



PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS  
COMPETITION

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# Fire prevention

....page 3



19 Wing CFB Comox



# TOTEM TIMES



The Comox Valley's Oldest Newspaper

VOL 39 NO 15

THURSDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 1997

COST: FREE

## Campaign kicks off



### United Way

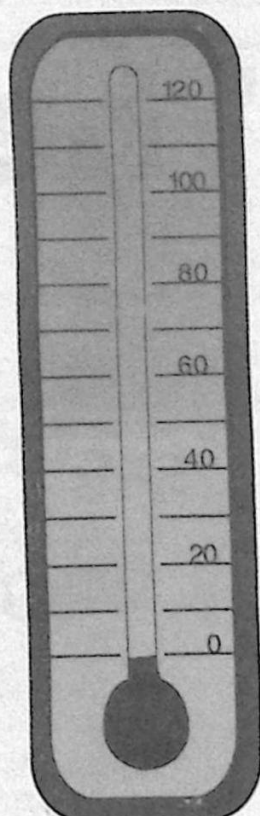


On September 8, several people were on hand to witness the Flag Raising on the campaign's first day, including Capt Hounslow, 19 Wing Deputy Chairperson, and June Munroe, Executive Director of the campaign. In the photo, Col MacLean (WComd), Pamela Royer (Campaign Chairperson) and MWO Rodgers (19 Wing Chairperson) prepare to perform the official flag raising. (Photo by WIS)

### The Commander Land Force Command Commendation



Corporal Charles A. McLean has demonstrated exceptional personal dedication in setting a rare high standard of physical fitness and unselfishness that all members of the Canadian Forces should strive to emulate. Corporal McLean's physical fitness has been demonstrated through his winning of 1 CMBG Mountain Man Competition in 1996 and his repeated successes in the 2 CMBG Ironman Competition. He has utilized his abilities to support The Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario and by organizing and completing an individual 500 km marathon cumulating in several thousands of dollars being raised. Corporal McLean's dedication to personal improvement and commitments to the community are traits that typify military values and bring credit to himself, his unit, and the Canadian Forces. (Photo by WIS)



The United Way flag flies at CFB Comox for the duration of the United Way campaign which runs through to 31 October. Designated United Way canvassers will approach each and every employee of the Wing (military and civilian) in an effort to reach our goal, set this year at \$22,500.

Everyone is encouraged to contribute. Any amount, no matter how big or small, is welcome. By giving a little, you will be helping a large number of people who rely on the various agencies supported by the United Way.

The campaign, which runs from 8 September to 31 October 97, is organized by approximately 400 volunteers. As in the past, participation is the KEY to success for the United Way campaign. It would be impossible to reach our goal without everyone's support.

MWO Rodgers, of the Wing Telecom section, is this year's campaign chairperson and can be reached at local 8501. His deputy is Capt Hounslow (407 Sqn), local 8107.

## This year's goal - \$22,500

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## Legion Log

BRANCH 160 COMOX 339-2022

### ENTERTAINMENT:

Fri Sep 19 ... 50TH PARALLEL  
Fri Sep 26 ... STRIKE IT RICH

### Mess Dinner - Saturday, 20 September

Assembly in lower lounge at 18:30. Dinner in upper hall at 19:00. Dress: mess kit, old uniforms, flying suits, etc., encouraged. White shirt and black bow tie mandatory. Tickets \$20.00 per person, on sale now at the bar or office.

### Annual Veteran's Dinner

This event will be held in the Branch upper hall on Saturday, 25 October. Registration is now under way - place your name on the list at the bar or call 339-2112 to register.

### REGULAR EVENTS:

SUNDAYS.....Lounge Hours 12:00 Noon to 7:00 pm  
MONDAYS.....LA Drop-In Bingo, Upper Hall, 7:00 pm  
Monday night Men's Dart League - reg. 8 Sep, start 15 Sep  
TUESDAYS.....Mixed Dart League - reg. 9 Sep, start 16 Sep  
Ladies Crib League 7:30 pm in Lounge  
WEDNESDAYS.....Navy League Drop-In Bingo, 7:00 pm  
Upper Island Men's Crib League recessed to late Sept 97  
THURSDAYS.....\*1st Br.160 Exec. Mtg. Upper Hall, 7:30 pm  
1st L.A. Executive Meeting (as required) 7:30 pm  
\*2nd L.A. General Meeting, Upper Hall, 8:00 pm  
\*3rd Branch 160 General Meeting, Upper Hall, 8:00 pm  
FRIDAYS.....TGIF, Meat Draws in Lounge, 3:00 - 6:00 pm  
Dance, Lounge (unless advised)  
SATURDAYS.....Meat Draws in Lounge, 3:00 - 6:00 pm  
Hall Rentals or requests for Special Functions: Please contact Ken Seymour in office, Mon - Fri, at 339-2022.

BRANCH 17 COURTENAY 334-4322

### REGULAR EVENTS:

BINGO.....every Thur, Fri & Sun 7:00 pm  
MEAT DRAW.....every Fri 6:30 pm. Also every Sat 3:00 pm  
DANCE.....every Friday night, 8:00 pm  
19 September ... Norm's Combo  
26 September ... Eldorado  
FUN CRIB.....every Wednesday night 8:00 pm  
FUN DARTS.....every second Thursday night 7:30 pm  
BARGAIN DAY.....every Tuesday, all day  
BBQ LUNCH SPECIALS.....every Weds & Fri 11:30 am - 1:30 pm  
GENERAL MEETING.....23 September

### Special Events

Saturday Night Dances:  
20 September - Wayne's Music  
Games Day - Sunday, 21 September  
Crib - Euchre - Darts - Registration 12:30 pm  
BBQ - Munchies 4:00 - 6:00 pm  
Free membership for serving CF members.  
Phone office for more info.

BASE PERSONNEL WELCOME AT BR. 17  
Office: 334-4322 Service Officer: 334-3613

**NEXT DEADLINES**  
Advertising - 24 Sep.  
Articles - 26 Sep,  
NOON

**Country Village Kitchen Bin**  
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## Francophone Association

479-A Fourth Street,  
Courtenay  
Phone: 334-8884

### Upcoming Events

#### French conversation

French conversation is back again this fall. Starting September 18 for 12 weeks, l'Association Francophone is offering you the opportunity to practice your French. Cost \$3.00 per evening.

#### French Choir for Children

Is your heritage Francophone or Francophile? Do you cultivate an interest for the second official language in Canada? Does your child like singing? If so, enroll your child in the French Choir for children 6 to 13 years old. Cost is \$40.00 per year and parents with a family membership receive a 20% discount. To register, drop by our office between 12 noon and 4:30 p.m. or call Pauline at 338-2193 in the evening.

#### Language classes

Again this year we will offer French, English and Spanish courses as a second language, starting at the end of September. Cost is \$90.00 (materials included). The course runs for 10 weeks with lessons three hours per week. Nine students for each class are required to start a course. Registration: 15-19 September, noon to 4:30 p.m. at our office. Members receive 20% off.

#### Chorale française pour enfants

Est-ce que votre enfant aime chanter? Détectez-vous un talent inné pour la musique? Si oui, inscrivez-le à la chorale française pour enfants de 6 à 13 ans. L'inscription est de \$40.00 pour l'année. Les parents qui possèdent une carte de membre familiale de l'Association bénéficieront d'un rabais de 20%. Pour inscrire votre enfant, venez nous voir à nos bureaux ou appelez Pauline en soirée au 338-2193.

#### Langue seconde

L'Association offrira cette année des cours d'anglais, de français et d'espagnol langue seconde. Les cours débuteront à la fin septembre. Ils coûteront \$90.00 (matériel inclus) et seront de 3 heures par semaine pour une période de 10 semaines. Un minimum de 9 étudiants par classe est requis. L'inscription se fera en personne du 15 au 19 septembre au bureau de l'Association de midi à 16h30. Veuillez noter que les membres bénéficieront de 20% de rabais. Pour de plus amples renseignements, téléphonez au 334-8884.

### Chaplains Chatter

We are all now enrolling in numerous groups, activities and clubs as the fall signals a return to our normal routine after our summer hiatus. In our recreational planning, far too few include the spiritual element directly, although many of our activities may have a spiritual component.

Numerous studies have shown that Canadians have a deep spiritual hunger, and are therefore in spiritual need to satisfy this hunger; we must address these deep spiritual needs. Now is the time to prioritize those needs and make a plan. Your plan could include:

- Worshipping at the church of your choice
- Taking a retreat
- Taking a weekend with spouse only
- Reading a book of a spiritual nature.

Any of these pursuits will feed your soul. Never ignore your soulful needs and your life will be rich and rewarding. Jesus said, "I have come to give you life in abundance."

### Service Times

#### RC Chapel

Father J.H. Brown  
Wing Chaplain (RC)  
Tues-Fri 11:30 Mass  
Saturday 17:00 Mass  
Sunday 10:00 Mass

#### Protestant Chapel

Padre Claude Mury  
Wing Chaplain (P)  
Sun 10:00 Divine Worship  
Sun 10:00 Sunday School

## GIVE SOMEONE A SECOND CHANCE.

Discuss organ donation with your family.  
THE KIDNEY FOUNDATION OF CANADA

# The Jr. Ranks PRESENTS

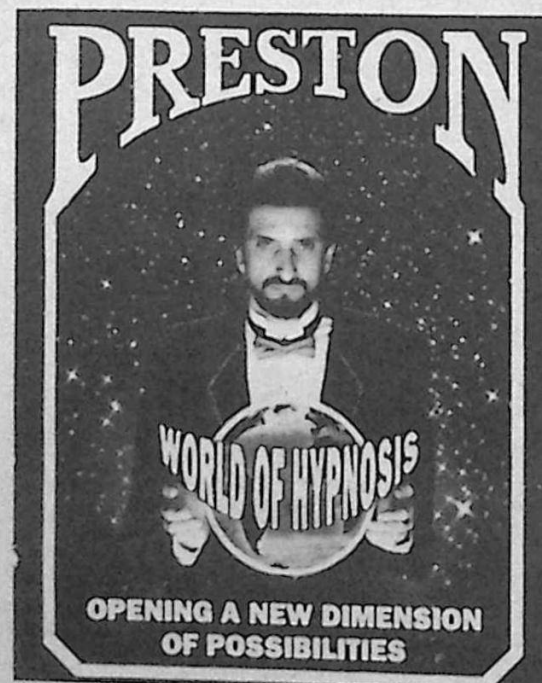
sat. 27 Sept  
@  
0930 pm.

CONTROLLING THE MIND IS  
EASIER THAN YOU THINK !!

SEE YOUR FRIENDS DO THE  
ODD AND UNUSUAL

FREE !!!

# ONE SHOW ONLY



## Professionalism earns "No Retreat" Award

by LCol, G.F. Reaume,  
CO 407 (MP) Sqn.

During a recent 407 (MP) Sqn deployment to Chile (24 May - 09 June 97), my squadron received outstanding support from Sgt Dixon and MCpl Tibbo of the CMTT section. The deployed aircraft experienced a major engine unservicability on arrival in Chile that resulted in an entire propeller assembly being prepared for shipment to our deployed crew. The actions taken by Sgt Dixon and MCpl Tibbo in arranging all the timings and shipping details for the propeller assembly were immediate and decisive. They quickly made all the arrangements to ensure that the propeller would arrive in Chile within two days, an amazing feat. However, later that same day and after the propeller assembly had already left the base, it was discovered that this entire piece of equipment would not be required. This was a result of closer inspection of the damaged components and further discussions between the aircraft maintenance technicians on site and their counterparts back in Comox. It was finally decided that the replacement of the entire propeller



LCol Reaume, CO 407 Sqn, personally thanked and presented "No Retreat Awards" to MCpl Tibbo (left) and Sgt Dixon (right). (Photo by WIS)

assembly was unnecessary and that the damaged components could be changed out on site. CMTT's response to this last minute change in plans was again a superb demonstration of the professionalism and stalwart customer service. Sgt Dixon and MCpl Tibbo immediately set to work to recall the propeller assembly that was already en route to Vancouver International Airport and simultaneously make the new shipping arrangements of the other components. It was through Sgt Dixon's friendly demeanour and persistence that a non-refundable \$32,000 shipping cost for the propeller assembly

was able to be recovered.

I have little doubt that Sgt Dixon and MCpl Tibbo experience some frustration as plans and priorities seemed to change minute by minute. Nevertheless, they provided unflinching support, outstanding customer service, and immediate response to rapidly changing priorities. Sgt Dixon and MCpl Tibbo's remarkable ability to quickly respond to our operational requirements were key to ensuring a timely repair of our aircraft in Chile and, most importantly, mission success. Sgt Dixon and MCpl Tibbo are highly deserving of recognition for their exceptional team performance.

## Take a Management Course on base

by Pat Allan,  
CFCN Co-ordinator

People at 19 Wing have a great appetite for college courses, especially business and management. To meet that demand, we offer Seneca College's Management Development Program on base, open to serving and retired military, civilian and NPF personnel, and their families. Our first course for the 1997/98 season will get under way October 10 at 6:00 p.m., and new registrants are encouraged to join us.

This innovative certificate program has been designed for first-level supervisors and those who would like to explore the field of management. It can help you build on your experiences to become a more effective supervisor or manager, and develop increased confidence in your abilities as a decision maker and leader.

The program consists of six courses covering the major topics supervisors and managers need to understand to be more effective in their work. If you have JLC or SLC, you can get advanced credit, which reduces the number of courses you need to take to complete the program.

Courses are delivered in weekend workshops. Because the business sector is not concerned with how well you do on exams or assignments, there are none. However, students work hard in class, discussing ideas, sharing experiences, doing case studies and role plays. The focus is on applying ideas to on-the-job situations. You will learn from each other as well as from the instructor.

19 Wing had six graduates last year, and another two graduates from Esquimalt now call Comox home. Another four students require only one more course to finish. When asked about the program, all the students have stories to tell about ways that the courses have helped them do their job better now, plan for future work, and have confidence that they are preparing for the civilian world which they will enter in the future.

Graduate Ron Burke has found that since he has moved into his new position as CFSAR School SWO, many of the people management and planning techniques are helping him keep his busy job organized. One of the most valuable parts for him was the opportunity to learn from each other

and really think about using the theory in the work place. Al Gallant, of 442 Sqn, will complete his program with the next course. He advises anyone who is looking at becoming a supervisor or manager to invest some time into this unique learning experience.

On October 17-19 we will offer MDP 300: Effective Supervision: Administration. This course provides an overview of management in modern organizations. It includes theoretical background, management tools, in-class exercises and interesting case studies. It is an excellent course to begin the program.

The second course will be in November, with the other four to be offered before next summer.

The course costs \$120 for tuition and \$44.15 for materials. Payment by cheque or credit card is accepted. Registration and payment must be received by Monday, October 6. We must have a minimum of 10 people to run the course, so don't delay!

Anyone interested in more information or registration for these courses should call the CFCN Co-ordinator at local 8889 immediately. See you in class!

## The old lady knows, do you?



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by Smokey

The Old Lady is the official spokesperson for fire prevention. What she knows may help save someone's life by preventing fires or if a fire actually occurs at home, at work, or at play.

She can tell someone how to prevent fire, how to make a home fire-safe, how to deal with burns, how to get out of a fire safely, and how to make a house fire-safe at Christmas.

Her safety messages appear on television, in magazines, in booklets and in the Totem Times. The Old Lady's programs are totally supportive of the public education efforts of your fire department. The Old Lady and the Fire Chief are partners in fire prevention and fire safety.

If you want to know more about how the Old Lady can assist your fire prevention efforts, simply contact the Wing Fire Prevention cell at local 8371.

## Hot water burns like fire!

Burns from hot tap water can result in death or second and third degree burns which require hospitalization. For each burn hospitalized at least three more are seen, bandaged and sent home. It only takes a second and children should never be left alone in the bathroom. With lower water temperature the potential for such accidents is reduced. A water tank temperature setting of 54°C (130°F) allows a 30 second safety margin before serious burns occur. Reducing your thermostat also cuts energy costs and increases the life of your water tank.

The Old Lady suggests that homeowners turn down the thermostat on their water tank to 54°C; that homeowners purchase a mixing device to control the water temperature of the bath and shower; that adults be careful to never leave young children or the disabled unattended at bath time, to run cold and hot water together, and to test the bath water before letting a child get into the tub.

## CFHA news update

Good news! The date is finally set for our next Tenant Meeting - 17 October at 7:00 p.m. in the Officers' Mess.

We are hoping to get as good a turnout as we did for our last meeting. The forum will be that of a social get-together and will allow tenants to talk to one another as well as to us. Any issue you would like to bring to our attention, or get information on, will be welcomed. The reason for the more relaxed forum is to allow people who are not necessarily comfortable talking in front of

large audiences a chance to express themselves.

You can sure tell that the posting season is just about over with the absence of all those huge semi-rigs blocking the roads. We hope that all the newcomers are getting settled in and enjoying the Comox Valley and that their families are adjusting to the new schools and surroundings.

If there is anything that we at CFHA can do to help you, please don't hesitate to come on down and see us.

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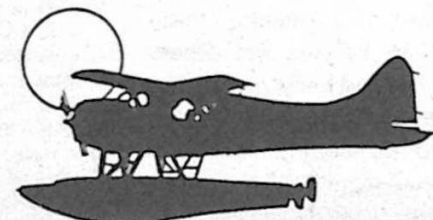


I gave up carrying a camera a long time ago. Back when I was flying helicopters with the Search and Rescue squadron, I used to carry a still camera, sometimes even a video camera, to capture some of the more interesting things we did. And some things were more interesting than others, believe me. The only thing was that Murphy's Law always prevailed and every time we were in the thick of things, either the camera wasn't available, or everyone was too busy to use it. Thus it became just another useless piece of baggage and I stopped carrying it.

I have missed opportunities to shoot lots of interesting things here at the base. They just seem to appear before my eyes and I can imagine how interesting they must be to other people, yet a camera is unavailable at that moment. This past weekend is a case in point. I had the rare opportunity to fly the L-19 tow plane on Saturday and witness four KC-10 tanker aircraft and one C-5 Galaxy arrive to park on the ramp. In addition there were about fifteen light aircraft that arrived to take part in a 442 fly-in. And it was 407 Squadron Family Day with three Auroras in the air. And we were airborne and towing gliders, and then there was all the normal activity. As I looked down from the L-19 in full flight, I saw the ramp here at 19 Wing literally overflowing with interesting aircraft. It was a Kodak moment.

Over the radio I heard the controller ask, "Anybody got a camera?" Curses, foiled again.

Joel Clarkston



## Letters to the Editor

### Note from the WFSO:

It is both heartwarming and unfortunate when Letters of Appreciation like those following come to the Wing. Obviously it is nice to receive recognition for your efforts; however, there are always people missed who deserve a thank you as much as anyone else.

In addition to the team members listed below, there are literally hundreds of 19 Wing personnel who helped make this a successful operation. From those in Supply who helped outfit the team in record time; to flight feeding; supervisors of team members; Wing operations and Wing Telecom for communications; 442 Sqn for airlift support; MSE for vehicle support; cashier for cash advance; to all those left behind who had to pull an extra load in the absence of team members and, finally, to the spouses who, given one hour notice of departure and no return time,

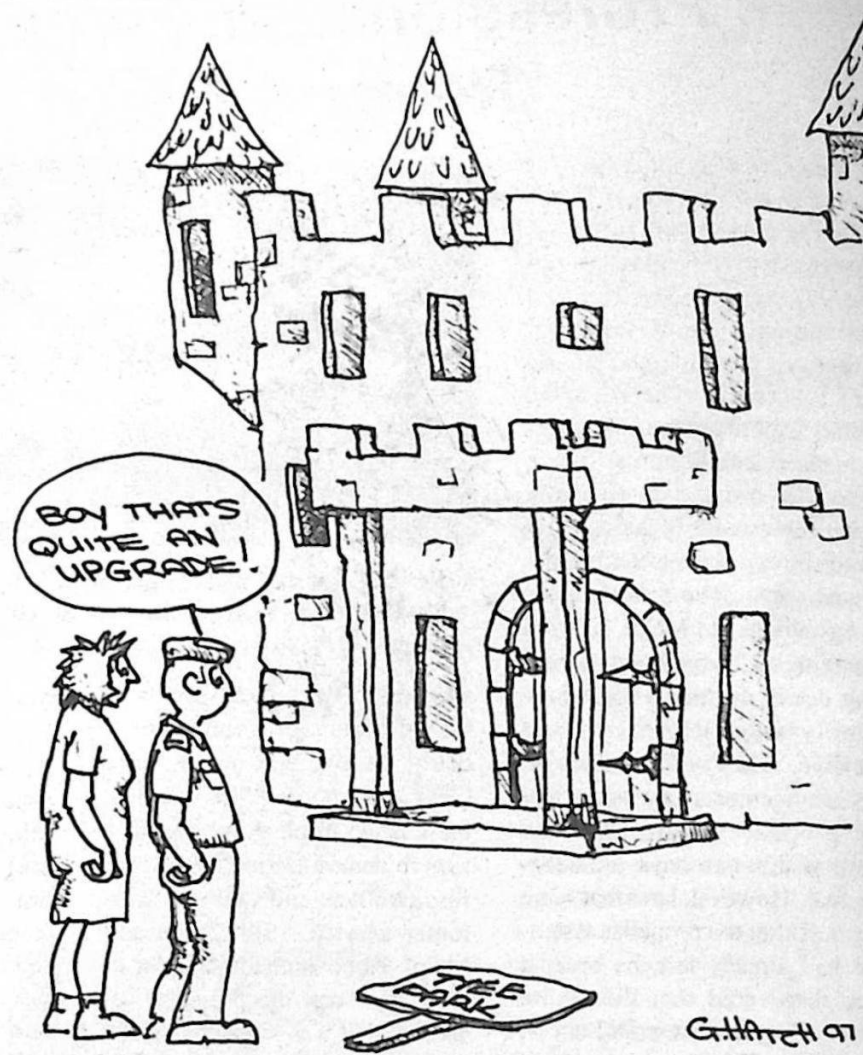
were forced to cancel family plans and carry out all those logistical functions required by a family. While there are those who will say that the individuals were just carrying out their duties, the circumstances required performance above and beyond.

It was my pleasure to have worked with this very dedicated and professional group of men and women.

Maj Mike Gibbs

Team members: Capt Ken King (414 Sqn), MCpl Edith Cuerrier (WIS), MCpl Liam Stackwood (WSAMPO), MCpl Rick Franke & MCpl Pat Dunn (19 AMS), Cpl Martin L'Ecuier (WIS), Cpl Mark Adams & Cpl Jeff Boyd (MSE), Cpl Kirk MacDonald (CE), Cpl Bruce Bellaire (19 AMS), Cpl Rich Malone (414 Sqn), Cpl Mike Jameson, Cpl Boyd Williamson & Cpl Charley Lamontagne (442 Sqn), Cpl Matt Mailloux (Wing Supply).

## End of an era



## Bravo Zulu

### Letter of Appreciation from National Defence HQ, Ottawa:

The recent discovery of the wreckage of aircraft CT133454 set in motion a sequence of events in which 19 Wing played an essential role. These included public affairs, operations, environmental and photography. Of particular interest to me as Director of Flight Safety, however, were the efforts in direct support of the investigation into this 41-year-old accident.

The location of the wreckage, combined with the hot weather and abundance of biting insects, presented some especially unique challenges for all those involved. Nevertheless, at every turn, my investigator was impressed with the initiative and motivation of your personnel. The support, at both the base camp proper and the crash site itself, was first rate. As a result of the combined efforts of your personnel, the field investigation was completed in a relatively short time.

I have attached a nominal roll of your personnel that were in location at the crash site. The teamwork that this group displayed was truly impressive. Please pass on my personal thanks to each of them for a job extremely well done. I would be remiss, however, if I did not sin-

gle out three individuals whose assistance was particularly crucial. These are Maj Mike Gibbs, MCpl Rick Franke and Cpl Mike Jameson.

Maj Gibbs, as the initial on-scene controller, effectively took charge of the situation and set the necessary wheels in motion. His experience and leadership were invaluable in bringing all the necessary elements together in support of this investigation. MCpl Franke, as the NCM i/c of the Crash Guard & Salvage Team, was not only responsible for the daily routine of the base camp, but also in setting up and drawing the wreckage plots. These he did to a very high professional standard.

Similarly, his "hospitality" at the base camp was much appreciated. Finally, Cpl Jameson epitomized the professionalism displayed by the team as a whole. His in-depth knowledge of the T-33 proved to be invaluable at the scene and his enthusiasm and good humour were infectious.

Bravo Zulu to 19 Wing from the Directorate of Flight Safety! Col R. Bastien, Director of Flight Safety

### Letter of Appreciation from Commander, 1 Canadian Air Division:

Please add my own congratulations to those of Col Bastien for the outstanding support provided by 19 Wing personnel during the investigation into the accident of CT133454. I am also very appreciative of the extensive effort by 19 Wing in dealing with all of the other aspects of this activity. From on-site activity to addressing the personal concerns of the next-of-kin, you have all exhibited the professionalism, excellence and teamwork which we all strive to attain. Well done!

Sincerely,  
Maj-Gen G.E.C. Macdonald

### RCAF Station Comox

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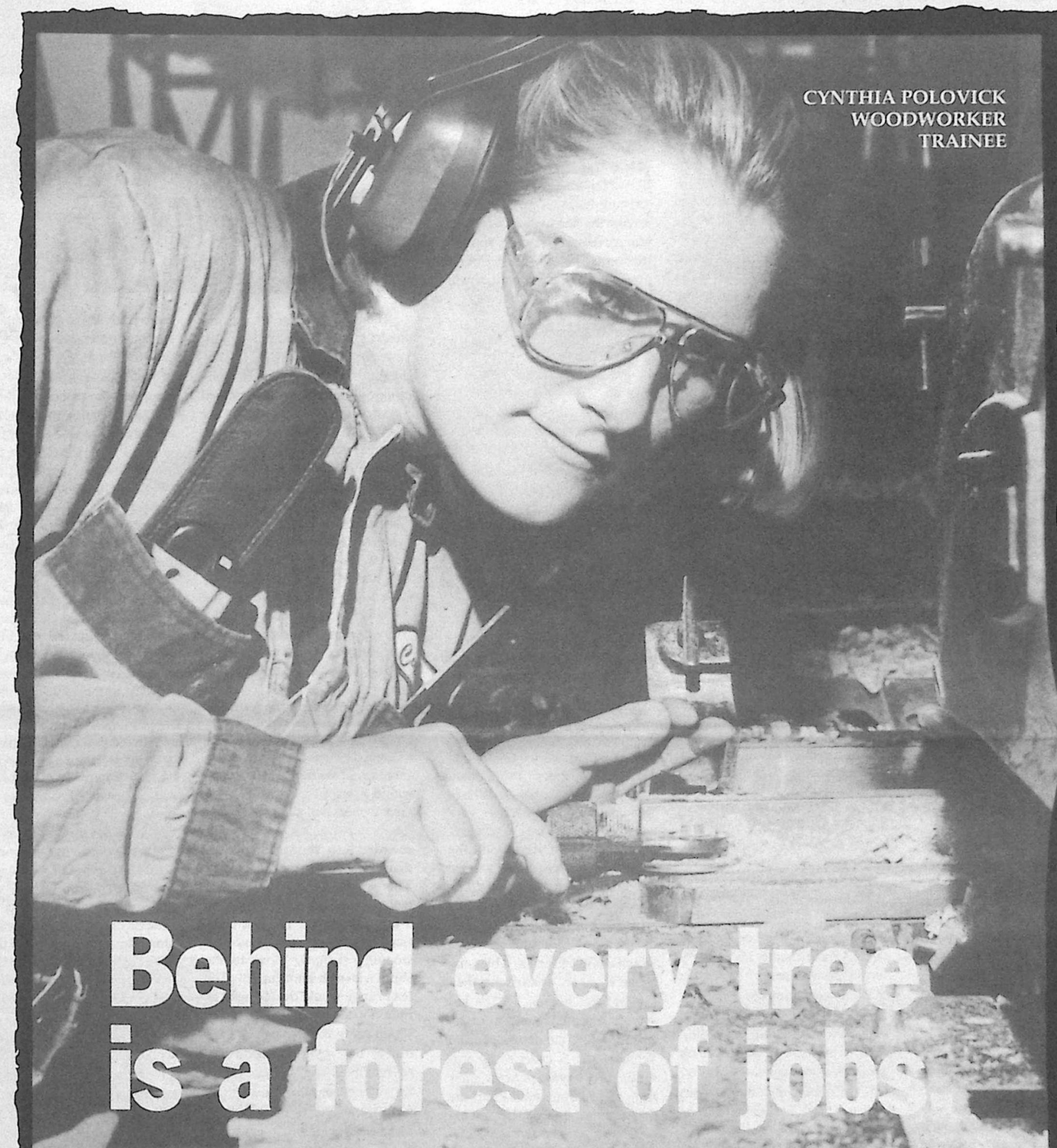
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Monday 0830 - 1600  
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WOODWORKER  
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(Photo by WIS)



# 407 Sqn: Air - Ground - and Sea

All the leaves are brown and the skies are grey, which is a clear indication that summer in the Comox Valley is officially over. The looming grey clouds over the glacier will soon be bringing snow. Perhaps, this year, the snow will hold off to at least Halloween or the end of Fincastle. The end of summer also brings the conclusion of the summer block leave and the APS, which ensures that the squadron halls will be active again and the sight of tumbleweeds will be gone.

During the lazy, hazy days of summer (the few that we had) the 407 competitive slow pitch team put up a valiant struggle to stay in the league's basement. With the skill and expertise of the team manager/coach Paul "The Ops Guy," the team was able to bring the level of play up for the important games during the Commander's Cup. The 407 team fought their way out of the basement and into the Commander's Cup final. Although Jason Major hit a grand slam home run and a two run home run in the final, the expertise in the right field was not there, which led to a second place finish. Perhaps next year, with some earlier spring training and new members in the squadron, we will be fighting for first place throughout the season. With the end of summer ball season the Demons, Devils and Rebels are preparing themselves for the upcoming hockey season. Curtis "I have been on OJT so long" Wright is the manager so any interested squadron members may contact him for the ice time schedules.

Although the squadron has been rotating the crews through the block leave schedule, the work for the mighty Demons has not slowed down. The crews that have remained behind have been kept busy with deployments, local missions and the never-ending preparations for MARCOT and Fincastle. The preparations for MARCOT have been going well and on a steady course whereas the Fincastle schedule has been arranged, rearranged and rearranged again. Due to some surprising technical difficulties with the submarine, Fincastle had to be moved back to the end of October/early November time frame. It has been hinted that sabotage was involved with the technical difficulties associated with the submarine in order for the other Fincastle countries to figure out and practice the challenging sport of broomball.

The Cowboys of Crew 2 rarely have a boring mission, even the most mundane scheduled missions turn into events of enormous proportion whether due to

the antics of MCpl "I can't shop enough" Espenberg or the radio interceptions during the flight. Recently, while flying a Norpat (Norther Patrol out of Whitehorse), Crew 2 intercepted an ELT beacon and was tasked by RCC to conduct a SAR mission. The ELT was one of the deluxe models that allowed the individuals to insert their location into the signal. After many minutes of listening to the ELT and trying to find the GPH 205 with the Morse code identifications, the Cowboys were able to narrow down the location of their search to the Horton River area. Due to the distance between aerodromes in the territories, the crew was only able to manage a half-hour on-station time to conduct the search. The half hour proved to be more than enough time for the crew to find the people in distress. The people who activated the ELT beacon were part of a tour and their guide was not at the rendezvous point as scheduled. It seems that the main party was a day early and the guide was, in fact, safe and sound up river. After refueling in Iqaluit and returning to Whitehorse, the crew logged 13.4 hours and hit the sack for some much deserved rest.

While Crew 2 was saving lives in the Territories, the Demon Dawgs of Crew 3 were flying out of Midway in support of the UN Moratorium on Driftnet fishing. Word must travel fast in the South Pacific, as the Demon Dawgs were unable to locate anyone violating the moratorium. Upon returning from Midway, the crew was advised that they would no longer be going to Bahia Blanca, Argentina, in support of UNITAS, but would be returning to Vina del Mar, Chile. The Demon Dawgs will be going to Chile in September for another stage of UNITAS and another opportunity for the crew to perfect the native Macarana dance steps.

The Icemen of Crew 4 were delighted to find out, upon their return from Greenwood, that they would be replacing the Dawgs on the Argentine deployment. I am not sure if it is just coincidence or the will of the higher-ups but Capt "I love Californian women" Sullivan left the crew in April and, since his departure, the Icemen, who were known for their "We don't go anywhere" motto, invaded Australia and are now working towards Argentina.

The Crew 5 Vikings, the Fincastle crew, are just about finished stacking their crew for the upcoming competition and look forward to a Canadian clean sweep in November.

Crews 6 and 7 have been on what seems to be to all the other

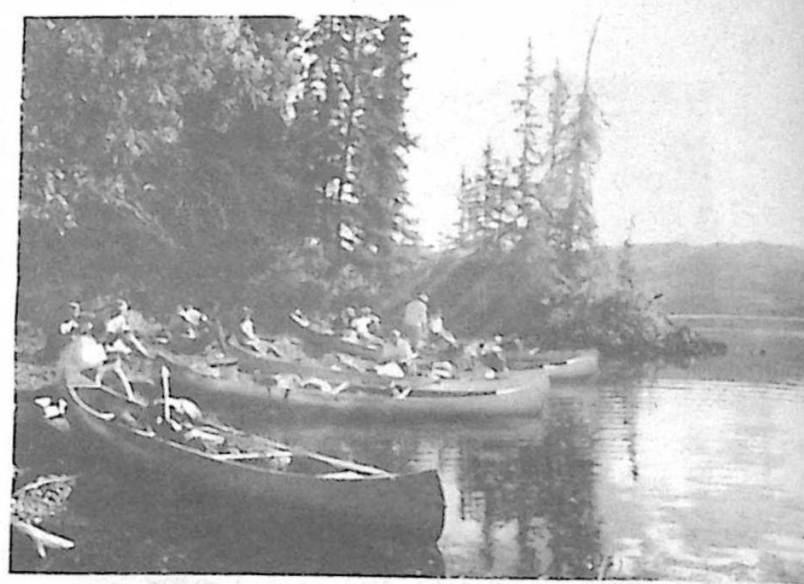
crews an extended block leave, as a result there is little information from that end of the hall. One small piece of information that has been leaked is that the Moosemen of Crew 7 would like to wish Capt Major all the best on his recent upgrade to MPAC.

The 215 squadron members who participated in Operation River Rats would like to thank Norm for all his hard work and for coming in on all of his days off, except the four needed to organise the Adventure Training, and look forward to his next quest. The following is a brief account of what happened during the 6-day exploit.



Fifteen of the finest Demons were selected to undertake a 210 mile trek up Lake Labarge and onto the majestic Yukon River. The trip started without a hitch, departing from Comox via Aurora Airlines, whose courteous staff catered to every whim of the "Demon Voyagers" throughout the three hour transit to Whitehorse. Three other voyagers, who were pre-positioned four days earlier for a NORPAT, via the same inexpensive airline, greeted the recently arrived voyagers. The gear was unloaded and then reloaded into the vehicles, without the aid of the ground handlers, which could be seen as a blessing as the voyagers ensured that their luggage was not lost. A few last minute essential items were acquired before the departure from Whitehorse. A cadet camp provided the voyagers with their equipment requirements and the first night's lodging. The evening was spent around the BBQ discussing tactics that proved to be most enlightening.

It must be the brisk north Klondike air, as most of the voyagers awoke to a great thirst. The pleasant staff at the camp supplied the Outdoorsmen and Outdoorswoman with a large send-off breakfast. Once the basic needs were satisfied, the voyagers moved towards the designated starting point a third of the way up Lake Labarge. That meant there were 26 miles of lake remaining to be paddled. No problem for a group of fitness fanatics and hard core outdoorsmen, or so it was thought. The lake was quickly renamed "Lake Eveready" - it kept going and going. Just as the voyagers thought the end was just past the bend, there was another bend that required tackling. Finally, in the mid-evening, the tired arms and weary bodies of the voyagers conquered the final bend and set up camp.



The skill and planning of the expert guide, Norm, allowed the voyagers to work with the current during the second day of paddling. With the natural increased speed and the human desire for competition, the race was on. The voyagers felt it was necessary to make a lot of headway during that second day, a necessity that diminished as the days progressed. During the selection process, it was decided that it was necessary to bring along a GPS to mark the progress of the adventurers. As with all the systems on board the Aurora, it was also decided that a back-up was required, this was the determining factor for the inclusion of Gumbo. It was thought that if the GPS failed, Gumbo could use the sextant and the sun to determine the progress of the group.

Each day was started with the intention of staying together and, within a brief time, there was a great dispersal of personnel down the river. Perhaps it was a race to see what Ken "the man in the Zodiac" did down the lazy river. There were several skills that were being mastered during the 6-day adventure. The one practiced the most often involved stopping abruptly close to the shore with an 8-knot current. The lead canoe would decide, with a little notice as possible, a spot to set up camp which meant that the rest of the voyagers paddled to attempt the shore landings. Some very humorous landing attempts were witnessed by all. It is truly amazing that everyone ended up at the same campsite each evening.

"Canoe Buddies" became an adopted term as the voyagers progressed down the river. Other terms included Canoe Arm, Canoe Head and, as everyone who had ever canoed before can relate to, Canoe Butt. It seems peculiar that the team member who was nicknamed "Canoe Head" was the one in the Zodiac. The morale increased as the trip progressed. Perhaps it was the thought that

there were fewer days remaining to canoe than had already been canoed. A luxury stop in the town of Carmacks allowed the weary voyagers the opportunity to indulge in a home (restaurant) cooked meal and a cool one. Around 3:00 a.m. the voyagers were awakened by a call of the wild. No, it wasn't a wolf or a bear, it was a conversation between two of the locals discussing life as they saw it on either side of the river. Their wives and some other local women soon joined the conversation. This reassured the voyagers that their presence did not interrupt the normal daily routine of their surroundings.

The voyagers were looking forward to their final day canoeing, as it would be the shortest of the journey. As the 15 voyagers conquered the revered "Five Finger Rapids," the realization came that the return to nature would soon be over. The canoes were pulled out of the water and the camp was set up for the last time while the tired voyagers awaited the cadet camp staff for the return trip back to Whitehorse. While the weary voyagers waited, Billy "Tackle Emporium" Terne set up along the shores to display the art of deep water tackle salvage. Terne's daring feats were impressive and could only be matched by a few people in the world.

The return trip home ended, without incident, in Comox two days later. The scenery and Yukon people were second to none and the voyagers highly recommend the Yukon River as a trip to take in the future.

Operation River Rats could not have happened without a great amount of base support. The organizers, MCpl Espenberg and CWO Perry, and the rest of the participants would like to thank everyone who made the adventure training a success. The trip was challenging and an opportunity time for ground and aircrew to find out that the only line drawn between the two is the one we create.

## Apprentice applauds CE

**"There is general consensus that there are benefits and responsibilities that come with apprenticeships. It instills incentive in an employee..."**

(19 Wing C.E. Socio-Tech Redesign Final Report, 20 Oct 94.)

by Finn

Name: Simon Carty

Initials: S.D. Age: 25

Occupation: Apprentice electrician.

Which leaves Simon one of a lucky few. The only one within CE, in fact.

This may one day change. Youth employment and apprenticeship programs were strongly endorsed by the premiers at their August 6 meeting in Ottawa. But, for now, Canada is sadly lacking in the apprentices that make the tradesmen of tomorrow.

Simon acknowledges his good fortune: "I worked as a labourer at the Masset Radar Station. My father is a millwright. I got my interest in a good trade from him. Chose the electrical trade because of the Electroman comics. They were great. Read every one I could lay my hands on."



Simon Carty at work.

(Photo by WIS)

After two years of apprenticeship at Masset, downsizing forced Simon to look elsewhere for a place to complete his courses and OJT. He liked CFB Comox right away. "It's been great. And I'm grateful. Couldn't have been taught by better people. I've learned a lot. CE and the Base have treated me first class."

Born in Masset, in the Queen Charlotte's, Simon, a Haida, realizes his native origin may make a difference in a few respects, but not as far as the requirement for competence goes. He should be finished by December 97. "And those exams are the same for everyone," he says with a smile.

Simon strongly believes in apprentice programs. "It is great to have a trade. Mine not the least. It's in demand most places."

Isaac Lucas, Simon's primary electrician instructor at CE, is happy with Simon's progress: "He has done well. My only wish would be for a broader scope. Maybe spending some time in the Mechanical Shop. But it's not easy to slot in." Isaac would not

mind seeing more apprentices on the Base. "I guess with the cut-backs, though, that may be tough."

Capt Chris McCarthy, CE Ops O, is happy to have had Simon at Comox. "Not only has Simon benefitted, but the Wing has gained doubly because Ottawa is paying the bill and additional work is being achieved as Simon helps out Isaac. We'd be willing to have other apprentices, but funding is an issue. The challenge in having apprentices is the demand that instruction places on the time and effort of journeymen already in short supply."

Simon himself embraces the entire base in his praise: "CFB Comox is just a great place to work and learn. I've been treated with courtesy and respect." Then he adds, "But hey, about those Electroman comics? Just kidding. Never heard of such a thing!"

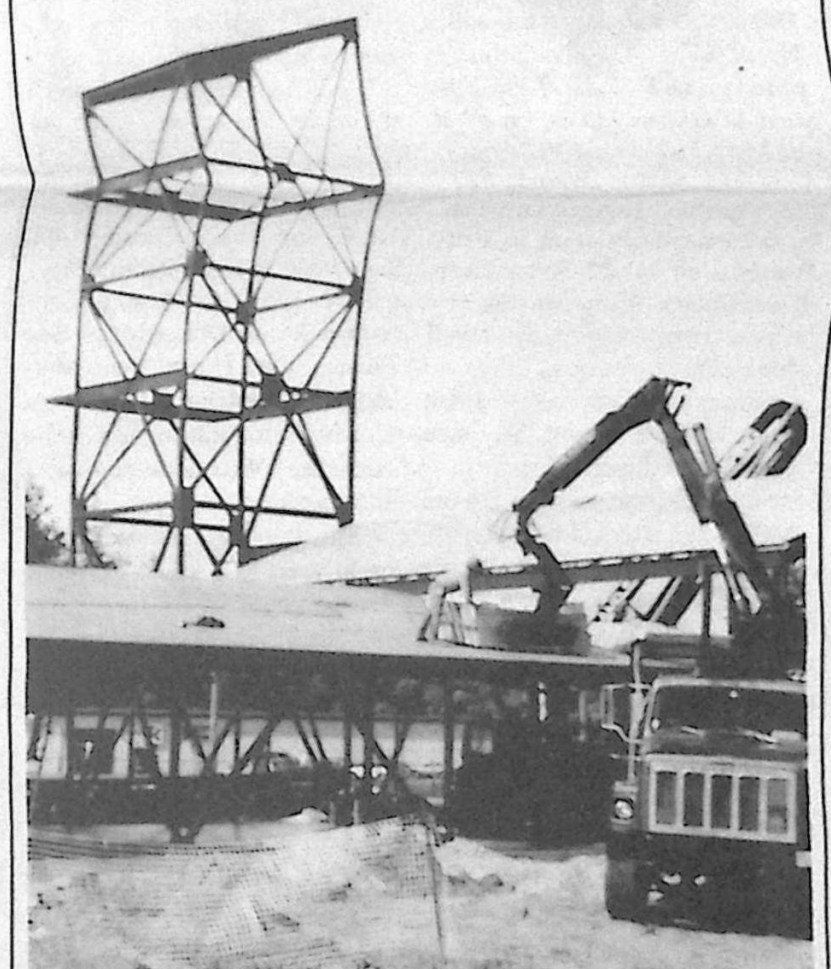
## CE's customizing carpenters



"Making a workstation? Can do, Sir. And your requirements?" Another facet of the CE Flight: custom making to design - and not merely structurally, but in the field of cabinetry and office furniture as well. Which does not make CE a furniture shop. However, it gives the CE Flight an additional dimension in specific instances when manpower permits. The advantage to other sections (414 Sqn in particular, as well as WOps renovations) lies in CE's ability to complete lockers, cabinets and work stations (also some tables and desks) according to spatial limitations and specific requirements. Above, flexing the CE socio-technical muscle, Master Joiner John Stokes concentrates on the task of delivering "to order."

(Photo by WIS)

## SAR School update



## A messy mess no more



Finished messing around are carpenters Charlie Turner, Mike Power, Al Oelke and, aloof and aloft, Dave Gallagher.

(Photo by WIS)

The entrance canopy was ripped, the plywood on the south side, rotten. While a contractor looked after replacing the canopy, CE Flight sallied forth in squad-size forays against the decay and other lurking structural enemies.

The result: the Officers' Mess once more is worthy of its name.

Over a period of some seven weeks, Construction Engineering crews, varying between four and six members, removed the asbestos, replaced the steps, hung a new exit door and furnished new downspouts. More importantly, and in large measure responsible for the building's new look, the crew also put in new windows, painted and installed brand new siding. Its cream sandalwood sheen now gleams in colourful advertisement.

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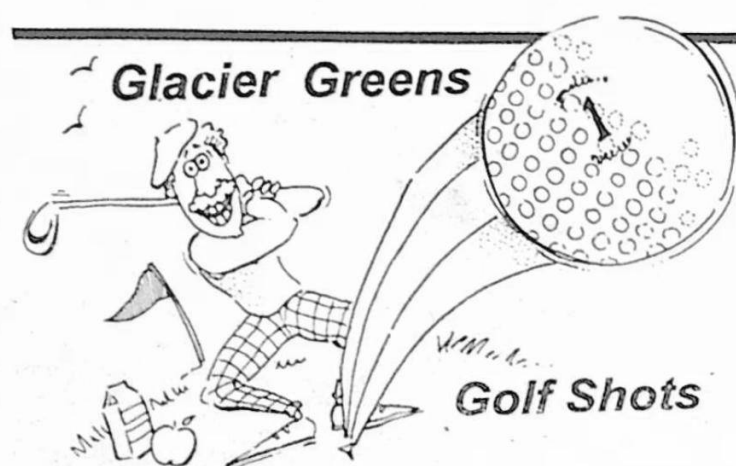
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### GG TUESDAY LADIES CLUB

September 2 and 36 gals showed up to play Scotch Doubles (modified). Most thought it was a real fun time.

1st Low Net went to Muriel Krier and Jean Maxwell with 64. On the other side of things it was Duane Miles and Charlene Wade with 75.5. 2nd Low Net went to my long suffering partner Irene Marshall and yours truly with a 66.5. Irene saw spots she had never been before! With a 75 Low Net it was Joyce Merrill and Dolly Grant. Ha, got ya, Dot.

We re-welcome Margaret Johns, whose first time was so memorable she forgot she had attended, and we didn't even bite.

September 9 was Grammas vs non-Grammas day at GG. After a beautiful sun filled day the Grammas came out on top with a Net of 75.36. The non-Grammas ended up with 77.48. KPs on #4 went to Gillian Iddols, on #7 it was Muriel Kriers, on #12 Peggy Clark, #15 Sharon Warne, #17 Irene Marshall. Longest Drive on #6 0-26 handicap went to Patti Beechey, on #11 27-30 handicap it was Sharon Warne, on #14 31+ it was Peggy Cummins. Well done gals.

It was a pleasure to have a visit from Marg Wreggett. We hope you will do it more often.

Congratulations to Duane Miles who, after a 2-hole playoff, won Field Low Gross at Pacific Playgrounds shooting a 79, and to Peggy Cummins who had Field Low Net with a 61.

### TUESDAY NIGHT BUSINESS LADIES

Irene Perry got 1st Low Gross with 44. Low Putts went to Phyllis Trenor with 15 and Rose McCleish with 21.

Winning the Columbo's trophy were the team of Lori Cameron and Rose Jacobson. KP on #4 went to Anna Sutton and Corrine Enns. Longest Drive went to Fran Hume and June Rushton. Most Putts went to Augusta Pritchard and June Eagler.

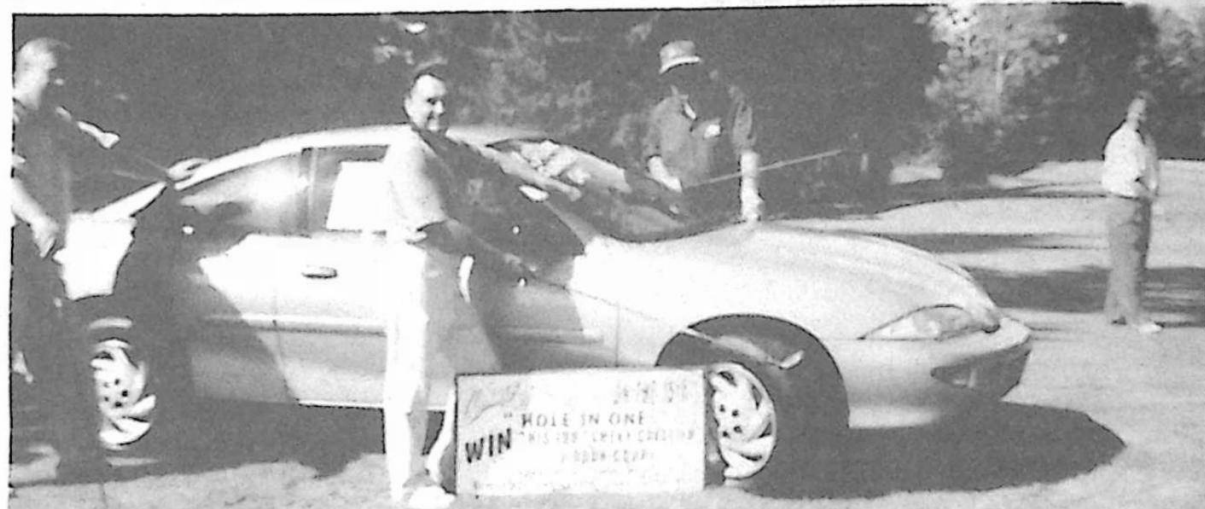
### COMOX VALLEY INTER-CLUB MATCH PLAY

This new format of play was introduced this year by Pacific Playgrounds and has proved to be very successful. The clubs from Comox, Sunnydale, Pacific Playgrounds and Glacier Greens participated, each club hosted on a once a month basis.

Final play was on September 3 at Glacier Greens and, when the scores were tallied, it was GG who were the winners. Point standings after four rounds: Glacier Greens 158.5, Comox 149, Sunnydale 143 and Pacific Playgrounds 125.5. Our team on September 3 was: Duane Miles, Sue Powers, Fran Hume, Irene Marshall, Pat Evert, Fran Hutchinson, Carmel Horochuk and Ellie Nicholas. Well done you super shooters.

This popular event will carry on in years to come as everyone really enjoyed it. The trophy was presented to the team by Dee Dee Grant of Pacific Playgrounds.

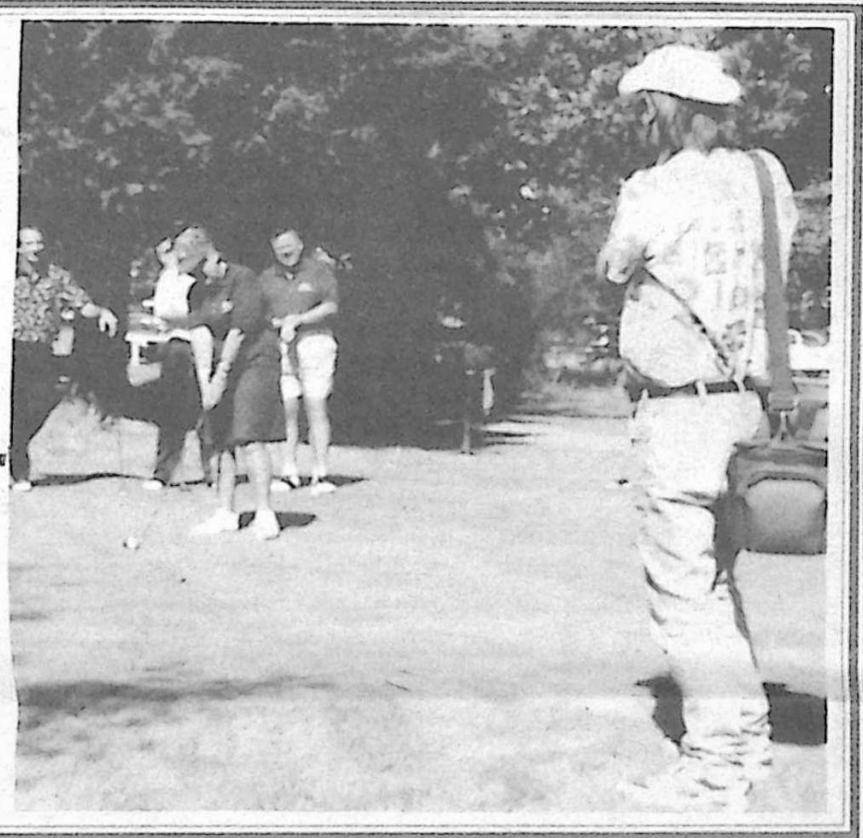
## Don't scratch the paint!



Butch Kelly, world famous golf pro and "Golf-a-thon" celebrity from the Storey Creek Golf Club looks back at what was up for grabs on the 15th hole during the "Comox Builders Charity Pro Am" last week, held at Glacier Greens. Proceeds are going to the Jr. Golfers' Tour which starts in 1998.

## For the record

"Bare Bones" coverage of opening tee off at Pro Am



\*\*\*\*\*  
The Totem Times had hoped to have an article by Lawry Willis in this edition, detailing his experiences with the Canadian Tour this past summer. It would have been interesting to our readers and his sponsors to read what aspiring golfers might expect to encounter on tour, what the highlights were and any low spots to watch out for. Was the tour as glamorous as we all might suppose? We are sorry that the article was not made available by press time.  
\*\*\*\*\*

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WO & Sgt's Mess  
18 Hole Final  
Oct 3, 1997

"I told him he was a year away from the Tour and next year he'll be two years away."

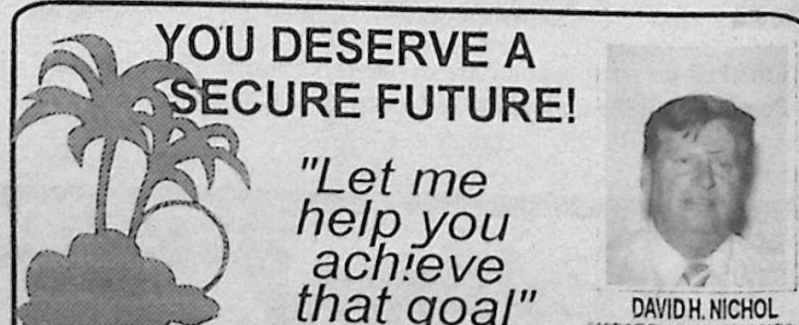
Chi Chi Rodriguez, when asked to evaluate an amateur's potential.



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### 19 Wing Bowling Centre Schedule

Any individuals, couples, or teams interested in league bowling, please call the contacts listed below, or call Bowling Centre staff members Scott Teasdale 334-1937 or Pat Andrews 338-8317. Info also available from Rec Centre staff.

**League times**  
Tues Ladies ... 6:45 - 9:00 pm  
Weds Ladies ... 1:00 - 3:15 pm  
Wed/Thurs Mixed ... 6:30 - 9:00 pm

**Contact**  
Sue Teasdale...334-1937  
Nancy Potvin...339-1782  
Rod Spurr...339-6067

### Casual Bowling

Friday ... 6:00 - 9:00 pm  
Sunday ... 1:00 - 4:00 pm

### Youth Bowling League - Saturdays

Anyone interested in registering their children for the Saturday league can contact the coordinator, Terry MacDonald at 339-0136. The kids have a lot of fun and get professional coaching at the same time.

We also book for section parties, sports afternoons, organizations, birthdays, etc.

### SEPTEMBER ARENA SCHEDULE

MON-FRI	0730-0845	MAINTENANCE
TUE-THU	1000-1115	19 AMS
MON-FRI	1130-1300	I/S HOCKEY PRACTISE
MON	1500-1700	BASE TEAM FLYERS
TUE-THU	1500-1700	SILVER TOTEMS AND BASE TEAM FLYERS
MON-FRI	1715-2045	COMOX VALLEY MINOR HOCKEY
MON	2100-2230	GLACIER KINGS
WED	2100-2215	FLAT LINERS
SAT	0700-1315	COMOX VALLEY MINOR HOCKEY
	1330-1445	CASUAL SKATING
	1500-1900	COMOX VALLEY MINOR HOCKEY
SUN	0700-1215	COMOX VALLEY MINOR HOCKEY
	1230-1345	CASUAL SKATING
	1400-1900	COMOX VALLEY MINOR HOCKEY

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## New Rec Co-ordinator at 19 Wing

I welcome this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is J.C. Fromont, your new Recreation Coordinator.

I was born in Montreal, PQ. In 1970 I joined the Navy and then, in 1977, remustered to PERI where I spent over 20 years working with Recreation and Physical Education until three months ago when our trade closed. Some of my postings included Germany, Bagotville, Halifax, Moncton, Esquimalt, Borden, RMC Kingston and, yes, 'Alert.'

My primary role is to oversee the Recreation and Aquatics program, where most of the personnel involved are volunteers.

My office is situated upstairs at the Base Rec Centre. If you would like to introduce a new Rec Club or any special activities, which you feel would be beneficial to our community, I will give you guidelines, support and my expertise to make it happen.

A new Community Centre will be constructed in the near future. I will be sharing the centre with CMFRC, the Community Council and some Special Service organizations, all with a common tasking of making our community a better place to live.

I am proud to be part of the FS&R staff at 19 Wing Comox.



## Jake's Sports Trivia

1. How many Olympic gold medals has Mark Spitz hauled home?
2. What World Series star of 1980 once had a comic strip titled "Scroogie?"
3. What number did Eddie Shack wear while performing his antics with the Toronto Maple Leafs?

See answers on page 12.



## Intersection Slo-pitch wrap up



Col MacLean presents the winners' trophy to Jeff Hogan of the Silver Totems as the President of the League, Capt Dave Thurston, looks on.

The I/S Slo-pitch League wrapped up the season this month when the Silver Totems defeated 442 Sqn in the best two of three final.

The finals were crowd pleasing and thrilling, with a few home runs by both teams and some stellar defensive plays throughout the game. 442 Sqn won the first

game and the Silver Totems the second, setting the stage for the final game. In the end, the defense of the Totems proved to be the big factor which denied 442 the chance to hold up the cup.

Congratulations to the Silver Totems and 442 Sqn for an entertaining final.



1997 I/S Slo-pitch Champions, the Silver Totems.



1997 I/S Slo-pitch runners-up, 442 Squadron.

## "NEW" SPORTS STORES HOURS

Mon - Thurs:  
0730 - 1600 hrs.

Fridays:  
0730 - 1330 hrs.



## Professional drivers' competition

by Maj E.S. Giles, Wing TNO

This year's National Professional Drivers Competition is being hosted by Transportation Flight, 19 Wing Comox. The event will include competitors from all regions of Canada.

History of the event is as follows: from 1948 to 1961, the Department of National Defence participated in the Armed Forces Division of the Canadian National Truck Driving Competition, sponsored by the Automotive Transport Association (ATA). The ATA competition at the national level was discontinued after 1961 although local and provincial competitions continued to be held. These safe and skilled driving competitions became known as "Rodeos."

The 1961 Rodeo was also the last pre-unification DND national rodeo competition. The "regional" elimination rodeos, based on the army, navy and air force command structure, were also discontinued and remained dormant until 1979. In that year an ad hoc committee was formed to hold a Truckers Potlach - the first Pacific Region Truck Rodeo at CFB Chilliwack. This sparked renewed interest in rodeos and regional rodeos were held in 1980 in Atlantic, Eastern and Central regions. The interest generated by these competitions prompted the decision to introduce a rodeo in DND at the national level in 1981.

In 1987 it was decided to change the name of this event from "rodeo" to the Canadian Forces Professional Drivers Championship. This title is more in keeping with the status of the event and reflects the professional status of the competitors.

The purpose of the national championship is to promote safety and to encourage both MSE Ops and civilian MDO tradesmen to develop and perfect professional calibre trade skills, and to provide an arena in which

to demonstrate these skills in a challenging competition. Such challenges provide the opportunity not only to gain individual recognition but also the sense of personal achievement that comes when professionals compete with

the best of their peers. Also, it is an effective means of promoting awareness within the Canadian Forces, as well as the public, of

The competition consists of a series of knowledge, practical and field tests using a series of obstacles simulating actual driving hazards. The knowledge test is the high degree of professionalism that already exists amongst career tradesmen in the CF.

Championships are held at both the regional and national levels. Contestants for the national championship become eligible though competition in the regional events which serve as play-downs for the national.

Five classes of competition are held in both regional and national championships: tractor-trailer; straight truck (3-ton or greater payload rating); bus (40 passenger or more seating capacity); HLVW; and a road rally.



## News from 19 AMS

by Eric Travis, ArmPAVO (Shredder)

Hi there and welcome back. 19 AMS has had the opportunity to present a number of CDs to its members once again (I guess we have an ageing squadron). Maj Bourget is seen presenting CDs to (in order) Cpl Palmer, MCpl Hannas, MCpl Waldner and Capt Rossell. I don't mean to sound vain, but is that ever a nice looking crest!

MCpl Hannas was just promoted to MCpl a couple of months ago and he is already gracing the pages of this cherished paper again. I'm starting to think that he is a Photo-Opportunity hunter. Capt Rossell has been claiming that his CD was "in the mail" for the past two years. I guess he was correct, given the standard 2-year postal delay.

Other home-run hitters were Cpl McPhalen, MCpl Waldner and Cpl LeFebvre. Defensively, a special mention goes to Cpl Gagnon (infield demon), Cpl Goulette (centre fielder extraordinaire), and MCpl Waldner (2nd base). Someday, perhaps, I will achieve their impressive status and we will be victorious prior to our last game of the tournament.



Cpl Palmer, CD1.



Maj Bourget, CO 19 AMS, presents MCpl Hannas with his CD1. (Photos by WIS)



MCpl Waldner, CD1.



Capt Rossell, CD1.

Many members of 19 AMS participated in this year's Commander's Cup Softball tournament. With (17+25+32) 74 runs scored by 19 AMS in three games, it was apparent that the bats were swinging. Unfortunately, the defence did not come together as quickly with scores against totalling (20+25+08) 53 with the first two games being losses, effectively eliminating 19 AMS from the running. The pillar of the offence was Cpl Webb with a combined total of 5 home-runs in three games and a batting average of 1000 for the tournament.

Well, summer is coming to a close and for all those starting to consider purchasing new equipment for this year's ski season, the following may prove to be useful:

### Top 10 reasons snowboarding is better than skiing

10. Snowboarders can get away with wearing crazier hats.

09. Your hands are free to hold things, i.e. beer.

08. Accidentally doing the splits is not possible on a snowboard.

07. Most people's butts are padded enough that they can take a beating anyway.

06. Less likely to blow a knee on a snowboard - elbow injuries don't stop you from bar crawling.

05. 'Knuckle-dragger' sounds better than 'Two-planker.'

04. It's impossible to have a double extraction on a snowboard; therefore, you're never the one left buying a round of beer at the end of the day.

03. Easier to transport one board than two skis, two poles and two boots.

02. You don't look dorky trying to walk in snowboard boots.

01. Baggy clothes can hide your potbelly and hold more beer!!

So remember: Step up, Strap on, and SHRED!!!

# Governor General presents...



Capt Landry (407 Sqn) CD1.



Capt Davis (W Admin) CD1.



Sgt Dimock (407 Sqn) CD1.



Cpl Herie (W Sup) CD1.



Sgt Aitchison (19 AMS) CD1.

During his visit to CFB Comox, on August 21, His Excellency Romeo LeBlanc, the Governor General, presented Canadian Decorations and Somalia Medals at a ceremony held at the Officers' Mess. This



MCpl Wells (407 Sqn) CD1.



PO1 Dainard (W Tn) CD1.

## Somalia Medal recipients



Cpl Parks (407 Sqn).



Cpl McQueen (W Tfc).



Cpl MacLellan (442 Sqn).



Sgt Laperriere (W Telecom).



Cpl Popp (414 Sqn).



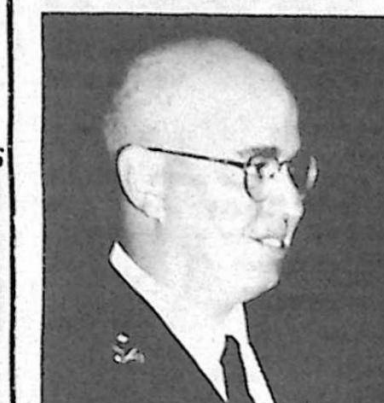
Cpl Dunn (W Telecom).



Cpl Lanteigne (WEME).



MS Voak (W Sup).



MS Dozois (W Admin).



Cpl (ret) Hamm, Courtenay.

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## As the Beacon turns

by MCpl John W. Healey

Air Traffic Control at 19 Wing Comox is a business which few people outside the aviation community know much about. Recent changes at Vancouver International Airport, such as the opening of a new runway and terminal, have had a dramatic effect on the traffic situation at 19 Wing.

An audit of ATC stats was compiled recently, going back to 1988. Our previous "record" month was June of 1994 with a combined VFR and IFR movements total of 10,313. The total movements for July 1997 was 17,365. The breakdown of these stats is 12.4% military and 87.6% civilian.

Many people think that the glider operation is the main reason for the increase, however the gliders operated during both of these periods and, even if all glider flights are eliminated from the July 97 count, there were still 2,000 more flights in July 97 than in June 94. As you can see, the traffic situation for ATC in Comox is increasing and, at the same time, we are not immune to the downsizing that the Military has experienced in the last few years.

Capt's Serge Roy and Roger Guinan have both been working at the section for the past several months as Class 'B' reserves. Both Serge and Roger applied for re-engagement to regular force and have been accepted. On behalf of the entire unit I would like to welcome them back to the flock full time.

Cpl Bob Joudry is presently enjoying a 3-week TD trip in Thule, Greenland helping out with operation "Boxtop," which is an operation in support of the replenishment of CFS Alert. Bob is working as a flight follower augmenting on-site American controllers.

Congratulations to WO Al Lirette, Capt Al Basinger and Capt Steve Whynott who received their CDIs from A/W Comd LCol Burt.

"Good show" to Cpl Bob Johnson who made the 19 Wing golf team during the recent Base playdowns.

Congratulations also to Capt Brian Dekker on his recent quali-



WO Al Lirette receives CDI from A/W Comd, LCol Burt. (Photos by WIS)

fication as a terminal controller. The other guys will appreciate having you on shift to ease the burden.

Capt Mike "the fisherman" Forbes must really take his physical fitness seriously. While trying to start the generator for the OSC vehicle, in order to warm it up, Mike was huffing and puffing and pulling away on the starter cord. I was standing nearby watching and decided to turn on the fuel switch before Mike hurt himself. I don't know if the generator got warmed up but Mike was sweating buckets.

Also on the humorous side, 2LT J.P. LaFleur passes on his congratulations to Perry and Lise Lucas on their "recent" nuptials! Perry and Lise have been married for 13 years and have two kids. However, JP was unaware of this fact.

Now on to more important matters - the annual Officers vs NCMs Softball Challenge was held on 5 September. The officers started out well, after the first inning the score was only 2-1 for the NCMs. But, after that, the extraordinary talent and physical superiority of the NCMs was just too much for the poorly trained, out of shape and unmotivated officers! To say that it was a massacre is an understatement. The final score was 20-4 for the NCMs. I would not be surprised if our "Golden Bared Boys and Girls" refuse the challenge for



Capt Steve Whynott, CDI.



Capt Al Basinger, CDI.

next year. Shortly after the game several officers were heard complaining that we should switch to a new sport - maybe checkers or chess would be more to their liking! This year's win gives the NCMs a 7-2 record. I guess the two losses could be considered charity. After the game Capt Dave Thurston hosted both teams for a BBQ with the officers eating crow and the NCMs dining on glory.

Until next time....

### Kids Only cookbook contest winners

The following are the lucky cookbook winners: Kyanne Johnson, Matt Trombley, Shane Maye, Allison Nicholls, Amanda Melanson and Sean Clayton. Books can be picked up at the Totem Times office on production days.

### please mum

Be the first on your block to host the new... Please Mum Experience. Great new Hostess Benefits! \$1000 Shopping spree draw. New VIP Membership specials. SHOP AT HOME. With your family & friends. Call me to find out how to host a home presentation! NICOLA GIRARDI 339-4745. The Please Mum Experience. What a Party!

## Wallace Gardens

### Leaders

#### Urgently Needed

Girl Guides of Canada are desperately seeking leaders for their Thursday evening Guide group which meets in the WGCA Centre from 6:00-8:00 p.m. If you are interested and would like to help out, please call Terry Newell at 334-8898.

### Community Centre Reservations

All group ACTIVITY LEADERS, who use the Community Centre on a regular basis, are asked to come to the office to sign a seasonal rental agreement AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!

### Pet Registration

All PET REGISTRATIONS are now being handled through the WGCA office which is open Mon-Fri 0730 - 1200 hours

### Family Bingo

**When:** Sunday, 5 October  
**Time:** 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Community Centre  
**Cost:** 25 cents per card  
For more info, call Pat Nicholson at 339-1966.

### Video Afternoons

Held every second Sunday of the month, commencing 12 October, from 1-3 p.m. Open to members under 12 years. 50 cents covers movie, popcorn and a drink.

### Volunteers Needed...

• To help with the Halloween Party to be held 25 October in Airport School gym from 1300-1500 hours. Phone Janina at 339-8211, local 8571 before 26 September.

• To be Sock-Hop coordinator for dances held every second Saturday of the month from 6:30-8:00 pm for the under 12's. Phone Janina for further info.

### PMQ Garage Sale

Saturday, 4 October from 0900 - 1400 hrs. Bulk garbage pick-up will follow on Monday, 6 Oct.

**Video Nights:** 4 Oct and 1 Nov.  
**Teen Craft Night:** 29 Nov, 6:30-8:30 pm.

We will be holding Gym Nights again, starting Wed, 17 Sept at the base gym. This is FREE.

If any parent or adult wishes to volunteer a few hours a month to the teens, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please call me at 339-7696.

### Community Council reps needed

The WGCA is looking for Community Council reps from Ward 1 (MQ Block A and B, MQ 1 through 11, and MQ 101), Ward 3 (MQ 18 through 25A, MQ 34 through 48) and Ward 9 (MQ Block 111, 112, 114, 116 and 117). If you live in any of these wards and would like to be a part of the council, call Janina.

### Adult Craft Club

This club will meet every third Sunday of the month from 7-10 p.m. in the Community Centre. Cost of craft materials is the only cost for the evening. The first meeting is an exception, with a "Meet & Greet" being held on 21 September from 1-3 p.m. For more info call Jane Bekus 339-2354 or Pat Nicholson 339-1966.

### Teen Centre News

by Carmie 339-7696  
I would like to thank all of the teens who came out this summer and had a great time camping, playing beach volleyball, participating in bubble gum blowing contests, paper airplane making and flying contests, water wars, kayaking and wall climbing. It was a great turn out. A special thank you to Jill for her help arranging the kayaking and wall climbing trips, and not to forget our berry surprise when we went camping.

Now that a new school year is upon us, I will be trying to arrange a few different things to do this winter. I hope to arrange bowling, a cooking/baking lesson, climbing higher walls, chocolate making and fencing. If anyone has suggestions for new outings, please call me.

We will still be holding our Teen Dances on the third Saturday of most months and our Meeting/Video nights will be on the first Saturday of most months. Listed below is the calendar of events up to Christmas.

**Dances:** 20 Sept, 25 Oct (Halloween party), 15 Nov, 6 Dec (Christmas party)

### Jake's Sports Trivia answers

1. Nine.
2. Tug McGraw.
3. #23.

### Volkswagen Music Edition

Your own 115hp fuel injected boom box.

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**Sunwest Auto Centre**

401 Ryan Rd., Courtenay 338-1221



## COMOX MILITARY FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE

Phone: 339-8290

## Military Family Life Focus of 1997 DND Photography Contest

Is your hobby or profession photography? Why not enter the 1997 DND Photo Contest? The military life category this year features military family life. Your photo could be one of thirteen selected for next year's Military Family Support Program Calendar, distributed to 60,000 homes and offices across the CF/DND. Last year's photo contest drew over 300 entries and the exhibition of winning photographs at National Defence Headquarters attracted several thousand viewers.

The photo contest is open to all Regular Forces members and Reservists and their families; civilian members employed by DND and their

families; retired CF members; cadets; and members of other countries who are attached to or on exchange duty with the CF. Military families are unique, adventurous, and adaptable in their often transient and demanding lifestyles. Why not show us what being a member of a CF family means to you. Some ideas to "shoot for" are: moving days, life in PMQ's, departure/return from deployment/sea duty, watching a military parade, family days, activities at the base gym, teen centre or Family Resource Centre. Photographs must be taken in a military environment.

An individual, whether professional or amateur,

may submit a maximum of six black and white or colour photos. All entries must be in by 28th October 1997 for judging on October 30th and 31st. The winning photos will be exhibited in the main concourse at National Defence Headquarters, 101 Colonel By Drive from November 3-7, 1997. In addition, 13 of the photos will be proudly displayed and acknowledged in the popular Military Family Support Program Calendar.

To obtain an official contest entry form, contact 339-8211 local 8324, or contact the Comox Military Family Resource Center at 339-8290 for further details.

## Adult Quality of Life Workshops

### "Who's Driving this Bus?" A Community Orientation & Job Search Workshop

Are you new to the Comox Valley and not sure where you fit into the local job market? The CMFRC is holding a community orientation and job search workshop designed to help military spouses find employment and get established in the area.  
**Dates:** Oct. 14th, 16th, 17th, 21st, 23rd, 24th, 28th, 30th & 31st.  
**Time:** 9:00am - 12:30pm  
**Location:** Protestant Chapel Annex  
**Cost:** Free  
**Registration:** Phone 339-8290

### Strictly Ballroom! A Beginners Dance Class

Have you ever longed to

## Tole Painting Workshop

Come out and create a beautiful welcome sign and an elegant scissors holder! The workshop facilitator, Kim Wacey, has been Tole Painting for many years and brings her love for the art and her enthusiasm to share with others in this workshop. This is a workshop for beginners, and the cost includes all supplies, i.e. wood, paint, brushes and tools.

**Dates:** Oct. 16th, 23rd & 30th from 7:00 - 10:00pm, and Nov. 8th from 12:00pm - until the projects are completed.  
**Location:** 120 Kinnikinnik  
**Fee:** \$100 / 4 Sessions  
**Registration:** Phone 339-8290



You are invited to celebrate National Family Week with the CMFRC on Saturday October 4th from 12:00 to 3:00pm. Bring all your family and friends for a fun filled party.

### Attractions include:

- BBQ
- Refreshments and Treats
- Face painting
- Pony Rides
- Balloons
- Music
- Bounce-A-Mania
- Good Old Fashioned Family Games and Prizes

See You There!!!

## Le Coin des Francophones

Pour plus de renseignements et inscriptions contactez Michelle au 339-8211 (poste 8655)

### Atelier: La lecture et votre enfant

Comment encourager votre enfant à la lecture, techniques simples de lecture rapide, différents styles de lecture, adapter sa façon de lire, ressources disponibles (gratuit).  
**Date:** mardi le 16 septembre  
**Heure:** 19h00

### Atelier: "Creative Memories"

Préserver vos photos d'une façon originale et permanente  
**Date:** mercredi le 24 septembre  
**Heure:** 9h00 à 11h30  
**Coût:** \$10.00

### Atelier d'Origami

**Date:** mardi le 30 septembre  
**Heure:** 19h00 à 21h00 (gratuit)

## St. John Ambulance Babysitting Course

The CMFRC and St. John Ambulance are please to offer this popular babysitting course.

**Ages:** 11 years  
**Date:** Sept. 29th  
**Time:** 9:00am - 4:00pm  
**Location:** 120 Kinnikinnik  
**Registration:** Phone 339-8290

## Kinnikinnik Child Care Centre

### Infant and Toddler Program

The Kinnikinnik Child Care Center has full and Part-time spaces available for Infants and Toddlers (ages 6 - 36 months). For more information please call 339-5051 or 339-5074

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**Free Classified Advertising for members of 19 Wing and their families**

*Aids must be 25 words or less, legible and either hand delivered or dropped in the base mail. No phone ins please.*

### Free Portraits at Overwaitea

Dates: 26/27 September  
Time: 10:30 am - 4:30 pm  
Donations to St. Joe's Pediatric Ward greatly appreciated!

## MEICOR REALTY

Management Service Inc.  
**UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT FRASER COURT**  
1720 - 13th Street  
Family oriented clean, spacious 2 B.R. unit. Incl. fridge/stove, drapes, Near schools and grocery stores. Children & cats welcome.  
\$495/month 897-1285

**BEECHER MANOR**  
1045 Cumberland Rd.  
Nearly new well managed & Secure. Sunny spacious suites some mtn views. all incl. patio or balcony, drapes/carpets, large fridge/stove, ample storage & parking. Ensuites in 2 B.Rs. 338-6692 starting at \$495.

**CEDAR APARTMENTS**  
1009 10th St., Courtenay  
2 B.R. starting at \$535/mth: 1 B.R. avail. April 15, \$495/mth. 2 ref. required. Sorry no pets. 334-9948

**ST. BREADES COURT**  
146 Back Road  
New large luxury suites, with ensuite laundry, 5 appl., carpets, blinds & in-suite storage. 2 Bedrooms avail. now. Rents from \$650/700. Children & Small pets welcome. 338-7449

**RUTHERFORD MANOR**  
1075 Edgett Rd.  
Avail. now & Aug. 31, 1 B.R. & Deluxe 2 B.R. Large Storage, Frost Free Fridge, 30" range & Dishwasher \$515, & \$560. Incl. Blinds, Carpets, & Basic Cable, No Pets Please 338-0183

**CYPRESS ARMS**  
1255 9th Street  
Avail. now & July 31, Deluxe 2 B.R. Large Kitchen. \$625.00 includes, fridge/stove, Washer/Dryer, Basic Cable, Private Entrance & Balcony. No Pets Please. 334-9667

**WILLEMAR COURT**  
1060 Willemar Ave.  
Avail. now. Large 2 B.R. town house. Family oriented, fenced back yard, 550. incl. fridge, stove, drapes, & Basic Cable, Close to School Bus. No 338-0183

**PINES APARTMENT**  
1055 - 10th Street  
1&2 B.R. Avail. Immed. Basic cable, heat hot water, parking drapes & carpets inc. Coin-operated laundry, 2 ref. req'd. No pets  
Call 334-4483 for an INCENTIVE

**BLUE JAY APARTMENTS**  
450 - 19th Street  
Senior Oriented Building  
2 B.R. avail. Immed. Heat, Hot water, parking, cable, drapes, carpets incl. No Pets  
Call 334-4483 for an INCENTIVE

**ARGO COURT**  
1846 England Avenue  
Avail. now & Aug. 31, 2 B.R., 550. close to mall corner of 18th & England. Clean quiet includes fridge/stove, drapes and carpet, hot water & basic cable.  
No pets please. 338-0183

### Astrology Club

The Comox Valley Astrology Club meets regularly on the second Friday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Craft Room of the Florence Filberg Centre in Courtenay. For info: Nancy (250)338-4992.

### Stuff envelopes at home

Earn big dollars. Free supplies available. For info rush self addressed envelope and two loose stamps to: H. Enterprises, Box 964, Peterboro, Ontario, K9J 7A5.

### Freezer for Sale

8 cu.ft. chest freezer \$150.00. Call 334-9794 (after 4:00 pm) or leave message. <1/2>

### For Sale

1973 Mach 1 Mustang, 351 Big Block (Cleveland), automatic, project car. \$2,500. 339-4707 after 4 p.m. or 339-8211 ext 8624 (Steve).

General Electric fridge, good working order, \$100.00. 339-0301 leave message.

14" tire chains with case. Never used \$60.00 o.b.o. Call evenings 338-4865.

Sideboard from Uplands Officers' Mess - velvet lined drawers and Air Force crest carved into front - cherry finish \$300.00. Phone 336-8084.

•McClarey dryer, working condition \$40.00

•Full set of hockey referee's equipment, top condition, call for prices

•Hockey pants (Bauer Flak) \$50, shoulder pads (Cooper) \$15, all in top condition.  
Call 339-9146 or 339-8211 loc 8420. Ask for Ross or leave message. E-mail: wendysew@mars.aer.com

Brownie uniform, 8 pieces, \$35. Beaver uniform, 4 pieces, \$15. Boys skates, size 13, \$25. Girls skates, size 2, \$15. All in ex. cond. Liz 339-4570.

### Child care

Will provide loving care for infant/toddler in my home. Shift workers welcome. Highridge area (one mile from Base). Reasonable rates. Call Carolyn 339-6790.

## TIME FOR A LIFESKILLS COURSE

### WHEN:

22 - 25 Sep 97  
06 - 09 Oct 97  
03 - 06 Nov 97  
Jan, Mar & May 98 TBA

The course runs 3 1/2 days and covers a wide range of topics using presentations, discussion and interactive exercises. Topics covered include: boundaries, risk taking, values, stress, goals, anger, communication, self-esteem. A main component of this Lifeskills program is that it is solution focussed.

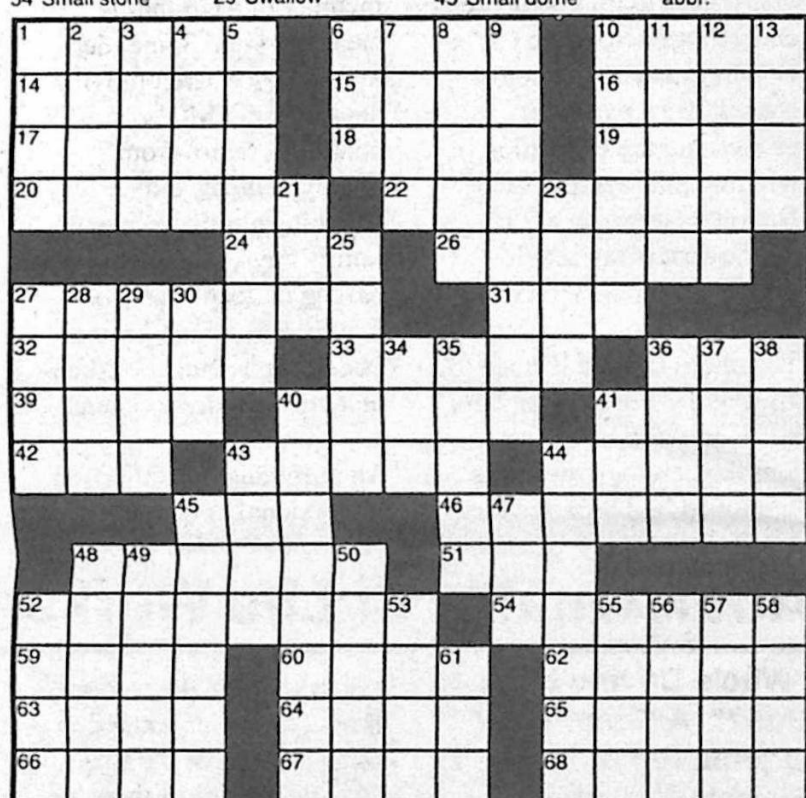
WHERE: Protestant Chapel Annex

WHO CAN ATTEND: Military personnel and spouses, and DND employees and spouses

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:  
Sgt Brian Buttnor at 8789, or  
Coreen Cherry - 8286

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**ACROSS**  
1 Neckwear  
6 Cabbage salad  
10 It's a long story  
14 Spacious  
15 Zeus' wife  
16 Take — be recognized  
17 Of the moon  
18 Songwriters  
19 Passenger  
20 Musical works  
22 Appropriated  
24 Composer  
26 Bleach  
27 Purplish-red  
31 — in the ointment  
32 Excessive interest rate  
33 Data  
36 Subside  
39 — monster  
40 Ruffle  
41 Low-lying area  
42 Weaken  
43 Perhaps  
44 Embankment  
45 Taxi  
46 Hobbyist  
48 Sign of the zodiac  
51 Make lace  
52 Airship  
54 Small stone  
59 Montreal baseballer  
60 Fragrance  
62 Type of race  
63 — dark, and handsome  
64 Arm bone  
65 Make up (for)  
66 On the ocean  
67 Appear  
68 Tied (shoes)  
**DOWN**  
1 Singer Guthrie  
2 Broth  
3 Ice-cream holder  
4 General Bradley  
5 Despotism  
6 Librarian's admonition  
7 — year  
8 Cupid's weapon  
9 Chary  
10 Type of pin  
11 Subside  
12 Bridge expert  
13 Overwhelmed  
21 Hardened, as cement  
23 Scottish garment  
25 Cheese factory  
27 Coffee cups  
28 Where Japan is  
29 Swallow  
30 Baseball stat  
34 Pen point  
35 Skirt feature  
36 Roof part  
37 Strong-flavored cheese  
38 Barley  
39 beverage  
40 Wonderful  
41 Fido's doc  
43 Horse  
44 Sideways  
45 Small dome  
47 Page of an atlas  
48 Alamo site  
49 Orchard fruit  
50 Move  
52 Greek letter  
53 Not any  
55 — carotene  
56 Coalition  
57 Narrow road  
58 Stared at  
61 Computer abbr.



### Annual walk for AIDS

The annual walk for AIDS will be taking place at the lower Sid Williams fountain at 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept 28. Activities include a 1.4 km loop walk, guest speakers and a moment of silence for those we have lost to AIDS.

### Happy 50th birthday Vicky Taylor



Vicky Taylor, supervisor of Central Registry, will hit a milestone on 24 September - she will turn the big 50. Vicky is going on leave for two weeks so that her co-workers cannot advertise the fact on her actual birthday. However, they are determined to give their best wishes, so **HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES OLD GIRL!!**

### Homecoming - Mitchell, Ontario

June 29 - July 4, 1999

In 1999 the town of Mitchell will be celebrating its Homecoming Reunion (125th Anniversary). Many activities and events are now in the planning stages. For further info, please contact: The Registration Committee P.O. Box 609, Mitchell, ON, N0K 1N0 check our Internet site at: [www.mitchell.net/~mitchell](http://www.mitchell.net/~mitchell)

## Book Reviews

by Gerry Gerow

**The Name Game, An eclectic look at how and why people name their pets,** by Wendy Nan Reese.

Howell Book House, Macmillan Publishing, New York. This is a 192 page paperback with 108 black and white photos, priced at \$17.95.

Most of this coffee table book is composed of pictures and stories of various people, famous and unknown, their pets, and how they came to name them. The final pages are a list of suggested names for those who are having a problem finding that right name.

If you are having trouble naming your pet and want some help, then here is a place to start.

**A - Z of Dog Diseases and Health Problems** by Dick Lane and Neil Ewart. Howell Book House, Macmillan Publishing, New York. Hard cover, US \$24.95.

An impressive small reference book of the most common dog problems, diseases and veterinary procedures. Want to know about Caesarian Section? - look under 'C.' For Rabies under 'R' and so on. It is written in clear, easy to understand text and is well illustrated with a large number of colour photos.

This book is not large, being only 11x 22 cm, and containing 256 pages. The author has been a practicing veterinarian for 35 years, so knows his subject well. I am personally impressed by it. An excellent gift for that dog lover on your list.

## Overseas brats reunion

by Gail Eggiman, Central Registry

Four women from the Comox Valley recently attended a very special reunion last August in Calgary, Alberta. It was called the Overseas Base Brats Reunion and Pat Crawford (Hoyt), Liz Aldridge (Leach), Joanne Thompson (Fulcher), and myself Gail Eggiman (MacLean) drove to Calgary for that memorable weekend. Our husbands didn't accompany us and that was just as well since only a few spouses attended. They probably would have been bored and my husband's only question was whether there were any old boyfriends on the confirmed attendance list! There weren't!



(L-R): Pat Crawford, Liz Aldridge, Joanne Thompson and Gail Eggiman at Overseas Brats Reunion held 8-10 August, 1997.

Don and Lori Macauley organized the reunion and they did a superb job. They spread the word to as many as possible, sent letters with info on hotels, maps, and Lauren Wilken made arrangements with Air Canada for a special rate for brats. One hundred and eighty two high school forces brats from Lahr, Zweibrücken, Baden, Zoest, Hemer, Ramstein, Metz, Marville, etc. partied and reminisced the weekend away. The majority of the group were overseas from 1963 to 1973.

Friday evening was "Come As You Were" and I was disgusted to see that some of the girls could still fit into their school uniforms that we were forced to wear at Lahr. Some sported bell-bottoms, mini skirts, beads and painted faces. The only article of clothing that I had from overseas was my basketball jersey from Zweibrücken. I managed to get it on but I had no intention of embarrassing myself. My son chastised me for "stealing" school property but I quickly countered with the fact that the base closed that year and they didn't need them any more.

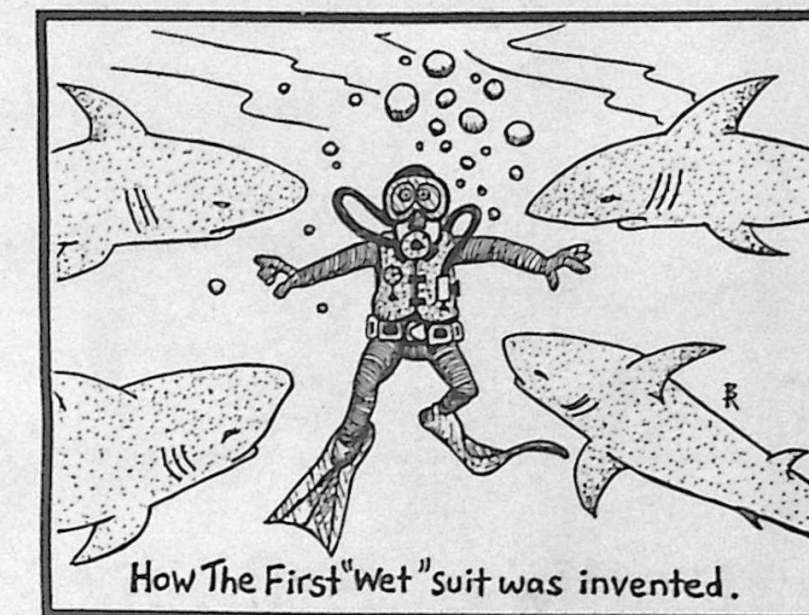
Everyone had yearbooks from various bases and throughout the evening you could hear screams of "Oh, it's really you!" or "I can't believe it!" or "Remember when...?" Some classmates were immediately recognizable and others you had to peek at their nametags.

Former members of Jennifer's Tribe, our Teen Town band, arrived with instruments and had a jam session each night. Sylvia Bast, who used to sing for the band when she was 11 years old, also performed. This was the first time they had performed together

since 1969. Sylvia commented that at least this time she could stay and party because back in 1969 she was made to leave Teen Town after her songs because of her age.

Saturday evening was the banquet and a DJ played all our favourite oldies. Cameras flashed and addresses were exchanged. Classmates got together and sat according to their school photos for a picture. The highlight of the evening was a speech given by our former principal, Mr. Gordon Greenwood, of Schoenblick High of 3 Wing who then transferred, along with some of us, to Lahr Senior School. He is now 81 years old and retired. We considered him old back then but he and his

## FREAKSHOW



How The First "Wet" suit was invented.

came from different parts of Canada, lived in PMQs and on the economy, couldn't drive until age 18, visited the local gasthaus' at an early age, and had some friends leave for Vietnam. Some of us, including myself, did not get to stay and graduate since our fathers were posted back to Canada at the end of our Grade 11 and 12. There were good times and sad times. Our parents were posted with no consideration for our wants but we knew that was the way it was to be. In my first 18 years we were at North Luffenham England, Summerside, 4 Wing Baden, Borden, North Bay, Chatham, #1 Wing Lahr, #3 Wing Zweibrücken, and Comox. We matured, overcame adversity, gained culturally and made an extremely large amount of friends. These special memories and friends will always be with us and the four of us were really glad we made the trip down memory lane.

## Celebrate Canada! Q & A

1. How much of Canada is forested?  
a) 27 percent  
b) 34 percent  
c) 42 percent
2. Which is Canada's most westerly capital?  
a) Vancouver  
b) Victoria  
c) Whitehorse
3. Which Nova Scotia harbour is the second largest natural harbour in the world?
4. Which is larger, Vancouver Island or Prince Edward Island?
5. Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta make up what percentage of Canada's farmland?  
a) 50 percent  
b) 65 percent  
c) 80 percent
6. How many of our provinces do not touch on salt water?  
a) 2  
b) 3  
c) 4

ANSWERS: 1. (a) 27 percent; 2. (c) Whitehorse; 3. Halifax Harbour; 4. Vancouver Island; 5. (c) 80 percent; 6. Two (Alberta and Saskatchewan)

## Things go better with Coke



The Coca-Cola Nostalgia Sweepstakes contest, sponsored by Coca Cola Bottling Ltd. and Canex Stores, for a Coca Cola nostalgia cooler was drawn on 25 August. The lucky winner was William Phaneuf of Comox, seen here being presented with the cooler by Canex manager Terry Zerr. Congratulations to the winner and our thanks to all Canex customers for their support.

**Harreson's Military Store & Outdoor Supplies Inc.**  
Bay #1-7381 Island Hwy, Merrville B.C.  
1-604-337-8299  
FAX 604-337-8296

Military clothing/Uniforms  
Combat boots & Uniforms  
Cap badges-ensignias•Knives  
Tents•Medals•Pepper spray  
Outdoor supplies•Nato•Cdn  
U.S. Sleeping bags•Tents  
Medals•Ribbons-mounting,  
Rangear-military & civilian  
new/used•Sunglasses•Flags  
Parachutes•Packsacks,  
Webbing•Camo uniforms  
Everything for the outdoors  
We Also BUY Military Items

**COLUMBO'S STEAK HOUSE**  
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Italian & Greek Dishes  
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242 Squadron Hurricanes returning from a coastal patrol.  
(Courtesy of the Rowe Collection)

## Battle of Britain

by Chris Charland,  
Associate Air Force  
Historian

Sunday, 15 September, 1940 was undoubtedly the decisive turning point in the Battle of Britain, as 56 Luftwaffe aircraft were shot down over the south of England. This one day tally convinced Adolph Hitler that the mighty Luftwaffe could not gain aerial superiority over the English Channel.

Swift control of the waters that separated England from France was vital for Hitler's proposed invasion of England known as Unternehmen Seelowe (Operation Sea Lion) that year. Unfortunately for him, the British thumbed their collective noses and threw a monkey wrench into the cogs of the German war machine.

Today we celebrate Battle of Britain Sunday with a parade heralding the courage of those who flew off to face seemingly insurmountable odds while duelling with the Luftwaffe, and to honour the memories of those who met their fate in the skies over England, and never returned.

Canadians played a significant role in the demise of the Luftwaffe as members of the Royal Air Force, especially #242 (Canadian) Sqn RAF and #1 (Fighter) Sqn, RCAF.

### Order of Battle

#242 (Canadian) Sqn CO:  
S/L D.R.S. Douglas Bader.

Type of A/C: Hawker Hurricane Mk.I

RAF Station Coltishall:  
June-October 1940.

#242 Sqn, the RAF's "All Canadian" unit, originally a coastal reconnaissance unit in WWI, was re-formed on 30 October, 1939, at RAF Station Church Fenton. It comprised Canadian aircrew serving in the RAF before the Second World War. Squadron training began in November, initially with three Miles Magisters, a North American Harvard, and a Fairey Battle. They later received seven twin-engined Bristol Blenheim IF's and three more single engine Fairey Battles.

#242 (Canadian) Sqn now flying the Hawker Hurricane Mk.I and under command of RCAF S/L Fowler Morgan Gobeil, was declared operational on 23 March, 1940. They saw no action until May, when at that time flying from RAF Station Biggin Hill, shot down three Luftwaffe Henschel Hs 126's over the Arras (France) area. Prior to this triple victory, #242 Sqn had lost several pilots during a number of patrols without destroying any of the enemy.

Within a week of relocating to Biggin Hill, the squadron was sent to France, right on the doorsteps of the advancing Germans. By this point in time, the situation was one of desperation. The Germans were literally steam-rolling over the hapless British and French. #242 Sqn provided a rear-guard to allow the British forces time to retreat, which would soon lead to the miraculous evacuation from the debris strewn beaches of Dunkirk.

On 18 June, 1940 the last of the pilots flew back to England, a

country recovering from the embarrassing shock of the loss of so many personnel and much valuable equipment. The remnants of the squadron were re-assembled at RAF Station Coltishall. It was not until 9 July, 1940 that #242 Sqn was once again operational.

Two days later, the new CO, the legendary "legless" pilot S/L D.R.S. "Douglas" Bader, shot two Luftwaffe Dornier Do.17Z-2's. The squadron moved again, this time operating from the airfield at Duxford. Here the Canadian flyers got plenty of opportunity to tangle with the Jerries (Germans) to the north and east of London as part of the Duxford Wing. While operating as part of the Wing, #242 Sqn scored 11 victories on 5 September. The unit would continue with great success during many of its heavy engagements with the intruding Luftwaffe aircraft. On the big day, 15 September, 1940, #242 Sqn destroyed two and one half Dornier Do.17's, two Bf-109's, one Dornier 215 and one third share of a Heinkel 111. They scored two probable kills, one Bf-109 and a single Dornier 17, while damaging another Dornier D.17.

Later, the engagements became more sporadic to the point where, in October, the squadron tried its hand at night fighting. It resulted in a rather unsuccessful venture, to say the least. By the end of the year, with a steady influx of Polish and Czech pilots who had managed to escape from their homelands, as well as a smattering of British, Australian and Free French, the squadron lost its unique Canadian identity.

#1 (Fighter) Sqn RCAF CO:  
S/L E.A. Ernie McNabb

Type of A/C: Hawker Hurricane Mk.I.

While based at Croydon, non-operational until 16 August, 1940. Subsequently transferred to Northolt Sector as fully operational on 17 August, 1940.

Canada's one and only regular fighter squadron (based at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia), had been a permanent peacetime unit before being called to prepare for active duty overseas on 22 May, 1940. The decision had been made to send an RCAF fighter squadron to England, along with Army co-operation air units in support of the 1st Canadian Division, which was being readied for duty in France. The move overseas was to take place after the unit was amalgamated with #115 (Fighter) Sqn. Montreal Quebec's #115 (F) Sqn, which mobilized at the outbreak of war, possessed only six aircraft, all of which hardly could be considered fighter material (three North American Harvard Mk.I's and three Fairey Battles). A number of personnel from units based in Nova Scotia (Numbers 8, 10 and 11 Bomber Reconnaissance

Squadrons) filled in the remaining slots needed to bring #1 up to full squadron complement.

The unit left Halifax on 8 June, 1940 aboard the *Duchess of Athol*. Arriving at Liverpool, England on the 20th, they proceeded to their new home at RAF Station Middle Wallop. The station was part of Fighter Command's #11 Group. The hostilities in France were over and the Battle of Britain was about to begin. The Hawker Hurricanes that the squadron brought over were not up to RAF specifications. The aircraft were quickly traded back to the RAF for more modern airframes. #1 (F) Sqn carried out training as the

Battle of Britain was going on all around them.

The score at the end of the bout was #1 three destroyed and three damaged. On the Luftwaffe's side, it was three precious Hurricanes downed. F/O R.L. Edwards of Cobourg, Ontario was killed in action, while the CO and Flying Officer J.P.J. Desloges of Ottawa were forced to land their crippled aircraft, of which both were write offs.

Engagements were numerous, and often ferocious with the inevitable loss of man and machine. #1 (F) Sqn was actively involved on 15 September, which has already been described as the turning point in the battle.

## Heroine of Biggin Hill



Sgt Joan E. Mortimer mans a Salt Box Gun Post with LAC Bill Brooker during action at Biggin Hill.

by "Wychbowl Eight"

This month has seen the tragic death of Princess Diana and that of Mother Teresa and, quite naturally, these stories have filled the newspapers and the TV screens.

Unnoticed by most of the "media," another death occurred early this month, barely reported and, to many, not even of significance.

This is September, the month in which we remember the Battle of Britain, and particularly those who fought and died in this vital part of WWII. There were other members of the RAF and WAAF who served, servicing the fighter planes and performing less noticeable duties who were, nonetheless, also exposed to enemy attacks on the airfields from which the fighters flew.

Biggin Hill was a prime target for attack, and the Luftwaffe raid on 18 September 1940 was particularly heavy. Elizabeth Mortimer, a sergeant in the WAAF, was manning the airfield armoury telephone switchboard when the raid began. Despite the destruction of nearby buildings and an anti-aircraft gun site, she stayed at her post, continuing her duties relaying the vital defence messages to the various positions. BEFORE the "All Clear" had sounded, she left her (relatively) safe building, picked up a bundle

of red flags, and ran all over the airfield marking the positions of unexploded bombs so that the returning Hurricanes and Spitfires could land in safe areas.

One bomb exploded near her, wounding her badly, but despite being ordered to stop, she continued once the officer had gone.

Elizabeth was the first WAAF to be awarded the Military Medal at Biggin Hill during that historic summer. Two other WAAF, Cpl Henderson and Sgt Turner were also honoured.

The citation for Elizabeth's MM stated "She had displayed exceptional courage and coolness which had a great moral effect on all those with whom she came in contact."

Sadly, she was engaged to a fighter pilot who was later killed in the battle and she never married.

The bomb blast had damaged her hearing and she was discharged with a disability pension. In civilian life, she worked in domestic servicing jobs, helping to support her widowed mother.

Elizabeth died a few days ago, aged 85. A heroine, forgotten by many, unknown to recent generations, but one who should take her place along with the "FEW."

Elizabeth, WE will remember you.

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*Gops, I goofed. On the last Heritage Page there was a picture of "Red" Jamieson incorrectly captioned as Red McRay. The information was taken from the picture donor and was not correct. The real "Red" Jamieson can be seen on page 61 of the book "That Others May Live". J.C.*

The Museum Library is open for research Thursday to Sunday, 10:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m. (Ph: 339-8162)