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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2016

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol.13 No. 36

**INSIDE
NEW ROLE**



Lakehead names truth and reconciliation chair /9

VIDEO GOES VIRAL



Filmmaker releases ode to Northwestern Ontario /12

FOOTBALL'S BACK



Trojans, Falcons open with pigskin victories /18, 21

Murder charge laid

Man arrested after body found by passerby in vehicle-filled compound on Wilson, Court streets /3



GRIM YEAR CONTINUES: Thunder Bay Police investigators tape off a camper after a body was recovered in a lot on Wilson and Court streets last Thursday afternoon.

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Tbaytel Leads the Way in Technology and Top-Notch Service

Meet Engineering Associate Adam



By Janine Chiasson

Adam, an Engineering Associate with Tbaytel, is emphatic that “we need to keep pushing forward, because being successful takes hard work.” A Lakehead University graduate with Tbaytel for three years, Adam is passionate about

Tbaytel brings world-class service to its vast service area of Northern Ontario. “Just look at providers in Canada and around the globe, like Google for instance,” remarks Adam. “They’re investing billions of dollars in ‘fibrehoods’ to ‘bring super fast

be a part of the neighbourhood, we don’t want to be just a service provider.”

Despite being a transplant from Southern Ontario, Adam has put down deep roots and loves the north and its people. He’s amazed at the trust that the community places in Tbaytel and he works hard to uphold it. Like everyone else in the company, Adam believes it’s his job to give customers the best experience possible.

“When Tbaytel made the strategic decision to be first in market for fibre, they partnered with the City of Thunder Bay and Thunder Bay Hydro to build a smarter, more connected Thunder Bay.”

planning and deploying fibre technology in the city. A keen study, Adam shares that “continuous learning keeps me motivated and fortunately Tbaytel is committed to implementing the latest technology. That’s what makes it easy to come to work. I get to work on interesting projects and try new things to improve efficiency and customer experience.”

When Tbaytel made the strategic decision to be first in market for fibre, they partnered with the City of Thunder Bay and Thunder Bay Hydro to build a smarter, more connected Thunder Bay. “As Thunder Bay Hydro rebuilds its distribution infrastructure, Tbaytel coordinates the deployment of fibre at the same time to be effective and efficient,” notes Adam. In one fell swoop, entire neighbourhoods get incredible download speed, a more reliable online experience, and the technology they need for whatever the future brings.

Internet to more people in more places’ and we’re offering the same service.”

Harnessing technology is about efficiency too. Adam loves the benefits of a new measuring device utilized by the engineering team. “I can take a picture of virtually anything and the camera allows me to obtain the height of every object in the picture,” Adam says. “We use this device to collect data during the summer field season in a fraction of the time that it used to take us, which speeds up planning, deployment, and installation.”

Not only is Tbaytel able to match products that world-class providers are using, according to Adam it’s also a great company to work for. As he puts it, “We are the local provider – over 425 of us live here. We see how what we do affects our community. We contribute to local events and causes and we put a face to Tbaytel. We want to



LOCAL NEWS

Weather Forecast



ANOTHER KILLING: A Thunder Bay Police investigator completes his work last Thursday at a Wilson Street compound.

Arrest made in city's 8th homicide of 2016

Armand Cummings jailed in Mannie Spence's death

CRIME
By Leith Dunlick - TB Source

A 42-year-old man is facing manslaughter charges in connection with what city police believe is Thunder Bay's eighth murder of 2016.

Armand Cummings is behind bars after police located the suspect at an Ambrose Street residence. He was

later charged after being taken in for questioning at police headquarters.

The body of 35-year-old Mannie (Josh) Spence was found on Thursday in a compound adjacent to Court and Wilson streets.

Cummings appeared in video court and has been remanded into custody until Sept. 19.

Police, in a release issued on Saturday, said the arrest was made

after canvassing the north core area near where the body was found. They remain on scene awaiting the results of a postmortem.

Anyone with further information about the incident is asked to phone 684-1200, 684-1330 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

Police ask the public to be respectful of the families at this difficult time.

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 Mainly sunny Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 18 LOW 9	 Mainly sunny Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 17 LOW 10	 Mainly sunny Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 16 LOW 10
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
 Light rain Probability of Precipitation: 60% HIGH 15 LOW 11	 Showers Probability of Precipitation: 60% HIGH 16 LOW 10	 Sunny Probability of Precipitation: 10% HIGH 14 LOW 9

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LOCAL NEWS

Pedestrian killed, witnesses sought

Police have spoken to one of victim's friends, want 2 more

POLICE
By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

Thunder Bay Police are seeking a pair of witnesses they say were walking Saturday night with the victim of a fatal collision with a pick-up truck on Cumberland Street North.

Police on Monday said a group of people were crossing Cumberland just north of River Street, when a southbound pick-up truck driven by a 48-year-old male struck one of the pedestrians.

"We know he was walking with three other people, a female and two other males," said Constable Gordon Snyder, collision reconstructionist with the traffic services branch of the Thunder Bay Police.

"We have spoken with the female he was with, however, the two other

males we have not spoken with yet. We are making a plea for the two other males to come forward to the police station so we can speak with them."

Snyder said that alcohol or drugs do not appear to be a factor in the collision and the driver is cooperating with police.

The two males with the victim, and any other people who might have witnessed the collision, are asked to phone the police traffic unit at 684-1276.

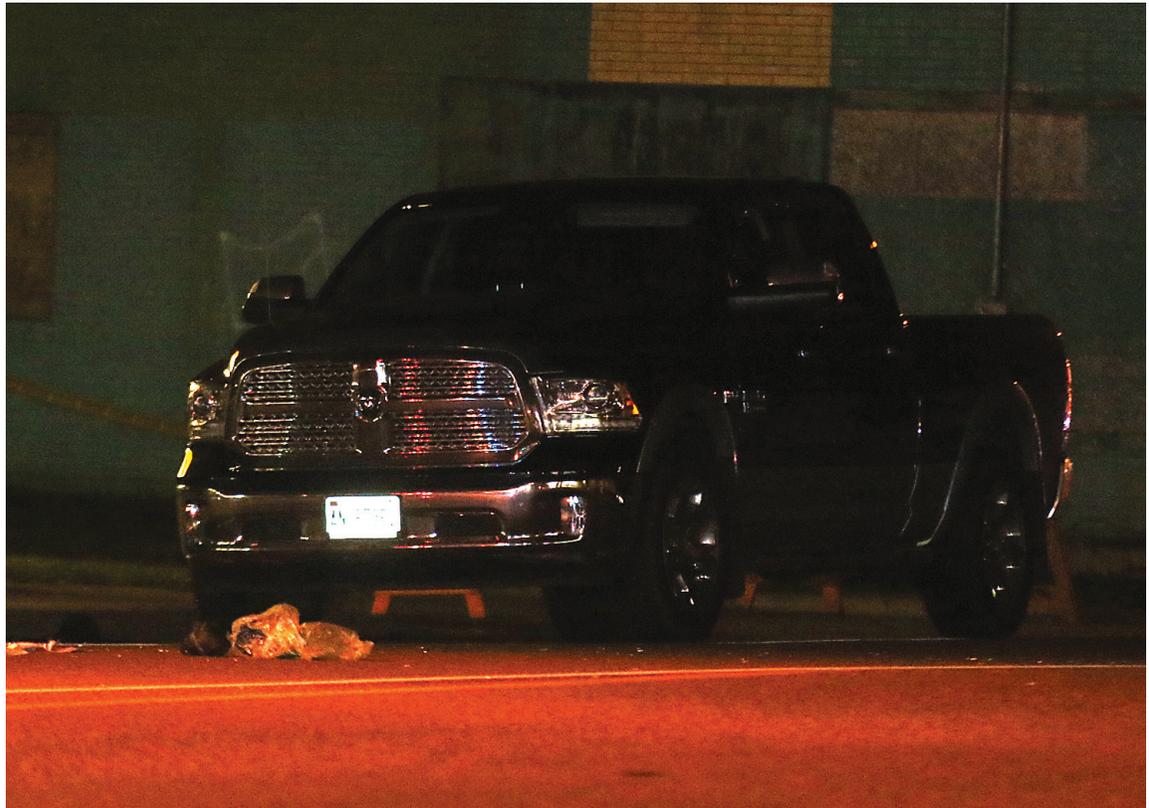
According to Snyder, physical evidence can create a very detailed sequence of events of a collision without witness statements, but witnesses are important for creating a complete picture.

"At minimum there are two more people who would have been in close proximity to this that we are looking to speak to before we can make and conclusions with regard to this investigation," Snyder said.

The investigation is ongoing. Snyder said an investigation like this can take several weeks to complete.

"We know he was walking with three other people, a female and two males."

GORDON SNYDER



SEEKING ANSWERS: Police say this pick-up truck was involved in a fatal collision last Saturday night on North Cumberland Street.

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LOCAL NEWS

Teachers want more hiring transparency

EDUCATION
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Thunder Bay Catholic District School board teachers are fed up with what they deem a lack of transparency in the hiring process. On Monday more than 300 took to the streets in protest, shouting "Experience matters" as they marched in circles in front of the board's Victoria Avenue West office.

Aldo Grillo, president of the Thunder Bay Elementary Catholic Teachers union, said teachers deserve to know more about how internal jobs are filled and claimed at present there is neither rhyme nor reason to explain how the process works.

It should be seniority based, he said.

"We are a unionized workforce. Pretty much every other bargaining unit with the board has some form of seniority that acknowledges dedication to the employer and many years of service," Grillo said. "Quite honestly, with jobs as they come up internally, it's time for experience and seniority to be addressed by this employer."

Teachers are entering the third year of a three-year contract, and while financial matters were dealt with at the provincial level, it's issues like these that could push teachers to consider further action if an agreement can't be reached.

"As far as we're concerned, there



ON THE MARCH: Catholic Board teachers on Monday protest hiring practices.

is no set criteria, nothing that is substantive enough for these people behind you to find credible," Grillo said.

At issue are internal transfers, which are posted internally first. If not enough union employees apply to fill the positions, then new teachers are hired.

The ironic part, Grillo said, is that the occasional teachers that are usually hired to fill vacancies are hired in order of their seniority.

The board, for its part, says it's not willing to include the union in

the hiring process.

Bob Hupka, chair of the board of trustees at the Catholic board, said while they respect the union's democratic right to picket, he's not sure why teachers are saying the board isn't being transparent.

"That you'll have to ask them," he said. "We have a hiring policy that's been in effect for years and years, recently updated in 2013, and we follow that policy very stringently."

Hupka added he's not going to negotiate a new contract in public.

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Editorial

EDITORIAL

Viral video is fantastic

Amid the death and destruction that seems to be a weekly occurrence in Thunder Bay, this week emerged a heartwarming story.

Cinematographer Damien Gilbert on Monday released a video montage of Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario that caught fire online.

With more than 235,000 views as of Tuesday morning, the video is a bonafide hit.

And why shouldn't it be?

We could use a little reminder of the beauty and wonder we have in our own backyard.

Sometimes it's easy to get caught up in the negativity that seems to envelop this city on occasion.

We've had eight murders already this year and we're only in September.

People are being assaulted on their front lawns and our addiction issues are threatening our way of life across the board.

Then someone like Epica Pictures' Gilbert comes along to remind us that it's not all bad, that there is plenty to be proud of in our community and in our region.

Sometimes we need that confidence boost to help get us through the bad times.

It's a remarkable video, filmed over two months and painstakingly edited to showcase the best of the best in Northwestern Ontario. If you haven't seen it, check it out.

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Don't take from Fire

To the editor:

The recent suggestion that we should be taking funds from the fire department to give to the over-taxed police departments deserves critical analysis and investigation.

The fire department shows us the best strategy to 'fight fires'; prevention.

We should not penalize the fire department for reducing fires, and that particular demand, because they have taken the historic perspective and strategy that prevention is the best of cures.

Improving building codes, improving fire detection, improving early warning, improving positive changes where warranted makes the demands on the fire protection services decrease, although on the other hand they become available to attend to other civic duties.

The police department on the other hand, has not had the same success for a variety of reasons.

Conditions have resulted in an increase in the related cases they attend to; and I might say through no fault of their own.

Case in point. The police department is dealing with all the cracks, all the weak links in the health system.

A health system that does not provide enough family doctors.

The police department must deal with the social chaos created by imbalances in the Landlord and Tenant Act that makes it next to impossible to remove a threat to tenants and landlords of some tenants in a timely fashion, many of which should be in hospital to be treated for a variety of behavioral problems stemming from physical illnesses that create mental problems, so that they cannot look after themselves.

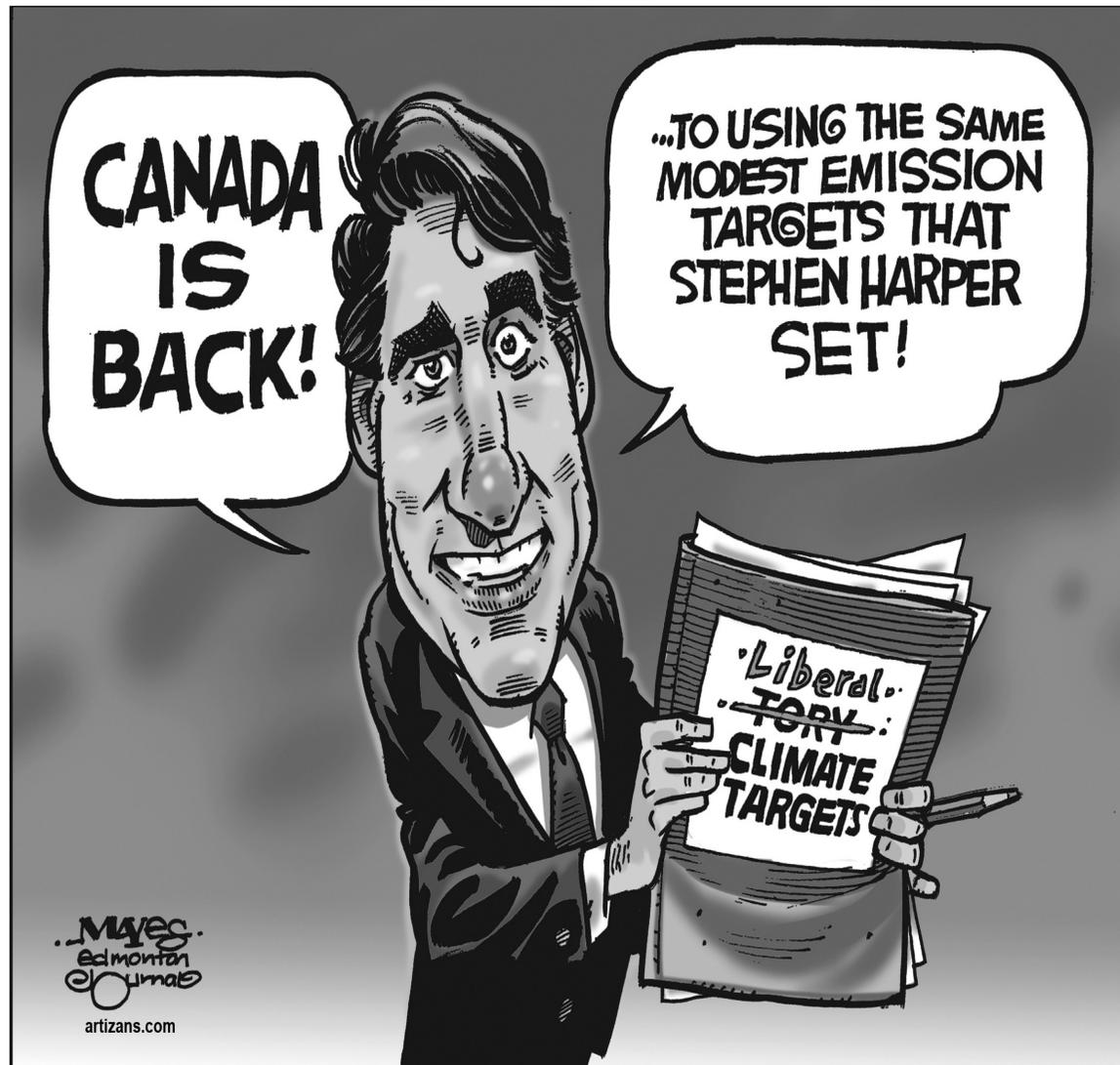
The police department must deal with the imbalances created by the irresponsible undertakings of any other social government-funded department that becomes too selfishly concerned in its own empire building, and ignores the client's best interests and societies.

In summation the police department, (and we all can learn and should learn from the strategies of the fire department) should take a more active role in the prevention of 'conditions' that lead to an increase in calls.

The police department is privy to the details behind the details, like the observation of victims of crime, and the cocktails of legal prescription drugs that they were being given at the time of the incidents..

Nothing is perfect, and the fire department's strategy of prevention is the cure is something that should be applied to all government funding to make life easier and better for the community and for police officers,

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



who are also members of the community and who who must deal with all this problems that originate else where.

In memory of three local fire fighters who died too young probably related to conditions in preparing to fight fires, attending fires and who were truly professional men: Ron Talakoski, Kevin Kennedy, Guido Nadin, Michael Krpan, and former fire chief, Allan James McDevitt, who was truly a class act.

Caesar J. B. Squitti
Thunder Bay, Ontario

Rates go up regardless

To the editor:

Every time people conserve electricity Thunder Bay Hydro raises the rates again anyways.

So tell me how in the heck do rate-payers get ahead?

If you use too much hydro they gouge you. If you don't use enough they gouge you.

Mike Boyechko,
Thunder Bay

Via Facebook

Price hydro fairly

To the editor:

Stop involving the principles of supply-and-demand in hydro pricing. It isn't fair to us.

Derek Halstead-Silver,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

Video was fantastic

To the editor:

I grew up in Thunder Bay and left when I was 13. I am 47 now and my heart melted seeing the land I loved so much in Damien Gilbert's video. Thanks Damien.

Amanda Dinsdale,
Via Facebook

Angus a great choice

To the editor:

I think Charlie Angus would be the man for the NDP leadership. He has been true to his political direction throughout the years.

Thomas Mulcair might have had a chance to win last elections but then he tried too hard to look like the man of the middle class while Justin Trudeau, though always talking about middle class, came across as the man of the people.

Many voters might have been confused about that and decided to just go with Justin's charisma.

Norbert Witt,
Via Facebook

One rate, please

To the editor:

How about we have just one affordable rate/kilowatt hour for hydro and do away with all these add ons and rebates?

When I go to buy food at the grocery store (if there's any money left), I don't need to see how much it cost to transport it or stock the shelves etc.

I just want to know how much I have to pay.

John Hollingsworth,
Thunder Bay

Perspective

Canada quietly going to the birds

OPINION

By J.R. Shermack
Special to TB Source

Overall, I consider myself to be a bird lover.

Like many of my fellow baby-boomers, I am going through my birding years.

Canada is home to more than 450 species of birds and many are native to Northwestern Ontario, some all year long.

At backyard feeders all over the city bird watchers are enjoying this last flurry of activity.

Soon, all but the hardiest birds will fly south but those staying behind spread good cheer in the dreary months ahead.

Consider the chickadee – even on the coldest, quietest, frostiest days of winter they still frolic in the branches and chirp in the still air.

Six months later and 60 degrees warmer they continue their carefree ways, surfing the warm breeze and singing the summer away.

At the bird feeder on our deck we can get up close and personal with the birds all year long.

Some are a little skittish, but once the chickadees get to know you they are very trusting and may even eat out of your hand.

They are amusing, entertaining and very endearing little birds, and tough enough to survive the harsh Boreal winter.

They couldn't be more Canadian if they wore little parkas and drank double-doubles from tiny paper cups.

In a recent on-line poll, the black-capped chickadee was one of five



FLYING HIGH: The Whiskey Jack certainly has ties to Thunder Bay, but does that make it a good choice for Canada's national bird?

finalists for Canada's national bird.

This campaign by *Canadian Geographic* intends to have the government of Canada pick an official bird in time for our 150th birthday.

If you have trouble remembering birthdays, our Sesquicentennial takes place next year, on July 1 to be exact.

Many Canadians are surprised we don't already have a national bird, perhaps the common loon or Canada goose.

But while these two icons did make the final cut, our country remains officially, nationally birdless.

The other two in the final five are the

snowy owl and the gray jay (whiskey jack).

Canadian Geographic will announce the winner in November and hopes for official government recognition by Canada Day.

Almost 50,000 Canadians voted, but only one of the finalists gets my

consideration for this honour.

The common loon got the most votes by far (which makes it even more common), but it should be immediately disqualified.

All the one-liners and gags about 'those loons in Canada' will make us the laughing stock of late-night TV.

Besides, we've already paid tribute to this bird on the coins in our pockets – what more does that loon want?

In second place is Quebec's provincial bird, the snowy owl, which is a fine bird I'm sure, but seriously, how many of us have even seen one?

Let's face it, owls are far-out birds, but they belong on *Hinterland Who's Who*, not in the public consciousness.

The gray jay or whiskey jack finished third – campers find this bird amusing, at first, then a little annoying and finally, a major bummer.

The whiskey jack is not a national bird, it is a Canadian campsite thief.

The fourth finalist is the Canada goose – anybody familiar with the phrase "loose as a goose" will give an enthusiastic thumbs down.

So will golfers at Chapple's and hikers anywhere Canada geese do their thing or let loose on the fly.

National bird or national disgrace?

Which leaves my friend the chickadee as the only worthy contender.

I've never heard anybody trash talk chickadees – they are pleasant and non-confrontational, just like Canadians.

The call of the loon is irresistible, the honk of the Canada goose, not so much, but only one song really captures the true Canadian spirit.

It is the sweet, musical song of the chickadee-dee-dee-dee...eh?

JORDAN TIESZEV/FICKR

This week in history:

Grinders at work

Imagine the noise and heat created by several dozen of these mechanical grinders when they were all working at once in our early pulp and paper mills. These units were manufactured at the local shipyard and used in all of the early mills.



HOW TO WRITE US:

Letters to the editor are most welcome. Those kept to 350 words or less have priority.

The Thunder Bay Source reserves the right to edit submissions for content and clarity. All attempts will be made to preserve the core argument of the author.

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96.35%

LOCALNEWS

IN BRIEF

Three people assaulted outside home

Three people are under arrest and facing assault charges after a Blucher Street family were attacked outside their home.

Police responded to a call last Friday at about 11:15 p.m. reporting two individuals being assaulted by a group of people. Arriving on scene a few minutes later, they found the attack in progress, but the alleged assaulters fled.

They were arrested a short time later. According to a release issued by police on Monday, the 37-year-old male victim said he heard a commotion outside his residence and attempted to stop an altercation between six people. The suspects then turned their attention to the homeowner.

While they were assaulting him, his

33-year-old wife came out to intervene and was subsequently dragged to the ground and also assaulted.

Just before police arrived on scene the couple's 13-year-old son came outside and was punched by one of the males in the group.

The three victims' injuries were treated on scene by paramedics.

Eighteen-year-olds Samuel King and Kailee Loon and 21-year-old Brynton-Lee Patayash were arrested. Each faces a charge of assault causing bodily harm and two counts of assault.

All three have been remanded into custody.

Anyone with information on the incident are asked to phone police at 684-1200 or submit a tip on line at www.tipsubmit.com

The investigation is ongoing.

Fire damages home

A structural fire caused heavy damage on Saturday to a Stapleton Street residence.

Thunder Bay Fire Rescue responded to the blaze at approximately 10:35 p.m. and found heavy smoke emitting from the building.

Crews determined the fire was concentrated near a window at the rear of the home. Firefighters breached the window and knocked the fire down. They then fully extinguished it, as conditions improved inside the home.

A search determined the building was vacant at the time of the fire.

Damage is heavy, with the interior charred throughout.

Thunder Bay Fire Rescue, in a release issued on Sunday morning,

said five pumpers and a ladder truck attended the two-alarm incident.

No one was injured.

Critically injured

A 41-year-old woman remains in critical condition in hospital after a violent George Street assault on Saturday.

Thunder Bay Police on Monday said the victim was found lying unconscious in the street, bleeding from the head.

A subsequent investigation revealed an altercation between three women had taken place, the result of which saw the victim strike her head on the ground.

Thunder Bay police arrested a 35-year-old and 43-year-old woman and

charged both with aggravated assault.

Both have appeared in court and have been remanded into custody.

Laundromat robbed

A robbery at Barb's Laundromat on May Street has police turning to the public to help identify the suspect.

According to a release issued by Thunder Bay Police on Saturday, the incident occurred at about 7 p.m. on Sept. 10, when a male entered the business, jumped over the counter, grabbed the 19-year-old employee's cell phone and demanded money from the till.

The suspect also threatened the clerk, then left the business with the phone and an unspecified sum of money.




Northern Cancer Fund
Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation

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11:45 a.m. ~ Lunch Program
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LOCAL NEWS

Role a lifelong task: Esquimax

Lakehead names truth and reconciliation chair

EDUCATION
By Jon Thompson – TB Source

When the Truth and Reconciliation Commission named Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux an honorary witness, she took on reconciliation as a life-long responsibility. The nature of that responsibility has become clear over the last three years and on Friday, her work was granted a new and official title.

Wesley-Esquimaux was named Lakehead University's chair on truth and reconciliation at a dignitary-studded ceremony at the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law. It's the first such position created in any Canadian university.

Wesley-Esquimaux will be an official point person for reconciliation both on Lakehead University's campuses and across Northwestern Ontario.

"It's the perfect step into an official role that says, 'yes, I know I'm a target in some ways too, for people who don't necessarily agree with this conversation but also a beacon of hope for people who do,'" she said.

Wesley-Esquimaux is advocating that universities commit to more than simply Indigenous advisors. Putting some of Canada's 4,000 Ph.D. Indigenous graduates on tenure track, making them full professors on faculties where they can support those among the 8,000 Indigenous master's graduates and increase that number even further.

Learning from afar

She's also advocating for improvements to Lakehead's distance education program, suggesting the school wants to put an end to the connection between Indigenous education and the physical displacement of on-reserve students.

"We need prior learning assessments for people coming back to school, we need to be able to create the kinds of educational processes that allow people to stay in the community where they are so we don't brain drain our north, so we don't insist people come down here to Thunder Bay or Winnipeg and all these places so they get an education," Wesley-Esquimaux said.

"They can stay where they are because if they come out for six or seven years, they're not going back. We've now taken out some very key social justice players and that's not something Lakehead wants to continue to do."

Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Carolyn Bennett called Wesley-Esquimaux "fearless" in the way she insists how reconciliation must look and feel.

"It's totally exciting and exhilarating to gain someone of Cynthia's stature and experience but with diligence, now has this chair," Bennett said.



GETTING SERIOUS: Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux wants more tenured Indigenous professors.

"It allows for the freedom to be able to determine what she thinks is needed and how we go forward, not only in the academy here at the university but in the province and in the country. This becomes a stronghold of a commitment we hope will happen coast to coast."

Ontario Regional Chief Isadore Day advised that reconciliation needs to include "de-entrenching" colonial institutions. He challenged Bennett and her provincial counterpart David Zimmer to commit to spending a day with the Confederacy, which Wesley-Esquimaux would facilitate, dedicated exclusively to reconciliation. Both accepted that invitation.

Education can work

"We had the Royal Commission on Aboriginal People released in 1996. The commission looked at self-government and the well-being of First Nations in Canada," Day said.

"Twenty years later, we see the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's report on residential schools. This report looked at the people aspect and the need for a major movement in healing. Perhaps taking the Indian Act, Indian Residential Schools and all Indian policies in between and truthfully examining the colonial configuration through the lens of reconciliation is a good starting point."

"We need good prior learning assessment for people coming back to school..."

CYNTHIA WESLEY-ESQUIMAX

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Do you have an opinion to share?
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LOCALNEWS

United Way sets \$2.66M goal

This year's target is slightly less than last year's missed mark

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The United Way of Thunder Bay has set a modest \$2,659,000 goal for 2016.

In fact, the total is more than \$3,600 less than last year's campaign target, an indication of the struggles the charity experienced in 2015 when it came up shy of its stated goal.

It's a sign of the times, said campaign co-chair Mary McLellan on Thursday morning at the annual campaign launch breakfast.

Cautious target

"I think we were being conservative when we set the goal," said McLellan, general manager at the Valhalla Inn, which hosted the breakfast.

"I have no doubt that we're going to hit that and probably more. But there is more than one organization out there looking for donations. It's a



LEITH DUNICK

GOING UP: United Way of Thunder Bay campaign co-chair Mary McLellan is confident the city will come through for the charity during this year's annual fundraising campaign.

different economy now. We want to make sure we're being realistic, but that can be achieved and perhaps

overachieve where we need to go." She's confident holding steady won't have an impact on the 29

agencies the United Way of Thunder Bay services, noting that if they do hit their target it would set a new campaign collection record.

"I think we have a strong community that's going to come to the plate and is going to give more than we ask for because they always do," McLellan said.

Widely used

About one in three people in the city make use of the United Way, which is why it's so important to help them hit their goal said McLellan's co-chair Michael Nitz.

One way of doing that is finding new people to give – or convincing long-time donors to dig a little deeper.

To achieve that, this year the United Way has introduced the Buck-a-Day program, which encourages new and existing supporters to commit \$365 a year.

"Be B.A.D. for good ... It will go a long way to helping people in our community and small differences like that or small amount like that per day an add up to a huge community impact here in Thunder Bay," Nitz said.

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NEVER FORGETS: Sharon Johnson, whose sister Sandra was killed in 1992, led this year's Full Moon Memory Walk last Friday from the steps of city hall.

Memory walk a tribute to murdered, missing women

Speaker says no town in Canada exempt from MMIW tragedy

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Gladys Radek says she's never visited a community that hasn't been touched by the tragedy of murdered and missing women.

Not one, she said, having made two trips across Canada this summer alone, her vehicle plastered in bright pink and purple framed pictures of 113 Aboriginal women who have disappeared or been killed, many along the infamous Highway of Tears near her British Columbia home.

Radek, whose niece Tamara Chipman vanished on Highway 16 in 2005, gave a moving and emotional speech on Friday at Thunder Bay city hall before more than 100 people joined her on the annual Full Moon Memory Walk on the city's south side.

"It was a way of life for us up there," she said, acknowledging the problem has been

festering for decades, but has just come to light in recent years.

"When Tamara went missing, it knocked the breath out of me and I started worrying about my own four daughters."

The pain has devastated her family in the ensuing years, striking particularly at one of her daughters, who shared a birthday with her cousin.

"She doesn't celebrate her birthday anymore. All she can remember is Tamara went missing," said Radek, relieved an inquiry into murdered and missing women is finally going to move forward, but not convinced any action will ultimately be taken.

But it must, she said.

"This isn't a political thing. We need to work together so that we can end this vicious cycle of 526 years of violence against Anishnabek women," said Radek, who late last year had quadruple bypass surgery, but a week later was back wearing her activist shoes.

It's a dedication to which at least one woman in the crowd could relate.

Founding the Full Moon Memory Walk was Sharon Johnson's way of paying tribute to her 18-year-old sister Sandra,

who was murdered on Feb. 13, 1992.

The pain is still just as strong today. Like thousands of others, Johnson wants closure.

"Her case is still unsolved to this day," she quietly told the crowd in a brief speech.

It appears the tide might finally be starting to change and Johnson -- or other women sharing her plight -- might one day get the answers they seek.

Thunder Bay Police Chief J.P. Levesque said the time for talk is over.

It's time for action.

"It's been a long time coming, but it's time," Levesque said. "It's time to go on a difficult journey. It's time to have some very difficult conversations and it's time for leaders and police leaders to acknowledge it's time."

He wasn't the only political leader ready to put an end to years of inaction.

NDP MP Charlie Angus (Timmins-James Bay) said Friday's walk was one participants would do as one nation.

"We're going to walk together and we're going to keep kicking at the darkness until it bleeds daylight," Angus said.

The walk began at city hall and concluded in the city's east end.

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BELOVED: Damien Gilbert's fast-paced tribute to Thunder Bay had 80,000 views by Monday night.

Local video viral

Filmmaker Damien Gilbert showcases city

FILM

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Cinematographer Damien Gilbert said he had no idea a video he produced on the wonders of the region he calls home would go viral.

Hours after publishing it Monday on Facebook, the video, which showcases Thunder Bay and the surrounding area in a series of fast-paced, awe-inspiring shots, had been viewed more than 235,000 times.

"Never did I imagine it would blow up like this," he said. "I've done videos before and they've gotten some traction, but nothing like 10,000 views per hour; nothing crazy like that."

The inspiration for the two-minute film came from a trip to Iceland he took earlier this year. He produced a similar style of video, which garnered a lot of online attention.

"I wanted to showcase our beauty. We have so much richness around here, so I figured why not try to work out something here, do it on my own time over a couple of months," he said.

"Keeping it high-paced, with quick cuts (is part of the appeal). But not only that, having rich content, footage that people can relate to – obviously with Thunder Bay, people can relate to all the stuff being shown. And there are a lot of things people

might not have seen before."

From the vista at Mount McKay, to Wolf River Falls to the skateboard park at Marina Park to a hockey rink, Gilbert said he tried to capture everything Northwestern Ontario he could imagine.

The one shot that seems to have garnered the most attention is a heart-stopping view of rock climbers atop a tall spire located near Dorion, the filmmaker utilizing drones to capture shots from above.

"That's just before Ouimet Canyon and we had to hike a kilometre-and-a-half from a road to get into this valley. We were up on the canyon as well with cameras, but then my buddy Vic brought his drone out. They climbed to the top and we got those epic shots," he said.

Gilbert even tried something he'd never done before while on the shoot.

"They encouraged me to get up, so I climbed it. I've never rock climbed before," he said.

Gilbert said his many travels have made him appreciate even more his Thunder Bay home.

"A lot of people take it for granted. We have numerous lakes and epic hiking spots literally 20 minutes outside our door. You can't get anything like that in Toronto," Gilbert said. "I really appreciate that."

See the video here: <https://vimeo.com/183300025>

"Never did I imagine it would blow up like this."

DAMIEN GILBERT

September is garden-harvesting time



FRED JONES

RURAL ROOTS

years we've had to pack all of them, still green, into cardboard boxes layered between sheets of newspaper.

Jack Frost made his first appearance last week.

Our garden got off lightly. Laura had taken the precaution of covering as many of the perishables as she could. I walked into the garden later in the day to gather salad makings and did a tour only to learn that some of the basil didn't survive or one of the patches of cucumbers Laura didn't manage to cover. Turns out that she had already harvested all of the actual 'cukes' from that patch.

As I mentioned, everything has done well. The pumpkins are big and orange; other squashes are ready to pick. The Blue Hubbard will need a wheelbarrow to bring to Casa Jones. It is immense. Last time we grew these 'monsters' we had to literally quarter them to fit them into the oven. It appears that will be the case with this one too.

The garden gave us green peppers too. Last year we had plants in leaf but no

peppers. This year we have six with more to come. And behind the tomato plants, the cucumber plants, and the pumpkins, Laura scattered 'to the wind' as it were, sunflower seeds all of which it seems, took hold in the earth and grew tall plants fecund with seeds. She wants those for the birds but Sunday we saw a pair of chipmunks balancing atop a couple of sunflowers, probably packing in the seeds for winter. "Look," I said pointing to the culprits, "Chip and Dale." Very cute.

The abundance hasn't been confined just to the vegetable garden. A couple of years ago we planted two crab apple trees and two eating-apple trees. One of the eating apple ones did not do well with only a few branches coming into leaf. This year it produced one, large juicy apple. I can't remember the variety though. The other tree produced branches laden with apples although when we went to pick them we discovered that the birds had got there first. Several apples had been half eaten.

But the crab apple trees that only produced a few of the sour fruit last year were drooping with branches laden with the dark-red fruit.

And speaking of apples, Laura and I went for a walk one morning a week ago ostensibly to see if there were any Chanterelle mushrooms growing high up at the back of our property. There were: enough for a couple of omelettes. I reported that previously we found none except the stumps of a few obviously nibbled by some creature. Now there were lots. Lucky us.

On our way back I suddenly noticed tiny apples on a tree that I'd never noticed before and in the middle of 'nowhere.' For years Laura had ridden her horse past this tree and never saw any apples but this year? They were sour and small and I have no idea what variety. But the question we both asked was how this lone tree wound up growing amidst so many poplar and pine?

A bush I planted outside my library window three years ago had done

nothing. It is a mock orange whose blossoms give off one of the most gorgeous perfumes. Not only did it blossom this summer, it shot up four feet.

We also discovered that we have three or four wild plum trees growing in the east paddock across the driveway from the barn. Laura and Beth had found them and Laura wanted me to come and look. I found two plums – small but tasty. "What happened to all the others?" Laura asked. I squinted looking up for possible other plums only to see a furry, brown creature resting in one of the top branches. "Look," I called to Laura. "What is it?" she asked. "I think it's a groundhog." The creature wiggled its nose. Yup, it was a groundhog. "There's your culprit," I stated, "and that's why there are no plums except the ones he hasn't yet devoured and why there are none on the ground."

Ah well – the Harvest Moon did shine; the harvest is in, mostly; and this summer's abundance? We're not the only ones to have benefitted.

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STILL POPULAR: Between 400 and 500 runners take part locally in the annual Terry Fox Run.

Marathon of Hope still success story

THUNDER BAY

By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

Across the country, thousands of people laced up their shoes and set out to carry on the dream of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope of finding a cure for cancer.

The 36th Annual Terry Fox Run was held in more than 9000 communities across Canada last Sunday and more than 200 people participated in the local run.

"Everybody's had some attachment with cancer, whether that's friends or family," said Don Morrison, chairperson of the Thunder Bay annual Terry Fox Run. "I think people realize that we need to raise funds to do research to find a cure for it and that keeps people coming out every year."

The local run usually draws between 400 and 500 participants of all ages. The non-competitive run takes runners, walkers, and cyclists on a five-kilometre route around Boulevard Lake.

Each year, the Terry Fox Run in Thunder Bay raises between \$15,000 and \$20,000 through donations and pledges. All money raised goes to the Terry Fox Foundation.

Chrystal McKay and Josh McCart were participating for the second time on Tuesday. They were running with employees from Canada Malting, who collectively raised more than \$1000 in pledges.

"This is one of the events that all of us have collectively said we want to do every

year," McKay said. "It's just such a great cause and it's very close to everyone in Thunder Bay. We like to come out and support it and get a little exercise as well."

The Terry Fox Run holds a special place in the hearts of those participating in Thunder Bay. On September 1, 1980, just outside of Thunder Bay, Terry Fox was forced to stop his cross country Marathon of Hope.

"I think that's why we get such a good turnout," Morrison said. "Terry Fox is associated with Thunder Bay and that helps draw people out."

The Marathon of Hope raised more than \$24 million in support of cancer research and that number continues to climb.

"I think it's just that he has such motivation to get out and do something good for everybody," McKay said. "I think that everybody wants to continue to support that legacy, the cause, and him as an individual."

Josh McCart added that Thunder Bay should be proud of the cancer research that is done in the city and working to achieve the dream of Terry Fox when he first set out on his Marathon of Hope.

"I think this run is extra special because it brings everyone together and he inspired everyone," McCart said. "And being the last stop, it's closer to home for us. This is a really important event and more people should come out and support it. I think more people can join next year and get pledges and come out."

IN THE bay

arts | entertainment | culture

Smooth and solid

Potters' Guild 40th Anniversary Juried Exhibition on display at Thunder Bay Art Gallery

POTTERY
By Linda Maehans - TB Source

A smooth and quietly beautiful array of bowls and pots; whimsical clay figures; beside more serious works to grace a special wall or ledge; alongside the delicacy of jewellery: these are solid reflections of our natural world to which we should pay more attention. Water, earth, fire, and wind.

The Thunder Bay Potters' Guild 40th Anniversary Juried Exhibition, currently on display in the first gallery at TBAG, is like stepping into a silent freshness of imitative creation by craftsmen-and-women who've spent years honing their skills through trial and error. Or, should we call it trial by fire? Because who can imagine the inferno inside a potter's kiln, where ferocious heat transforms textures and colours, bellows open, then closed, and still the result isn't ever exactly what the artist predicted.

But, in the fresh cool of an early morning, we do imagine the potter: a solitary, somewhat lonely inventor with a lump of ordinary clay. Smoothly it spins on a wheel. Quenched from time to time by a dollop of water, again shaped by gentle pressure from artful hands, the clay achieves symmetrical perfection. Just as intended.

"I joined the guild after some lessons in potters' classes," recalls Brad Hominick. "But there's only so much one can learn in class; and then you're on your own in that landscape of trial-and-error. Ten years later I'm still phoning some of the older members for the advice of their expertise. There is a great camaraderie in the guild and much needed support in reaching ever greater results."

A straightforward but not simple examples of what caught this viewer's eye: compare a pair of birds near the far corner of the



FIRED TO PERFECTION: Fritz Lehmborg, *Morning Tea*, 2015, wood fired stoneware, 29 x 16 cm.

room. "Cardinal," a bright little scarlet spark; both beak and tail pointing skyward. Now gaze at "Raven," statuesque, slightly ominous, with a gleaming surface that shines darkest blue-black along its slow curve of head and beak, and massive shoulder wing-strength.

And a large north-face window might be the best spot to place "Boreal Pitcher" (stoneware, wood-fired, salt-glazed). Also darkly graceful: marine hues with choppy-wave textures, and either water or snowy fields in starlight adorn its outer circumference. The lip of this pitcher is a curled sky-blue; its handle a slender aqua wave down one side, anchored like the arm of a mermaid placed on a hip.

I asked Brad how he created his two pieces in the exhibit.

Pepper in the Sugar Bowl

(stoneware) is a glossy white bowl, colossal in terms of where sugar is kept. To achieve those black speckles, I thought he might actually have used pepper?

"Sorry, no pepper involved. The speckling on this is achieved through a chemical reaction between the clay and the glaze; the clay has the speckles in it, the glaze is transparent enough to show it."

Pussy Willow Pot is a small sienna-glaze of one of the first signs of spring, here in the north.

"I thin down some clay, until it is in a thick liquid state, much like icing sugar; then load into a squeeze bottle with a needle tip. Using the bottle and needle, I hand draw each pussy willow onto the semi-dry bowl, before firing."

Thunder Bay's potters' guild is here until November. Go see it.

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IN THE bay



INTERRUPTED: Swimmer Ryan Lochte (centre) was the subject of a on-air protest last week.

Lochte's DWTS debut marred

Last week, *Dancing with the Stars* premiered a new season of ballroom dance destruction that included Olympic swimmer Ryan Lochte.

While Lochte and his partner were receiving critiques for their foxtrot, two protesters walked up to denounce Lochte's shameful behaviour in Rio. Quickly, the show's Security body-slammed one into the floor before cuffing him.

The producers were, of course, horrified. That is, after they stopped high-fiving each other.

There was justifiable outrage when Lochte's participation on *DWTS* was announced after the Rio Olympics scandal. Then the Brazilian police filed charges against the swimmer. So what was ABC thinking?

That's easy: Cha-ching!

First, they stoked the fire by claiming that Lochte had paid for his crime. He'd been banned from competing for several months. But after failing to medal individually, he'd been planning a break anyway.

He'd also had to forfeit \$100,000 in team bonuses. But *DWTS* pays \$125,000 to start with and more every week he performs.

So no one was buying this duly chastised act. And with 2016 being the year of the public protest, producers knew something would happen. In fact, given *DWTS*'s continuous ratings downslide, they banked on it.

Now, according to the show, these stealthy folk got in by wearing "appropriate clothes" during screening. Then after being escorted into a heavily-guarded sound set where they are allowed limited movement, half a dozen people changed their clothes to reveal bright Clorox white "No Lochte" shirts – without anyone noticing.

Two men then managed to walk through rows of tightly jammed chairs and around several cameras without being stopped until they were in the middle of the dance floor thanks to ... luck? Good planning? Heck, security was probably told to clear a path.

And what a coincidence that the director just happened to be running a dance clip during Carrie Ann Inaba's critique which covered what was occurring live.

Fortunately, producers also put Lochte near the end of the show for just such a situation. So despite the disruption and sudden commercial break, they still had enough airtime to finish the competition.



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No, viewers at home didn't see what was going on. However, someone leaked news of two men "rushing the stage" and the "assault" on Lochte immediately.

What they didn't say was that a balding, 59-year-old in khakis was just walking toward the judges and talking to the audience with his hands open and outstretched. He was obviously unarmed. No one tried to touch Lochte. And the only violence that occurred was on them.

But really, the protesters should have thought this through. Lochte has now been painted as the victim, saying he's "hurt" and "heartbroken." And co-stars are speaking out on behalf of his character and forgiveness of his past "mistakes." Funny, no one did so before now.

Meanwhile, ABC is drawing out the drama to ensure higher ratings by putting the studio on "lockdown" during future shows. And the only losers in all this are the two misguided souls in jail.

And the foxtrot.

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13:45 Flag Raising

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Knave of clubs
- 4 Land measure
- 8 Demolish: Brit.
- 12 Pointed (pref.)
- 13 Fibrous (pref.)
- 14 Noun-forming (suf.)
- 15 Handwriting on the wall
- 17 Cicatrix
- 18 Settled
- 19 Tuscan town
- 20 Court order
- 22 Down with (Fr., 2 words)
- 24 Wax
- 25 Boll (2 words)
- 29 Genetic letters
- 30 Baltic island
- 31 Cyprinoid fish
- 32 Total
- 34 Ger. admiral
- 35 Fr. priest
- 36 Cut
- 37 Toothed formation
- 40 Sigil
- 41 Woe is me
- 42 Caustic
- 46 Wings
- 47 Mud deposit
- 48 "The Jungle Book" python
- 49 Take on cargo
- 50 Carry
- 51 Recede

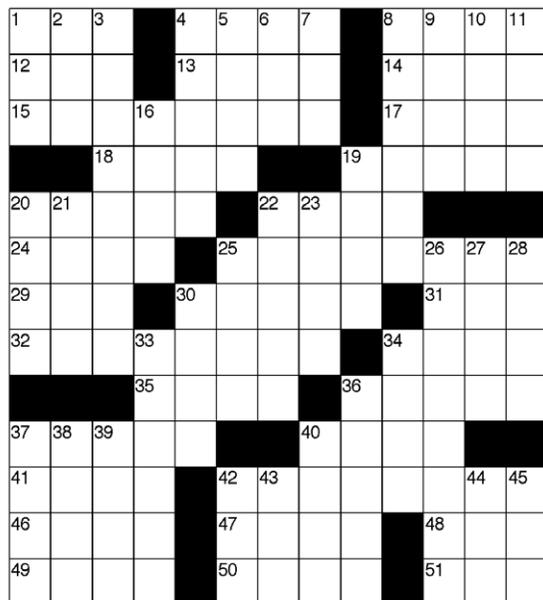
DOWN

- 1 Birthplace of Henry IV
- 2 Amer. College of Physicians (abbr.)
- 3 Islamic month
- 4 Evil Arabic jinni
- 5 Stone chest
- 6 Slugger's stat
- 7 Sea eagle
- 8 Combat
- 9 Quality (suf.)
- 10 Look at
- 11 Jaguarundi's

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

EGG MAIM AGAL
 AAL ATLI BASE
 NMI CASTANETS
 SEEP WEAR
 LASER SAAR
 IRAN PORK VEE
 MAD DEUCE AMA
 ABE RASH AGIS
 RALE AGATE
 BEAM SLAB
 ARCHANGEL OAF
 PAHA CECA NAE
 BYOB ORTH DAB

- color phase
- 16 Away from the wind
- 19 Mortar ingredient
- 20 Alternating current/direct current (abbr.)
- 21 Kidney (pref.)
- 22 Having wings
- 23 Harm
- 25 Common man
- 26 Tubate
- 27 Concert halls
- 28 Cervine animal
- 30 Dawn love song
- 33 Zoroastrian
- 34 Per. ruler
- 36 Seven (Ital.)
- 37 Hall (Ger.)
- 38 Feminine (suf.)
- 39 S. Afr. assembly
- 40 Season
- 42 Fast jet
- 43 Congress of Industrial Org. (abbr.)
- 44 Capture
- 45 Prate



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A160

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 W S O U R C E U N N E R V E S
 D W L O M X H D L I D T T D C
 F C W A C I R E D G G W F D Z
 I N T E R C H A N G E A B L E
 Y S L E Z T E R P E L M M W C
 E S D H A T N B N L U A U I R
 L O N W S R S E E A P N P P U
 R L S R G I E N C M O G T E S
 A V O W A L Y D T I S L A R A
 B E C O D E D O S N E E K S D
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- | | | | |
|----------|-----------------|-------------|----------|
| Animal | Excels | Mangle | Source |
| Avowal | Fallen | Mulls | Steadies |
| Barley | Fended | Peddle | Swathe |
| Between | Grubs | Piracy | Tearred |
| Boyish | Hired | Posed | Unnerves |
| Centrals | Imagines | Pretzels | Uptake |
| Coded | Indulge | Readability | Vices |
| Crusade | Interchangeable | Rhymed | Warred |
| Dialect | Learns | Seizure | Whisk |
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 QXXGQLQFKG."

— EGQF RG YQ PCFAQVFG

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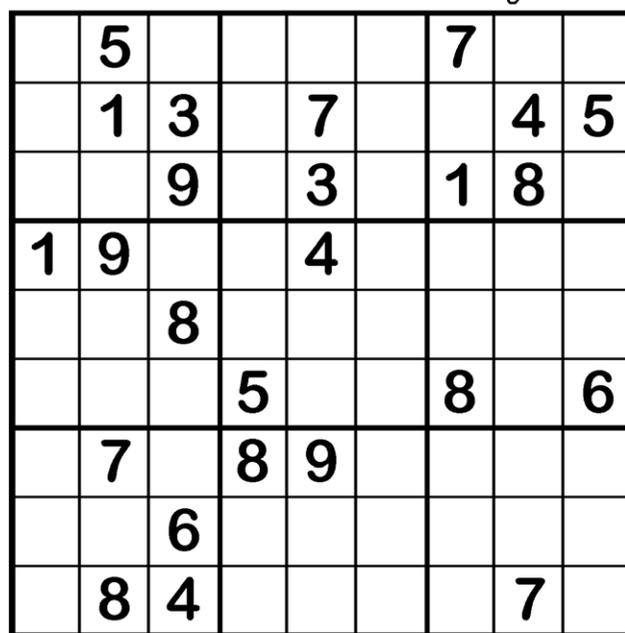


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Sports

local sports news | information | coverage

Falcons start title defence

FOOTBALL

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The St. Ignatius game plan on Saturday was simple – wait until there was no time on the clock and punch it into the end zone.

It worked in each of the first two quarters.

Running back Nic Cull barged in for a score on the final play of the opening quarter, then Bryce Covello hit receiver Jake Robertson for a 50-yard scoring strike as time ran out in the first half, the defending senior boys high school football champions taking a 14-0 lead into the break.

The pattern didn't continue in the second half, but the Falcons already had all the points they'd need, cruising to a 27-3 win Saturday at Fort William Stadium over the St. Patrick Saints to open the 2016 Superior Secondary Schools Athletic Association season.

Cull helped the Falcons dominate the ground game, rushing for 146 yards and a score, while Covello made the most of his limited passing opportunities, completing nine of 15 pass attempts for 88 yards and three touchdowns – two to Robertson.

"We have a lot of respect for that team," Covello said. "We always know it's going to be a grind when we come in here and play against this team. They're good, they always play us well. We knew it wasn't going to be a walk in the park."

For the most part it wasn't, although the St. Ignatius defence already looked in midseason form at times. The Saints, unable to mount a passing attack at all, were forced to the ground, their one-dimensional offence read well by their Catholic Bowl opponent.

St. Patrick quarterback Josh



PIGSKIN PROWESS: St. Ignatius's Liam Puskas carries the ball last Saturday in a game against the St. Patrick Saints.

Swarenger bore the brunt of the attack, failing to complete all four pass attempts while tossing up three interceptions.

The Saints lone points, a 17-yard, third-quarter field goal by Ian Buenetello, came the first time all game they'd managed to penetrate into St. Ignatius territory.

By then it was too little too late,

Covello opening the third with a three-yard scoring pass to Robertson, who amassed 55 yards on three catches.

Covello added his final major of the afternoon in the fourth, hooking up with Josh Newransky from two yards out, the missed extra point making it 27-3.

"I think we just had a slow start and

didn't have the right spirit at the start of the game," Cull said. "But after that big second touchdown from Jake Robertson it really got the wheels going and everybody was ready to go."

Next up for the Falcons are the Westgate Tigers on Friday. The Saints have the week off, returning to action on Sept. 30 against Hammarskjold.

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sports NEWS

Wolves set to refresh

HOCKEY

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Rory Cava says it's time for the Lakehead Thunderwolves hockey team to hit the refresh button.

A summer after missing the OUA playoffs for the first time in 15 seasons, the team is reaching out to the community with an online survey aimed at making improvements off the ice.

The team on Tuesday also unveiled a revamped dressing room to boost morale and attract potential players and Cava said the team will also be reaching out to current and former players to see what changes they can suggest to help improve the recruitment process.

"I think we want to engage our fans, our corporate supporters and the entire community with what they think about Thunderwolves hockey," Cava said.

"I know everybody wants us to win hockey games and that's the first thing we look at, how we're doing on the ice. That's the big focus with us. But I think it's the whole experience, the game experience, how our players handle themselves in the community and basically what people think of us."

The team's poor performance – it finished



NEW LOOK: Lakehead University president Brian Stevenson and Thunderwolves president Rory Cava unveil the team's new dressing room.

8-16-4 last year, ninth in the OUA West – is most certainly having an impact at the turnstiles.

The Wolves, during the mid-2000s, routinely would draw more than 3,000 fans

a night.

They drew fewer than 2,000 for the regular-season finale last season and the announced crowds were often far greater than the number of fans who actually bothered to come out to Fort William Gardens to watch the games.

Cava said there's no question the attendance woes are part of the reason they're going in this direction, a little more than a week before the team is slated for hit the ice for non-conference play.

"We had a bit of tough start last year. We lost our games at the beginning and I don't blame some of the people for being upset," he said. "But we've addressed that. I think we've had a great recruiting year. Time will tell how it goes. But there's more than just how we play on the ice."

Veteran defenceman Justin Sefton said the new dressing room and new attitude is a chance to erase the bitter memories of 2015-16.

"It's easy to say it's about time they had a change in here," Sefton said.

"It's been so many years. But it worked out perfectly that after a season like last year to have something like this change and have a whole new changeover in guys."

The survey can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RPZKGM9>.

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**sports NEWS****Balancing act for Kings team****HOCKEY**

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Playing any sport at an elite level is almost always a balancing act for just about any teenager.

There's school and the ever-present social life to mix and mingle in with practices, recovery and game-time.

For the Thunder Bay Kings this season, there's always the added pressure of playing in two different leagues, with two different styles of play.

For the second straight season the AAA Minor Midget Kings will compete not only for the OHL Cup against the best the province has to offer, but also in the North American Prospects League.

In both leagues scouts will be out in full force, looking for hidden gems and generational talents one in the same to bring to major junior, the United States Hockey League or the U.S. college ranks.

Coach Omar Belisle said on Saturday after a 7-3 exhibition win over the Duluth Red Wings that it's a tough mix of games, but one he thinks his players – all born in 2001 – can handle.

"It's almost a tough act, you're balancing two types of games. You have a lot of speed and physical play in one area and when we go down into southern Ontario, we're going to see some exceptional teams," said Belisle, whose son Owen is listed in a team preview issued by the league as a player to watch.

"We're trying to have a balance as far as the league and the season go."

Belisle, a former four-year-star at Bemijndi State University and a one-time player with both the Thunder Bay Flyers and Thunder Bay Senators – not to mention an Allan Cup winner with the Thunder Bay Bombers in 2005 – said the NAPHL experiment seems to be working out well.

At least after one season, he said.

"Last year was an introductory year, to get used to the travel and the play," Belisle said. "I think coming into this year we know a bit more about what to expect, travel wise.

"We're talking about opportunities for young players. When we go into the backyards of colleges and universities and the USHL and OHL, that's where the exposure is. These boys are going to be seen by hundreds of scouts in a weekend."

That's just what Joseph McCollum is seeking.

A strapping six-foot, 190-pound defenceman, the 15-year-old has had his eyes focused on a major junior career since his pee wee days.

"The Kings have helped me get to that, all the years I've played," McCollum said. "We go down south and play the good teams and a lot of people watch."

It can be nerve-wracking at times.

"It's more competitive. Those guys get it all the time, but it's something new to us, it's different."

Teammate Cooper Witherspoon of Fort Frances saw enough value in the Kings program to move away from home to play hockey.

"I was hoping to move up to the next level, to higher faster hockey," said Witherspoon, a graduate of the Fort Frances Muskies high school program who would like to move on to the Ontario Hockey League some day.

"It's a step up. Playing here there are a lot more fans. More people notice."

Weldon 5th at Games**RIO DE JANEIRO**

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Thunder Bay's Robbi Weldon will not be bringing home a Paralympics medal in 2016.

The visually impaired cyclist and her partner Audrey Lemieux on Saturday finished in fifth place in the woman's cycling road race, 3:14 seconds behind winner Iwona Podkoscielna and Aleksandra Teclaw of Poland.

Weldon and Lemieux completed the course in 2:01:16.

ENERGY
103 - 104

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sports NEWS

Trojans hang on for victory

FOOTBALL
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The Churchill Trojans survived opening week of the high school football season, despite tossing up five interceptions to the Westgate Tigers.

They can thank all-purpose back Braeden Prochnicki.

Prochnicki returned a kickoff for 91 yards to the end zone in the third quarter and then scampered untouched up the middle for 55 yards and another major with the game on the line in the fourth quarter, leading the 2015 finalist Trojans to a 37-26 Fort William Stadium win.

It helped the Trojans, likely in their final season of Superior Secondary School Athletic Association play with Churchill slated for possible closure after the school year, overcome a brilliant game by Tigers running back Darian Fuchs.

The 17-year-old Fuchs rushed for 141 yards and four touchdowns on the day, helping the Tigers eat through most of a 22-point halftime deficit to close within three as time wound down in the final quarter.

An exhausted Prochnicki wasn't taking any of the credit for the win.

"It was a great game. Both teams played hard. It wasn't a blowout. I'm not going to stand this on myself. Nothing would have happened if it wasn't for my O-line and D-line and them making plays," he said.



LEITH DUNICK

GREAT GRAB: Churchill's James Basalyga hauls in a catch last Saturday against Westgate.

Getting Prochnicki involved in the offence was definitely the Trojans game plan, said offensive co-ordinator Will Crocker, filling in for coach Mike Doromko, suspended for the season opener.

"Braeden's a pretty dynamic player. Obviously we try to get the ball to him as much as we can. We try to move him around and try to get other guys involved as well, but he played great today and hopefully it's a sign

of things to come this season."

Quarterback Dylan Ford's day started out well, when he connected with Connor Byerley for a 25-yard score with a minute to go in the first.

Switching things up under centre, the Trojans Andrew Freitag stepped in and hit James Basabyga for a 74-yard scoring strike in the second quarter, Churchill adding a rouge to take a 15-0 lead, which they'd stretch to 22-0 by the half on an 85-yard scoring run. He'd finish with 188 yards on the ground, tops on either team.

The momentum began to change early in the third when Fuchs picked off Freitag, the Tigers taking over on the Churchill 21. Fuchs took it in from 10 yards out on the pitch.

Trailing 29-7, the Trojans rolled off three straight touchdowns to close the gap to three, Fuchs barreling in from two yards out to start the ball rolling.

The Tigers recovered an onside kick and Fuchs took it in from a yard out, a scoring play set up by a 35-yard passing play from John Czupryna to Eric Rabachuk.

Brett Davidson snagged a Ford pass on Churchill's next possession, handing the ball back to the Westgate offence and once again it was Fuchs, this time from five yards out, after recovering a Czupryna fumble deep in Trojans territory.

It was as close as the Tigers would get.

"I thought we had a chance. We battled back," Fuchs said.

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