

# Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

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## Off-season is pre-season for area pros

*Bud Holloway and Brodie Dupont will return to their respective NHL training camps early next month. Each, in their own way, have focussed this summer on preparing for their break into the 'Big League.'*

BY CHRIS ISTANCE

Bud Holloway's thoughts are never very far away from the ice.

The 21-year-old Los Angeles Kings prospect from Wapella may be back home for the summer helping his father with an addition to the family home, but Holloway says the competitive nature of his chosen career means he's almost constantly thinking about hockey through the off-season.

"The way the game has changed, everybody is trying to be a step better than everyone else and are working 365 days a year," Holloway said over coffee at Wendy's Place, a restaurant and lounge in Wapella ran by his parents, George and Wendy Holloway.

"You don't want to be the guy losing a step or losing any ground."

What this means is Holloway's season is never over. It changes—moves from on-ice, professional competition to a wide ranging, cross-training regimen—but he is continually improving his game, even in the hot, humid depths of a Saskatchewan summer.

Holloway was drafted by Los Angeles in 2006. The 21-year-old centreman began last season with the Manchester Monarchs, the Kings' American Hockey League affiliate, and scored seven goals and five assists for 12 points in 38 games.

He was later sent to the Ontario Reign, an East Coast Hockey League club located in Ontario, California. In 23 games there, he scored 14 goals and eight assists for 22 points.

It was his first full year playing as a professional.

"I thought I was playing fairly well and the coaches said I was playing good, but I think it just came down to numbers," Holloway said about being moved from the AHL to the ECHL mid-season. He hadn't seen much ice-time with the Monarchs and his coaches wanted Holloway to keep his competitive edge, so he was sent to the Reign, a first-year franchise in the ECHL.

"I had a blast there. It was a good thing for me to go down there and just get back playing. You can practice all you want, but it's the game situations that you're missing out on."

When the Reign's season ended, Holloway said he took a week-long respite from the physically demanding world of a professional athlete. However, he did use that time to evaluate the 2008-2009 season.

"Every player takes a week or a bit off

to reflect on the past year and think about where he needs improvement and where he fell short," Holloway said. "If you're not playing into June (in the playoffs), you've obviously fallen short."

But it isn't long before Holloway has his skates back on his feet and his stick in his hands.

Off the ice, Holloway trains about two hours a day, several times a week with plyometric exercises and weights. Lately, he has been playing recreational hockey in Whitewood every Sunday and Wednesday.

On Mondays and Thursdays, he returns to the Whitewood arena to participate in a power skating program conducted by former Western Hockey League coach and general manager Brad McEwen. Players from the Midget 'AA' and Junior 'A' divisions also take part.

"It's pretty competitive and it's good to get out there and skate with those guys. The skill level is up there with that group, so it's pretty good," Holloway said.

Back in the Kings development system, Holloway participates in summer programming that includes a two-day skills development camp in Detroit and a week-long camp in L.A. that has everything from video study and skills

training to actual scrimmages.

Back at home, there's a home-made net sitting on a cement pad beside his parents' restaurant. The net is surrounded by plywood puck-stops and thick rubber matting hangs in the net's mouth to block the cage everywhere but the top two corners.

It's here that Holloway is daily honing his shot, sometimes by himself, sometimes with his cousin Brayden Holloway—who has been drafted by the WHL's Portland Winter Hawks—and his friend Brandon Frandsen of Moosomin.

Besides shooting regular pucks from a pair of thin plastic sheets lying on the concrete pad, they fire two-pound, solid steel pucks at the net. The exercise develops the muscles involved in shooting and hones the player's form and technique.

"I'm shooting pucks pretty much every day," said Holloway, who pointed out the lights his father installed on the exterior wall of the restaurant so he can continue firing pucks at night.

"With the training, everything is different through the week, but all of the stuff ties into each other and improves your game."

Continued on page 4



Chris Istance photo

It may be the off-season, but Wapella's Bud Holloway has continued to work on several aspects of his game in preparation for the 2009-2010 hockey season, his second as a professional. The centreman will attend the L.A. Kings preseason training camp early next month.

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# Rocanville work camp a home away from home



Taylor Shire photo

The main building of the work camp. The rooms are located in similar trailers behind this building, connected through a large hallway.

BY TAYLOR SHIRE  
As the work groups come and go, the treatment stays the same.

That is how Terry Bartlett believes work camps should be run.

Bartlett is the camp manager for the 82-room camp at the Scissors Creek PotashCorp site. He is in charge of the operation of the entire camp. The camp has been set up to accommodate workers for the \$2.8 billion expansion at the Rocanville mine.

Bartlett has made sure the rooms and common areas look more like home than an institution. He wants the workers staying there to feel at home.

"I want it to be less institutional," he said.

Aramark Remote Services operates the camp near Rocanville.

This camp houses employees who are working on the construction of the new potash mine site near Rocanville. There are groups who come in and stay in the camp until their work is completed.

Bartlett has a full time cooking crew on site. He has a chef, a second cook, a baker and four general helpers.

This group provides breakfast, lunch and supper for the workers.

They also have a sandwich bar set up so workers can order what they want during lunch times.

Supper dishes vary but always have variety and are always home-cooked hearty meals.

"I have had no complaints about the food," Bartlett said.

The kitchen is a cafeteria style set-up. The workers grab their trays and utensils and stand in line to get their food. Bartlett says the lines move very quickly so workers don't have to wait a long time to get their meal.

Then they grab drinks and pastries and sit down at one of the many tables.

There is also a cleaning staff on site. Bartlett has five employees, with three working each day. They clean the rooms and the common areas.

One cleaning staff member is also delegated to janitorial duties.

The workers' laundry is shipped to Moosomin and then brought back when ready.

The camp also has a small convenience store with the basics—including toiletries, snacks and drinks.

For entertainment, a foosball table and two pool tables are available for use. There is also a fitness gym with treadmills, stationary bikes, rowing machines, ellipticals and a universal gym.

Several couches are set up in front of a large television in the recreation room. Some workers even bring video games. Workers can watch movies or TV in large groups and sit back and relax.

Each worker has his own room with a bed, a TV with 36 channels, a desk, dresser, closet, chair and sink in it. They share a shower and toilet with the room situated beside them.

Currently, AMC crew members are staying in the camp. They are working on the mine shaft at the

new site. They will be in the camp for a few more weeks, said Bartlett.

If they want to go in to town for anything, they can take their vehicles and drive there, Bartlett says.

Currently, they are running the camp off generators. PotashCorp is waiting to get SaskPower to connect the camp to the power grid. The camp is there on a

three year contract. PCS hopes the completion of the \$2.8 billion expansion project will come in 2012.

PCS is also constructing a 400-person camp at the end of August. Members of this camp will be working on the new site as well.

Bartlett says this camp will be much the same as the current camp, except a lot larger.

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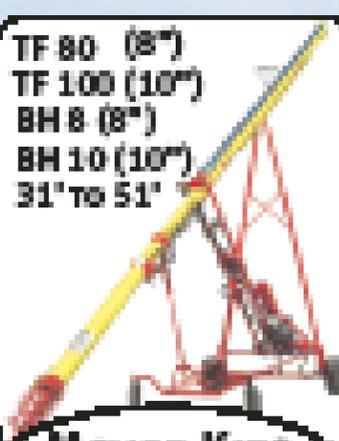
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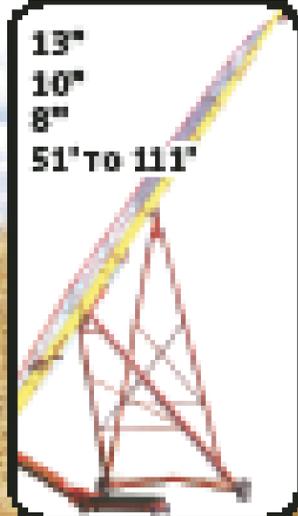
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# Players maintain wide-ranging workout regimen

Continued from front

Although his mind may be on hockey, the summer isn't all work for Holloway. He's been camping with his family, has spent time with his friends and while at home in Wapella, is helping his father with an addition to the family home.

"I'm still a normal, 21-year-old guy who likes to have fun with all of my buddies," he said.

Holloway's off-season "break" will end the second week of September when he will attend the L.A. Kings' pre-season training camp. He said he will be there only a week before the Kings begin playing exhibition contests in preparation for the regular season.

"That's why I've got to hit the ground running as

soon as I get to camp, because we don't have a lot of time to prepare," he said.

Obviously, Holloway will work towards cracking the Kings' roster, but expects he will return to the farm-team in Manchester. He says he is still young and is patient about breaking into the big league.

"Everyone has their own route to it. I'm just being patient. I might not get there for 10 years or ever, but I'm going to spend all of my days trying to," Holloway said.

## Brodie Dupont training in Calgary

St. Lazare's Brodie Dupont is also preparing for the 2009-2010 hockey season.

The 22-year-old left winger spent the month of June in Brandon before

*"I like to get away from hockey. I don't think a whole lot about it in the off-season. Of course, I'm thinking about it at the gym, but as soon as I'm out of there, I like to think about other things and relax my mind."*

—Brodie Dupont

moving to Calgary to resume a more intense training schedule that will culminate with a trip to New York early next month.

The 22-year-old left winger was drafted by the New York Rangers in 2005, but spent the last two seasons with the Hartford Wolfpack in the AHL. In 2008-2009, Dupont scored 18 goals and 24 assists for 42 points in 79 games.

He also collected 112 minutes in penalties.

"I was pleased with the way I played and the coach had a lot of good things to say," Dupont said from Alberta.

"I doubled my points from my rookie season and hit a lot of the goals I set for myself at the beginning of the year."

Like Holloway, Dupont's training schedule includes a variety of different training methods, both on and off the ice. Beginning in June, he's in the gym one to two hours a day, Monday to Friday.

However, Dupont likes to step away from the game during the off-season, first physically with a three or four week break immediately after playoffs, then mentally through to the end of July.

"I like to get away from

hockey. I don't think a whole lot about it in the off-season," he said.

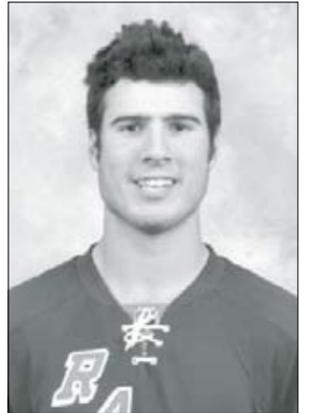
"Of course, I'm thinking about it at the gym, but as soon as I'm out of there, I like to think about other things and relax my mind."

Dupont also takes time honing his golf game, enjoys boating and watches baseball through the summer months.

"I just like to hang out and do my own thing. For meals, I like to go out for lunch and dinner. Then I'll hang out with my buddies and watch a ball game. Just take time to relax and kick back," he said.

"I like to travel, too, but once we get close to camp it's tough to get away."

Dupont's training regimen will intensify this month as the Sept. 11 start to the Rangers' camp nears.



Brodie Dupont

After hitting the ice up to five times a week through the month of August, he plans to be in New York early for some extra training and on-ice sessions.

Considering the Rangers are under new leadership this season—hiring head coach John Tortorella last February—Dupont believes he has a chance to make the NHL team for 2009-2010.

"He likes hard-nosed players and I think I can play that kind of game well," he said.

"This will be a first impression on him and a new start. If I get a quick start, have a good camp and pre-season, I think I can catch his eye."



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Monday, Sept. 7 Circle 5 Production Sale 6:00 p.m.	Monday, Oct. 19 Butcher Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.	Wednesday, Nov. 18 Presort Feeder Sale 10:00 a.m.	Friday, Dec. 11 Spring Craak and Guest Consigners 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 9 Regular Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.	Wednesday, Oct. 21 Presort Feeder Sale - Angus Influence 10:00 a.m.	Monday, Nov. 23 Butcher Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.	Monday, Dec. 14 Butcher Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.
Monday, Sept. 14 Butcher Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.	Friday, Oct. 23 Brad Cow Sale 11:00 a.m.	Tuesday, Nov. 24 Sheep and Horse Sale 12 noon	Bred Cow Sale 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 16 Presort Feeder Sale 10:00 a.m.	Monday, Oct. 26 Butcher Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.	Wednesday, Nov. 25 Regular Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.	Wednesday, Dec. 16 Regular Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.
Monday, Sept. 21 Butcher Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.	Wednesday, Oct. 28 Presort Feeder Sale 10:00 a.m.	Friday, Nov. 27 Brad Cow Sale 11:00 a.m.	Friday, Dec. 18 Mountain View Angus Production Sale 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 22 Sheep and Horse Sale 12 noon	Friday, Oct. 30 Preston Simmental Dispersal 1:00 p.m.	Monday, Nov. 30 Butcher Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.	Monday, Dec. 21 Butcher Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 23 Regular Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.	Monday, Nov. 2 Butcher Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.	Wednesday, Dec. 2 Regular Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.	<p>First Sale of 2010 is January 6, Wednesday</p>
Monday, Sept. 28 Butcher Cattle Sale 9:00 p.m.	Wednesday, Nov. 4 Presort Feeder Sale - Angus Influence 10:00 a.m.	Friday, Dec. 4 Brad Cow Sale 11:00 a.m.	
Wednesday, Sept. 30 Presort Feeder Sale 10:00 a.m.	Monday, Nov. 9 Butcher Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.	Saturday, Dec. 5 Maple Lake Stock Farm 1:00 p.m.	
Monday, Oct. 5 Butcher Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.	Wednesday, Nov. 11 Presort Feeder Sale 10:00 a.m.	Monday, Dec. 7 Butcher Cattle Sale 9:00 a.m.	
Wednesday, Oct. 7 Presort Feeder Cattle Sale 10:00 a.m.	Friday, Nov. 13 Brad Cow Sale 11:00 a.m.	Bred Cow Sale 1:00 p.m.	
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Chris Istace photo

Besides weight training, core workouts, and power skating, Holloway spends hours on his shot by firing two-pound, solid steel pucks—specially made to regulation diameter and thickness—off of sheets of plastic lying on a pad of concrete beside his family's restaurant in Wapella. His father, George, even put lights up there so the 21-year-old can work out at night.

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# Province's first fireworks competition a success

BY TAYLOR SHIRE

Saskatchewan's inaugural fireworks competition at Moosomin Regional Park was a great success, says Janice Walker, secretary-treasurer for the park.

"It drew a lot of people into the park and surrounding area," Walker said. "There were about 5,000 people each day."

That attendance figure almost doubled the 3,000 that watched the single night of fireworks that took place in 2008. That event provided the seed money for this year's two-day competition.

The Living Skies-Come Alive competition, which was held at the regional park Aug. 1 and 2, had Winnipeg-based ArchAngel Fireworks prevail over Regina's Ruggieri Fireworks.

ArchAngel performed

Sunday night while the Ruggieri group put on their show on Saturday night, with each show lasting about 15 to 20 minutes.

Walker said the pyrotechnic shows did not disappoint the thousands who came out to see them.

This was the first time that Moosomin put on a two-day event. Walker said there are always improvements that can be made and they hope to improve it each year.

"We would like to do it again," she said. "We hope to make it an annual event."

The total profit for the event has not yet been calculated but once it is, Walker says they will have a better idea if it will happen again next year.

She said the group will determine the feasibility of this event once the profits

are totalled.

Besides the fireworks, the weekend included various events, from children's activities and inflatable midways to roast beef and pork barbecues each day, a beer garden and local entertainment.

A pancake breakfast and flea market was held Sunday and a dance featuring the Jason Kirkness band took place Sunday night following the fireworks.

An estimated 5,000 people crowded Moosomin Regional Park on both days of the inaugural "Living Skies-Come Alive" fireworks competition.



Sandra Mitchell photo



Sandra Mitchell photo



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We have immediate openings for all catering (kitchen) and housekeeping positions at an 80 bed management camp at Schone Creek, 12 km north of Lacanville.

The 80 bed Lacanville West dining camp will be opening mid-to late September of 2010. Immediate and applications for catering and housekeeping positions at the camp are being accepted now.

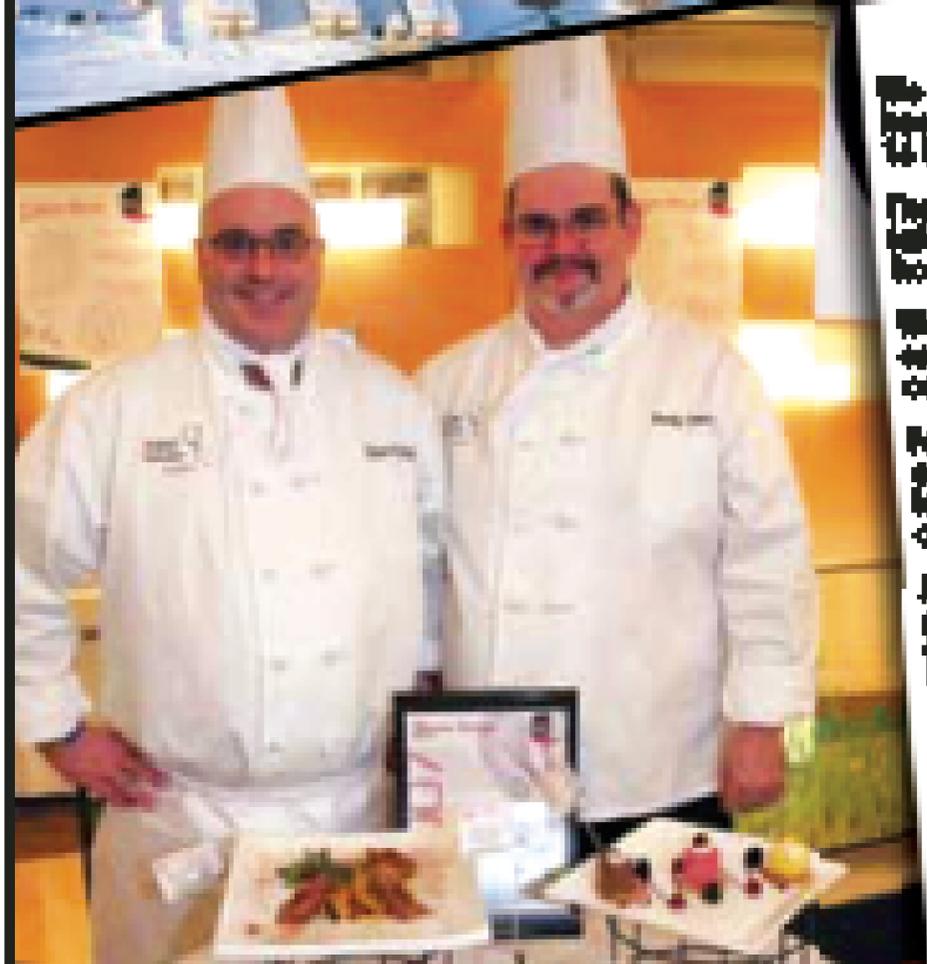
We do require a Maintenance Supervisor (mechanical/electrical experience) and two journeyman trades people to serve both camps.

Food safe certification for kitchen positions is needed. ARAMARK certification will be provided on the site. For the grill and electrical testing certification is mandatory. All food certification is on site and current.

Most employees will work a 8 day, 8 hour per day schedule. Initial training will be provided on the site. Accommodation and transportation will be provided for those who are unable to commute to the site. The work area will be provided daily.

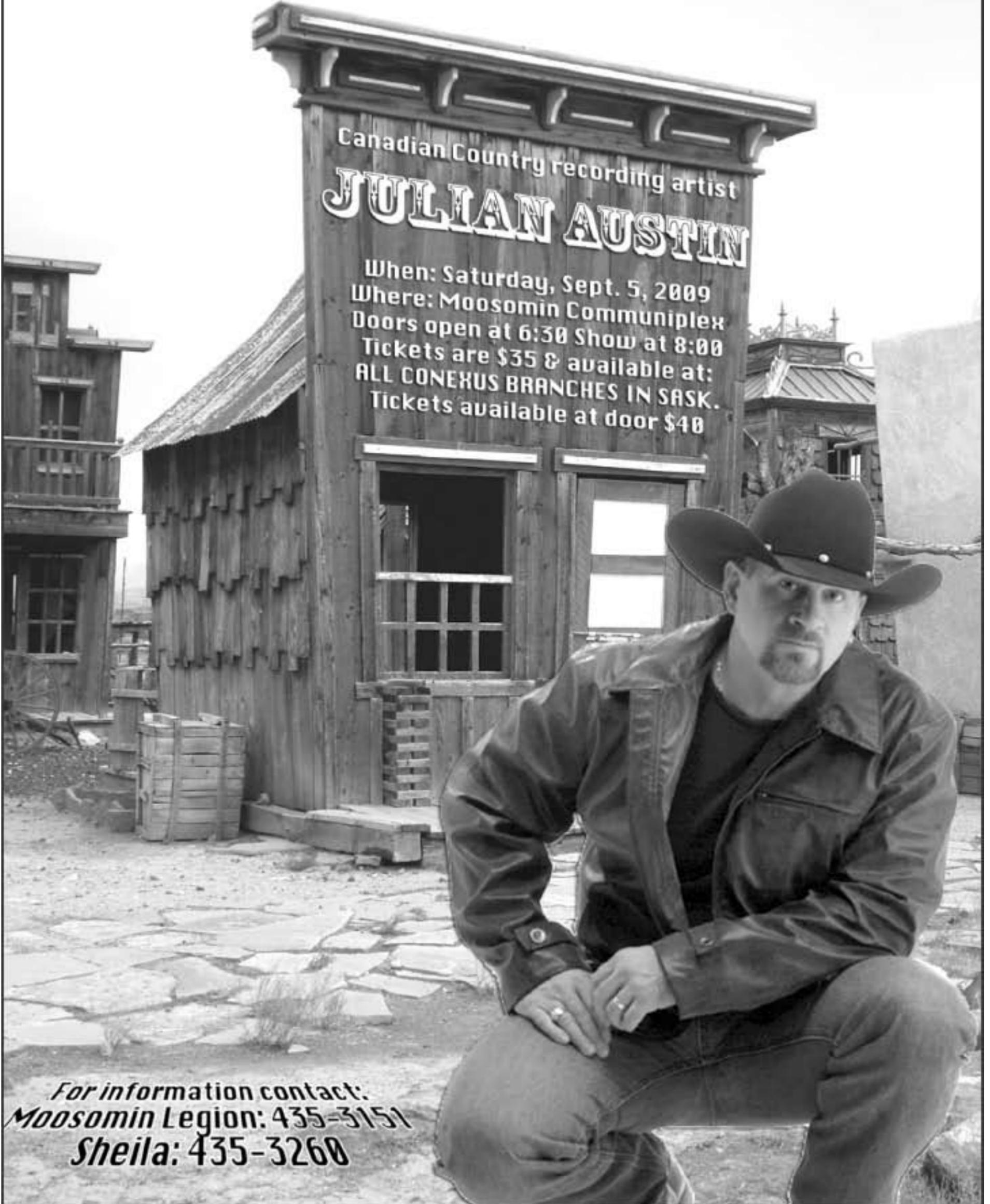
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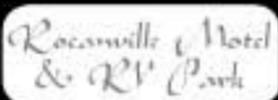
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1993	MF	8460	Chopper, PU	\$39,500
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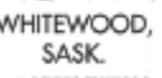
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# Wild fox named Todd becomes farm pet

BY TAYLOR SHIRE

A local farmer has a new pet—a wild fox by the name of Todd.

"We called her Todd," Eugene Ablass said. "Then we realized she was a girl when she had pups. We changed her name to Toddette but she answers to Todd when we call her."

One day last summer, Todd showed up at Ablass's nephew's farm yard. David Ablass and his wife fed the fox some raw meat when it showed up in their yard.

The couple did not know how the wild fox would respond or what its intentions were. They fed her and realized that she was just interested in food.

From then on, Todd came

back regularly for meat.

She also goes to Eugene's front step if David is not around. Eugene never knows where he will find Todd. "You can usually call her and she will come, but sometimes she doesn't," he says. Eugene lives a half mile west of David. Their farmyards are 20 miles west of Moosomin.

"Last summer was the first time we saw her," Eugene Ablass said. "She was a yearling last year. She was actually born right in David's yard."

When Todd shows up, Ablass grabs some raw stewing beef or cut up wieners. Eugene said David has also given her leftover meat from supper.

"Toddy, come here Toddy," Ablass calls.

She approaches Eugene timidly and cautiously at first, quickly snatches the meat and then scampers off rapidly. She eats the meat while keeping her distance from others and comes back for more if she is hungry. She is always aware of any potential hazards around her.

But if she has had enough, she takes the meat and hides it until she needs it. She also feeds her pups with the meat she receives.

"She had her pups in the yard just recently," Ablass said. "She has a den somewhere but I am not sure where it is."

Ablass is sure Todd has other sources of food like gophers and small wildlife but he welcomes her with some kind of meat when she shows up. It is very rare to see a wild animal take food right out of your hand. Todd is nervous when she first comes, but she loosens up eventually.

"She comes pretty much every day," Ablass says. "You'll never know when she'll show up."

At first, Todd started showing up in the evening but recently Ablass has seen her at many different times. He said she has come in the morning. She has also showed up in the afternoon on a few occasions.

"(Todd) is very unpredictable," Ablass said. "She is just suddenly there and then I turn my back for a second and then she is



Taylor Shire photo

A wild fox is fed raw stewing beef at a local farm. The fox showed up at the farm yard last year and the family has fed it since.

gone." The wild fox is starting to grow fond of the Ablasses. "She is everywhere," Eugene said. "But you can't touch her. She always keeps her distance."

"She will take meat from anyone's hand," Ablass said. "It can be a stranger or anyone."

This reporter validated that statement by feeding Todd a raw piece of stewing beef a few minutes after seeing her for the first time.

Ablass said Todd has come up to his front step and he fed her from there. Then he slowly started making his way into the house. He fed her from the porch and then eventually made his way into the

kitchen. Todd came right in and snatched the meat and took off. The kitchen is about twelve feet inside the house. "I have never seen anything like this in my life," Ablass said.

Todd responds to a call. Ablass yells, "Todd! Todd!" and eventually Todd shows up, especially if she is hungry. "She doesn't respond like a dog does but if she hears you, she will come quickly."

Ablass does not know exactly where Todd's den is or where she keeps her pups but she is within hearing distance.

Sometimes Ablass will come home from town and find Todd lying in his driveway. He has also seen her waiting in his nephew's

yard. David has a dog in his yard but neither attacks the other. They keep their distance from each other. Todd knows the dog, Rosco, is in the area and keeps an eye on him out of the corner of her eye.

Ablass does not believe Todd will ever attack them unless she thinks she is in danger. She is mainly interested in the meat she receives. Ablass believes she is slowly developing a trust with him. He thinks Todd is starting to feel more comfortable.

Ablass does not know how long Todd will keep coming but he welcomes her every time she does.

"She is nice to have around," he says.

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## Kisbey artists awarded grants through Sask. Arts Board

Three Kisbey craft artists have been awarded Indigenous Pathways Initiative Traditional Arts grants by the Saskatchewan Arts Board:

- Debora Beaudry received a \$5,485 grant to create a full beaded buckskin dress, including cape, leggings, moccasins, purse, barrette, earrings, choker,

medallion, and boned breast plate; and

- Daisy McArthur and Ruby McArthur received a \$4,900 and a \$5,200 grant respectively to create traditional dance regalia, including dress, leggings, accessories, and breast plates.

The Indigenous Pathways Initiative Traditional Arts grant enables practicing Indigenous artists working in a traditional cultural media such as beading, birch bark biting, dancing, storytelling, or drumming to create or produce culturally specific Indigenous works.

At the spring 2009 grant deadlines, the Saskatchewan Arts Board awarded almost 170 grants to individuals and organizations, totalling more than \$4 million.

Grants support a variety of initiatives, including funding organizations that provide ongoing programs in the arts, the creative work of professional artists, community art projects and the engagement of professional artists to work in schools with students and teachers.

The Arts Board's mission is to cultivate an environment in which the arts thrive for the benefit of everyone in Saskatchewan. It serves the people of the province through programs and activities designed to build a strong and vibrant arts sector.

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# There's nothing quite like Forget Arts Fest

Event ends after four years with July 24 to 26 gathering

BY MONIQUE MCKAY

I can imagine the wise-cracks people share about Forget, Sask., a tiny, crumbling hamlet of perhaps 38 souls on Highway 13 west of Carlyle.

But really, there's a reason to go there.

Unfortunately, you're too late to catch the Forget Summer Arts Festival, and you can't just shrug it off until next year. The week-end of July 24, 25 and 26 was the fourth and final year for this arts and culture celebration.

But not to worry; I suspect they will be feting music and art in Forget for years to come, and Don and Shannon Shakotko extend a warm invitation to you to join them.

I have to admit I consider myself something of a music festival veteran. I misspent a portion of my youth promoting and man-

aging bands, and found myself among the volunteer brigades of a number of musical fairs, from North Country in Alberta to mainstreams like the Vancouver Folk Fest.

As our family grew, volunteering became more unwieldy with a baby (or two) on my hip, and I began the novel practice of actually paying to get in the gates. Despite a long list of festivals behind me, I confess, nothing has ever been quite like Forget.

"Best time we've had in a long time!" said trombone player Mike Kerieff of Saskatoon.

Honestly, when he and the rest of the Oral Fuentes Reggae Band were belting out awesome original numbers with musical roots from places like Belize and Ghana, and a hundred prairie people were doing their panting best to keep

up with the impromptu African dance workshop offered by the djembe player, shaking it out with all their might on the lush green grass, it was the best time I've had in a while too.

Musical highlights of the festival, in my opinion, included Skin and Bone, a Regina based rhythm band with soul to spare, dynamic and hypnotic fiddler Karnel Sawistky, and the personally charming and musically captivating Whistlepigs String Band out of Minnesota.

Ken Hamm was playing some mean slide guitar as my family and I were setting up our tent Friday evening, and Rocanville's Shifty Morgan did not disappoint Friday night. I always cry whenever Anthony Kelly and his band play 'Little Hands.' I realize that's a shameless plug for the band and their song, but I can't apologize.

Ireland's Stephan Maguire was also highly entertaining, I thought, and should you have the opportunity to see any of these artists playing somewhere this summer, 'carpe diem' is my advice.

The Forget Summer Arts Festival was notable for two main reasons; the incredible venue, and the pride and dedication of the small community which opens



Monique McKay Photo

The fourth and final Forget Summer Arts Festival was held July 24 to 26.

up its hearts and homes to the musicians who come to play and the people who come to see them.

The festival has been held on the grounds of the Our Lady of La Salette's Catholic Church. Ten years ago, Don and Shannon purchased the rectory building adjacent to the aged place of worship. They were living in Maryfield, where Shannon, a bright and confident woman with gleaming hair and eyes, had been teaching for approximately three years.

Don and Shannon are life-long lovers of music

and art, and feel strongly about the healing, communicative, and faith-strengthening aspects of cultural expression.

"When words fail, music prevails," is inscribed in the whimsical and bountiful garden outside their beautifully restored home.

Although the couple, originally from Washington, embraced the community of Maryfield wholeheartedly, they knew that administrating a festival was in their future. They looked everywhere for the perfect venue, from the Sunshine Coast to Thunder

Bay.

Shannon was sorting through the flyers one day in her Maryfield kitchen, when the lead article in the SouthEast Advertiser caught her attention, and just as she was tossing the circular into the recycling bin she read the headline, 'Forget Rectory.'

"Forget?" wondered Shannon, pronouncing it with a hard 'g' instead of the soft slur of the locals.

"I can't find it on the maps!"

You still can't find Forget on most road maps, but Don and Shannon's hard work, alongside that of the community's, has definitely put the village on the cultural map.

The couple took a Sunday drive, and found a small, handmade 'For Sale' sign in the window of the rectory, which was slowly giving in to the advances of old age. They took a walk around the grounds, which was, apparently, tangled, overgrown, and quite different from the park-like atmosphere that graces the current setting.

They climbed to the top of the shrine, a man-made construction of earth and stone crowned by a white-washed saint, looked over the gentle field in front of them, and looked at each other.

Silence reigned between them on the drive back to the highway. Six minutes of silence is a long time. Shannon looked at Don.

"This is it," they simply knew, and agreed.

Though ambitious, the Shakotkos are not immodest. They needed help, and enlisted Hank and Gyda Nickel, Shannon's parents.

"We came from White Rock (British Columbia), where people go to die," jokes Hank.

Clearly, they've come to Saskatchewan to live, and then some. The Rectory, their family home, is also known as the Ananda Arthouse. The families were hosting house concerts, "before the paint was dry," confides Gyda, and probably before much of Saskatchewan even knew what 'house concerts' are supposed to be.

For the as-of-yet-uninitiated, a house concert usually consists of a meal or buffet-style comestibles, drinks, and an intimate concert performance by a musician or small band. They are often as affordable as \$50 per person (or even less, but this way you may feel like you're getting a great deal on your next invite) and are excellent opportunities to meet new people, celebrate friends, and mingle with artists and performers in a way in which you may never have such an opportunity again.

Best of all, anyone with access to the Internet and a fair-sized room in their home can contact an area performer and host one. You may quickly find that your friends and family don't mind contributing a few dollars to see an artist and enjoy some food in a private setting, for the same as they might have to pay to go out to the local pub.

Continued on page 13

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# Festival brought Forget to the bigger world

Continued from page 12

But enough about your social life, and back to the Shakotkos.

It took about four years for the Forget Summer Arts Festival to get out of Don and Shannon's heads and onto the grounds.

"We weren't exactly welcomed," says Shannon of the community, remembering when they had first came. Personally, I somehow doubted that, and chalked whatever initial coolness they may have experienced to characteristic Saskatchewan reserve.

My doubts were confirmed early Saturday morning. The sun was shining, and most of the Whistlepigs were strumming away in the dappled shadows near long wooden tables.

Children were already busy in the generously stocked Arts and Crafts tent, or blowing giant bubbles, and I was chatting with 78-year old Lorette Wilkes, who was born in Forget, as some of her fellow volunteers grilled pancakes for my sons.

"Just wonderful," she said of the news that the Shakatkos had bought the Rectory nearly a decade previous, "just like going to heaven; everyone was so proud."

"The curling rink sold. Even our post office closed," Lorette told me in the hushed tone some people reserve for dirty secrets.

She looks around at the early morning people crawling out of their tents and towards the smell of coffee.

"But (the festival) brought outsiders in."

It's true. Over the approximately thirty hours I spent in Forget, I met at least three families, including American Fred Keller of the Whistlepigs, who have bought land in the area in part because of the festival.

I ask Lorette the question I ask of everyone I meet from Forget, to which I never get the answer I anticipate.

"How has this festival changed the community of Forget?"

She looks askance of me, as though I have suggested a few men and women strumming on a pile of rock could change the prairie itself.

Change Forget? No; showcase Forget, perhaps? Open up the few gravelled streets of Forget to a momentarily larger population?

The festival has brought Forget to the bigger world, not the bigger world to Forget.

That may be true, but not the whole truth. Don Shakotko remembers the first year. It started with just one day and six bands.

"It was very laid back," he says, adding that maybe three hundred people attended.

"I got phone calls. People asking, 'How should I dress? Should I wear a skirt? Should I bring a chair?' But people caught on quick," he finished proudly.

I must digress and note that I enjoyed the Forget Summer Arts Festival.

However, it was a pretty tough crowd for the musicians. I earlier touched on both Prairie people dancing and that quintessential Saskatchewan reserve. These must be two natures eternally at war, because I tell you truly, there was not a lot of dancing.

This is not exactly in keeping with my general festival experience. And, if we're on the topic, maybe clapping was a little—umm—reserved, too.

It is totally okay to clap and dance at a music festival.

And paint your face and

bedeck yourself in feathers . . . but maybe that's too personal. I'm only too glad I left my gauze butterfly wings at home, even if it's only because I couldn't find them at the bottom of the children's tickle trunk.

I've never been to a festival in its last year before. I feel sorry for you, because you just get to read about it.

I feel sorry for me, because I know that despite my best and truest efforts, I missed the best parts. I was nestled down in our tent with our hot and tired baby (okay . . . babies) on Satur-

*'I've never been to a festival in its last year before. I feel sorry for you, because you just get to read about it. I feel sorry for me because I know that despite my best and truest efforts, I missed the best parts . . . nestled down in our tent with our hot and tired baby.'*

day night, as the acclaimed campfire began, and long did I hear the wail of the fiddle and what I imagined to be the slap of feet against the grass in the hot prairie night.

Maybe people from Saskatchewan mostly dance in the fire light?

Much against my purest will, I left Saturday night. I did not see the Friesan Family Band take that shrine of a stage on bright Sunday morning, nor hear the smallest child's voice

raised in that cleanest of praise, with the people moving and cheering, as this era was brought to its home.

I did, however, hear it was pretty good.

Although the Festival itself is no more, art and culture still have a venue in Forget, under the guise of the Happy Nun Cafe. This innovative venue offers up fresh, local, and primarily organic cuisine, fine wines, and carefully selected entertainment.

An excellent and charming destination to celebrate something special, or simply life itself, you could even make a weekend of it and stay at the Inn of the Seven Sisters, a bed and breakfast hosted by Shannon and her family.

The Cafe reopens August 28 for dinner, and reservations are recommended. And by calling Shannon at (306) 457-3246 or (306) 457-2560, maybe you can still get a piece of Forget's arts culture.



Monique McKay Photo

The Forget festival is notable for its hospitality to both musicians and music lovers.

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## Tried and True Recipes

by Sandra Johnson



### Macaroni, Ham Salad

4 cups cooked macaroni  
1 - 7 oz. block mild cheddar cheese, cubed  
2 cups ham, chopped  
1 cup dill pickles, chopped

3 hard cooked eggs, chopped  
3 green onions,  
3/4 cup salad dressing  
2 Tbsp prepared mustard

In a bowl, combine macaroni, cheese, ham pickles and onions. Combine salad dressing and mustard. Add to macaroni mixture and toss. Add eggs, toss lightly. Cover and chill. Serves 12.

### Potato Salad

6 hard boiled eggs, cooled and sliced  
4 medium potatoes, quartered cooked and cooled  
6 radishes, sliced  
2 ribs celery, chopped  
4 green onions, chopped

1 Tbsp parsley flakes  
1 cup salad dressing  
1/4 cup prepared mustard (optional)  
2 to 3 Tbsp cucumber relish (optional)

Cube cooked potatoes. Add remaining ingredients to potatoes. Gently mix together. May be topped with crumbled bacon or bacon bits. Try to make only enough so there is no leftovers. Best fresh.

To order a copy of *Tried and True*, send \$12, plus \$5 postage and handling, to Sandra Johnson, Box 1072, Moosomin, SK, S0G 3N0.

# First stones laid for Indian Head Bell Barn project

About 60 supporters of the Bell Barn project gathered at the site near Indian Head on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 28th, to take part in the laying of the first stones in the reconstruction of the barn's fieldstone wall.

Participants spanned four generations, and everyone present had the opportunity to place a stone in the wall. The event was covered by media crews from CBC radio and TV, CTV, and Global TV in Regina.

Dick Van Der Velden, foreman/supervisor for the project, circulated in the crowd and answered questions about the method of construction that will be used to rebuild the wall.

A crew of seven men from Gracom Masonry Ltd. will be working on the project, using all of the stones salvaged from the original barn along with additional stones from farm rock piles in the Indian Head area.

The expected completion date of the stone work is October 2009. The finished product will be a circular wall that is 14 feet high and 2 feet thick, with a total perimeter length of 200 feet.

One by one, each partici-



Submitted photo

Volunteers lay field stones that will make up the walls of the Bell Barn, a round, stone barn that will operate as an interpretive centre about the Bell Farm in 19 Century.

Participant Jerry Willerth picked a stone from those salvaged from the original barn and placed it in a bed of concrete on the barn's new foundation. Board members of the Bell Barn Society of Indian Head were on hand to share in the historical significance of the occasion.

Jerry Willerth, vice-chair of the Society, told reporters, "The Bell Farm was the first attempt at corporate farming on a large scale in Saskatchewan, and this round stone barn, originally built back in 1882,

*"The Bell Farm was the first attempt at corporate farming on a large scale in Saskatchewan . . . represents that part of our agricultural heritage."*

—Jerry Willerth

represents that part of our agricultural heritage. As an interpretive center, the reconstructed barn will educate generations to come about this important story in Saskatchewan's history."

Willerth also expressed appreciation for the financial support the project has received.

"We've had great support from individuals, businesses, and corporations," he said.

"And now, the recent contribution of \$700,000 from the federal government, through Western Diversification Canada, is giving the project a jump start, ensuring that the entire reconstruction of the barn will be completed in the next year or so."

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**Some of the best photos may be published in the World-Spectator or Plain & Valley. Draw to be made Monday, August 31**

# Liquid fuel from solar power

In recent years, scientists and engineers have turned to biofuels—fuels generated from living things, and hence renewable—as a means of weaning us off of fossil fuels in favor of something cleaner, less likely to run out, and less wrapped up in international geopolitics.

Fermenting the sugars found in corn or other grains into ethanol has been around for a long time, of course, and it's pretty much a proven technology.

On the other hand, do we really want to be turning food into fuel?

More promising have been recent advances in turning lignocellulose, the stuff that makes up the cell walls in plants, into ethanol and other fuels. That would allow us to use grasses, wood chips, straw and other non-food as biomass.

Now comes word of a fuel-producing technology that doesn't require biomass of any sort: just carbon dioxide and sunlight. And no, I'm not talking about trees.

On Monday, a Massachusetts company called Joule Biotechnologies announced that it has the technology to convert carbon dioxide directly into transportation fuels and chemicals. Not only that, they say, "this eco-friendly, direct-to-fuel conversion requires no agricultural land or fresh water."

The company was founded in 2007, and relies on something it calls "Helioculture" technology, mixing, as the New York Times's article on the announcement puts it,



Edward Willett

"CO<sub>2</sub>, Slime and Sunshine."

More specifically, the company grows genetically engineered microorganisms in specially designed bioreactors. The microorganisms are photosynthetic, able to use energy from the sun to convert carbon dioxide and water into ethanol or hydrocarbon fuels.

The process works well in the laboratory, so the real question is if it can be scaled up to an industrial-sized plant. To find out, Joule plans to break ground on a modular pilot plant early in 2010 that will produce ethanol (trademarked as SolarEthanol), and the following year hopes to begin construction on a commercial-scale operation that can also produce hydrocarbons and associated chemicals, "several of which have already been demonstrated at laboratory scale."

It's looking for sites near CO<sub>2</sub> producers such as coal-fired power plants and cement kilns, with locations in Texas, Arizona, Nevada and New Mexico, places with lots of sun and lots of space, under consideration.

Open spaces are needed because a large plant would look a lot like a solar array—a huge field covered with panels, except these panels, rather than producing electricity, would produce liquid fuels.

The company estimates that a single acre covered with its "SolarConverter" panels (flat, transparent, and about

the size of a sheet of plywood) could produce 20,000 gallons of ethanol at a cost of \$50 a barrel. (That makes it competitive with oil, although it's worth noting that that price includes existing subsidies. What the unsubsidized cost would be, I don't know.)

At that level of production, if you built enough plants to cover, in total, an area the size of the Texas panhandle, you could meet all of the United States' transportation fuel needs.

In Technology Review, writer Kevin Bullis notes that the company's technology sounds similar to that of biofuels produced by algae—but the company says it is not using algae, and its stated production estimates are an order of magnitude greater than algae-based biofuels, which are estimated to have potential yields of only 2,000 to 6,000 gallons per acre.

Its estimated cost of production is also only a fraction of that of algae-based biofuels, which currently would require crude oil to rise to \$800 a barrel in order to be competitive.

Besides, algae produces oils that have to be refined, whereas Joule says its microorganisms will produce ethanol or hydrocarbons directly. The Joule microorganisms also excrete the fuels, whereas algae has to be harvested and processed to extract oil.

Too good to be true? Maybe. But there are other companies in the race to develop the same kinds of technology. And with the push to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and move away from fossil fuels, that race is only going to get hotter.

So remember the name: Joule Biotechnologies. Someday, its genetically modified critters could be cheerfully churning out the fuel that powers your car. Edward Willett is a science writer from Regina, Sask.

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## Austin wants to re-introduce himself

BY CHRIS ISTACE

Two years after releasing his last album, Canadian country music recording artist Julian Austin would like to re-introduce himself.

In May, Austin released his fifth CD, "One for One," which he says has been well received in the past three months.

"I guess I'm just trying

to raise my profile again, you know," Austin said after completing a television interview in Ontario last Thursday.

"I'm back working with a great friend (producer Daniel Leblanc) who did my first two albums when I first came on to the scene back in the mid-1990s. Being back with a dear friend and great producer was just an easy reunion."

Born in Sussex, N.B., Austin released his first album, "What My Heart Already Knows," in 1997, which went gold with sales of more than 50,000. Since then, he's released "Back in Your Life," "Bulletproof," and "The Red and White," which included a tribute to the Canadian armed



Julian Austin

forces.

It's fitting, then, that Austin will headline the Moosomin Legion's Sept. 5 concert at the Moosomin Communiplex. The event is a fundraiser for the local organization, which has had financial difficulties the last several years.

Tickets for the show are \$35 and are available at Boomerang's Pub and Grill or by calling 435-3260.

"I'm totally pro-Canadian, first of all, and I stand behind our military 120 per cent; and their families and veterans," Austin said.

"My father was a veteran and my uncles, as are many of our loved ones. Every time I get a chance to go overseas—to Afghanistan, southwest Asia, Bosnia, no matter where it is—to perform for our heroes, it's always an honor. I jump on it. I'm also a member at the Legion branch at CFB Petawawa. I think it's a tragedy that (Legions) are closing down in record numbers across this country."

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# Community events don't happen without area volunteers

This past August long weekend was certainly a busy one with the community of Kipling, the R.M. of Wolseley and St. Joseph's Parish in Candiac all celebrating centenaries. The Moosomin Regional Park also hosted a fireworks competition.

We all know that events of this nature don't just happen. While individuals from far and near were traveling to join family and friends and participate in the celebrations, many volunteers were busy preparing their communities for the influx of visitors. Events had been organized that would bring people together providing entertainment and opportunity to visit and renew acquaintances with family and friends they hadn't seen for some time. From my opportunity to visit with many individuals the general consensus was that the local host committees, volunteers and communities had done an awesome job in preparing for the celebrations. I want to extend a hearty thank you to the organizing committees for doing an excellent job in ensuring your weekend events were so successful.

I also had the opportunity to talk with people about the welfare of the province. Many comments were made



## Report from the Legislature

Don Toth, MLA  
Souris-Moose Mountain

about how well the province is doing at this time. There were many comments about the road side mowing and how much more relaxing it was to drive along our highways having a better opportunity to spot wild life before they crossed the highway.

As well as early mowing of ditches, the Ministry of Highways has been busy reconstructing highways and bridges across the province. This year 250 kms. of thin membrane surface will be reconstructed. With an increase of 41 per cent in the provincial highways budget, the ministry is also working to tackle the reconstruction of over 800 bridges which have been neglected for far too

long. This year an additional 58 bridges will be replaced and the twinning of highway #11 between Saskatoon and Prince Albert is moving forward.

The province is not only constructing highways but is moving forward to address the infrastructure deficit in schools, hospitals and long-term facilities. The community of Moosomin is certainly pleased with their new health care facility and the citizens of Kipling are waiting with great anticipation for their new facility to begin construction.

Over the past number of months the provincial government in partnership with the federal government and local communities announced funding for numerous infrastructure projects. These funds will be used to address the need for water and sewer projects as well as street maintenance which were so desperately needed. Many urban and rural council members have expressed their appreciation for this assistance.

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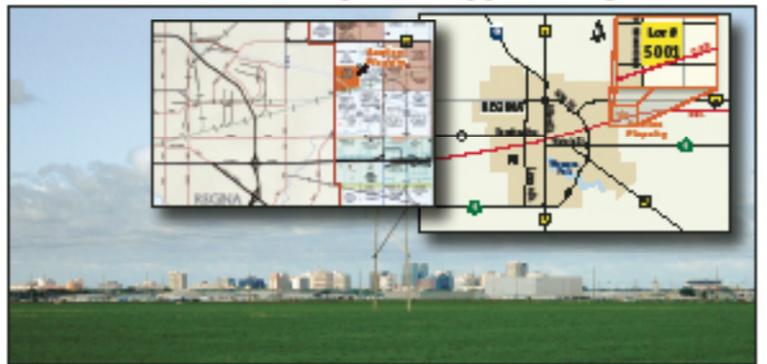
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The Minot U.S. Air Force base in Minot, N.D. hosted "Northern Neighbors Day" on July 18. The air show included a variety of stunt planes (left and above) as well as vintage and contemporary war planes, like the P51 Mustang, the B1 Stealth Bomber and an U2 spy plane.

Ed James photos

# Air show delights large crowd in Minot

BY ED JAMES

July 18 was the Minot U.S. Air Force base's air show, known as "Northern Neighbors Day."

Like the Moose Jaw air show it attracts large crowds with lots to see and do.

After a polite security search, you board an air conditioned bus to the hanger area and flight line, where you set up your lawn chair for the best view of the later show. Then, you go back to see the wide va-

*'Northern Neighbors Day' hosts both civilian and military displays and demonstrations for airplane enthusiasts from both sides of the Canada-U.S. border.*

riety of static displays by the military, and the food court with its variety of fare.

There is a midway for the children, face painting, great '60s to '80s rock and roll music, and even several commercial displays and information from downtown Minot businesses.

One of the commercial displays that caught my

eye was a booth about the pleasures of Saskatchewan's own Kenosee Lake area.

Back outside there were planes of every era and purpose to see and even sit or walk about in.

The crowds always seem to be of two minds. One group likes the modern day jet fighters such as the F-150s and F-16s, or the super bombers and cargo planes.

The rest, including me, are drawn to the classic Second World War military planes such as the Mitchell B-25 bomber of the famous General Dolittle raid over Tokyo right after the sneak attack by the Japanese on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

Another would be the P-38 lightning fighter with its twin tails, which the German air force referred to as the fork tongued devil.

The most famous American Second World War fighter plane, the P-51 Mustang, changed the face of the Second World War aerial combat with its high performance and long range drop fuel tanks. The war plane was lethal in the hands of capable pilots,

such as the African American flyers from the Tuskegee Squadron.

I don't go back as far as these, but my favorite was the Bill Huey Chopper of the Vietnam war, which was on display and is still in active service.

Two of the important groups at the base are the security companies who gave a very visual display of their K-9 dogs in action. My only comment would be if confronted by a trained security dog, don't try to outrun them, because they are going to win and be very mad at you.

Another group that was not giving displays, but were very visible throughout the event, were the medical teams looking after minor problems, such as heat stroke and lost and found children and adults.

Each year there is always a showing from the Canadian forces and this time it was the 26th Field Regiment of the Royal Canadian Artillery Pipe and Drum Band from Brandon. They took up their circular formation and played a number of military pipe and drum selections for an appreciative crowd.

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But I do suspect that the loudest applause came from Canadian visitors to the air show, since the parking lot had several Manitoba and Saskatchewan licence plates.

The air show started at noon with the Canadian and American flags flying from the canopy lines of two members of the U.S. army parachute team known as the Golden Knights, followed by the singing of both national anthems.

After, that it was four hours of military airplanes past and present demonstrating their skills, speed and purpose, while the civilian stunt planes, with their modified bodies and engines, thrilled the crowds with stunts, tricks, and maneuvers that you could follow from the trails emitted from their wing-edge smoke generators.

One of the civilian stunt plane demonstrations included a small single engine plane landing on the top of a moving truck on the runway.

Another was a dead stick landing from a height of 6,000 feet to a stop of the plane's propeller hub in the hand of the base commander using a combination of the pilot's skills, wind energy and gravity, but no engine power.

The Golden Knight parachute team jumped from an altitude of 12,500 feet, free falling to speeds of over 120 miles per hour to land like a leaf on a marked "X" in front of the grandstand.

Soon the vintage war planes would do a number of fly-bys and maneuvers, often making a final fly-by with its 21st Century counterpart.

The members of the base security team gave a demonstration in repelling an attack on the base by an aggressor force and repelling them with the use of Huey gun choppers and accurate ground fire and tactics.

Near the end of the

day, they had a fly past of some special planes, to the sounds of very patriotic and moving music from the loud speakers.

The first was the work horse, long range bomber of the U.S. airforce, the B-52 Stratofortress, that can carry 70,000 pounds of ordinance, fly at a ceiling of 50,000 feet with a flying range of 8,800 miles carrying a crew of five before needing a refuel.

The next would be the B-2 Stealth bomber, with its black matte paint job and triangular shape. Much of the information on this plane is classified, but it was used extensively in the U.S. invasion of Iraq with great success.

The third fly-by aircraft is even covered in more secrecy. It's the U.S. high altitude U-2 spy plane with a range of more than 5,000 miles, a ceiling of more than 70,000 feet and the ability to carry out high altitude photographic, electronic, and infrared surveillance.

The unique feature of the plane besides its all-black paint job is the 105-foot wing span that gives it glider-like flying capabilities.

It was announced during the fly-by of the U-2 that the U.S. military has one airborne somewhere over the world, 24 hours a day. I'm not surprised that none of these planes were on static display, given their special roles in war and peace.

I stayed until the very end and then some, since several of the vintage war birds, in flying back to their home bases, often do a few extra fly-bys of the flight line.

I was able to get some great photos, which put the cap on the end of a perfect day that was a mixture of history, new technology, and learning about the many people behind the scenes who make these "warriors on the prairies" a reality to protect the things we value.

Email [world\\_spectator@sasktel.net](mailto:world_spectator@sasktel.net) to find out more about the Plain and Valley

## **What do our readers have to say about the Plain & Valley?**

**I very much enjoy reading your publication, Mr. Weedmark. The articles are interesting and informative and the layout is attractive. I wish you continued success with this endeavour and look forward to receiving future issues.**

**—Sheila Brayford**

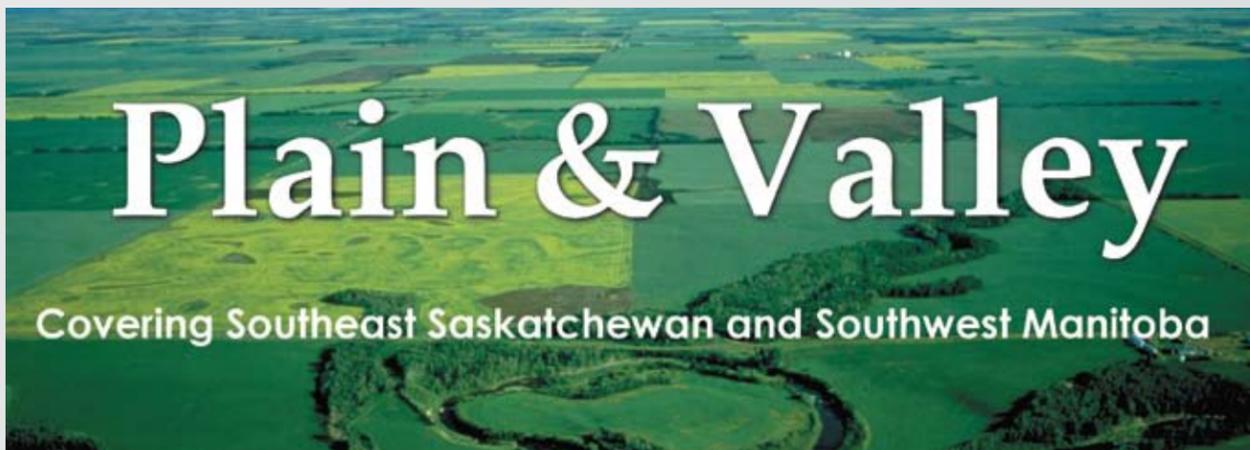
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