mot des rédacteurs / editor's note

Chers lecteurs, lectrices

Dave Smaill a apporté sa contribution pendant plusieurs années au journal. Par moment, il était poète, parfois essayiste et caricaturiste. Jusqu’à sa retraite, il n’a jamais manqué une rencontre concernant la rédaction du journal. Et même s’il ne travaillait plus ces derniers temps pour le journal, il s’informait toujours sur l’équipe du journal et prenait quelques copies à chaque tirage pour en distribuer. Pour rendre hommage à Dave, on réédite quelques-uns de ses textes et à la page couverture, vous remarquerez l’une d’une série de caricatures intitulée «the Back-Bencher» et qui lui tenait à cœur. Merci Dave d’avoir tant donné au journal.

Bonne lecture

Dear readers,

Dave Smaill contributed for several years to the newspaper. At times, he was a poet, sometimes essayist and a cartoonist. Until his retirement, he never missed a meeting about the newspaper's editorial staff. And even if he did not work for the newspaper lately, he always inquired about the newspaper team and took a few copies for each print to distribute. To pay tribute to Dave, some of his texts is re-edited and on the front page, you will notice one of a series of cartoons entitled "The Back-Bencher" that was close to his heart. Thank you Dave for giving so much to the newspaper.

Have a good reading

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Harry Potter, Montreal, love Hermione.

Hermione had been thinking of Harry Potter for a very long time, her heart was on fire, there was passion in her eyes. Her heart was beating very fast for Harry day and night. Hermione knew that she wasn't under a love spell.

The bright witch was in love, her mind knew it, her body and her heart reminded her every second of the day. She felt exhilaration, excitement and she loved everything about Hogwarts because she knew that she would hear about Harry all the time and that's what she wanted. She was in love with his Lightning scar and could now understand what having a "coup de foudre" about a boy or love at first sight meant.

Hermione was talking about Harry after her classes, during her study time with her 2 best Bengali friends:"Prem and Bhalobasha".¹ Hermione even wrote a letter describing her romantic feelings to her grandmother: "Neige-en-hiver". Neige-en-hiver replied that Hermione should bring Harry to La Salle, Montréal so that they can ski together on the Mont Royal. They can live in in her house next to the Magical Saint Louis River.

There was something in Hermione's smile that was magical, something metaphysical. Harry was very shy, he was scared of Hermione's very pretty face but he knew that even when he stuttered, anything that he said to Hermione was interesting because he's the one who said it. Hermione made Harry's heart melt and he would sweat a lot even if she just saw her from far away. Because Harry was in love with a Muggle born brain, he felt a connection with her mind that prevented him from feeling any pain. Because of Hermione, Harry started to love ice and snow.

Hermione and Harry flew on the wings of a Hippogriff by the name of Alo and made it to Montreal in time for the snowstorm of the Millennium. Or rather the brainstorm in Hermione's mind. The Hippogriff Alo enjoyed a lot the trip between Hogwarts and La Salle.

When Alo finally flew above the dark clouds of Hogwarts and into the eternal Sunshine, he finally started to feel again the excitement of being a Hippogriff. And the thrill of being able to make witches and wizards travel across the world.

The flight from Hogwarts to La Salle took 15 hours, at - 60 degrees Celsius, Hermione had to use a defreezing spell. She used a heartwarming spell on both her and Harry so that they could survive the trip. They enjoyed the view of the Atlantic Ocean and the many containers ships they saw below them.

Felix Blanchet-Cohen.

¹ Bengali names : Alo means light in Bengali.
Prem and Bhalobasha are 2 words that mean love in Bengali.
Congratulations to Emma Watson who played Hermione and Daniel Radcliffe who played Harry Potter in all the Harry Potter movies.
Miss Watson and Mister Radcliffe made me believe that Hermione and Harry are real and that Hogwarts is real.
Now I know what Hermione and Harry look like in reality.
I think that Hermione and Harry were meant to fall in love with each other, 2 very good looking persons who are one of the brightest witches and wizards in the wizarding world. They are loving and caring individuals who are ready to help students with Hogwarts homework. They will use all their magic spells to save the world from the Death Eaters and He who must not be named.
They care a lot about their fellow witches and wizards and would both be ready to die to protect and save one of their friends.
The First and Second Industrial Revolution

The first industrial revolution started in 1760 and continued until around 1820-1840. The first industrial revolution was characterized by mass production and this included using steam engines to power factories. Textile, iron and coal industries joined in the mass production of goods in factories as well. It was also characterized with an unprecedented rise in population and standard of living but it's debated that this was mainly felt by the second industrial revolution only.

The second industrial revolution occurred from 1850 to the early 1900's. It was characterized by petroleum, steel, hydroelectric power and automobiles. During this time mass production, assembly lines and electrical grids reached new heights and markets, especially in the British Empire and United States.

It must be said that chemical processes were developed during this time also. It featured the development of film for photos and film machines for movies. Also, with the development of car's came airplanes as well as the earlier developed steam engine trains.

Growing up in the 1970's, it must be said that the world at that time was filled with everything that came out of these two industrial revolutions. Everything that you owned or industry that you worked in at that time consisted of all that was invented or designed during these two industrial revolutions. It just goes to show you that human ingenuity is never ending and continues to this day.

Howard Mack

Taylor Swift's Success Story

In case you haven't heard of Taylor Swift, she is an American singer-songwriter who is at the pinnacle of her success. She is only 29 years old and she is one of the most listened to artists of today.

She has 33 million subscribers on YouTube and regularly has over 35 million listeners every month on Spotify. In 2018, she went on a stadium tour to support her latest album "reputation" which broke all records for a tour beating out even the Rolling Stones as the most grossing tours.

In case you have never heard of her before, she was born in Pennsylvania and then moved to Nashville, Tennessee when she was 14 with her family to pursue a music career. She soon signed to Big Machine Records and released six albums with that label. She will be releasing a
new album shortly with the Republic label. With her first label, she wrote and composed songs for country radio. Having had unprecedented success with albums like "Fearless" and "Red" with a slew of hits on country radio she turned her attention to Pop music. With the release of 1989 as well as her latest album "reputation" she has made her mark in Pop music.

Her latest album "reputation" was released in 2017 and featured some very impressive songs to add to her catalogue. Those included "...ready for it?", "End Game" and "Delicate" were three songs from the album that got a lot of radio airplay as well as video airplay. She remains today as one of music's shining stars and hopefully for many years to come.

Howard Mack

Fall.

Here is the fall again.
The air is cool and I feel like I'm cool.
Everyone is back in school.
I'm back at work and my work is writing for a newsletter that helps you feel better.
I hope I can be your ray of sunshine.

With me, you will feel like the planes that take off from Dorval everyday.
You will see the light and the clear blue sky above the clouds of pessimism.
Sometimes I wish I was an eagle so that when I'm stuck physically or psychologically somewhere I can fly up and away.

I can picture myself flying like that eagle and while I look at my island from the sky, I can Marvel at how many Montrealeans get along and respect their neighbors without knowing them.
At 5 p.m, I could metamorphosis myself into an eagle and while staring at Montréal's world famous construction detours and traffic jams,
I would throw big hearts all over the island
so that everyone in the city Unites and loves each other and we stop thinking that we're all different because it's not true, we're all alike because we're human beings.

Felix Blanchet-Cohen.
Remède à la solitude.

Le parc de la Visitation, c’est une peinture vivante, c’est une forêt où l’on peut arrêter le temps, parler aux canards et aux oiseaux qui deviennent des psychanalystes freudiens, des miroirs de notre âme, des psychanalystes qui nous rassurent par des réponses dont on ne comprend pas le sens, donc on peut penser qu’ils nous écoutent, qu’ils analysent nos paroles mais qu’ils pensent que l’on pense trop. Les mamans canards répondent par des couacs-couacs à mes angoisses existentielles, elles m’encouragent à arrêter l’auto analyse, à traverser la vie en s’attachant à l’essentiel, travailler, écrire, marcher, parler pour ne pas tourner en rond dans mes pensées à l’infini. Le cardinal rouge et le geai bleu me racontent leurs vies amoureuses, j’envie la vie amoureuse des oiseaux, pour eux, aller à un rendez-vous amoureux, c’est tout ce qu’il y a de plus écologique. Ils admirent les paysages en pensant à leur blonde et à l’arbre où ils vont construire leurs maisons. Le geai bleu ne tue pas les arbres pour bâtir la maison où il vivra avec sa blonde. Il vivra sur l’arbre, sur les branches, il demandera à sa blonde si elle aimera vivre sur les branches d’une pruche, d’un érable, d’un mélèze, d’un bouleau ou d’un pin. Le geai bleu s’en fout du prix de l’essence, son essence à lui c’est la nourriture qu’il mange et il ne doit pas en manger beaucoup, il est tellement petit.

Parfois quand j’aperçois un geai bleu dans la forêt de la Visitation, je me demande s’il est déjà aller jouer avec les bébés cerfs de la forêt d’Arthabaska. Au mois de mars, quand la neige de la Visitation ne voulait pas fondre, j’ai demandé au geai bleu : Amable qui se cachait dans le chalet du parc de la Visitation, quelles étaient ses projets pour le temps des sucrés? Amable m’a dit qu’en avril, il allait voir son grand ami, la vache: «Parmi les lilas». À 90 ans, Parmi les lilas est la plus vieille vache d’Arthabaska, elle ne s’est pas fait baptiser donc elle ne connaît pas sa date de naissance. Parmi les lilas se souvient d’une belle jeune femme qui lui a appris à aimer la vie. Cette femme venait de Victoriaville une fois par mois pour voir Parmi les lilas. La grande dame de Victoriaville avait une vie remplie de défis mais quand elle voyait parmi les lilas, elle était heureuse. Cette vache et cette femme devinrent des grands amis. La vache avec cette femme a appris à aimer chaque moment de liberté, à admirer les paysages de nuages d’Arthabaska, à aimer ses enfants, les veaux: «Victor Hugo et Maupassant». Après m’avoir raconté tout ça, Amable pleura un peu, Parmi les lilas était triste depuis que cette grande dame, sa grande amie, Madame Sainte Thècle, ne venait pas la voir. Parmi les lilas est bien déprimée maintenant, il n’y a que le petit-fils de Madame Sainte Thècle qui vient du Bangladesh qui a entendu parler de cette amitié inhabituelle entre une femme et une vache. C’est le petit-fils de Madame Sainte Thècle qui écrit ce texte.

Ps. : J’ai grandi au Bangladesh, un pays où dans les villages, il y a plusieurs familles qui ont des vaches dans leur cour arrière. Je suis tombé en amour quand j’étais enfant avec les vaches. Pour moi les vaches sont des grandes philosophes, elles contemplent l’existence avec une grande sagesse. Les vaches d’Arthabaska sont très grosses, par rapport à celles du Bangladesh. La production laitière d’Arthabaska est passée sous le rouleau compresseur du capitalisme et de l’industrialisation mais les vaches nous rappellent que tout n’a pas changé depuis la naissance des premiers enfants de Madame Sainte Thècle dans les années 1930.

Je dédie ce texte aux collines d’Arthabaska et je souhaite à Parmi les lilas de fuir son pré et de finir sa vie dans la forêt et de boire l’eau pur du ruisseau.

Felix Blanchet-Cohen.
What is biodiesel?

Biodiesel is a diesel fuel substitute used in diesel engines made from renewable materials such as:

- Plant oils: canola, camelina, soy, flax, jatropha, mahua, pongamia pinnata, mustard, coconut, palm, hemp and sunflower;
- Waste cooking oil: yellow or tap grease;
- Other oils: tall, fish, and algae;
- Animal fats: beef or sheep tallow, pork lard, or poultry fat; and
- Potentially from cellulosic feedstock consisting of agriculture and forest biomass.

How is it made?

The feedstock goes through a process called transesterification and consists of fatty acid methyl esters (FAME). Transesterification is a reaction between the oil or animal fat with an alcohol and a catalyst. The chemical reaction of transesterification produces two products - glycerol and an ester called biodiesel. Raw vegetable oil or animal fats which have not undergone a chemical/refining process is not considered biodiesel and is not recommended for use in diesel engines.

Biodiesel is one common example of a renewable diesel. Hydrogenation-derived renewable diesel (HARD) is another type of renewable diesel produced by hydrotreating of similar fat or oil based biodiesel feedstock. Other technologies to turn biomass into renewable diesel are being developed.

Feedstock use in renewable diesel

Biodiesel: vegetable oil, waste cooking oil, animal fats, fish oil, and algae oil.

Hydrogenation-derived renewable diesel (HARD): vegetable oil, waste cooking oil, animal fats, fish oil, and algae oil

Emerging Fuels Technologies, Fischer-Tropsch, Biomass to Liquid: cellulosic feedstock

Biodiesel Blends

Biodiesel is mixed with diesel to create a blend. This blend is comprised of pure biodiesel, also referred to as B100, blended with petroleum diesel at varying concentrations (Bn). The n refers to the percentage of biodiesel in the blend. Common blends are:

- Blend Pure Biodiesel (B100) Petroleum Diesel
  - B2: 2% 98%
  - B5: 5% 95%
  - B10: 10% 90%
  - B20: 20% 80%

Benefits

Environmental

Biodiesel has several environmental benefits:

- It is renewable: biodiesel is made from renewable resources
- It is biodegradable: neat biodiesel (B100) degrades faster than petroleum diesel.
- Potential for reusing waste products: certain waste products such as animal fats can be redirected away from our landfills.
- GHG reductions: compared to diesel, biodiesel has the potential to reduce GHG emissions by over 80% on a lifecycle basis.
- Reduces several tailpipe emissions: using biodiesel reduces several tailpipe emissions
such as particulate matter, hydrocarbon, and carbon monoxide from most modern four-stroke CI or diesel engines. Footnote 1
Although, some studies measured a small increase in nitrous oxide (NOx) emission when using B100 instead of diesel. Less toxic: a biodiesel blend would be less toxic than petroleum diesel.

Economic

Biodiesel can be produced locally in Canada and can provide local economies with a new market for their agricultural products and waste (reducing industry's disposal costs).

Agro-industry residues such as slaughterhouse waste, restaurant cooking oil, non-food-grade virgin oil or agricultural surplus once destined for a landfill is a commodity in the biodiesel business.

On a national level, biodiesel incorporated in the energy mix will encourage new business opportunities, greater investment, employment, and provide a new energy alternative.

Applications

Biodiesel can be used with some precautions in diesel engines in many sectors including on-road vehicles, off-road mobile equipment and vehicles and stationary equipment.

On-road:
Fleet vehicles, Heavy-duty trucks, School buses, and Urban transit buses.

Off-road:
Agricultural equipment, Construction equipment, Forestry equipment, Locomotives (trains), Marine vessels, Mining equipment

Stationary:
Electricity generators (gensets)
Furnaces

Safety and Performance

Resources

The information provided below can be found in the Final Report with respect to diesel equipment users.

Legend:

B2: 2% biodiesel mixed with 98% diesel
B5: 5% biodiesel mixed with 95% diesel
B10: 10% biodiesel mixed with 90% diesel
B20: 20% biodiesel mixed with 80% diesel
B100: 100% biodiesel with no diesel content

Warranty

The majority of North American engine manufacturers now endorse up to a B5 biodiesel blend. The Engine Manufacturers Association issued a technical statement indicating biodiesel use up to B5 should not cause engine or fuel systems problems. As biodiesel is more widely tested and used, manufacturers will be in a better position to support the use of higher blends. Warranty coverage of B20 and higher is offered by select manufacturers under specific conditions

Brenda Conti
“When I’m Sixty-Four”

It’s a long way to the floor  
Medical bills cost more  
Teenagers are obscene and a bore  
“When I’m sixty-four”  
I try to maintain  
Walking and bending without pain  
Without particular strain on the brain  
Try to keep feeling  
When I’m kneeling  
Stairs aren’t very appealing  
“When I’m sixty-four”

The music I remember  
Was quiet, soft and tender  
Not loud, threatening and deafening  
More classical, musical and romantic  
Not raucous, rebellious and frantic  
“What are they screaming for”?  
-My ears are sore!!-  
“When I’m sixty-four..”

The young don’t realize, understand or mind  
The fascination, education, and mystery  
Of the history of mankind  
They can’t visualize or experience the events of  
the past  
(But sadly, they don’t last!)  
However, these memories are golden, precious  
and necessary  
-Like the tooth fairy  
-Movies thrilling and scary  
-Ice cream topped with cherries  
-A scarlet sun rising  
-Pigeons soaring  
-A canoe resting on its mooring  
Looming thunderstorms booming  
-White seagulls zooming  
-Angelic babies growing  
-Bright-lighted Christmases as it’s softly  
snowing  
-Dusty summer storms blowing  
-Country rivers swiftly flowing  
-Curious young faces glowing

All these unforgettable, irreplaceable, lovable  
things!  
-They’re everlasting!!  
These fond memories become folklore  
“When I’m sixty-four!”

For all these- which delight and please-  
Set my homing heart at ease  
And more in store to explore, when I go out the  
door,  
As I enter the hereafter, with joy and laughter,  
hopefully and peacefully,  
“When Long beyond sixty-four”!!

Dave Smaill (2010)
Can We Be Good without God?

“Behaviour, Belonging, and the need to Believe”
“Beliefs do not work because they are true, But are true because they work”

It is generally believed that a good, well-behaved, nice, moral person must believe in God (Goodness and Godliness being one and the same)
Throughout mankind’s history, there has always been a belief in some kind of higher being, whether a spirit, a deity, an all-powerful force who is in some control, and is an inspiration or idol who directs all aspects of life: the behaviour, morals, ethics actions and destiny of everyone- rewards and punishments given accordingly.
No matter what nationality, race, language or culture, there’s always been a belief in a “higher power”.

To understand, or cope with, and find comfort in a disaster, loss or death, we naturally say: It was God’s will”;”It’s an Act of God”; “They are in God’s hands”…. In order to deal with a crisis, a war, a death, we usually find solace and peace of mind in belief, a prayer, and faith in the face of life’s troubles, challenges and dangers.

We tend to, from knowledge and experience, doubt our belief, in both ourselves and God. The question (ing) of faith is common:”Why..?”; “Why does evil endure until now?” “Why do the good suffer and the bad prosper..”?; “What happens after death ?”
The answers are not often confirmed or justified. But if we believe strongly, hopefully and faithfully, it eases the difficulty, pain and suffering. Prayer also helps us find strength, peace and hope, to seek contact with a higher being.

There are various and different ceremonies, methods, symbols and rituals to express one’s faith. Along with the maturing of the individual, religious beliefs mature also. From an unquestioning, indisputable, comforting belief evolves into a more challenged, intuitive, discussing, pondering and philosophical approach to our belief. From this, emerges a feeling of calm, peace, contentment, tranquility and fulfillment.

Indeed, religion, throughout history, has originally formed a feeling of community, of belonging, working, worshipping, celebrating and socializing together. Actually, it is basis of civilization. Though there has been war, conflict, racism and violence blamed on religious belief, it can be a cohesive, combining and humane force in maintaining order, peace, love and sharing among societies. The battle between Good and Evil continues; but nevertheless, even though mankind is inherently aggressive and destructive, the Good in him produces, encourages and maintains the best and most beneficial of his creations.

Dave Smaill (2010)
Bebe Rexha upcoming artist

Born in 1989, from Albanian parents. Her name at birth was bleta but all her friends started calling her Bebe early on and it stuck.

She learned to play trumpet in school and taught herself guitar and piano. She started writing songs in 2010 and got songwriting credits on the 2013 number one hit "Monsters" by Rihanna and Eminem.

She was signed to Warner Music in 2013 and released 2 ep's called "It's all your fault" pt 1 and pt 2. She had a mild hit off the single "I got you". She followed this up with 2 smash hit singles “Me, myself and I" with G-Eazy and "Meant to be" with Florida Georgia line.

Bebe went on tour in 2015 and 2017 as well, she was the opening act for Katy Perry and Bruno Mars in 2018. She currently has 6.5 million subscribers on YouTube and 30 million listeners on Spotify currently.

Bebe was just diagnosed with bipolar in April 2019. Bebe is a rising star that has just started on her journey to a very successful career and won't let anything stop her.

Howard Mack

Bohemian Rhapsody

This film was released January 11, 2019 and is by director Bryan Singer. It starts off as a story about the beginning of the rock band Queen. It features performances by Rami Malek as the singer that had an extra set of incisors in his mouth who joins an unknown band and turned it into a supergroup.

Farrokh Balsara who changes his name to Freddie Mercury shows off his amazing vocals on all the major hit songs from Queen and the film shows us also a rare inside look at a rock band in the 1970’s. The film follows the band's early beginnings of struggling to make ends meet to a meteoric rise in popularity in just a few years. The film also follows Freddie Mercury's private life from his marriage to his wife to his realization that he was bisexual.

From Freddie's wild parties to the realization that he had AIDS, this film gives an intimate look at Freddie Mercury's personal life. The soundtrack was exceptionally well done and for a fan of Queen, it seems to be the ultimate tribute to a rock band that is still popular to this day. What you can expect from this film is a range of emotions that can be categorized as a rollercoaster of a ride that ends in tragedy. It is a film worth watching in my opinion and from the rave reviews, I'm not the only one who enjoyed watching it.

Howard Mack