

Editorial

Must-see TV

In our last episode of *As Parliament Turns*, Paul was left wondering if Jack would become his not-so-strange bed-fellow and fretted over whether Stephen and Gilles would form an alliance.

Gilles dismissed talk of a coalition with Stephen while Jack hinted his love could be bought... but was Paul willing to pay the price?

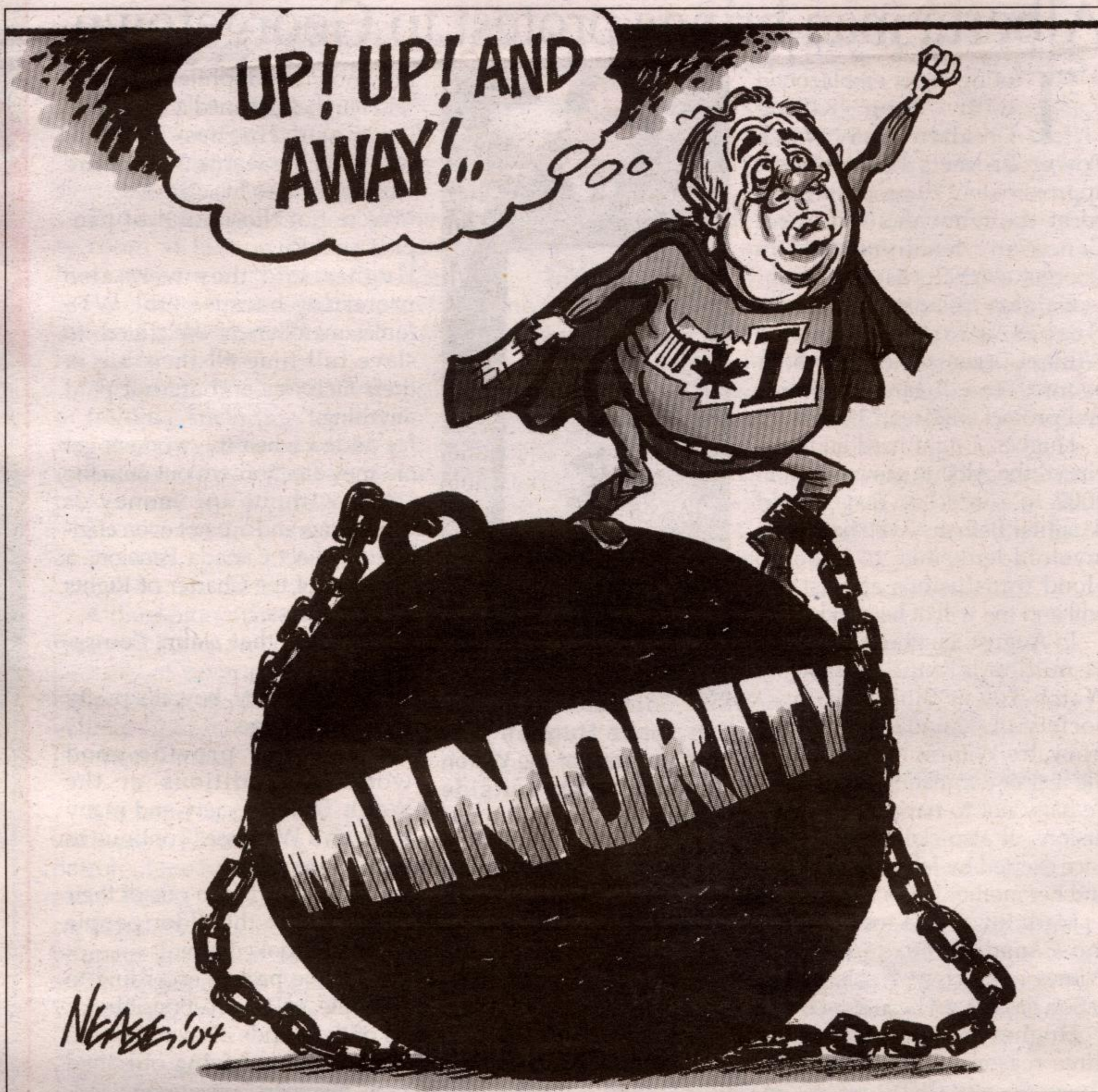
Stephen and Paul continued their simmering feud with Stephen issuing veiled threats that Paul had better play nice or Stephen would bring Paul's world crashing down.

The new season kicked off last week with the high-living, free-spending Adrienne gathering everyone together with the hope they would all get along...

While life in the House of Commons, often resembles a bad soap opera, one burning question surrounds last week's opening of the 38th Parliament: How long will it last?

Prime Minister Paul Martin, whose Liberals hold only 135 of the 308 seats, will be on the hot seat as he attempts to deliver on his many election promises. Unlike in the past, however, the opposition parties could open the trap door at any time and bring down his minority government. Heck, only one day into the new session, Martin had to agree to make a change in the throne speech to avoid a vote of confidence over the relatively innocuous wording of a sub-amendment regarding provincial-federal powers. This challenge to the government was brought forward by Gilles Duceppe's Bloc Quebecois. How long will it take before Conservative leader Stephen Harper makes Martin jump through hoops? Or the NDP's Jack Layton?

It promises to be a riveting season of reality television.



Letters to the editor...

Farm owners praise efforts of searchers

Dear editor,

On Sunday, Oct. 3 Andrews Scenic Acres was the site of a massive search for a missing 9-

year-old girl.

We are most grateful to the Halton Regional Police Service as well as the police from other jurisdictions, the firefighters from Milton and Halton Hills, the Halton Region Conservation staff, EMS personnel, victim services and the various other professionals who were called into the situation.

The systems, procedures, knowledge and equipment was absolutely amazing. The good news is that Kate was found safely after nine hours.

We especially like to thank the multitude of volunteers who arrived—more than 300 in total. Neighbourhood Watch volunteers, Heather Auger and the Boston Presbyterian Church folks, our son and daughter-in-law Kurtis and Lara who recruited their Junior Farmer friends, Mayor Rick Bonnette and Councillor Bryan Lewis, people

from Milton, Halton Hills and others from as far away as Guelph, Kitchener and Markham.

We especially appreciate the neighbours who refused to give up and who found the little girl at 1:15 a.m. The cheer from that moment will be forever etched in our memory. We cannot thank everyone enough. Everyone came ready to work in warm clothes, suitable footwear and with flashlights.

This is what community is all about and we are so grateful.

**Bert and Laurie Andrews,
Andrews Scenic Acres**

It's time to take Acton park back from the geese

Dear editor,

It is quite sad and ridiculous that for the past few years kids have rarely used Fairy Lake as it was often yielding a too-high bacteria count, mainly caused by geese feces, etc.

It is time to deal with this problem of geese fouling parks, the lake, walkways etc. Please,

councillors, someone should put forth a motion to cull the geese or to plant appropriate barrier-type greenery or whatever it takes to fix this non-sensical situation.

Let us take back Prospect Park and the surrounding area for the people; not the geese.

John Hansen, Acton

Leave the cats alone

Dear editor,

Re: Picking on cats (cat bylaw).

How does a furry, domesticated creature wreak havoc on the lives of supposed intelligent human beings?

With all the issues we are facing on our depleting, polluted, diseased planet where other humans are starving and dying each and every day, some small-town minds are focused on printing and wasting breath on cats roaming about. Tsk! Tsk! How do we survive such an atrocity in our society?

Cats were here centuries before we were and they will be here long after you and I are gone. Personally, I prefer the company of a quiet, purring cat over tunnel-visioned, complaining, spoiled brats.

Might I suggest a read of the *Pied Piper* one more time?

Terrylynn Guest, Georgetown

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor must be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Unsigned letters will not be published. Letters should not exceed 200 words and may be edited.

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