

FINANCIAL POST

FP, BABY!

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SUMMARY

News

I lose the lottery again despite using the extra lucky numbers of my Birthday. Other coworkers have shown indifference to my plight, showing an increase in apathy on the economic front.

"Money is good!" exclaims Ted Turner. "I think I oughta make more of the stuff." Plans to make even more money may be hampered by recent purchase of Hungary.

The rich get richer, the poor get poorer and the middle class remain unconcerned. "Were pretty neutral on the subject," said one spokesman.

Jumbo Video stops giving out free popcorn. Video retail giant upsets millions with decision to cease carrying tasty treat, cite messy, unruly teens as reason.

The Canadian dollar plunged an unprecedented 67 cents below the American dollar yesterday. Finance Minister, Paul Martin announces change of currency to Fraggie Rock collectables.

Ninjas took over the Toronto Stock Exchange late yesterday afternoon, throwing ninja stars all over the place, until they realized they weren't in the bad guys place after all and left without a sound. When asked if they felt guilty, the ninjas yelled and jumped.

Technology

Dinosaur egg stocks plummeted after studies reveal they aren't that technological in the first place. "They turned out to just be really, really, old eggs. Nothing special after all," says scientist

A new device is hoped to be the one to finally stop bed wetting. "It's a tube that shoots the pee into the kid's mouth so they learn to not like it," says inventor and tester Jack Griffin.

The Internet filed for bankruptcy yesterday after, for no apparent reason, people suddenly stopped caring and decided to instead interact with other people.

Workers at a kilt factory in Scotland have reportedly been sending out thousands of kilts which turn tie-died upon contact with water. Swimming Scots embarrassed.

An Australian storekeeper has refused to sell any more products to stupid North Americans who ask her, "Did a dingo eat your baby?"

FP Stocks

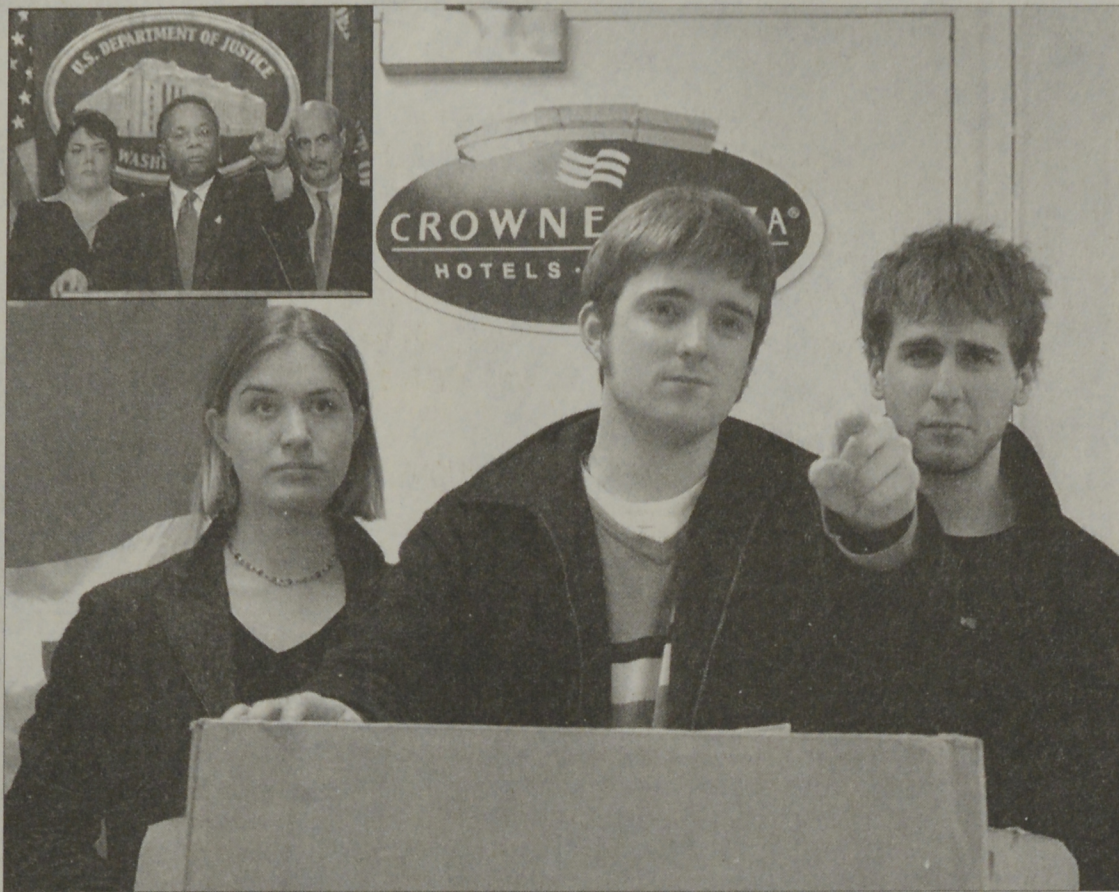
The Oromocto Stock Exchange opened to great fanfare yesterday. So far, the market consists of Jim's Pizza and The Tire Factory. Both stocks are tied at first place with a value of 13 cents.

Thousands of brokers at the NY Stock Exchange packed up and left their jobs when they realized how utterly useless they were. Stocks remain steady as no one can buy or sell.

Stockwell Day, tired of public humiliation, is returning to his previous job at a local grocery store, where his colleagues would repeatedly joke: "You Stockwell, Day," and "We hate you and wish you would never come back to this grocery store."

The value of shares in rocket fuel skyrocketed today, thanks to a brilliant use of an otherwise obvious play on words.

Money is sketchy, sketched.



"Hey you! You wanna watch movies? Hey you!"

Mailboy revealed to be responsible for Enron scandal

"My bad," says rascally youth

By STEFAN ROBAKTOSHORE

Enron executives have finally found the real culprit behind the recent Enron scandal: a mail boy named Billy McIntyre. "Well, it was my first day, so you have to expect a few," said McIntyre, who works the mailroom in Enron along with many other mind-numbed 20-25 year olds.

Billy claimed he "screwed with a few letters for fun," which was followed by "everything going to Hell."

"I hoped to hide my mistake by shredding a lot of papers, but I forgot to shred that note I wrote to myself to shred the papers," lamented McIntyre, who single-handedly exponentially increased the unemployment rate of America.

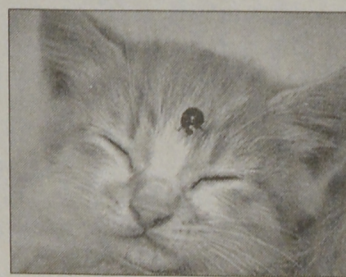
"Man, I can be so forgetful sometimes, it's not even funny," he added.

After a long and fruitless trial, McIntyre was released after the judge's surprising ruling: "Well, we all make mistakes".

FP Editorial



Dexter The enigmatic Secretary of SQUIRRELS speaks out against Fraggie Rock's continuing influence. Page F5



Kitten An adorable kitten doesn't realize there's a ladybug on its head. DOW and NASDAQ soar as a result. Page F3

Naïve teens fight finger-pointing

Respond to US Government picture

By SKIP THOMPSON

Responding to a US State Justice Department barrage of finger pointing and noodleheading, a trio of naive tour-boat operators has banded together to point their own fingers.

"No you are," exclaimed a visibly frustrated Chris Wilson-Smith.

Wilson-Smith, operator of ineptly named "Crowne Hotels Boat Tours," formed the ad hoc group to fight what he sees as constant discrimination against people who just want to enjoy a nice time on a boat.

Backed by fellow tour boat operator and lawyer Sean Sullivan, as well as manatee expert Heather Hickey, the trio hopes to have a profound effect on US policy.

"Yeah," asserted Sullivan.

The trio started out as a soulful group of bluegrass

players, who frequently appeared at the Grand Ole Opry. Tired of all the fame, the trio focused on what they described as "more pressing issues."

"They pointed at us. As tour boat operators, and ex-bluegrass musicians, we find this conduct highly inappropriate and thick milk chocolate," said Hickey.

Sullivan, world-renowned for being recognized internationally, wants the universe to know that he can point fingers just as well as the next guy.

"Besides," said Sullivan. "The next guy could be anyone. For all we know, he could be the worst finger-pointer in the history of humankind." Sullivan then continued: "Amen."

Meanwhile, many stockholders are waiting with baited breath and milky-white chocolate to see what sort of effect this public debacle will have on their money.

One stockholder was heard to say: "It's a tough, milky-white time to hold any sort of stock right now. Chocolate."

Brunswickan acquires Irvvving Oil Limited

ATTEMPTING TO RUN WORLD

By JIM JIMBERSON

In an entirely expected move, Brunswickan Publishing Incorporated has purchased the other New Brunswick superpower: Irvvving.

The Brunswickan plans to relocate all assets to Oromocto, but refuses to pay tax on any profits made, following in the steps of old K.C. These new finances should allow for a bigger, better student newspaper, which should surely put The Brunswickan ahead of The Aquinian in the race for Fredericton's finest media outlet.

The Brunswickan still plans on allowing the formerly-Irvvving-owned Telegraph Journal, Dairy Gleaner, and Times and Planscript to publish biased right-winged views, while Brunswickan Incoming Editor-in-Chief Paul Gross plans on censoring the views of their writers for tradition sake.

Gross is best known for his work in Due South and Men With Brooms.

Also involved in the takeover are all of Irvvving's old companies, including the

lucrative gas stations, which The Brunswickan plans on leaving alone.

"Eventually someone will move in and start running it. What do we know about gas stations?" asked Gross, who plans on relocating the large wolf statue from the Moncton Irvvving to The Bruns.

"It's pretty scary, and so are snakes, so we think it's appropriate," added Chris Wilson Smith, news editor.

As most staff at The Brunswickan work on a volunteer basis, they think it is only fair that employees at the other papers start to do so as well.

"Paychecks will cease arriving effective immediately, except for that dude at the Gleaner who wears a backwards hat - he's pretty cool," said Gross, whose trademark symbol for years was a trendy RCMP hat.

According to Gross, The Brunswickan is planning more corporate takeovers for the near future.

"We plan on getting the CanWest papers, AOL Time Warner, and the CBC as soon as possible. It's so much easier if one person or group owns everything rather than a bunch of people," Gross added.

BOY GETS ALLOWANCE INCREASE

Three dollars sets exciting new precedent for eleven-year-olds

By JIM JIMBERSON

In news rocking family rooms across the country, Tim Boyle, 11, has received a substantial raise in his allowance.

Tim used to receive a weekly sum of \$7 from his mother, Linda, but effective April 19, Tim will be getting \$10 a week.

"This is so rad," raved Tim.

Although the national average for allowances for 11 year olds is \$8, experts expect more parents will follow in Linda's footsteps.

"He's always helping out around the house. He makes his bed and cleans his room without ever requiring my asking. In fact, just last night he helped me dry the dishes," said Linda.

"Well, my mom has a lot of work to do, 'cause dad just sits around all day. Besides, I love my mom," remarked Tim.

This newfound fortune will surely allow Tim to spend just a little more extravagantly on his weekend excursions to the mall. "Now I'll definitely be able to super-size my fries. Plus, as soon as my mom lets me go out on weekdays, I'll be able to afford the movies," said Tim.

"I plan on saving for a really cool scooter, and maybe hit up the skate park downtown," he mused. "Or I'd like to buy a bunch of those hockey pucks at McDonalds. I like Brett Hull, but I don't think they have a puck for him, darn."

Tim also says he'll probably lend his friends some money when they need it. "Even when I was only getting \$8, Phillip was only getting \$6, so when we wanted to go to lazer tag and it cost \$7 each, I gave him my extra dollar so he could go too. I won't mind lending out money more often now," added the young philanthropist.

Tim's friends had much to say on the matter. "Wow, I really hope my mom gives me a raise

too. Maybe I'll start flushing the toilet more often," said Joe Spach, 11 (turning 12 in June).

Mary Wooterham said, "I don't even have an allowance, I have to work in a garment factory to get money. It's really bad when I miss school, or they threaten to fire me for not working overtime."

Allowance expert, Alex Rough says Tim's behavior certainly warrants such recognition. "You know, it will probably encourage more kids to help around the house. Studies have shown that a little initiative by kids goes a long way. Also, \$8 doesn't really cut it with steady inflation rates," says Rough.

"The economy is finally starting to get better, so parents are able to give a little more. These kids are putting money back into the market - 'tweens are the biggest spending demographic right now and it's encouraging to see them getting more money," remarked Rough.

Tom Horton's to launch new beverage

EXPLOITING THE STUPID

By BARR DWYER

Canadian coffee shop mainstay, Tom Horton's, is launching a new drink this summer to appeal to a younger crowd.

"Tommy coffee" will come in three sizes: large, extra large, and bucket, said Tom's in a press release.

This new drink combines the addictive chemicals from their traditional coffee with the nicotine young smokers have been missing out on due to the development of a non-smoking policy at most Tom Horton's locations.

"Now, people will be able to get their nicotine and Tom Horton's coffee all at once," said Rip Nickels, the handsome regional representative. "We just want to encourage the increase in young people's smoking and coffee-drinking that has developed over the past few years."

Tom Horton's says the new coffee will be three times the price of a regular coffee and come in a fancy cup, as youth are more likely to buy something that is expensive.

Also, the word "Tommy" should fool some younger, easily-influenced patrons.

"Kids always think stuff that costs more is cooler; just look at Starbucks coffee or American Eagle clothes," concluded Nickels.

the planned development. "The world is finally going to see how cutting-edge our town really is. I feel the citizens of Bathurst have the same opinion as me in this matter. Great!" exclaimed the mayor.

And excited they are. "Wow, I've always wanted to live inside a store. Do we get discounts? Can I have a job? Can the toiletry section be near my house?" stated resident John Tucker, 26.

Wal-Mart expanding its horizons

By JIM JIMBERSON

Wal-Mart executives are excited to announce the latest expansions to be found in new stores: entire towns.

Bathurst, New Brunswick, is slated to be the test market for the new and improved superstores, and is expected to open up in August.

"Rather than build a Wal-Mart, and then try to fit a town into it, we have decided to build the store's walls around Bathurst. Bathurst will be the new Wal-Mart. We're really very excited," explained store manager, Clyde Grimes.

Wal-Mart promises that all Bathurst residents will be able to do all their shopping without ever having to leave town. "Before, we'd have to set up a hair dresser, shoe repair, and bank within our stores. This way we won't have to compete with the local market. Everybody wins," continued Grimes.

Bathurst mayor, Joe Deems, shares Grimes excitement over