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Village approved



City council ratifies human rights-based approach to homelessness, building a temporary village to house people /3

The City of Peterborough has built small units to house some of the homeless population in the southern Ontario community. (City of Peterborough photo)



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A delegation from South Bruce tours a nuclear waste facility in Finland. (FILE)

South Bruce OKs repository

By Leigh Nunan - TB Source

Residents of South Bruce have said they are willing to host a nuclear waste repository. A very narrow majority, 51 per cent of voters, supported the proposal in a referendum on Monday.

"We are so pleased that South Bruce voters came out to have their say on this important decision" said Mayor Mark Goetz in a news release issued by the southern Ontario municipality.

"It is an extremely proud moment to have our community make such a momentous decision through a democratic vote."

The decision keeps the municipality in the running as potential host for the Nuclear Waste Management Organization's

(NWMO) Deep Geologic Repository.

It's the second municipality to declare itself willing, Ignace made its decision in July.

According to the release from South Bruce, 69 per cent of eligible voters participated in the referendum and the outcome is binding under Ontario's Municipal Elections Act.

South Bruce council will formally receive the referendum results at a special Council meeting on Nov 12.

The NWMO has said it will make a decision this year as to which of the two sites it prefers.

In both cases, a nearby first nation is also undergoing a willingness process that is still ongoing.



Kam River Heritage Park is one of two proposed sites for a temporary shelter village. (Gary Rinne)

Council OKs shelter village

By Clint Fleury - Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The city will be moving forward with a plan that should see a temporary shelter village building in the city's south end by next summer.

At Monday's meeting, city council ratified its human rights-based community action plan and temporary village initiative.

The human rights-based community action plan was passed easily in an 11 to two vote.

The temporary village initiative ratification was another story. It was ratified in a much closer vote, seven to five.

Coun's. Mark Bentz, Rajni Agarwal, Trevor Giertuga, Albert Aiello, and Mayor Ken Boshcoff voted against the temporary village initiative.

Boshcoff said his vote was determined by administration's ability to answer whether the homeless individuals that would be housed there were primary residents of Thunder Bay or a transient population from the district.

Cynthia Olsen, director of strategy and engagement said administration could not provide him with an answer, but said city staff "will be committed to prioritizing individuals most at risk for access into the temporary village."

Coun. Brian Hamilton voted for both projects to be ratified.

He stated, "I think this is the way to do it. I think this is the approach that is going with the plan. I've actually had talks with

people in government very recently. And, they prefer an approach where there's actually a plan in motion that's shovel ready."

Two proposed sites for the temporary village are Kam River Heritage Park off Syndicate Avenue which would provide space for 100 units and 114 Miles St. East which could accommodate up to 80 units.

Coun. Trevor Giertuga and Mayor Ken Boshcoff oped the ratification of the human rights-based community action plan, which originally passed with unanimous support.





"It's simple math," said Giertuga. Who was not present for the original vote.

"We have 200 homeless and we're proposing up to 100. We're still not going to be able to force people into designated sites because we won't have the 200 bed capacity. It's math, simple, right?" said Giertuga.

"Two-hundred homeless and we're going up to 100. So, we're still gonna have people on Mcvicar Creek. We're gonna have people all over the place. And, I'm not convinced this is a solution without additional funding from other levels of government or other funders," Giertuga continued.

The human rights-based action plan, including the temporary village initiative, has an infrastructure and construction budget cap of \$5 million, from the Renew Thunder Bay Reserve Fund, and a tax-supported operating budget of \$1.5 million.

WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			
Snow	Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
Precipitation: 80% HIGH 3 LOW -5	Precipitation: 0% HIGH 5 LOW 0	Precipitation: 30% HIGH 11 LOW 1	Precipitation: 40% HIGH 10 LOW 5

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Confederation college will get 10 per cent fewer international student study permits for 2025. (Olivia Browning)

College sees an enrolment drop

By Olivia Browning

Confederation College has already been greatly affected by changes announced by Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) earlier this year.

IRCC's new rules mean the college will get 10 per cent fewer international student study permits for 2025 and they've already seen a big drop in international enrolment.

"As we look at the fall of 2024, we've seen a 39 per cent decline in the international students who are new and studying semester one of a program here as compared to fall of 2023, a year ago," said Aaron Skillen, vice president academic with Confederation College.

New, more restrictive criteria for the Post-Graduate Work Permit system, will also affect the college said Skillen.

"We believe the impact could be even greater going forward because of these announcements at the IRCC level. The most recent announcements are actually which programs are going to align with the post-graduate work permit at the federal level," he said.

"Just to quantify the type of impact that we see on the horizon for 25/26 academic year. We believe that could be upwards of 69 per cent international student drop for the upcoming academic year.

"That's based on just not having those programs with the postgraduate work permit."

Localized learning

Skillen said there are key programs here that are really aligned with what we believe is local and regional labour workforce needs.

"We're very proud of how we grew responsibly in the number of international students that we have studying here at Confederation," he said.

Skillen said the announcement ultimately means a reduced number of international students studying at Confederation College, which leads to impacts on the type of programming they're able to offer.

There are a number of omissions that the college staff are quite concerned about, Skillen said.

"Early childhood education comes to mind, absent from the IRCC's grad work permit eligible list, but certainly a great need locally and throughout our region.

"All of our engineering technology

programs within the college sector, not on that particular list.

"We even look at the hospitality industry. Culinary management is not currently on the list. And we've had a lot of international student interest in that program over the years and certainly helps to meet some of our hospitality sector needs going forward."

"We'd really like to see some of those programs that are not currently on the list added on to the postgrad work permit eligible list," he said.

At this time, this will not directly affect domestic students, said Silkenen, but that could change going forward.

"Some 45 programs that we have here at Confederation College have international students in them.

"In the absence of those international students or with a significant decline in those international students, many of those programs that our domestic students also take could be at risk because there wouldn't be a viable cohort of students to take a program.

Will have an impact

The college expects decreased enrolment to have a severe financial impact, threatening the sustainability of some essential programs.

"We're planning towards what that may look like for the 25/26 year," said Skillen. "It will be a challenging situation for Confederation College going forward.

Skillen said the changes to immigration policy will be felt thought the region.

"We know this impact is not going to be felt just here at our Thunder Bay campus or in our Thunder Bay local sector.

"But really, it's going to impact our campuses across Northwestern Ontario and our labour workforce challenges across Northwestern Ontario," said Skillen.

"We believe there's a role for advocacy at this point in time. Continuing to have dialogue with the federal government, with the IRCC in particular, that's something Confederation College is doing with our partners in the college system, working with Colleges Ontario in that regard.

"We continue to advocate through our program advisory committees here at the college and try to make sure that those impacts that the reduced number of international study permits and students will have," he said.

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A new housing complex on Hudson Avenue has some nearby residents up in arms. (Clint Fleury)

Residents worried about apartments

Affordable housing project concerning to some

By Clint Fleury - Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Current River residents voiced their concern Wednesday evening regarding some blasting that is planned to make room for a new affordable housing project on the corner of Huron and Hudson Avenues.

Meeting organizer Rob Joblin told Dougall Media, "Nobody has come around or told us."

According to Joblin, the residents at the meeting found out about the blasting through the news.

The general contractors, RJ Concrete and Construction, said they are confident the blasting company, Castonguay, can do the job safely and with minimal disturbance to the neighbourhood.

Residents at the meeting wanted to talk about not just the construction work, but the affordable housing project itself. A multi-phase plan is proposed for the site, with two 12-unit buildings going up first.

Joblin said residents expressed worries about the impact the new housing might have for the kids that attend nearby Vance Chapman Public School and for neighbour-

hood property values.

He said that the new affordable housing units are going to have "a significant impact on the neighbourhood."

"It's gonna change the dynamics of the neighbourhood. I mean, when you're bringing in 72 units, that's quite a few influxes of people into the neighbourhood. And, it's affordable housing and people are concerned about obviously what that brings," said Joblin.

Current River Ward coun. Andrew Foulds also attended the meeting to hear from his constituents and try to help them understand the process.

"This has been a theme for my last two ward meetings. And that's part of my job is when people ask me questions, I feel it's my responsibility to get good information to them," said Foulds.

He said, "Thunder Bay certainly needs more housing. We are in a housing crisis. I think that there could be a lot of debate on where that housing should be located and that's fair."

"This particular piece of property is zoned properly and, the developer is following the rules and I hope that they continue to follow the rules," said Foulds.

Officer guilty of assault

By TB Source staff

A judge said a Thunder Bay Police Service officer who punched a 60-year-old man in the head four times was acting out of frustration and the use of force was not necessary, reasonable, or proportionate.

Justice Paul O'Marra found Const. Ryan Dougherty guilty of assault causing bodily harm in October following a five day trial in July.

The court heard evidence that the complainant was apprehended in November 2022 under the Mental Health Act and transported to the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre.

The complainant left the hospital without permission and Dougherty, who was there on an unrelated matter, was asked to search for him.

Dougherty located the complainant on Oliver Road and attempted to apprehend him. A struggle ensued and Dougherty punched the complainant four times in the head.

The complainant returned to the hospital the next day and was diagnosed with a fractured nose and concussion.

At the time of the incident, Dougherty failed to turn on his body-worn camera.



Const. Ryan Dougherty was found guilty of assault.

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Housing fund cut would hurt

By Clint Fleury - Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

While pledging to cut GST from the purchase of new homes sold for less than \$1 million, Pierre Poilievre also announced that to make up the lost revenue he will cut two government programs: the Housing Accelerator Fund and the Housing Infrastructure Fund.

Mayor Ken Boshcoff told Newswatch on Monday that the City of Thunder Bay wouldn't have met its housing targets for this year without the Housing Accelerator Fund.

"There's no doubt that the accelerator fund has hugely enabled us to vault forward in addressing our housing needs," said Boshcoff.

"I would hope that he would reconsider, to accommodate both sectors. And yes, you can do both and both will result in a prosperous country."

The Housing Accelerator Fund was introduced in the 2022 federal budget with \$4 billion available to municipalities to build new homes until 2026-27.

In April, the Liberal government gave the fund a \$400 million top-up to help cities with a population of over 10,000 build 100,000 more



Thunder Bay Mayor Ken Boshcoff is concerned a pledge to cut the Housing Accelerator Fund will hurt the city. (FILE)

units, as long as they have a composite land-use planning and development plan.

Since the end of September, the City of Thunder Bay has issued 310 new building permits for new housing units. That number is expected to rise by the end of the year.

"I see lots of construction going to different parts of the city. It seems there is more going

on in lots of different places. It also has incentivized other people to improve their store facades or their buildings to keep pace with the new competition," Boshcoff said.

If Poilievre is elected prime minister and makes good on his campaign promise, Boshcoff said the municipality would look to other levels of government for housing

support.

"We'll look forward to whatever programs they have and try to maximize our community," said Boshcoff.

During Monday's council meeting, council voted to ratify its human rights-based action plan, including the temporary village initiative.

The city will use the \$5 million from the Renew Thunder Bay Reserve Fund to construct the temporary village project and a tax-supported operating budget of \$1.5 million.

The city hopes their gamble will pay off and reserve funds recouped through programs like the Housing Accelerator Fund.

Boshcoff voted against rafting the human rights-based action plan and the temporary village initiative, saying more information needs to be collected before Thunder Bay can commit to this approach.

Boshcoff said, "I am certain that, in terms of the social services side of things, that the need will be addressed. The point that we made was that our service area is much larger than our own population who are compelled to do this on our tax base."

"So, as we make those arguments, I do believe that the other orders of government will be responsive."

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EDITORIAL

Sign of the Times

The *Washington Post* and *Los Angeles Times* have come under fire – and each lost thousands of subscribers – after their billionaire owners refused to allow their respective editorial boards to endorse a candidate in Tuesday's U.S. presidential election.

Jeff Bezos, the Amazon oligarch who owns the *Post*, clumsily posited that endorsements don't move the chain in presidential elections.

He may be right, though in the *Post*'s case, the decision also goes against tradition. The *Times* withheld endorsements from 1976 to 2004, but have issued them since 2008.

Both papers were expected to back Vice-President Kamala Harris, a Democrat, over former president Donald Trump, a Republican.

It seems both owners are worried about retaliation should Trump win, something he's threatened time and time again on the campaign trail.

Both Bezos and Patrick Soon-Shiong, owner of the *Times*, have government contracts and approvals to protect. Meanwhile Fox News, et. al, continues to bow down to Trump.

They own the papers, so it's their right, it just seems a little self-serving and cowardly, given the stakes.

Keep nuclear waste away To the editor:

It is time to ask why an archaeological reconnaissance of the Deep Underground Repository (DGR) area was not made before the drilling of six boreholes commenced? Why were these withdrawals from Crown Land for the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) even made by the Ontario Government before consultation with First Nations? Considerable damage was done by bulldozing roads and drill locations on the DGR that is being sited upstream, east of the Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation.

As the glaciers receded, head water areas like those between present day Revell and Raleigh Lakes where the DGR should never be located, were among the first along the height of land to emerge.

As such, they became ancestral origins of mother earth and were the annual pilgrimage sites for connection between the stars and the earth, coming of age rituals, revered repositories for the dead and other ceremonies for a nomadic people that lived lightly on the land. The late Fred Pine, a Wabun elder from Garden River First Nation assisted archaeologists in identifying ancestral features and pictographs throughout Northern Ontario. It should be incumbent on both the government and the NWMO to first search for any trace of what might have been left before bulldozing.

Recently, work on the new Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Administration and Visitors Centre being built on the Nipigon Marina was halted due to the discovery of human remains. A new site is to be found. Likewise, all work on siting the highly radioactive DGR should be halted and all withdrawals be returned to Crown Land until a proper environmental assessment including

archaeology can be made. Better yet, leave the highly radioactive waste down south near the reactors. The best northerners can say is not one nanogram – now or forever!

Paul Filteau,
Thunder Bay

Story of fiction says more about real world

Stone Yard Devotional by Charlotte Wood is an amazing work of fiction and, like many novels, it tells us more about the real world than so-called non-fiction. As a librarian I have always had a problem with this false dichotomy between a fiction and nonfiction.

Stone Yard Devotional is a case in point. On the surface it is about a woman who, burnt out and in need of a retreat, leaves Sydney to return to the place where she grew up, taking refuge in a small religious community hidden away on the stark plains of the Australian outback.

Going back to her roots stirs up all kinds of disturbing memories. She visits the graves of her parents and remembers the pain of their illnesses and dying. But even more painful, perhaps, are her recollections of what happened at the Catholic school she attended.

She remembers in particular a young girl called Helen Parry, who lived in a high rise social housing block and seemed to suffer abuse at the hands of her deranged mother.

Instead of being sympathetic to her plight, her fellow pupils bully and taunt her, which comes to a head in an incident during a domestic science class, which the narrator continues to think about many years later.

The author's first person narrative provides a direct route into the traumas that have shaped modern Australia.

The most significant of these, of course, is the way that the First Nations Peoples - the Aborigines - had their land and culture stolen from them by colonial settlers.

The Catholic Church was complicit in these crimes and operated residential boarding schools where Aboriginal children were taken against their family's wishes.

Many of these children were beaten and abused by the nuns and priests who were supposed to look after and 'civilize' them.

In some ways the author uses Helen's trauma as a proxy for these sufferings of the Aborigine children.

But there are darker levels to the settler colonial history of Australia. Some of the children were killed and their frail abused bodies dumped unceremoniously in unmarked graves. Occasionally the bones of these innocent genocide victims are unearthed by farm machinery in the many

desolate places where the Catholic church established its schools, away from prying eyes.

The discovered bodies of these Aboriginal children are represented by the bones of a former nun who was murdered in the big bad city, which is another symbol of settler colonialism. When the nun's bones are found buried in the roots of a tree, it is decided to return them to the outback retreat where they can finally be laid to rest.

The arrival of the nun's bones - accompanied by Helen Parry, who has become a social justice campaigner - triggers a sequence of strange and terrible events.

The narrator has troubled dreams and a plague of mice appears like a harbinger of doom as the author skillfully takes us to the climax of this outstanding, heartbreaking novel.



John Pateman
BOOK BANTER

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Balloons simple, but classic

By JR Shermack – Special to TB Source

A lot of the skills and knowledge we gained along the way was acquired while we were young children playing with toys.

I have been spending a lot of time playing with kid's toys and games lately while I am hanging out with the younger members of my family.

Some of the toys are innovative and new while others go back to when I was a kid myself playing with what would one day become icons of the world's most renowned playthings.

That's why I was excited to see the twelve nominees for induction into the National Toy Hall of Fame for 2024 – many of the inductees, past and present, are actively played with today.

Some other toys have been played with and enjoyed for generations but have never received the recognition and accolades they arguably deserve.

This year the Toy Hall of Fame has chosen the humble balloon as one of its finalists, a first-time nomination in acknowledgement of their versatility and universal appeal.

The simplicity and accessibility of the ubiquitous balloon make it a serious contender although this year's final 12 includes some

decidedly showier playroom favourites.

But in the balloon's defense there are already several other unassuming past inductees into the Hall of Fame including the cardboard box, a stick from a tree, the ball and ordinary sand.

Still, first time nominees often have to wait their turn – some toys are nominated year after year and sadly, many come but few are chosen.

Over the past year the museum received 2,400 nominations representing 382 different toys of which only twelve made the final cut.

These will be judged on their longevity and popularity, play value and their ability to encourage creativity, imagination and socialization.

Other first-time nominees for 2024 include the trampoline and the party game 'Apples to Apples'.

The final list for 2024 includes the "Choose Your Own Adventure" game books, Hess toy trucks, remote-controlled vehicles and my nostalgic favorite, the old-time hobby horse.

Also the games Phase 10, Sequence and the Pokemon Trading Card Game along with Transformers action figures and lastly but not leastly, My Little Pony, a seven-time finalist.

I can remember the Ponies from when my kids were small and after seven nominations



Balloons are overlooked as a toy, but really popular.

they may be the sentimental favorite this year, so pony lovers take heart.

Last year in honour of the event's 25th anniversary there was a special category of

'Forgotten Five' toys, icons of play that are worthy, but remain repeatedly overlooked.

Last year's forgotten five included My Little Pony (sixth nomination), Pez dispensers, the Pogo Stick and Transformers (another repeater).

The fifth toy on that list and the eventual winner was the Fisher Price Corn Popper, an amusing push toy that first appeared in 1957 and is still merrily pushed around by toddlers today.

Kids love hearing the popping sounds and watching several brightly colored balls flying around and knocking the inside of the clear plastic dome.

Pushing the Corn Popper strengthens gross motor skills, and stimulates the senses by promoting curiosity and discovery – the time has finally arrived for this iconic toy.

So be patient My Little Pony, you could be the unsung hero of this year's toy story.

It will be hard to match the lasting appeal of such strong inductees as boxes, sticks, balls and sand but surely one or two of this year's nominees will make the grade.

As for me, I have a history with several 2024 nominees including Ponies, the hobby horse and the trampoline but I'm keeping my first choice a secret.

I just hope nobody pops my balloon.

what's happening
in and around...

The Bay

To submit an event, email ldunick@dougallmedia.com.
Please include details about the event, including any cost

November 2

Derek Seguin Comedy

Comedy superstar Derek Seguin is touring Canada with his hysterical new show to celebrate his 20th year as a professional stand-up comic. Derek's two-time Juno nominated stand-up is always a pure reflection of his dysfunctional life, but naturally seen through his "slightly" twisted looking glass.

This show will feature more of his hilarious stories on the challenges of relationships with his girlfriend, his three nearly grown-up children and every-day life in a mixed-up world that he finds peculiar at best. With barely a moment to catch your breath between laughs there is never a dull moment in Derek's shows, and for 20 years, audiences have loved him for it... but he loves you more.

One of CBC's The Debaters' fan-favorites; people are often surprised at the raw nature of Derek's stand-up... and how short he is. If you

haven't seen him live before; come out and discover the many hilarious surprises that his in-person shows are renowned for. No subject is off limits and no rabbit hole too deep.

The show is Saturday at the Community Auditorium. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster.ca.

November 1

Pumpkin Parade

Join the spooktacular pumpkin parade at Hillcrest Park. Bring your Halloween pumpkins or come just enjoy the display.

All pumpkins will be composted following the event, which is hosted by EcoSuperior.

The parade of pumpkins begins at 6 p.m.

November 3

Sunday Skate

The Female Boarder Collective is hosting its Sunday Skate at 10 a.m. at Cinema 5 Skatepark for females and

the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

All ages and abilities are welcome and equipment is available for those wanting to give skateboarding a try.

Skateboard lessons run from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and free time is from 11 a.m. to noon. The cost is a \$5 donation, which covers equipment and the lesson.

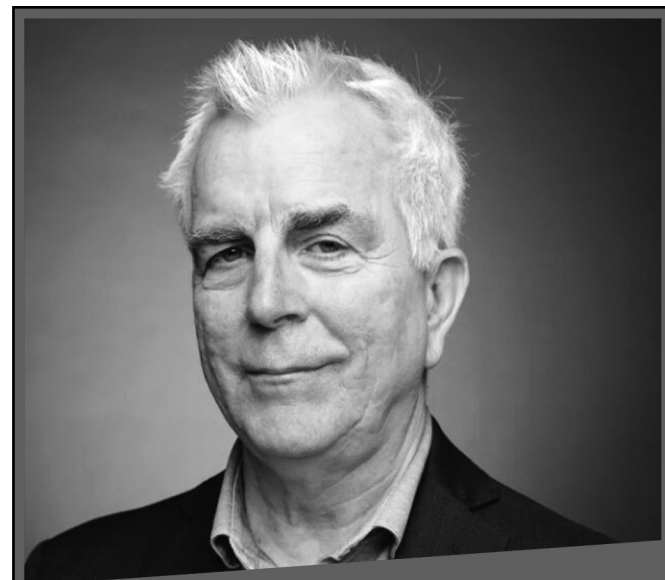
November 2

Diwali Celebration

The Vedic Cultural Centre is hosting a night of devotion, celebration, and joy as it celebrates Diwali and the Govardhan Pooja.

The festivities begin at 6 p.m. and admission is free. Donations are welcome. Bring family and friends for an evening of devotion, music, fun and celebration. The evening includes the Annakuta Ceremony, where a grand offering of food will be made followed by a feast.

The Vedic Cultural Centre is located at 1600 Dease Street.



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Signs of season's first snow

So, one morning last week I awoke and then set about making coffee and letting the dogs out. I opened the front door only to see large, fluffy flakes of snow slanting down from the dark sky. I observed the engine hoods of our vehicles covered in white. Wow! First snow.

Well, not really. Sure, it had been snowing for an hour or so, but it didn't last. When our son, Doug exited Casa Jones an hour later to drive to his "place of employ", the snowfall had ceased.

And when I exited the house, I observed that the only evidence of snow was on the hoods of the remaining vehicles. There was no snow on the ground.

I concluded that the ground was still too warm for the white stuff to remain.

Still, I was startled to see snow that morning. I mean in my experience living in this part of the province, it is not unusual for it to snow on Hallowe'en.

Again, that snowfall often doesn't stay; it is more a warning shot (as it were) across the bow of what is to come.

Not last year though.

Last year I was praying for snow for Christmas. The ground was bare until a

couple of days before Dec. 25.

Greatly relieved I was when on Christmas morning I could look out our living room window and see the ground no longer brown but now covered in white even if it seemed to be only a 'dusting'.

You may recall that we didn't receive much snow last winter, not like the previous one wherein we got a lot.

Or at least enough on the ground to allow for some decent snowshoeing.

I've heard the prediction that we should get a lot of snow this winter but with warmer temperatures. Here's hoping.

Meanwhile, temperatures are more seasonal - much cooler in the early mornings and evenings such that I've started to fire up the wood boiler in the basement.

The occasional zero or minus two at six am requires a fire in the fireplace and one in the basement boiler.

Soon enough, the thermometer will be reading below zero on a constant basis.

I wrote last column about how many of

the poplar and birch trees had lost their leaves and that the view is now of bare branches.

So, what remains? Well, there's still the orange/gold of the tamarack.

Walking with the dogs on our trails two weeks ago, I saw only the tall tamarack in full needle bloom. The younger specimens in our field were only just turning. But now all the tamarack needles have morphed into full fall colour.

And soon enough even the needles of those holdouts will fall and all that will remain will be branches sporting wee 'numbins' where the needles grew.

Sunday was overcast and very chilly as my wife, Laura, and I ventured into the vegetable garden to harvest carrots, beets, and parsnips all of which will be stored in either large Tupperware bins or a couple of metal garbage cans.

I hauled the remaining peat moss bale to the garden and we layered the bins alternating between peat moss, then a layer of

carrots, then a layer of peat moss until the bin was full.

Then I hauled the now-filled bins to the barn to be stored in a cool area.

I remember John Wilson who for years was the gardener who came weekly on my radio program at CBQ.

He said that the ideal temperature for preserving root veggies is 36 degrees Fahrenheit.

At that temperature, the veggies won't freeze but also they won't grow.

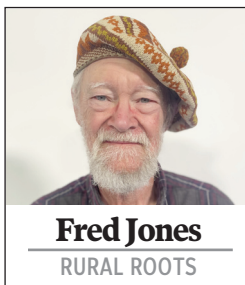
So, the bins start off in the barn aisle and when the real cold descends, I move them into the heated tack room where we keep the temperature just above freezing.

We tried this procedure for the first time last year and it worked.

We were eating our root veggies well into the late winter, early spring.

One of the carrots Laura unearthed had six arms! "Ah!" I cried, "Alien carrots from outer space!" Showed it to our son, Doug, who said it looked like something that could be a creation of the horror writer H. P. Lovecraft.

Doug called it "Carrotculthu" just in time for Halloween.



Fred Jones

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Heading out into the forest in the latter days of October for small-game hunting is challenging, but fun.

Tradition of an October hunt

The autumn tradition of ethically hunting your own wild game, to provide clean, organic meat for you and your family, is a wonderful way to spend some time outside before the weather turns bitterly cold and the snow piles up.

Some hunters like the challenge of stalking big game, like bear, deer and moose. For me, however, spending a warm afternoon exploring old logging roads for ruffed grouse is where my passion lies. In our district, small game season opens on Sept. 15 and closes on Dec. 31, with the month of October being “prime time” to find these birds. Now that the calendar is flipping over into November, grouse hunting is becoming more challenging, but that only makes me love it even more.

While the ruffed grouse population is exceptionally healthy in 2024, finding consistent success late in the season can still be a challenge.

By the time Halloween rolls around, we are six weeks into our small game hunting season here in Northwestern Ontario. At this point, many of the birds living in areas with popular, easily accessible hunting roads have already been harvested.

The grouse that remain are wary, and prone to taking flight as soon as they see movement or sense danger.

This late into the season, when these birds flush into the air, they tend to fly much further, and usually into the thickest brush they can find.

For the few who endure grouse hunting into the cold days of November, there are a couple key strategies that can help improve the odds

of having some success.

First, I prefer to hunt on foot, or with my mountain bike.

I believe that a slow and silent approach allows me to see more birds. This is in strong contrast to driving the backroads in my obnoxious, full-size truck with its throaty V8 engine and LED headlights that seem to spook those cautious and alert November birds far too easily.

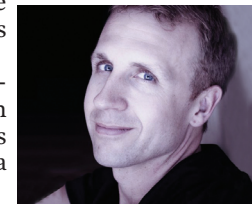
Second, I choose my days wisely. The frigid overnight temperatures at this time of year seem to force grouse to come out and warm themselves in the sun whenever they get an opportunity.

Avoiding the miserable weather we often see at this time of year, and focusing your efforts on the warm and sunny days serves to make the hunting experience both more prosperous and more enjoyable.

Finally, I like to concentrate on more remote areas that are difficult to access.

Finding an old road or trail that cannot be accessed with a truck is a good way to find some grouse who are not overly nervous from ducking bullets over the course of a hunting season. At this point in the year, much of the grass and brush that choke these small trails has died off, opening up new ground to the opportunistic hunter.

The lingering days of autumn present us with a lot of opportunities for adventure in our beautiful and bountiful surroundings. Hopefully the weather will allow us a few more weekends to hunt, or enjoy whatever activity motivates you during this wonderful time of the year.



Keith Ailey

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Fries, costly Big Macs

Earlier this month we were talking about processed cheese and fast food restaurants using cheese products. I had fully planned on laying off Ronald McDonald this week however, news broke this week that Lamb Weston, one of the largest producers and suppliers of fast food French fries in North America was shutting down one of its main processing facilities in Washington due to lower demand and high costs of production.

French fries, are batonette or julienne cut (usually russet) potatoes that are cut, blanched and fried and seasoned with salt and other seasonings. Much like many popular food items they have disputed origins with many people agreeing that they are most likely from either France or Belgium.

The Belgian food historian Pierre Leclercq has traced the history of the french fry and asserts that "it is clear that fries are of French origin."

They became an emblematic Parisian dish in the 19th century. Frédéric Krieger, a Bavarian musician, learned to cook fries at a roaster on rue Montmartre in Paris in 1842, and took the recipe to Belgium in 1844, where he created his business Fritz and sold "la pomme de terre frite à l'instar de Paris" ("Paris-style fried potatoes").

From the Belgian standpoint, the popularity of the term "french fries" is explained as "French gastronomic hegemony" into which the cuisine of Belgium was assimilated, because of a lack of understanding coupled with a shared language and geographic proximity of the countries.

The Belgian journalist Jo Gérard claimed that a 1781 family manuscript recounts that potatoes were deep-fried prior to 1680 in the Meuse valley, as a



McDonald's this year developed a value menu to combat sky-rocketing menu prices. (iStock)

substitute for frying fish when the rivers were frozen. Although this manuscript has never been produced, and the validity of this claim is in serious question.

Lamb Weston's business attributes approximately 13 per cent of its business to the Ronald McDonald crew, and the April to June quarter saw the fast food giant's first (non pandemic) noticeable decline in sales basically ever, profits were also down 12 per cent.

The major factor seems to be the out-of-control pricing on some menu items, noticeably, the Big Mac which is now around \$18 in most markets.

In a response to the criticism, and following several years of significant price increases, many fast food giants, including McDonald's, have begun to offer value deals in a bid to win back customers who find their pricing strategy

to be complete insanity.

Earlier this year, McDonald's launched a temporary \$5 value meal, which was later extended due to high demand across the United States.

The meal consists of a McDouble or McChicken, a four-piece portion of chicken nuggets, a small drink, and crucial to this article a small portion of fries.

'Many of these promotional meal deals have consumers trading down from a medium fry to a small fry,' Lamb Weston CEO Thomas Werner said on an earnings call.

These decreases in consumption are another reason why production is slowing and even halting. Causing Lamb Weston to lay off four per cent of its workforce this month with more cuts probably coming.

Derek Lankinen is an award-winning chef, author, and restaurateur. He is the Owner/Operator of Beefcake's Burger Factory with ONE location in Current River and is the Co-Owner of Elite Beef.



Derek Lankinen

Here's Cooking at You Kid

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Enigma cryptograms are created from quotations and proverbs from around the world. Each letter stands for another letter. Hint: "Q" = "P"

"CXXQ VNYRB LPGH SNO GJX VNYRB
GRV SNO LYFF CXXQ BXHHRB LPGH
SNO GJX BXHHRB."

— GOHPNJ ORCRNLR

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ACROSS

- 1 Israelite tribe
- 4 Biblical giants
- 8 Universe (pref.)
- 12 Stitchbird
- 13 Synthetic rubber
- 14 Table scraps
- 15 Eg. god of pleasure
- 16 Tallow (2 words)
- 18 Madame Bovary
- 20 Commotion
- 21 Padded jacket under armor
- 25 Son of Zeus
- 29 Dish (2 words)
- 32 Ganda dialect
- 33 Agent (abbr.)
- 34 Indian sacred fig
- 36 "Blue Eagle"
- 37 Ravine
- 39 Immense
- 41 Swelling
- 43 State (Ger.)

DOWN

- 44 Medieval shield
- 46 Before (Lat.)
- 49 Culm (2 words)
- 55 Fiddler crab genus
- 56 Snake (pref.)
- 57 Unledged bird
- 58 Centers for Disease Control (abbr.)
- 59 Love (Lat.)
- 60 Tooth (Lat.)
- 61 Exclamation

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

RIDD ROC RAISE
IDEE ACH EDAM
FEET DAO GABI
TAPETI PALMER
SAC AWE
INITIAL ETAAC
CAB LIV DIAN
ABOMA LECTERN
ABD HAE
LANNER IDALIA
ETAT ABC BABA
AMOI KAL OMAR
LASS ESE XENO

- 10 As written in music
- 11 Mountain standard time (abbr.)
- 17 Amer. Dental Assn. (abbr.)
- 19 Pointed (pref.)
- 22 End
- 23 Auricular
- 24 Rom. historian
- 26 Build
- 27 Irish sweetheart
- 28 Hall (Ger.)
- 29 Created
- 30 Old-fashioned oath
- 31 Beer ingredient
- 35 Afr. worm
- 38 Vomiting
- 40 Drain
- 42 Amer. Cancer Society (abbr.)
- 45 Habituated
- 47 Alternating current/direct current (abbr.)
- 48 Apiece
- 49 Tibetan gazelle
- 50 Revolutions per minute (abbr.)
- 51 Exclamation
- 52 Nautical chain
- 53 Belonging to (suf.)
- 54 Manuscripts (abbr.)

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Bakery offers spooky treats

By Jodi Lundmark - TB Source

The spirit of Halloween can be felt immediately upon entering Dagwood's Bakery and Deli this week.

The East Brock Street Bakery is decorated from ceiling to floor, wall-to-wall, for the spook season and while the Dagwood's team is already in the Halloween Spirit, this Thursday is the fifth anniversary of their Slightly Batty Halloween event.

"It's going to be spooktacular," said Olivia Widla, event planner for Dagwood's.

In addition to a special Halloween menu, there will be photo opportunities with classic spooky characters - Jack Skellington and Sally from the Nightmare Before Christmas and the Sanderson Sisters of Hocus Pocus.

The first 150 trick or treaters through the door will also get a free treat.

In its first year, the event saw about 150 people come through the bakery doors. It's popularity has grown over the last five years with about 550 attending last year.

This year, Widla hopes to see upwards of

650 people come share their love of Halloween.

Widla says it makes her emotional to think of how the community has embraced the event.

"The first year was the biggest emotion when I started crying after because of how happy I was to see everybody come out," she said.

"I'm a huge supporter of Halloween. I think everyone should be able to be themselves - when they're adults or children.

"It makes me happy. This one wants to be a Sailor Scout, this one wants to be Sonic, this one wants to be whoever they want to be. I love that."

The Halloween menu includes items like the Slightly Batty Jumbo donut, Hocus Pocus Long John, Black Widow cakes, bloody eyeball cake pops, a brownie decorated to look like the book from Hocus Pocus, and chocolate covered apples decorated to look like Jack Skellington.

Dagwood's Slightly Batty Halloween runs from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday with 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. being a sensory-friendly time.



The team at Dagwood's Bakery and Deli is ready for their Slightly Batty Halloween event on Thursday. (Jodi Lundmark)

PUBLIC NOTICE MTO Contract 2023-6012 Notification of Lane Closure

Please be advised that K.A. Vanderzwaag Construction (on behalf of MTO) is completing Bridge Rehabilitation work on Highway 11/17 Eastbound at the Current River Bridge (aka. Cst. John S. Kuszner Memorial Bridge). Work has already begun and will be completed in the Fall of 2024.

Within the construction zone, traffic will be reduced to a single lane with a reduced speed limit of 70 km/hr. The off-ramp to Hodder Ave & Copenhagen Rd will remain open.

Occasional delays may result from this but are necessary to protect the safety of construction personnel and the traveling public.

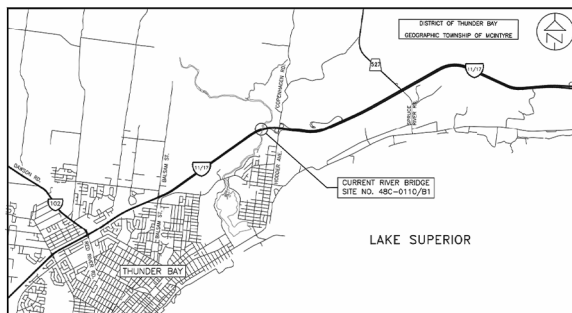
The section of the Trans Canada Trail that runs beneath the bridge will be closed from June 17 to August 21, 2024.

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Skatepark ups accessibility

By Olivia Browning

Going forward, youth with varying abilities will get the option to skateboard at Cinema 5 Skatepark, with new programming and equipment.

The local skate park has received funding from Jumpstart to launch a new adaptive skateboarding program for youth with disabilities.

Vanessa Bowles, executive director of Cinema 5 Skatepark, said the need for this programming in our community is great.

"The program is looking at adapting skateboarding for youth with disabilities. Making sure that we're including everyone into our skateboard programs and that it's accessible to anybody in the community."

The program is currently in its second week out of six, and completely filled up within two days of registration being open, Bowles said.

"We received just under \$14,000 to do these programs.

"We put in our application with Jumpstart and this is actually the second program that they have funded for us. We really appreciate the support of Canadian Tire Jumpstart," she said.

"These kinds of programs are important for youth who wouldn't otherwise have these experiences and outlets on a social level and a mental level," Michelle Scott, treasure of Cinema 5 Skatepark said.

In addition to the funding, Cinema 5 Skatepark also introduces a new adaptive skateboard trainer - one of the first in Canada.

Robert Ferguson, executive director of the Rob Skate Academy, brought the adaptive skateboard trainer to Thunder Bay.

It works by having the child harnessed in the cage. They will have bungee cords that give them the proper tension to hold their body up.

"And then as it's holding your body up, we can adjust the tension to navigate any individual, whether they have zero balance whatsoever on the device.

"Then we can loosen that tension out to someone once they're starting to learn some of that tension and once they starting to understand their board to where they could then be releasing until they can navigate without it all together," Ferguson said.

Ferguson started this entire idea back in 2007.

Conclave pulpy and engaging

Conclave (SilverCity) is a behind the scenes glimpse into the secretive procedures employed by the Roman Catholic Church in selecting a new pope. The film is a political thriller, based on the book by Robert Harris.

The superb cast elevates the material, led by Ralph Fiennes, Stanley Tucci, John Lithgow, and Isabella Rossellini.

The current Pope (Bruno Novelli) has died. Cardinal Lawrence (Ralph Fiennes) Dean of the Cardinals, is charged with the process of selecting a new pope by vote. Factions emerge: conservatives vs liberals etc. Conversations are conducted in hushed tones. A sense of urgency permeates the air.

Their sacred titles and imposing accoutrements aside, the cardinals are mortal, subject to the encroachments of airport security, scrolling through their phones and prone to the odd alleyway cigarette.

When the conclave is declared, they are cut off from the outside world. Even windows are sealed.

Lawrence sits at the center of this maelstrom, measured and controlled. His preliminary remarks before commencement of voting sets the tone, touching on terms like "certainty," "mystery," "doubt" and "faith" some of which are harbingers of the final act.

Cardinal Tedesco (Sergio Castellitto) is a strong voice. But he's so reactionary that he wants to see Latin re-implemented in Mass, setting back years of progressive initiatives.

Tedesco is counter-balanced by Lawrence's friend and colleague Cardinal Bellini (Stanley Tucci), a progressive liberal and practical thinker as conventions allow. However, he shrinks from the papacy, apparently content to serve as king maker.

Another prominent entity is Cardinal Tremblay, a Canadian (John Lithgow.) The last person to converse with the Pontiff on his death bed, a new disclosure suggests the chat may not have left Tremblay in the best light.

A lunchroom contretemps involving a rank-and-file nun governed by the protective Sister Agnes (Isabella Rossellini) finds Cardinal Adeyemi's (Lucian Tsamati) promising candidacy as the first African pope suddenly skirting familiar scandal—is he victim of a set up?



Ralph Fiennes as Cardinal Lawrence in *Conclave*.

Is there no candidate above reproach? Lawrence is forced to do a bit of skullduggery. Conflicted Fiennes' is empathetic, frustrated by the limitations of his investigation. Scenes between Fiennes and Tucci are brilliant.

This leads to a plot twist which—as written—is subtly, credibly set up but in the practical world would strain the tolerance of Church followers. Its audaciousness is at least good for a chortle.

The sharp dialogue and twisty plotting coincidentally comes from Peter Straughan, Oscar nominee for adapting *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy*. The twists and turns are well developed, though by the last act we are well into pulp fiction land. Potentially arid material is elevated to riveting drama.

Complementing the proceedings is Stéphane Fontaine's brilliant cinematography, Volker Bertelmann's throbbing soundtrack, and Suzie Davies' magnificent set design. Director Edward Berger's (*All Quiet on the Western Front*) alchemy manages to fulfill the designs of both prestige art film and juicy thriller.

Well-landed plot twists aside, *Conclave* is a out-crafted, compulsive cinematic page-turner.



Marty Mascarín
MOVIE TALK

Stepping up for students

By Olivia Browning – TB Source

Last Friday, teachers supported Purple Shirt Day in showing students that we can all step up.

Residents all around the city put on a purple shirt to show everyone can make a difference; it was no different at St. Elizabeth School on Friday afternoon.

Sarina Tarsitano, Grade 4 teacher, said it is a priority to show the students ways they can step up, and make a difference in other students lives.

"We talked about how they can be leaders, how they can be helpers and change makers in not only our school but our city and the world," she said.

Tarsitano's Grade 4 class got together with their Grade 1 reading buddies, and decorated purple cookies together. She said it was a way for the Grade 4 students to be role models and just have some fun together.

"We've talked about this in the class too. It's very important for them to realize that even though they're kids, they are our future generations.

"Having them learn that they can make a difference, it will build their character for the community that they live in later on."

Students were eager to try the tasty purple



Purple shirt day was held at Ogden Community School. cookies, but made sure they had patience in order to try them as a group.

"It's just wonderful for them to have an opportunity to work together and do something fun. Decorate purple cookies, get some icing on their face and just enjoy a sweet treat on a Friday afternoon."

Tarsitano said there were a few other things done in her classroom throughout the week.

"We've done a few activities. Yesterday and throughout today, not only did they wear their purple shirts, but we also did donuts of sprinkling kindness.

A promotional poster for a comedy show. At the top, it says "NORTHWEST Drainage Solutions" and "BIG CITY ENTERTAINMENT GROUP". Below that, "PRESENTS: BRYAN CALLEN LIVE 1 NIGHT ONLY". The names "MADtv", "HBO", and "SHOWTIME" are listed. It says "HOSTED BY: KEITH PEDRO" and "FEATURING KRIS LABELLE". The date "SAT NOV 16" is prominently displayed. At the bottom, it says "THE COMMUNITY AUDITORIUM THUNDER BAY" and "BUY TICKETS". The background features photos of Bryan Callen, Keith Pedro, and Kris Labelle.

Rosengren ramps up for seniors

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Ron Rosengren is hoping his foursome peaks next month in Moncton, when they start play at the 2024 Canadian Men's Senior Curling Championship.

The team is looking ready to go, based on their start to the Tbaytel Major League of Curling season.

Rosengren, Gary Maunula, Dale Wiersema and Bill Pelozza have cruised to a 4-0-0-0 record and top spot in the standings, downing Claire Dubinsky's squad 11-3 on Sunday at the Port Arthur Curling Centre.

The veteran skip finished 2-4 at last year's senior nationals in Vernon, B.C., just missing out on the championship round, and Rosengren said they're hoping to take their game to the next level this time around.

"We've had a really good start," Rosengren said. "It's nice to start that way. The game's been good and we've been playing a lot."

The team has been playing well, he added, and though there are areas he'd like to see cleaned up a bit in their game, it's nothing that's too concerning.

But they also don't want to perpetuate any bad habits, with nationals rolling up fast.

"We've only got a month before we go to

Moncton, so we're trying to get as many games in as we can," he said.

"I was supposed to be down here yesterday and I took a day off because the body was not feeling it. But next week I think we play Tuesday to Sunday, if we make it to some sort of final in the World Series bonspiel. We're playing a lot of games. We're probably going to get, I'm guessing, just over 30 games before we go, in a about a month-and-a-half. That's pretty good for us."

On Sunday, Rosengren opened with hammer and got his deuce, but gave the points right back to Dubinsky in the second end.

From there on in, it was all Rosengren.

The foursome put up three in the third to jump in front 5-2, then put it away in the sixth with a steal of four.

The Rosengren rink is one of three in the 18-team field that doesn't have a tick in the loss column.

Zach Warkentin, who has two regulation and two overtime wins in four appearances, and Robyn Despina, with three regulation wins, are the others.

Warkentin continued his hot hand on Sunday, scoring three in the seventh to double up Ben Mikkelsen 8-4.

It's been a good ride, so far, he said.

"It's just a hot start. I just feel like last year we were a new team, so there were some kinks we had to work out. I hadn't curled for a couple of years and I don't know, there's just a lot more confidence around us now," Warkentin said.

"A lot of team-building last year was the difference."

Warkentin said their success against Mikkelsen had a lot to do with draw weight.

"We were able to make some killer draws. That draw in 2, I had to pin that one. That's one you like to make. That really was what the difference was, being able to put rocks in the right spot."

Despins also continued rolling along, scoring three with hammer in the eighth to put away an Al Hackner squad being skipped by Frank Morissette, downing her opponent 9-5.

In other action, Mike McCarville skipped Trevor Bonot's team to a 7-3 win over Denis Malette, Gary Weiss doubled up Dylan Johnston 4-2, Krista McCarville grabbed her second win in three appearances, beating Chris Silver 6-1, Bryan Adams Jr. downed Ashley Palmer 6-3 and Andrew Sinclair beat Rob Skinner 9-5 to claim his first win of the season.



Ron Rosengren will represent Northern Ontario at next month's senior nationals in Moncton. (Leith Dunick)

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Wolves swept by Bold

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

In the end, it was too little, too late for the Lakehead Thunderwolves.

The T-Wolves spotted the Toronto Metropolitan bold a six-goal lead on Saturday night, on home ice, and dropped a second straight game to a team that entered their weekend trek to Fort William Gardens with one win in six games, falling 6-2.

Ian Martin, Joe Rupoli and Connor Bowie scored in the first 9:35 of the contest – Martin in the first 10 seconds, to be exact – and had control of the game from the outset.

It was not the weekend LU captain Noah Massie was hoping for, he said after the team lost again on home ice.

"We were looking forward to coming back. We love playing TMU, it's a big rivalry. So to lose these four points, it's a big thing for us," Massie said. "We'll just get back on track on Monday. Obviously you're not going to win every game, but to lose like we did tonight is not acceptable and we know that."

It was a tough couple of days, said Lakehead coach Andrew Wilkins, interviewed by Thunder Bay Television after

the contest, saying back-to-back blowouts weren't the script they'd drafted heading into the weekend set at the Gardens.

"They got the better of us, but I think it's a lesson learned and that's the approach we're taking moving into next week," Wilkins said, adding there weren't really any silver linings from the two-game set.

"I thought we were able to generate offence, but it's a tough one that you want to just learn from."

Jaden Condotta added a goal to the lead in the second period and Bowie and Kevin Gursoy scored 55 seconds apart early in the third to put the game completely out of reach.

Nicolas DeGrazia finally snapped Kai Edmonds' shutout bid, scoring his third of the season at 14:52 of the final stanza. Justin Paul added a second LU goal, his fifth of the season, but it wasn't enough as the Wolves dropped back to .500 at 3-3-1.

Wilkins said once again, the Wolves dug themselves too deep a hole. On Friday night, after the two teams played to a 1-1 tie in the opening period, the bold rattled off four straight in the second to jump in front 5-1. In the rematch, it was six straight over the first 55 minutes or so.



Lakehead's Eva Guilera guards Algoma's Nadia Singh last Saturday night in LU's 66-42 win. (Leith Dunick)

Guilera shines

Thunderwolves down Algoma, even record at 1-1

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Eva Guilera was highly touted when she arrived at Lakehead University, but injuries have impacted her ability to reach her full potential.

She showed she's ready to shine on Saturday night, scoring 18 points off the bench while hauling in nine rebounds, leading the Thunderwolves women's basketball team to a convincing 66-42 win over the visiting Algoma Thunderbirds.

Guilera, who hails from Spain, was at her absolute best in the second quarter, scoring four straight baskets to open the frame, the final eight points in a 15-0 Lakehead run that gave them the lead for good and stretched their advantage to 23-12.

They never looked back.

"It was just about getting the rebounds and the hard work, being confident in the work I've put in," Guilera said.

The eight-point stretch came the hard way, in the paint.

Two of the buckets came off feeds from guard Ally Burke, Guilera not only being in the right spot, but showing a keen court awareness at both ends of the C.J. Sanders Fieldhouse.

Coach Hugo Boisvert said Guilera was phenomenal from start to finish.

"She was really good taking care of the boards on both ends, finishing plays, being in the right spots. She did a great job with her two-play spots. She did a great job with her pocket for either a mid-range or finishing at the rim,"

Boisvert said.

Individual performances aside, it was more important to get the win, coming off of Friday's disappointing 55-41 homecourt loss to the Waterloo Warriors.

"We've been working really hard all summer, so we're ready to begin the season with a win," Guilera said.

"After yesterday it was just really important for us to start off good so the work we did could pay off."

Boisvert said the effort in the second quarter is one of the best performances he's seen from the Thunderwolves since he arrived last season.

"Absolutely," he said. "I thought at the start of the game we were getting good looks. I wasn't really worried in those first couple of minutes because I thought we were getting what we wanted offensively."

"I was more so worried on the defensive side because we were letting it slide on that end. But overall, I agree (the second) was one of our best quarters in terms of how we want to play offensively."

The Thunderbirds jumped out to an early 8-3 lead, but Sara Azzolini came off the Thunderwolves bench and was dared to shoot from distance. She buried two threes, the second of which gave LU a 12-11 lead that they'd never relinquish.

Paula Lopez finished with 11 points for Lakehead (1-1), while Burke closed things out with six points and 10 assists.

Kaila Fong led Algoma (0-1) with 13 points and Nadia Singh chipped in 11.

Busy sports calendar

The local sports calendar is about as busy as it gets.

Last week I was at the 4/5 junior football play-in game on Monday, the North Stars game on Tuesday, Major League of Curling on Wednesday, took a brief overnight trip to St. Paul to see the Avett Brothers and Trampled by Turtles, then came back and covered high school football at St. Pat's and the Thunderwolves game on Friday night.

Saturday brought men's and women's basketball at Lakehead and Sunday found me back at Port Arthur Curling Centre for more Major League of Curling.

And on Monday, I rested.

This week, thankfully, is a little less hectic, at least early in the week.

High school football's senior semifinals are scheduled for Friday night, with St. Ignatius scheduled to take on St. Patrick and Westgate, the No. 1 seed, tangling with the Hammarskjold Vikings.

I'd be surprised if it's not Westgate and St. Ignatius in the Nov. 9 final. The Falcons humbled the Saints 44-0 last week in a semifinal preview, and Westgate downed winless Hammarskjold 25-14. Nothing I've

seen this season suggests the outcome will be much different.

The Tigers, led by quarterback Mitchell Papineau, can beat you through the air and on the ground, and not surprisingly, so can the Falcons, who have the versatile Lucas Dupuis under centre.

As most championships do, it'll come down to defence, and I think Westgate has a slight edge, but just barely.

□□□

Congrats to Lakehead's Nathan Bilamu, who connected for his 1,000th point with the men's basketball team in Saturday's 102-86 win over Algoma. He looked solid, as did Harold Santacruz and Chris Sagl. The Wolves are off to a 2-0 start and host McMaster this weekend.

□□□

It'll be the St. Patrick Fighting Saints and Hammarskjold Vikings in Saturday's junior

football final at Fort William Stadium. The Saints were 4-0-0 during the regular season and averaged 28 points for and 10 against. The Vikings were No. 2, at 2-1-1, scoring 82 points and allowing 49. St. Patrick won their only meeting 24-20.



Leith Dunick
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Sharp loving role with Flyers

By Lucas Punkari – TB Source

Nearly two decades after starting his professional hockey journey with the team, Patrick Sharp is once again part of the Philadelphia Flyers.

The 42-year-old is in his second season as the assistant to the general manager with the National Hockey League club, where he works under president of hockey operations Keith Jones and general manager Daniel Briere.

Sharp was originally with the Flyers from 2002 until 2005, when he was dealt to the Chicago Blackhawks and went on to win three Stanley Cups in the Windy City.

“It feels good to be back at the same practice rink in Vorhees, New Jersey and see a lot of the same faces that I first met nearly 25 years ago,” Sharp said while taking part in the Easter Seals Celebrity Hockey Classic on Friday at the Thunder Bay Tournament Centre.

“I’m learning a lot and trying to help as much as I can and hopefully help the Flyers be a good team for years to come.”

After hanging up his skates in 2018, Sharp moved into the world of television as an

analyst for NBC Sports’ national broadcast and with the Blackhawks regional telecasts.

However, the Thunder Bay product admitted that he missed being on the ice with his fellow players and being in that competitive atmosphere.

“I’m able to do that again as I’m skating with the Flyers, the (American Hockey League’s Lehigh Valley) Phantoms and all of our prospects,” Sharp said.

“It’s a great role that I’m excited about and it also allows me to be at home more with my family in Connecticut.”

Sharp said those competitive feelings started to come back to him in 2021, when he served as an advisor to the Vermont Catamounts coaching staff.

“Going back to where I played college hockey and being on the bench for a handful of games got those juices flowing quite a bit,” Sharp added.

“It was something that I really missed and it was something that I was used to, which was competing and being part of a team.”

Sharp’s main job is to work with the young players in the Flyers system who are

currently playing in the minor and junior leagues, along with the collegiate ranks.

“I had a unique journey to the NHL,” Sharp said. “I spent a lot of time in the American Hockey League and broke in as a bottom six forward before being named an all-star.”

“I like to relay my journey on to these kids and help them with whatever struggles they’re having and just trying to make them the best players and people that they can be.”

Sharp’s schedule is different from week to week.

Following the Easter Seals event in Thunder Bay, he was headed to watch the Phantoms take on the Grand Rapids Griffins in a pair of games this weekend.


He spends a lot of his time close to home in New England, but will occasionally head to Chicago and other locales in the Midwest.

“I’ll go and check in on a prospect and have lunch or dinner with them, watch the kids play and try to encourage him as much as I can,” Sharp said.

“Wherever the team is sending me, I’m ready to go.”



Patrick Sharp at the Celebrity Hockey Classic.



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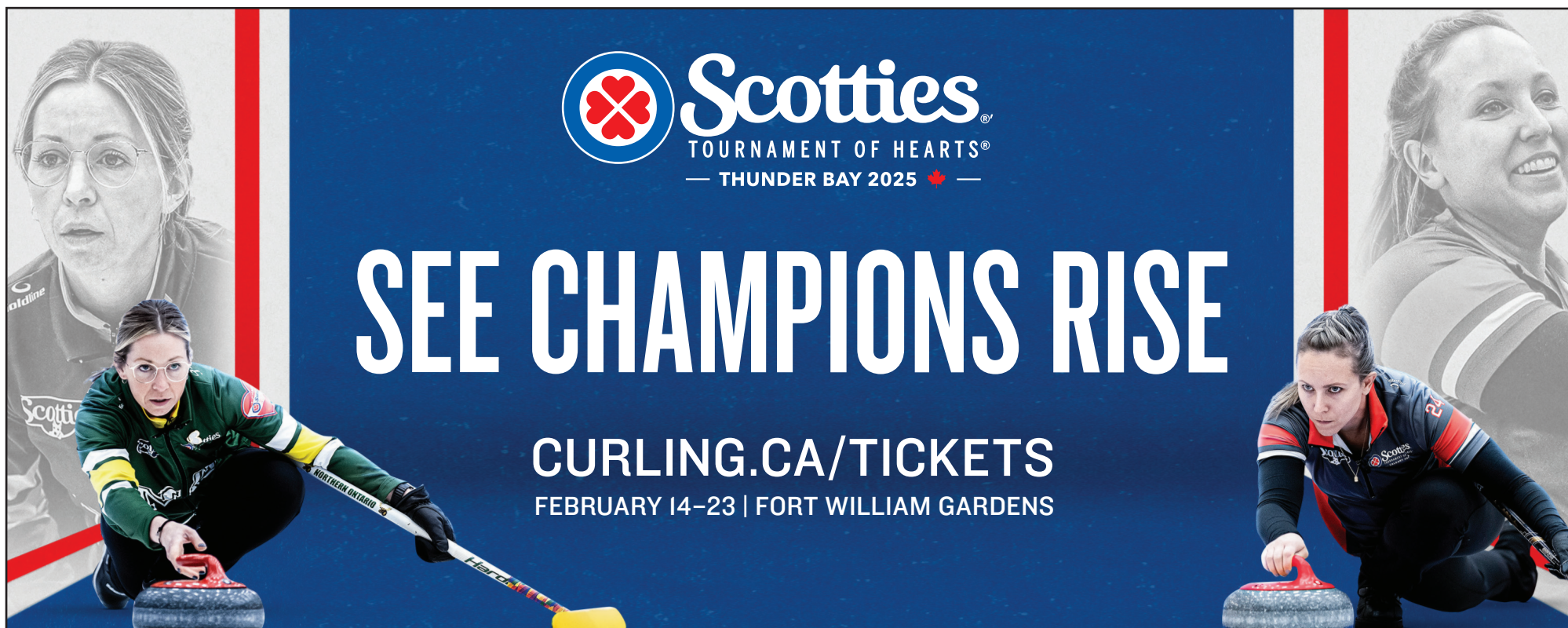
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