

# PROFILES

with JENNIFER BARR



Even though we've had a relatively mild and snowless winter, the thought of a warm sunny cruise to blue waters does something to my mind.

When I was shown the following ad from the Globe and Mail:

"Sailors crew needed as passengers, 4 month cruise to Antilles via Bahamas, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Virgin Is. Leaving Fla. Jan. No experience necessary. Cost \$2,800. Write Captain R. B. Leeming, R. R. 1, Rockwood." It was all I could do to stop from selling the children and joining up.

Captain Bruce Leeming turned out to be a young bearded adventurer, who makes his home in Eramosa Township, when he is home. He's also brother to Rick Leeming of Cedar Creek Farm fame.

Owner of a thirty foot sea going cruiser, Bruce enjoyed an exciting trip to the Caribbean last year from September '78 to June '79.

Bruce has owned the "R. Heritage" for five years, refurbishing it and turning the single master into a long term four berth cruiser over the years. Prior to this his various sailing experience included teaching the art at summer camps.

Frequent trips in the "R. Heritage" up and down the St. Lawrence and around the Great Lakes convinced Bruce he wanted to take the big trip.

With a crew of two, Captain Bruce left Canadian shores in September of '78 for his first attempt at ocean going sailing.

All was fairly uneventful until the sailors left Savannah, Georgia where they stayed a few days. Until then they'd been pushing snow all down the east coast and wanted "to get some quick experience."

They found it in their first storm off the Georgia coast.

"We were over confident," says Bruce. "We didn't check the weather—we just wanted to go sailing again."

The little ship battled "one heck of a storm" as it headed south to Florida, a four day sail away. They had to stay well out in the ocean because of an elaborate buoy system offshore. The sister ship the "R. Heritage" was travelling with actually hit two buoys, Bruce recalls.

"The captain was a bit blind and his mate slept a lot."

Gulf stream crossing After the two-and-half day storm—"It was crazy"—calmer waters in Florida were reached. The crew spent a total of five weeks sailing around Florida, the Keyes and the Everglades, before taking off across the Gulf Stream for the Bahamas.

They kept waiting for the Gulf Stream to quieten down before attempting the crossing, their first major sea crossing. They'd heard horror stories of the treacherous Gulf Stream waters and didn't get going until they had the company of eight other boats. The whole fleet left for the Bahamas at 3 a.m., rather full of wine, and only the "R. Heritage" actually travelled the whole distance.

Bruce and his mates loved the Bahamas and were pleased after making the "big one"—A Gulf Stream jump in a small boat.

"With a 30 footer, I've got to watch out for my environment."

Gathering confidence as they travelled, the crew explored Haiti and then spent two months on that "wild and crazy" island, Jamaica.

"We were lucky we were Canadians," acknowledges Bruce. "An American boat means more trouble. They (authorities) think you're only there for two things if you're an American—spying or drug trafficking. If you're Canadian, they know you're fun loving—you can get away with much more."

Bruce found his share of trouble on the trip, however. His mate ran afoul of a mugger in Savannah-la-Mar, Jamaica, and the crew had difficulty with some of the revolutionary types. However, they found having a black Rastafarian (a Jamaican cult) with them helped them become the natives.

The crew rented cars and toured Jamaica, really enjoying their stay until the call of the sea took them off again to Cuba.

### Cuba quiet

Bruce said he could have spent a lot of time on the western tip of Cuba, it was so quiet and picturesque.

However, they had to get back to the U.S. coast before hurricane season and they hit the open sea once more.

During the five days it took to reach the States, the "R. Heritage" weathered one of the worst storms Bruce says he ever hopes to be in.

"We spent five days looking for the U.S. and waiting for the boat to break up. It was like being in an eggshell hitting a brick wall every time we hit one of those big waves."

"We swished around the cockpit like a rag in a sink."

For five days the crew slept little and ate fitfully. Bruce said he even heard voices at one point. But it must have been his guardian angel because the "R. Heritage" came through.

"It was the biggest test of my life."

They lost their lifeboat, quite a bit of gear washed overboard and some of the fiberglass matting around the bulkheads cracked. But they survived and continued to putter around the Bahamas for a few more weeks before putting the boat in a Florida marina.

The "R. Heritage" has undergone more endurance tests since Bruce left her in Marina hands. She got crashed ashore during Hurricane David last September, has been vandalized and is presently "absent without leave." A young man, who is supposed to be maintaining the boat in the marina, has been travelling around the coast on

the boat sending "wish you were here" cards to Bruce.

Once he manages to catch up with his boat again, Bruce will be taking the boat out for more adventures. He has great plans for running charters and syndicated travel cruise boats.

He's hooked on a sailing life and says, with a dreamy far away look, the bad times were worth all the good experiences he had.

Captain Leeming will be off again, soon. Don't you wish you were going with him?



Capt. Bruce Leeming

## Asparagus farmer charged

Fourth Line former Casey Boss and the Ontario Asparagus Growers Marketing Board will

### Fire call

Acton firefighters went to Bill Gibb's home at R.R. 4, south of town, Monday afternoon.

There was no damage resulting from the chimney fire, according to Fire Chief Mick Holmes.

### R. Ritchie runs again

Oakville resident Robert Ritchie is again running in Halton in the upcoming federal election as an Independent candidate.

Ritchie finished fifth in Halton in the May 22, 1979, vote.

The 41-year-old public accountant is running on a platform focused on the economy.

### Crosbie coming

Colorful Minister of Finance John Crosbie will visit Halton riding and maybe Acton on February 5.

Progressive Conservative candidate and MP for Halton, Otto Jelinek, announced Monday night that Crosbie, who is noted for his wit, will be coming to Halton during this election campaign and Jelinek hopes his guest can start his day in Acton

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face off in provincial court March 14.

The board charges Mr. Boss under the Farm Products Marketing Act for growing asparagus without a licence and for denying access to his fields to an asparagus inspector.

Mr. Boss appeared in provincial court in Milton Monday to set a trial date.

Mr. Boss said in a tele-

phone interview later:

"We like free enterprise; we do not like to be controlled."

Mr. Boss said that when he grew asparagus it was for the fresh markets rather than to be sent to a cannery.

Since formation of the board, Mr. Boss said, he

has not sold asparagus.

He said he first knew of the charges when he received them in the mail from the board about four weeks ago.

A fee is charged by the board for growing more than a half acre of asparagus.

Venditti indicated to board members there is

### Convention budget set

A fund of \$18,300 has been set as the top limit for regional spending to attend conventions.

## Rezone land to industrial

There were no objections at Halton Hills Planning Board to an Acton rezoning bid, which if granted final approval, will increase the amount of industrial land in the town.

Planning board sent the application for rezoning of about 70 acres north of the CNR tracks and west of Highway 25 from rural to industrial-general on to council last Tuesday night.

A study by Halton Region and the town shows Halton Hills has an insufficient industrial base, according to town planner Mario Venditti. The proposal also squares off the industrial park, he said.

The board gave some consideration to an 18-lot industrial subdivision proposed by Alteo Construction, for the site last August.

Planner Venditti reminded board members of the proposal and added that the clients for each parcel are, as yet, unknown.

In response to a question from Esqueping councillor Russ Miller, the planner said one or two spur lines from the CNR tracks could be built into the subdivision depending on the type of industry that locates there.

Town services do not go as far north on Highway 25 as the proposed project, said the planner. They are, however, "not too distant from the property," he added.

Venditti indicated to board members there is

adequate sewage capacity for the project. The Alteo proposal pictures a road with access to the highway. Lots with a minimum size of 2.5 acres would back on to the railroad tracks.

The proposal, according to the application in August, is compatible with existing industrial uses to the east, and planned development to the south. Smaller lots

are to be reserved for light industry and the larger sites, at the rear, for industries using the railway spur.

Conditions on the ap-

### No smoking at council

No clouds of smoke drifted in the air at Monday night's council meeting, as councillors and public observed the

smoking ban effective that night. It was council's way of supporting National Non-Smoking Week, which runs all this week.

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*Budget Watchers' FOOD SPECIALS*

<p>6 litres <b>Tide Detergent</b></p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">2.98</p>	<p>Grade 'A' Fresh 3-4 lb. Average <b>CHICKENS 75¢</b> lb.</p> <p>Fresh Whole Cut-up <b>Chicken-In-A-Basket</b> lb. <b>85¢</b></p> <p>Grade 'A' Fresh <b>Roasting Chickens</b> 4-5 lb. Average lb. <b>89¢</b></p> <p>Fresh Backs Attached <b>Chicken Legs</b> lb. <b>1.09</b></p> <p><b>Chicken Breasts</b> lb. <b>1.29</b></p>
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<p>Allen's <b>Pure Apple Juice</b></p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">.89</p> <p>48 fl. oz.</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"> <p>Kent frozen <b>Orange Juice</b></p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">58</p> <p>12 1/2 fl. oz.</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%;"> <p>Carnation straight cut fraz <b>French Fries</b> 4 lb. <b>1.48</b></p> <p>Leo D'Or fried froz. <b>Onion Rings</b> 170 g. <b>.68</b></p> <p>Highliner <b>Cod Fillets</b> 16 oz. <b>1.78</b></p> <p>Facelle Royale <b>Facial Tissue</b> 3 ply large pkg. <b>.69</b></p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Kent frozen <b>Orange Juice</b></p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">58</p> <p>12 1/2 fl. oz.</p>	<p>Carnation straight cut fraz <b>French Fries</b> 4 lb. <b>1.48</b></p> <p>Leo D'Or fried froz. <b>Onion Rings</b> 170 g. <b>.68</b></p> <p>Highliner <b>Cod Fillets</b> 16 oz. <b>1.78</b></p> <p>Facelle Royale <b>Facial Tissue</b> 3 ply large pkg. <b>.69</b></p>
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<p>Shopsy <b>STORE SLICED Cooked Ham</b> lb. <b>1.99</b></p> <p>Maple Leaf 1 lb. pkg. <b>PURE Pork Sausage</b> <b>1.69</b></p> <p>Maple Leaf 1 lb. pkg. <b>REGULAR or ALL BEEF Wieners</b> <b>1.59</b></p> <p>Maple Leaf 1/2 Cut Cryovac <b>S.P. Cottage Rolls</b> <b>1.49</b></p>	<p>Maple Leaf 6 oz. pkg. <b>Ham Steaks</b> <b>1.49</b></p> <p>Swift Sugar Plum 1 lb. pkg. <b>Side Bacon</b> <b>1.29</b></p> <p>Maple Leaf 5 lb. average <b>READY-TO-SERVE Smoked Picnics</b> lb. <b>1.39</b></p> <p>Canada Packers York Brand <b>Peameal Back Bacon</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End Cuts lb. <b>1.79</b></li> <li>• Centre Cuts lb. <b>1.99</b></li> </ul>
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<p>Aylmer choice yellow cling <b>Peach Halves or Slices</b> 19 fl. oz. <b>.79</b></p> <p>Keri's assorted bags <b>Candies</b> 225 or 250 g. reg. 85 <b>.69</b></p> <p>Orange flavour <b>Tang Crystals</b> 650 g. tin <b>1.89</b></p> <p>Carnation 3 var. bonus pack (12x28 g.) <b>Hot Chocolate</b> 12's <b>1.48</b></p> <p>Carnation instant <b>Mashed Potatoes</b> 500 g. <b>1.29</b></p> <p>Dietrich 100% whole wheat <b>Bread</b> 24 oz. <b>2/1.09</b></p> <p>Weston wiener or <b>Hot Dog Buns</b> 12's reg. 93 <b>.69</b></p> <p>Weston cinnamon <b>Butterhorns</b> 6's reg. 89 <b>.79</b></p> <p>Aylmer choice cut <b>Green Beans</b> 19 fl. oz. <b>2/89</b></p> <p>Squirrel 1 1/2 lb. jar <b>Peanut Butter</b> <b>1.49</b></p> <p>Cudney 14 oz. tin <b>Peas</b> <b>3/1.00</b></p> <p>Aylmer 24 oz. jar <b>Raspberry or Strawberry Jam</b> <b>1.19</b></p>	<p>Clairol dry, normal or oily <b>Herbal Essence Shampoo</b> 225 ml. <b>1.79</b></p> <p>Ban Ultra 4 varieties <b>Deodorant</b> 150 ml. <b>1.69</b></p> <p>Stayfree beltless Maxi Pad <b>Feminine Napkins</b> 30's <b>2.98</b></p> <p>Swan's Down pink, white or yellow <b>Toilet Tissue</b> 4's <b>1.38</b></p> <p>Alcan 30 cm. <b>Foil Wrap</b> 10 metres <b>1.09</b></p> <p>Downy <b>Fabric Softener</b> 2 litres. <b>2.59</b></p> <p>Clover Leaf solid <b>White Tuna</b> 7 oz. <b>1.49</b></p> <p>Kismet soft <b>Margarine</b> 1 lb. <b>.59</b></p> <p>Quaker asst. varieties ready to serve <b>Oatmeal</b> 9-13 oz. <b>.89</b></p> <p>Aylmer choice <b>Wax Beans</b> 19 fl. oz. <b>2/89</b></p> <p>Best Pac 14 oz. tin <b>Cream Style Corn</b> <b>3/1.00</b></p> <p>Town House 14 oz. tin <b>Apple Sauce</b> <b>3/1.00</b></p>
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Prices effective Jan. 23, 24, 25, 26.  
We reserve the right to limit quantities.