

# THE HALTON HILLS WEEKEND

**KEN NUGENT**  
 Publisher

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## Losing money in style

Canada Post reported a net loss of \$128 million for the 1991-1992 year. Although revenue from postal operations grew 1.7 per cent to \$3.8 billion, the loss from postal operations was \$101 million compared to \$75 million income the year before.

How do we know all this? Because Canada Post sent us the press release - five times. In fact, they not only sent us a two page press release, they sent us the eighty page high gloss, full color spectrum, top quality paper annual report - five times.

Now we always appreciate reading annual reports in our department, especially ones done on expensive paper with colorful photographs, but five times is a bit much.

When an editorial colleague called to complain to Canada Post about the excessive duplication, she received a very polite reception on the other end of the phone. He thanked her very much for the information and agreed it was a waste. Then he hung up - before he asked who she was and what our address was.

Perhaps the net loss to Canada Post would not have been so great, if they looked at where they were mailing all their items. Five books all going to the same address would be cause for suspicion - wouldn't you think? At least when Canada Post loses money, it loses it with style.

## Stop the bickering

Dear residents of Halton Hills:

I too would like to convey to all residents of the town what an excellent councillor we have in Rob Heaton.

He not only takes the time to go around his own ward (which is very vast) to get firsthand information about concern in the ward he represents but he also goes into the other wards in the town and finds out their concerns as well. He is not only a councillor for ward 2, he is a true councillor for the whole town of Halton Hills.

How many of you other councillors take the time to do this, you are all so busy backstabbing and arguing amongst yourselves it's no wonder nothing gets accomplished in this town.

You are supposed to work as a unit and were elected to do so. By fighting amongst yourselves, all you show the people you represent is that you are not fit to do the job you were elected to do, and I for one am

## Letters to the Editor

sick of it.

Grow up and get to work - another election is looming in the distance and you had better prove yourselves worthy - take a good look at Rob Heaton, he shows vision and a promise for the future in this town!

Dianne Mills,  
 Norval

## Birthday wishes

My wish for Canada is that we as Canadians learn to love each other. There is no other way for Canada to survive.

Catherine Barrett  
 Acton

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Our wish for Canada is that Canada stay a lovely place, because

then everyone will be happy.  
 Grade 1 class  
 St. Joseph's School, Acton

## Laughing Robert

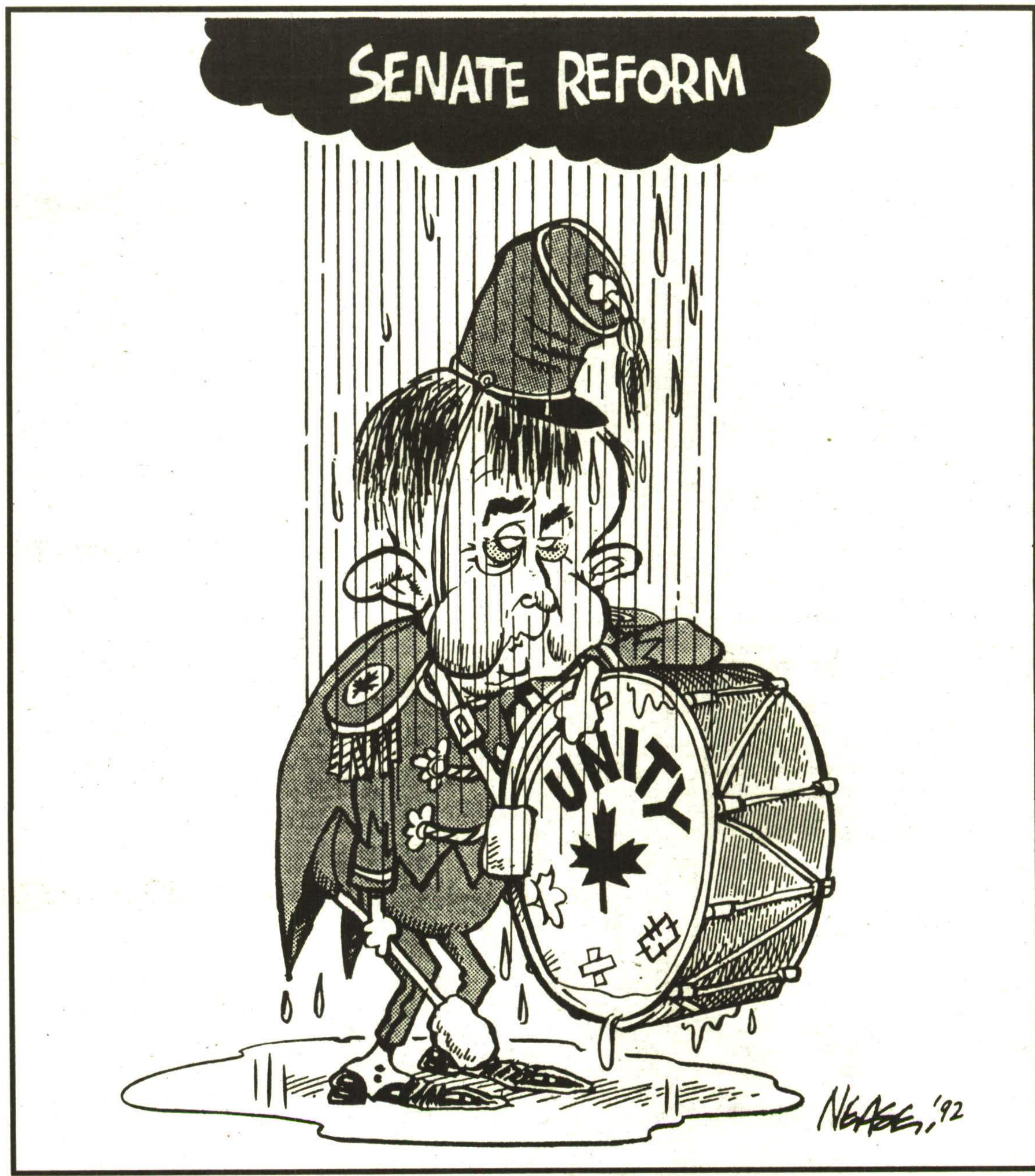
Dear editor:

Mr. Bourassa is continuing to show the rest of the world how much more skilled at negotiating he is than the rest of Canada's politicians.

He's got them all running around like a bunch of chickens with their heads cut off, while he sits back and laughs, poking in the odd jibe once in a while to keep the pot boiling.

In the meanwhile, his federal friends are garnering more contracts for Quebec companies, moving federal jobs to Montreal and along with Mulroney ready to start the pressure cooker tactics all over again. A guaranteed winner, because he won't play unless he is a winner before he starts. With the federal PCs, Liberals and NDP all ready to give Quebec whatever it wants to stay in Canada, what chance is there to have an equitable solution to the country's problems?

Rod Pinkney



## Just try and pack with four daughters around

I'm so pleased to report "that" time is almost here.

Holiday time, that is. By the time this piece of writing finds its way to the bottom of the weekend editorial page, I will be basking in the rain...er sun at the beach, and sipping on a cool drink as I watch oiled, bronzed bodies walking by.

But every year, there is one little obstacle we must overcome at the Brown household.

It's called "packing." I have come to the conclusion, that when it comes to packing, there is a definite gender oriented difference between the way females pack as opposed to males.

Let me explain. Just the other night, my daughters were discussing what they were taking with them.

"How long are we going?" I heard one say.

"For a week," another replied.

"So, that's seven days, right?"

the another thought, "Hmmm, I guess I'll need about 14 outfits, unless it's cold, then I'll need 21."

My wife thought it was time to get into the conversation.

"Girls," she said, "I think you had better reconsider what you're packing. After all, you don't need that many clothes; a couple of outfits will be lots."

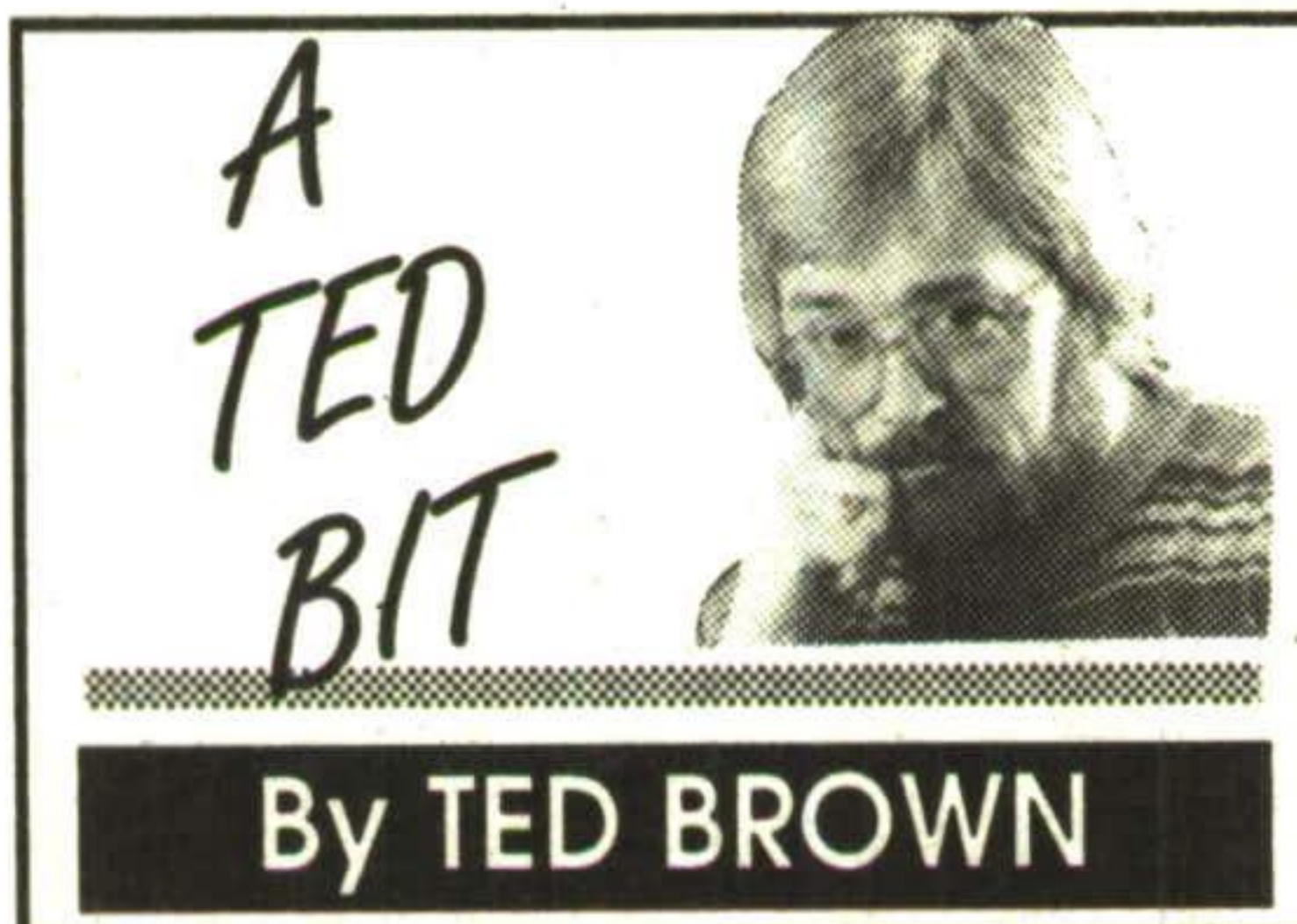
"But what if we get them dirty?" they pleaded.

"Have you girls never heard of laundromats?" she returned.

"But Mom, that would mean we have to wear the same outfits over and over," they persisted. "What if someone we know sees us?"

It took all my strength to stay out of the discussion. But I thought to myself, Who cares? We're on vacation, and when on vacation, one is allowed to dress in ridiculous clothes, dispense with shaving and keep outlandish hours, just because that's the norm.

But back to the packing.



I have noticed females seem to be obsessed with over-packing. I could spend a week at the beach with a handful of clothes, carefully chosen so they can be mixed and matched, and still not use any more than a gym bag to carry them.

But not the girls. Even when my two older daughters climbed on the bus to Ottawa and Quebec City earlier this year, on a school trip, my wife made the same observation.

The boys would board the bus carrying the stipulated one piece of luggage, in the form of a back-

pack, while the girls took one piece of luggage as well; a big suitcase with the little wheels on the bottom.

It all proves my theory.

A few years ago, I was hired to fly into northern Quebec, right on the shores of James Bay, to Waskaganish, a Cree Indian village, to photograph a story for a local publication. For part of the trip, I was only allowed two pieces of carry-on luggage, which included my photographic equipment.

With more than 30 pounds of camera gear to carry, that left little room for my clothes, so I had to pack very carefully, and not waste precious space.

But it was certainly a learning experience.

Ever since that trip, every time we pack for vacation, I think of Waskaganish, and shake my head at what my girls want to pack.

It's no wonder we have almost outgrown a nine passenger station

wagon. If I had four sons instead of four daughters, I'm sure we could probably pack enough clothes in one small suitcase, instead of filling the back cargo area of the wagon level with clothes.

And it's frustrating, with all those clothes on board. When we arrive at our trailer, it takes an hour to unpack, and later repack when it comes time to return home. Besides, the trailer is overflowing with clothes in the bedrooms, closets and on the floor.

But I don't suppose I will ever change things. It's just a fact of life, girls will always pack more than boys.

But I wish they could cut back a little, just for dear old Dad, so it would leave more room for a couple of my things.

Like the canoe, two sets of paddles, life preservers, fishing tackle and pole, computer, camera equipment, VCR,.....