

# Toronto Clarion

beverley ern

## **Unabashedly the Bev /**

**11**

**Nick Petruck  
books the Bev's bands**

**Viceroy pickets : a year on the line /8**

"I get a kick out of seeing people stand in line to get tickets and then stand in line to get popcorn."

Garth Drabinsky, President, Cineplex Inc.

# Editorial

## Who's who

It seemed fitting that in the week following the *Clarion's* annual general meeting — where we ratified a new structure for the paper and re-established the collective — our assignment editor received a letter asking her to submit a brief biography to *Who's Who in Toronto: A Sesquicentennial Celebration*.

"While it is customary for publications of this nature to restrict their entrants to very prominent individuals," says the letter from chairman Ernie Smedezins, "we feel it is also important to recognize the contributions of the many people who are active in Toronto's various ethnic, voluntary, business and other organizations." Of course, being the type of organization we are, the assignment editor cannot submit her own, individual biography, but we do believe the 'other' category should be well represented. Hence, a *Clarion* Collective biography. On the off chance *Who's Who in Toronto* isn't interested, or in case you don't see the book, we present it here.

**Full Name:** Toronto *Clarion* Collective; **Pat Daley, Liz Hart, David Smiley, Don Ballanger, Mike Edwards, Dan McArán, Brian Robinson, Rhonda Sussman, Cathy Smith, Sally McBeth, Norm Rogers, Norm Mohamid, Eugene Correia, Doug McLellan, Paul Casselman, Bill Tieleman, Dan Pearce, Leslie More, Gerry Massicotte, Nigel Allen.**

**Company Name:** Toronto *Clarion* Publishing Ltd. **Phone:** 363-4404. **Career Achievements:** Publishing the Toronto *Clarion*, a volunteer-based, independent, monthly community newspaper, since October 1976.

**Interests:** Through the production of a politically autonomous, fair and accurate newspaper, which operates with a democratic, co-operative structure, we strive to provide a voice for people developing such structures and to provide information to people to allow them to change and control their lives.

**Community Work:** We conduct free workshops on writing and production skills for members of the community. We have also assisted community organizations, such as the Union of Injured Workers, in organizing and promoting their events.

**How does Toronto compare to other Cities you have visited or lived in? We love it!**

**What parts of Metro Toronto do you enjoy? The corner of King and Bathurst (especially the Wheat Sheaf).**

**What are your favorite pastimes in the City? Attending demonstrations, pestering bureaucrats, benefit dancing and all-round rabble-rousing.**

**What would you like to change in Toronto and/or Torontonians? Curbside into safe bicycle paths, transit fares, Paul Godfrey, Queen's Park (into a real park).**

**What do you hope will remain unchanged? Nuclear weapons free zone, people-centred neighbourhoods, the Wheat Sheaf's chicken wings.**

**What do you wish for Toronto's future? An environment that doesn't make us sick, housing we can afford, politicians we can respect, streets without harassment, and a Don River we can swim in.**

**Do you have any quotable phrases or comments? You may quote and acknowledge another source. "A people united will never be defeated."**

# Toronto Clarion

The Toronto *Clarion* is an alternative newspaper committed to progressive social change. It is politically and financially independent of all political parties and groups.

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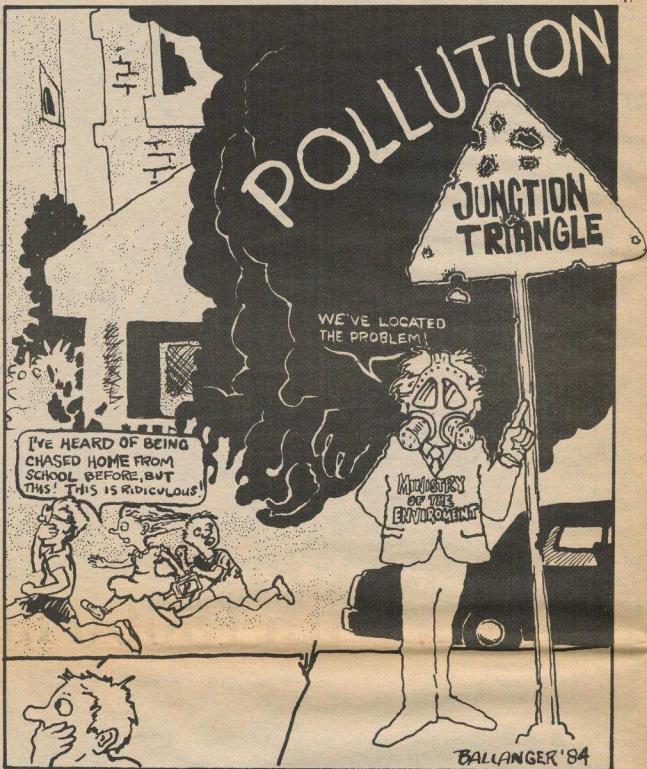
Toronto *Clarion* collective members are Pat Daley, Liz Hart, David Smiley, Don Ballanger, Mike Edwards, Dan McArán, Brian Robinson, Rhonda Sussman, Cathy Smith, Sally McBeth, Norm Rogers, Norm Mohamid, Eugene Correia, Doug McLellan, Paul Casselman, Bill Tieleman, Dan Pearce, Leslie More, Gerry Massicotte and Nigel Allen.

The following people also contributed to this issue: Hamish Wilson, Linda Kowal, Joanne Torj, James Hebbles, Lara Rogers, Heiner Pressler, Angelo Macaroni, Mike Boulter, Ross Munroe, Avelle Janczur, Maurine O'Hara, Sheldon Fischer, Greg Roberts, Alan Anderson, Yvett Gomez, Roy Kuszelewski, Glenn Towner, Fred Judson, Horrie Hayden, Kim Dawson, Jim Shadden, Sherry Shue, Al Masler and many others.

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## 36

**To the *Clarion*:**  
Enjoyed your review of "The Toronto Collection" in the *Clarion*. I think it was a fair and accurate description. Glad you liked my "Picarresque at 31". I'm now picarresque pushing 36.

Poetry Power!  
Chris Fairer

### Letters Policy

In order that everyone gets an equal chance at having their views shared, we ask that writers keep their letters to 250 words or less. We welcome all (well most) criticism and praise.

## Kudos

**To the *Clarion*:**  
You will find enclosed a money order for \$15. I find the *Clarion* provides a perspective that is provocative and informative. Therefore I've decided to subscribe for another year. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,  
Paul Szymanski  
Toronto



## Litton verdicts

**To the *Clarion*:**  
Much thanks to Lee Gold for her article "Verdicts Inconsistent at Litton peace trials" (April 1984). I was happy to see all the trial information tied together so well, although the trials themselves were separated by long periods of time and varying procedures.

I only have one comment—not a complaint, but a clarification. I was one of the five members of the Queen's Park Peace Camp affinity group who were on trial before (in)Justice Kashuba. The five people tried together were not all from the Peace Camp—Youth Camp Survival Conspiracy was represented with us. Lee also reported that one of the five, with a record for a similar offense, was fined \$300 and put on probation for two years. Actually, this was the sentence given to four of the five while the fifth person was fined \$500 with two years probation.

Four of us are in the process of appealing our verdict and sentence. Our appeal date has been set for Friday, July 6 at 2 p.m., 80 East Mall courts in Etobicoke.

Be Free  
Kenn Quayle  
Toronto

## Boycott, Boikotovsky

**To the *Clarion*:**  
I am not very educated and as my attention was caught by the glorious title block of "Captain Boycott," I was deceived to believe that this personality left a good name in history, as he was a progressive man, close to the people and his memory is so much honoured that the writer of this column took the name of "Captain Boycott" as his own pen-name like a tribute of his admiration.

Only when I lost a \$5 bet to my son I learned that in fact Captain Boycott is a cursed name and I was put to shame.

The captain in the title block of this column is confused and the reader doesn't know if the agent of Earl of Continued on page 4

# Co-ops wake up

by Alan Anderson

The co-operative housing movement in Toronto has begun to fight back—and none too soon. It has been under attack for several months.

An overflow crowd of 700 rallied to "Raise the Roof for Co-ops" at the University of Toronto Medical Science Auditorium May 22. It was not just a standing-room-only crowd. It was a sitting-in-the-aisle-room, standing-ovation-room, clapping-and-cheering-room and hissing-room crowd.

The standing ovation was for Noreen Dunphy of the Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto (CHFT). The clapping and cheering was for a statement made in defence of the co-operative housing movement.

And the hissing was for Romeo LeBlanc, federal housing minister, who was not there to hear it. LeBlanc—"the irresponsible minister," as one speaker

called him—had sent a last-minute notice that he would not attend. A seat reserved for him on the speakers' platform, with his name in front of it on the desk, remained empty throughout the meeting.

"There are 16 sitting Liberal MPs for Toronto, and Mr. LeBlanc could certainly have arranged for one of them to attend this meeting," Noreen Dunphy said. "But the minister has been avoiding us for several months now. He refuses to meet us, and he has already told us he will not be attending the co-ops' national conference in Winnipeg, either."

Co-ops have come under attack not only from private developers, who have an axe to grind, but from the federal government itself.

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) last year issued a report condemning co-op housing for failing to deliver what had been expected of it. But neither CMHC officials

nor LeBlanc were willing to meet co-op representatives to discuss the issue.

Then this spring, after months of rumour and delay, LeBlanc announced that federal financing of new co-op housing units would be reduced by 45 per cent in Canada as a whole and by 65 per cent in Toronto.

Dunphy said co-op housing has been attacked on the grounds that people living in co-ops earn enough money to pay higher rents. Meanwhile, developers have been urging

that rent controls and low-rent housing be abandoned, to be replaced by "shelter allowances."

"This is profoundly cynical, and profoundly callous," Dunphy said. "Shelter allowances will cost the public billions of dollars and they'll never get it back. It goes directly to the landlord and that's where it will stay."

"Already the private developers get \$5.8 million in home-owner grants and \$6 billion in hidden tax breaks. Co-op housing gets \$3.2 million,

Federal policies are forcing the co-op housing movement to mobilise in a hurry (file photo)



and the housing is built where it is really needed, and every cent of the loans will be repaid."

She said the income of 75 per cent of co-op housing residents puts them below the median income line. Twenty per cent are single parents with children, 11 per cent are senior citizens, and six per cent are disabled.

Bow River, Alberta, Conservative MP Gordon Taylor told the rally he thinks allocations for co-op housing should be increased and will recommend support for co-ops to his party. Dan Heap (NDP—Spadina) said the growth of co-op housing began in 1973 "when Trudeau's minority government was in desperate need of NDP support." Now, he said, co-ops have aroused fear and resentment in build-for-profit housing developers.

The rally also heard messages of support from Mayor Art Eggleton, Metro Chairman Paul Godfrey, the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, the Credit Union of Central Ontario, the Federation of Metro Tenants' Associations, the United Church of Canada and the Metro Toronto Labour Council.

Most of those present signed letters to their MPs, copies of which CHFT will send to LeBlanc. As well, at the annual meeting of the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada at the end of May, plans were made for a national protest campaign against cutbacks in co-op housing.

# Injured workers wallop Davis with 15000 names

by Ross Munroe

The Association of Injured Workers presented a petition containing 15,000 signatures in the Ontario Legislature on June 1. The four-point proposal called for changes in upcoming legislation amending the Workers Compensation Act.

"We're mad as hell and we're not going to take it," said a representative of the Hamilton office of the Association. Injured workers are upset at having to demonstrate outside the House each time a cost-of-living adjustment benefits is warranted. The petition was presented as part of a rally held outside the House protesting inequities in the Act.

Bob Rae, leader of the New Democratic Party, expressed his support for the plight of the participants. "I was on these steps demonstrating for injured workers ten years ago, and I'm back here doing it again today," Rae said. Rae called for an end to the oppression of injured workers through a more equitable distribution of benefits.

The proposals presented to the Minister of Labour are:

- No discrimination against existing injured workers in upcoming legislation
- That injured workers continue to receive their present pensions indexed to the cost of living
- Secure lifetime pensions for all injured workers with a permanent disability
- No deduction from benefits for Canada Pension benefits

"The bureaucratic scenario (of the new laws) just seems

incredible," said Marion Endicotte, of Injured Workers Consultants. "Individuals are going to be under the scrutiny of the Board for the rest of their lives. Every year the Board will make a determination of what sort of benefits you're entitled to. There's so much room for error."

Speakers also called for a review of compensation cases by doctors that are independent of the Board, and the declaration of June 1 as Injured Workers' Day. Russell Ramsey, Minister of Labour, gave his support to the June 1 commemoration although Premier Davis rejected the idea in a letter to the Workers Association. Art Eggleton, Mayor of Toronto, presented a proclamation designating the day on behalf of City Council. The action was also



taken by various other municipalities across Ontario.

Endicotte said that proposals are an attempt to reduce the arbitrary approach of the Act as well as the financial insecurity felt by many pensioners.

The 800 participants of the demonstration observed a period of silence for workers

Injured workers at Queen's Park on June 1 (Photo: Norm Mohamid)

who have died on the job. According to Don Donnelly, Board Member of the Ontario Federation of Labour, one worker dies on the job every working day.



# It's coming up roses for carwash employees

by Ross Munroe

Workers at the Ritz Total Car Care Center have won their battle against employer Rourke Henderson. The workers had been evicted after a two-day occupation of the premises, held to protest unpaid wages.

According to Stacy Richards, organizer of the action, the workers enlisted the aid of the

Stacy Richards (Photo: Paul Caselman)

landlord, who changed the locks on the building and gave the keys to them. Henderson had not paid rent for the offices for some time.

"He wasn't allowed in the place I saw to that," Richards said. "All the employees got paid (and I kept the fort going)."

Richards removed the signs that identified the carwash as the Ritz and con-

tinued to operate the business to recoup his salary. "We repainted the shop and cleaned it up," said Richards.

The carwash has been replaced by Rodeo Drive, a business that will recondition and lease cars, with a flower shop at the front of the building.

"It'll be managing," Richards told the Clarion, "and I'll be smelling the roses every morning."

Letters

From page 2

Ernie is really to be blamed for denying the wish of the tenants to set their own rent as never before or after the tenants had it this way. After all, the Captain was only an employee and not landlord.

But one should look up into an encyclopedia or other reference to learn that C.B. was in fact a ruthless, unjust, cruel and violent son-of-a-bitch.

Now, how come that a progressive writer adopts as his own pen-name a reactionary one? Have Lenin ever signed his articles with the pseudonym Rasputin or Stolypin? Would an antifascist writer use the pen-name of Horst Wessel or Mussolini? Is it proper for an anti-terrorist columnist to sign as Muamar Gadafy or Yasser Arafat?

Anyway, the column "Captain Boycott" is very boring, biased and naive and I wonder if someone beside his devoted readers (both of them) takes him seriously.

If they do, then they cannot practice the requested boycott without the aid of a portable computer to keep up with the hundreds of labels and names listed as boycottable and why. How could one remember the 120 names of artists recently listed? And how exactly should I boycott them? As for Goldie Hawn, Dolly Parton and other beautiful boycottees, would my commitment not to go over to bed with them be enough punishment for their South-African businesses?

Now, another question. There are thousands of firms and individuals dealing with South Africa, Chile or other dictatorial countries where human rights are infringed. What is the criteria used by Captain Boycott (the monkey, not the real one) to pick up the ones doomed for boycott and why the others are spared?

Do not blame CPC for selling Carling beer at that party. Molson and Labatt are not more principled, they only missed the opportunity to deal in South Africa as the business was grabbed by Carling who was faster.

Anyway, it is interesting to know if these boycotts really hurt the culprits.

Your answer would be much appreciated.

Ivan Boikotovsky

# STRIKES & LOCKOUTS

by Ynez Gomez

## Kendall

On May 7, almost 500 members of **Steelworkers Local 805** went on strike against **Kendall**, makers of hospital supplies in East York. Although wages are an issue, according to local president Nick Stefanov, the real problem is benefits. The union has 16 items they want to deal with, including collective wage studies, better incentive rates, and increased medical and vacation benefits. There has been provocation on the picket lines and the union wants the company to drop the 15 charges it laid against the strikers. The company has applied for a secret ballot vote, to be held May 31 under the auspices of the Labour Relations Board, on the contract proposal the union had rejected in their last mediated meetings.

## Viceroy Rubber and Plastics Ltd.

June 10 is the first anniversary of the lockout of members of Local 126 of the **United Rubber Workers at Viceroy**. Hearings for the union complaint that the company has been bargaining in bad faith will start June 11. See page 8 for further details on this lockout.

## Trident Automotive Products Inc.

Seventy-eight members of Local 1285 of the **United Auto Workers** have been on strike against **Trident Automotive Products** (formerly Trim Saab) in Mississauga since January 16. The company presented an offer in which the workers, currently paid \$5 an hour, would not make \$6 an hour until 1986, did not provide vacation or holiday increases and had workers bear the burden of 75 per cent of their sickness and accident plan. The workers rejected the offer by a 90 per cent vote.



by Ray Kuszelewski

It has been three years since Canada Post was changed from a government department to a Crown corporation.

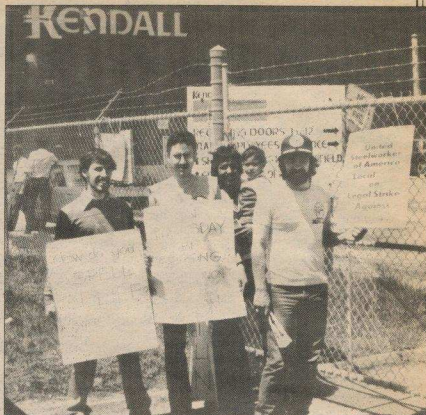
The major significance in the change is that, for the first time, the unions representing the workers will be negotiating directly with the management of the corporation. In the past negotiations were held with another branch of the government.

Management tipped its hand early through direct communications with postal employees. Sixty-two thousand employees received a glossy '82-83 Annual Report, complete with a covering letter from corporation president Michael Warren, and a booklet entitled *We're Moving Ahead: Information You Can Use to Answer Questions People Ask About Canada Post*.

Calling the workers "partners in our success," the material puts forward increased productivity, a streamlined workforce, less absenteeism and "more effective management" as priorities for negotiations. These demands are made in the name of cost-efficiency, the driving force of private enterprise.

Management's point is simple: the organization has begun to function according to the expectations of the private sector. In order to maintain and improve the drive for corporate efficiency, the workers must accept their methods of operation.

May 14-20 was Employee's Week, according to management. The logo of a white dove with four-coloured wings was promi-



## Thorn Press

The lithographers of Local 500 of the **Graphic Communications International Union** are still on strike against **Thorn Press** in Don Mills. They have been out since January 4. The two sides have met again in mediation but no further talks have been slated. There are still four or five pickets, according to Allan Wheatcroft. The rest have found other jobs. The company is operating with scab labour.

## Certified Brakes

The 700 members of Local 14831 of the **Steelworkers Union** ratified a contract with **Certified Brakes** in Mississauga on May 18. The workers were scheduled to start returning to work May 22. The new contract includes a wage increase of 65¢ an hour over three years and no improvements in benefits. Another Steelworker strike is ongoing against **Midas Mufflers** in Agincourt. The 207 members of Local 6727 have been out since May 1. There have been four meetings with mediators and the two sides are still talking.

nently displayed on flags and posters. I received two coloured balloons with a logo on them, but I had to lift a sheet of stickers because, "We're not just giving them out to anyone."

While the employees get toys, the move toward higher productivity is underway. Time-motion studies are flourishing with the purpose of increasing workloads. The Letter Carriers Union of Canada (LCUC) has agreed to the studies in exchange for a promise of no layoffs. On the shop floor, however, management is more heavy-handed in its approach.

According to a recent directive, uniform regulations will be enforced strictly. Workers must provide black shoes to match the blue serge clothing supplied by the corporation. Usually the guidelines are applied with some discretion — a practical approach to a situation where some drivers wear work boots while letter carriers may wear lighter footwear.

Mr. E. Thompson, a highly-placed transportation supervisor who has a taste for loud orange-brown polyester suits and matching ties that are wide enough to be used for traffic markers, is not inclined to be so lenient. He walked up to me the other day and said, "I don't know you, but those brown shoes are unacceptable." This is moving ahead? The booklet does not address this aspect of efficiency — control over the most basic human factors: attitude, self-confidence and appearance are left to management without challenge.

It is unlikely that this incident will become a matter for arbitration. But it does provoke a reaction in me, the consequences of which might lead to a disciplinary action being taken against me, for which I will have no remedy.

The LCUC is in a peculiar position in negotiating the collective agreement. Robert McGarry, the National President, has said the membership should prepare for a strike in the fall.

Early in May, McGarry announced he has accepted a position on the corporation's board of directors. He said the move would usher in a new era of bargaining in the Canada Post. Now that Mr. McGarry (or is it still 'Brother?') will be sitting with a host of prominent business directors, he may well find himself "moving ahead" of his membership in accepting the proposals of the new Canada Post Corporation.

The issue is further complicated by very recent developments within the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC), which serve to highlight McGarry's conservatism.

When CLC executive board member Jean-Claude Parrot (best known as president of the Canadian Postal Workers) accused CLC President Dennis McDermott of abandoning CLC principals, the executive board slate, headed by McDermott, chose Robert McGarry to challenge and unseat him at the CLC convention in Montreal.

At this crucial juncture, the president of the LCUC has joined management's team, as well as opposing a natural ally in the trade union movement.

The next time Ernie Thompson tells me my shoes are the wrong colour I may have to go out and buy another pair.

## Toronto Board of Education 1984 Summer Activities

The Toronto Board of Education is offering a number of activities for elementary, secondary and adult students. The activities include both credit and non-credit interest courses.

**Most courses will begin July 3, 1984.**

Additional information and a brochure outlining what is being offered may be obtained by telephoning the Central Information Number 591-8149

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# Funding cut dooms mental health mag

by Cathy Smith

"The voice of the psychiatricized" is in danger of being silenced. *Phoenix Rising*, a magazine dedicated to exposing the abuses of the mental health system, has reached the end of its three year grant from Health and Welfare Canada.

Since the grant ended in March the collective has been struggling to keep the publication alive. According to collective member Bonnie Burstow, there are now no paid staff and the publication's only revenue is from advertising and subscriptions. The

grant paid for everything not covered by advertising and subscriptions.

Burstow said the grant from the health promotion directorate was "terminal" in nature and that no extensions were possible. "We were expected to be self-sufficient at the end of the three year grant," she said, "but this was not a plausible objective."

Burstow explained that the quarterly magazine is very expensive to produce and that revenue from subscriptions is low because of the service nature of *Phoenix Rising*. "Many of our readers are

institutionalized and received the magazine free of charge."

Given these characteristics, says Burstow, "it would be impossible for *Phoenix Rising* to be self-financing."

The collective has also discussed the possibility of changing format so that production costs would be lower. "But the wisdom that has been handed down here is that you can't downsize a publication," said Burstow.

Susan Horley, another member of the *Phoenix Rising* collective, says the original grant proposal was "a trifle unrealistic. We didn't take the



Four of the nine editorial collective members at *Phoenix Rising* (Photo: David Smiley)

economic situation into consideration. We also didn't take into consideration that most Canadian periodicals don't become self-sufficient in four years."

The ministry cannot continue to support the magazine financially, says Lucho Carillo, programs officer for the

health promotion directorate. "The maximum grant is for three years. In their proposal they said they could become self-sufficient. The bottom line is still three years."

Horley and Burstow said the collective has been looking for alternative funding sources for over a year but have not found any. The collective has also explored the possibility of getting other grants, but, says Horley, "we don't fit into most criteria."

Says Burstow: "We are looking for a single major funder or a group of funders. We have found people to finance two special interest issues — one on women and one on the legal system."

"There is no certainty of publishing beyond these two issues."

*Phoenix Rising* urgently needs two things: donations to help defray costs of the next (summer) issue and fundraising expertise. If you can help in either of these areas, call the *Phoenix Rising* office at 699-3194.

# Women's drop-in centre provides needed support

by Glen Towner

Between the old Victorian row houses and the trendy design studios of the Parliament/Dundas Street area, there is a house known to its patrons simply as 'the 416.'

The 416 is a day drop-in centre for transient women, otherwise known as shopping bag ladies.

"These homeless women have nowhere to go during the day except the streets," says Joy Reid, director of the centre. "This house provides a refuge, a sanctuary where these people may come."

The drop-in centre provides

essential human services to its clients free of charge. Toothpaste, deodorant, laundry facilities, second-hand garments and private shower stalls with soap are available. There is a large kitchen, and a crafts room.

"We wanted to do something to help these people, to give them a place where they might be comfortable (and) help to restore their dignity as human beings," Reid said. "Here they can have privacy and peace, something every human needs."

Madelaine McDowell, a co-founder of the 416, described

the plight of the homeless women. "They don't even have any privacy. These women came from normal homes, with a husband and children. Many have forgotten their domesticity, dignity and civility. Here they have the opportunity to find (them) again."

The centre also shields the women from the prying eyes of the community. Says Reid, "We must guarantee their anonymity. This is their sanctuary."

The drop-in centre has four full-time paid staff, two part-time and three volunteers. It is managed by a directorate

of business and professional people.

Funding is provided by all three levels of government, and privately through individual donations. "We are definitely on a shoestring budget," said Reid. The 416 would appreciate donations such as knitting needles, wool and a sewing machine.

As this reporter was leaving the 416, an elderly woman came in singing "Oh no, you can't take that away from me." If she was singing to summon her self-respect, she had obviously come to the right place.



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# Protestors say spy force not needed

by David Smiley

With masks over their faces to avoid positive identification by the police, a crowd of sixty people marched on R.C.M.P. headquarters in protest against the security Bill C-9.

The rally and protest march from Allen Gardens was organized by the Counter-Surveillance Information Service, which shares its acronym C.S.I.S. with the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, the organization that the federal government's bill would create.

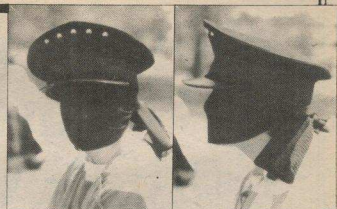
Bill C-9 would remove information-gathering (intelligence) duties from the R.C.M.P. to the new security organization and legalize previously illegal activities. It would become legal to spy, investigate and keep files on anyone just so the organization could "remain informed about the political, economic and social environment in Canada."

At the rally a forty page booklet containing articles

and newspaper clippings was introduced. It explained the opposition to Bill C-9 on both a theoretical and practical basis. For example, Canadians are already under more intense surveillance than Americans. In the 1982 Canadian Solicitor-General's Annual Report, 725 buggings were authorized (none requested were refused) for an average length of 71.93 days. In the U.S.A., with a population ten times larger, only 578 surveillance applications were made (all accepted as in Canada) for an average length of 26 days.

Two weeks prior, a group of 25 demonstrators, wearing masks, joined a walking tour of Harbourfront led by Solicitor-General Robert Kaplan. One demonstrator, Brian Burch, was threatened with assault while photographing police.

For further information copies of the Counter-surveillance Information Service booklet are available from Ken Deyarmond, 967-5822, or P.O. Box 6326, Station A, Toronto, Ontario M5W 1P7



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**150 YEARS OF PEOPLE'S HISTORY**

**Co-op housing makes history**

by Cathy Smith

No look at our history of Toronto would be complete without a glance at the co-operative housing movement. And no glance at the co-operative housing movement in Toronto would make sense without an overview of the Canadian scene.

There was little in the way of co-operative housing in Canada before 1968. The Campus Co-op at the University of Toronto, established in the 1930s, holds the distinction of being the oldest housing co-op in Canada. There was another student housing co-op set up in the 1940s in Kingston but all was quiet again until 1964, when a family co-op was founded in Winnipeg.

But it wasn't until 1968, when a joint labour-co-op committee established the Co-operative Housing Foundation of Canada (CHF), that the movement really got underway. Sponsored by the Canadian Labour Congress, the Co-operative Union of Canada and the Canadian Union Students, this national initiative set the stage for today's co-op housing movement.

"There was a need for alternative housing for those who couldn't afford ownership," says Alexandra Wilson, managing director of the Co-

operative Housing Federation of Toronto. "People in the student and family co-op sectors came together to form a movement."

The purpose of the CHF, says Wilson, "was to promote the idea of co-op housing to the public, lobby the government to introduce measures to facilitate the development of co-op housing and to set up regional resource groups to help spread the movement throughout the country."

The CHF soon established itself as the voice of the co-op housing movement in Canada and was able to persuade the federal government to use part of its \$200 million Innovative Fund to help establish co-operative housing in Canada. Thanks to that lobbying effort, eight new co-ops were established in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

In 1973, the CHF convinced the federal government to provide 100 per cent mortgage financing. And in 1974 the Ontario government set up a program which provided grants to the co-op sector. These two developments made housing co-ops much more financially feasible, although inflation meant that there was little real growth in the mid-70s.

A 1978 proposal by the Canada Mortgage and Hous-

ing Commission (CMHC) to amend its structure for funding co-op housing brought the CHF back to the government negotiating table. The proposal would have placed co-op administration in the hands of the provinces.

"This was an unworkable plan," says Wilson. "It would have had dire consequences on the movement."

The plan was scuttled, thanks to negotiations between CHF and Andre Oullette, then minister of urban affairs and responsible for the CMHC. Together they established a new federal co-op program which does not rely on provincial government approval.

The late 1970s saw a tremendous growth of co-op housing projects and resource groups. The first housing co-op in Toronto was Alexandra Park, established in 1973. The Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto, one of a number of Toronto resource groups, was set up in 1974. There are currently 750 housing co-ops in Canada, with a total of 30,000 units. In Toronto there are 80 co-ops, for a total of 6,000 units.

According to Wilson, the co-op sector has come under fire because it has political clout. The CMHC released a report in 1983 which was critical of co-ops, and dishonest in the opinion of people active in the co-op movement, said Wilson. The Canadian Home Builders Association has also recently attacked the co-op movement because, says Wilson, that group sees co-op housing as a threat to private ownership.

Bryne Teall, executive member of the Federation of Metro Tenants' Associations, calls co-op conversion a logical next step for well-organized tenants.

"In a really strong tenants association the logical conclusion is often 'why don't we run it ourselves'."

However, there is often a great deal of misunderstanding of the role of the co-op, says Teall, and initially people are often fearful about such things as who will administer the project and who will do the cleaning.

And it's often an uphill battle to convert existing build-

ing government-owned housing to co-op. It took four years for Bain Co-op to convert but the tenants' and co-op activists seem to agree that it was worth the effort.

"A co-op is a long-term solution to the adversarial relationship with a landlord," says Wilson.

Teall adds, "The Federation of Metro Tenants see co-op conversion as the preferable solution."



Boy, do I feel silly. Last month in this column, it was asserted that the new Labatts Blue bottle design was American in origin. Not so, as I was quite derisively informed. Actually, it's much closer to the old Canadian bottle (which is still not an "innovation", as Labatts claims) than any U.S. design.

Hopefully, this is the last thing I'll have to say about beer for a while.

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The spring '84 issue of the *Ryerson Rambler* (an alumni rag for Ryerson grads) has a cute little article I'm sure you'll appreciate. Horribly written by Stephen Weir (Ryerson journalism, '75), it deals with a "challenge" issued by the employees of Kendall Canada, Ltd. Seems Kendall employs eight Ryerson grads, and they wanted to know if any other company could match that record.

Well, our old friend Litton Systems to the rescue. An employee there managed to round up 37 Ryersonians for a photo session. The *Rambler* dutifully reported this hallmark achievement, complete with photo.

Post-secondary education is a wonderful thing.

\*\*\*\*

Meanwhile, in my vacation spot in beautiful Lynden, Washington, I read (in the *Lynden Tribune*) that more than a million acres in the state of Washington have been declared by an act of the Senate to be a "wilderness area". This includes over 100,000 acres which will be known as the "Henry M. Jackson Wilderness Area."

Says Senator Dan Evans (R-Wash.), "This is a red-letter day ... for the cause of wilderness throughout the United States."

Meanwhile, and to my mind more appropriate to the memory of the notoriously missile-minded Henry Jackson, the Reagan administration continues its planning for a number of wilderness areas (of a different type, mind you) for the Third World.

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# Running for the revolution

By Fred Judson

The sport of running is alive and well in revolutionary Nicaragua. The army and militia members in training run for conditioning, of course, but there is a growing number of citizens who run for recreation—and for the revolution.

In the time of the Somoza dictatorship, few people were seen running. During the fighting of 1978-79, no one dared—it was an invitation for the National Guard to shoot. A few of the more daring souls in the Sandinista movement, who happened to be upper-middle class young women, would go out running in Managua, ostensibly for fitness but in fact to carry messages.

But even now running in Nicaragua is not like the North American fitness boom. According to Ramon Lozano, a member of the National Athletics Commission of the Nicaraguan Sports Institute, people are taking up running as one of the many forms of popular participation in revolutionary life which sprang up after the July 19, 1979 victory of the Sandinista Liberation Front over the Somoza dictatorship.

"It's a matter of consciousness, as well as physical conditioning," he said in an interview in Managua last July. Running is seen by most as a political act, a statement of commitment to the revolution and to a new national concern with health. It is a personal statement of preparedness.

The "Repliegue" run is the best-known in the country. Every year since 1979, tens of thousands of people have recreated the original march along the same route, walking all night and arriving thirsty and tired but jubilant. And every year, in the morning, there is a foot race which joins the marchers at the end of their trek.

It has drawn runners from Cuba, Costa Rica and Panama in past years—runners capable of finishing in under two hours. But the majority of those who enter do so for conditioning and symbolic reasons. It is first and foremost an anti-imperialist and revolutionary run rather than a race. Though my own conditioning was not what it should have been, as an amateur I resolved to join the "Repliegue," as did a number of internationalists living, working or travelling in Nicaragua.

It begins in Managua at the Sacred Family Catholic Church, the command post of the Sandinista "Internal Front" during the 1979 insurrection. The race finishes in Masaya at the Salesian Centre, a large Catholic secondary school set in the middle of Monimbo, a neighbourhood inhabited by descendants of Nicaragua's Indian population. The Salesian Centre, still heavily pockmarked by bullets from the 1979 fighting, had served as the arrival point for the original strategic withdrawal. It is exactly 30 kilometres between the two institutions.

The first thing runners had to do was register in person at the offices of the Nicaraguan Sports Institute. There, a team of young doctors and medical students checked the runners' medical records, pulse, hearts and lungs. We were given shirts and numbers.

Among the 570 registered runners were 10 internationalists, including one US citizen, half a dozen Europeans, and two Costa Ricans of international class. The Cuban contingent was not able to arrive, a disappointment to the organisers, since one Cuban runner had won all three previous races. There were about 50 young women, most of whom ran in the 15-kilometer sprint, though one completed the 30-kilometers and placed 13th.

The organizers had arranged for some 200 runners to sleep in the auditorium-like Sacred Family Church.

Queen's University Political Studies professor Fred Judson joined in the 4th Annual "Repliegue" 30 Kilometre Road Race while in Nicaragua last summer. The annual race commemorates the "repliegue" or "strategic withdrawal" of Sandinista fighters and civilians from Managua during the June 1979 fighting. Under indiscriminate mortar, tank and artillery fire against the population districts by Somoza's National Guard, some 6,000 fighters and civilians walked 30 kilometres south to Masaya, a city securely under their control. They then regrouped and prepared for the final battles against the dictatorship.

Nicaragua is hot and humid in June and by 9 a.m. it can reach 35-40°C easily. When I arrived at 5:20 a.m., the runners were just stirring. The majority were young people, from 15 and younger to their early 20s.

The runners were all friendly, happy to see a foreigner run with them and to explain how they felt about the "Repliegue." One talked of "showing that Nicaragua is active and awake, that we won't allow the imperialists to think otherwise." A young man from Panama said he had taken the long bus ride to join the run as an act of solidarity with the Nicaraguan revolution. A young reservist, recently mobilized, said, "We are running so that we can feel as the original participants felt."

By 6:15 there were hundreds of runners in the church yard, working out, stretching, drinking cans of fruit juice supplied by the organizers. People came as individuals, as militia members, as groups from Sandinista Youth organizations, from neighbourhood Sandinista Defense Committees, as members of athletic clubs, from

that Nicaraguans had used to make barricades in the fighting. People lined the streets and encouraged the runners. Young barefoot and sandaled boys ran along for a kilometre or so. The leaders were gone like a shot, the battle between the eventual winner, Nicaraguan William Aguirre, and one of the Costa Rican runners lasting for half the race.

After four or five kilometers the runners were stretched out at least one kilometer. We arrived at the main highway and began a series of ever-longer climbs which probably amounted to a total of three or four hundred meters in elevation over the first 15 kilometers. Most of the runners went along fairly well for the first 10 kilometers, but after 20-30 minutes a number of people were already jogging. Most continued and would jog a while, walk a while.

I ran with one young man for just under an hour at what seemed to be a four-minute-per-kilometer pace until around kilometer 15 or 16. But then I had to drop back because of the long

a fog of exhaustion, the announcer saying into his microphone, "And now we are passing another internationalist runner." The crew waved and shouted encouragement. Other runners, and some now walkers, encouraged each other when they passed: "Vamos a ligar," they said, "We're going to make it."

But around kilometer 26, entering Masaya, my consciousness started to alter and I wondered if indeed I would be among them. Light-headedness, a sense of unreality, a scalp that felt severely sun-burned even under a cap, the brightness of the sun, made me, like many others, slow to a walk. There was an increase in the number of people stretched out in the beds of the pick-up trucks going by.

I had been to Masaya before but it seemed I was getting no closer to the city centre. Finally I sat down on a curb, having nearly stumbled into some of those who were slowly walking around town after their 30-kilometer march the night before. Masaya was filled with thousands of them. As I sat there wondering what passing out was going to be like, a resident asked me if I was all right and offered me a glass of water. When I drank half and poured the rest over me, he went into the house and came back with a bucket. "Echame," I said, and he did, splashed the whole bucket head to foot. It was an amazing rebirth. I stood up and joined four other runners who were slowly jogging along. People said, "You're just about there" and we picked up the pace to a run, entering the Monimbo neighbourhood. There was a 500-meter stretch.

In an unspoken agreement, we accelerated together, five abreast. Shouting "Viva Nicaragua Libre," we finished together in three hours.

The finish line was in the street in front of the battle-scarred Salesian Centre. Residents and marchers and runners were milling about in the fierce late-morning sun. A young man from the medical station came up and said, "Why not come in and lie down for a bit?" They gave me some fruit juice, checked my pulse, rubbed down the legs (by now they did indeed seem to be "the" legs, as opposed to "my" legs) and pronounced me fit. I went out into the street to greet and be greeted by other runners.

William Aguirre finished in one hour, 54 minutes—two minutes behind the winning time the year before. There were winners in the juvenile, open, masters and women's categories, with enthusiastic applause for all under a banner with the words, "For the smiles and happiness of the children, all arms to the people!"

Some days later I interviewed Ramon Lozano, one of the co-ordinators of the "Repliegue." He told me that 535 people had run, though only 248 arrived at the finish line. Two people had passed out and three had arrived in "bad shape." Quite a few had been picked up by the highway crews, but the Nicaraguan Sports Institute regarded it as successful. More people had run than the year before and the organization had been efficient.

It was a unique privilege to join Nicaraguans in their annual anti-imperialist "Repliegue." The spirit and intentions of the runners is something we in North America only rarely feel. The two closest things of which I am aware are the Terry Fox runs, a benefit for cancer research, and some participants in the Montreal Marathon who run to raise money for the revolutionary movement in El Salvador. It might not be a bad idea to have solidarity runs in North America. But in the meantime, compañero Ramon Lozano sends this message: "Bring some Canadian runners to Managua next year."

**The national anthem was sung, the gun sounded, and the runners were off, shouting "Viva Nicaragua Libre."**

high schools. Some came as people who had been in the original march; others had been fighters. One young man had lost an arm in the war.

The runners ranged from top competitors outfitted with the latest New Balance shoes to 12- and 14-year-olds wearing the cheapest possible "Taiwan wonders." Some people even came in combat boots or sandals. Most, however, had some reasonable kind of footwear.

After announcements and a speech by Commandante Walter Faretto, head of the National Police and a man involved as a Sandinista fighter in organizing the original "Repliegue," the crowd of runners broke into political chants: "Free country or die." "We shall overcome." "They (ex-Somoza Guards) shall not pass." The national anthem was sung, the gun sounded, and the runners were off, shouting "Viva Nicaragua Libre."

The race wound through the southeast district of Managua, climbing gradually toward the line of verdant hills to the south along streets paved with the distinctive concrete blocks



climbs with short downhill, the heat and humidity, and my lack of regular training. After the hills, around 8:30, I arrived at the "piedra quebrada" or "broken stone" area, a region of lava flow near Volcano Santiago National Park, where people had been strafed four years before. It was open, rocky and hot, with heat waves shimmering. Around kilometer 22, two hours into the run, I had pretty well exhausted my limited energies and had to walk a few times to recoup some energy.

The geography encouraged me. The road sloped downwards, the view eastwards across the two huge lakes, Lake Managua and Lake Nicaragua, towards the central mountains, opened up, and the road passed near beautiful Lake Masaya. I could see the colonial towers of Masaya south of the lake and the old fortress outside of town where US troops had been stationed from 1912-1925 during their occupation of the country.

As I ran down the two-kilometer slope, a TV-Sandino truck with a camera crew went by. I heard, through

# Viceroy workers strike despite year

by Ynez Gomez and Gerry Massicotte

On June 10, 1983, owner Ron Bruhm and his lawyer, Liberal MPP (Yorkview) Mike Spensieri, handed 123 employees of Viceroy Rubber and Plastics Ltd. notification that they were locked out. One year of \$35-a-week living later, an amazingly strong group of 60 people still maintain this mostly forgotten picket line. Of the other workers, not one has crossed over to join the scab labour employed by Bruhm. All have preferred working at other jobs over breaking with their fellow workers.

The workers say the year of sporadic negotiations has produced not only an entrenchment of the company's bargaining position but also increased demands for concessions.

The union negotiators and the locked-out workers have reluctantly made concessions in an effort to resolve the conflict, only to be confronted with new demands—ones that would mean the elimination of the union. The company proposes to immediately exempt all employees, except for five or six full-time workers, from union membership. The company also wants to see all grievance procedures suspended for two years, a demand which contravenes the Ontario Labour Relations Act.

## 40 years of peaceful negotiations

The Viceroy workers have been members of the United Rubber Workers (URW). Local 126, since 1937. No strike or lockout has marred 40 years of peaceful contract negotiations. Sixty-eight workers have been with the company, which makes pucks for the National Hockey League, balls, jar rings, rubber bands, and milk and soft drink cases, for 10 to 44 years. In 1981, the Jefferies family, owners since the company's founding in 1912, sold Viceroy to the investment group of Lowry and Karriga. The next year, the company went into receivership with the rest of the Lowry and Karriga group and re-emerged in November 1982 under Ron Bruhm.

Almost immediately, workers were given notice of Bruhm's management

style. With the Christmas cheques for their two floating holidays, said local president Gerry MacKenzie, "was a note stating that he (Bruhm) didn't feel the two floaters were right, but that since it was in the contract, he paid it."

In the contract set to expire at the end of April, 1983, wages ranged from \$6 to \$10 an hour depending on individual production and job classification—averaging about \$7.54. Len Bruder, URW's Canadian director, said that compared with other Rubberworker contracts, Local 126's was "lower than most, but better than a few." When negotiations started in February 1983, the local sought to improve upon its contract.

But Bruhm, who also owns the non-unionized Allied Plastics, wanted concessions. He proposed taking away the two floating holidays and wanted greater company freedom to use part-time and temporary workers. He also proposed putting all workers on rotating five-day shifts without weekend overtime pay, saying, "I strongly believe that under our constitution, anyone whose sabbath falls on a day other than Sunday should be allowed the choice of choosing his or her days of work...amazingly enough, the granting of these human rights would have had a double purpose. It would prove us more human and made our company profitable at the same time." The workers, whose human rights Bruhm zealously championed, held a shop floor vote on the issue. It was rejected unanimously, says MacKenzie.

Bruhm also said "the salaries were too high to be competitive," claiming other companies paid as little as \$4 an hour. Viceroy, however, seemed to be able to hold its own. The local had participated in a federal work-sharing program, but it was cancelled soon after Bruhm took over because the members were not using it enough. MacKenzie and others could recall using only two days of benefits from this program.

Although the union offered to extend the existing contract for a year, no agreement was reached by the time it expired and workers continued under the terms of the old contract. At a May 20 meeting, the company submitted essentially the same proposal the union had rejected all along. Shortly after, the local voted 97 per cent in favour of striking on Saturday, June 11.

## The lockout begins

But on Friday, June 10 at 3 p.m., Bruhm personally notified each worker that if they were found on the premises after 3:30 they would be charged with trespassing. That started the lockout. Some workers say that Bruhm's lawyer, Liberal MPP Spensieri, personally handed them their notice. Spensieri denies this, saying he "was just on hand to supervise" in his capacity as counsel for Bruhm.

In a recent conversation with the *Clarion* Bruhm said the cause of the lockout was "excessive damage to the equipment." He admitted no charges were laid, but said "we have suspicions." Spensieri told the *Clarion* that when a "union is in a lawful position to strike...as is customary, operators of very expensive equipment started taking pieces of essential pieces of equipment and causing destruction in the actual machinery and equipment. So naturally the employer felt some compulsion to take protective steps."



Neither explained why the company waited until the last minute before locking out the union.

The lockout notice itself, signed by Bruhm, cites "a failure to reach a collective agreement" and "the decision of the corporation to...proceed to the orderly liquidation of its assets." The next day, the *Toronto Star* reported that Bruhm said the company had gone into liquidation. Based on that, the union made a claim for termination and severance pay with the Employment Standards Branch. They would have to wait until October for a decision.

In the ensuing days, workers showed up for mass picketing while the company took stockpiled goods out. Two weeks later, Viceroy started using scab labour. On June 30, the company obtained an injunction against all picketing, which the union appealed. On August 4, the court allowed 15 pickets.

Police were called to picket line incidents and, although they did not initiate any charges, a total of 11 were laid within the year, mostly by two Viceroy employees: ex-Burns security guard Jeff Earl, now a foreman in the plant; and Norm Sutcliffe, an independent contractor operating Sutt's Driving Service. Eight charges were dismissed or withdrawn from the court, one resulted in a conditional discharge, and the other two are still pending, according to union lawyer Lewis Gotthel.

Gotthel said only four people were

charged with all 11 counts. Gerry MacKenzie seemed a particular target. Said Bruhm: "The union is out if MacKenzie is in," according to pickets Budhran Ramdial and Herman Asgari. Joyce Bright and Linda Williams say they heard Bruhm say, "Get rid of Gerry and they'll (the union) fall apart."

MacKenzie, who was arrested three times, said it is very hard on his family when he has to call his wife at work to pick up their two kids because he's in jail. One Sunday he was picked up at home in front of his family and neighbours.

Picket Martin Theader said that in mid-April of this year Bruhm told him "They shouldn't have a union. Then everybody can come back." Ramdial summed up the feelings of the workers when he said, "The government is not for little guys...we can't picket properly, and the company is allowed to operate during the lockout...the courts and police are used to protect the boss."

The union and the company met in mid-August for further negotiations, with Bruhm introducing Frank Alcock as a prospective buyer for part of the Viceroy operations. Alone and also with Bruhm, Alcock tried to determine what the union was prepared to settle for in the event of a sale. However, the union soon discovered Alcock's name in a list of laid-off salaried Viceroy employees, and felt he was used by Bruhm to get more concessions.





# stand firm year-long lockout

## Part-time work offered

During these negotiations, the company proposed reinstating only five or six full-time positions, with the rest returning to work as part-timers or temporaries. Bruhm also wanted to eliminate seniority rights and grievance procedures during recall, and to reduce vacation time and entitlements for workers with more than five years' service. The company proposals would also let any buyer of part of Viceroy open up the contract and split off and relocate, all without union interference. The union found the proposals unacceptable.

Another round of negotiations took place at the end of September and beginning of October, this time with provincial mediator Dennis Nelson. In a September letter to the union authorizing Spensieri to negotiate and sign on his behalf, Bruhm said, "It would go without saying that what has happened in recent months necessitates even more concessions in order to make the company profitable."

The company reiterated all previous demands, adding that the workers returning as part-time or temporary help should be paid \$1.00 above minimum wage. By this time the union had conceded the seven-day work week and the deletion of two floating holidays, and had agreed in principle with controlled use of part-time and temporary workers and a six per cent wage increase over three years. Another meeting was scheduled for October 17 when Bruhm himself could attend.

On October 15, the Provincial Employment Standards Branch agreed with a union petition that the lockout was a closure, and ordered the company to pay close to \$1.2 million for holiday, termination and severance pay to all 147 employees, including those on salary.

Vic Cosic, URW international rep, felt some movement and compromise had been achieved with Bruhm's lawyers. But when Bruhm returned, he reneged on the proposals and went back to his already rejected August demands. No further bargaining happened until early 1984.

While appealing the severance and termination pay order, Viceroy did issue the vacation pay on December 23. But the company demanded the workers sign a form waiving entitlement to termination and severance pay to get their vacation money, said Cosic. The union rejected the waivers

twice before Viceroy backed down.

On February 29 this year, Bruhm and his son showed up at mediation with a complete contract proposal labelled "for discussion purposes only." According to both Cosic and MacKenzie, Bruhm immediately said he was not willing to change a dot in it. Bruhm wanted further concessions: a union recognition clause exempting "all hourly persons not wishing to belong to the union," and "all members of the union who in order to be called back to work wish to take a position as part-time, temporary, or lesser qualified job," extending the probation period from 45 to 180 days with no union dues payable; suspending "all seniority, bumping and grievance procedures...in the first two years of this agreement" and giving the company sole jurisdiction over the number, use and pay for part-time and temporary workers.

MacKenzie showed the Clarion Bruhm's wage proposals, which ranged from \$3.85 - \$4.20 an hour to a maximum (contingent upon a production quota of 140 per cent) of \$8.40 over three years, MacKenzie said he'd be making less money than he made in 1983.

As well, Bruhm's proposed accidental death and dismemberment clause

John Karulis. When told of Bruhm's suggestion that the scabs have taken the company out of receivership and that "50 people are producing almost as much as 100 people did before," Bright snorted in disgust. "I saw one of those workers making balls. How can she have produced more, making one ball at a time, than the girl that was there before, who made four balls at a time?"

The Clarion asked many of the workers how productive they were at Viceroy. As is usual with most piece-work production, they said, in order to earn the higher rates they would have to better the company standard. All of the workers said they were producing 10 to 14 hours worth of goods in an eight-hour shift. This amounts to an average of 20 to 70 per cent over quota.

For the last 12 months, the picketers have been living on \$35 strike pay a week, with the international union picking up life insurance payments and major medical expenses as well as all legal costs arising from picket line incidents. Some much-appreciated money came from other Rubber-worker locals and a Communications Workers of Canada local. Two appeals by the Ontario Federation of Labour did not raise much money.

**"I don't want this guy to take away everything we worked hard for. We weren't overpaid to begin with...he's a very unfair man"**

would allow only two claims a year of up to \$10,000 from union members. MacKenzie said, "It's really tough luck if you're the third (casualty)."

After five minutes of consultation, the union walked out. There have been no talks since then.

When the Clarion asked Bruhm about the lockout and how to resolve the impasse, he said he "can't come to an agreement when being blackmailed (by the strike)." He suggested the union should wash its hands of its members because they are blackmailing the company by striking for a contract and that "these are irrational people because they would have settled, or rather not gone out on strike. They are radical because they have been criminally charged on the picket line."

When asked about the impasse, Spensieri said because the company has "been told that it is a plant closure (by Employment Standards)...it is not in a position to go out and be seen as extensively bargaining." He added that "his (Bruhm's) only concern right now is to prove to Employment Standards that...I'm not closed down, that my books show that I'm doing better than ever". Spensieri also said the scabs "have to be there to disprove the government's notion that there is a closure."

## Scab labour resented

The locked-out workers, on the other hand, resent the presence of the scabs in the plant while they are out on the line. "The scabs are taking our jobs and it is boiling my heart," said

There has been no community solidarity although picket Elmer MacDonald reports that his neighbours have not complained about their picket line. And local treasurer, Linda Williams, said they have received two gifts of money from sympathetic passers-by.

About half the original members have found other jobs and a few have quit altogether. Others have had trouble finding jobs, and cannot claim unemployment or welfare benefits because they are still involved in a labour dispute. Only a few of the 60 or so members who remain on the picket line have some sort of temporary income.

## Too old to find another job

A hard reality for senior workers is their age. Joyce Bright, 55, has been working for Viceroy for 34 years. She feels she's too old to find another job. John Karulis, 58, with 30 years seniority, has looked for jobs but age has been the main obstacle in landing one.

"You spend all your life at this company, building it, making it," says Budhran Ramdial. "You live there. You go at 7 in the morning, and go home at 4. You just go home to sleep and have a meal. And all of a sudden you have this gentleman out of nowhere telling you to come out of there. I don't need you any more. After 40 years (of age) nobody wants to employ you. They feel they can't get anything out of you."

At the other end, 22-year old Robert Overland, a Viceroy worker since he was 17, finds himself among the large number of unemployed youth. Like



Photos of locked out United Rubber Workers, Local 126, by Norm Mohamid and Ynez Gomez

many younger workers, Overland quit school for a steady job at what was considered a good place to work, where you got to know everybody and generally had a good work experience, "even though the pay wasn't great." Now he finds it hard to keep looking for work and feels he is "getting lazy...when I have nothing to look forward to every day."

Every one of the remaining workers has their own personal story of struggle caused by this 12-month lockout.

## Shabby treatment, union loyalty create bond

One noticeable factor which contributes to the strong bond within the group is the unanimous feeling that Bruhm is being unfair to them. "He only wants five or six union people. He'll call back only who he wants," says MacKenzie. Ramdial feels "he (Bruhm) just wants cheap labour. He wants me to work for much less."

Elmer MacDonald, who has worked at Viceroy for three years, is one of many who expressed resentment at the shabby treatment being meted out to the more senior employees because it's harder for them to find jobs and they have the most to lose. Says Mary Haas, with 33 years seniority, "If you don't have seniority, what have you got?"

Linda Williams, at Viceroy for 12 years, says, "I don't want this guy to take away everything we worked hard for. We weren't overpaid to begin with...he's a very unfair man."

Another strong bond is their loyalty to their union. Gemma Badal says, "without the union, there is no way anybody would get anywhere." "Why did he buy the company if he didn't want the union?" asks Martin Thederan. And MacDonald adds, "Ten months of experience (with Bruhm) has shown the necessity of a union."

On June 10, the workers of Local 126 will have been on the picket line for one full year. They will finally get their day in court June 11 when the Labour Relations Board will hear the complaint that their employer, Viceroy Rubber and Plastics Ltd., has been bargaining in bad faith.



# Story lashes out at 'censorship'

by Eugene Correia

Jane Story's exhibition at the Hart House is hanging fire.

The exhibition opened at the Barmickie Gallery on May 31 amid a controversy regarding the captions that were to go along with the photos. Titled "Palestinian Profile," it is a collection of her photographs taken in the Palestinian refugee camps on the Israeli side of the West Bank where she spent two years.

There was much haggling between Story and Hart House authorities over the captions that were to accompany the photographs. Story, however, conceded to the authorities' demand to have the captions altered. But she feels bitter about the whole issue and terms it "censorship." She resents the officials' change of mind after the original captions had been approved by a member of the arts committee. Story says that her photo-

graphs are not "political" as the officials seem to believe but are an essay in photo-journalism on the reality of the Palestinian situation on the West Bank. And by changing the captions to non-censored sentences the photographs fail to convey the factual meaning, she says.

Story even rallied the support of a specialist on Middle East studies, Professor Lorne Kenny of the University of Toronto. Story says Kenny did not find any of the original captions promoting a political message and that the captions were appropriate to each of the images the photographs depicted.

But the Hart House officials were not convinced, refusing to let the captions hang alongside the photographs unless they were edited. According to an assistant at the Hart House, Carman Guild, the decision to edit the captions was taken

keeping with the guidelines for public galleries. Public galleries are not supposed to be forums for exposure of one's political beliefs and views and, he said, it is imperative that people's feelings are not hurt.

Guild said that the captions did seem to focus on the Palestinian cause with regard to their struggles with the Israelis and as such needed editing. His other reason for chopping the captions to a bare minimum was that they were "too long" and would thereby occupy a lot of space. A limit had to be imposed on the length of the captions as well as the number of copies that would be on display.



Bedouin tents along Jericho Road, below Ma'ale Adumin, a \$300 million residential settlement for 20,000 Israelis, built on land confiscated from the Arab villages of Abu Dis and Al-Azariyya.

Guild stated that the public galleries have to be careful regarding the use of "certain language" in the captions no matter what the subject matter. If Story felt that the Hart House was unfair to her she could have opted to have her exhibition at a private gallery, he said.

But Story says if she had withdrawn the exhibition the officials would have reported

her to the Ontario Arts Council, her sponsors. Since it was her first show she did not want to get into the bad books of the Council, she said.

## Heaven? Look under 'H'

Spirit of Toronto Edited by Margaret Lindsay Holton Image Publishing, Hamilton \$19.95

Reviewed by Pat Daley  
What with successive centennials and bicentennials and all, Torontonians are getting a healthy dose of municipal and provincial history. Religion is no exception.

## SPIRIT OF TORONTO 1834 1984

ferences on the streets to violence at a Sikh parade a couple of years ago, suspicion and ignorance of others' religious beliefs has resulted in intolerance and racism. *Spirit of Toronto* is a step toward change through information. Editor Margaret Lindsay Holton sent questionnaires to representatives of 31 religious and spiritual communities asking for an outline of their origins, beliefs and contemporary community activities. Although witches are noticeably absent, the others, from Native peoples to Zoroastrians, provide thorough and informative descriptions. We get some glimpses of how they feel about each other and the bigotry encountered in trying to establish their communities in Toronto.

Holton's introduction is rather syrupy and over-intellectualized, and definitely heavy-handed with the assumption that we are all members of one religion or another. But it's short, as is the foreword by former mayor David Crombie. Despite the stiff price, *Spirit of Toronto* is a useful reference book for anyone who's ever wondered, "But what do they believe in, anyway?"

## 'Unequal Society' champions rights of underprivileged

by Dan McAran

The people who are voiceless speak. People who are handicapped; people who are unemployed; people on social assistance; people who have been in mental hospitals and people who are on skid row tell it like they see it in a new film by the Toronto Department of Health called *The Unequal Society*.

"When you're on skid row you're at the very bottom of the social ladder. You could have 10 years experience for a job, but when you apply for work they say, 'You're a bum, get out.'" These are the words of a man who is trying, along with some friends, to get off skid row.

*The Unequal Society* is based on a report of the same title published in 1982 about poverty in our city. "The film is a trigger mechanism," says Ron Labonte, a community health educator with the health department. "It doesn't tell you why poverty causes poor health."

The film was made, says Labonte, "primarily to increase awareness of poverty as a health issue." It was shown at a recent meeting of the Community Advisory Board of the Downtown Health Area of the health department. The Board, composed of volunteers who advise officials on health policy, had a mixed reaction to the film.

Reaction ranged from "So what's new", on the part of experienced community

workers to anger on the part of a member who called himself a middle class professional.

The film is short and cheap — it was produced at a cost of only \$6,000 and runs only 20 minutes. Interspersed with interviews of unemployed, poor, and disabled people are shots of Toronto's more affluent

citizens walking in Yorkville wearing fur coats.

Labonte says the film is designed to be shown to nurses, public health department staff, nutrition students and community advisory boards and will be shown to the community "if the community at large wants it."

## Censors snatch video exhibition from gallery

Video tapes and equipment were seized during an exhibition at A Space May 31 by officials from the theatres Branch of the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations.

The artists-run, non-profit gallery was closed by the officials who said the exhibition, *British/Canadian Video Exchange '84*, had not been approved by the Ontario Censor Board, nor had proper licensing been obtained under the Theatre Act.

A Space, at 204 Spadina Ave., has featured video art throughout its 13-year history and has never been licenced nor submitted tapes for documentation for Censor Board approval.

"When the province moves with such a heavy hand into an art gallery, what's next?" asked gallery curator and video artist Jane Wright. "Are they going to be judging paintings and drawings too?"

Officials of the Theatres Branch said this is not a censorship issue but a matter regulations not being adhered to. "The equipment and tapes will be returned as soon as they obtain a licence. And that's a simple matter," said Theatre Branch spokesperson Elizabeth



A Space seizure (Photo: Antony Lorraine)

Ogaard. (Two video tapes and one cassette recorder were taken.)

Being licenced requires compliance with regulations which include submission of all films or tapes, or a written synopsis of them, to the censor board before any public presentation. "Video artists are no more interested in submitting works of art to the government for approval than fine artists are in submitting a drawing, or a writer a book," said A Space Director Lisa Steele



Margaret Lindsay Holton

From the mid-19th century when Orangemen and Irish Catholics battled out their dif-

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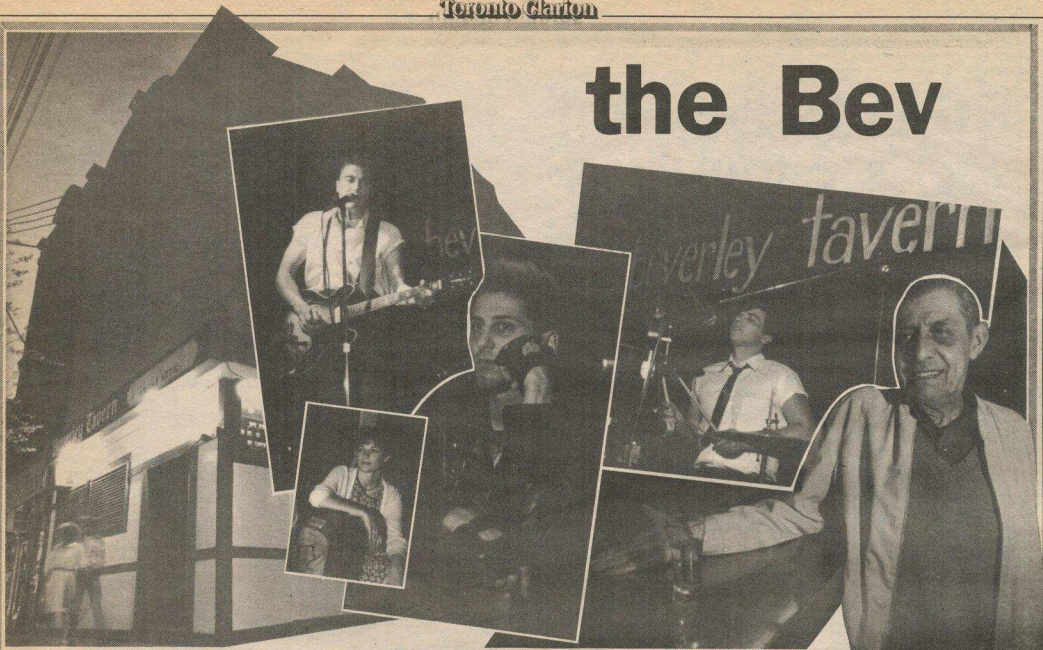
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# the Bev



by Al Mader

Vignettes from the Bev. (Photos: Paul Casselman)

## The drinks are cheap, the service excellent, the bands play original music and there's never a cover charge.

The Beverley Tavern at 240 Queen St. West continues to be one of the most accessible bars in Toronto. It provides an audience for innovative bands and a meeting place for anyone with the price of a draft.

There are three sections to the Bev. The bar is in the front room. It also contains a large T.V. screen and a shuffle board. The backroom has a pool table and a jukebox that spans a generation. Upstairs is where the bands play.

Deja Voodoo, a two-piece band from Montreal, recently performed at the Bev. The singer-guitarist, a hyperactive Buddy Holly clone, sings songs with titles like Buy Insurance, How Can I Miss You, When You Won't Go Away and Let's Go Surfing on Mars. They have the "originality and spark of promise" that Nick Petruck, who books the entertainment for the Bev, requires in a band. Nick spends much of his time listening to bands and tapes in search of the Bev's next success story.

In recent years Vital Sines, The Rent Boys, Dave Howard and Breeding Ground have all made their reputations at the Bev.

Nick is more than willing to take a chance. As he says, "If I was approached by a string quartet that played original material I'd probably book them."

Nick works closely with the bands. He often helps with the mix and has even been known to sit in on a set. He plays oboe and guitar.

The special attention hasn't gone unnoticed.

Several bands recently organized a benefit at the Bev to help replace \$3000 worth of equipment stolen from upstairs. Nick supplies the taped music which plays between sets. His tapes also reflect his taste for the unusual and the obscure. He has no plans to change the "never a cover" policy but is open to any possible innovations.

One fairly recent development is Elvis Monday. This is a cabaret-style revue that has a tenuous connection to anything Elvisish. William New hosts the night, which serves as a forum for his band, Groovy Religion. New explains: "Although I'm ostensibly doing it for the bar, my first priority is Groovy Religion."

The other acts perform for free. Bands such as the Bee People, better known as the Al Waxman Fan Club, have used this night as a way of building up a following.

than my basement."

The people downstairs are as diverse a collection as you'll find anywhere. Senior citizens, punks, Ontario College of Art students and alumni all sit tables apart and everyone mentions the harmony that exists among them. John Stewart has been a regular at the Bev for almost 20 years. "This is one of the safest places you can drink in," he says. He mingles easily and occasionally ventures upstairs to hear the music. "You can't live in 1948 when it's 1984."

## The Bev will always be a touchstone for what's going on.

There is more to Elvis Monday than seeing four or five new acts perform. New also plays tapes "that are a big part of the evening." His collection of tapes, even more eccentric than Nick's, recently featured Marlene Dietrich between sets.

The club has a built-in audience. Many people come to the Bev for purely social reasons and often don't know which band is playing on a particular night. This can be an advantage for the musicians. Dave of the Rhetorics points out, "The people are here anyway so a band gets a chance to play for an unbiased crowd." Dave sometimes drops in after a movie, or just to meet his friends. One friend, Janet, "often comes here instead of eating." If the music isn't to their liking, they go downstairs where the draft, at 60¢, is 20¢ less than upstairs. As Dave says, "I couldn't think of a better place to watch hockey, other

OCA is only a couple of blocks from the Bev and has always had an influence on the music and atmosphere of the tavern. A former OCA student describes the music as "a crapshoot." Although artists such as Maja Banerman, Dave Howard or Jane Siberry still lure him upstairs, he prefers to stay downstairs and reminisce about the days when "we used to skip classes and drink ourselves blind."

In the late 1970s art bands dominated the music scene at the Bev. The former art student eagerly recalls OCA bands such as Oh Those Pants and the Dishes. These were "Devastating bands with an art sensibility" that set the trend for later bands. Other bands that brought back found memories were Osbie Feel, Johnny and the G.Rays and John Booth and the Allstars. Martha and the Muffins, now known as M + M, were once the house band.

At another table sit two members of the Restless Dead. Kevin, the singer, is drawing parallels between the hairstyles of the punks and the older men. Kevin, whose hair is dyed black, says, "A lot of Grecian formula flows through this place." He comes to the Bev to meet other young people who are into risqué sex and hair dye. Steve, guitarist for the Restless Dead, thinks the bands upstairs are "new wave pretentious bands that are trying to sound like Led Zeppelin." He admits, "I don't know what I'm talking about, but at least I'm talking."

The fashion is as eclectic as the music. Individuality and incongruity seem to be the dress code. A young woman playing pool wears an O.J. Simpson football jersey and a miniskirt. There are a couple of young men dressed in outfits that bring *A Clockwork Orange* to mind. Some patrons are more conventional. Jeans and t-shirts are quite common and there's even the occasional suit and tie.

If you're interested in the Bev's history, just consult one of the older regulars. They'll tell you about the time when "beer was 10¢ a glass or two for a quarter." Or they'll point out that the carpet came from the King Edward Hotel. A senior citizens' home is just around the corner.

Stewart would like to see the Bev function as a neighbourhood pub. He claims to know "everyone from here to Spadina." The older customers still refer to the Bev as "the hotel." Stan "the chicken man" used to live upstairs in the days when it was still a hotel. He worked next door and remembers all the stages of the Bev's development.

A member of a drawing class that meets regularly at the former hotel says, "The Bev will always be a touchstone for what's currently going on." So if you're a band that's a little ahead of its time or just someone looking for a good time, the Bev is the place to be.

# Pukka Orchestra vocals 'astonishing'

Pukka Orchestra  
Pukka Orchestra  
Solid Gold Records

Reviewed by Jim Shedden

Pukka Orchestra's self-titled debut album is a refreshing change from standard Queen St. fare. While the past few years have given birth to several record releases from such local acts as Breeding Ground, The Kinetic Ideals, The Sturm Group and the Vital Signs, these records have proven to be little more than mediocre imitations of the gloomy British art band tradition.

Pukka Orchestra, while not rejecting the lyrical despair of their Toronto cohorts, have likewise not abandoned the upbeat "fun-ness" so many bands are lacking. In other words, Pukka Orchestra realizes that serious lyrics do not necessitate boring music.

Pukka's alternative approach consists of not rejecting particular pop music traditions. Hence, while most of the songs are funky (like, say, the new King Crimson) this does not preclude the band from injecting healthy doses of '70s "progressive rock" (like, say, the old King Crimson). Fortunately, the excesses of both generations of music are avoided: Pukka Orchestra is neither a "concept album" (thank God); a multi-layered,

electronic journey to some embarrassingly pseudo-philosophical realm (remember *The Lamb Lies Down On Broadway*); nor does Pukka Orchestra consist of "girls just wanna have fun" being screamed against a monotone-



nous, pounding background. So, we're allowed to dance and marginally enjoy interesting lyrical content and somewhat interesting instrumentation.

The most surprising aspect of Pukka Orchestra is a tight vocal performance. After seeing the band a few times at The Cameron and Grossman's, I perceived them as playing in the Captain Beefheart tradition, with Graeme Williamson acting as a zany, uncontrolled Don Van Vliet. On Pukka Orchestra the vocals are more like John Cooper Clarke (on "Spies of the Heart") but even more like Al Stewart (surprisingly enough).

In short, Pukka Orchestra is an astonishing achievement. They may proudly call them-

selves Toronto's most diverse, creative, yet disciplined band currently extant.

No Borders Here

Jane Sibery  
Duke Street Records DSR31006  
Reviewed by Kim Dawson

Generally stage performances seem to be just about on par with their recorded counterparts. *No Borders Here*, Jane Sibery's debut l.p. is a case way beyond the point, because listening to this album is like seeing a great film on television. Sibery's abundance of personal expression is stifled by time, money and the medium.

To see Jane Sibery on the big screen is to be completely mesmerized; to have her compacted to 33 and a third rpm is to realize that she is, in her own words, "not quite, quite there." Surely anywhere in the vicinity will do quite well.

Sibery calls this album *No Borders Here* but it sounds as though she did recognize the borders of the recording world. There is a lighter, more airy



touch on the album than that solid gasp on stage. Overall there is more childlike and rushed feeling on the album.

Even in a slightly subdued form, however, Sibery carries with her a rare hypnotic charm that truly does transcend any pop parameters.

Many of Sibery's songs seem to be just too good a thing lasting too little a time. The mini-epics "Mimi on the Beach" and "Dancing Class" are scupulous in their seven or eight minutes each. But they are complete only as such, because anything less would seem somewhat episodic. Succinct even in her wanderings, Sibery has the same core of word-ratoning as does Laurie Anderson. She also shares Anderson's quietly striking, smirking sense of humour.

Sibery is inescapably engaging — from smile-inducing conversationalist in "Symmetry"; say you're at a table/ and you have your forks and knives/ do you move them around/ 'til you get them just right/ (this is how you're talking to someone) to gut-stirring confessionalist in "You Don't Need." I think it is the hardest/ when I see you look at her/ in a way I thought was only/ meant for me — inspired by me... The dreamy three-parts-in-one steadiness of "Map of the World (part 1)," for instance, is like some sort ethereal breathing. If Sibery has quit piano lesson 5 for this sort of experimentation, then thank God.

Live, Jane Sibery is a treat. And if a final sprinkle of sugar is missing from the recorded mix, *No Borders Here* is nevertheless a very staple staple.

## FRED MOONEY



Somewhere up there Howie Morenz must be smiling. The 1984 Stanley Cup final is history and so is the New York Islanders' four year reign of terror.

And so, it would seem, is Islander goaltender Billy Smith's international hockey career. Smith, who has treated hockey fans to acts of barbarism unparalleled since the heyday of the Fred Shero-coached Philadelphia Flyers, has stated he will not play for Team Canada. He is miffed at the hostility of Edmonton fans and the "bad press" he has been the recipient of since an incident in the 1983 finals in which he was accused of trying to "kneecap" Wayne Gretzky with his stick.

A fortunate move for Team Canada's already tarnished international reputation for unnecessary rough play. Imagine the *Tass* reviews if Smith had an opportunity to give Vladimir Krutov the "Gretzky Treatment."

\*\*\*\*\*

Well, the USSR has persuaded 13 other socialist countries (Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, East Germany, Hungary, North Korea, Laos, Mongolia, Poland, Vietnam and South Yemen) to join in boycotting the Los Angeles Olympic games this summer. The Eastern bloc countries among these are looking even further ahead to a boycott of the 1988 summer games in Seoul, South Korea. Why not? The bloc (which has no diplomatic relations with South Korea), voted against Seoul as the 1988 site so why should they participate if they can't have the games where they want them?

A gold medal should be awarded to Rumanian Alexandru Spierco, vice-president of his country's olympic committee and also of the International Olympic Committee, for adhering to olympic ideals and ignoring USSR pressure to knuckle under. Spierco stated, "(Rumanian athletes) are preparing to go to Los Angeles and they are going to Los Angeles."

## Polkaholics play punk primarily

Reviewed by Don Alexander

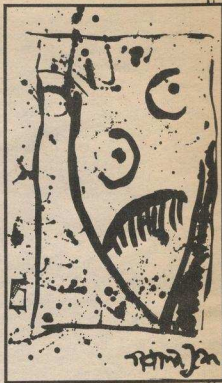
I had the good fortune to see the Polkaholics play on May 18 at Quoc Te restaurant in Kensington Market.

The Polkas draw on the punk sensibility, but transcend genre—bending the bars of musical definition into a mass of twisted wreckage.

Their brand of "punk fusion" borrows elements from jazz and funk. And while their sound is not entirely unique, they strike a good balance between trying to break new ground and remaining accessible. If musical conservatives find their music too abstract, there is still plenty for the audience to grab a hold of. The band is in composition, and they're strong players. Even without their synth player at the Quoc Te the remaining three musicians produced a full sound.

Rick, on guitar, playing on a \$3 acoustic guitar with a pick-up produced a tonal quality hard to find on most regular electric guitars. Rick is a versatile musician—changing styles with ease—and offering strong vocals along with the occasional bit on cassetione and kazoo.

Soon, the bass player (hair shaved on one side and samurai-style on the other) is about 8 inches shorter than Rick and about 70 lbs. lighter. He has a dynamic presence on stage, bounding around like a court jester, and playing his bass like a lead instrument. All three musicians are extremely competent, and all of them



offer highly individualized style.

The lyrics, which occasionally stray to excess, are an integral part of what makes the music work. Lines like "inside our hearts, it smells like hospital" convey so much more than the "fuck this, fuck that and fuck the other thing" so characteristic of some bands.

Their E.P., a compilation of some of their best songs, is available at The Record Peddler. The record is self-produced, and, apart from unintentionally sexist lyrics on one cut, is an extremely high quality disc. I would venture to bet the Polkaholics are one of the best bands in Toronto.

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# Requiem in anti-war collage

An exhibition by collage artist Robin Hesse, *War Requiem*, runs from June 10 to July 1 at the Partisan Gallery, 1140 Queen St. West. Hesse, a 1983 Ontario College of Art graduate and a recent Governor-General Award nominee, previewed her work and talked with the Clarion.

by Joanne Tory

Behind Robin Hesse's open enthusiasm lies a cautiousness not at first apparent. You can talk about and around issues and it's all very pleasant. Yet there seems to be a powderkeg of sensibility and comprehension -- a high-strung sensitivity and strength no doubt common to all artists.

One merely has to look at her series of 22 collages to see that images are stirring and stewing within her.

Entitled "A War Requiem," the series is influenced by Hesse's admiration for Ben-

jamin Britten's musical work by the same title. It's a long, moving and contemporary musical work written in 1961 as his commentary on war. Hesse says music often deeply influences her work: the "Requiem" series is interwoven with portions of a musical text (as Britten's work is interwoven with war poems).

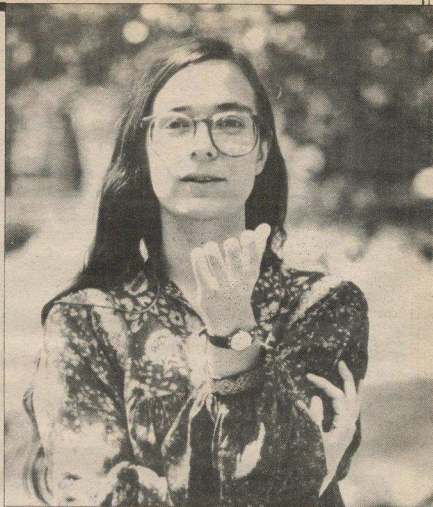
Hesse's collages are conglomerations of paint, poster and print. Her images are bold and brash but not abrasive. Splashes of red, green, yellow, bits of words, faces, all against a black and white background. The images are frequently religious and political. One sees the Pope, his arms raised, ignorant in the midst of a nuclear explosion. Or a Hebraic text against a splash of red.

There are more mysterious images. An older woman's face, benevolent, with the first two letters of her name spelled out.

A watchful Golda perhaps? Hesse won't disclose who she is. There is also the frequently occurring image of a sardonically smiling man. Like Dylan's "Jokerman" (if you've seen the video) he occurs against a backdrop of various religious and political images. Hesse calls him Stanley. Sometimes his name is simply spelled out. A play on Port Stanley of the Argentinian crisis? "Perhaps," says Hesse. "Stanley is actually a very personal artistic device I use throughout my work. In a sense he is a catalyst, something more emotional than conscious."

The series was largely an attempt for the artist to get outside herself, to take a look around at world events. "The images I have are of the melting pot, being stirred or blown up. Images of varying events throughout the century occur: the Middle Eastern conflict, the Argentinian crisis, the Ghana

revolution. Says Hesse, "The images are meant to show destruction, not to be destructive. This kind of angry art, where people will take objects and burn holes in them...I don't like this. I like constructive work." When asked about her politi-



Robin Hesse (Photo: Greg Robins)

ics, Hesse shuns labels, but is adamant about the solitary nature of her work. She frequently works six hours a day, in solitude, when not teaching on contract or working at a library.

Her staunch individualism is interesting in that other cultural peace happenings around the city at this time (The Music for Peace Party, May 30) are being sparked by what is now called "the new collectivism." Interesting too that Hesse's work is being shown at a collectively-run art gallery, The Partisan Gallery.

When pressed, Hesse will call herself a radical humanist. She explains, "I took a chance. I used an emotional standpoint, not something rational and calculated. I was radical in that I let my excitement and feelings take the lead." Hesse says her exhibit is in no way an attempt to promote a particular political or religious viewpoint, but is rather a very personal statement to which she hopes others will be sympathetic.

"If the world does change," she says, "it's not going to come from the outside, from a collective effort. Something has to happen within the individual." Hesse prefers to let people come to their own truths: "It's naive for a person to say I'm going to change the world by promoting peace. But one can certainly be sympathetic to the idea that war is horrible...if you are looking for a positive statement, I would like people to say these images, 'why did it happen, why does it happen?'"

The viewer is left to ponder the causes of war, and what would happen if there was a nuclear disaster. But Hesse's "A War Requiem," is not solely a nuclear requiem. Internal social strife is indicated as well. (The image of a transvestite or a gay bar occurs.)

The series subjectively represents the confusion of images with which we are daily bombarded. Hesse's is a personal voice trying to affect personal transformation. She neither categorizes nor propagandizes but simply takes the side of minorities in order to make her statement.

# Top Girls' women question success over 6 centuries

*Top Girls*  
Written by Caryl Churchill  
Directed by Jean Roberts  
Tarragon Theatre  
May 29-July 1

Reviewed by  
Lorrie Hayden

What do a female pope, fourteenth century Japanese courtesan, a figure from a Breughel painting, a Victorian adventurer, Canterbury Tales character and twentieth century woman all have in common? They are all characters in the first Toronto production of Caryl Churchill's new play *Top Girls*.

*Top Girls* is a play with many of the same concerns and techniques found in Churchill's *Cloud Nine*. But while the latter has been billed as a history of sex since the Victorian era, *Top Girls* is about women in the workplace.

In *Top Girls* Churchill presents a multi-faceted idea and situations for us to consider on different levels. And as in *Cloud Nine*, she has the actors perform several roles—in this play seven women play 16 parts.

The title of the play refers to an employment agency in London. The first scene introduces Marlene, a woman 'on the way up', as host to a group of women who have come together to share their adventure, and to toast Marlene's recent promotion to managing director of *Top Girls*.

The women talk about the roles they played in their



*Top Girls* toast Dixie Seattle (second from left) (Photo: Andrew Oxenham)

lives, some with acceptance of the way things were, others with contempt for the oppression they suffered as women. One particular amusing incident involved Lady Nijo (Robin Craig) and Patient Griselda (Dixie Seattle). As each woman tells how she was abused by her husband, and the other women demonstrate sympathy, the two women being to question what has happened to them.

Griselda, in one breath, changes from upholding her husband's actions to revealing them, while Lady Nijo relates how she and a friend beat a servant who had earlier beaten them. The reaction of all the women is laughter, and, dare it be said, an unmistakable feeling of solidarity emerges.

From London Churchill takes us to a working-class home in Suffolk. Here Marlene's sister, Joyce (Diane Hollingworth), is shown with Angie (Claire Coulter), Marlene's illegitimate daughter Joyce raises as her own child.

Act Two focuses on the relationships among the three women, and shows us the darker side to Marlene's ostensible success.

The final scenes between Joyce and Marlene present two women with diametrically opposed views who cannot even be friends. Marlene spouts snatches of capitalist theory, knocks back hard liquor and fights back tears. Joyce defends her apparent devotion to her family, small-town life and lack of ambition while making endless pots of tea. The play ends on a pessimistic, but realistic, note.

While general conditions of society have improved for women, *Top Girls* leads us to question the options available. Marlene and her co-workers at *Top Girls* have balls, it is true. Marlene's swaggering bravado and Joyce's gutter toughness only protect them from the world; they don't help remake it for Angie.

The play begs further questions—do women of the twen-

tieth century truly have any more power than women of the fourteenth, seventeenth or nineteenth century? Will there ever be a woman pope except in a folk tale?

Will the position of corporate secretary be as high as most women ever go in the corporate sector? At one point Lady Nijo asks if religion is not a kind of emptiness. With Church, State, and the man-in-the-three-piece-suit against us, what have women got left?

The acting in this production was—tops. The roles are demanding and varied, requiring enormous energy and sensitivity. The action was fast-paced and intense, and with the exception of a rather long pause between Marlene and Joyce in the last scene, riveting.

Fans of Churchill will no doubt flock to see this play. To the as yet uninitiated, the Tarragon Theatre's *Top Girls* is well worth investigating.

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**CUSO** has a variety of overseas job openings. For more information contact CUSO, 151 Slater, Ottawa K1P 5H5.

**Student!** Need extra income this summer? Be your own boss and buy bulk goods to sell at a high profit margin, through College Vendors, 68 Coddle Ave., Downsview, Ont. M3M 3V9. Leave your name and phone number.

**STEP** is a 36-week training program in microcomputer and office skills for single parents, sponsored by George Brown College and Dixon Hall, and funded by the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission. For an interview, call Lorraine McRae, after 1 p.m., Mon-Thurs., at 863-0498 to make an appointment.

**Job opening** for a second coordinator at Toronto Committee for the Liberation of Southern Africa. If you have the emotional and physical energy, the rewards are immense. Starting date: June 25, 1984. Salary: \$242/week plus OHIP. Send resume to TCLA, 427 Bloor St. W., Toronto M5S 1X7. (967-5562).

**Free job experience** training for teenage women 15 to 21 years of age is available at the YWCA. For complete information and to register for an evening information session call YWCA Children and Teens Department, 487-7151.

**Jobs wanted** for graduates of the STEP program in microcomputer and office skills. If you have any openings, please contact Sylvia Smith, 963-0499.

**Students or non-students** are needed to sell ice cream from carts. Work outdoors primarily in the Danforth area. Good pay. Call Scott at 429-6160 or 487-2766.

■ **Ads will be run twice unless cancelled or resubmitted.**

■ **Graphics and alternative typefaces available (semi-display) for 50¢ a line.**

■ **Copy should be dropped off at the office or mailed in. Please do not phone in ads.**

■ **Free ads limited to six lines of 26 characters per line.**

■ **No sexist, racist, misleading or otherwise unpalatable ads please.**

■ **No personals please.**

**Furniture refinishing** All types of wood. Andrea Bain 863-0043 evenings. Good rates.

## For Sale

**Canon AE1 camera**, 85mm telephoto lens, close-up lenses, b & w darkroom, eskimo print, clarinet. make an offer. Ross 787-8644 or 363-4404.

**Silver flute**, Bundy, mint condition. Offers? Contact Scott 537-8022

## Volunteers

**Mariposa Folk Festival** is seeking volunteers to work on the "re-launching" of the Mariposa Folk Festival at Molson Park, Barrie, July 13, 14, and 15. For more information on how to become a volunteer with Mariposa call 363-4009.

**Central Neighbourhood House** Community Centre needs your help. They are holding a fundraising garage sale Saturday June 16, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you are able to donate items large, small, new or used please drop them off at 349 Ontario St., Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more info call Eva 925-4363.

**Interculture Canada**, an international non-profit organization, is looking for a volunteer family who would like to host an exchange student for the 1984-85 school year. You can discover Japan, Germany, France and many Latin American countries by hosting one of the 180 students who will come to Canada to learn English and finish their high school. For further info call Lisa collect at (514) 288-3282.

## Publications

**Green Politics: The Global Promise.** A new book by Fritof Capra and Charlene Spretnak. Only four years ago the Green movement sprang from a collection of ecologists, feminists and nuclear disarmers in West Germany, and has spread rapidly through Eastern countries including Canada. This is the first book describing its philosophy and implications. To order a copy, send \$15.50 plus \$1.00 postage to Books, EN7, Box 6248, Station A, Toronto M5W 1P6. Ten-day money-back guarantee.

**The Anti-Authoritarian News Network Bulletin** is now available. Presenting you with selected articles, pictures, words and cartoons from the mainstream media, in combination with a listing of actions, events and organizational meetings. Eight pages of reality are produced bi-weekly. Sub \$12 per year. AANN P.O. Box 915, Station F, Toronto M4Y 2N9.

**"The Two Souls of Socialism"** — an essay on socialism from below vs. social democracy in Canada. Fifty cents from the Committee for a New Beginning, P.O. Box 1718, Station A, Vancouver, B.C.

## Et Cetera

**The Writer as Performer** committee of A Space is interested in producing an on-going series of events which explore the connections between language, text and performance. We are seeking proposals for the 1984-85 season and encourage artists and cultural producers from many different communities whose work may have received little general exposure to apply. Deadline: July 27, 1984. A Space, 204 Spadina, Toronto. 364-3227 for more details.

**Stop Darlington!** A coalition of energy and peace groups is working on an ongoing campaign for a Nuclear-free Ontario. No nuclear weapons, no more nuclear power stations. We need to work together to make this possible. Phone the campaign office at 537-0438 if you can help.

**The Action Day Care Hotline** tries to connect parents seeking day care services with centres which have spaces available. For information on day care services available in non-profit centres in your area of Toronto, call the hotline at 977-6698.

**Here is an opportunity** to meet the world face to face. Families are being sought in Toronto and the surrounding region to host foreign students for the coming year 1984-85. Each visiting student is between the ages of 15 and 19 and lives as a member of a family, while attending classes at the local high school. For more information call Lisa at (514) 288-3282.

**Put down that hammer!** Put down that wrench! Tennis lessons for carpentry/plumbing. Certified instructor with lots of practice balls (1), net, extra racquets if necessary. Flexible hours. Other barber offers welcome, too. My regular individual rates are single: \$10/hr.; groups: up to \$20/hr. Call Mike at 537-5591.

**Freelance editing**, research, writing. Design book covers, logos, letterheads, posters. Sheldon Fischer 593-6536, 15 everyday.

**Wanted: Your Garbage.** Send old feminist/political/peace Canadian publications to Rebecca Dunnes, 5 E. Main St., Hancock, NY 13783.

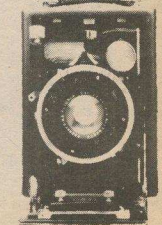
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# CLARION CALENDAR

## June 10-16

### Monday, June 11

**Do you sit home** watching Saturday Night Live and SCTV, dreaming of the life of an improvisational comic? The folks at Theatresports want to help you reach your goal with free workshops every Monday at 7 p.m. York Quay Centre, 235 Queen's Quay W. Admission \$4.



**Free upgrading program** in math, English and sciences every Monday at George Brown College. Priority given to women interested in careers in trades or technology. For more info call 967-1212, ext. 2460, 2461, or 2462 and ask for an appointment.

### Tuesday, June 12

**Festival of Sound Poetry** featuring Arrigo Lora-Totino (Italy), Earle Birney (Canada), and the Four Horsemen (Canada) at York Quay Centre, 235 Queen's Quay W. 8:30 p.m. Admission free.

**Native Expression**, a showcase of performing and visual arts and introduction of native new talent, every Tuesday at the New Trojan Horse. 9 p.m., \$3 cover. 179 Danforth.

### Wednesday, June 13

**Just "Horse"ing Around**, an evening for new and old social change artists to share their work in a relaxed format. All welcome at New Trojan Horse, 179 Danforth. 8 p.m. \$2 cover.

**Canadian Action for Nicaragua**, monthly public meeting, Bathurst St. Church, 736 Bathurst, 7:30 p.m.

### Thursday, June 14

**Toronto Union of Unemployed Workers** general meeting, every second Thursday at 370 Queen St. E., 7:30 p.m. Call 366-1307 for more info.

**Cultural Politics:** a talk by Frederic Jameson, author of *Marxism and Form*, *The Political Unconscious* and *The Prisonhouse of Language*. Sponsored by Marxist Institute, at 50 St. George St., 8 p.m. \$3 donation.

### Friday, June 15

**Taylor Green/Ullian Allan** at the New Trojan Horse. Storyteller Green and "dub poet" Allan guarantee an exciting and thought-provoking evening. 179 Danforth, 9 p.m. \$4 cover.



**Women and Food Production Conference** sponsored by the Women in Development Group of the Canadian Council for International Cooperation. Fee: \$100. Starting at 4:30 p.m., it runs for the weekend at the University of Guelph. (613) 236-4547 for info.

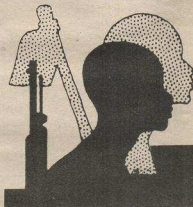
**Northwind Folk Festival** gates open at 10:30 a.m. and the festival runs for the weekend on the Toronto Islands. Advance booked \$32, \$35 at gate. Daily passes \$10 Friday, \$15 each Saturday and Sunday. 531-4621 for tickets.

### Saturday, June 16

**Central Neighbourhood House** Community Centre annual fundraising garage sale at 349 Ontario St. Begins at 10 a.m., runs till 4.

**Northwinds After-Hours** at the New Trojan Horse Cafe. After the festival come to the Horse to see some of the social change artists from the festival. 10:30 p.m., 179 Danforth.

**An Evening of South African Music**, Cuisine and Dancing. Sponsored by African National Congress at International Student Centre, 33 St. George St. 8 p.m., \$5 at door.



**Spirituality and Social Action:** Buddhist and Christian Perspectives. Sponsored by the Ecumenical Forum. 9 a.m. Moot Court, Osgoode Hall, York University. 924-9351 for info.

## June 17-23

### Sunday, June 17

**Peacing It Together**, a nuclear cabaret, starring Chrisa Jacobs, John Riddell and Beverlea Young, at the New Trojan Horse, 179 Danforth, 7:30 p.m.

### Monday, June 18

**The Hiroshima Nagasaki Experience and Japan Today**. Guest speaker Ikonaka Yotaro will talk about the recent development of the anti-nuke movement of the 1980s at OISE, 252 Bloor St. W., 7:00 p.m. Room 8-311. Call Bob McArthur, 691-8010 for info. Free.

**Women in Trades Toronto** meeting on Midway. 7:30 p.m. at Times Change, 22 Davistville. Speaker will be a practising midwife. 653-2213 for info.

### Tuesday, June 19

**Festival of Sound Poetry** featuring the trio Owen Sound. York Quay Centre, 235 Queen's Quay W.

### Wednesday, June 20

**YWCA Working Skills for Women** information session. Information on day and evening education upgrading in computer literacy, math and science. Free at YWCA, 80 Woodlawn Ave. E., 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. 961-8100 for info.

### Thursday, June 21

**Dressing Up**. Toronto artists celebrate the summer solstice in fantastic and outlandish apparel. 9 p.m. Harbourfront Brigantine Room, \$6.

### Friday, June 22

**Three Beats to a Bar**, an antiwar play by Hector Bunyan, opens for a limited run at Theatre Passe Muraille, Ryerson & Wolsley. 363-2416 for tickets.

**Summer Party Concert** with 20th Century Rebels plus DJ and steel band. 9 p.m. at Palais Royale, Lakeshore Blvd. W. Tickets \$8 at BASS or the door.

**David Campbell** at the New Trojan Horse Cafe. Whether singing about Manitoulin Island, downtown Toronto or his native Guyana, Campbell communicates eloquently about the Canadian immigrant and native experience. 9 p.m., 179 Danforth, \$4 cover.

**The Greens** present a celebration of summer with the Paul James Band, Sunforce, Social Insecurity and the Thought Police. A benefit for the Toronto chapter of the Green Party. The Concert Hall, 888 Yonge St. from 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$7.50 Advance, \$9.00 Door. BASS, Record Peddler, Cheapies, Wheels, Izzy, Upper Lip.

### Saturday, June 23

**Arrive-by-Bike Day**, sponsored by Queen's Park at York Quay Centre, 235 Queen's Quay W. from noon to 4 p.m., 20 trained cyclist inspectors will give free 5-minute bike check-ups. At 1:30 p.m., John Sewell, Jan Tennant and Peter Gzowski lead a leisurely bike tour of the Toronto Islands. Free.

**Breakdance Finals** at York Quay Centre, 235 Queen's Quay W. The finals take place on the Shipdeck Stage, 8 p.m. Free.

**Cultural Group Izalco** presents a summer dance featuring Fantasia, a great orchestra with Hispanic flavour. 300 Bathurst (front of Scadding Court), 7 p.m. \$6 donation.

**Rosalia with her Afro/Latin Band** at the New Trojan Horse. A Filipino singer and composer, Rosalia sings songs of the struggle against the Marcos dictatorship and for freedom and justice in her homeland. 179 Danforth, 9 p.m. \$4 cover.

**Kensington Community Festival** featuring historical photo display and fashion show. 91 Bellevue St. 925-2103 for info.

**World Literacy of Canada** first annual book sale. Proceeds to projects in third world countries. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, 427 Bloor St. W.



**Poets for Peace** presents a panel discussion on the relationship between poetry and politics. Panelists: Dionne Brandt, Peter Fitting, Rhea Tegebov, Rosemary Sullivan. No charge. 24 Ryerson Ave., 2 p.m.

**Joint Action for Jobs** Phase 1, a planning assembly organized by the Committee for a Popular Assembly, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., City Hall. Neal Mosher, 961-9831 for info.

**Atle-Tee Coffee House** features poetry by Dan Coles and Kristin Andrychuk, music by folk guitarist Tom Phillips. House musician: Peter Acker. Church of the Holy Trinity (behind the Eaton Centre), 8 p.m.

## June 24-30

### Tuesday, June 26

**Festival of Sound Poetry** featuring Jerome Rothenberg (USA), Paula Claire (UK), Ake Hodell (Sweden) and Gerhard Ruhn (Austria), at York Quay Centre, 235 Queen's Quay W. 8:30 p.m. Free.

### Wednesday, June 27

**12th Annual Dance in Canada Conference** runs until June 30 and includes a variety of performances at Harbourfront's Premier Dance Theatre, Brigantine Room, Studio Theatre and Hart House. Performances at 8:30 p.m., \$7, students and seniors \$5. For details call 921-5169.

**Daniel Ellisberg**, anti-war activist and former consultant to the U.S. Defence Department, speaks at Convocation Hall. U of T at 8:00 p.m. Tickets: \$4.00 in advance from DEC, OPRG, SCM, CMCP and TDN, \$5.00 at the door. Sponsored by ANA, TDN and OPRG.

### Friday, June 29

**Rolling Folk Medicine Show** featuring Al Simmons, Vady, Sneazy Waters, Odetta and other Canadian folk artists. Harbourfront. 364-9665 for details.

**New Trojan Horse**, 179 Danforth, closes for the weekend for renovations.



### Saturday, June 30

**Toronto Peace Festival**, noon-8 p.m., Toronto Islands. Call 533-8005 or 694-7922 for info.

**Human chain** to be formed around Queen's Park to protest cruise testing. Noon. Contact 362-0354.

## July 1-14

### Sunday, July 1

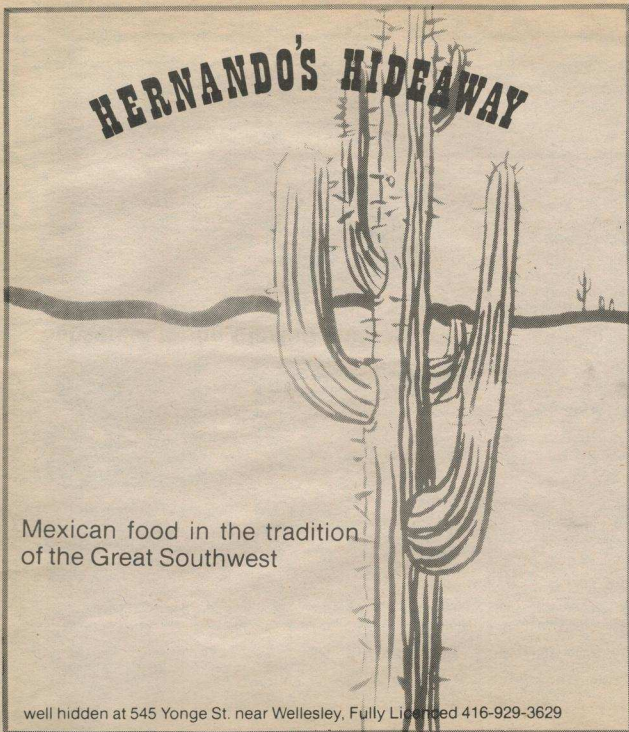
**Gay Pride Day**. Celebrations at 519 Church St. all day.

**Canada Birthday Bash** featuring Buffy St. Marie, Jim Carrey and Al Simmons. 8 p.m. Free at Harbourfront. After the fireworks finale, party on with fiddler Graham Townsend.

### Saturday, July 14

**The Dream in High Park**. Toronto Free Theatre's new production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* opens and runs until August 12. Free, under the stars, in the heart of High Park. Tues. Sun. 8:00 p.m. Wed. matinees at 2:30 p.m. Bring a blanket.

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PLAYLIST:

ARTIST	TITLE
1. VARIOUS	HIDE: URBAN RENEWAL
2. R. STEVIE MOORE	EVERYTHING...
3. HOLGER CZUKAY	DER OSTEN IST ROT
4. SHRIEKBACK	JAM SCIENCE
5. MOODISTS	THIRSTY'S CALLING
6. LOU REED	NEW SENSATIONS
7. RARE AIR	MAD PLAID
8. JAINE SIBERRY	NO BORDERS HERE
9. ROCHEREAU	TABU LEY
10. RICK ROBERTSON	TERRA FIRMA
11. THROBBING GRISTLE	JOURNEY THROUGH A BODY
12. REM	RECKONING
13. MINOR THREAT	
14. THE NOT	WHAT'S THE REASON
15. MINIMAL MAN	SAFARI
16. DIRECT ACTION	
17. THICK PIGEON	FOR A REASON
18. LIFETONES	COMBAT ZONE
19. GOLDEN PALAMINOS	
20. PRINCE CHARLES	

JAZZ

1. CARLA BLEY	HEAVY HEART
2. ELVIN JONES	BROTHER JOHN
3. TERJE RYPPDAL	
4. DAVID DARLING	EOS
5. PAT METHENY	REJOICING
6. RICHARD COLE	ALTO ANNIE'S THEME
7. BILL EVANS	THE PARIS CONCERT ED. 2
8. TIME WARP	ASTEROID ALLEY
9. DAVID HOLLAND QUINTET	JUMPIN' IN
10. ABDULLAN IBRAHIM	EKAYA
11. JAY McSHANN	JUST A LUCKY SO AND SO