#### **KEN NUGENT**

Publisher

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# Cycle safe

With each passing day, the weather gets brighter and more beautiful and the number of bicyclists, young and old, on the roads increases dramatically. But with the joy and convenience of bicycling, however, comes responsibility -- riders must not only know, but obey, the rules of the road. We encourage parents to ride often with their children, reviewing the rules as they pedal. More than half of the children who have been injured riding bicycles received no specific safety instruction.

We also like to advocate the use of bicycle helmets for all cyclists, even if they are just riding to the corner store.

According to the Ontario Medical Association, of all the bicycle related deaths in this province, 75 per cent involved head injuries. Bicyclists with helmets have an 85 per cent reduction in the risk of a head injury and an 88 per cent reduction in the risk of a brain injury. The association points out that the human skull is only three-eights of an inch thick and simply falling off a bicycle and striking your head against the ground or another object can cause a serious

We congratulate Canadian Tire dealers for their new Child Protection Program initiative called Cycle Safe. The program includes a 20 page activity book for parents and children to help families learn cycling safety as well as a 20 minute video. This material includes information on how to properly size a bike, gear up for safety, avoid injury while bicycling, developing stronger bicycling skills as well as information on the rules of the road. The book and video are available to police, schools, service clubs and other community groups promoting bicycle safety. The video is also on sale at Canadian Tire stores.

As Canadian Tire points out a safe childhood is too precious to be left to chance. Children can more confidently safeguard their own well being - if they know how.

## Write now

Dear editor:

The Acton Quarry landfill hearing has been called for June 1 in Milton. Halton Hills residents are reminded they must have a letter in to the hearing board by Tuesday, May 19, 1992 if they intend to paticipate. They need to include name, address, and telephone number. It should be submitted to the Hearings Registrar at the Office of Consolidated Hearings, P.O. Box 2382, 2300 Yonge St., Suite 1201, Toronto, Ont. M4P 1E4 or fax 416-323-4997.

POWER plans to represent the citizens' concerns, but all people who feel they are directly affected by the landfill and want to be personally involved should write.

> Yours sincerely, P. Hynds POWER executive member

### Get to work

Dear editor:

Bob Rae has stated his NDP government will spend \$1.5 billion to relocate some of his ministries

etters

#### to the Editor

from Toronto and area to other parts of Ontario.

With so many people out of work and others not knowing how secure their jobs are, it would make far more sense to spend this money on job creation.

One has only to look at the recent violence in Toronto to realize that our youth would be much better off working. The NDP should get their heads out of the sand.

J. Kavanagh 12 Hillside Drive Georgetown

#### Cowabunga, dudes thanks for the pizza

Dear editor:

The 1st Limehouse Beaver Colony recently donned chef's hats at Georgetown Pizza Pizza and had

the opportunity to create and eat their own masterpieces. Many thanks to Area Sales Representative Martin Vanderneut, who gave the boys a tour of the kitchen and supervised the pizza making. Our thanks also to owners Ana Rodriguez and Zonia Gravaz for their generosity and community mindedness. Together they have given the boys an experience they'll long remember.

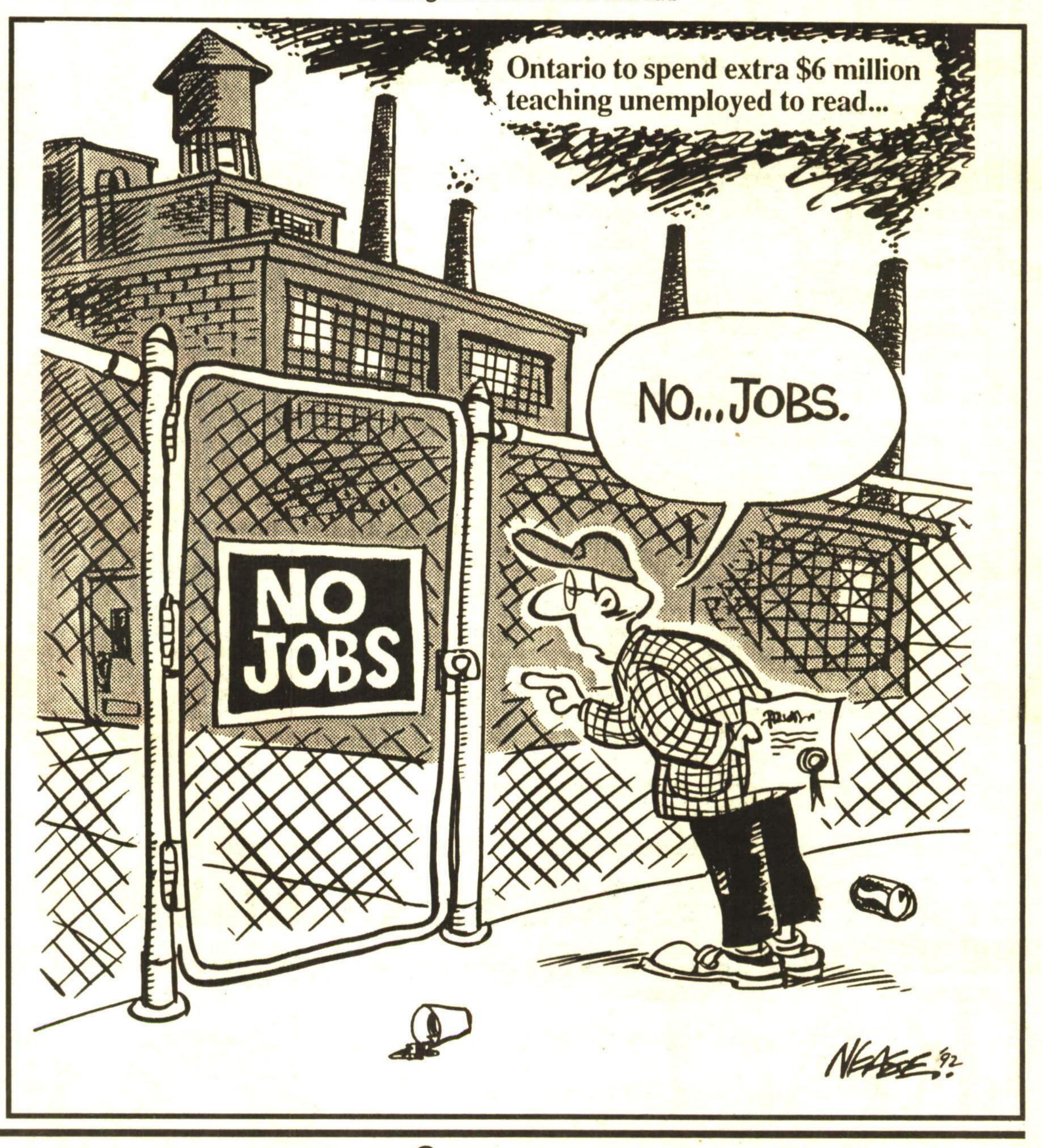
W. Shepherd, 1st Limehouse Beavers

### Speak up world

Dear editor:

We do know environment damage is worsening. So far no leader of any country seems to be alarmed about this. I feel it is time to let our Prime Minister realize Canada has a big problem. UN negotiators are considering a treaty to limit emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases that could lead to global warming. I want and expect every country to not only sign this agreement but for goodness sake speak up about the whole neglected issue. Each country has to act, not just talk.

> Sincerely, Kathleen (Molly) Crowhurst



# Spring, when the young un's fancy turns to ...

is walking around in a state of

euphoria. Including our cat.

While my entire family is enjoying the sun, the warmth and the greenness of spring, Merlin, our cat, is finding the nights a little

more uh... fulfilling. It wasn't always the case. When Merlin first ventured outside, he was chased by the dog and had a few frantic moments, until he and the dog established some ground rules. After that, they simply sniffed noses, (or anything else) and went their own ways, the dog watchdogging, and Merlin stalking birds and squirrels.

But lately, he has developed a

change of heart.

You see, Merlin hasn't been home for a few nights. Well, I shouldn't say he hasn't been home, rather, he hasn't spent a night in the house for a while.

The kids were concerned.

"Where's Merlin, Dad?" they

Spring has sprung and everyone asked, "Why doesn't he come in when we call him?"

> "Oh, he's probably found something else to occupy him." I replied, hiding the smirk on my face. "Maybe he's hunting." (More

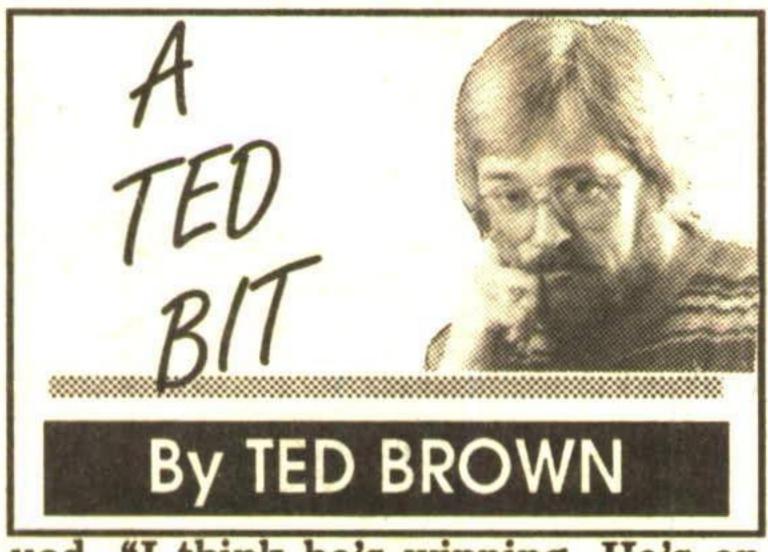
> The kids really don't appreciate my sense of humor. But they learned the truth one night this past

> During the nightly ritual of standing at the front door, calling the cat, one of my daughters spotted Merlin with another cat, on the far side of the yard. She watched through the dim light, then came running to me, frantic with what she had seen.

> "Dad! Quick! Merlin's fighting with another cat!" she yelled, as she grabbed the binoculars to get a better look in the dim light.

> As I ambled to the front door, she was giving me a full description of the events, viewed through the

lens of the binoculars. "Wait a minute Dad," she contin-



ued, "I think he's winning. He's on top, anyway."

As the howling continued across the yard, the rest of the kids made their way to the front door and spilled out on the veranda, all fighting for the binoculars, to watch Merlin "fight" with the other cat, on

the far side of the yard. My eldest daughter finally got her hands on the binoculars and peered over at the ball of fur, rolling around on the grass, just before they disappeared behind the shed.

She started to grin. "Girls," she smiled, "Don't worry. Merlin's not fighting; he's

mating!"

will never cease to be amazed at what these kids learn in school. Myself, I had to learn it out behind the barn.

Of course, her explanation didn't cut it with all the girls. The two cats

were still howling behind the shed. "What's 'mating' mean?" they asked.

I decided that since my eldest daughter had opened this can of worms, she could deal with it.

"It means Merlin has found himself a girlfriend," she explained, "And he'll probably be a 'daddy'

I couldn't have explained it better myself. (Well I could have, but not so smoothly.)

The girls still weren't sure everything was all right, but they had to listen to their older sister. And Merlin came back, intact, the next morning, and flopped in a heap on the floor. And slept.

And slept some more. In fact, he was almost comatose, sprawled on the family room rug, dead to the

"Now what's wrong with him?" they asked, "He doesn't want to play anymore."

Of course, eldest daughter, the expert in such matters, was quick to explain again.

"Oh, he's just tired out from being awake all night," she explained.

"Yah," I yawned, "He's just

plain drained.' My daughter shot an annoyed

glance at me, and went on to explain how Merlin would be his regular, mischievous self, climbing the curtains, and tracking mud all over my car, after he was rested up.

So the other kids accepted that, and left the cat alone to sleep off his night on the town.

I sat in the chair and watched him, breathing deeply, in a state of total relaxation, and started to envy him. After all, no one ever let me

sleep in peace after I'd been out all