

The Independent Weekend Edition & Free Press

KEN NUGENT
Publisher

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So long, Jean

While Gen. Jean Boyle may have a "clear conscience" about his period of service as Canada's chief of defence staff, we believe Canadians are less enamored with his performance.

Let's be blunt. The only honorable thing for Boyle to do was resign in the wake of his testimony at the Somalia inquiry. Something went drastically wrong with our peackeeping effort in that country but Boyle, in a horribly weak display of leadership, testified that subordinates were at fault for not informing him of the goings-on.

Even non-military types realize that the buck must stop at the top but Boyle constantly refused to accept blame for that disastrous mission and the ensuing coverup. Not the best attribute of a supposed leader.

Surely the resignation of Defence Minister David Collenette meant the end of the road for Boyle, but even that resignation reeked of something other than sincerity. Collenette contends he was forced to quit over an unrelated matter, but his full support of the disgraced general obviously played a larger part in his decision to resign.

Somalia, the Airborne Regiment and this week's revelation of improper conduct by troops in the Persian Gulf War have Canadians wondering what on earth is happening with our military?

Let's hope our new chief of defence staff gets the proper answers and leads by example.

Editorials irk teacher

Dear editor,

During the past two years I have carefully read every one of your weekly editorials. It is remarkable how someone in a position such as yours can repeatedly misuse our society's democratic right for free speech in order to distort information, aid in the manufacturing of crises, and create the perception that most institutions in Ontario are dysfunctional and run by overpaid and spoiled incompetents.

Your most recent blind support of the Tory agenda for our province's education system lacks tact, demonstrates your inability for any really penetrating insight into the matter and transparently displays your political bias yet again.

At this point, the few functioning synapses in your brain must be wondering if I might be a teacher or simply one of them knee-jerk liberals who lacks common sense. I'll tell you, I am a proud,

Our Readers Write

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dedicated and insulted member of that group you refer to as a "bloated, unruly group who have lost focus of what they were all about".

In the future, if you can, attempt to bring some semblance of balance to your writings. Reacquaint yourself with the responsibilities that are inherent in journalism. Gain some perspective on complex issues.

Then again, choose to disregard these sincere suggestions and continue to perpetuate the simplistic and appealing Tory propaganda. Use words like "streamlining" a lot. Spew that disinformation. Dupe the reading public. Joseph Goebbels would have approved.

B. Pryszyk, teacher
Acton

Letter of the day

Ball league says thanks

Dear editor,

Recently the Limehouse Men's Slo-Pitch League completed its 16th season with Bill van Ryn's Express winning a double knockout final over Charlie Fitzwhiskey's.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all the sponsors, players, team reps and umpires who made this an exciting and fun year.

There is also another group which deserves appreciation— Barb, Bryan and Joy at the Parks and Recreation Department have all contributed to the success of the baseball league.

During the past three years this league has contributed \$1,800 to local charities.

Finally, I would like to say that we are looking for an eighth team to fill our league. Please call me at 877-0427 for more details.

Dave Ward, president
Limehouse Men's Slo-Pitch

PUD

