

Editorial

the HERALD

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K. ROBERT MALCOLMSON  
Publisher and General Manager

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EDITORIAL - COLIN GIBSON  
Managing Editor

ADVERTISING - DAN TAYLOR  
Manager

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Time to veg-out

Ah yes, it's summertime and the living is sleazy. By this, of course, we mean wearing shorts that normally no self-respecting pair of legs would be caught dead in; ripped T-shirts with beer dribbles and finger marks and of course, the obligatory pair of, well-worn and smelly sneakers that curl around the toes emitting the fragrance of a stale ham and cheese sandwich.

Isn't it great when even the squirrels vacate the neighborhood in disgust once the above-mentioned attire is donned?

Well, to all the friendlies and unfriendlies, inlaws and outlaws and even those who purport to be one of the tribe (is that allowed?) I bid you adieu - for at least two weeks.

It's back to the bush time again as I take my annual sojourn to the West Arm of Lake Nipissing for some R and R. (That's Desert Storm talk for fishing and fooling around. Don't worry about the spelling, it's allowed because of something terms' freedom of expression. An almost extinct journalism perk.)

"As I See It"

by Colin Gibson

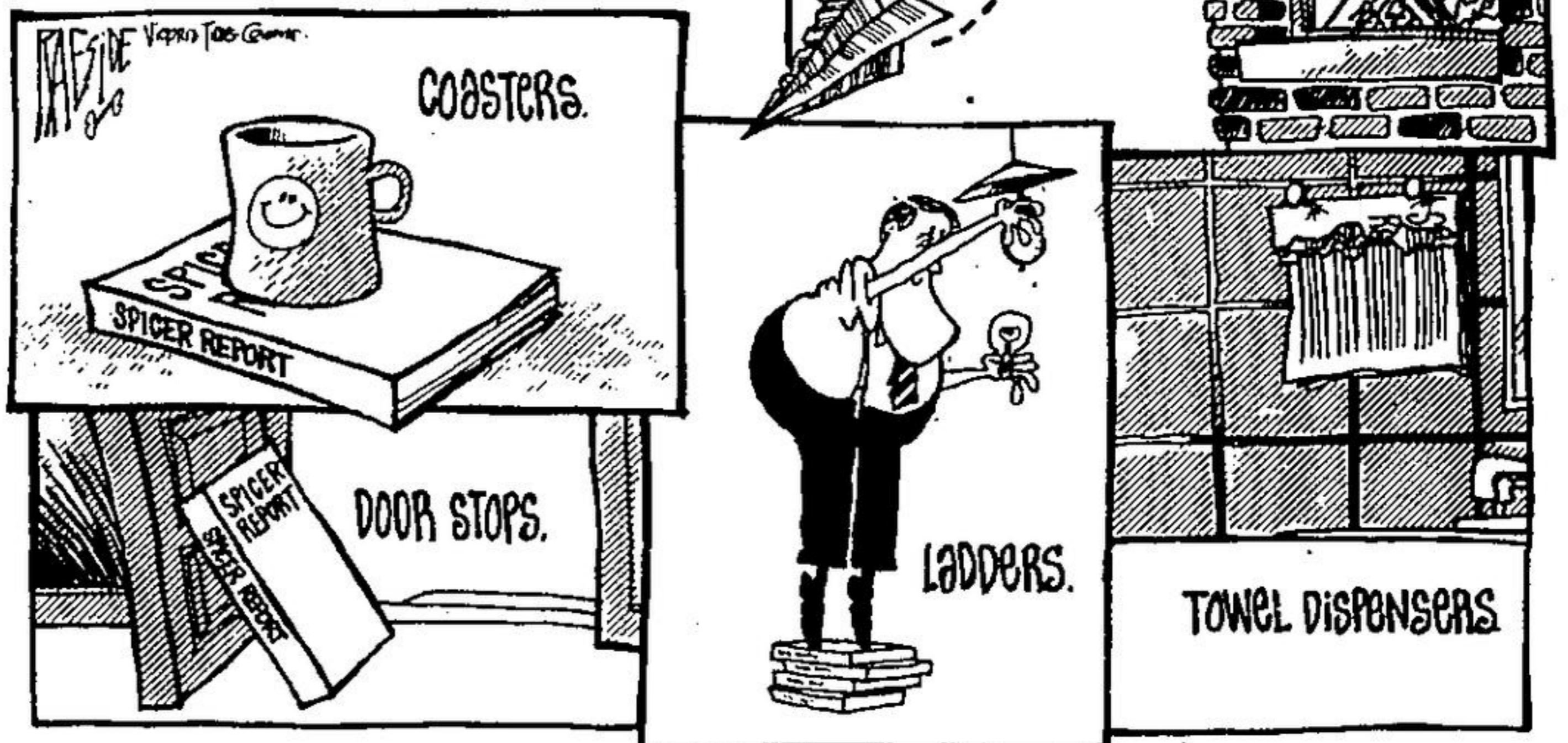


I've had some adventures perhaps misadventures might be the correct expression - during my summer treks up north.

I almost lost my son off the back of a boat; I came close to being rammed by a U.S. gunboat look-a-like while catching rays and teasing fish and I was very nearly marooned on an island when I didn't properly tie my rented boat to a nearby sapling.

Whatever, it's that time again and to paraphrase some of the unfriendlies, I'm off. As I see it, anyway.

THE SPICER COMMISSION'S REPORT IS PUT TO GOOD USE IN OTTAWA...



Arnold for U.S. President?

I don't know about you, but I've been feeling a little edgy ever since I discovered that Arnold Schwarzenegger is going to become president of the United States.

Gosh. It seems like only yesterday that Arnie was just another "after" photo in a Charles Atlas ad. Now he's about to become the most powerful man in the western world.

How the mighty have risen. Actually, I should probably qualify this a little. As far as I know, Arnie isn't going to become president right away.

But according to a news story I read the other day, none other than George Bush is actively grooming Arnie for a future career in politics.

Apparently, Bush has taken to calling him Conan the Republican, and appointed him Chairman of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

Well. And you hadn't even had a chance to get used to the idea of Dan Quayle sitting in the Oval Office, had you?

According to the news report, the president's interest in Arnie is partly because of Schwarzenegger's intelligence and ability, and partly because the president has discovered that hanging around Arnie is an excellent way to dispel his own "wimp" image.

This makes remarkable sense, when you stop to think about it. Indeed, I've done this sort of

Weir's World  
by Ian Weir  
Thomson News Service



thing myself.

I managed to avoid getting beaten up by the tough guys in Grade Eight by hastily befriending Steve Cottrell, who stood about six-foot-two. Steve and I didn't have a whole lot in common, but tagging after him was a wonderful alternative to getting my head stuffed in the toilet.

At the time, tagging after Steve seemed just a simple survival technique. I never paused to consider that it might work for world leaders too.

If only I'd kept in touch with Steve after graduation, I might be prime minister today.

But I digress. We were talking about the possibility of President Schwarzenegger.

Hmm. I'm not sure how I feel about the sound of that - apart from the fact that it's infinitely better than the sound of, say, President Trump.

In actual fact, the notion of Arnie in the White House isn't even preposterous. This is quite

remarkable, when you stop to think about it - failing to be flabbergasted by the idea that the Americans might elect an Austrian-born ex-body-builder whose main qualification for running the nation seems to be that he succeeded quite nicely as Kindergarten Cop.

Presumably, the lack of astonishment is explained by the fact that they've already elected Ronald Reagan. Twice.

Once you've already suspended disbelief past a certain critical point, it's impossible for the mind to boggle properly again.

When it's viewed in this context, you don't really ask: yes, but how does Arnie stack up against Abraham Lincoln? You say: well, he compares pretty favorably to Yosemite Sam.

The fascinating question, of course, is whether this penchant for electing matinee idols will catch on north of the border. It's probably not that likely, considering that, as a nation, we're a little short on matinee idols.

Mr. Dress-up is a very nice man, but I'm not sure you'd send him to a Group of Seven summit conference.

In any case, I suppose we should simply wish Arnie luck with his political career.

Hi, Mr. Schwarzenegger. Loved you in The Terminator. I'm sure you have lots of nifty ideas about geopolitical relations and macroeconomics.

Say hello to Vice-President Stallone for us.

Poets' Corner

I WANT TO BE FREE

In the early morning air,  
the world's so quiet,  
while the wind ruffles my hair.

The pale sky so calm and blue,  
clouds moving gracefully,  
As the sun comes breaking through.

Golden warmth shining so bright,  
The world's only true hope,  
It's enduring endless light.

I remember that I once had,  
and deep in my soul,  
I feel lonely and sad.

And I think of my love quietly  
in bed,  
As she dreams silently not  
knowing.

What goes through my head.  
Tracy Hicks, Acton.

DEATH

An ending  
Yet a new beginning  
From the cold lifeless graves  
To the bright and new world  
of the afterlife  
A deep, motionless sleep  
Awakens you to your world of  
never-ending dreams.

Sue White, Acton.

WORLD OF DREAMS

The sleep is still in my eyes  
The dream is still in my head  
I sadly smile, and heave a sigh  
And I lie awake in my bed.

I wish that it might come,  
to pass  
Not fade like all my dreams  
Just thinking of what my life  
might be  
In a world like I have seen.

I don't think I can carry on  
This cold and empty life  
My spirits are low, in the  
depths of despair  
The pain cuts like a knife.

Waiting for someone to call  
And turn my life around  
Looking for the answers to  
All the questions I have found.

You don't get something  
for nothing  
And nothing in life is free  
You won't get wise  
With the sleep still in your eyes  
No matter what your life  
may be.

Jason Campbell, Acton.

MEMORIES

Walking through  
trampled leaves  
the sun breaking through  
the trees

No sound  
except the silence  
Death is near  
Quietly

Calling  
No one  
Listens  
And I walk on  
going no where  
but finally breaking out  
into the open

fresh air  
Wind and sun on my face  
I see her there  
She smiles at me  
and is gone

Now, all alone  
a tear falls  
as the wind gently calls.

Lisa Nadhazi, Acton

BREAKING RULES

I knew we couldn't  
make love last,  
I don't know why we tried -  
I shared with you my feelings,  
And you kept yours inside.  
Were you afraid to trust me?  
The rules you wouldn't bend -  
You said you'd never hurt me,  
But you left me, in the end.

B. Brooke, Acton

LONELY AGAIN

I can't explain  
The way I feel -  
I've lost at love  
The pain is real.  
Loneliness my soul invades  
No time for fun,  
Not even trades.  
A band is tightening  
'Round the heart -  
I give my all  
And then we part.

B. Brooke, Acton.

People's Forum

New protest group formed

Dear Sir:  
Ontario taxpayers can take heart! A new group called Ontarians for Responsible Government has just been formed to oppose the ruinous economic problems of NDP Premier Bob Rae.

A project of The National Citizens' Coalition, ORG is a voluntary organization dedicated to lower taxes, lower government spending and free enterprise. It's independent of all political parties and neither seeks nor would accept government handouts. O.R.G. has three aims. First, it

will focus pressure on Rae's government to moderate its radical agenda; second it will ensure the defeat of the NDP government in the next provincial election and finally it will ensure that Ontario's next government embraces free enterprise and smaller government policies which allow the province to compete and thrive.

The time for action is now! In four years, Premier Rae's wrecking crew will have done a generation's worth of damage to Ontario, unless we, the taxpayers of

Ontario, stop him. That's why Ontarians concerned about their future and the future of their children should take a stand and support O.R.G. in its campaign to end Rae's rampage.

For more information about O.R.G. and its goals please write to Ontarians for Responsible Government, No. 907, 100 Adelaide St. W., Toronto, Ont. M5H 1S3.

Yours truly,  
Colin T. Brown,  
President, Ontarians  
for Responsible Government.