

# GRAPE VINE

— Bob Dylan's *The Times They Are A Changin'* — for the commercials which were shot earlier in the week in Collingwood.

Lichty, 12, helped the Chorus get the job when she auditioned for the main part in the commercial and although she didn't get it, she told the casting people about the Chorus. Lichty was one of 14 Chorus members hired to shoot the video and one of the 30 hired to sing. Acton's Matthew Peruscello also appeared in the video but lost his voice and was unable to sing for Friday's audio taping.

Half of the money the Chorus was paid for its work will be used to help pay for a planned trip to Holland in 1998 and the remainder will be used for a new sound system.

## Canadian Tire sold?

There may be new owners, one of them local, for the vacant Canadian Tire store on Mill Street.

A knowledgeable source told *The Tanner* that there's a conditional offer, which expires at the end of the month, to purchase the 4,000 square foot building and the land, hastily vacated by Canadian Tire when it determined that Acton didn't fit the profile of its corporate plans.

There are apparently two proposed uses for the store (please not another video or variety store).

The purchase offer is subject to building and property inspections.

## Paddle power

Kudos to the six-man team from Peter Zions Construction who muscled their way to a first place finish in the annual Crazy Canoe Race at the Fair on Saturday.

The Tanner II team came in a strong second and graciously did not call for any post-race testing of the winners, however they will lord the win over the Tanner I team (what a bunch of lily-dippers) until next year's race. (Ed. note: *We object!*)

The fourth team from Dave Black Haulage provided comic relief as they repeatedly tipped their canoe and several team mates came close to mutiny before the race was over.

The Zion's team (still whining over their second place finish last year) went home with a handsome miniature paddle, courtesy of Norval's Canoe Country which sponsored the event.

## Choir in commercial

Three Acton girls, all members of the Georgetown Children's Chorus, will be heard singing on new Bank of Montreal radio and television commercials which are scheduled to begin airing next week.

The three, Caitlin Lichty, Rita Matton and Kimberly Freeland and 27 other members of the Chorus spent Friday at a Toronto recording studio laying down the audio track

## Smile Theatre coming

Tickets are now available for three musicals to be presented by Smile Theatre, sponsored by Acton Support Services and Information Centre (ASSIC). Smile Theatre, billed as a seniors' experience, is a non-profit charitable organization which provides quality entertainment.

The first of the three performances is Tuesday, Oct. 15 with the second in February and the third in April. The first musical is *The Governor's Lady*, recounting the experiences of Elizabeth Simcoe, wife of the first Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada.

The presentations are one of ASSIC's main fundraisers and have proved popular in past years.

Tickets are \$7 each or \$15 for a set of three and can be purchased from any ASSIC board member or by calling 853-3310.

## Music, coffee and a soap box derby on Sunday!

On Sunday, Sept. 29 the Big Scoop Café and Coffee Pub is hosting an afternoon of music and complimentary cappuccino in the courtyard. Visit the café between 1 and 4 pm to sample an espresso, cappuccino or mochaccino — something new at the Big Scoop! Heather also invites you to stop by for her gourmet breakfast, served between 6:30 and 10:30 am.

Also on Sunday, Sept. 29, Acton Foodland is hosting their first annual Soap Box Derby, which should be a lot of fun to watch! Stop by St. Joseph's school at noon and watch the fun begin!



Members of the Rhythm Band of Acton Public School pose with their music teacher, Miss Hunt. Taken in the late 1930s, maybe you can identify some of the music makers. We'd still like your old photos to borrow for this space every week. Drop them off at *The Tanner* office, 12 Church St. E. or phone 853-5100.

# Liberal's law reforms are mush

Casper Milquetoast, our so-called "Justice Minister," is trumpeting his proposed changes to the sentencing provisions for violent criminals. Closer scrutiny reveals them to be mostly smoke and mirrors. I conclude that as long as this guy, and this government, is in power, we will never get the kind of legislation necessary to keep violent offenders off our streets.

There has been a hue and cry across the country for the repeal of Section 745 of the Criminal Code. This section allows for the early release of convicted murderers. The Liberal plan is to tighten up sentencing, but only in the case of serial killers. In other words, if some slime kills your child and not a second or third, they will still be eligible for early parole. That's not good enough for most of us. I think the people of the country want murderers to serve the full 25 years of their sentence. If truth be known, a majority of Canadians would prefer to see murderers hung, but that's another topic.

Because of Allan Rock and the Liberal MPs who support him, the families of the children Clifford Olson slaughtered are going to have to re-live their time in hell on earth. Olson has applied for early parole under Section 745. We're supposed to be mollified by assurances he will not be successful.

## The Way I See It

With Mike O'Leary



I have only one question for those who make this argument. Why aren't you rich? After all, if you're so damn good at telling the future, you should have no problem picking the correct numbers for next Saturday's 6-49.

The likelihood that Olson will win his freedom is, admittedly, remote. So what? Why should the people of this country have to pay millions of dollars so this filth Olson can conduct his theatre of the macabre? It strikes me as odd that the Liberals are so short of funds that they have to lay-off 40,000 people but there's always money for this type of judicial crap.

Whenever Olson is moved he has to go by private plane for security reasons. Extra guards, special accommodation, legal aid lawyers and the costs of judges, police and courtrooms will drive the cost of this charade sky high. For what? If Allan Rock and his supporters need to appease their collective conscience, let them pay for it. There are big bucks in the MP's pension plan. If they're such big believers in this program let them pay up or shut up.

Neil Burroughs, whose son was killed during a robbery, claims Rock went back on his word. Quel surprise! Burroughs said that Rock promised him that the government intended to take 745 out of the Criminal Code altogether. Instead, we're supposed to accept some tinkering with the Act. It's not good enough for me, and like Howard in the movie *Network*, "I'm madder than hell and I'm not going to take it anymore." Hope you join me.

Last week, Rock unveiled his latest legislation. Anything this guy proposes should begin with the words "Once upon a time in a land far, far away," because if you think he's getting tough on criminals, you're living a fairy tale. Now he's

suggesting that individuals who have been acquitted, and even those who have never been charged, will be forced to wear an electronic bracelet. Oh, sure they will. I can hear the leftist lawyers starting to pull up their fighting briefs now. This legislation will never survive a Charter challenge.

Perhaps the feds didn't catch the news out of Manitoba where the courts declared a woman couldn't be forced to take treatments for her addiction to sniffing solvents. The woman is pregnant and her two other children are in the care of Children's Aid.

If we can't force someone to treat an admitted addiction, how can Rock expect the courts to force someone who's never been charged to wear a bracelet?

I don't believe there is any intention that a proposal this outrageous is ever expected to become law. It will take months, or even years, for the Charter challenge to conclude. By that time the election will have been held. Liberal candidates across the land will try to convince us that they are toughening up on criminals. Caveat Emptor!

The bottom line is that the Liberals intend to keep high risk offenders on our streets. But don't worry — the courts will be issuing really tough restraint orders. I'm positive that a woman or child being attacked will take comfort in the fact that the pervert is in big trouble for breaking a court order.

Don't be misled by the promise to label these criminals as "dangerous offenders." The code specifically requires that these creeps get a parole review three years after they are taken into custody. With the time it takes to get to trial, they could be up for parole in a year or so after conviction. If that application is unsuccessful, they get another shot every two years. A designation as "dangerous offender" does not mean the criminal is sent away for good.

My last observation is the judge who brought down the decision on that woman in Manitoba, is named Twaddle. Seems fitting; so was his decision.



**CRAZY RACE!** Tanner I team members Gord Glenn, left, and publisher Paul Nolan show their unique form during Saturday's crazy canoe race. Those on the Tanner II team neglected to point out to them that paddling on *both* sides of the canoe will make you go a lot faster! (Eve Martin photo)