Doo doo doo, lookin' out my back door

The long weekend is past, and most welcomed the celebrated May 2-4 holi-L day with sunburns or bug bites. Not to mention hangovers...

My household was no exception, since I had to climb over sleeping bags, a tent, coolers and CD player in the kitchen last Friday morning as I headed out the door for work.

You see, daughter number three made plans to leave as soon as school was out to head to that great Lake Huron summer playground, Sauble Beach. All necessities of life were arranged on the kitchen floor, in preparation of THE LONG WEEKEND!

After the required farewell hug followed by "See ya Monday, Dad," I headed to work, not the least bit envious of her next few days.

Oh sure, I figured she'd have fun—and she did. No doubt about it.

But somehow, the thought of spending a weekend, attempting to sleep on a thin piece of foam spread out on the cold ground, in a leaky tent (oh yeah, did you notice it rained most the weekend?) ain't exactly my cup of tea.

When she told the horror story about standing in line for two hours for a shower, then paying a loonie to enjoy a cold shower, I knew I'd made the right decision, relaxing on the veranda with a good book.

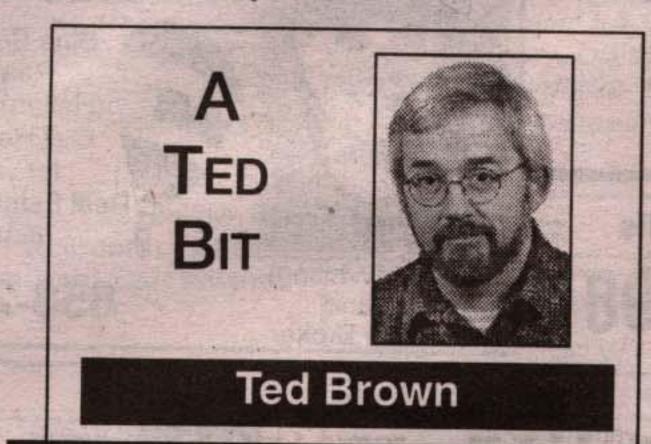
For some unknown reason, this poor old body ain't up to that kind of abuse any more.

Maybe I'm getting old and soft, but sitting in a comfortable lawn chair, with the rain gently drizzling on a Sunday afternoon, seemed the ultimate way to spend a long weekend.

I was reminded of Creedence Clearwater Revival's song, Lookin' Out My Back Door.

"Just got home from Illinois, lock the front door, oh boy!

Got to sit down, take a rest on the porch. Imagination sets in, pretty soon I'm singin', Doo, doo, doo, Lookin' out my back door."



Now maybe it was the cold Sleemans beside me, or the fact I tuned out the rest of the world with the relative quiet of the veranda, but John Fogerty's words seemed to ring mighty true and life was pretty relaxed right about then.

There was no noise from a nearby campsite, no party going on down the row, or no annoying camper's dog barking its head off cuz it was tied to the bumper of the car while its owners are away at the beach.

Just me, the breeze in the trees and the occasional bird chirping out there in the rain.

And I almost forgot the wind chimes faintly dinging from time to time. Now if that isn't total relaxation, I don't know what is.

I'll admit, Fogerty's lyrics about 'a giant doin' cartwheels, and a statue wearin' high heels...' weren't on my list of things to watch from the veranda, but I certainly did see 'all the happy creatures dancin' on the lawn.."

When my daughter got home from her weekend adventure, she made a beeline to the shower, then went to bed really early Monday night. Even youngest daughter, who had two friends sleep over in a tent Saturday night, was ready for an early bedtime Monday night.

I admit— maybe my weekend was a little uneventful for them, but one thing was sure.

I had a chance to relax and rest. And that's what a holiday weekend is for...

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Tooth Chatter



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