



Beaverbrook book

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Homeless HOTEL

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Miramichi Leader

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MONDAY - October 22, 2007

"The Leader since 1906"

MVHS principal named to new post

by Edna Williston

The launch of between 10-15 "community schools" pilot projects will move forward in District 16 under the direction of Peggy Gorman-Mitchell.

Gorman-Mitchell, principal of Miramichi Valley High School, was recently appointed to a 12-month term as district community school coordinator to oversee Year 1 in the district of the province's "When Kids Come First" initiative.

On June 5, Premier Shawn Graham and Education Minister Kelly Lamrock unveiled a new plan for public education in New Brunswick that involves the concept of community schools — alliances between schools and the community.

Graham said "When kids come first" is his government's vision for building the best education system in the country.

See Principal A4



Munsch on stage (as opposed to under bed)

Nathan gets an up close look at famous Canadian children's author Robert Munsch and his unique storytelling style as he bedazzles his audience from the stage of the James M. Hill Theatre. This photo was taken during the second of two performances Munsch gave when he visited Miramichi Thursday. See story and more pictures on page A3. (Darcey McLaughlin photo)

Chamber of Commerce honours two Miramichiers

by Patrick Flanagan

The Miramichi Chamber of Commerce honoured Darcy Taylor of Taylor Digital Imaging and Dr. Gerard B. Losier at its ninth annual Gala Evening and Awards Dinner Thursday.

Paul McGraw, the event's master of ceremonies, started the evening off by greeting the packed audience at the Rodd Inn.

"The Chamber of Commerce gala dinner is a time to honour past successes; it's a time to network; it's a time to renew friendships ... it's also a way to develop new friendships," McGraw said, and then added, "It's a time to honour companies on the verge of huge success. These are the companies we've

honoured in the past. We will be honouring two more tonight."

Next, chamber president Thomas Linkletter welcomed everyone to the dinner.

"It's the people here who are going to ensure that Miramichi is prospering and moving forward — this year, next year and right into the future."

Miramichi-Bay du Vin MLA Bill Fraser said all those assembled were there to recognize two individuals, "... who have gone above and beyond the ordinary. Too often, the selfless contributions ordinary people make in their community go unrecognized."

Miramichi Mayor John McKay pointed out to every-

one that entrepreneurs and developers have been showing more interest in the area than there has been in a long while.

"That's good news. That's an indication that the people of this community are saying, 'We are going to move on.'"

McKay then congratulated Taylor and Losier for showing initiative and determination with their particu-

Giberson Trucking owner Ken Giberson presented Taylor with his award.

"Darcy has come a long way. He is very innovative. He kept expanding. He went to trade shows in the U.S which proved successful for him and increased his business," said Giberson.

See Chamber A2

Operation Jackpot: Paul Black to be tried on his own

by Gail Savoy

A justice in the court of Queens Bench has granted a motion to allow the Crown to try Paul Black alone on his Operation Jackpot drug charges.

The decision was made Friday, Oct. 19 after federal prosecutor Monica Johnson argued a motion to have Black's charges severed from two sets of joint charges.

Black had been jointly charged with Matt Amos on a charge of conspiracy to produce and traffic in marijuana and with Robin Charest and brother Kevin Black on charges of conspiracy to produce marijuana. Paul and Kevin Black and Charest have also been charged with conspiracy to traffic in other drugs, including marijuana, oxycodone.

In his decision, Justice Stephen McNally said he agreed it was in the interest of jus-

tice to proceed with the trials of Amos, Charest, and Kevin Black [separate from Paul Black] and that they not be furthered delayed.

"Society in general has a right to see justice proceed. It promotes respect for the law and the administration of justice. The Crown is well within the right to proceed against Paul Black separately."

It has been two years since the charges against the four men were laid, six months after the Operation Jackpot takedown on April 19, 2005.

Paul Black was ordered to appear Nov. 5 for Motions Day in Court of Queen's Bench on a new indictment and to have new trial dates set. The other three men are also due in court that day to begin arguments on motions. The arguments on motions will then adjourn until Nov. 8, after which they will continue until the arguments are completed.

See Jackpot A2

Man fined, jailed for dangerous driving on ATV

by Patrick Flanagan

Speeding away from police at a gas station will cost a man dearly in fines and jail time.

Kenneth Joseph Malley was sentenced to 90 days in jail and ordered to pay \$1,656 in fines.

The 20-year-old was taken into custody immediately by sheriff officers on the order of provincial court judge Denis Lordon.

Malley, who was scheduled for trial, changed his plea to guilty on charges including dangerous driving, fleeing police, and breach of probation.

Crown Prosecutor Jean Guy Savoie said Malley operated an uninsured all-terrain vehicle with no license plates at high speeds along the side of the highway. The incident occurred on April 16.

Savoie said a retired conservation officer observed the vehicle, which he estimated to be traveling at 100-110 km/h, seemed to be trying to pass an ambulance. He said the vehicle slowed down at the Napan Road, but soon caught up to other vehicles and began to overtake them again. The driver then stopped for gas.

Savoie said the police report states that while the driver was filling the vehicle with gas, he saw the police approaching and immediately got on the vehicle and sped

away through the fields and veered into a trail.

Police searched for the vehicle without success and returned to the gas station to ask if the owner knew the suspect — only to find Malley there paying for the gas.

Malley told the police officer that if he hadn't returned to pay for the gas, he would not have been caught.

Savoie reminded the court Malley was on probation at the time of the incident.

Lordon told Malley he was lucky there had not been an accident, given his reckless and dangerous driving. He handed down fines of \$168 for not having a license plate on the vehicle, \$288 for driving within 7.5 metres of a highway and \$1,200 for not having insurance on the vehicle.

When given the opportunity to speak Malley told Lordon he has a job in Alberta and needs to get back to it within a week, but wanted enough time to pay the fines.

Lordon told him he would have plenty of time to pay the fines. He set a payment date of April 7, 2008, before sentencing Malley to a total of 90 days in jail: 30 days for dangerous driving, 30 days for avoiding the police and 30 days for breach of probation, each sentenced to be served consecutively. He also prohibited Malley from driving for one year.

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WEATHER
MONDAY
Sunny
H: 21

TUESDAY
Showers
L: 9 H: 15

WEDNESDAY
Chance of showers
L: 5 H: 10

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The Miramichi Chamber of Commerce held its 9th annual Gala Evening and Business Awards Dinner at the Rodd Inn Thursday evening. Seen here with their wives are this year's award recipients. From left, Sandra and Darcy Taylor and Judy and Dr. Gerard B. Losier. (Stephane Savoie photo)

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