My old friend had a breakdown

n old friend of mine had a breakdown last week, while mowing the Agrass at my place.

We'd had a full day's work and grass cutting was almost wrapped up for the weekend. I knew she was getting warm; she'd worked hard for a couple hours.

Suddenly, with no warning, she started to squeal and then the squeal turned into a loud moan. Puffs of smoke emitted from her breather and then I took action.

I shut her down.

My old friend, a 1974 International 574 farm tractor, was suddenly silent.

I felt sick— it was my first thought that she'd blown her motor.

Now, this tractor is special to me. My dad and I purchased it new in the spring of 1974, and it was pretty much 'my' tractor.

Sporting 60 horsepower (which was impressive at the time) I spent many hours glued to that seat, cutting hay, planting corn, drawing loads of haylage or plowing the fields—all aboard the '574 as we affectionately called it.

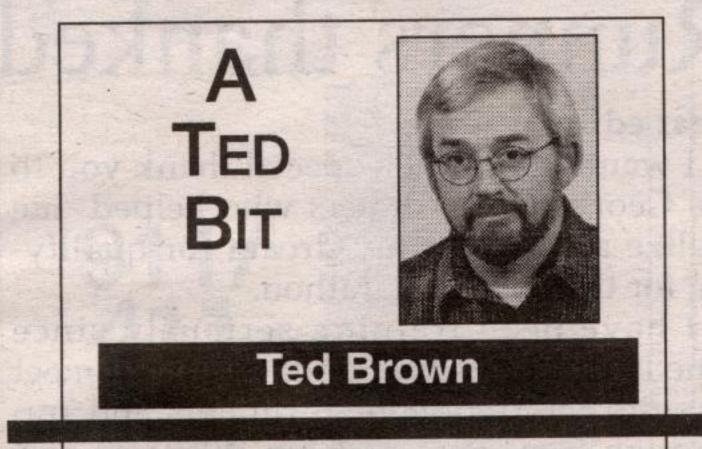
I can honestly say that the seat on that tractor has a permanent impression of my backside molded into it.

Now it may sound corny to some, but after spending thousands of hours on one piece of equipment, an operator develops a bond with that machine. And the 574 was no exception.

I could tell exactly how it was running, by the sounds, by the feel, by the colour of the diesel exhaust— almost second nature for me. So the thought of blowing the motor on this old tractor was not a happy event for me.

Besides, it will cost big bucks to repair it. Now a few people have questioned me when I said I'll repair it, and rebuild the motor—it being 31 years-old.

But the cost of replacing this tractor would



be several times the cost of an engine rebuild. Besides, it's the 574...

As it sat silent below the house I pondered what my next move should be. I threw caution to the wind and turned over the starter. It fired up, but sounded rattly.

I idled it to the shed, and parked it.

Enter my personal tractor doctor—Bill Brooks of Limehouse.

Bill drove in (he makes house, er... shed calls) and he surveyed the damage.

He pulled the oil dipstick, felt and inspected the oil, then took off the oil filter. He checked the oil pressure gauge and then had me try to start it. It started, not near as rattly as before. He made his diagnosis.

"I think the oil pump may have quit Ted," he said, "I'll need to pull off the oil pan and see what's happened inside, from the bottom. We can probably repair it."

So now my 574 is going to be laid up for some time, as Bill works his magic on it, to return it to me ready to once again mow the grass, and blow the snow in the winter.

And although I'm missing my old tractor, I'm not totally lost.

My other tractor, an Allis Chalmers can fill in for the time being until the 574 is back, in the harness. I only have one problem

That seat just doesn't fit quite the same...

KIDS GET ARTHRITIS TOO.

THE ARTHRITIS SOCIETY

Ontario Division



Please help us find the cure! To donate, or for more information, call

1-800-321-1433



THE EDUCATORS WHO SET THE HIGHER STANDARDS!

There can be no doubt that education is the most important element for a successful career in skin care and spa treatments

- Certificate & Diploma Programs
- Full & Part-Time Studies
- (morning, afternoon & evenings)
- Advanced Aesthetics Training for the 21st Century
- Featuring State-Of-The-Art Equipment
- Continuous Hands on Training
- Individualized Attention/Small Classes
- Tax Deductible Tuition Fees

MAKE-UP ARTISTRY

Targeted Job Search Assistance

Start Earning Financial Success Within The First Month Of Your Program.







RELAXATION MASSAGE

SKIN CARE

SPA TREATMENTS



ELECTROLYSIS

and National Association

Registered Private

of Career Colleges

Career College

FOR CLASS SCHEDULES Call: (905) If Long Distance: 1-866-993-2831

Visit us at: www.mellennia.on.ca Fax: (905) 453-3676 49 George Street South (at Queen), Brampton, ON L6Y 1P4

LIVING WITH PAIN? We Can Help

Dr. Robert M. Jones

Fast & Effective Treatment of all Musculo-Skeletal Pain & Injuries

- / Manual Manipulation to treat the source as well as the symptoms
- / State of the Art Soft Tissue Techniques to reduce spasm and pain
- / Physical Therapies (ultrasound, electrotherapy) to speed healing
- / Quick Relief or Referral to Specialist No long term contracts or treatment plans
- / Convenient & Affordable Services Early morning, evening & Saturday appointments Special Rates for Seniors & Students

Dr. Jones & Staff are pleased to welcome

JEREMY HODNETT, Registered Massage Therapist

Therapeutic, Deep Tissue, Rehabilitation & Relaxation Massages as well as Trigger Point & Myofacial therapies are offered to alleviate pain and discomfort caused by:



Jeremy Hodnett, RMT

- ✓ Back & Neck Pain
- Migraine & Tension Headaches
- ✓ Sprains & Strains
- ✓ Sports Injuries
- Pregnancy Discomfort
- ✓ Chronic Pain & Fibromyalgia

15) 877-9996

New Patients Welcome - No Referral Required



THE CHIROPRACTIC & SPORTS INJURIES CENTRE OF GEORGETOWN

211 Guelph St., Suite 4, Georgetown (next to Halton Regional Police Station, just steps from MoldMasters Sportsplex)