

Let's hope Olympic 'hosers' don't get on snowmobiles

I don't know whether people are becoming more obtuse or I'm getting more judgmental in my old age.

But I would suggest that a mere modicum of pre-Mike Harris common sense

might have prevented a slew of unfortunate occurrences which have marred the headlines over the past few weeks.

While some of these bimbo-esque blunders have proved disastrous to life

and limb, others have suggested to the world that ours is a country of pot-smoking hosers.

I'm not going to comment on the lack of wariness displayed by the rash of snowmobilers who have sunk through the ice like so many mesmerized cult followers this winter. Except to say these people must have been suffering from some form of judgment impairment.

And while I'd be the last one to try to inject humour into this tragic series of deaths, there was at least a little jocularity to be found in

Port Perry's recent attempt to divert attention from the Scugog snowmobile sinkings by setting up some ice sculptures on the lake to promote the town's winter carnival, only to have the works of frigid art break through the ice.

On to Nagano, Japan and the Olympics that were hoped to result in Canada's best medal harvest ever. They still may, but there's no doubt they'll also be remembered for reasons best forgotten.

First off there was Paul Savage of our men's curling team. This Scarborough native, in a bash held on the



From Where I Live

Bruce Stapley

eve of the illustrious Games' opening ceremonies chose to drop his trousers and reveal a Maple Leaf tattoo on his backside. This is a stunt, noted one Toronto FM radio sports guy, that you'd hardly expect to see a Wayne Gretzky or an Elvis Stojko pull.

But as it turned out, Savage's sorry salute was a minor misdemeanour compared to how smoke-blowing snowboarder Ross Rebagliati came within a well-argued appeal of seeing his Japanese gold go up in a puff of Acapulco gold.

I know I'm dating myself here, but I couldn't help but conjure up images of those old Cheech and Chong comedy eight track tapes while listening to reefer Ross trying to explain how he almost blew his life's dream.

This guy makes Ben Johnson look like a rocket scientist. The whole sordid affair was straight out of the 'Trippin' In Court' skit from Cheech and Chong's — the one where the deranged dude tries to tell the judge he has only used marijuana 22, oops, that's two times, your honour.

You could almost hear young Ross, he of the group of friends who he would have us believe, all smoke grass but him, saying how he hadn't smoked the stuff since, uh, yesterday, er, no I mean April of 1997, man.

As for Ross's fellow Whistler B.C. residents and partners in the 'let's party hearty, dudes' lifestyle associated with snowboarders, they predictably lined up to vouch for their native son.

Even his dear grannie, who insisted her grandson wouldn't do that "trip", suggested little Ross had always been a good boy who drank his milk and cleaned his room. Of course, that's a little like getting the manufacturers of those smart bombs to endorse a military strike on Iraq.

Slice it any way you like, but after all the nightmares this country has been forced to endure since the Big Ben fiasco in Seoul, Korea, followed by the innocent-but-costly Silken Laumann cold medicine affair at the Pan Am Games in Argentina, there's just no excuse for testing positive for marijuana at the Olympics.

One can only hope that Ross Rebagliati, or Paul Savage for that matter, never take up snowmobiling.

PUBLIC MEETING

Ontario Speaks:

A dialogue on Canadian Unity

Frank Klees, MPP for York Mackenzie and the Hon. Al Palladini, MPP for York Centre invite you to a non-partisan forum to consult the public on ways to strengthen Canada. The meeting will include a discussion on the framework developed by nine Canadian premiers and the two territorial leaders in Calgary on September 14, 1997.

Please come out and join the dialogue on Canadian unity for Ontario, for Canada, and for our future as a nation.

Date: Wednesday, February 18, 1998

Time: 1:45 p.m.

Location: Atrium Banquet Hall
322 Edward Street, Aurora

For reservations of further information, please contact Frank Klees' constituency office at 905/727-1985.

FREE SEMINAR Attention Writers! How To Write A Book On Anything in 14 Days or Less... GUARANTEED!

Steve Manning's unbelievable 3-hour seminar where you master:

- * How you can write your book effortlessly in just 14 days!
- * How to break up your writing into just five-minute segments
- * How to duplicate Jack London's technique and write it right the first time
- * The 12 steps to Blueprinting your entire book, from start to finish in just hours
- * The master strategy for killing writer's block dead, you'll never hesitate again
- * The 10 writing myths you've got to destroy to unleash your writing power
- * How to write an entire chapter in just 75 minutes!
- * How to buy a best-selling plot for just 50 cents!
- * How to begin your book with a fantastic opening
- * How to develop your own "technology"
- * The fastest method of researching on the planet (it has nothing to do with the internet!)
- * Three different ways to get an agent for your book in less than 10 days
- * How to develop the greatest titles possible
- * The 8 steps for creating characters in just seconds
- * Create a #1 book proposal
- * Write Your Life Story
- * And much, much more!!

"You've really got something here. I want you to know I actually missed a basketball game to hear you speak, and it was worth every minute. I'm putting (your techniques) into action right away."

Jack Donohue, Olympic Basketball Coach
"I've been wanting to hear you speak for years and never had the time. Tonight, I was blown away by what you were presenting. This is cutting edge material every writer or marketer must see to believe. You make the complex simple. The unattainable, easily within reach."

Paul Litwach, Consultant & Speaker
"I truly can't believe it! You proved I could write my own book in 2 weeks — in the first 35 minutes! This material is pure gold. My next book will also be a best seller, but I'll have it in weeks instead of years."

David Posen, M.D., Best Selling Author, "Always Change A Losing Game"
If you want to write a book, fiction or non-fiction, if getting published would help you personally or professionally, if it's always been a dream but never a reality, then this is one seminar you MUST attend.

Steve Manning is a master writer. In his career as a journalist, author and speaker he has written 1,620+ feature articles for magazines throughout North America. He has produced 30 Special Reports, 11 books and two audio albums.
He writes 3,000 publishable words per

hour! You'll learn how you can, too! He has been mentioned in Writer's Digest magazine and is the founding editor of a Canadian business magazine. His corporate clients include major multinational corporations on both sides of the border. He has received rave reviews for his writing strategies from dozens of groups including The Law Society of Upper Canada, the Association of Independent Consultants, the Canadian Association of Professional Speakers.

Maybe you've heard him on radio across the country or read his columns. Now you can see him LIVE! And master those very same strategies! His goal is to turn you into a book-writing success!

NOTE! ONLY 50 SEATS ARE AVAILABLE.

This FREE seminar has limited seating. Reserve your seat NOW!
St. Andrews Church, Markham Rd. (east side) 50 yds. north of #7, Feb. 21, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Call NOW, 24 hours, reserve your seat. Limited to 50.

Toll free **1-888-296-4929**

Please note: This ad will NOT appear again before the seminar date. This seminar is being publicized throughout Greater Metropolitan Toronto. Call NOW!



Hy I Need All Your Votes

TING

For a strong mandate in WARD 7

Flyer Inserts For Saturday, February 14, 1998

- LOBLAWS/SUPERCENTRE
- SEARS
- BIWAY
- A & P
- ZELLERS
- WESTON PRODUCE
- M & M MEATS
- STOUFFVILLE IGA
- DOMINION
- LOBLAWS YONGE & BERNARD
- CANADIAN TIRE RICHMOND HILL

Selected areas only

WE'RE FIRST IN DISTRIBUTION

We've delivered 5,585,447 flyers door-to-door, so far this year.

For further information on how we can deliver your flyers call:

Melissa or Ruth at (905) 640-2100

The Tribune

FLYER DELIVERY

- HOME DELIVERY**
Delivered home to home for only 3.5¢ per piece depending on quantity.
- BUSINESS DELIVERY**
Delivered business to business for only 6.5¢ per piece. Businesses only.

Not only can we deliver your flyers anywhere in Markham, Unionville, Stouffville, Uxbridge and surrounding areas, we can also compose and print your flyers at very competitive rates. For more information call:

Linda MacFarlane @ 905-294-8244

ECONOMIST & SUN/THE TRIBUNE
SERVICE, DESIGN, PRINTING, DELIVERY, PRICE! YOUR ONE STOP ADVERTISING

ADVERTISING CORRECTION

In our Spring Home Living Sale, flyer included in last week's paper. Please note: Page 33 Maytag Mail-In Rebate Offer. Copy should read: \$50 rebate Refrigerators. Our Reg. \$1,069.99 to \$1,199.99; with rebate \$1,019.99 to \$1,149.99.

We sincerely apologize to our customers and regret any inconvenience or confusion this may have caused.

EATON'S

ADVICE ON BANKRUPTCY AND ALTERNATIVES

FREE CONSULTATION

To discuss your options with a Trustee in confidence
Call Anytime (905) 477-7529 (Evg. & Wknd. Appts)

Starkman Kraft Inc.
Trustee in Bankruptcy
Personal & Corporate Services

Markham **889-7529**
7030 Woodbine Ave. (at Steeles)