

# That was one mighty irritating week, I must say

It was a difficult week on the irritation scale. Normally it doesn't get above two or three, but last week it was up around the eight or nine level.

It started out as I waited patiently for a car to come out of the only remaining parking spot. When it did, another car appeared and zipped into it in front of me. I beeped my horn, but he didn't even look, and I steamed as I waited for another one to open up.

When I got one, I went into the store, grabbed the guy by the scruff of the neck and pulled him outside. Then I tied him to the back of his car and made him stand there the rest of the day to make sure that nobody stole somebody else's parking spot.

Okay, so that may not be exactly how it happened after my parking spot was stolen. I did go into the store, and planned on saying something, but then I wasn't sure he knew what planet he was on much less that he stole my parking spot so I didn't bother. But man, that's irritating.

It was like on Canada Day. I saw two flags on

cars that day. One was Greek and the other was Portuguese. They couldn't be bothered with Canadians flags, but they had no problem proudly displaying those for soccer teams from countries in which they don't live.

I actually screamed at one car: "Where's your Canada flag?"

Then I chased him down, pulled him out of his car, tied him to the back fender and put a Canada flag between his teeth. Okay, so that may not be exactly how it happened. I did yell, but maybe he was kind of far away to hear me.

And then on Saturday, the Milton Marauders were leading 17-0 over Oakville, but started to falter in the second half. I know there's no cheering in the press box, but they don't have a press box, and I wanted them to win. When Oakville made it 17-13, I'd had enough, and went down on the field. I body-slammed a couple of the bigger guys and read them the riot act.

Okay, so that may not have happened exactly like that, but I was worried for a while.



On the loose

with MURRAY TOWNSEND

And then I found out that certain hockey publications I work for during the summer have cancelled fall preview books because of the potential labour stoppage.

I think we can all agree that professional hockey players are vastly underpaid and many of them are just barely surviving, but I was irritated anyway. So, I went looking for Tie Domi. When I found him I gave him a few rights and then a couple lefts until he lay blubbing on the ground like a baby.

Okay, maybe that wasn't exactly what happened, but I did say a few bad words.

Finally, I was in this poker tournament, and the top prize was more than \$8,000. I won my seat, so it didn't cost me anything.

I was doing well and there were only 20 players remaining. I planned on giving my winnings to starving hockey players and those who can't afford Canadian flags for their cars so I was motivated.

It was Texas Hold Em poker, which you may have seen on TV. So I went big with my three kings. I thought nobody would beat me — I was going all the way to first place so I could buy Tie Domi lunch. Instead, some yahoo picked up a straight on the final card and I was out of the tournament. Well I kept my cool, but swore never ever to play poker again.

And that's exactly what happened, except I was back playing half an hour later.

Yes, it was one of those irritating weeks. And now I've irritated you with my irritating stories.

## Chorus going for another gold

• from A CAPPELLA on page 10

Together with the group's members, women who show up for the Summer Sing Program will learn a song — as well as performance and singing skills — and then perform it at Milton Mall July 27. Women are welcome to show up for any or all weeks of the program. For more information on the Summer Sing Program, call Jane Provins at (905) 842-5494.

A Cappella Showcase competes each spring in an area contest against other Harmony Inc. groups in southern Ontario, Pennsylvania and Ohio. Groups that qualify then go on to compete at an international competition.

In May, A Cappella Showcase won the gold medal at

its area contest in Rochester, N.Y. for the fourth consecutive year. Last November, it won the silver medal at the international competition in Halifax, N.S. for the second time. This November, it's going for the gold at the international competition.

A Cappella Showcase released its first CD, A Cappella Gold, in 2002.

On September 11, the chorus will present its Showcase 2004 concert at the Living Arts Centre in Mississauga. Tickets cost \$25 for orchestra and dress circle seats and \$20 for balcony seats. For tickets, call Audrey Murray at (905) 875-3719.

Stephanie Thiessen can be reached at [sthiessen@miltoncanadianchampion.com](mailto:sthiessen@miltoncanadianchampion.com).

It's a guy thing.

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