

THE HALTOUN HILLS WEEKEND

KEN NUGENT
Publisher

The Halton Hills Weekend, published every Wednesday, at 211 Armstrong Ave. Georgetown Ont., L7G 4X5 is one of the Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing group of suburban newspapers which includes: The Georgetown Independent and The Acton Free Press, Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser, The Aurora Banner, The Barrie Advance, The Brampton Guardian, The Burlington Post, The Collingwood Connection, The Etobicoke Guardian/Lakeshore Advertiser, Halton Hills Week End, Kingston This Week, Lindsay This Week, Markham Economist & Sun, The Milton Champion, The Mississauga News, The Newmarket Era, The Oakville Beaver, Orillia Today, Oshawa/Whitby This Week, Peterborough This Week, Richmond Hill/Thornhill/Vaughan Liberal, The Scarborough Mirror, Today's Seniors, The Uxbridge/Stouffville Tribune.

Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with reasonable allowance for signature will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the acceptable rate.

In the event of typographical error advertising goods or services at wrong price, goods or services may not be sold. Advertising is merely an offer to sell which may be withdrawn at any time.

Editorial and advertising content of The Georgetown Independent is protected by copyright. Unauthorized use is prohibited. Price: Store copies 50¢ each; Subscriptions \$26.00 per year by carrier; \$46.25 per year by mail in Canada; Rural Routes \$30.00; \$65.00 per year in all other countries. Plus G.S.T.

Second Class Mail Registration Number 6869. The Georgetown Independent is a member of The Canadian Community Newspaper Association and The Ontario Community Newspaper Association.

EDITORIAL -- 873-0301

Editor-in-Chief: Lorne Drury
Editor: Robin Incoe
Managing Editor: Cynthia Gamble

Staff Writers: Janet Baine, Lisa Tallyn

Photography: Ted Brown

BUSINESS OFFICE - 873-0301

Manager: Carol O'Grady
Accounting: Pat Kentner

Composing Manager: Steve Foreman
Composing: Sharon Pinkney,
Mary Lou Foreman, Dolores Black, Shelli Harrison,
Debbie McDougall, Kevin Powell, Janet Sharpe

ADVERTISING -- 873-0301

Director of Advertising: Shaun Sauvé
Advertising Manager: Sandra Dorsey
Classified Manager: Carol Hall
Display Sales: Arlene Bowman, Janie Smith,
Jeanette Cox, Lana Walsma, Tanya MacDonald, Craig Teeter

National Representative: Dal Browne (493-1300)

DISTRIBUTION
CIRCULATION/SUBSCRIPTIONS - 873-0301
Director of Distribution: Dave Coleman
Circulation Manager: Nancy Geissler

Mailing Address: 211 ARMSTRONG AVE. GEORGETOWN, ONT. 873-0301 L7G 4X5

Study question

A national survey published earlier this week indicated that 94 per cent of Canadians believe that Canada is the best country in the world.

The United Nations, in its rating of countries earlier this year, said that Canada is the most desirable country in which to live.

We agree. That doesn't mean that we don't have our share of social, political and economic woes, but when you compare our nations to others, you have to come the conclusion that Canada is a fine place to live.

A conclusion that Quebec separatists might do well to study. These Quebecers say they are serious about leaving Canada. Yet in the aforementioned survey, 90 per cent of Quebecers said Canada was the best country in the world, and 83 per cent said they were committed to the nation and not just the area in which they live.

Are Quebecers truly committed to independence?

We think not, but we'll find out for sure in the near future.

Vet disappointed with official turnout

Dear editor:
We had a very good Canada Remembers parade on July 1 arranged by the Legion Branch 120 of Georgetown.

It started with a memorial service at the cenotaph and laying of a wreath by a D-Day vet in memory of those who gave their lives on D-Day, making a safe country for us to live in.

The parade then proceeded down Main St., minus I must say of any Canadian flags wav-

Letters to the Editor

ing in the breeze except those carried by the Color Party of the Royal Canadian Legion.

The salute on Main St. was taken by the overseas veterans,

and the parade then was on the way to Cedarvale Park across Mill and Maple Ave., where there was no police to stop traffic at lights to let the parade pass.

Also noticeable at this event to remember were the lack of council members.

We had a good day.
Lest We Forget
So Soon We Forget

Shell Lawr
A Normandy vet

Storming of Legislature had a great cost

Dear editor:
I was disgusted with the recent news story when some members of the public decided to storm our parliament building, then went on to complain about being manhandled and abused while being escorted.

I wonder if they realize the stu-

pidity and costs these actions caused to us all.

The expense of the police and other staff used to thwart them, as well as the fact the security persons had to abandon their stations to deal with them.

Actions like this leave prime

opportunity for terrorism acts. There are many countries around the world that acts such as this could result in being shot, or at the least dealt with swiftly by use of tear gas or such.

Wesley G. Whitford



Ten bucks says I'm hooked on gambling

I have a confession to make: I am addicted to gambling.

It's an addiction I share with many Canadians. Not only am I addicted, but the people in my office will bet on almost anything. It's surprising, in fact, to expect any kind of work at all to be done around the office with so much gambling taking place.

Now, I fully admit to participating in the various pools which routinely take place in the office on virtually any sporting or near-sporting event. This appears perfectly normal on the surface but when examined a little further, it's clear that a real problem exists.

The hockey pool for the Stanley Cup playoffs was so complicated that a large computer system was needed to tally the results. This was especially difficult for me as I had obtained inside knowledge that Detroit was going to the finals this year. Naturally, I had drafted many of the Red Wing players in the pool. Of course, when they were ousted in the first round I had to rely on my second choice of players from

Pittsburgh and Montreal.

Needless to say, I did not win, but at least the pool participants had some knowledge of the teams and players that they were wagering on.

That was not the case when the U.S. college basketball championship — The Final Four tournament — took place this year. As always, people in the office were more than willing participants to select from the 64 teams who would compete in the final four round. What was interesting was how people, many of whom had never witnessed a college game, could argue the merits of the Georgetown Hoyas point guard over the free throw percentage of the California Golden Bears.

This is not normal. When the North Carolina Tar Heels were eliminated there was much sadness. This is from people who haven't a clue what a Tar Heel or Hoya is. Anyway, small sums of money changed hands when the Arkansas Razorbacks were victorious over the Blue Devils from Duke.



Picking the Oscar winner in the category, Documentary Short Subject, or the winner in the Sound Effects Editing, presented the gambling crazies with quite the challenge. However, there was no shortage of eager bettors, with loonies in their hands, who just couldn't wait to show that their knowledge of the Academy Awards would lead them to instant financial gain.

Mini-putting for dollars was a different kind of bet as this time you were betting on your own skill level. A simple indoor mini-putt course presented an interesting challenge for even the established golfer and it certainly presented

another opportunity to gamble. Wagering on this semi-skill competition was heavy from the start; everyone absolutely sure that they were most adept in putting. Unfortunately, the gallery for this wager became somewhat unruly so betting on the putting contest had to be postponed.

The usual office pool betting takes place on NFL football games. Each week a large number of participants pick the sure winners, all the while taking into account the point spread and the home field advantage. The Super Bowl, of course, is a different bet as you not only have to pick the winner but you also have to guess the total points scored in each quarter to win. This, I'm sure, is not normal behavior.

A good opportunity to gamble is on baseball. Not on which teams win or lose, that would be too easy. Bettors in our pool select players from a list much like a draft. Those players' stats are kept and earn points through the year. This can cause whoops of happiness when, for example, the Blue Jays are beat-

en 10-0 but one of your drafted players hits a home run for the other team. This cannot be normal, however large the bet.

The seriousness of our mutual gambling problem really came to the forefront recently courtesy of the World Cup of Soccer.

As usual, a sheet was passed through the office containing a brief outline of the rules of betting, the stakes required, etc. Punters ever willing to risk a dollar or two began studying the teams and assessing their strengths and weaknesses.

It occurred to me that while similar events might be taking place in many offices throughout the land, there would be very few where side bets on the probability of Cameroon tying Sweden would be the focal point of all office conversation.

It seems that if it moves, breathes or smiles, newspaper staff will bet on it. Personally speaking, I favor Brazil to win the World Cup.

In fact, I've bet on it.
Ken Nugent is the publisher of The Independent/Free Press Weekend