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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol.15 No. 07

INSIDE MOTEL MURDER



Police respond to first homicide of 2018 /5

VIGIL FOR COLTEN



Locals gather to fight for murder victim's justice /4

SENIOR SENDOFF



Wolves veterans play final regular-season games /16

Deadly gas

Carbon monoxide suspected in incident that killed one, sent eight to hospital /3



SILENT KILLER: This McTavish Street home was the scene of a tragic death on Sunday night, when a carbon monoxide leak proved fatal.

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LOCAL NEWS



LEITH DUNICK

TRAGEDY: Thunder Bay Police hold the scene on McTavish Street on Sunday night, where a man died of CO2 poisoning.

Man dies of suspected CO2 poisoning in home

Three other residents, five police officers taken to hospital

POLICE
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

A 55-year-old man is confirmed dead after a suspected carbon monoxide poisoning incident Sunday night at a McTavish Street home.

The brave actions of five Thunder Bay Police Services officers likely prevented more people from dying.

According to Insp. Al McKenzie, a police sergeant made the decision Sunday night not to wait for Thunder Bay Fire Rescue crews to get into their protective gear and instead broke down the door and began removing occupants from the residence.

The quick action may have saved at least three lives.

"When officers arrived they were met by ambulance, who told them there was high levels of carbon monoxide within the residence and it was unsafe to enter," McKenzie said.

"The sergeant on scene knew there were people inside in distress and made the decision to breach one of the doors. When they entered, the first two officers in found two individuals unconscious on the floor. They picked them up over their

shoulder and carried them out to the backyard."

Moments later they re-entered the building and found a disoriented person in the kitchen and took them outside via the front door.

"Four other officers also entered the building and went into the basement area, where there was an individual who was disorientated and was unable to walk. They physically picked this person up and carried them outside the residence," McKenzie said.

He added he believes it was the people living in the upstairs portion of the two-storey home who called emergency services and reported something wasn't right within the home.

"When they went to the basement they quickly realized they were unable to completely assist these people, but had the conscious effort to dial 911 and get emergency services

on scene. That's really what saved these people, was getting the first responders on scene quickly."

The five officers who first entered the home were also taken to hospital, suffering from suspected carbon monoxide poisoning. One officer collapsed upon leaving the home and

was vomiting on the ground, but all five are up and about after being treated in hospital, McKenzie said.

Had police waited, it might have been a different outcome.

"I would say it was extremely brave of those officers because they were told upon attending there that it's unsafe to enter, that it wouldn't be beneficial to them. But they realized they were the only line of defence at that point. There were other first responders with safety equipment, but they have to first don that equipment and of course that takes time," McKenzie said.

"The sergeant on scene made the decision that they didn't have that time and he chose to breach the door and they breached the door and they entered unprotected. But they did their job and they saved lives that night."

Emergency crews arrived on scene within minutes of the call coming in.

A 26-year-old female, a 62-year-old female and a 51-year-old male were treated in hospital. Their conditions are currently unknown.

Four other people in the residence did not require medical attention and were taken to police headquarters to attempt to determine what happened.

Investigators are still holding the scene and have not said whether a working CO2 detector was in place.

"...They did their job and they saved lives that night."

AL MCKENZIE

Weather Forecast

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>Scattered flurries</p> <p>Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH -8 LOW -17</p>	 <p>Mainly sunny</p> <p>Probability of Precipitation: 10% HIGH -9 LOW -13</p>	 <p>A mix of sun and clouds</p> <p>Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH -4 LOW -12</p>
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
 <p>A few flurries</p> <p>Probability of Precipitation: 60% HIGH -7 LOW -12</p>	 <p>A mix of sun and clouds</p> <p>Probability of Precipitation: 10% HIGH -12 LOW -23</p>	 <p>Mainly cloudy</p> <p>Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH -12 LOW -17</p>



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LOCAL NEWS



UPSET AT VERDICT: Drummers take part Saturday in a vigil for Colten Boushie at Hillcrest Park.

Justice sought in Boushie case

THUNDER BAY
By Doug Dlaczuk - TB Source

Nichole Langdon, who stood out in the cold while the beat of drums and songs cut through the night air, said what happened in a Saskatchewan courtroom last week is not what justice is supposed to look like in Canada.

"Justice does not look like what happened," she said. "It doesn't look like someone can do something like that and not face any real action or anything. That's what it doesn't look like."

More than 100 people gathered at Hillcrest Park on Saturday evening to hold a vigil for Colten Boushie, a 22-year-old Indigenous man from Red Pheasant Cree Nation, Sask., who was shot and killed on a farm by Gerald Stanley on Aug 9, 2016.

On Feb. 9, an all-white jury in Battleford, Sask., acquitted Stanley, 56, of a second-degree murder charge after he claimed the gun went off accidentally and that he feared for his life. In a reaction to what many are calling an injustice for Boushie and his family, vigils were held in cities across Canada on Saturday. "Yesterday when I heard what had happened, I was angry," Langdon said. "I was worried, because I have children. I have two sons and a daughter and I thought about them and the future for them. I was just confused and I didn't know how to react because this keeps going on."

Langdon, along with Jana-Rae Yerxa, organized the vigil in Thunder Bay, which included drums, songs, calls to action to support the Boushie family in their pursuit of justice, and to end violence against Indigenous people.

Yerxa said what happened in Saskatchewan is not very different from what is happening in the city of Thunder Bay, with Indigenous people afraid to even walk the streets.

"A year ago, Barbara Kentner was hit with a

trailer hitch and less than two weeks ago we gathered at McKenzie Street where she was attacked," she said. "At the root of all of this with Colten Boushie, with Barbara Kentner, is the anti-Indigenous racism that feeds that violence and the justification for the violence against Indigenous people."

Both Langdon and Yerxa said they hope the vigils will provide some form of comfort to the Boushie family by letting them know that there are people who care about them and Colten right across the country.

"The family has a long road ahead in terms of seeking justice," Yerxa said. "And that is why financial contributions to the family is important. It's a small way we can offer continued support for the long road they face in terms of seeking justice for Colten, for themselves, and really for all of us in this country."

Carloyn Whatley was at the vigil on Saturday and she said it is important for all people to show support to Indigenous people, who she said are facing injustices everyday.

"I think there is a sense we can't tolerate such extreme racism anymore," she said. "There is a change happening and I think Indigenous voices need to rise to the top of the fray but they need the rest of settler Canada to stand as allies in that."

"I feel like the voices that need to be heard are Indigenous ones, but we need to show we are allies," she continued.

Langdon knows that what happened in that Saskatchewan courtroom is not what justice should look like in Canada. For Yerxa, justice can only look like the end of justifying the deaths of Indigenous people.

"Justice looks like where we don't need to worry about asking for help or walking down the street because we are brown, because we are Indigenous people," she said. "Justice looks like safety on our own homeland for our own people right across this country."

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LOCAL NEWS



LEITH DUNICK

HOMICIDE: Police were called to this room at a North Cumberland Street motel on Feb. 5, site of the city's first murder of 2018.

Murder victim named

Christopher Achneepineskum charged in Wendal Baxter's death

CRIME
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

City police have identified the victim of a Feb. 5 homicide at a motel on North Cumberland Street as 28-year-old Nicholas Wendal Baxter of Thunder Bay.

Police last Friday, in a release, also identified the second person charged in connection with the incident as Rachel Mary Moonias, 36. She is facing an accessory after the fact to murder charge and has been remanded into custody until Valentine's Day.

Last Wednesday Christopher Achneepineskum, 45, was arrested and charged with first-degree murder in Baxter's death.

He appeared in court via video on Wednesday morning and was remanded into custody. He returns to court on Feb. 15.

Do you have an opinion to share?
E-mail the editor at ldunick@dougallmedia.com

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Editorial

EDITORIAL

Police save three lives

Police in Thunder Bay have gotten a bad rap in recent years.

For their actions on Sunday night, they deserve our applause.

Arriving at a McTavish Street residence and told there were deadly levels of deadly carbon monoxide in the home, the officer in charge had a decision to make.

He knew there were people in peril inside the home, and waiting for Thunder Bay Fire Rescue crews to don protective gear might be the difference between life and death.

The sergeant saw no choice and made the decision to breach the home, putting the threat to their lives aside.

Four of his officers followed him into the home and immediately hauled two people out into the yard. They managed to get another out through the front door, finding them disoriented in the kitchen.

Finally they found a person in the basement and managed to get him outside.

At least one officer collapsed and began vomiting after the rescue. All five went to hospital for treatment, along with three of the victims.

Tragically, a 55-year-old inside the home died of suspected carbon monoxide poisoning.

Police weren't able to save all four lives, but their quick actions certainly saved the lives of the other three.

A huge thanks for your service.

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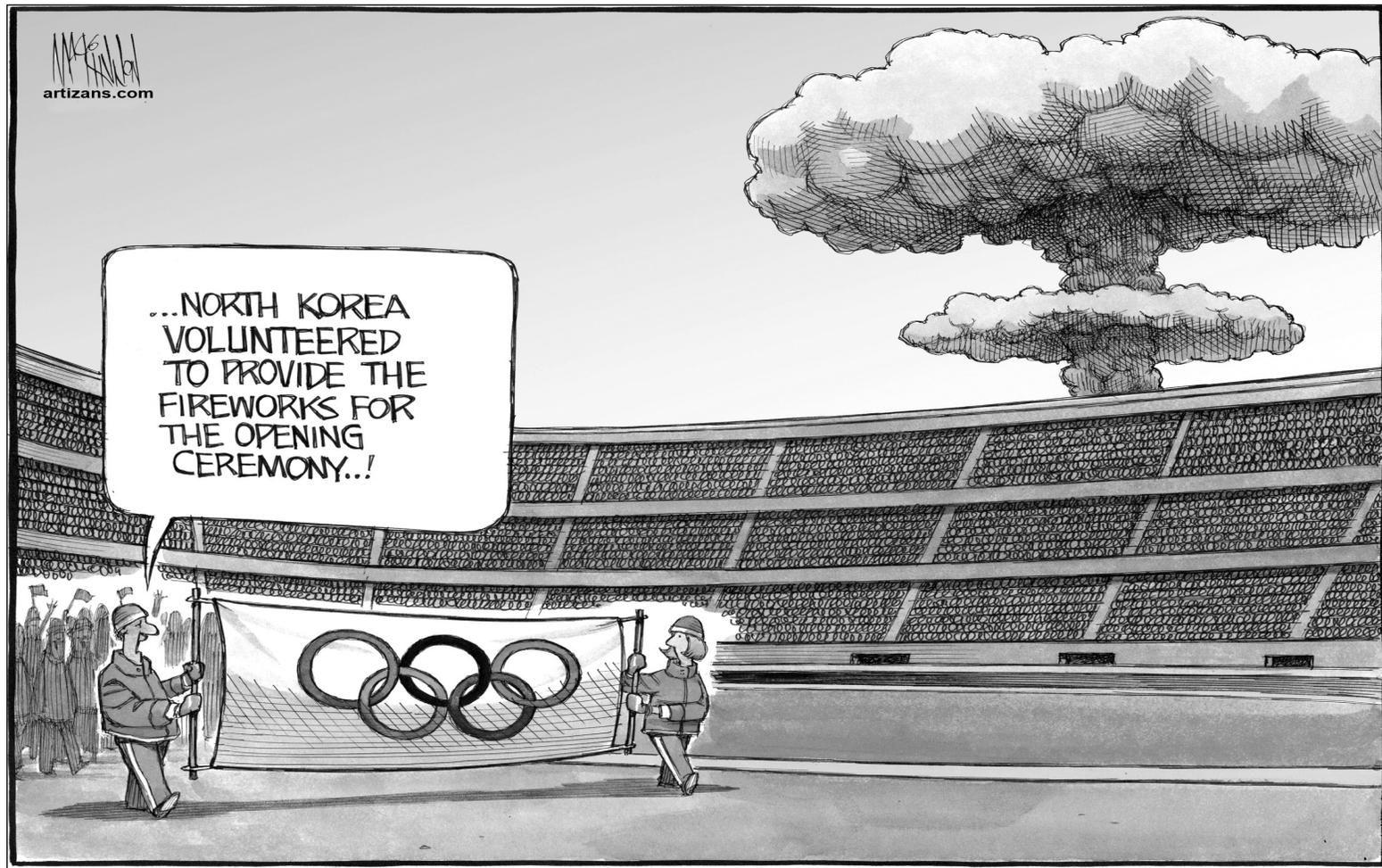
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Olympics have rich area history



BOB NAULT
FROM THE HILL

The Olympic Games have officially started in PyeongChang, South Korea. Over the next month, Canada's Olympic and Paralympic athletes will serve as a source of inspiration and great pride for all Canadians. I would like to encourage all of us in Northwestern Ontario and across the country to rally behind our athletes as they represent us on an international stage.

It takes the whole country's support to send Canadian athletes to PyeongChang, which is why the federal government is the single largest investor in our Canada's sport system. We are proud of our partnerships with the Canadian Olympic Committee, the Canadian Paralympic Committee, national sport organizations, and valued partners like Own the Podium and the Coaching Association of Canada.

Our riding has a storied Olympic history of its own. Eric Radford, who grew up in Balmertown, will be



INTERNATIONAL: Dryden's Chris Pronger is a four-time Olympian in men's hockey.

adding to that history in PyeongChang. Radford competed in Pairs figure skating along with his longtime skating partner, Meagan Duhamel, in the 2014 Sochi Games. Radford took home a team silver medal at those Games. He and Duhamel will once again represent Canada at the Olympics in South

Korea.

Like many Canadians, we take hockey seriously. It's no wonder then that we can boast about having multiple Olympic gold medal winning hockey players from the riding. Dryden's Chris Pronger represented Canada on four different Olympic teams from 1998-2010, winning gold in Salt Lake City and Vancouver. Pronger was joined by Kenora native Mike Richards on that 2010 gold medal winning team in Vancouver.

To name a few other Olympic athletes hailing from our riding, Megan Imrie is well known on the international stage.

A staple in the biathlon, she took part in both the Vancouver and Sochi Winter Olympic Games before her retirement in 2014.

Coincidentally, South Korea is where Kenora's own Michael Smith participated in his first Olympic Games in 1988. The decathlon great competed in three Olympics throughout his career. As many of you know, he even served as the flag bearer for Canada during the opening ceremony of the 1992 Games in Barcelona.

More recently, and perhaps unsurprisingly with all of the beautiful lakes in our region, we've seen our exceptional local athletes succeeding in

swimming. Santo Condorelli, who calls Kenora home, finished in fourth place of the 100-metre freestyle in Rio two years ago. At only 23 years of age, I wouldn't be surprised to see Condorelli in the next summer Olympics which will be held in Tokyo two years from now.

Another budding star in the swimming pool to keep an eye out for is Gabe Mastromatteo. The Kenora teenager has already participated in the Canadian Olympic trials and has consistently found himself atop the podium in national events.

The Olympics are truly a time to be celebrated. For the athletes, it's the culmination of a lifelong dedication to training that comes along with the honour of representing your country on a world stage. Our country's story is filled with inspiring moments brought to us by our Olympic and Paralympic athletes. These moments are emulated in backyards, local parks and on sport fields throughout the country.

Canadians have made a big investment in our athletes, so we proudly share in their success - in Canada's success. I hope everyone enjoys all of the events in PyeongChang and comes together to celebrate our own, as they compete against the rest of the world.

Perspective

Elon Musk driving space exploration

SpaceX pioneer launches his own Tesla Roadster into outer space to demonstrate rocket capability

OPINION
By J.R. Shermack
Special to TB Source

I am not looking for a new car right now but when the time comes I know what my next choice will be.

My new vehicle will be a Tesla Roadster just like the one taking a test drive in outer space right now.

That's right, there is a midnight red roadster with a Spaceman at the wheel circling our planet before it drives off to deep space.

It belongs to whimsical visionary, Elon Musk who launched his personal electric car into inter-planetary space last week.

Any vehicle that can survive that rocket trip and then go on for millions of years through space is well worth considering for purchase.

Behind the steering wheel sits a human mannequin wearing a genuine SpaceX spacesuit, known as "the Spaceman" to his friends.

To summarize – Elon Musk successfully launched a huge rocket into space and to showcase the payload capacity, his car was in the nose cone.

He could have used a more conventional payload but Mr. Musk took this opportunity to make a colorful, statement.

Concrete or steel can be used to simulate a payload but where's the fun in that?

When the nose cone opened, the vehicle payload was launched and Musk's Tesla became the first automobile in space.

One thing for sure – parking shouldn't be a problem.



TEST DRIVE: Elon Musk's Tesla Roadster became the world's most famous car last week when it was rocketed into outer space.

Musk stated later that he really appreciated the absurdity of what he did – it was silly and fun which he feels are reason enough.

His midnight red sports car orbited the Earth for a while and the last I heard it was driving out into open space.

Spaceman is following an orbit that

takes the roadster on a solo road trip 160 million miles away from the sun and back.

A live-feed camera sent pictures until the battery ran out and now the Tesla is silently speeding away at 44,000 kilometers/hour.

It is no longer being tracked but will

be passing within 28 million miles of Earth in 2021 if you want to have another look.

This publicity stunt has captured the imagination of space travel enthusiasts everywhere but it was really just a side show to the main event.

The real star of the show was the

SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket, successfully designed and launched into space carrying the cosmic sports car.

It was an amazing spectacle and I was swept away – many viewed it as a hopeful sign that humans are still capable of high achievement.

As for Mr. Musk – he feels that if humans survive we will inevitably become an inter-planetary species, so let's get busy.

There was an enthusiastic crowd on hand, all primed and cheering with excitement even when they were drowned out by the roar of lift-off.

The whimsical owner of SpaceX, Elon Musk, is no stranger to showmanship – he created suspense with the skill of a snake oil salesman.

Both before and after the launch he casually mentioned that he never really expected it to work.

It was said with a grin and a small sparkle in his eye.

I was a teenager when Neil Armstrong set foot on the moon – I watched it on black and white TV and the picture wasn't very good.

It was definitely a giant leap for mankind.

Now, almost fifty years later I feel we may have just taken our second step and this time the picture is crystal clear.

It was a huge technological challenge and there is more spectacle yet to come.

For many, the achievement has been overshadowed by visions of that midnight red roadster cruising the solar system.

I think that's exactly what Elon Musk intended.

ELON MUSK/INSTAGRAM

A look back in history:
Commercial Fishing Dock

A load of fish unloaded in Thunder Bay. Commercial fisheries on Lake Superior thrived through to the 1930s. In 1938, 400 tons of whitefish, 400 tons of trout, and 600 tons of herring were caught with a value of \$140,000. By this time, however, commercial fishing was becoming largely uneconomical.

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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HIGHWAY 11/17 FOUR-LANING FROM OUIMET TO DORION

Preliminary and Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment Study

Notice of Public Information Centre #2

THE STUDY

WSP (formerly MMM Group Limited), has been retained by the Ontario **Ministry of Transportation (MTO)** to undertake a Preliminary Design, Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for the four-laning of Highway 11/17 from 2.83 km west of Ouimet Overhead, easterly 8.63 km.

The study includes:

- Some areas of twinning the existing highway;
- Some areas of new four-lane alignment, including constructing new eastbound and westbound bridges over the Canadian Pacific Railway;
- Providing connections to the new four-lane highway at Meyers Road, Ouimet Canyon Road, Poplar Lane, and Dorion Loop Road West; and
- A proposed new municipal; road connection between Meyers Road East and Birch Lane (pending EA approval).

THE PROCESS

This study is following the approved environmental planning process for Group 'B' projects under the *Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Transportation Facilities* (2000).

Following Public Information Centre (PIC) #1 held on April 13, 2016, the Project Team prepared and filed an Addendum to the original 1997 Environmental Study Report (ESR) to document the proposed changes to the original design decisions (i.e. highway alignment revisions in some sections, modifications to public access, and an increase in right-of-way width from 90 m to 110 m (minimum)). MTO received EA approval to proceed with the proposed plan in September 2017. The original design has since been revised to add a new municipal road connection between Meyers Road and Birch Lane. Information on this new connection will be provided at PIC #2 and is documented in a separate ESR Addendum, which is currently filed for public review.

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #2

PIC #2 has been scheduled to provide an opportunity for interested parties to review and provide input on the detail design plan, and the anticipated environmental impacts and mitigation measures. PIC #2 will be held as a drop-in style, open house format and members of the Project Team will be available to answer questions and receive comments. PIC #2 is scheduled as follows:

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018
Location: Dorion Public School and Community Centre
 Gymnasium
 175 Dorion Loop Road
 Dorion, ON P0T 1K0
Time: 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The PIC venue is fully accessible and all PIC material presented will be compliant with the requirements under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act*. If you have any accessibility requirements to participate in this project, please contact one of the Project Team members listed below in advance of the PIC.

Following PIC #2, a Design and Construction Report (DCR) will be completed to document the Detail Design, and environmental impacts and mitigation measures. The DCR will be made available for a 30-day public and agency review period. The DCR is not eligible for a Part II Order (i.e. "bump-up") under the provisions of the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*.

Construction is anticipated to start as early as 2019.

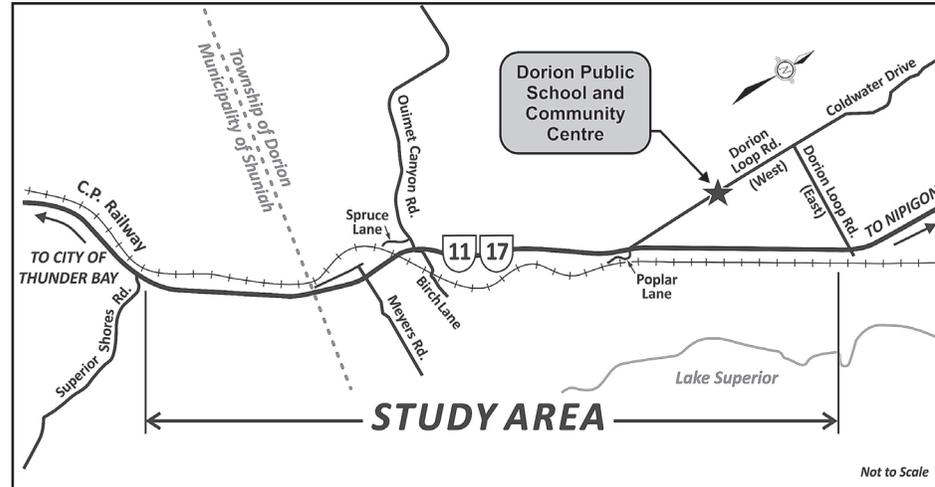
COMMENTS

If you wish to obtain additional information or provide comments or if you would like to be added to the study's mailing list, please contact the individuals listed below, or visit our website at www.Hwy11-17Four-LaningfromOuimettoDorion.ca.

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Comments and information are being collected to assist the MTO in meeting the requirements of the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. Information will be collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. All comments will be maintained on file for use during the study and, with the exception of personal information, may be included in study documentation and become part of the public record.



LOCAL NEWS



BANGED UP: A Water Street collision.

City's worst crash sites

TRAFFIC

By Gary Rinne - TB Source

The three locations where Thunder Bay drivers are most likely to experience a collision are all located along the Harbour Expressway.

Data obtained from the Thunder Bay Police Service traffic unit shows that the intersections with the highest collision rates in the city in 2017 were the Harbour Expressway at Balmoral Street, at Golf Links Road and at Memorial Avenue.

A fourth intersection along the busy route, Harbour Expressway at Fort William Road, was also in the top 10.

Of the 13 worst locations documented by police last year, intersections along Memorial Avenue, Arthur Street and Balmoral Street were among the others with multiple appearances on the list.

Thunder Bay Intersections With Highest Collision Rates in 2017

- Balmoral Street at Harbour Expressway: 17
- Golf Links Road at Harbour Expressway: 17
- Memorial Ave at Harbour Expressway: 15
- Arthur Street at James Street S.: 13
- Central Avenue at Memorial Avenue: 12
- Central Avenue at Golf Links Rd: 12
- Fort William Road at Harbour Expressway: 11
- Balmoral St at Central Avenue: 11
- Junot Ave N at Red River Road: 10
- Arthur Street E. at Edward Street S., Balmoral Street at William Street, Golf Links Road at Oliver Road, Arthur Street E. at Vickers Street S.: Tied at 9

LOCAL NEWS

Necan takes stand in murder trial

COURT

By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

Nicholas Necan broke down into tears on the witness stand when he recalled being informed by a member of the Thunder Bay Police Service that he had been charged with second-degree murder.

"I was shocked," he said. "It was like a nightmare. I couldn't believe it. I couldn't wake up."

Necan testified in his own defense during day six of his trial to answer to charges of second-degree murder in connection with the 2016 death of 60-year-old, George James Gerard.

Gerard was found unresponsive in a Casablanca apartment on north Simpson Street on the afternoon of Jan. 28. He was pronounced dead at the hospital a short time later.

In a Thunder Bay courtroom on Monday, counsel for the crown, Gordon Fillmore, wrapped up his case against Necan after questioning of his last witness, Det. Const. Ian West of the Thunder Bay Police Service.

West was the officer who read Necan his rights and announced the charges to him when he was brought into the Balmoral Street police headquarters after being arrested in Gerard's apartment.

According to West, when Necan first arrived and was being processed, he was uncooperative and interrupting him.

Later that evening, West said he noticed a marked change in his demeanour, with Necan being cooperative and attentive and apologizing to him for being belligerent.

When asked if he was aware of the charge he was facing, West testified Necan replied: "murder or some shit. I don't know why they are laid on me."

West added that Necan later said he was an easy target because he was drunk.

During Necan's testimony, his attorney, Neil McCartney, asked him to recount the day of the Jan. 28, and how much alcohol he consumed. Necan said he purchased several cans of beer, a 26-ounce bottle of whiskey that day, and stole a mickey, which he was consuming throughout the day.

When he returned to the Casablanca apartment building, McCartney asked how he was feeling in terms of alcohol consumption.

"I was feeling it," Necan said.

Necan said he has a memory of returning to the Casablanca apartment after leaving that morning. When he returned, Necan went to another apartment with several other individuals who were also consuming alcohol. According to Necan, he has no memory of leaving that apartment or anything that happened after, only waking up in the Balmoral Street Police station.

During cross-examination by Fillmore, he asked Necan if he couldn't remember anything from that day after leaving that apartment unit or being processed by police at the station, why did he apologize to West for being belligerent that evening.

"It's just the way I am," Necan said. "I have no idea."

"Would it be because you remember some part of the booking

room?" Fillmore pressed.

"No," Necan replied.

Necan said he only visits the Casablanca apartment building once a month to see his daughter and never had any contact with Gerard before the night of Jan. 28.

During testimony early Monday by Necan's daughter, Randi-Lynn Necan, she said that night Necan introduced her to Gerard as

'George.'

"How would you have known to tell her this was George?" Fillmore asked.

"I don't know where that came from," Necan replied.

Fillmore concluded his cross-examination by asking Necan if he was angry about anything that day and if he recalled hitting Gerard with a piece of wood, adding that the

evidence suggested he was struck several times in the head.

Necan said he could not remember hitting Gerard with a piece of wood or being angry.

"If you don't remember, you can't say what you intended to do because you can't remember," Fillmore said.

"No," Necan replied.



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DOUG DIACZUK

ON TRIAL: Nicholas Necan leaves court last Tuesday.

LOCAL NEWS

Victim testifies in Ottawa U sex case

COURT
By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

In the second week of a trial against two former Ottawa University hockey players charged with sexual assault, the alleged victim underwent further cross-examination by the attorney representing one of the accused, who pressed her on whether she consented to sexual contact with the two men.

David Foucher, 28, and Guillaume Donovan, 27, are each accused of sexually assaulting a 21-year-old Thunder Bay woman in a hotel on Feb. 2, 2014.

Last Thursday, the alleged victim took the witness stand and on Monday, Donovan's attorney, Christian Deslauriers, continued his cross-examination in a Thunder Bay Courtroom.

According to testimony last week by

former Ottawa University hockey player, Taylor Collins, he met the alleged victim through an online dating app, saw her at a local bar the night of Feb. 2, and engaged in consensual sex with her at the hotel where the team was staying.

Collins also testified that he saw Donovan standing near the bed and he left the room. During the alleged victim's testimony last week, she said after Collins left the room, a man from the foot of the bed climbed on top of her and started having sexual intercourse with her, while another man attempted to force her

to perform oral sex.

She testified at the time that it was not consensual and she did not agree to the sexual contact.

Deslauriers questioned the alleged victim about whether she consented to

either oral sex or complete sex, to which she replied, no.

"You went along with it and did not express the fact that you were not consenting?" Deslauriers asked.

"Yes," she replied.

Deslauriers suggested to the alleged victim that she was embarrassed by what happened that night, which is why he claims she lied to police investigating the incident.

Earlier in his cross-examination on Monday, Deslauriers pointed to conversations the alleged victim had with Collins via text message prior to her first meeting with police on Feb. 28.

Deslauriers asserted the two spoke about making sure their stories were the same and that the alleged victim would tell police that a friend of hers blew the situation out of proportion

and would say as little as possible to police.

The alleged victim said it was correct that she and Collins spoke prior to her first meeting with police and that she did tell him she would talk as minimally as possible.

"Did you ever hear Mr. Collins say it was consensual between you and the other guy?" Deslauriers asked her.

"I do remember him asking me that," she replied.

But she added that she knew it was true that it was not consensual.

"The fact that Mr. Collins would have said that, you did not know if it was consensual?" Deslauriers asked.

"Wrong," she replied.

In other messages exchanged between the two prior to the woman's

first meeting with police, Collins said to the alleged victim that a friend of hers was sticking up for her because she felt bad the next day after the night of Feb. 2.

"You will have to say you were fine with what happened, but it is 100 per cent up to you," Deslauriers read from a text Collins wrote to the alleged victim.

"Yeah, but they have no idea who it was truthfully and neither do I," Deslauriers continued reading the alleged victim's reply. "So unless fingers are pointed by the team, no one will know anything happened."

The alleged victim met with police a second time on Mar. 5, during which she told investigating officers that she remembered there being a number of naked bodies in the room but could not recall any of the faces or voices in the room that night. She added that a man got on top of her and she went along with it because she didn't know what else to do.



DAVID FOUCHER



GUILLAUME DONOVAN

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LEITH DUNICK

POT PLAN: Operation Springboard's Alexis Vegh speaks to teachers and public health nurses last Thursday about Weed Out the Risk.

Weed, wheels don't mix

Lakehead Public Schools teaching students dangers of driving high

EDUCATION
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

A study shows 41 per cent of students have no issue getting into a vehicle with a driver high on marijuana. It's a number that frightens Jeff Upton. It's also why several Lakehead Public School teachers spent the day on Thursday being educated about Operation Springboard's Weed Out the Risk, a program designed to teach students the dangers associated with driving under the influence of cannabis. While most students know it's just as illegal to consume marijuana and drive as it is to drink and drive, the consequences aren't as clear, said Upton, an education officer with the board. "There's some mixed messages out there that because cannabis is becoming legalized, therefore it's OK to do certain things," Upton said. "They need to understand what the new laws are going to be." Weed Out the Risk, created three years ago, is a harm-reduction program designed to teach young people what the risks are of either getting behind the wheel while high, or into a vehicle with a driver on pot.

"We know that some young people are using and getting into vehicles..."
ALEXIS VEGH

While high schools have long focused on the risks of drinking and driving, being high behind the wheel has taken a bit of a back seat. The timing couldn't be better, said Operation Springboard's Alexis Vegh. "We know that some young people are using and getting into vehicles, so we really want to ensure they have good information to make well-informed choices about impairment, especially with marijuana," Vegh said, adding she can't speak to why many youngsters think it's OK to drive while high. "What we do know is that young people have very different connotations about impairment from alcohol and impairment from marijuana. One of the things that Weed Out the Risks really attempts to clarify is that young people are aware of the impairment issues with marijuana in the same way they often are with alcohol." According to a preliminary report issued last fall by the federal government, drivers caught with between two and five nanograms of THC in their bloodstreams could face drugged driving charges, while those caught behind the wheel with more than five nanograms of THC concentrated in their blood would be

guilty of impaired driving. Those in the second category would face a mandatory \$1,000 fine for a first offence, 30 days in jail for a second offence and 120 days in jail for a third offence. In Ontario there will be zero tolerance for anyone 21 and younger, novice and commercial drivers. Studies have shown driving under the influence of cannabis affects reaction time, concentration, visual function and speed. Vegh said Weed Out the Risk has been completed by more than 10,000 students to date and the feedback has been excellent from students and teachers, encouraged by the frank discussion of the subject at hand. "One of the key components is to really try to facilitate a dialogue with young people," Vegh said. "Being from a harm-reduction perspective, I'm not telling young people they should or should not use. That is a decision they are going to make on their own and we know that, from history. "My intent going in is to ensure they have some good facts, best practices and good information so they are able to make good decisions on their own and advocate for good decisions in other people." Cannabis is scheduled to be legalized by the federal government on July 1.

LOCAL TB LIFE IN THE BAY SPORTS

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Weekday Mornings with Kaile & Dee

Colon-cleansing clients should be tested

HEALTH

By Gary Rinne – TB Source

The Thunder Bay District Health Unit is now recommending that clients of two Thunder Bay colon-cleansing services be tested for hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and HIV.

The advisory issued Tuesday follows an investigation conducted by public health inspectors at Natural Health and Chiropractic on Victoria Avenue and at the Colon Therapy Clinic on Park Avenue.

Inspectors determined that people who had their colons cleansed at those locations may have been exposed to improperly cleaned instruments.

In a news release, the health unit said "these clients may be at risk for a variety of bloodborne, sexually-transmitted and enteric infections."

In an interview with Thunder Bay Source, Environmental Health Manager Lee Sieswerda cautioned that while the overall risk of infection from improperly

cleaned instruments is low, "the diseases that could potentially be transmitted are so significant that I don't think anyone would want to take even a small risk" by not being tested.

The investigation, initiated in January following a complaint from the public, initially resulted in the health unit ordering the temporary shutdown of both services. The statement noted that management at both locations is cooperating with the health unit working toward compliance.

Wintry trek

We finally made it out for a trek on snowshoes. The weather had been too cold until a couple of weekends ago when Jack Frost took a break from his face-freezing. So, I hauled out the snowshoes and on a sunny Sunday afternoon, my wife, Laura, and I strapped them on and off we went.

Our pooch, Baxter, upon realizing that we were indeed going for a walk was so excited, leaping and rushing around us as we affixed our boots into our snowshoes. We had not been out for a healthy stroll for sometime (see above reference to frigid conditions).

When the ground is snow-free and we go for a walk on our property, we are pretty much restricted to our trails. The bush is either too thick through which to hack (Dang! I left my machete at home again!) or the ground is too swampy, too mushy. But now everything was covered in snow or thick ice.



FRED JONES

RURAL ROOTS

We tend to start off behind Casa Jones and then tromp beside what we call Pond Paddock since it is situated beside our beaver pond; but this time we elected to cross the ice on the pond toward the beaver lodge that is inhabited this winter. The water level has been maintained all summer and fall and you can see the beavers' winter supply of sticks poking up through the ice near the lodge.

In places where the wind had caused drifts of snow to form, Baxter had his work cut out for him while even I sunk with each step as I broke trail. Our late, lamented Todd had been wise enough to follow both humans as they broke trail and compressed the snow to make a more solid path. But Baxter is an intrepid explorer and would forge ahead on his own regardless of the difficulty. Good, he needs it being overweight.

Direction set

So, across the pond we strode and then down the slope of the dam to follow a winding trail created by the beaver through the clumps of rushes until we came to the middle pond, now fairly empty of water as is the much larger pond immediately adjoining it to the south. These two ponds have been contained by a huge dam that must be fifty years old at least but as we drew closer, we observed a large, gaping hole that had allowed nearly all of the water to drain.

"Look at that," I exclaimed, "what caused such a massive rupture?"

"Don't you remember? We had a flash flood a year or two ago and it caused this dam at its weakest point to burst," Laura said. Oh. No, I'd forgotten.

So, we passed through the hole and up onto a logging roadway, created for logging years ago. Back when my beloved dog, Cedric was alive, he and I had made a trek in autumn along our trails until we came to this patch of logging lane and headed down it to cross onto the other side. Even then Ma Nature had begun to reclaim this laneway no longer being used by machines. Tag alder and young, thin poplar had burst through the soil to stretch up making the walk difficult in places.

But now in winter, the lane didn't appear to be too crowded with those arboreal impediments, so we began the trudge up the hill, knowing that eventually it meets our riding trail at the top.

As they say, looks can be deceiving. It was a slog. What, from a distance, appeared to be tree-free, was actually lots of bent-over tag alder and poplar frozen in the snow due to the freezing rains we had back in December (or was it January?). When we eventually reached the top, I was very tired.

"Isn't this when we call on the cell phone for son, Doug, to come with the snow mobile and fetch us?" I whined. Laura snorted. We don't own a snow mobile. So, onward we slowly slogged taking frequent breaks until we reached Casa Jones, all three of us exhausted. We realized that for our first snowshoe trek of the season, perhaps we had bit off more than we could chew, as it were.

The hot shower followed by hot chocolate did help assuage sore muscles and revive spent spirits though. The dog climbed onto our bed and had a good, long snooze.



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Indoor marathon continues its mission

THUNDER BAY By Doug Dlaczuk - TB Source

Little Avery Puksa is only three-years-old, but with a little help from dad, she joined other runners and finished her lap around the track in support of children's mental health.

"She did really well and I'm proud of her and so is mom," said Andrew Puksa.

Runners once again took to the track for the 9th Annual Indoor Marathon at the Lakehead University Hangar on Sunday in support of the Children's Centre Foundation Thunder Bay.

This year, more than 150 runners participated in a full-marathon, a half-marathon, a 10K run, a 10K walk, and a marathon team relay.

"I think we have a great running community in the city who are very supportive of one another and it really

highlights the importance of physical activity and promoting better mental health," said Alana Bencharski, Children's Centre Foundation coordinator.

Bencharski added the marathon this year is expected to raise more than \$10,000, which will go toward public education programming and preventative initiatives for children's mental health.

John Friday, vice president of the Children's Centre Foundation, and runner himself, was out on the track on Sunday participating in the half-marathon.

"It was fun," he said. "It was 105 laps and it's always a great event. Usually I do the full marathon, but I've been a little challenged with injuries so I decided to do the half. It looks a lot different if you only have to do the half and it feels a lot better at



BIG RUN: Andrew Puksa and three-year-old Avery compete on Sunday.

the end."

Friday and Bencharski said the cold temperatures outside this winter has led to more runners coming out to

participate in the Indoor Marathon, where the weather is always perfect.

"The frigid temperatures have definitely helped us out," Bencharski said. "We always see an influx during the weeks it is the coldest for registrations. They really take advantage of coming indoors where the temperature is perfect."

And while runners enjoy the challenge of completing the full or half marathons, the annual event is about more than sport.

"Children's Centre Thunder Bay does this for two reasons, one is to raise funds," Friday said. "Secondly, to raise the awareness of mental health and the linkage between fitness and mental health and raise the awareness that we need to keep the conversation going about mental health."

"The other highlight is the kids run," Friday added. "I think it's so much fun

to watch and it brings the whole family out. Just watching the smiles on the kid's faces as they cross the finish line is just a highlight of the day."

Andrew and Avery did the kid's run together, which included one lap around the track, and because he was so impressed with Avery's performance, he suspects in a few years she will be competing in the full marathon.

"I have no doubt about it," he said.

The kids have a lot of fun racing around the track, even when holding dad's hand, but Andrew said that is the goal of the marathon, to give all children a little help along the way.

"I think it's wonderful," he said. "I think any opportunity that we have to do things that ultimately benefit children in this community is a great thing."

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Nadin has passion for music

Local singer's first single, *Gypsy Sea*, propels her into CBC Searchlight hunt

MUSIC

By Doug Dlaczuk - TB Source

While Megan Nadin was studying to be an early childhood educator, she travelled across the world to Cambodia to volunteer teaching English at an orphanage. While there, she often sang to the children, and she was the one who ended up learning a valuable lesson – how music has the power to heal and create real change.

“Whether it brings us back to a moment, or a feeling, music is just something that captures those emotions for people,” Nadin said. “It just makes them feel lighter and happier. Although I have a lot of emotional songs, when people listen to them, I want them to feel that there is someone else out there who has been there, too.”

Nadin, now 26-years-old, has had a passion for music all her life, but it was only in the last year that she started to pursue it as a career. Now she is working with producers in Toronto on her first album and her song, *Gypsy Sea*, has been accepted into this year's CBC Searchlight.

Searchlight is a nation-wide hunt to discover Canada's next undiscovered musical talent. Winners receive exposure on CBC, recording time in Calgary, and the opportunity to perform at the CBC Music Festival.

Accepted songs are open to public voting before a long list and shortlist are chosen followed by the announcement of the winning artist in March.

Nadin, who sees pursuing music as more about sharing her passion than just making it big, said being included in this year's Searchlight and the possibility of winning would be a dream come true.

“It would be an opportunity to show people that I am ready and willing to work my butt off to make real music,” she said. “To make music that not only touches the ears, but the heart and the soul. I want to heal people through my music.”

But it was the act of making and



TALENTED: Megan Nadin says she never saw herself as a pop artist, but along her musical journey, she realized it's not a bad thing.

sharing her music that helped her grow as a person. Nadin said she was often very shy about sharing her music, but after being encouraged by family and friends to pursue her dream and share her gift, she decided to focus on her passion and share her music with everyone.

“I'm always someone who has been pretty shy when it comes to putting

myself and my music out there,” she said. “The more I did it, the more support I got from my friends and my family. Now I decided to dedicate my time to pursuing my music career and now I am in the midst of making my album.”

Nadin said her original song entered into Searchlight could be considered a pop song, but she doesn't believe songs

or music can be defined by just one category or genre.

“I never saw myself as a pop-artist,” she said. “But as I get deeper into this journey, I've realized it just stands for popular music. Its just music that reaches a wide variety of people.”

Public voting opened on Feb. 13 and votes can be cast on the CBC Searchlight website.

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IN THE bay

Networks hit hard during Olympics

While online sites are touting which Olympic sport you should follow based on your Zodiac sign or the 11 inspiring reasons you should watch them all, a recent Gallup poll claims that fewer Americans are interested than ever before.

In fact, 61 percent don't plan on watching any of the Winter Olympics in South Korea.

It's possible that this is due to Americans' general lack of understanding regarding snow and winter sports. Or a fear of Sasquatch.

Plus there's that pesky time difference which makes watching the games live an all-nighter event.

Usually, the other networks not covering the Games lose out big time during the two-week Olympic season. With a glaring lack of eyes glued to their channel, the other networks often run repeat episodes or shows they can access



on the cheap to fill their primetime slots.

But this year, CBS is fighting back with new alternate programming. The network has trapped eleven celebrities of questionable calibre in the *Big Brother* house with over a hundred cameras and microphones. So we get to watch these TV hostages drink their way through the day while Omarosa – the ex-White House something-or-other – dramatically whispers her fears about the future



ALTERNATIVE: Is Omarosa enough to draw viewers away from the Olympics?

of the U.S.

And this is going on four nights a week including Friday's two-hour episode.

That's five hours of *Celebrity Big Brother* a week, 13 episodes over 18 days.

That's just wrong on so many levels.

Then CBS also has *The Amazing Race* blanketing both the globe and our CTV affiliate, CKPR Thunder Bay.

As locally we missed the original start date of the show back in January, CTV is now running all 12 episodes of the season over 15 days. So pack your Dramamine. You're going to need it.

Meanwhile, ABC has warmed up the hot tub for night after night of *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelor Winter Games*. Yes, Bachelor Nation contestants – those quality folk who signed up for *The Bachelor* and *Bachelorette* over the years and didn't make it to the final rose – are coming back to compete in various athletic games for the ultimate prize: Love.

And notoriety. And future endorsement deals.

So we've got a lot of alternate realities for viewers to peruse during the

Olympics. However, if the majority of viewers aren't tuning in to winter sports anyway, why bother with this change in the schedule at all?

Well, nothing makes the heart grow fonder – or ratings go higher – than a little distance and a returning/premiere date.

In fact, most of the networks will be premiering at least a couple new shows shortly after the Games close.

We've got *A.P. Bio*, *Instinct*, *Timeless*, *For the People*, *Deception*, *The Detail* and *Station 19* all beginning in March.

So now is the time to play couch potato either cheering for your favourite countries, your favourite teams, your favourite sports, or your favourite personalities. Or you could watch the Olympics.

Either way, your regularly scheduled programming will return in a couple weeks.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Tally
 - 4 Basketball Assn. of America
 - 7 Monkey
 - 10 Jason's ship
 - 11 Imitate
 - 12 Famous zeppelin
 - 14 Despot
 - 16 Jutlander
 - 17 Poetess Lowell
 - 18 Narrow
 - 20 Prohibit
 - 21 Swed. county
 - 22 Old-time firing pin
 - 24 Grave
 - 27 Toy
 - 30 Ring of light
 - 31 Berne's river
 - 32 Medicinal herb
 - 33 Proportionally assess
 - 35 State (Ger.)
 - 36 Anthology (abbr.)

- DOWN**
- 1 Neat
 - 2 Agency (abbr.)
 - 3 Fly larva
 - 4 Stick
 - 5 Apocrypha (abbr.)
 - 6 Air supply
 - 7 Signed (abbr.)
 - 8 Strauss opera

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

L	T	D	B	E	M	A	C	C			
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E	N	D	L	I	E	U					
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H	Y	T	E	E	S	T	A	P	E	X	
X	E	R	D	D	E	S	H	U			

- 9 Sayings (suf.)
- 10 Amer. Dental Assn. (abbr.)
- 13 Marsh
- 15 Axillary
- 19 54 (Rom. numeral)
- 21 Discover
- 23 Scand. people
- 24 Drain
- 25 Possessive pronoun
- 26 Keeler (2 words)
- 27 No (Scot.)
- 28 Poly. beefwood
- 29 But
- 31 Uncle of Jason
- 34 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (abbr.)
- 35 Afr. tree
- 37 Pickled bamboo shoots
- 38 Defiant shout
- 39 Son of Judah
- 41 Cholera
- 42 N.Z. parrot
- 43 Wild ox
- 44 Own (Scot.)
- 46 Gelderland city
- 48 Cut of beef

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WORD SEARCH

A S T E A D I E D L N V T T J
 Y P P U G I S Y C A O N K U I
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 Q F H T R A E E D E T A I N S
 U U A O N M S R F R A O I E P
 A C H G E E Y A D Y L A I S V
 T C S L T S D B L E L M N P Z
 S G X E T G E N T S E F N I D
 E E P D E S N S A N T B A H I
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Sports

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McDonald's last stand

Thunderwolves veteran goalie gets final chance between pipes

UNIVERSITY HOCKEY

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Justin McDonald could have walked away a lot sooner.

A lot of other goaltenders, having been told they'd been reduced to a third-stringer, might have hung up the pads and called it a day.

Not McDonald.

He stuck around this season, practising just as hard as starters Nic Renyard and Devin Green, knowing the chance to see game action might never come.

On Saturday night he got to go out on his own terms.

McDonald, the sole fifth-year veteran on the team, made his first start of the OUA season – and just his second appearance – for the seventh-place Lakehead Thunderwolves (12-11-5), turning aside 28 of 32 shots he faced as LU closed out the regular season with a 4-1 defeat at the hands of the up-and-down Laurier Golden Hawks (15-10-3).

Wanted the win

It wasn't the result he was looking for, but he was ecstatic to get the opportunity to play one final time, with his parents Blair and Sherry in the stands and his brother Austin on the ice in front of him.

"It was great. I was waiting for a while and it felt good to get back in there. Obviously the result wasn't good. We wanted to win this game, even though we had made the playoffs. But just getting back in there and all the players rallying around me, it was fun to play," said McDonald, whose only other regular-season appearance came on Oct. 13 in relief of Renyard in an 8-3 loss at the hands of these same Golden Hawks.

LU coach Bill McDonald said the goaltender deserved one last shot.

"McDonald's been a real good soldier for us here, both on and off the ice. He's a quality guy. He played all right. I think it's a matter of us (not) scoring rather than him letting in any goals," the veteran bench boss said.

Justin McDonald was one of five seniors honoured before the game in a brief ceremony, a grouping that included fourth-year Thunderwolves



GRADUATING: Justin McDonald made just two appearances in his fifth season.

Tyler Anton, Trevor Hynnes, Dylan Butler and E.J. Faust.

Hynnes, who didn't factor into the scoring, called it a special night nonetheless.

"Especially because there were a couple of guys out there I started playing minor hockey with, like Dylan Butler and Tyler Anton, and the other guys there. I've made such good friends in my four years here. And to have my parents come on the ice – because without them I wouldn't be where I am today," said Hynnes, who said he's been applying for government jobs across the country and plans to hang up the blades after the playoffs end.

"The only thing that could have made it better was coming out with the victory, but all in all it was a pretty special night.

The Wolves, who will take on the

York Lions in a best-of-three opening-round series starting Thursday night at Fort William Gardens, outshot the Golden Hawks 20-9 in the first, but neither side found the net. The Golden Hawks struck three times in the third, Brandon Robinson breaking the goose egg just 1:29 into the second.

Kept scoring

Jeremy Pullara doubled the lead at 6:05 and Christian Mroczkowski made it 3-0 late in the frame, pouncing on a loose puck that bounced off McDonald's shoulder following a Matt Franczyk shot from jut above the left circle.

Kyle Jenkins rounded out Laurier's attack in the third, firing a weak shot from the blueline that McDonald couldn't catch up to.

Sam Schutt finally solved Colin Furlong in the Laurier net midway through the third, one-timing a Daniel Del Paggio shot on the Golden Hawks goaltender's doorstep.

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sports NEWS

Kids take it outdoors

HOCKEY
By Doug Dlaczuk - TB Source

A lot of kids will spend their days at the outdoor rinks, playing games of pickup and practicing their moves. But for two local pee-wee teams, that game at the outdoor rink had them feeling like pros.

On Saturday, the Westfort Tycon Rangers took on the Elks Gridlink Blackhawks in the first pee-wee Winter Classic held at the West Thunder Community Centre outdoor rink.

"It's going to be really cool," said 13-year-old Zachary Gothard, who plays leftwing for the Blackhawks. "It's like the NHLers. It's like experiencing what could happen if I did go to the NHL or if I do make it. It's a great experience."

The game included all the staples of a professional winter classic, from announcing the lineup of players as they took to the ice, to singing the national anthem.

Rangers coach, Greg Campagna, said when the kids learned they were going to be playing in a winter classic game, just like the NHL players, they couldn't stop talking about it.

"They were super excited," he said. "We had an outdoor practice and they loved it. We couldn't get them off the ice that night. It was one of those cold winter nights, -25C, and for some reason the kids wanted to stay outside. So we kept it going, had the outdoor classic, and get back to some grassroots



DOUG DLACZUK

INSTANT CLASSIC: The pee wee Westfort Tycon Rangers and the Elks Gridlink Blackhawks met outdoors last Saturday at the West Thunder Community Centre rink.

hockey."

While it wasn't -25C on Saturday afternoon, it almost felt like it, but the kids didn't seem too bothered by it.

"I am," Campagna said of the cold. "I don't think the kids are. I don't think they feel it when they are out there giving it. But they are out there having a good time and that's what it's all about."

Jackson Glover, 11, who plays for the Westfort Rangers, said the temperature outside might make for a different game experience from playing indoors, but that might not be a bad thing.

"You have to wear balaclavas and the goalies will be a little more cold, so we might be slower," he

said. "I don't know what to expect. The cold might give us more of a kick and get us to move more, because it's cold and you want to stay warm."

Both Jackson and Zachary said they usually come to the outdoor rinks to play hockey with their friends or practice their skills several times a week, just like most kids enjoying the national pastime on cold winter nights across the country. But there was something about participating in a winter classic that felt just little more Canadian.

"It feels right Canadian," Zachary said. "It's going to be a right good day. It's going to be fun."



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