get kids and we get people that are 60 plus. Mountain biking appeals to a lot of really young kids. Then we've got some people here over 60 who are quite successful with mountain bike racing. There's a very wide variety of ages and abilities that show up for these races."

It's definitely all about fun.

The facilities include an on-site retail shop, experienced mechanics, the Trail End Cafe, outdoor picnic areas and more.

If you want the experience to last, you can check into the quaint Inn at Hardwood with a heated outdoor pool and jacuzzi.

One of the most attractive features may well be the inexpensive price of day and season passes. An adult day pass is \$7.50, while the season pass goes for \$140 if purchased by May 31, 1998. Prices are reduced as the season passes. Kids, eight to 12, pay just \$3.75 a day, or \$70 for the season. Kids under seven ride free.

For more information you can call David and Kim Viney at 705-487-3775 or look them up on the net at www.hardwoodhills.on.ca.

In Search of Regis

Gearing up for fun in the summer

You're driving down a county road, throwing up the dust behind you. Suddenly the passenger yells "Stop!" You screech to a halt and look quizzically at your demented friend.

"Don't you get it?" she says, pointing to a sign in front of an old red barn. "Philbin Farms, a place where a morning talk show celebrity might live. This is the answer to question four!"

Sound confusing or like a lot of fun? It's both. It's a car rally.

Patricia Berry, a former elementary school teacher from Aurora has organized four or five of them for her friends.

"The fun of organizing them is seeing what parts of your thinking will appeal to other people," she said.

Unfortunately, her Philbin Farms — Regis Philbin clue was over the heads of the people searching for answers that day.

"Just because you think it's easy doesn't mean other people will get it," Berry said.

She said her car rallies involve a mixture of cryptic directions, questions and scavenger hunt items.

"Sometimes I've given them a piece of paper and they

have to make an impression of a specific grave in a certain town."

Writing and organizing a four-hour car rally takes Berry between 30 and 40 hours.

"This isn't something you can decide to do the night before," she said. "It takes a lot of research. You have to go out driving to find clues and make the route. I drive the route three or four times to make sure people will be able to figure out the clues," Berry said.

She noted there are two kinds of rallies. "There are the really competitive ones that involve timing and mileage used, or the fun ones, which are based on the number of answers or objects you bring back."

The fun rallies start and end at the same point, but starts are staggered so everyone does not arrive at the same place at the same time.

One time, the scavenger hunt backfired when she sent people to a small general store to buy a certain type of cookie (to bring back to the organizers!).

"A woman at the store started to get very angry at all these people coming in and buying one cookie," Berry said. "Usually I go in and talk to clerks and owners of the places the rally groups will stop. I guess I didn't get a

chance to talk to that person."

And there was the time she met up with the law.

"I was planning the route with a friend and one street we tried ended up being a dead end. At the end of the street was a police officer. He waved us over and asked what we were doing. We explained and he waved us on. We found out later that a body had been discovered at the end of that street. So, of course, we put that in the rally."

She said the rallies usually finish at someone's house, for a barbecue or party. Prizes are awarded based on points. "They are like kids when you're grading a test, 'Don't I get some points for that?'" Berry laughs. "Sometimes teams will take down signs that point out directions or, if there is an item in a store they have to buy, the first team there will buy it all up."

Berry said the grand prize is usually a bottle of wine, and the booby prize is always a map of Ontario.

by Victoria Jackson

Historical look at Huronia region

Imagine yourself back in time to the seventeenth century as one of the first European settlers in North America. Surrounded by Native Indian tribes, you share your culture with these strangers while embracing their ancient customs to deal with daily life.

Three centuries of Canadian history have been brought to life at Ste. Marie Among the Hurons just outside of Midland, Ont. Visitors can interactively witness what life was like in the first European settlement in the interior of Canada and the United States.

First built in 1639 by Jesuit missionaries, Fort Ste. Marie was the center of activity in the Huronia Region, an 800 sq. mile area bounded by Georgian Bay, the Severn River, and Lakes Couchiching and Simcoe. There, industrious Huron Indians fished, farmed, trapped and traded with the French and tribes to the north for 10 years before migrating to Québec because of their constant fear of attack.

In 1649, the fort was burned by the French and for 200 years the wilderness closed in on the ruins until it was excavated in 1941 and finally rebuilt in 1967 as a shrine to the vanished nation. Twenty-two buildings have been reconstructed, including longhouses, sleeping quarters, workshops, barns, churches and a hospital. Everyday life of the community is recreated by the staff to help visitors

understand the life of the Huron Indians and the Jesuits.

"We have costumed staff that portray and tell the story," says Mary Mandley, director of marketing at Ste. Marie.

"We have a native staff that do First Nations and they are in traditional dress and they talk about their role and the traditional role of the Huron. Most people find it to be very fascinating.

"We get people involved as much as we can. Whether that's in the blacksmith shop, putting on an apron and pounding a nail, or in the cookhouse, grinding corn. It's an enjoyable time," says Mandley.

Recollet priest Father Joseph Le Caron



was the first European settler to begin missionary work in 1615, but he was unsuccessful.

In 1926, Father Jean de Brebeuf, of the Jesuit Order, took on the task. Brebeuf built Fort Ste. Marie which sheltered as many as 3,000 Indians and housed 66 Europeans, including priests, laybrothers, artisans, servants and a physician.

It is said that more than 3,000 meals were served daily at the fort.

More than 120,000 people visit the reconstructed fort annually. The tourist season runs from May 16 to October 12. This year, visitors will be able to partake in an interactive museum.

Mandley explains that visitors are able

to learn such things as seventeenth century fire-starting techniques, the art of teepee building, and bread making, while listening to musicians play baroque music with recorders, violins, and harpsichords.

"Most people find it fascinating. We have a lot of parents that are quite amazed that their kids have been entertained for a day."

Directly across the road from Ste. Marie stands Martyrs' Shrine, which is open from mid-May to mid-October. Built in 1926, the shrine brings in 150,000 tourists a year. Miraculous healings are said to have occurred there.

Visitors can view piles of canes and crutches left by the healed on each side of the altar. The site is also well known for the 1984 Papal visit. Masses are held at 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. daily.

Regular admission to Ste. Marie Among the Hurons is \$9.75 for adults and \$6.25 for students and seniors. Buses travel daily at regular periods from Yorkdale Mall in Toronto to Midland.

While in the Huronia region, visit other historical sites such as the Huronia Museum, Christian Island and the historical naval and military establishments.

by Nina Radman

Niagara region wines and dines

by Louise Sheridan

In a fast-paced world, a month-long cruise across the Mediterranean is not always feasible.

Day trips are becoming the next phase of travel for people who can't get away for weeks at a time.

"First thing is that it is a lot cheaper to take a day trip than a multi-day trip," said Bob Burt, tour co-ordinator at Silverline Tours in Whitby. "Some people still want to get out of town but cannot afford to go for more than one day."

Silverline Tours runs from 25 to 30 day trips each year. These range anywhere from \$65 to \$90. Burt recommends people schedule their day trips during the week if they are looking to spend less.

"Restaurants give group rates but not on Saturday nights where they can get top dollar," Burt said. "On a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, you are apt to get a good deal."

Even foreigners are getting into the day-trip act. "In summertime, a lot of people have visitors over from Europe," said Burt. "You'll get a lot of people from abroad coming on the tours."

Lorna Rowley, a seasoned traveller who enjoys taking day trips recommends the experience. "I take day trips if I am going to a place I haven't been to before, or haven't been to for a while," says Rowley. "Usually, I like a boat trip included."

A lot can be accomplished in one day, Rowley says.

An average day trip starts at 9 a.m. and ends around 6 p.m. Booking in advance is a good idea, but not essential, for all packages. Last minute bookings

allow for more flexibility for busy people.

Burt said there are some fantastic places to visit in Ontario, especially in the summer. One hot-spot is Orillia, with its old opera house, a tour of gardens at a private home and of course, the theatre. Another favorite is Jackson's Point on Lake Simcoe, where day trippers can enjoy a live production of Anne of Green Gables at the Red Barn Theater, lunch at the historical Bryer's, and lush gardens.

One of the finest day trips in Canada is a visit to the Niagara Grape and Wine Festival, says Gerry Ginsberg, general manager of the festival.

"Up to half-a-million people, over a 10 day period, attend," he said.

This September 18 to 27, the annual Grape and Wine Festival celebrates its 47th anniversary.

"It's only an hour away from Toronto, you can taste wines, take part in seminars and activities and you can tour Niagara too," Ginsberg said. "It's a truly unique experience."

In Port Dalhousie, the Vineyard Lights fireworks program kicks off on September 19 at 7:30 p.m. It's a concert in the sky set to the sounds of Hollywood film classics. Admission is free.

Montebello Park, in Niagara, is host to the Artisan and Craft Show & Sale and the Pied Piper parade. It takes place on the first weekend of the festival and features the sounds of jazz, big band, country, bluegrass, Caribbean steel bands and reggae. Seminars include food and wine tasting and tips on entertaining.

Ginsberg's web site at www.niagarafest.on.ca, provides a personalized and interactive road map program to get you to the festival.



Each year tourists flock to the Niagara Wine region to taste the rare vintage. Cheers!

For a more detailed look at Niagara's wineries, visit <http://vaxxine.com/bseburn/wine.htm>. This site is a personal home page with links to 15 wineries in the Niagara region including Stonechurch Vineyards, Inniskillin Wines Inc. and Andres Wines.

Ginsberg recommends New Vintage Niagara, where the wines of 1997 are unveiled, and Images of Winter Ice Wine Evening, during which the ice wines are introduced. New Vintage Niagara is held May 29th.

He expects superb vintages. "We had a gorgeous warm summer and rain in the spring...a wet spring last year helps early growth and a dry, warm summer helps the growth of the grape," Ginsberg said.

Grapes for ice wine are harvested in January or February when the temperature is at least eight degrees Celsius or colder.

Ginsberg said costs are minimal for families attending the Grape and Wine Festival.

SUMMER EVENTS CALENDAR

MAY

Jory Nash, May 21 at the Rivoli.
 Oh Susanna, May 21 at Oasis.
 Sally Yeh and George Lam, May 22 at Roy Thomson Hall.
 Nardwaar, May 22 at the Horseshoe.
 Pamela Morgan, May 22 at Oasis
 WWF, May 23 at SkyDome.
 Garbage, May 24 at the Phoenix Concert Theatre.
 Kiva, Oliver Schroder and Strange Attractors, May 24 at the Music Gallery.
 Crocodile Shop and Numb, May 25 at Lee's Palace.
 David Hutchison, May 25 at the Montreal Bistro.
 Richard Stoltzman, May 25 and 27 at Roy Thomson Hall.
 Trudy Desmond Quintet, May 26 to 30 at Montreal Bistro.
 King Diamond and Pit Bull Daycare, May 27 at Lee's Palace.
 Tanya Savory, May 27 at Free Times Cafe.
 Thomas Hampson, May 27 at DuMaurier Theatre.
 Max Woolaver, May 28 at Oasis.
 Avail, May 29 at El Mocambo.
 Lou Rawls, May 29 at Hammerson Halls.
 Darish, May 30 at Massey Hall.
 Marilyn's Vitamins and Trunk, May 30 at El Mocambo.

JUNE

The Toronto Worldwide Short Film Festival, June 1 to 7, playing at various Bloor-Yorkville theatres.
 Bernadette Peters, June 2, performing at Roy Thomson Hall.
 Artists of South Africa, June 2 to 19, at The Network Gallery.
 Stomp, June 2 to July 28 at the Elgin Theatre.
 Beck, Ben Folds Five and Sean Lennon, June 3 playing at Molson Amphitheatre.
 Engelbert Humperdinck, June 5 at Roy Thomson Hall.
 Ron Sexsmith, June 5 at Art Gallery of Ontario.
 The Wizard of Oz, June 5 to 27 at the Hummingbird Centre for the Performing Arts.
 Benson & Hedges Symphony of Fire, June 13, 20, 27, July 1 and 4 at Ontario Place.
 Terri Clark, Julien Austin and Wade Hayes, June 14 at Kingswood.
 Yes, June 18 at Molson Amphitheatre.
 Cassandra Wilson, June 14 at Molson Place.
 Gay and Lesbian Pride Week, June 21 to 28 in the Church and Wellesley area.
 LOS VAN VAN and Juan Formell, June 25 at Massey Hall.
 King Sunny Ade & His African Beats, June 26 at Roy Thomson Hall.
 Peter Noone, June 26 at Sheraton.

AUGUST

Buddy Guy and Jonny Lang, July 4 at Molson Amphitheatre.
 Shania Twain, August 7 and 8 at Molson Amphitheatre.
 Taste of the Danforth, August 7 to 9 on The Danforth.
 Extreme World Cup, August 14 to 16 at Ontario Place.
 Mackeel, August 19 at Nathan Phillips Square.
 Nights of Fire, August 21 to September 7 at Paramount Canada's Wonderland.
 WWF, August 22 at SkyDome.

JULY

Riverdance - the Show, July 1 to 28 at Hummingbird Centre.
 Leahy, July 1 at Kew Beach.
 Pat Metheny, July 2 at Molson Amphitheatre.
 Days of the New, Jerry Cantrell and Metallica, July 3 at Molson Amphitheatre.
 City Parent Family Show, July 4 and 5 at Ontario Place.
 Page and Plant, July 4 at Molson Amphitheatre
 Beli Festival, July 4 at Trudeau Park.
 Les Miserables, July 5 at The Princess of Wales Theatre.
 Boyz II Men and MYA, July 7 at Molson Amphitheatre.
 Blue Rodeo, Cowboy Junkies, Neko Case and Ron Sexsmith, July 11 and 12 at Fort York and the StarDust Ball.
 Spice Girls, July 11 at Molson Amphitheatre.
 Caribana Festival, July 17 to August 3 at various locations.
 Molson Indy, July 17 to 19 at Exhibition Place.
 H.O.R.D.E., July 28 at Molson Amphitheatre.
 Reggaebana, July 31 to August 2 at Ontario Place.

Backstreet Boys, August 22 at Molson Amphitheatre.
 Clint Black, August 26 at Kingswood Music Theatre.
 Gipsy Kings, August 29 at Molson Amphitheatre.

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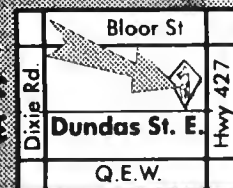
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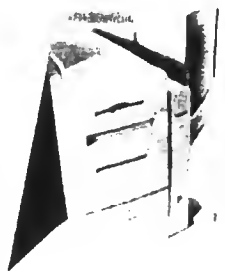
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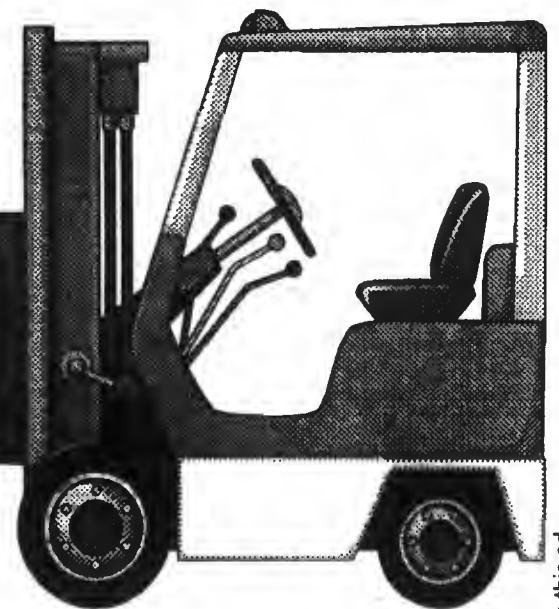
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