

Do It For Yourself

Picture this!

Super summer photos can create a lifetime of memories

Canadian summers create wonderful memories — camping, picnics at the beach, relaxing at the cottage, barbecues, family reunions — so much to do and such wonderful moments to capture.

"You don't need to be a professional photographer to take great photographs," says Candace Quick, professional photographer and Black's Photography lab manager. "Taking great pictures this summer can be as simple as pointing and shooting, but if you really want to create beautiful memories—stop, look and think about what you want to capture before you take the shot."

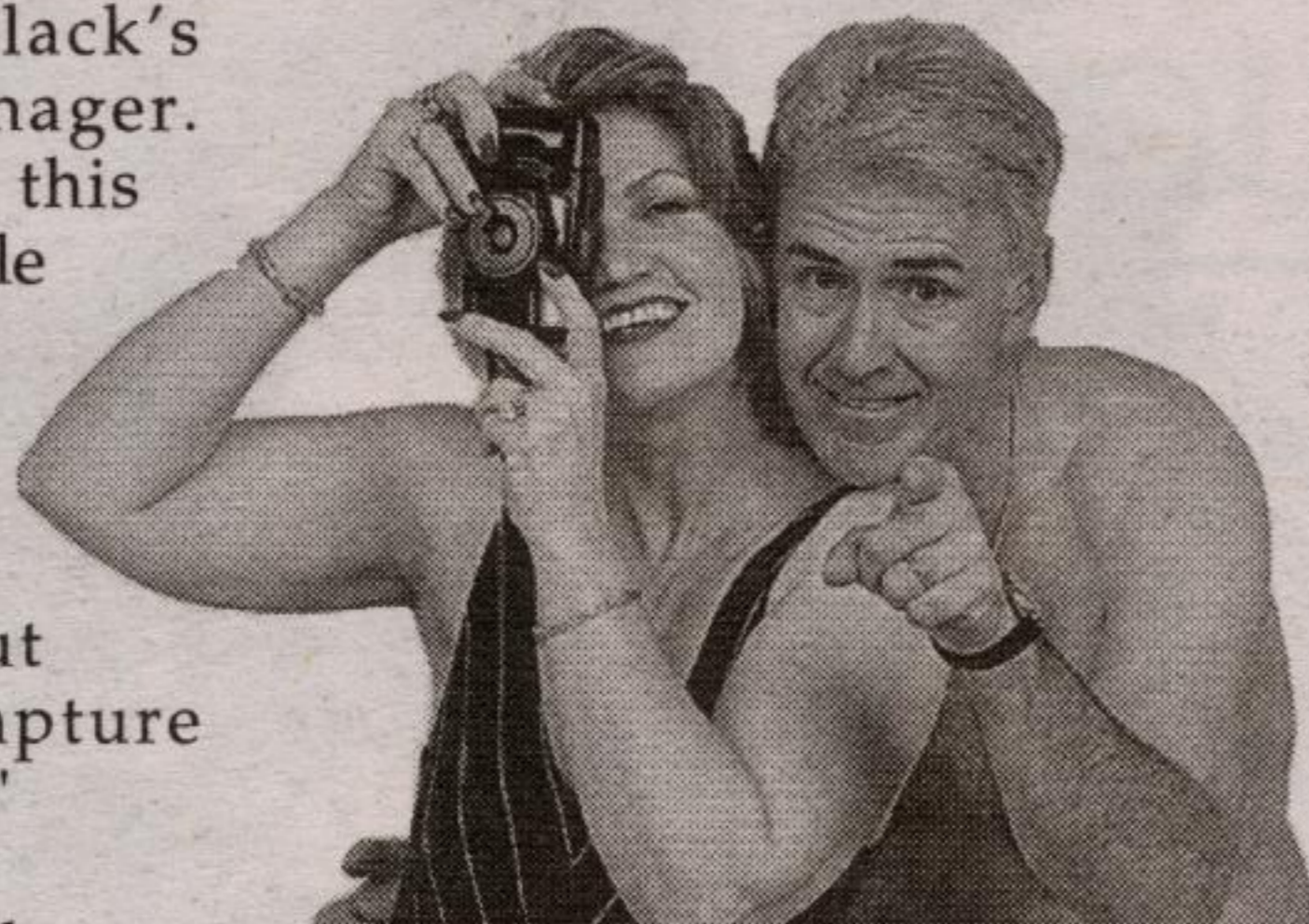
Composition

Candid shots are always fun, but composing a shot will make it that much memorable. Composition is a matter of personal taste, so look at what you want to shoot and determine

whether the lighting, background, subjects and the overall balance is what you are trying to achieve.

Travel photos should tell a story of your visit. Take pictures of everything: friends, family, landscapes, historical and unusual buildings, and local areas of interest.

Look for a variety of different angles when capturing



interesting architecture and landscapes.

Summer is the perfect time to capture kids in their element!

"Just about anything goes when it comes to photographing kids," says Quick. "You never know what they will do next, so get down to their level and snap away! The end result will be pictures of kids having a fabulous time!"

- Photos on the go— capture kids in action at the park, at the beach — summer is the time when they're most active.

- Stay out of the way— Many "point and shoot" cameras feature zoom lenses allowing you to keep your distance and out of your child's space. Without knowing you're there, they'll be themselves and won't feel uncomfortable or stiff around the camera.

- Eye to eye— Get down to your child's level instead of shooting from a regular standing position. By crouching or kneeling, you'll experience everything they see and do

through the lens.

- Look for candid moments— A shot as simple as a child interacting with a friend, grandparent, or sibling can create a moment that will last forever.

Common problems

- Reducing the red-eye effect— Turn on all the lights in a room. Bright lights shrink the pupils of the subject's eyes.

- Blurry or out-of-focus— Use a faster film, such as ISO 400, and hold your camera steady with both hands and squeeze the shutter button gently. Also, keep your lens clean of dust and smears.

- Poor colour quality— Do not leave your unused film or loaded camera in direct sun-

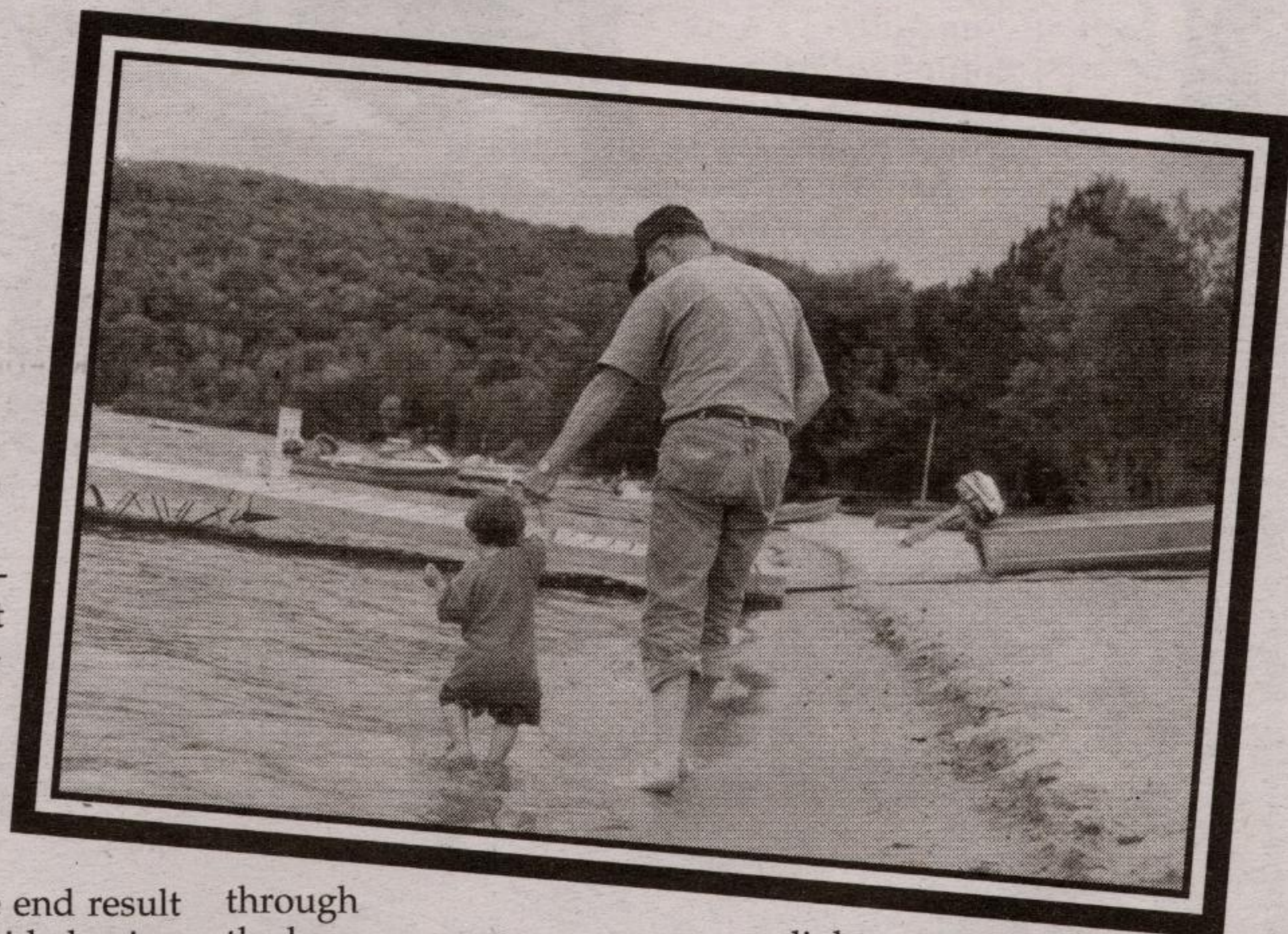
light

or any place that it will be exposed to high temperatures. Check the expiry date of your film prior to loading and develop exposed film promptly.

- Choose the right film — The type of light you're shooting in will depend on the type of film and speed. Use a higher speed film, such as ISO 400, when taking indoor or evening photos. Use a lower speed film, such as ISO 100, on bright, sunny days.

So whether it's two weeks at the cottage for a little R&R or a trip across Canada, pictures can help you remember the summer's greatest moments.

—News Canada



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