



### Take home the silverware

Six house league baseball players took home trophies with them Saturday night after being chosen the most improved players in the league. From left to right are

Richard Przybyszewski, Larry Murphy, Andrew Duckworth, Steven Kay, Mina Tesseris, Blaine Dusome. At far right is most improved peewee player Brad Coghill.

### Bookworm

## Leacock Treasury — a funny thing, isn't it?

by Priscilla Galloway  
The Leacock Medal Treasury: Three Decades of the Best of Canadian Humour is the featured July selection for the Readers' Club of Canada.

Now I have to admit that I haven't read it, haven't even seen it. What I have read is John Robert Columbo's review in *The Canadian Reader*.

It sounds like a really funny book. I've read and enjoyed many of the books that have won the Leacock medal for humour during the past 30 years, and would likely get lots of chuckles, some giggles, and at least a few good belly-laughs out of the excerpts from the 30 books that make up this collection.

Columbo himself says it's "the best sampler of our humour to appear between two covers" and with considerable modesty puts it "right years ahead" of his own collection of Canadian humour.

Eric Nicol, Richard Needham, W.O. Mitchell, Max Ferguson, Pierre Berton, Max Braithwaite—to name only a very few that most people will recognize—are, or can be genuinely funny people to most of us, even considering so very individual a thing as what we laugh at, or don't.

But I'm not going to buy the Leacock Medal Treasury, even though I may well read it, and for

two reasons. First—a respectable reason to almost everybody. I don't usually go for excerpts. If I really like a book, the whole of it is what I want. The little piece just whets the appetite, and it's annoying that there isn't anything to come next. But a sampler can give me an idea of books I'd like to own and can then go ahead and buy.

Secondly—a reason some people will find near-phobic. I've got this thing about women writers, see. And out of 24 authors represented (some have won more than once, Eric Nicol three times), 21 are male, two female, and one indefinite. He or she may not really be infinite in real life.

I hope not, indeed. I don't know him, her, and "Jan" is less definite than Donald, Norman, or Harry—or Joan or Angelina. Joan Walker and Angelina Hango are the women. I don't know either yet, but plan to get acquainted soon.

Somewhat less than 10 per cent representation, girls. I'm not about to support that disproportion by buying it.

But I can't really complain about the representation.

As I think about the Canadian fiction I know, we women haven't gone in for the lighter side. I think Adele Wiseman's *Crackpot!* is one of the funniest, gutsiest books I've read in years, but there's too much else in it. It's not, it's definitely not, primarily a humorous novel. Again, there are some really funny bits of Constance Beresford-Howe's *Book of Eve*. But each laugh carries its own little bit of recognition to many women who read the book, and that recognition often hurts us even as we laugh. Again, humour is far from being at the core of the book.

So, readers of this paper, perhaps you'll give it some thought. Do women lack a sense of humour? Or is our sense of humour different from men's? Or do we express our humour by laughing at what our menfolks say, rather than saying, or writing, funny things ourselves? Or is our humour perhaps more usually inseparable from our other concerns?

Or do you think it's just possible, just an outside

chance, that the Leacock about the same proper-judges have been men, in tion as the awards?

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### All in the line of duty

## OPP release August activities statistics

Officials at the Midland detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police last week released statistics from the month of August, illustrating the type of activity carried on by the detachment during a normal summer month.

Property, valued at \$24,675, was stolen in the Midland jurisdiction, of which \$12,278 was recovered.

Two adults were reported missing, one of which was located by Midland officials. A total of three juveniles were reported missing, of which two were located by the local OPP.

Ten incidents of breaking and entering, in which no property was stolen, were investigated by members of the Midland detachment.

Two male adults were charged for sexual offences, one rape and one indecent assault.

The OPP investigated a total of 21 assaults, leading to charges against six male adults and three juveniles.

Seven male adults, one female adult, and four male juveniles were charged for breaking and entering. Police in-

vestigated a total of 37 breaking and entering occurrences.

A total of 19 thefts over \$200 were investigated during August, leading to charges against two male adults and one juvenile. Another 52 thefts involving goods valued at less than \$200 were investigated. One man and a woman have been subsequently charged

with theft under \$200.

A total of 79 criminal code offences were investigated by officials at the Midland detachment, of which six involved bail violations, 15 for disturbing the peace, 28 involved the wilful damage of private property, and seven involved trespassing. A total of 20 persons were charged for various of-

fences under the criminal code.

Two male adults were charged under the Narcotics Control Act, following police investigation of six incidents.

Eighteen male adults were charged under the Liquor Control Act during the month of August.

### Long weekend visitors in Vasey

Mrs. Harold Graham Eleanore Edwards

Visitors during the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Melvern Isaac were Miss Rita Woodward, Willowdale, Mr. Peter Bell, Mt. Gilliard, Ohio and Mr. Joe Bell of Ajax.

Mrs. Orval Edwards and Gregory spent Thursday in Aurora visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Clare Whetham and visitors during the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Orval Edwards were Mrs. Alex Spence and Douglas and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Gratrix and family of Peterborough.

Jill Robinson and Bob Peche of North Bay visited Mr. and Mrs. Stan Robinson and family for the weekend. Jill has received a position at the Laurentien Hospital in Sudbury.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stone spent the weekend with friends in Brantford.

Visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Ken Rumney during the weekend were Mr. and Mrs. Bob Barnett and Benjamin of Orangeville, and Mrs. Jack Waples of Elmvalle. Bob Kidd was home for a few days after his summer employment before leaving to attend the Sir Wilfrid Laurier University.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Edwards spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Don Edwards and family at Kettle's Beach.

Friday, Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Faint of Toronto and Mrs. Clara Jamieson of Cambridge visited with Mr. and Mrs. Ken Robinson.

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Devitt and Douglas of Oshawa spent the weekend with Mrs. Wm. Taylor.

Mrs. A. Leith and Miss Margaret Leith of Orillia visited on Friday with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Nixon. Glenn Nixon of Toronto also was home for the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Doakes of Guelph visited Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Edwards.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Edwards and boys visited in friends in Hamilton and Mr. and Mrs. Jack McGurn and family of Mississauga on the weekend.

Visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Benke and Andrew on the weekend were Mr. and Mrs. M. Wandell and family of Kitchener.

Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brown were Mr. and Mrs. Don Bell and family of Crossland and Mrs. Bell of Elmvalle.

Darren and Billie Jo Drury of Barrie spent the weekend with their grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Ted Vasey.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Dunn of Toronto spent the weekend at Mr. and Mrs.

Roy Edwards. James returned home after visiting with his grandparents.

Mrs. Craig Painter and Lyle spent a few days last week with Mrs. John Painter of St. Catharines.

The Vasey Women's Institute will meet at the home of Mrs. George Dupuis on Tuesday September 14 at 8:00 p.m. Norma Lee Edwards visited with Mr. and Mrs. Blain Edwards and boys at Sault Ste. Marie on the weekend.

Visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Jones during the weekend were Mr. and Mrs. Dean Jones of Mississauga, Gary Smith and friend of Scarborough. On Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. N. Jones visited with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Jones and girls at Clearwater Beach.

During the weekend, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McKeown and Amanda of Bracebridge, Allan McKeown of St. Catharines and Glenda and Janie Brewster and Tim McClelland of Scarborough visited with Mr. and Mrs. Clare McKeown. Robbie McKeown returned home with his parents after a holiday here.

Mr. and Mrs. Manley Edwards visited Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lockhart of Elmvalle.

Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Arkle Buchanan of Elmvalle visited with Mr. and Mrs. Arley Taylor and family.

Recent visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Woods were: Mrs. Rhoda Leonard and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Leonard of Waterloo, Miss Gertrude Green of Toronto and Mr. and Mrs. Ross Woods and family of Oil City.

On Sunday, Mrs. Bea Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Al Dorion, Jill Robinson and Bob Peche attended the Shakespeare play Anthony and Cleopatra at Stratford.

Mr. and Mrs. Momy of Toronto visited Mrs. Susan Vancamp and Stan on the weekend.

### Obituary

## Grace Edwards dies

The death occurred suddenly at her home 577 Hugel Avenue, Midland on Wednesday, September 1, 1976 of Grace Wallace Edwards. Beloved wife of Wilfred Edwards, she was in her 82nd year.

Dear mother of Bob of Toronto, Bill of Midland, Mary Lou (Mrs. W.M. Wilson) of Barrie, and Joanne (Mrs. E.T. Kelsey) of Fairport, New



### Most improved players

Winners of trophies for most improved players in the T-ball league, from left to right are Tony Irvine, Peter

Lalonde, Michael Larman, Trevor Scott, Robby Desroches and Robert Lee. Staff photo

## Vasey minor ball season ends

The Vasey Minor Ball teams brought the season to a close last Wednesday evening with a banquet and awards night at the Vasey United Church.

After a delicious meal served to approximately one hundred by the Vasey Women's Institute, the president Mr. Don Hawke welcomed the teams and parents and expressed his appreciation for their support as well as the work of the executive, vice-president Mrs. Delcie Moriarty and the secretary-treasurer — Mrs. Lois Amos.

The total registration this year totalled eighty-one boys and girls, the largest group being the T-Ball, a new venture this year for children from five to eight years who wish to learn the basics of ball, but do not enter into any competition. This group under the leadership of Mrs. Elaine Edwards, Mr. Larry Bowers, and Mr. Doug Hook and the mothers, proved a very successful venture and on August 17, a fun night was held for the children with races, a

T-Ball game and a barbecue completed the evening.

The fourteen members of the Atom team had a successful year under coach, Mr. Gary Edwards and assistant coach Mr. Harold Graham, winning all their league games and for this they received the Wallace Woods trophy. However on tournament day for the North Simcoe Atom League held at Vasey on August 28, after winning their first game went down to defeat to the Wyebrook Atoms by one run after two extra innings to determine the winner.

Coach Mr. Gary Edwards gave some very interesting statistics on his team members and thanked the parents for their support. He then awarded Ian Dundas the trophy for the most advanced player during the season. Ian improved as a player and also gained a lot of confidence in himself. The Alas Block trophy for the most safe hits in the North Simcoe Atom League was presented to Bob Graham by Eddie Moriarty, last year's winner. This year a new trophy for the batting championship in the Vasey team was presented by Mr. and Mrs. John Dalton in memory of their son David, who was a member of the Atom team. Shane Sallows and Bob Graham tied for this and were awarded smaller trophies to keep.

The Squirt team, coached by Mrs. Janet Hamilton and assisted by Mrs. Molly Duncan and Mr. Ron Jones had thirteen members and had quite a successful

year, finishing in second place in their division. The Batting trophy donated by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Rumney was presented to Kevin Hamilton by Mr. Rumney and the most valuable player award was presented to Dwayne Stacey by Mr. Don Hawke.

Although the fifteen members of the Peewee team were not very successful during the season, they managed to come through in the three tournaments they entered. The coaches Mr. Doug Hook, Mrs. Helen Watt and Mrs. Bea Robinson presented the boys with individual trophies for their efforts in winning the Midhurst tournament, the consolation in the Elmvalle meet and runners-up in the Wyebrook tournament in August. The Peewee

Crests were presented to all members registered as well as the coaches and assistant coaches.

This ends another year of baseball in Vasey but already there is speculation on how many and who will be involved in next year's teams, and by the interest shown this year, we can certainly look forward to some exciting games in the season to come.



### Celebrate anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. W.T. McDermott, who lived in Penetang since 40 years, celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary on September 5 with a quiet celebration at the Villa Nursing Home in Midland. Staff photo

### Happy cooker

A blender is a useful kitchen appliance. I've only had one a couple of years but giving it up would be like losing a cheerfully humming assistant chef.

A blender, like all small kitchen appliances, is most useful when it's on deck on a permanent basis. Plugged in and ready to go, it will liquefy powdered milk, mince meats for sandwich fillings, make cashew or other nut butter, chop chocolate pieces and nuts, or make unimpeachable bread, cracker and cookie crumbs all at the touch of a finger.

Sauce Bernaise, that bete noire of cookery, becomes child's play with a blender. You can dazzle your next dinner party this way: Place two egg yolks, 1 tablespoon lemon juice, 1 teaspoon tarragon vinegar and 1 teaspoon tarragon in blender, and turn on and off to combine.

With blender at highest speed, very gradually add 3/4 cup hot melted butter in a slow steady stream. Fold in 2 tablespoons chopped parsley and 1 tablespoon capers, drained and mashed. This will make about 1/2 cup sauce, and everyone will think you're very clever.

On a more pedestrian note, it's also possible to make pleasant potato pancakes with a blender, which topped with blender applesauce will make your family wonder why they didn't give you a blender for Christmas years ago.

First—make the applesauce with 4 medium apples, pared, cored and cubed (about 4 cups.) Put these in blender, along with 1/2 cup sugar 2 tablespoons lemon juice and 5 or 6 drops of food colouring, if you care about that sort of thing. Blend until smooth. If you're using the applesauce for the pancakes, it's nice heated. Otherwise, you can spoon it up cold.

Now that you've made the applesauce, clean out the blender container, and do the pancakes, as follows:

- 4 eggs
- 2 3/4 cup sifted all purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 2 tablespoons cooking oil
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 small onion
- 2 cups diced pared raw potatoes (about 3/4 pound.)

Put eggs in blender container; cover and blend until fluffy, about 5 seconds. Add remaining ingredients in the order given, and blend about 5 seconds or until potatoes are finely grated—not lumpy.

Bake pancakes at once on greased hot griddle or in electric skillet at 375 degrees for about 2 minutes on each side. Use about 2 tablespoons batter for each. Turn once.

Do not stack pancakes, as they tend to get a bit gluey. Serve with hot blender applesauce. This makes about 2 1/2 dozen pancakes.

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