Other things that come up in discussion reveal a woman that finds it hard to think in terms of obstacles or weaknesses and is determined to keep on top of everything despite a job that forced her to commute from the reserve into Toronto every day for 11 years and to juggle appointments with an answering machine that broke down last weekend because of message overload.

"It recorded 43 messages and then it just died on us," she laughed.

Behind the confident person who had originally planned to be a doctor and studied sciences during her first year at McGill University in 1970, is a person with a foible for cheeseburgers and french fries, especially "fries from the chip truck'; a lover of theatre who has seen Les Miserables twice; and mother to a daughter who has seen Les Miz once and knows every word to the production.

"It's great, she mows the lawn and sings to the Les Miz tape," said Ms. Jamieson.

October 28/89

Love of arts

But her love of the arts, a passion shared by her husband Tom Hill, artist and museum director of the Woodland Cultural Centre (he saw Les Miserables three times) is not relegated solely to the finer of arts and all pretention falls by the wayside when she speaks of her favourite television sitcom star.

"I love Roseanne she's so basic, she's like real life," laughs Ms. Jamieson.

She also enjoys camping, except when it rains, and is often accused of "cooking for the troops," a habit she says comes from growing up in a family that owned a restaurant on the reserve called Bobby's Grill.

But a pile of books next to her bed is a tangible testament to her favourite pasttime.