

BRANDON SUN



TIME TO CRUISE



Car fans, car owners and the car curious line Rosser Avenue in downtown Brandon during the first Cruisin' the Dub event of the season on Thursday evening. This is the third year that the Brandon & Area Car Enthusiasts club has organized the cruise night for classic cars and other vehicles. For a story and more photos from the event, turn to Page B10. (Colin Corneau/Brandon Sun)

Series of break-ins earns man jail term

BY IAN HITCHEN

A provincial court judge has sent a man to jail for causing more than \$54,000 damage during a break-in spree.

Judge John Combs rejected house arrest and jailed Jerred Charles Worth who “remains a risk to the community” until he gets help for his alcohol problem.

Worth, 19, was sentenced in Brandon provincial court yesterday to one year for 14 counts of break and enter and one count of break, enter and arson.

He was given credit for time spent in pre-sentence custody, leaving 296 days left to serve.

The charges stem from alcohol-fuelled antics in Onanole and Brandon.

At 7:38 a.m. on April 14, RCMP were called to a break-in at the Onanole Fas Gas.

Worth and another man were living in Onanole at the time and shared a 16-ounce bottle of tequila before they broke into the Fas Gas and tampered with the till, an ATM and a cigarette display case.

They left with fireworks and canned drinks and hauled away a 300-pound safe which was discarded on a nearby road.

Worth and his accomplice had chained the safe to the back of a pickup truck that they borrowed from their boss without permission and dragged it up and down the street.

Next door, Precision Automotive was also broken into, but nothing was taken.

The duo also busted into 10 cottages at Sportsman's Park and ransacked at least some of the cabins.

They were later arrested by Mounties in connection with the Fas Gas incident but were released to appear in court on a later date.

On April 22, Worth got in trouble again.

He was staying at a relative's apartment in Brandon when, with the help of two friends, he downed five bottles of alcohol including three bottles of vodka. He broke into a neighbouring apartment and stole a pellet gun, pellets, carbon dioxide cartridges, a mini torch and condoms.

Then he broke into Kansteel Manufacturing on Pacific Avenue and set fire to clothing and garbage. The Brandon fire department attended, but the blaze had gone out on its own.

Worth was arrested when his relative reported noise outside his apartment.

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Woman jailed, forced to undergo TB treatment

BY JEN SKERRITT

WINNIPEG — A woman infected with a virulent and potentially deadly form of tuberculosis is being forced to undergo medical treatment in a provincial jail after health officials obtained a rare court order to detain her by arguing she is a threat to public health.

Dorothy Bittern has been detained at an undisclosed location since January. Manitoba Justice and Winnipeg Regional Health Authority officials refused to confirm which facility Bittern is being held at, nor would they disclose whether any inmates or correctional staff have been tested for TB since her arrival.

The Winnipeg Regional Health Authority filed a court application in May to extend Bittern's detention by 90 days, saying she “remains a threat to the health of the public until such time as she has been cured of her disease.”

The document suggests Bittern is the first person to be legally mandated to undergo medical treatment for posing a danger to public safety in the province, but health officials couldn't confirm if the extraordinary step has never happened before.

“It's very rare, and the reason it's rare is because most patients who have sexually transmitted infections or TB do comply with their treatment,” WRHA medical officer Margaret Fast said.

According to court documents, Bittern has repeatedly stopped medical treatment for TB and received only four sporadic months of the nine-month minimum treatment to cure the disease — putting her at a higher risk for developing drug-resistant TB that is difficult or impossible to treat.

A “contact” of Bittern's has contracted TB, and health officials allege it's “highly probable” the person was infected by Bittern.

If Bittern is not detained in hospital or in a provincial correctional facility, the WRHA alleged she will continue to pose a danger to the public.

Bittern did not have a lawyer during the court proceedings. An order to mandate her medical

treatment was granted by the Court of Queen's Bench on May 13, allowing her to be detained at Health Sciences Centre or an “appropriate correctional facility.”

A WRHA spokesman confirmed Bittern is not at HSC.

“Each time she stops treatment prematurely, the likelihood increases that Ms. Bittern may become more resistant to the drugs used to treat her disease,” the WRHA said in the court application.

TB bacteria can be spread to others by coughing or sneezing in the air. Since the bacteria can remain in the air for several hours, anyone who shares the same airspace as a person with an active infection is at risk of infection.

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Faulty railway wheels pose ‘serious’ risk: safety board

OTTAWA — The Transportation Safety Board has called for the removal of 12,000 wheel sets still in use on some Canadian Pacific Railway, Canadian National Railway and U.S. freight cars, warning the suspect wheels could result in more derailments.

In a report issued on Thursday on a derailment near Buckskin, Ont., in January of 2006, the safety board blamed a problem with the wheel sets that the industry has known about since 2001.

But although the railways initiated a recall in late 2002 of the wheel sets, which can come loose on curves and steep grades, this failed to locate all of the 43,000 sets produced between 1998 and 2001 by the CN Transcona wheel shop in Winnipeg.

The board said at least 18 derailments in Canada have been caused by the faulty wheel sets, and it believes 12,000 are still in circulation, mounted on between 3,000 and 4,000 freight cars in North America.

“There was a deficiency in

the recall action. Basically, it missed about one-third of the wheel sets,” safety board investigator Don Mustard said.

“Our feeling is that 12,000 is a significant number and with the derailments we've had there is a potential for a serious occurrence, so we feel it's important that they implement a means to remove these wheel sets.”

He said the wheel sets could be on trains that carry hazardous materials.

But CNR and CPR spokesmen said they were



Rail wheels sit on cars at the Canadian National Railway's Transcona Shops in east Winnipeg on Thursday. (FPNS)

confident the “vast majority” of the defective wheels sets have been removed in Canada.

CNR spokesman Bryan Tucker said the 12,000 number for the wheel sets outstanding

in North America might be high, since that particular wheel set had a life expectancy of only five to six years.

“We are comfortable in saying the vast majority are already off,” Tucker said. “We inspect all our wheels throughout the system both mechanically and in this case, we did visual inspections car by car.”

Canadian Pacific spokesman Michael Lovecchio had an almost identical response.

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**ABOVE:** Cars make their way to their display spots at the first Cruisin' the Dub of the season on Thursday evening on Rosser Avenue.  
**LEFT:** Steve Mann polishes his 1969 Ford Satellite during Cruisin' the Dub.

(All photos by Colin Corneau/Brandon Sun)

# First cruise of summer

BY JILLIAN AUSTIN

Rosser Avenue was lined with more than 130 vintage, custom and antique cars last night, as part of the first Cruisin' the Dub event of the summer.

It's the third year the Brandon & Area Car Enthusiasts group has organized the downtown cruise night, and for some, it's all about the nostalgia.

Marli Schwitek said memories of her teenage years come flooding back when she sees some of the restored autos from the '50s and '60s.

"It was the best time of my life," she said. "It's so amazing that they do such a good job in restoring them."

The event brings people from across Manitoba who lined their cars, trucks, motorcycles and tractors along Rosser Avenue between Sixth Street and 13th Street.

"They come from all over," said Jerry Erickson, a member of the event's organizing committee. "It's getting to be quite a famous cruise night."

The event runs the first Thursday of every month until September.

Erickson said rising fuel costs may be a concern for those car enthusiasts coming from surrounding communities.

"I'm sure there will be some that might not come out because financially, it might be too costly," he said.

But he said the costs won't deter him from his hobby, as he proudly displayed his restored 1967 Impala.

"We grumble, but we keep building these cars. It's an addiction," he said with a laugh.

"Since I was about 12 years old, I've been crazy about cars."



**Roger Plowman (centre) and Jerry Harrison sit with a friend and watch the world go by on Thursday evening.**

Pristine vehicles were on display ranging from the early 1900s to the 1980s, with food vendors and live entertainment.

"It's huge, it's good for the community and it's good for downtown," Erickson said. "It's helping to revive the downtown area."

Bill Davis sat next to his red 1955 Chevrolet truck for the second year in a row.

"It's something I always wanted," he said. "I did some work on it and here we are ... This event is a real crowd-pleaser."

A&W and the Bank of Montreal are the major sponsors of the event, which donates funds to the children's ward at Brandon's hospital.

The next Cruisin' the Dub is July 3.

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**Rob Richardson Jr. walks his friend's four-wheeled vehicle along Rosser Avenue on Thursday evening in downtown Brandon.**



**Anthony Wilk checks out the four-wheeled entrants in Cruisin' the Dub while cruisin' on his own two wheels.**

# HNIC theme may be benched from broadcasts

BY AMIT SHILTON

TORONTO — Hockey fans called a major penalty against the CBC on Thursday as the national broadcaster seemed prepared to do away with the Hockey Night in Canada theme — a beloved 40-year-old musical institution as familiar to Canadians as the country's national anthem.

"CBC won't get away with that," said Mary Quigley of Cape Breton, N.S., outside the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto. "The Canadian people won't let them get away with that."

Websites carrying news of the possible separation of the hockey anthem from Hockey Night in Canada broadcasts quickly got e-mails from people passionate about the theme.

Online petitions were launched. Some fans of the song shared anecdotes.

"In 1990, my son stood up in a crowded restaurant in Tokyo, Japan, and 'sang' the Hockey Night in Canada theme," commented a reader on the CBC website carrying the story. "Before he had completed four bars, he was joined by various other Canadians he did not know."

Reports that the theme might be benched next year came when the agency that represents the song's composer said on Thursday that the CBC will no longer use the familiar hockey anthem.

But the head of CBC Sports says the song hasn't been shelved yet.

"Our negotiations continue and if we can do a deal for the theme that's reasonable for both sides, we'll do it," said CBC Sports executive director Scott Moore in an interview. "It's a great theme. If we can't, then we have an alternate direction that we're excited about and that I think will create controversy and create excitement amongst Canadians."

"But certainly our first choice would be to keep the theme as it is."

The licence agreement CBC had with composer Dolores Claman ended with this year's Stanley Cup playoffs, which wrapped up Wednesday night.

John Ciccone, whose company Copyright Music & Visuals controls use of the song, said he was given a deadline of noon Wednesday to reach a new agreement. Ciccone said the CBC sent him an e-mail later in the afternoon telling him they would not renew the contract.

"We looked at it every different way we could," he said. "Whatever it takes, let's try and come up with something."

Moore said that he was scheduled to speak with Ciccone later Thursday.

It didn't take long for a public outcry to gather steam over the possibility of a theme change. The story immediately became a hot topic at the water cooler, on radio phone-in shows — some politicians even weighed in with their reaction.

"The Hockey Night in Canada theme — you hear it everywhere," Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach said. "Even during the summer, you get to



**Dolores Claman, composer of the theme song for Hockey Night in Canada, is shown in Toronto in this 1998 file photo. The agency that represents Claman said Thursday that the CBC will no longer use the familiar hockey anthem, but the head of CBC Sports says the song hasn't been shelved yet. (File photo)**

a barbecue in rural Alberta and somebody strikes it up after a good (version) of "O Canada." And it's going to disappear and it's been with us for years and years."

For many people, the song is wrapped up in hockey days gone by.

"It just brings back memories of Ward Cornell and all those other guys that brought Hockey Night in Canada to us," said Gary Fiering, who said in Toronto that the song reminds him of watching hockey in the 1970s and '80s. "It is our national anthem."

But the idea of change doesn't bother everyone.

Elizabeth Richards said in Toronto that while she remembers hearing the song as a little girl, she thinks the theme song might need a post-modern edge.

News websites had hundreds of readers weighing in and discussing the cultural significance of the theme.

Moore of CBC Sports said he thinks it is great that people are passionate about the Hockey Night in Canada broadcasts.

"While we want to keep what is a great musical theme, we can't do it at all costs, we can't do it with a cloud hanging over our head," he said.

Moore said one option would be to launch a nationwide contest for musicians to submit themes for consideration.

It cost the public broadcaster about \$500 every time it used the theme, but Ciccone doesn't think the issue is money. One of the ideas Ciccone said he offered involved maintaining the same contract for two years, then increasing the rates by about 15 per cent, an increase he calls an industry standard.

Claman could not be reached for comment but released a statement on the website hockeytheme.com.

"I am saddened by the decision of the CBC to drop the Hockey Night in Canada theme after our lengthy history together. I nevertheless respect its right to move in a new direction."

Claman wrote the song in 1968 after it was commissioned by McLaren Advertising. The company was looking for something big, adventurous and brave to go with the broadcast.

Despite going through numerous rearrangements, the jingle has become one of Canada's most recognized tunes.

Claman has written about 2,000 jingles over her career. She is also credited with writing the Ontario theme "A Place To Stand," which she co-wrote with her husband, Richard Morris, in 1967.

» The Canadian Press