

Big Brothers 'turns out great' for island youth

By TONY RICHARDS
Driftwood Staff

It was impossible to miss the eagerness with which an 11-year-old boy greeted the conclusion of an interview Sunday. He had an appointment to keep.

The Big Brothers-Big Sisters organization has made its first Salt Spring match since the group was formed last year. On Sunday afternoon, Jamie Ryan met with Big Brother Eddy Jang for the third consecutive week. And it has all the appearances of a perfect combination.

Jamie (not his real name) was about as enthused over Big Brothers as he was about being interviewed for a newspaper story. "I was very negative. I wasn't looking forward to it," he said of his then-impending match with Jang, a self-

employed building contractor with two grown-up children of his own.

But Jamie, the son of a single mother, said he kept an open mind, learned more about the program and changed his mind.

On Sunday he conceded: "It turned out great, actually."

But judging by the excitement he showed when discussing his match, his concession was an understatement. And he was more than anxious that the reporter should leave so he and Jang could get on with their plans for the afternoon.

Those plans may have included any one of several activities drawn from a list of shared interests, a list that contributed to the pair being matched in the first place. Two of those interests are fishing and woodworking.

Jamie's interest in the latter began when he and his grandfather, who lives in Alberta, made a wooden paddle.

After that, however, it was left to Jamie's mother to help her son with his woodworking projects. It was a learning process for the two of them.

Jane Ryan (not her real name) recalls wandering through a local hardware store wondering what on earth a lag bolt was. "Jamie wanted to make all his Christmas presents out of wood," she said, so she obliged by providing what help she could.

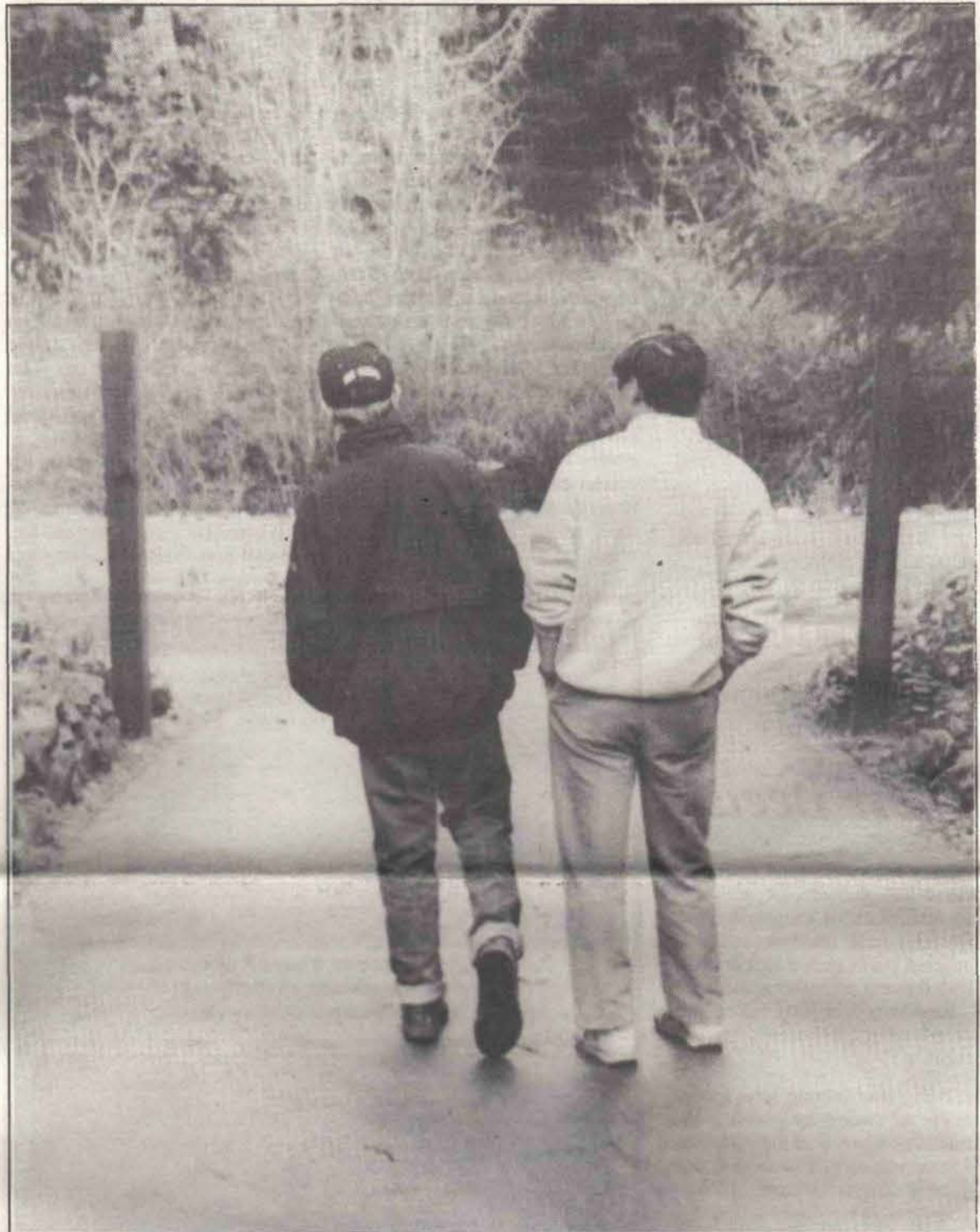
Today, Jamie is happy with the way the presents turned out, but his mother is more than a little relieved that someone like Eddy Jang can offer some more expert assistance. The same goes for sports.

An eager participant at team sports, Jamie was determined to practise pitching last year.

But his mother's efforts to help by playing catcher cost her a broken nose.

It was then, she recalls, that she realized something was missing, and that a large burden was being placed on her as a single parent. With no older male in the home and no immediate family nearby, Jane Ryan turned to Big Brothers.

The result, as she puts it, is "a



BROTHERS: Eddy Jang and his "adopted" younger brother set out on a short walk Sunday to make plans for their afternoon together.

The two represent the first match made on Salt Spring by Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Victoria.

Photo by Tony Richards

Wanted: Big Brothers, Little Sisters

There's a shortage of Big Brothers and Little Sisters on Salt Spring Island.

The Big Brothers and Big Sisters organization is set to arrange three more matches of brothers on Salt Spring, but no more will follow until more Big Brothers sign up for the program. And more Little Sisters are required to pair with the five Big Sisters who have enrolled.

Big Brothers spokeswoman Marney Thompson of Victoria said she has a waiting list of several island youths, including one girl.

Matches are made by pairing individuals with common interests.

Big Brothers-Big Sisters began operating on Salt Spring last September, after about a year of fundraising, Thompson said. The first match was made a few weeks ago (see separate story).

Anyone interested in participating in the program can reach Thompson at 475-1117.

wonderful match."

Eddy Jang has lived on Salt Spring for 42 years, after moving here from Vancouver at the age of 18. He has been a building contractor for the past 30 years.

Asked about his role as a Big Brother and Jang responds: "How often do you get a chance to have a third childhood?"

The first, he says, is growing up and the second is having children of your own.

On Sunday afternoons he enjoys

a third with Little Brother Jamie.

Although the two are still in the process of getting to know each other, they have been busy. They've toured Eddy Jang's home and his farm, been through Maracaibo where Jang looks after maintenance, done some fishing on St. Mary Lake and played a game of pool at King's Lane Recreation.

"He beat the socks off me," Jamie recalled of the pool game with a trace of indignation in his voice, but wearing a broad smile.

"He toasted me."

Future Sundays will see them out fishing for salmon aboard Jang's boat or finishing a sabot that Jang began building when his own son was still at home.

And as the weather improves, they'll probably spend more time together.

Which is just fine as far as Jamie Ryan is concerned.

He's probably anxious to make up the valuable time lost due to a newspaper interview.

Egg count will help monitor lingcod stocks

A "snapshot" of lingcod egg masses in the Gulf Islands may help combat a decrease in lingcod stocks in Georgia Strait.

The first-ever lingcod egg mass survey was held last weekend in strait waters, when volunteer divers located and catalogued masses of lingcod eggs.

"They look like big chunks of styrofoam, about the size of a football," said Andy Lamb last week. He was preparing to lead a group into the Active Pass area from Mayne Island, to count the cod egg masses in those waters.

Lamb is also past president of

the Marine Life Sanctuaries Society of B.C. which sponsored the event in conjunction with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the Vancouver Aquarium.

Lamb said the count relied on the efforts of approximately 150 volunteers. Although Lamb noted sports fishermen and sports divers don't always agree on ocean issues, for this project many fishermen donated their boats as bases for the divers.

The volunteers have worked with Department of Fisheries staff to ensure the information they col-

lect will help with future management of lingcod stocks. Approximately 130 letters were sent to diving associations and businesses to recruit volunteer divers for the egg count.

"It's kind of a take-off on the bird count," Lamb said. With the help of the volunteers, the one-day event will collect the kind of wide-ranging information that the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) cannot collect on its own, he noted. "It's one sampling method that DFO can't do."

Research biologist Lynne Yamanaka is part of a team at the

Pacific Biological Station in Nanaimo which monitors fish stocks for DFO. She notes lingcod stocks in the strait have decreased dramatically within recorded history.

For example, she says, in 1951, the fishery landed 1,355 tons of lingcod. By 1975, that figure was down to 402 tons and, by 1987, down further to 97.9 tons.

Although shortened seasons and restrictions on size have cut into the harvest, Yamanaka said there has also been a significant reduction in the number of fish available.

"We're concerned that the stock size has been depressed," she said. The commercial fishery has been closed since 1990 and the researchers have recommended closure of the entire cod fishery.

Yamanaka hopes the egg mass count will give the researchers useful information on lingcod, especially once it becomes an annual event and comparisons can be made between the observations from successive years. "This is a snapshot — this will give some idea about the concentration and

LINGCOD B4

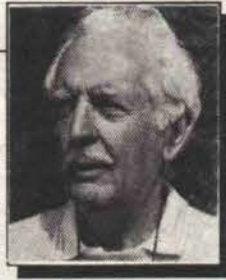
This newspaper business covers a wide range of activities. In the past 40 or so years I have written on a wide variety of subjects as a basic part of the job. And in those years I've hammered nails, moved machinery, changed offices and built walls. On one occasion I destroyed an old newspaper folding machine with a sledge hammer and I learned how not to melt down lead in an unventilated foundry.

Moving is just part of the business. The *Driftwood* has enjoyed six homes in the past 30 years and I was involved in five of them. And that's something to be said on the credit side for the modern, electronic system of newspaper production: the equipment is lighter. There's scarcely a unit in the shop that can't be moved by two muscular reporters. Years ago there was scarcely a machine in the business that could be moved by two, muscular or flabby though they might have been.

The same story goes through the whole business. Even an electric typewriter could be a heavy load. Now the typewriter can be carried under one arm.

Typesetting? I never weighed a Linotype machine, and I'm thinking of the machine that set lines of type; but it weighed better than a ton, I would think. That's all by memory.

to be
FRANK
FRANK RICHARDS



All equipment today is of aluminum or plastic. All equipment a few decades ago was of cast iron, loaded down with lead. In truth, we are now looking at the lighter side of life.

When the *Driftwood* moved from the bottom of Ganges Hill to the end of the "yellow dirt road, McPhillips Avenue," it was Dick Royal who moved everything. I don't recall the officer in charge of the move to Rainbow Road or thence to Upper Ganges Road. It happened too quickly for me to notice. This week Five Star Moving loaded up the van and hauled away my long-savoured bread and butter.

When I look back on the days before I came to the island I see machinery by the ton, too often movable only by means of a crane. When the *Sidney Review* purchased two Linotype machines nearly half a century ago, the older, a 1905 Model 5, as I recall, made a quick trip from the

Victoria Times building, now part of the Eaton's complex on Fort Street. The ancient heavyweight was hauled out of its upper window and lowered on to a flat-deck truck. All was done in double-quick time. The truck brought the equipment out to Sidney and unloaded it on to a pile of lumber. Wood baulks were criss-crossed until they reached the level of the truck. Many hundreds, perhaps several thousands of pounds of machine was wriggled and inched off the truck to stand, swaying gently, atop the lumber pile. The formidable equipment was then moved on rolling pipes into the new home already prepared for it. The movers were the publisher, the editor, two printers, a pressman and the advertising salesman.

It is a very learned business, this trade of journalism; its adherents learn to do anything that comes.

Wednesday's move was old hat. No cast iron, no lead... you can't

even call it moving, really.

Those pictographs!

It was bound to happen, but why to me?

I have long ranted about the silly little pictographs that grace every street and every building and every ferry boat in Christendom, and beyond. Instead of spelling out the directions the sign shows a picture. On the ferries it takes you half an hour to figure out what the picture means before you realize that the sketch is telling you either not to smoke until your motor is running or not to start the motor until your cigarette is properly burning.

I was in Vancouver a week ago and looking for the men's room. That goes with the age. I discovered it without too much effort.

As I left I kind of bumped into a young lady who was there with the same idea. What should a fellow do in that situation? I could have remarked on the weather. Or I could have expressed my apologies just for being there. Or I could have pointed out to her that there was a ladies' room next door.

I did nothing. I was suffering a guilty conscience. As I hurriedly left the facility I examined the door and ascertained that the pictograph represented a figure in a skirt and not in manly trousers. It could, of course, have been a Scot in his kilt

and the other door could have identified a young lady in full jogging kit.

Why would a Vancouver supermarket operator figure that these doors need no words? Does he figure that a man in a hurry can't read?

A Saturnaustrian voice

While British Columbia enjoys its winter soak a letter from Saturna's H. Layton Bray, wintering under the Queensland sun, suggests that he may well be the only British Columbian dreaming of rain. After four weeks of better than 38 C (100 F) the unfortunate wanderer is parched.

The writer enclosed a copy of a letter he mailed to Attorney-General Colin Gabelmann expressing his indignation at the penalties imposed on the Clayoquot protesters who defied the court injunction to withdraw.

Bray served for five and a half years during the war against such dictatorial practices whereby citizens in peaceful protest could be treated as criminals, he said.

Calling for a change in the laws of the province to terminate such court procedures, he signed his letter to the minister as a former member of the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Volunteers kick up their heels

Lady Minto Hospital paid tribute to its volunteers recently with an afternoon of entertainment. Hospital staff, residents and volunteers participated in karaoke, Irish dancing and other activities.

Residents and staff baked and prepared refreshments for the event.

Alice McMahon won a container of sweets by guessing the number of sweets in the container. Junior volunteer Elizabeth Baker gave a talk on the importance of volunteer service in the hospital.

Volunteer services include serving tea, baking, knitting, sewing, gardening, visiting, playing music, singing, arranging flowers, shopping, and decorating.

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Take Note of these dates

FEB. 15-MAR. 19: Clair Hefferhan's display, Mary Hawkins Library, Mon.-Sat., 10am-4pm.
MAR. 3: SS Weavers & Spinners, business meeting, Mahon Hall, 2:30pm.
MAR. 2: Medication review for seniors, Seniors for Seniors, Ganges, appointment required.
MAR. 5: Reader's Theatre (Spring-A-Drama), Mahon Hall, 7:30pm.
MAR. 6: Reader's Theatre (Spring-A-Drama), Mahon Hall, 2:30pm.
MAR. 7: Change to BC education policy, SSE Activity Centre, 7:30pm.
MAR. 10: SS Weavers & Spinners, dressing the loom, Mahon Hall, 2:30pm.
MAR. 17: SS Weavers & Spinners, A Look at Twills, Mahon Hall, 2:30pm.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

- Seniors & Alzheimers support group, Seniors for Seniors bldg. 11am
- Archery Shooting, SSI Rod & Gun Club, 7pm.
- Playgroup for tots, Ganges United Church, 9:30-11am
- Stamp Collectors all ages, Seniors For Seniors, 10am.
- Cancer Support Group meeting, Croftonbrook 10am-12 noon (every 3rd Wednesday).
- GISS Parents Group, School Library, 7:30pm (2nd Wednesday of the month).
- Narcotics Anonymous, Alano Club across from the elem. school, Rainbow Rd. 7-8pm.
- Tai Chi Chu'an, Salt Spring Centre, Blackburn Rd., 7-9pm.

EVERY THURSDAY

- SSI Camera Club, photography classes, 172 Reid Rd. 7-9:30pm.
- Weekly luncheons, Seniors for Seniors, 2 seatings 12:00/1:00.
- Weight Control Hospital Basement 7pm, no charge everyone welcome.
- Every 1st, 3rd & 5th, SS Pensions building fund-bingo, Legion Meaden Hall, 7:00 early birds, 7:30 regular.
- Scottish Dancing, Farmers Institute, 7pm.
- SSI Weavers & Spinners, Mahon Hall, 2:30pm.

EVERY FRIDAY

- Smiles Cafe, United Church lower hall, 12:00-1:00.
- Line Dance, Meaden Hall, Legion, 7:30-9:00.

EVERY SATURDAY

- Narcotics Anonymous, Community Centre, Fulford Ganges Rd., 7-8pm.
- Library will be open 10am-4pm Windfall Rm., will be open for book sales.

EVERY MONDAY

- Carpet bowling, lower hall, Central, 1:30pm.
- Story Time, Public Library, 9:30-10am (except holidays).
- "Bandemonium" G.I.S.S. band room, 7pm-9pm.
- Free blood pressure clinic, Seniors for Seniors 10-12noon (last Monday each month).
- Taoist Tai Chi, for seniors, Lower Central Hall, 10am.
- 22 rifle shooting, SSI Rod & Gun Club, 7pm.
- Duplicate Bridge, Meaden Hall at the Legion, 12 noon.

EVERY TUESDAY

- Archery Lessons, SSI Rod & Gun Club, 4:00-5:30pm.
- Duplicate Bridge, Meaden Hall at the Legion, 7pm.
- Evening Weaving Group, rm 23, H.S. Indust. Arts Bldg., 7:00pm, (every 3rd Tuesday)
- Evening Spinning Group, rm 23, H.S. Indust. Arts Bldg., 7:00pm, (every 2nd & 4th Tues.)

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WELCOME WAGON
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By LINDA CANNON
Driftwood Contributor
 Good old March. It always brings a number of signs that spring is about to sprout!
 Every year at this time, a pair of mallards return to our pond to investigate the housing crisis, and most years they stay. One year they — and we — were later rewarded with a tiny armada of puffball chicks that sailed round the water.
 Two years ago, a pair of hooded mergansers visited for a few days. We hung back, secretly watching them through binoculars, hoping they would stay. The male, so

our better nature
 striking with his fan-shaped white crest, made many exploratory dives in the pond. Finding no fish, however, the pair eventually moved on.
 March's other big event down by our pond is the annual concert by the original Salt Spring singer, the Pacific tree frog. The frogs initially tune up on the swamp across the road, which is at a lower elevation, and therefore warmer. This

entices them to practise earlier. A few weeks later, the hesitant croaks at our pond side join the full symphony rehearsal, a mad roar of individual croakings.
 Only the males croak, a two-note phrase, sounding suspiciously more like "wreck it" than "rib bit." It almost seems they do need a few nights of practice before their voices blend into that surprisingly melodic, delightfully soothing sound of spring song. (I can really wax poetic about frog song, because it lifts my urban heart.)
 Frogs are a barometer of environmental health; they just can't survive in polluted areas. That,

sadly, is why some ponds and swamps on Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland are now silent in the spring.
 The Pacific tree frog is usually green, less than two inches (50 mm) long, and an insect eater. They prefer spiders and other insects with dry body surfaces that will stick to their tongues!
 The spring congregation pool-side and ensuing concert is a mating ceremony. The eggs are

laid in March and April, hatching two to three weeks later. By July, the young frogs leave the water to spend most of their lives in trees and shrubs, hence their name.
 These frogs do hibernate in cold winters, but in milder weather individuals can be heard croaking in gardens and forests throughout the season.
 Come March, though, it's a mad dash for the water, love in bloom, and that jubilant froggy chorus.

I can really wax poetic about frog song because it lifts my urban heart.

GISS students on February honour roll

Gulf Islands Secondary School has prepared its list of honour roll students for February, 1994.

Principal's list: Eric Baker, Gitte Baker, Zoe Bennett, Erin Bergsma, Jeffrey Brownsword, Stanley Burns, Kate Butkus, Kurtis Buyze, Amber Cartwright, Anastasia Cyprus, Natasha Eyles, Dani Gardner, Natalie Gardner, Marie Gardner, Hung-Fei Huang, Rebecca King, Anna Lam, Yvonne Lam, Gretchen Prystawik, Janelle Rondeau, Andrea Rondeau, Franziska Satzinger, Helen Stacey, Jenni Thomas, Serena Vaillancourt.
Grade 12: Lisa Armitage, Gitte Baker, Shannon Bidwell, Mandy Bryson, Stanley Burns, Jennifer Cade, Lilith Clark, Natasha Eyles, David Gaylor, Rachel Gillett, Jenny Hill, Lianna Hingston, Graham Kaye, Yvonne Lam, Matthew Larmour, Sylvia Murray, Rita Phillips, Jaya Polden, Paula Proctor, Gretchen Prystawik, Andrea Rondeau, Anika Ropars, Andrea Satzinger, Jenni Thomas, Serena Vaillancourt.

Grade 11: Richard Avedon-Savage, Zoe Bennett, Frank Besson, Amber Cartwright, Josh Clark, Matthew Eide, Nicki Esau, Daniel Estable, Nayana Filkow, Tami Funk, Marie Gardner, Hung-Fei Huang, Jana Jirsova, Farishta Johnstone, Anna Lam, Krista McKeachie, Max Miles, Melissa Moore, Emily Ramer, Morag Rasmussen, Blake Richard, Juno Ruddell, Kirsten Somerset, Allyn Thomas, Clayton Underwood, David Walsh, Jason Wasney.

Grade 10: Jeff Aeichele, Dawn Akerman, Jason Avedon-Savage, Eric Baker, Christine Bergsma, Jeffrey Brownsword, Kate Butkus, Daniel Byrne, Patrick Chesters, Jasmine Dares, Joe English, Carle Ensminger, Kathryn Fowles, Natalie Gardner, Katie Gilchrist, Timothy Gordon, Gwendolyn Haevens, Jenny Hamer, Rebecca King, Kelly Laing, Peter Locke, Kristine Lyon, Shena Martin, Scott McCaughran, Jody McNab, Robert McNair, Jeremy Miller, Laura Redpath, Janelle Rondeau, T.J. Scigliano, Krista Scotvold, Sonnen Sloan, Mary Ann Spears, Julie Spencer, Jeannie Stacey, Carsen Swann, Nicole Tanner, Jazzi Tinsley.

Grade 9: Nicholas Bardon, Rebecca Bazzard, Daniel Bennett, Erin Bergsma, Ben Bichel, Neacol Booth, Scott Carmichael, Carly Clark, Anastasia Cyprus, Emily Delahaye, Jana Folstad, Andrew Greig, Brook Hamilton, Adrian Hingston, Witck Jarosinski, Aaron Little, Tim Lyon-Howard, Robert McMahon, Matthew Oldroyd, Noah Pred, Briana Prosk, Crystal Sheehan, Sheri Smith, Lisa Stafford, Jennifer Storey, Leticia Sturdy, Nyassa Temmel, Mia Thorne, Jeff Walsh, Sarah Wilkin, Emma Yardley.

Grade 8: Jesse Anderson, Erin Baker, Elisabeth Baker, Lara Brown, Kelsey Butkus, Kurtis Buyze, Regan Byron, Patrick Callas, Paul Campsall, Joel Carter, Christopher Cecil, Dustin Chamberlin, Adrian Elliott, Melissa Estable, Rebecca Forbes, Walter Funk, Dani Gardner, Lisa Gardner, Alura Gilbert, Melanie Gordon, Margot Guedes, Melissa Hingston, Caitlin Hohmann, George Howard, Dana Kallip, Jeremy Keating, Tom Langdon, Rebecca Lavallee, Erik Lyon, Thor Magnusson, Jessica McCartie, Jesse McLaughlin, Sara Miles, Erin Morris, Randi Outerbridge, Norah Perkins, Molly Phillips, Carmen Proffitt, Franziska Satzinger, Alanna Scott, Peter Sloan, Jillian Speed, Helen Stacey, Courtenay Steele, Raina Tammets, Christopher Urquhart, Justine Wilkie, Kevin Willingham.

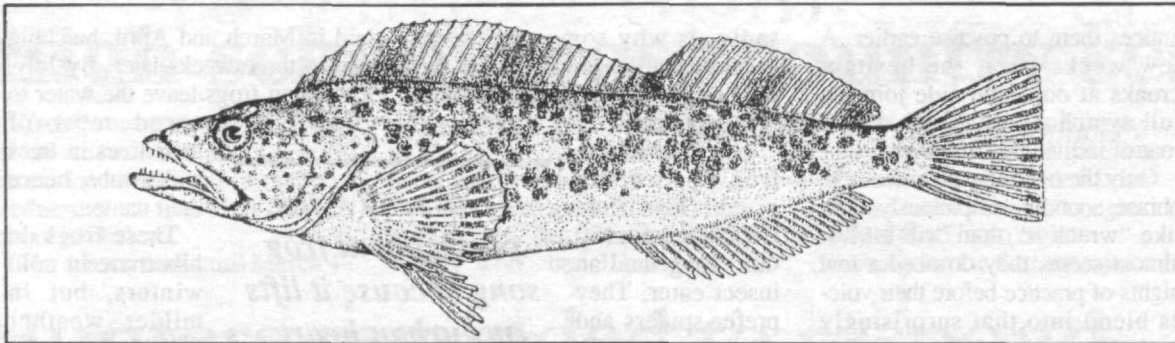


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OPHIODON ELONGATUS: Lingcod were plentiful in local waters a few years ago and an egg mass count by volunteer divers will help monitor stocks.

LINGCOD

From Page B1

distribution of (egg) masses."

Lamb said the local area is a major part of the survey. Four groups were slated to study areas surrounding the islands: one group from Galiano surveying Porlier Pass, one from Gabriola doing Gabriola Pass, a group based on Mayne studying Active Pass and a large group on South Pender Island looking for egg masses in several sites off that island.

All results will be mailed in by the divers, so the totals will not be known until several weeks after the survey, Lamb said.

The volunteers hope the survey will be held annually and will help identify trends in the lingcod population.

Divers will be noting numbers of egg masses and their location. Lamb said the eggs are always laid on rocky surfaces, so may be seen

in crevices or under rock ledges.

After laying the eggs the female swims away, leaving the male to guard the egg mass. Lamb notes the male lingcod is a zealous guard.

For example, Lamb has seen a male fish scoop up a nearby starfish in its mouth and carry the starfish well away from the nest before dropping it.

"They're very aggressive in defence of their nests."

green THUMB

DEREK DUFFY



With rushing winds and gloomy skies

The dark and stubborn Winter dies.

Far off, unseen Spring faintly cries

Bidding her earliest child arise March!

—Bayard Taylor

March is the month of greenhouse activity for me. I propagate plants during this month more than any other.

Cuttings of geraniums, begonias, dahlias and many other flowering plants for the summer can be struck now and will have strong vigorous roots before the end of May. Many shrubs can be propagated now and will be ready to be planted into their final positions by fall.

Air layering is one of my favourite forms of vegetative propagation and can be done on a variety of shrubs now. The process is quite easy and very rewarding.

A sharp knife is required to make an incision just underneath the swollen bud of the desired shrub. This is then wrapped in wet sphagnum moss and sealed above and below the bud with transparent plastic such as bags from the supermarket.

This is tied at the top and bottom until growth is in full progress, both new roots and plant. Then you take the new plant off with secateurs, cutting the stem just below the bag and above the next bud.

The plant is transplanted to an appropriate pot (usually one gallon in size for a medium-sized shrub).

Seedlings are in full growth now and this means weeds also. In a contained environment such as the greenhouse, weed control is essential for the successful growth of new plants in trays or soil blocks. Weeds compete for nutrients and usually outgrow cultivated plants.

Every year is different in how a gardener must deal with the weather; general patterns are all that we can be sure about. I hear people say things like, "Strange weather for this time of year," or

"Unusually cold for about now."

I find nothing either strange or unusual about the weather. Meteorologists spend their whole lives studying or trying to predict weather and sometimes they are even right. Shamans, witches, shepherds and masons are in my estimation as accurate as any weather forecaster.

I love the weather. It's a thing to be revered in all its glorious majesty. May it take us by surprise forever.

New name for health group

The Salt Spring Community Health Council has a new name.

Because of a move to establish local health councils throughout B.C., the group will now be known as the Salt Spring Island Health Association to avoid confusion.

The association's membership is made up of various local health care providers and citizens.

Chairwoman Jane Parlee said she hopes the group can act as an advisory body to the soon-to-be-formed, interim community health council.

Islanders interested in membership in the association can contact Parlee at 537-9971.

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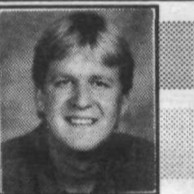
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Norman Rothwell



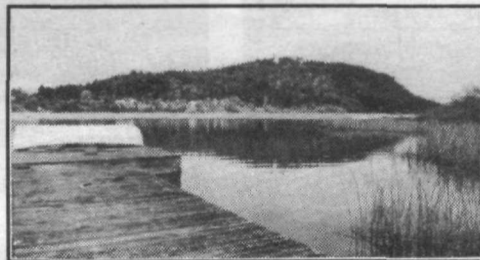
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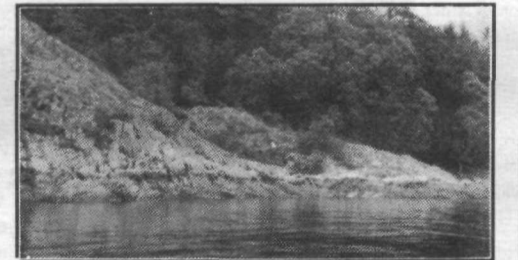
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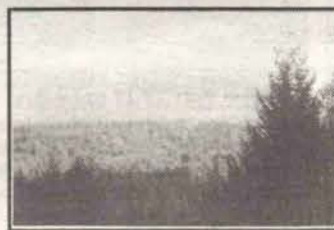
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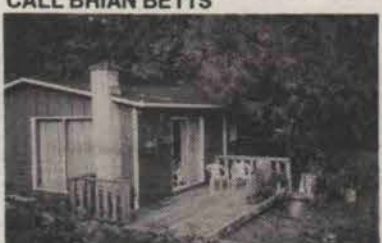
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One of the most popular views on Salt Spring from this 3 bedroom full basement home. This well built home offers many features plus a terrific neighborhood close to town. \$369,000. MLS.
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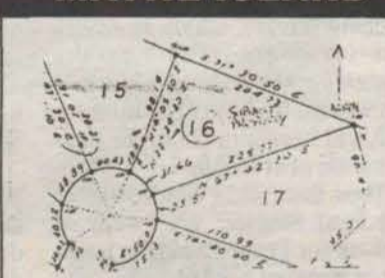
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Your 1/30th share entitles you to your own cabin, 2 1/2 acres, sea glimpses and a real sense of community! \$99,000. MLS.
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Young shooters to attend air rifle clinics

Six Salt Spring youths will be attending air rifle shooting clinics over the next year as preparations are under way to send a team to the Canada Winter Games next

February. Chris Leier, Rob McMahon, Gavin Taylor, Chris Hill, Matt Preston and Zack Preston are being coached by Betty Peters of the Salt

Spring Rod and Gun Club. The shooters will take part in the island zone shootoffs in June and the provincial shootoffs in November.

The B.C. Target Sporting Association is responsible for fielding a team of two girls and two boys for the Winter Games. Peters says her biggest problem

is a shortage of guns. Good quality .177 air rifles are needed for the shooters to practise. Anyone with a gun to provide can contact Peters at 537-2781.

Old Boys have been busy in Lillehammer

By MALCOLM LEGG
Driftwood Contributor

I am sure all you diehard Old Boys fans are wondering what has happened to the lads in the last couple of weeks. Actually, it was simply a problem of numbers as the Old Geezers had to cancel their games due to many of the roster being called up for Olympic Games duty in Lillehammer, Norway.

You must have seen them competing at the Games. For instance, Gary McNutt and Cal Mackay went to represent Scotland in the two-man bobsled race. Unfortunately, as the true Scots they are they got into a little Highland whiskey and set off in their bobsled down the wrong side of the mountain in search of the Holy Haggis. (Rumour has it that Monty Python

Bill Lea was also there, representing Canada in men's figure skating.

might pick up on this story.) At last report someone said that in the snowy peaks of Norway one can hear the echoes of "If you take the high road, an' I'll take the low road

Bill Lea was also there representing Canada in men's figure skating. Bill was so eager to get on the ice that he stayed at the rink day and night, waiting, waiting. And then it happened, a skater's lace broke (someone named Harding) and the Canadian was told to go next. Well, Bill had been waiting so long he just jumped up when they said Canadian, and charged the ice ready to show his stuff.

Unfortunately, Bill had forgotten to untie his skates and down he went like a ton of bricks, never reaching the ice, which in reality was fortunate as it was the women's event anyway. The worst part was the leg injury he sustained — it will keep him out of the lineup for the next month.

Then there were Mark Hughes and Paul Sinclair who went as back-up for Team Canada in hockey but were not needed with Corey Hirsch and Paul Kariya available. So they joined the Sri Lanka Slugs

soccer kicks

hockey team. Their first game was against Norway, and the guys were pumped. But there was one small problem: the Sri Lanka team had no skates — they were a grass hockey team. Wrong Olympics.

Alvaro Sanchez and Antonio Alonso arrived in Lillehammer fully dressed in their soccer gear ready to represent Argentina in soccer (Antonio really felt Maradona could use his presence to help his game). The officials in Norway quickly informed them this was the Winter Olympics and the World Cup starts June 17 in America and they could find Argentina there.

Jack and Henry Braak were representing Holland in speed skating relays with Henry Braak number 3 and Jack the anchor (I thought he was the bulldozer). Holland looked great and when Henry took over he had a solid lead over Canada, but suddenly, as he approached Jack, a fan at rink-side held up a large slice of chocolate cake.

Henry turned, fell and the rest is history — no medal. There were a lot of rumours that the Canadians were tipped off about his weakness for cake by the Driftwood (would they dare?).

The last group were Doug Pearson, Darryl Lister, Drew Lindsay and Bob Crossland who represented Britain in cricket, a demonstration sport. Unfortunately, they froze their balls (the cricket ones, that is) and were unable to compete. They spent their time travelling from bar to bar.

As for the coach, this writer, he spent his time trying to make the big trade with Cuba, or Argentina or anybody. (Actually, rumour has it that England has some over-the-hill national players they have no use for after elimination from the World Cup.)

Anyway this weekend our proud group of Olympians return to the Old Boys as they seek "the drive for five" (five games undefeated in 1994) as we play Gorge over 35s at Portlock Park, 10 a.m. precisely.

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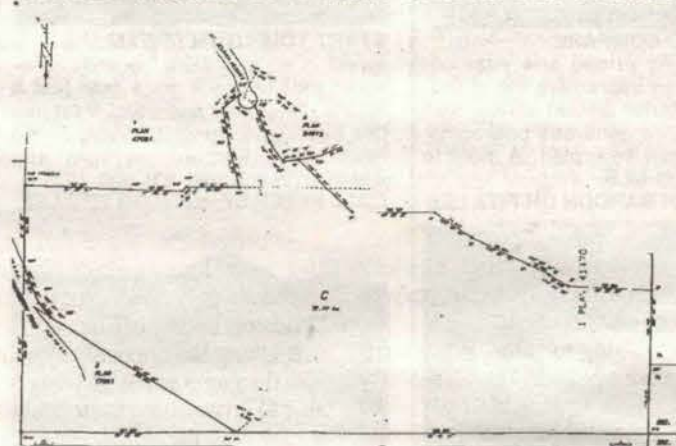
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- Near new three bedroom rancher
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- Fully wheelchair accessible • Lots of great extras

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— garage, workshop & barn
Offers to \$289,000

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Slugs lose two; may look to Freud for help

By JIM BLACK
Driftwood Contributor

The Slugs are at it again, perfecting new and improved methods of snatching defeat from the jaws of victory, following back-to-back losses over the weekend.

Friday night saw the team travel to Sidney for a match with Squid Roe. This would be the fourth and final meeting of the season between the two clubs, and the Slugs held the series lead two games to one.

Nevertheless, they are not a club to trifle with, as we were about to find out. Squid Roe opened the scoring when a trailer on the play picked up the rebound and managed to snap a quick shot over the shoulder of Slug netminder Mark Hughes.

But the Slugs weren't about to take this lying down. Pete Huser tied up the score on a nice passing play from his intrepid centreman, Todd McIntyre. Shortly after that we took the lead for the first time when Paul Sinclair fed a nice pass to Johnny Procter, who whipped a bullet drive past the goalie before he could even get set up.

Try as we might, however, we could not keep the Roe off the scoreboard.

First, they managed to sneak one in under Hughes' stick on a big scramble in front of the net, and then they took the lead after Deadstop failed to execute a clearing play which most hockey players master at about the peewee level of development.

According to some, if not most members of the Slugs, that pretty well sums up Deadstop's skill level. Its development was arrested before he hit puberty.

This didn't deter the team for too long, though. With just 10 seconds left in the opening period Paul Sinclair scored a beautiful goal by lifting a shot over the netminder's shoulder. This left the teams deadlocked at three apiece at the end of 20 minutes of play and the match looked like it could go either way.

Into the second period the Slugs really put on the pressure and after a few minutes it paid off when Danny Akerman jammed the puck under the goalie following a goal-mouth scramble. According to Dan, the goal was a result of his hardnosed work ethic and grinding

slug trail

style of play.

According to everyone else it was his brother Paddy who did all the work and Dan just happened to be in the right place at the right time.

Five and one half minutes later the Slugs went up by two when Bernie Reynolds beat the goalie with a combination off-speed pitch and knuckle baller that completely flummoxed the netminder.

Setting Bernie up on the play was Pete Schure, who had once again come out of retirement to help out the boys. It was hard to believe he hasn't been playing at least a couple of times a week,

According to some Slugs, that sums up Deadstop's skill level. Its development was arrested before he hit puberty.

judging from his play. Enter the third period and one of our oldest and most longstanding problems reared its ugly head. No, it wasn't Deadstop taking off his helmet, it was letting the opposition get back into the game while seemingly unable to do anything to stop them. In actual fact the Slugs didn't play badly for most of the period. Unfortunately we couldn't capitalize on any of our scoring chances, while the Roe did manage to put one in just past the half-way point of the period.

But the real cruncher came with just over a minute to go in the game and the Roe pulled their goalie for the extra attacker, and this time the ploy worked. When the Slugs couldn't clear the zone, an opposition winger managed to strip one of the Slugs' defencemen of the puck and slip it past an outstretched Hughes, tying the match with just 30 seconds to go.

Right off the ensuing faceoff the play went down into the Roe

endzone and the Slugs managed to force a faceoff deep in the Roe end. Setting up for the faceoff in a rather odd formation, the Slug defensive team of Deadstop and Pete Schure were both hoping to get one last good shot at the goalie off the faceoff.

Todd McIntyre won the draw and got the puck back to Schure along the boards. But the puck stayed against the boards and before Schure could get it out for a shot, he was poke checked, and with Deadstop hopelessly out of position, a two-man breakaway went in on the hapless Hughes, who tried his best but failed to stop the onslaught.

The Slugs have lost some ridiculous games before, but no one could remember having two goals scored on us in the final 30 seconds to lose a game.

This was, as it turns out, just a primer for our Sunday match versus the Salt Air Sharks. Just a couple of minutes into the game, Darren O'Neil, using his head, put us on the board for the early lead. When I say he used his head to put us on the lead, I wasn't referring to his vast knowledge of the game, he actually used his head to score the goal, deflecting the puck in off his helmet.

Ten minutes into the period, the Sharks tied the score on a very nice three-way passing play on which Hughes didn't have a chance. Into the second, with the score still tied, Johnny Procter gave us back the lead on a blistering, low drive from the point. A prior shot by Procter dented a low-flying aircraft which happened to be in the vicinity.

Scant moments later, Pete Huser got his first of the evening on a nice passing play involving his centreman, Todd McIntyre, and defenceman, Paul Sinclair. Even though the play was fairly even throughout the period, just moments later Huser was able to pot his second of the night after bringing the puck out from behind the net and tucking it into the corner, while Hughes was busy making some great saves to preserve the lead. But it was entering the third

period where everything unravelled for Team Slug.

Right from the drop of the puck, things looked different. The Sharks seemed to be picking up steam, while the Slugs were running out of it. It wasn't too long before the Sharks potted their third goal of the game, which really seemed to give them even more incentive.

But that was only the beginning. They went on to add four more while we couldn't buy another goal on their netminder who had suddenly got very hot.

It was simply a case of being outplayed in all departments in the third period.

But what makes this even more distressing is the fact that this is the third straight loss for the Slugs, a team which, believe it or not, had not lost two games in a row all season.

If this keeps up there are going to be a lot of players in need of professional help to deal with all this losing, and Freud doesn't like people wearing skates when they are lying on his couch.

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Runners are back on track

Salt Spring Track and Field Club runners resumed the second half of the Vancouver Island series Sunday at the Royal Canadian Legion cross-country. Ten club members attended the event, hosted by the Victoria Track Club at the Juan de Fuca Recreation Centre.

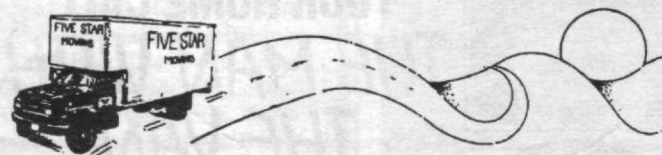
Stan Peters, the club's oldest runner, won his 5.5 km race at the over-50 masters' level. Richard Bennett, Colin James and Charles Hingston came second, third and fourth to win the over-40 masters' team prize with times of 25:53, 27:16 and 31:19 minutes, respectively in the 5.5 km race.

Catherine Bennett won in masters' women's categories, while Zoe Bennett and Lianna Hingston placed first and second in the juvenile women's 3.2 km race with times of 12:36 and 14:37.

Jenny James took second place in the midget girls' class and Adrian Hingston overcame shoe problems to finish fourth in the midget boys. Julia James came in second in the under-11 and 12 girls' 2.1 km race.

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High school cross-country season under way

Cross-country season at the junior secondary school level started last week with a race last Wednesday at Queen of Angels school in Duncan.

The season runs until March 17

when the Vancouver Island championships for all grades 8-10 students will be held.

Team spokesman Richard Bennett reports that Chantelle Huth "easily won" her 3 km grade 9

girls' race, while Adrian Hingston limped into fourth after tightening up a hamstring in the grade 9 boys' 4 km run. Daniel Bennett "coughed his way around" into eighth.

Running for the first time at the

high school level, the grade 8 team did "exceptionally well," Bennett said.

Molly Phillips placed fifth and Lara Brown 13th. The boys' team was led by Wally Funk with a fifth-

place win. Good team tactics by Graham Regan, Segovia Smith and Adrian Elliot, with positions of 17th, 18th and 19th, helped the team to an overall third-place finish.

Hunters reminded to respond to Wildlife Branch questions

Hunters who bagged their limit last year are asked to report their success to the Wildlife Branch.

The annual hunting harvest questionnaire helps the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks manage game animals throughout the province. Copies of the questionnaire were sent to more than half of the 120,000 B.C. residents who have hunting licences. A postage-paid envelope was included with each questionnaire so it would be easy to respond.

Even those hunters who did not hunt or who were

unsuccessful are asked to complete the questionnaire.

Results from the 1992 survey for this region showed that 426 blacktail deer were harvested in the Gulf Islands.

The harvest also included 201 blue grouse, 12 ruffed grouse and 1,025 ducks.

The Saanich Peninsula is included as part of the Gulf Islands region, though John Thornton of the Wildlife Branch noted there is very little hunting on the peninsula.

Junior archers set records in Victoria following target size change by federation

Two junior archers from Salt Spring Island set records at an archery tournament in Victoria recently.

Dean Sigmund and David Leier set the records following a target size change by the International

Archery Federation in January. All old records were erased following the change.

Sigmund shot in the junior category of compound unlimited and set a record of 266 out of 300. Leier shot in the heavy tackle

sighted class and had a score of 252 out of 300.

Two other local archers, Aaron Singbeil and Chris Hill, placed third and fourth in the under-13 years class. They scored 75 and 111, respectively.

By RUTH HUME
Driftwood Contributor

Top scores this week:
Tuesday morning: John Richardson-213, 231/603.

Tuesday afternoon: Jerri Frontin-209, June Webb-281/625, Deke Noonan-261, Conrad Flebbe-257/637, Margaret Baker-250, 212, 286/738, Reg Winstone-216.

Ladies Wednesday afternoon: Chris Hutton-205, Linda Ramer-202. Legion league: Ron Stepaniuk-222, Gary Whitehead-220, 223/638, Ron Cunningham-233/616, Gary Gaetz-211, 222, Sharel Tara-204, Ben Martens-203, Steve Martens-200, Heather

down the gutter

Kusch-215, 256/663, Doug Sykes-234, 315/701.

Golf ladies: Mary Kirkpatrick-216. Friday afternoon: It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas.

Bantams: Kimberly Sykes-139, Miles Hume-110, Andra Bergsma-158. Juniors: Joshua Marshall-144, Fields MacHattie-120. Circus: Sam Cochrane-257, Ken Strike-210, Gordon Ruckle-315, Ben Cooper-200, 207.

bridge tricks

Gulf Islands Duplicate Bridge Club winners on February 21 were: Isabelle Richardson and Norm McConnell, Fred Struve and Peter Jacques, Marguerite Hall and Althea Morrisette, Bunny Jordan and Derek Arnold.

North/South on February 22: Donna Taylor and Dawn Scarfe, Helen Shandro and Isabelle Richardson, Irene Hawksworth and Norm McConnell, Peter Jacques and Fred Struve.

East/West: June Knowles and Win Denny, Ron Dickson and Bill Buckler, Blanche Poborsa and Jim Burford.



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Assessor in hot seat at meeting on assessments

By ALISTAIR ROSS
Driftwood Correspondent

A meeting on property assessments drew about 30 islanders to the South Hall two weeks ago. On hand to answer questions were Holly Beaumont, Galiano appraiser, Dave Hitchcock, chief assessor for the Capital Region, and Ron Townshend, manager for farm and forestry advisory services. Each spoke briefly describing their duties and giving background for recent decisions of the Assessment Authority.

Receiving the most questions and most of the heat was Hitchcock. The questioners were, on the whole, people who had bought tracts of MacMillan Bloedel forest land and then seen their assessments suddenly change from unmanaged forest to rural residential. Only two of the forest lots are still tagged managed forest, the meeting was told.

A couple of the owners present had had their lands in the "managed forest" category, only to be informed by letter a month later that a mistake had been made and that their lands would be taxed at the residential rate.

To most questions of this sort Hitchcock replied all Galiano lands are now assessed according to their "highest and best use," a policy change dating from 1987 but only recently put into effect here. Environmentalists in the audience wished to know why land traditionally classed forest and noted as such, could suddenly become residential and why particularly in October 1993.

Hitchcock's answer was that no change was made until after the conclusion of the MacMillan Bloedel court challenge of the five Islands Trust bylaws which were struck down last summer.

Hitchcock reminded his audience that he is only an employee of the Assessment Authority and as such, follows the dictates of the government.

Another group present were fearful of being taxed off their seafront lots and questioned Beaumont how assessed values are arrived at. Recent sales in any area determine the assessment level, the meeting was told. Foreign purchasers often pay more than a realistic price for low-bank properties, it was alleged, thus driving up everyone's assessment in the neighbourhood.

"California's Proposition 13 was one answer to this problem being tried," Hitchcock said. "There, taxes remain low until the property is sold when a surtax is paid.

"The problem then," he stated, "is an imbalance of tax paid between the long-time residents and those newly arrived."

Ken Renaud of Salt Spring got the attention of all when he defended the assessors. He suggested that both sides in the Galiano "war" (it has also been

notes from galiano

described as a test case) get together and work out a compromise.

"Cluster development of housing and lands dedicated to forestry and water catchment should be sought," he suggested. "The two could be zoned differently."

His plan sounded like one outlined by MacMillan Bloedel's Jim Finkbeiner at a meeting here three years ago, a solution which did not sound unreasonable to many islanders, then and now.

Creating ambience

North dwelling Galianoites generally arrive early for events at the South Hall. Greeting them as they arrived for the recent overture concert by the Vancouver Wind Trio was a hall dimly lit by candles.

What a charming idea. Overture concerts are usually very imaginative; what new idea have they come up with this time? The thought crossed our minds that the musicians might have made a transcription of Haydn's *Farewell Symphony* and were doing it in reverse, with the musicians entering with their candles instead of exiting one by one as they did in the 18th century when suggesting a holiday was overdue.

Not so here — the coldness of the Community Hall soon dispelled that idea. It was just another power outage.

All Galiano lands are assessed according to their 'highest and best use,' a policy change dating from 1987 but only recently put into effect here.

Our ingenious concert organizers, along with volunteers from the audience, soon had a ladder behind the bassoonist's chair where a kind of "votive shrine" lit bassoonist Tony Averay's music stand, providing "evening shadows" for clarinetist Lorne Buick as well. Oboist Hamish Gordon made do with a single candle and a hand-fashioned reflector of aluminium foil atop a 30-inch cardboard tube and a coffee tin.

Two musicians, Averay and Gordon, had terrible colds and remained bundled in their overcoats for the three-hour performance. Intervals between numbers were reserved for blowing and sneezing. The formality of the concert hall somehow never quite materialized.

The program was designed to suit all tastes, but was not really for the purist. Sticking to the printed program for most of the first half, the three played arrangements from the works of J.S. and J.C. Bach, Wagner, Handel, Faure and Tchaikovsky, ending with Scott Joplin's *Paragon Rag*. Faure's *Le Berceaux* was new to many in the audience and beautifully played.

The presto from J.C. Bach's *Symphony No. 1* appealed, as did the J.S. Bach and Handel. After the intermission the trio played a transcription from Mozart's *Don Giovanni* and Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*, with bassoonist Averay reinforcing the traditional idea of the "bassoon being the buffoon of the orchestra." It was all good fun.

With their coats buttoned against the cold as well, all present enjoyed the concert and had nothing but praise for the musicians and the concert organizers. Scheduled to give a concert for the children of Fulford Elementary the following day, the musicians were thwarted once again when the morning ferry to Long Harbour did not arrive as scheduled. That's life on an island. We understand it, and so, hopefully, did the disappointed school children on Salt Spring.



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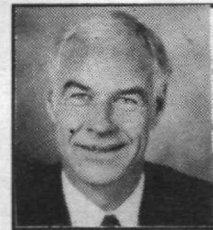
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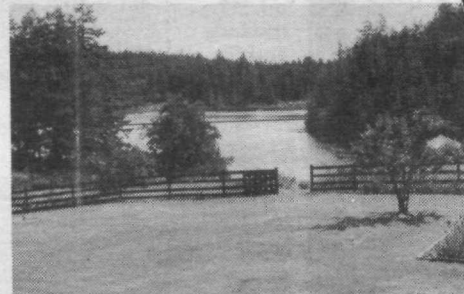
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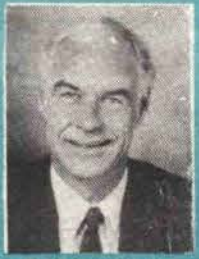
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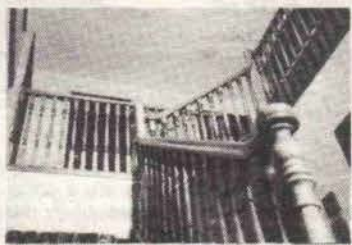
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This 1916 heritage home is set on a large parcel of 17.42 acres of very arable land. There are over 50 fruit trees on the property. Approx. 830 sq. ft. barn with fencing all around the property. Captivating interior features: oak and fir flooring, 2 fireplaces, pine kitchen cabinets and much more. \$498,000.



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2 bedroom, modular home situated for a sunny exposure. Bright and airy and bounded on the back by a grassy stretch of common land. Attached garage, dishwasher, stove, washer and dryer. \$135,000.



LAST ONE AT KINGFISHER

2 bedroom, 2 bathroom new townhouse. Skylights, gas fireplace, built-in vacuum system and three appliances. Last new unit in Kingfisher. Nicely landscaped with bench by the woods for your morning coffee. \$159,000 plus GST.



AREA OF FINE HOMES

.60 acre of level cleared usable land. Ready to build. In 100 Hills area. Community water, cable and hydro to lot line. Possible ocean views from second floor. Close to Ganges. \$110,000.

CALL MARION MARKS OR SHELLI ROBERTSON
537-5515 (24 hrs)



BEST BUY LOT - PENDER ISLAND

Nice lot in good location. Near beaches and marina. Well priced at \$41,500. MLS.

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PRISTINE OCEANFRONT

Southwest facing waterfront acreage. Fully serviced to lot line. Three acres, delightful setting, easy to build on. Zoned for guest cottage. Heart-stopping sunsets. Truly one of the finest waterfront properties left. \$450,000. MLS.



NEW OCEANVIEW RESIDENCE

Five beautiful acres. Garry oaks, arbutus & fir. Level areas could be developed for gardening. Quality west coast residence. Wood floors and windows. Air light and room are the main features of this property. \$449,000. MLS.



HIGHBANK WATERFRONT GREAT MOORAGE

Compact three bedroom house well kept and cosy. Kitchen and living areas look over Long Harbour with interesting marine views. Private tranquil setting. Trail down to a good safe beach. \$295,000. MLS.

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HOME SWEET HOME

Very comfortable 3 bedroom home on .91 acres in Quarry Dr. area. Features pellet stove, skylights quality craftsmanship and an 800 sq. ft. partially finished basement. \$263,000. MLS.



TWO STOREY HOME NEAR GANGES

5 bedroom home with two self contained units. 1100 square feet on each level. 2200 square feet total. 0.76 acres close to Ganges. \$179,900. MLS.

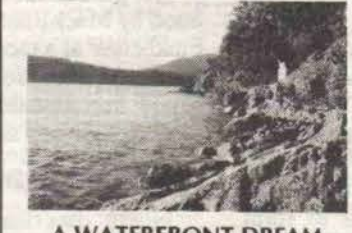
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SEMI WATERFRONT

This 3 bedroom home is located across the road from one of Salt Springs finest beaches waterfront without waterfront taxes. 1/2 acre nicely landscaped with a multitude of out buildings. \$195,000. MLS.

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A WATERFRONT DREAM

All the benefits of a private water system, sewer and moorage with a lovely southwest view. Sun, sea and marine traffic. Raw land recreation or build for the future. \$194,000. MLS.



THIS ONE IS SPECIAL

Lovely 3 br. home in high quality area. Brand new and waiting for your imprint. 3/4 ac. grassed yard with trees surrounding. Appliances included. Very attractive family location. Call today. \$208,000. MLS.



PRICE REDUCTION!!

Vendor extremely motivated! Terrific opportunity to have a viable and essential business on Salt Spring. Good financials and extensive equipment list. Call today. \$155,000. MLS.

CALL BRUCE MILLS/
PATRICIA FRASER
537-5515 (24 hr pager)



NOW THIS IS LIVING!

Imagine retirement in this spacious, well-appointed modular home with easy care landscaping, in a well-designed retirement community close to shopping, recreation and all island amenities. View today! \$137,500.

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