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## ETCETERA



## JUST

*There's more than one way to beat the heat*

BY FRED SIMPSON  
Staff Writer

Cool it man, cool it. That may well be the rallying cry of the long-suffering hot weather buffs who have had little chance to warm up to summer 2000, which has been, well, cool.

As one wag put it recently, "Whenever I want to cool off, I just go outside."

Not to despair. Environment Canada has issued a heat-wave warning for some time in August. You read it here first.

So it was with soaring temperatures and humidity in mind that this intrepid writer sallied forth to poll the citizenry on just how they manage to keep cool.

No sweat, says Jeff Wakefield of Richmond Hill, who prides himself on being the voice of sanity in a world run amok with wild-eyed eccentrics.

"A surefire way of keeping cool is to dress in wool clothing," advises Wakefield, who knows whereof he speaks. Most summer weekends find him participating in his-

torical re-enactments all over Ontario.

"Our costumes are mostly canvas and wool," he explains. "When you're dressed up in all this wool, you sweat like a moose and after a while, you smell like a moose."

"After three days, it's so incredibly hot in this uniform that, when you take it off, it doesn't matter if the temperature is 100 degrees, you feel cool."

Wakefield also advises that visiting haunted houses can be a cooling, even chilling, experience.

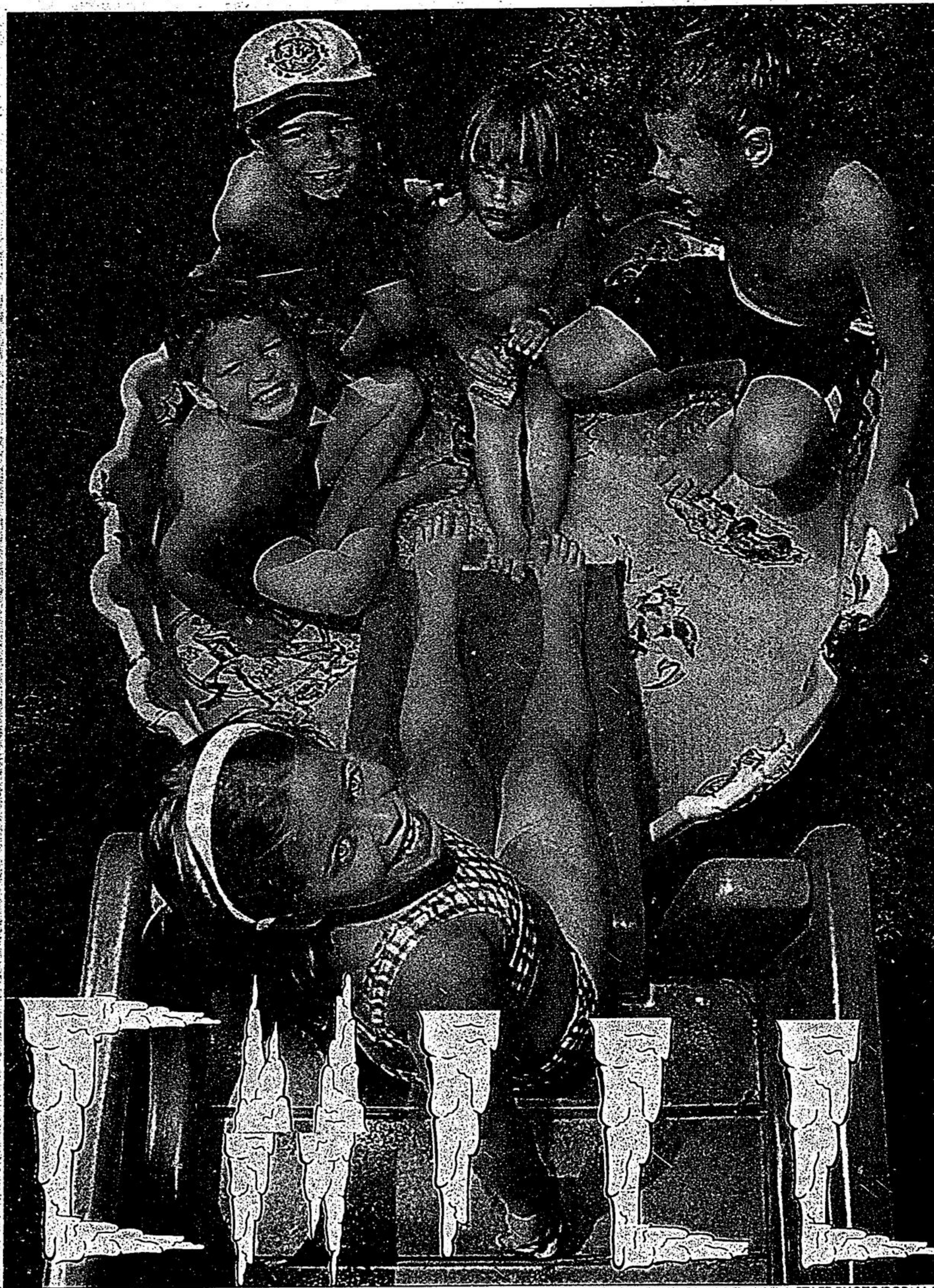
"You find a haunted house, there must be lots in the area, and make friends with a spirit or two," he says.

"Spirits always bring a cool breeze with them and just being in their presence will cool you off."

Wakefield also has glad tidings for all those men who wear flowing beards, as is his wont.

"When it gets really warm I tie my beard in a knot so that the breeze can get at my neck," he says seriously.

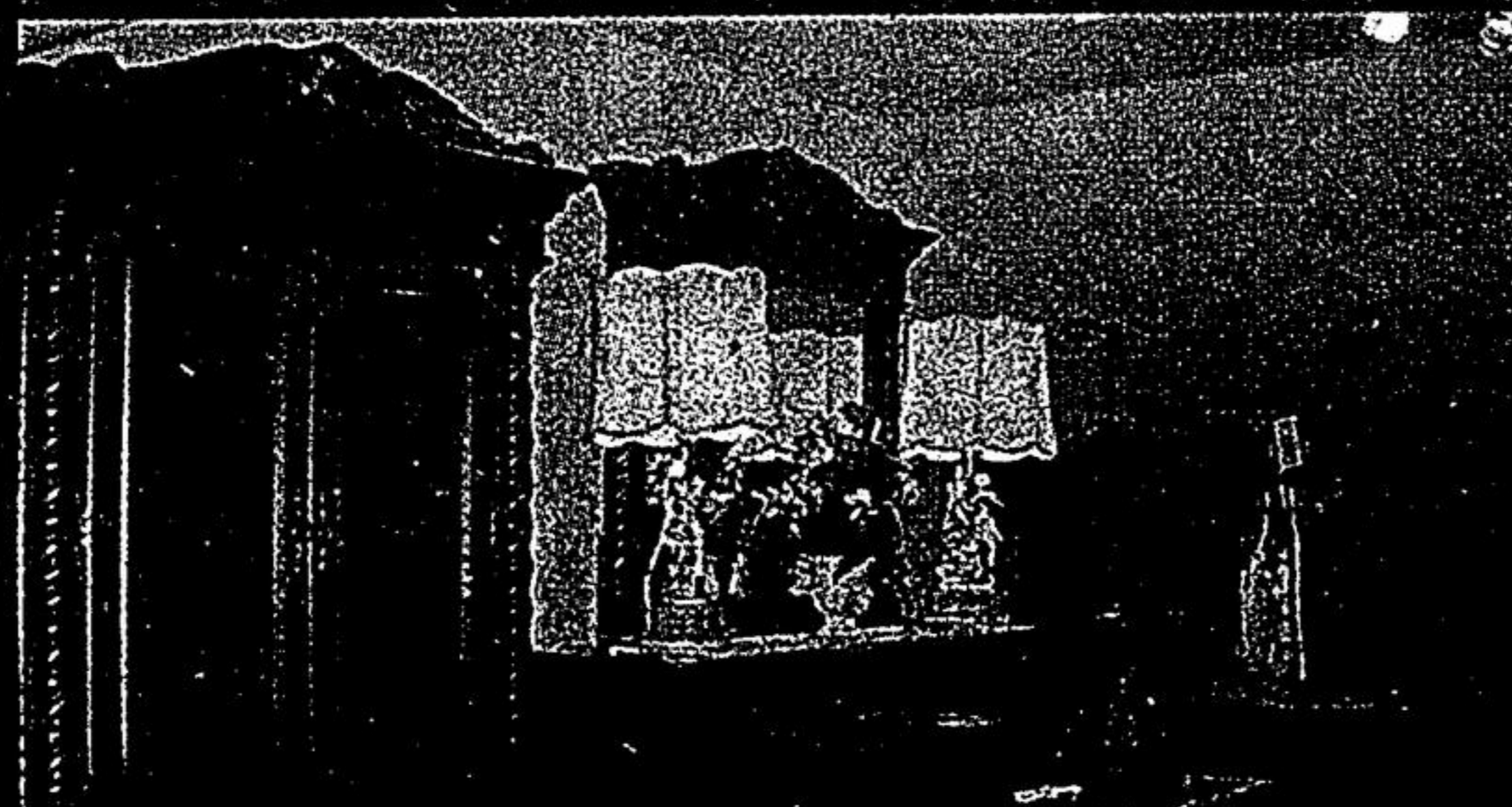
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STAFF PHOTO/ROB ALA

Piling into the pool are, clockwise from bottom, Ana Vermeulen, Natan Hibloom, Travis Weninger, Sof Vermeulen and Maury Hibloom. At top left, Ana Vermeulen uses some old-fashioned technology to keep cool.

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