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Thursday, November 9, 2023

# ALYSSA AT REST

The search for Alyssa Turnbull came to a tragic end after pair involved after the fact admitted their role in hiding her body and led police to her remains /3



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Alyssa Turnbull went missing on April 14, 2020 and her body wasn't found until Oct. 25, 2023 in a remote area of Kaminisitquia, west of Kakabeka Falls. (FILE)



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# Tikinagan

Child & Family Services

What is the meaning of

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## Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin?

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# Alyssa Turnbull's remains located

By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

Family members of Alyssa Turnbull, who had been missing for more than three years until her remains were recovered last week, held framed pictures of her in court as they stared at the two men who helped hide her body.

"The right thing to do was three years ago. You didn't take that opportunity," said Alyssa's father, Kevin Turnbull.

"I went to the actual spot where you left her body," said Alyssa's mother, Debra Otway. "Cold and alone for 1,289 days. Cold and alone. I lay in the cold mud in that exact spot and cried a heart wrenching cry only a mother can cry."

Kevin Turnbull and Debra Otway shared with the court the heartbreak the entire family has felt since her loss during a sentencing hearing for 29-year-old Nicholas Soos and his father, 61-year-old Brian Soos.

Nicholas and Brian Soos both pleaded guilty to one count of committing an indignity to human remains before Justice Elaine Burton in a Thunder Bay courtroom on Friday.

As part of a joint sentencing submission, which Crown attorney Gordon Filmore acknowledged was reached in an effort to locate Alyssa's remains, the two men were sentenced to time served.

## Went missing three years ago

Alyssa was 26 when she was first reported missing on April 14, 2020 and was last seen in the Nipigon area. The last indication that she was alive was through cellphone activity that ceased on March 24, 2020. It is believed she died on or about that day. Her remains would not be found until Oct. 25, 2023 in a remote area of Kaministiquia west of Kakabeka Falls.

According to an agreed statement of facts, Alyssa was in what was described as a 'short term and troubled' relationship with a man named Storm Borg. Borg has since passed away in October 2020 and his involvement in the case has not been tested in court.

Nicholas and Brian Soos, who had recently started associating with Borg, were led into the basement of Borg's residence on Duluth Street in Nipigon and shown Alyssa's body.

Borg said that he had made a big mistake and provided differing accounts relating to the cause of her death, including that she died of an overdose.

It was acknowledged by the Crown that the cause and manner of Alyssa's death are likely



Alyssa Turnbull's family at the courthouse. (Leigh Nunan)

to remain unknown.

Nicholas and Brian Soos helped Borg transport Alyssa's body to the basement in a residence on Churchill Street in Nipigon.

Over the next two to three days, Borg dismembered Alyssa's body and placed it in garbage bags and a plastic bin.

On or about April 3, 2020 the three men then placed Alyssa's remains in the back of a minivan and drove to Thunder Bay. Borg instructed Nicholas Soos to drive west down Dawson Road until turning off down a dirt road and coming to a river.

Borg took the bags with Alyssa's remains and placed them under an opening in the partially frozen water.

## Helped police

As part of the plea deal, Nicholas Soos led Ontario Provincial Police investigators to the area where Alyssa's body was taken and last week, her remains were located and positively identified.

Both Nicholas and Brian Soos were sentenced to time served, with Nicholas Soos credited with 365 enhanced days of pre-sentence custody.

Brian Soos also pleaded guilty to breaching a release order and was credited with 315 days of enhanced pre-sentence custody.

# WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<b>Snow</b>	<b>Cloudy</b>	<b>Partly Cloudy</b>	<b>Mostly Cloudy</b>
Precipitation: <b>40%</b> HIGH <b>4</b> LOW <b>0</b>	Precipitation: <b>30%</b> HIGH <b>2</b> LOW <b>-3</b>	Precipitation: <b>20%</b> HIGH <b>3</b> LOW <b>-1</b>	Precipitation: <b>30%</b> HIGH <b>6</b> LOW <b>1</b>

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# Mayor won't use powers

By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

Mayor Ken Boshcoff has given up some of the most significant strong mayor powers he was granted by the province just days ago.

Boshcoff delegated his powers to propose the budget and to hire and fire top city staffers effective Oct. 31, the same day his expanded authority came into effect.

The mayor had pushed ahead with his bid to secure strong mayor powers from the province over vocal objections from city council, but has said he would use them only in exceptional circumstances.

Councillors objected the changes were imposed by the province without consultation or a clear rationale, and place too much power in the hands of one person.

Boshcoff has now expressed his intent not to exercise three of the key powers, instead preserving the status quo on major budget, staffing, and organizational processes.

In one directive, he announced he would not

propose the city budget in 2024, instead directing the city manager and treasurer to bring forward a spending plan in line with council's target of a six per cent tax levy hike (5.5 per cent after growth).

In another, he delegated his new power to hire and fire the city manager to council, where it had rested before Oct. 31. He also delegated the power to hire and fire other top staffers back to city manager Norm Gale.

Finally, Boshcoff delegated the power to reorganize city departments back to the city manager.

Even after surrendering those significant areas of authority, Boshcoff retains several other strong mayor powers. He can pass or veto bylaws related to housing with the support of just one third of council, and can direct and appoint members to committees.

The mayor could reclaim the powers by revoking those directives at any time.

The city is required to post a notice online when Boshcoff uses powers.

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# Blake Shelton tops bill at Country on the Bay

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

One of the biggest stars in the business will headline next year's Country on the Bay Festival.

Blake Shelton, with five No. 1 albums and 28 No. 1 songs on the U.S. country charts to his credit, will top a lineup that also includes Dallas Smith, High Valley, Mackenzie Porter, Josh Ross, Tyler Joe Miller and The Washboard Union.

Smith, who has the most No. 1 hits of any Canadian male artist on the Billboard's Canada country chart, and the first Canadian country artist with four consecutive singles from the same album, is also the lead singer of the hard-rock band, Default, best known for No. 1 hits *Wasting my Time* and *Deny*.

Another Canadian act, High Valley, enjoyed plenty of Canadian chart success between 2010 and 2015, leading to them signed to Atlantic Records in Nashville. Three of their songs, *I Be U Be*, *Grew Up On That* and *River's Still Running* topped the Canada Country chart.

The event, in its third year, is scheduled for July 19 to July 21, 2024 at Fort William



Blake Shelton has had 28 No. 1 songs and counting.

Historical Park.

The general ticket sale will begin on Nov. 10 at 11 a.m.

Weekend passes are \$259, plus fees. VIP passes are \$359, which includes access to a VIP bar with a direct view of the stage and exclusive VIP vendors.

There will be no single-day passes sold for the 2024 event.

Tickets will be available at [www.countryonthebay.ca](http://www.countryonthebay.ca) or by phone at 1-800-361-7300.

# Council glitch

By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

Technical issues cut short what was set to be an eventful city council meeting on Monday.

Council voted to postpone deliberation on most of Monday's agenda to Nov. 20, after staff reported the meeting was not being livestreamed online or broadcast to television on Shaw or Tbaytel.

Coun. Andrew Foulds, who moved the postponement, called it important for the discussion to proceed in full view of the public.

"Tonight there are a number of very public items that demand public scrutiny and transparency," he said.

Chief among those items were the approval of a financing plan for a proposed indoor turf facility next to the Community Auditorium, and the consideration of an integrity commissioner report into the conduct of Coun. Rajni Agarwal.

The technical issues also meant council could not hear audio from those connecting online via Microsoft Teams, including the integrity commissioner, the city indicated.

Aside from those issues, council was set

to receive a fiscal update showing the city has shrunk its projected deficit for 2023, and reports on its climate adaptation strategy and a new provincially-mandated greenhouse gas emissions reduction roadmap.

The presentation of the annual Mayor's Community Safety Awards, for which recipients had gathered in council chambers, was also rescheduled.

City clerk Krista Power called the incident a first in her career.

"We've been using Teams since 2020," she said. "We've had the occasional hiccup, but not something such as this, where we've needed to move all items forward to another meeting."

"It's unfortunate. I appreciate council's willingness to move items forward, and I understand their desire to have it [broadcast publicly]."

Power added the city would be working with its technology providers on Tuesday to understand and resolve the issue.

The vast majority of those who watch council meetings do so on television or online, where the city's livestream often attracts around 200 viewers, Power said.

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EDITORIAL

# Lest we forget

On Saturday, thousands across Thunder Bay will gather to mark Remembrance Day.

This year, more than any in recent memory, it's important for all Canadians to stop and think about the horrors of war.

Last month, Israel was attacked by Hamas, and has since bombarded the Gaza strip. The battle has left thousands needlessly dead and has brought the Middle East to the precipice of a much larger war.

Russia continues its war against Ukraine, with thousands more on both sides losing their lives.

Fortunately, Canada has yet to be drawn into either one of these conflicts, outside of financial support.

That could change if either fight escalates to neighbouring countries.

In the Second World War, 42,042 Canadians paid the ultimate sacrifice and 54,414 were injured.

In the First World War, more than 66,000 Canadians died and 172,000 were injured.

Generations grew up without their beloved family members.

Today, it's unfathomable that we would repeat history, and yet here we are again on the threshold.

## 2025 CAMPAIGN PLANNING



# The Bee Sting deserves Booker Prize trophy

*The Bee Sting* by Paul Murray is the story of a well-to-do Irish family in financial, emotional and existential trouble: Dickie Barnes, who has taken over his father's car showroom; his wife Imelda, a local beauty; daughter Cassie, preparing for university; and 12-year-old son P.J.

The after-effects of the financial crash have crippled the motor business, and now that the money and the good times have run out Dickie hides away in the local woods, building a shelter against the collapse of civilisation while Imelda furiously sells their possessions.

Cassie fears for her future; P.J. fears divorce. We see the same few months through the eyes of each in

turn, during floods and drought, as a slow building ecological disaster parallels the family's own unfolding apocalypse.

The first section belongs to teenage Cassie, embroiled in a toxic friendship with golden girl Elaine, both desperate to escape a small town where people 'slow down their cars to see who you were so they could wave at you'.

Cassie and Elaine discover guys and booze while P.J. mopes around in the woods to escape the atmosphere at home and tries to avoid a beating from a bully. P.J. is skewered by adolescence,

caught between imaginary and video games, sweets and porn, fantastic facts about nature and dark fears for its future. If something that seemed as certain as parental love and material security can crumble, why not the whole world?

What Murray conveys so sharply are the spaces between his characters, such as Cassie and her hapless boyfriend, Rowan, who effortlessly uncovers the tenderness behind Rowan's bravado: something he can't show and she can't see, hiding beneath the comedy of incomprehension. Meanwhile,

Elaine's casually malicious manipulation of Cassie, as she alternately yearns for and fumes at her, mounts over the course of the book to fever pitch.

But then we get beyond the realm of teenage angst, and the novel deepens and widens. Imelda's section - which includes flashbacks to her childhood, raised in desperate poverty with a violent father - are devastating. Imelda is Daddy's princess - and that's a dangerous thing to be, especially when rival hard men invade their run-down cottage, bent on revenge. Her elevation into the middle classes feels like a fairytale, and that's how she frames it.

Imelda has divulged many of the

wrong turns that led to the current crisis; now it's time to go inside the mind of husband Dickie, the quiet, unhappy family man hiding from his responsibilities in the woods. His section could stand as a whole different novel.

Murray is exploring the way families can always sense the emotional temperature, even if they don't know where the fire is coming from. He is brilliant on fathers and sons, sibling rivalry, grief, self-sabotage and self-denial, as well as the terrible weakness humans have for magical thinking, not least in regard to the climate crisis. You won't read a sadder, truer, funnier novel this year. It deserves to win the 2023 Man Book Prize for Fiction.



**John Pateman**  
BOOK BANTER

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# Strong mayor powers available

By JR Shermack

Being a successful mayor in a small city requires a mixed bag of talents including people skills, communication skills, business savvy and community networking.

The mayor's office is not expected to be a bastion of municipal power and the only acceptable show of force should normally be the power of persuasion and the strength of relevant facts.

Nevertheless, from time to time in politics there appears to be a barrier to timely decision-making and an unhelpful dependence on deferral and delay.

Decisions at the municipal level effect local citizens and a cautious approach is understandable, especially when opposing views are vocal and emotional.

On-going criticism of many Thunder Bay city councils cites the inability or unwillingness to make key decisions - the sound of dragging feet often drowns out open, honest debate.

When it comes to pressing social issues that desperately need action we have our share and this barrier inhibits progress, much to the detriment of citizens and the community.

It is difficult to make progress amid indeci-



Thunder Bay Mayor Ken Boshcoff. (FILE)

sion and inaction - the Ontario government has said 'enough is enough' and is prepared to act, especially with regard to new housing.

Queen's Park is granting 'strong mayor powers' to Ontario cities with over 100,000 people to help municipalities contribute to the

provincial goal of 1.5 million new homes by 2031.

The province needs Ontario cities to get busy if it hopes to meet its housing target and is willing to grant mayors additional powers to quicken the pace of housing starts.

The new, stronger provisions give 'powered' Mayors more hiring and firing powers, more input for city budgets and increased ability to pass or veto certain by-laws.

The intent is to remove the barriers, delay tactics and red tape that delay progress

A city is granted these 'powers' after submitting a Municipal Housing Pledge which indicates local housing priorities, strategies and action plans to streamline the process.

An ambitious target has been assigned to Thunder Bay - our 2,200 new housing starts by 2031 is a drop in the provincial bucket of 1.5 million but it is a real challenge for our city.

Mayor Ken Boshcoff appears ready and willing to go forward - he could seek strong mayor powers on his own but prefers to proceed with the collaborative support of Thunder Bay city council.

He is hoping that council support and endorsement is forthcoming - some councillors are alarmed that these powers will undermine democracy and give the Mayor too

much authority.

Our mayor may one day be granted special powers but if cooler, wiser, more cooperative heads prevail in our community, he may never have to use them.

Some other Ontario mayors are already meeting housing targets amid widespread community support - additional powers are not needed and when granted, may not be used.

Boshcoff said he plans to use his new powers rarely, if ever but who knows -when action is needed to overcome obstacles and barriers, sometimes it's enough already.

Thunder Bay is one of three Ontario cities of over 100,000 that did not meet the eligibility for strong mayor powers, mainly due to the requirement for a pledge to action.

The smattering of local council support for the mayor's position and the lack of a firm council commitment are barriers - to pledge or not to pledge, to dither or not to dither.

There is an incentive for bold action - access to the \$1.5 billion 'Building Faster Fund' available to municipalities demonstrating quick progress toward their goal.

Maybe that will make Council's decision a little easier and get a few shovels in the ground.

what's happening  
in and around...

## The Bay

To submit an event, email [ldunick@dougallmedia.com](mailto:ldunick@dougallmedia.com).  
Please include details about the event, including any cost

### November 11 Remembrance Day

Ceremonies will be held across the city and on Fort William First Nation, honouring those who served their nation.

Pay tribute to soldiers, sailors, airmen and all those who sacrificed their time and lives to secure the freedom Canadians enjoy today.

Ceremonies will be staged at Fort William Gardens, Waverly Park, the Slovak Legion and Mount McKay.

### November 8 Name That Tune

Get ready to put your music knowledge to the test every Wednesday night in our taproom for Name That Tune at Sleeping Giant Brewery.

Challenge your friends or make new ones as you compete to identify the catchiest tunes across all genres.

Enjoy a night of great beer, delicious bites, and unforgettable melodies.

Win great prizes and bragging rights as the ultimate music maestro of Thunder Bay,

Registration begins at 6:30 p.m., Name That Tune starts at 7 p.m. Compete in teams or individually. Tables are first come, first serve.

### November 11 Fund the Bus Night

Dance Dynamics Studio has 74 competitive dancers ages six to 20. These young ambassadors will represent Thunder Bay in Monticello, Minn. in Feb 2024, at Starz Dance Competition.

Proceeds from the event, taking place on Saturday, Nov. 11 at the Columbus Centre, will go to the cost of the buses.

The event costs \$50 and the doors open at 5:30 p.m.

The buffet dinner will feature

tossed salad, pasta and meatballs in Italian sauce, fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, dinner rolls and butter, the quiz runs from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., featuring 10 categories with 10 questions each.

The night wraps up at midnight.

### November 19 Turkey Dinner

St. Andrew's Parish invites you to a Turkey Dinner Fundraiser on Sunday, Nov. 19 at 5:30 p.m. in Saunders Hall.

Tickets are \$25 for Adults and \$10 for Children under 10 years of age and can be purchased at the Church Office, 292 Red River Rd., Tuesday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information call 807 345-5202 or check out their events page at [standrewrc.ca](http://standrewrc.ca).

Proceeds from this event will go toward the Church boiler replacement Project.



**Marcus Powlowski, MP**  
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# REMEMBRANCE DAY

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Beefcake's Burger Factory's offering for this year's Novemburger campaign for the United Way. (Leith Dunick)

## Novemburger returns

November is a weird time in the hospitality business. In a bit of a morbid peek behind the curtain, November was always referred to as “funeral season” in the hotel kitchen business. It just happened to be that many people would pass away in the shoulder season before the snow really started flying. With that being said, for the fifth straight year, November is also home to the United Way's Novemburger Campaign. It's the biggest its ever been this year.

Admittedly I am very much looking forward to this year. I had told the people at the United Way last December (when Beefcake's Burger Factory won a record third People's Choice Award) that I felt as if maybe I should graciously bow out of next years competition, feeling as if it wasn't good for the competition as a whole for us to continue to win. The point of Novemburger isn't the trophy it is raising as much money going into the cold winter season to help with their programming. The team at the United Way made some changes this year to the competition portion to allow for some new and fun ways for restaurants to participate and be recognized.

Over the last 4 years, almost 32,000 Novemburgers were sold by participating restaurants, and it has become a popular annual event that people look forward to every year. We at Beefcake's always have an interesting first week of November filled with many people all wanting the same thing. Which is both easy and challenging at the same time.

Creating a Novemburger is always an interesting thing, after five years I am always excited to come up with something new for our longtime and newer guests to enjoy. This year our Novemburger is drawing inspiration from our own hardships in September, so in that vein we went with a Beefcakes Smoke and Fire Burger, drawing together smokey and spicy flavours seamlessly into a new experience for our guests. This is also drawing on another pastime I enjoy far too much, making fun of things that you really shouldn't be making fun of. Sort of if I laugh it stops me from crying ... much.

Inspiration comes from many different places, and you should always listen to it when it's talking at you. Food will always be an art form in its purest state, a good chef will seamlessly mesh the science side and the art side in a way that people enjoy with all five senses. This is always the goal and I try to always deliver with all my creations. Admittedly working within the “box” that is our beefcake's smashburger brand offers its own challenges, but Thunder Bay seems to dig what we do and I for one am very

grateful for the opportunity to create something that people enjoy and gives us a chance to give back.

Derek Lankinen is an award-winning chef, author, and restaurateur. He is the Owner/Operator of Beefcake's Burger Factory with two locations in Westfort and Current River and Co-Owner of Elite Beef.

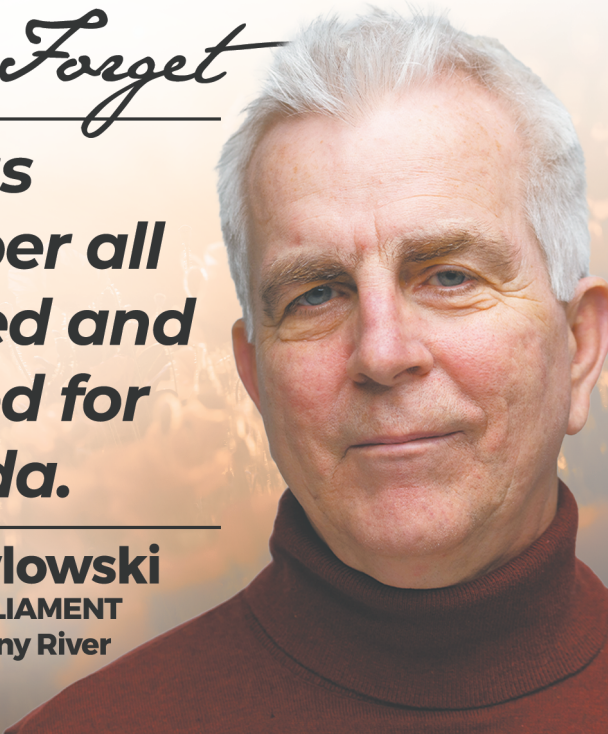


**Derek Lankinen**  
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**Marcus Powlowski**  
 MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT  
 Thunder Bay-Rainy River



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# Farm work is never complete

There are always chores to do on the farm. Many of them involve cleaning up messes left on lawns by our pooches – both spring, summer, autumn, and winter; many involve getting ready for the next season. The next season here will be winter, of course.

I wrote my last column about getting rid of the masses of burdock plants in the winter paddock where the equines will reside during the day when outside.

The deed took three hours of unremitting slog to cut, drag, and with quad and cart remove the burdocks out of the paddock where the 'carter', my wife, Laura, deposited them in the yard in front of the barn to be burned at a later date.

Friday night was also cool but with no wind. The stars were shining brightly as Pyro Fred and Pyro Laura lit a fire in the middle of the yard.

We'd drag bunches of burdock stalks replete with branches laden with the nasty burrs and toss onto the fire. Laura would rake any stray branches back into the blaze while I fetched more burdock. Eventually we managed to

haul all of the burdock and throw it onto the fire. At one point my wise wife suggested that I go into the house and make us hot chocolate. Done! Might as well celebrate this burning fete with something delicious.

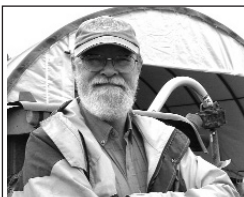
Another essential chore that had to be done was to empty the Winter paddock water tub and clean it before refilling it.

Laura and I hauled the hose reel out of the barn and attached the water hose. Then we

took buckets to empty what water was in the tub, not much, but enough that the weight would be too much for us to tip the tub over. Then over the tub went and Laura began to spray the inside while scrubbing it with a very stiff broom. The water that had sat in the tub was brown due to rotting hay and who-knows-what-else. Horses tend to drink while they have some hay stuck in their

mouths.

I had placed an electric tub heater in the tub to keep it from completely freezing. Well, the heater kept the center of the tub ice-free but when I tried to break the remaining ice, I learned that it could have easily supported my



**Fred Jones**  
RURAL ROOTS

weight! When we overturned the tub, great slabs of ice fell out. Once clean, we refilled the tub (took about a half an hour) and replaced the heater. When the tub is full of fresh water, the heater actually works very well keeping the surface ice-free.

The final chore of the day was to take some brightly-coloured stakes that reflect headlights from vehicles and set them up at the end of the driveway and then in two locations where Farmer Fred has been known to miscalculate where the edge of the driveway is and has been known to get his ancient tractor, Big Red, stuck there and having to call our neighbour 'up road' to come with his tow truck to haul Red out. To prevent any future such occurrences, we stuck several orange reflector poles along the side of the driveway especially where there is a ditch.

The last chore will be to completely 'winterize' the vegetable garden. The 'veggies' have all been harvested. What remains is to remove any dead and by now frozen plants and take to the compost pile.

The garlic is already planted for next year. And already Laura, The Gardener in 'this here' family, is plotting what and where she will plant come spring.



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A cyclocross race at Belluz farms was just one activity while getting some fresh air outside this past weekend.

## Seasons change

"Very short notice, but what are the chances you are free to go fishing this afternoon?"

Normally, when I receive a text like this, the answer is easy, and I start packing up my fishing gear. However, last weekend I made a commitment to my wife to get the garage cleaned and organized. So, I turned down the chance to go fishing. Obviously, that is very off-brand for me, but the lack of organization with my outdoors gear in the garage was spiraling out of control and required immediate attention.

This is the time of year that excessive heaps of outdoor gear reach maximum disorganization. Much of the summer gear has not yet been put into storage, the autumn sports equipment is in heavy rotation, and the winter stuff is starting to migrate out of the basement and shed as I anticipate a sudden change in weather very soon.

Like many other outdoorspeople, I have found myself trying to cram a ton of activities into increasingly shorter days over the past few weeks. Instinctively, I am stocking up on every bit of warm-weather outdoor fun I can squeeze in as autumn winds down.

Lots of grouse hunting, cyclocross racing, after-dark mountain biking, a bit of fishing and some time at camp is how I like to spend autumn. A constant rotation of specialized gear for these activities moves in and out of my truck, depending on the plan for the day. Unfortunately, there is collateral damage in

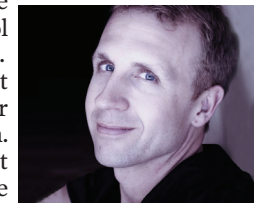
this whirlwind of outdoor pursuits. Specifically, the garage has become a complete disaster zone of broken bike parts, outerwear, fishing equipment and countless gear bags piled on the floor.

This is also a key time to take stock and order replacement parts for everything I broke this summer. I will also pull the old line off the fishing reels, patch the holes in my waders and consolidate all the tackle and fishing equipment that has been left sitting in a variety of dry bags after the last few fishing trips.

Before long, we will be skiing, ice fishing, fat biking, snowshoeing and skating. Perhaps your preference is hockey, snowboarding, ice climbing, or just walking the dog after a fresh snowfall. Finding something to inspire us to get outside is the key to keep enjoying

the good life through each of our unique seasons. Keeping the gear for all these activities organized is the best way to make sure we don't miss a beat as we transition from one season to the next.

Oh, and don't worry. I did not spend the whole weekend in my garage. Though I missed out on the Saturday fishing trip, I did manage to sneak in some fresh air and much-needed time outside. I enjoyed a quick grouse hunt after work on Friday and a chilly cyclocross race at Belluz Farms on Sunday morning before I got back to work in the garage.



**Keith Ailey**  
the GOOD LIFE

# Priscilla: Return to sender

*Priscilla* (SilverCity) promises to provide an intriguing bookend to Baz Luhrmann's flashier "Elvis," hopefully giving another intimate angle on Mr. Presley from the viewpoint of Elvis' ex-wife.

The movie is based on Priscilla Presley's memoir, *Elvis and Me*. Presley is executive producer, with Sofia Coppola serving as producer, director and screenwriter (along with Sandra Harmon and Ms. Presley). However, they've collectively managed to leave *Priscilla* with a gaping hole at its center.

This lies with characterizing Priscilla herself evolving from innocent teen to overly-made-up-haystack-haired girlfriend to sidelined trophy wife gamely played throughout by Cailee Spaena.

We follow the story chronologically when 14-year-old Priscilla first meets Elvis doing his military service in Germany. She's a lonely army brat when she is approached at a café by an officer and pal of The King to attend a party hosted by Elvis.

"Why my daughter?" is the pertinent question asked by Priscilla's understandably

concerned dad, Captain Beaulieu (Ari Cohen). This maddeningly goes unanswered. Spaeny's eyes alternatively radiate excitement, curiosity and apprehension while entering Elvis' adult party once her parents give their grudging permission to attend. Ms. Spaeny gives a flicker of an interior life here.

Elvis is smitten and gentlemanly, but their little moments alone together in Germany are woefully under-written. Priscilla's virtually mute.

Ms. Spaena has screen presence but her character is a cipher. What draws Elvis to her? Youth? Innocence? (Shiver.) School's boring. Why doesn't she have any school girlfriends? Later, she likes dogs; wants to work in a salon. Life with Elvis becomes a prison but that shouldn't deprive the inmate of a personality. She may be sublimated but what-is-she-like??? The alchemy that binds them remains undefined.

Jacob Elordi is serviceable as Elvis, capturing his soft drawl and charm, minus electric charisma. He is chaste, old-fashioned towards Priscilla. Once married, sex finally happens, sequestered in the bedroom for extended



**Marty Mascarini**

MOVIE TALK



Cailee Spaena stars as Priscilla Presley in *Priscilla*.

sibly influences Priscilla, his publicized dalliances, his fascination with guns, his violent, hair-trigger rages, his chauvinistic Svengali tendencies. Elvis momentarily dumps a pregnant Priscilla.

Both live in gilded cages. Elvis is controlled by an unseen Colonel Parker, denied personal and professional growth. In turn, Priscilla becomes controlled by Elvis, trapped indoors away from prying eyes at Graceland, isolated, bored.

Denied use of Elvis' music robs the film of authentic flavour. Using *Musica Poetica* from *Badlands* with Sissy Spacek and Martin Sheen recalls another weird, ill-fated real-life relationship.

The film vaguely hints at Priscilla's own affairs. Crucial details are frustratingly absent, creating more questions than answers.

Aside from Elvis' bossy dad, Vernon, (Tim Post) almost everyone else, including Elvis' Memphis Mafia, is devoid of personality, leaving the leads in an interaction vacuum, denying character reveals.

Priscilla is expected to accede to '60s gender norms, stuck in a cocoon, but so is her character. Ultimately, *Priscilla* is as superficial as her kewpie doll make-up.

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# T-Wolves split

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The Western Mustangs eight-game losing streak to start the 2023-24 season is over.

The Mustangs, mired in the OUA West basement, scored twice in the opening period and never surrendered the lead, doubling the host Lakehead Thunderwolves 4-1 on Saturday night, in front of 3,136 fans at Fort William Gardens.

Josh Leblanc, Shane Bulitka, Jack Tucker, with an insurance marker midway through the third and Andrew Bruter into the empty net, scored for the Mustangs, who had been outscored 40-16 entering the contest, including a 3-2 defeat at the hands of the Thunderwolves a night earlier.

Clarke Singer, one of the winningest coaches in U Sports hockey history, who led the team to the 2002 national championship, said the mounting losses were a little troubling, but added the Mustangs have played well in most of their encounters and things were bound to turn around.

"I know the standings don't say it, our win-loss record, but we've actually been playing pretty well," Singer said. "We've been making a lot of progress the last couple of weeks and we're just finding ways to lose games."

"Last night it was a 1-1 game going into the third and we ended up losing 3-2. So, there's been a lot of those games where maybe we haven't been rewarded for our effort and play, but yeah, it was really nice to get that one up here."

### Strong suits

Goaltending and special teams stood out on Saturday.

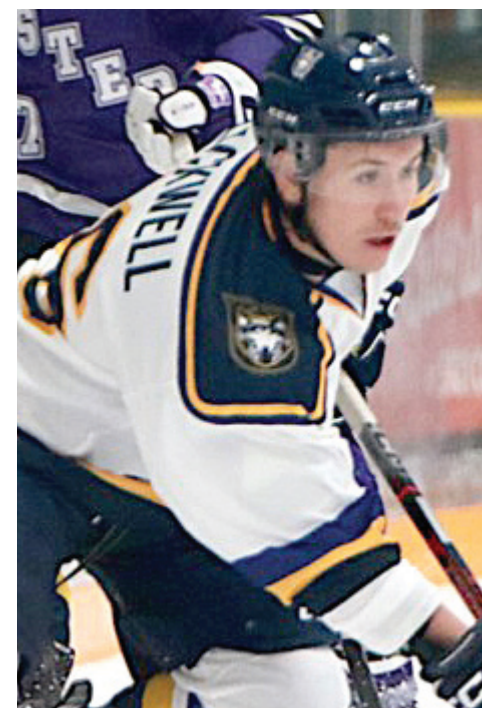
Dylan Myskiw stopped 28 of 29 Lakehead shots - though he only faced four in the final 20 minutes - and the Mustangs penalty kill didn't allow a goal in six shorthanded chances, including a 49-second 5-on-3 late in the second that saw the Thunderwolves generate zero scoring chances.

Getting a couple of quick ones in the first also helped boost confidence levels on the bench.

"That's something we haven't done very much, is score first. It was nice to do that again tonight and then build on it a little bit. I think that was our most complete game one to 20 tonight," Singer said.

Lakehead captain Tyler Jette, on the other hand, said falling to the win of the heretofore winless Mustangs wasn't part of the weekend plan.

"Obviously it's tough to give them their first win of the season, but you've got to give them credit. They came out and played desperate. They played hard and they've basically only



Lakehead's Spencer Blackwell on Saturday night.

played the good teams so far, so I think they're going to turn out to be a pretty good hockey team in the end," Jette said.

The veteran blue-liner said the Thunderwolves need to find a little more consistency in their game.

"We can play a couple of shifts really good in a row and we dominate every hockey game that we play in, but we're just taking too many shifts off and losing too many 50-50 pucks. We've just got to get back to grind hockey," Jette said.

### Lone tally

Lakehead's only goal came in the second, when Keighan Gerrie and Nick DeGrazia bore down on Myskiw on a 2-on-1. Gerrie waited just long enough before rifling the puck over to DeGrazia, catching the Western goaltender going the wrong way.

Thunderwolves coach Andrew Wilkins said the chances were available, but nothing clicked.

"I thought we had chances on the 5-on-4. Our 5-on-3 was not good enough at a huge point in the game. We've got to find a way to bear down. Even when you're getting the chances, you've got to find a way to get it done," Wilkins said.

Max Wright stopped 31 of 33 shots he faced before being lifted late for an extra attacker.

Lakehead travels to Nipissing for games on Thursday and Friday.

# Vikings snap drought

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The hallways of Hammarskjold High School are lined with reminders of past football glory.

The pictures of the school's eight previous senior football titles are starting to get a little faded though, the most recent coming 15 years ago, in 2008.

The players on the 2023 team were three or four years old the last time the Vikings hoisted the trophy, a fact not lost on running back Owen Renn, whose three-yard touchdown run, his second of the afternoon, proved to be the difference as Hammarskjold outlasted the Westgate Tigers 14-7 on Saturday to claim the school's ninth senior football championship.

They'll take their own spot on the wall of honour at some point in the very near future, after ending the decade-and-a-half title drought.

"It's been a while," said Renn, who opened the scoring late in the first with a 25-yard scamper to the Tigers end zone, Hammarskjold taking a 7-0 lead into the second quarter.

"You walk down our halls and there are pictures of the last team that won, I think it was in 2008. It's crazy to think that we're the team that did it."

Vikings coach Mike Judge, who let out a howl as he raised the trophy over his head, cheered on by the 50 or so players on the team's roster, said it was an unbelievable feeling to be a champion again.

"It's fabulous. It's been a long time coming. A lot of great teams have come and gone, a lot of great people, but this was a special group and they really earned it this year, right from spring through the summer, and into this fall," Judge said.

"I just couldn't be happier for the boys



Hammarskjold edged Westgate 14-7 last Saturday to win the senior football title. (Leith Dunick)

out here."

It's a match that could have gone either way and came down to the wire, the Tigers nearly completing a 100-yard drive as time ticked down at Fort William Stadium, quarterback Mitchell Papineau leading them nine-tenths of the way to paydirt.

But the Vikings defence stood tall under pressure, forcing incompletions on the Tigers final two attempts to get the ball across the goal line to potentially send the game to overtime, forcing a turnover on downs.

With 18 seconds left quarterback Taylor Main took a knee and the celebration was on.

"I have no words," said Vikings running back Daniel Kapush, who did a lot of the heavy lifting for Hammarskjold in the early going, rushing for 55 yards before an injury sent him to the sidelines.

"Honestly, it's just amazing."

Both teams went three-and-out on their first possession of the game, the Tigers also failing to move the chains

on their second chance with the ball.

The Vikings, on the other hand, put together a strong drive on possession No. 2, Kapush, Renn and Gabriel Stieh chewing up chunks of yardage before Renn took a direct snap and rumbled 25 yards for the game's first score.

The Tigers offence was still sputtering when they took over on their own 30. Papineau, who finished 12-for-25 for 155 yards, helped his own cause with a 21-yard run and then handed the ball off to Hudson Gerry, who stormed down the middle for 26, depositing the ball on the Vikings eight. Two plays later Lance Basalyga scored from five yards out, tying the game 7-7.

Late in the third the Tigers took over on their own 39, but Papineau's pass was intercepted by Jake Kuzik and the Vikings took over on the Westgate 28. Aided by an unnecessary roughness penalty, Hammarskjold marched to the Tigers five and Renn needed two tries to find the endzone.

The Vikings head to Windsor later this month for provincials.

## ENIGMA™ CRYPTOGRAM

Enigma cryptograms are created from quotations and proverbs from around the world. Each letter stands for another letter. Hint: "D" = "W"

"L DYCT PLR YC IT DIJ SJTC RJQ  
 HVYTMT WJV QIT QIYRH DIYBI IT ILC  
 RJQ, FGQ VTZJYBTC WJV QIJCT DIYBI IT  
 ILC." - TEYBQTQGC

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### ACROSS

- 1 Strike
- 4 Slavic nurse
- 8 Volcano crater
- 12 Alabama (abbr.)
- 13 Stench
- 14 Us dam
- 15 Electric unit
- 17 Demolish: Brit.
- 18 Shinto temple gate
- 19 Love (Lat.)
- 21 Hold
- 24 Squash bug
- 28 Proceedings
- 31 Shopping center
- 33 Hebrew letter
- 34 Burmese knife
- 35 Afr. cat
- 36 Hoodwinked
- 37 Ostrichlike bird
- 38 Opera solo
- 39 Soapstone
- 40 Wine-and-lemon drink
- 42 Wife of Shakespeare
- 44 Drug Enforcement Admin. (abbr.)
- 46 Accepted principle
- 50 Siamese
- 53 Eidola
- 56 Game fish
- 57 Deserve
- 58 Delay
- 59 Slushy ice
- 60 Gull
- 61 Deviate

### DOWN

- 1 Inferior bandages
- 2 Oil (pref.)
- 3 Skeggar
- 4 Single-edged knife
- 5 Amer. Dental Assn. (abbr.)
- 6 Botany (abbr.)
- 7 Gulf of the Ionian Sea

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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- 8 Fool
- 9 Amer. Automobile Assn. (abbr.)
- 10 Exclamations of delight
- 11 Female ruff
- 16 Opera heroine
- 20 Beer ingredient
- 22 Arabian chieftain
- 23 City of a Hundred Towers
- 25 Tibeto-Burmese people
- 26 Hall (Ger.)
- 27 Aid to Families with Dependent Children (abbr.)
- 28 Arabian Sea gulf
- 29 Window lead
- 30 Gangster
- 32 Spare
- 35 Noun form
- 39 Passage
- 41 N. Caucasian language
- 43 Wife of Balder
- 45 Peak
- 47 Princess in Gr. myth
- 48 Mosque in Jerusalem
- 49 Monsignor (abbr.)
- 50 Tablespoon (abbr.)
- 51 Yellow Sea arm
- 52 Blockhead
- 54 Have (Scott.)
- 55 Appendage

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# Msambya moving on up

High school football wrapped up last weekend, which isn't a bad thing, given how busy things are around here.

As one sport comes to a close, it's time for Lakehead men's and women's basketball to kick off.

The men had a decent showing in their season-opening weekend on the road, splitting a set against the always tough TMU Bold.

Tyler Sagl, someone who will have to step up if the T-Wolves are to have any success, put up 21 points in Saturday's 86-78 triumph, and Laoui Msambya had 23, to go with 14 in Friday's 86-76 loss.

Msambya, who joined the Thunderwolves in 2019, has a

chance to move up into the top 10 in Lakehead's all-time regular-season scoring list.

With 710 points, according to [usportshoops.ca](http://usportshoops.ca), the Quebec City native slipped past Dwayne Harvey into 14th spot. If he matches last season's total of 289 points, Msambya could finish as the team's third-leading scorer all-time, passing the likes of Craig Law (911), Jamie Searle (895) and current coach Ryan Thomson (883). Kiraan Posey, with 1,879, is the runaway leader, Yoosrie Salhia trailing in a distant second at 1,066.

Nathan Bilamu (311), Jared Kreiner (309) and Chume Nwigwe (297) are all in the top 50, the only other active players on the list.

On the women's side, Ally Burke leads the active pack, putting up 311 points in 32 games as she enters her third season in a Thunderwolves uniform.

She added 34 to her total over the weekend in a pair of losses at TMU, and sits in 28th spot overall, one point behind Esa Jacobsen.

Tasia McKenna leads the all-time list with 1,341, with Leashja Grant second at 1,029.

Jylisa Williams is sixth, playing just 31 games, at 790, which is a reminder of just how good she really was.

The Thunderwolves will be on home-court this weekend, with the York Lions arriving in town for games on Friday and Saturday night.

The York men beat Waterloo 69-53 on Friday night and then dropped a 76-69 decision to the Brock Badgers on Saturday night.

Brock is the only undefeated team in the OUA Central. The Lions women's team dropped both games last weekend, and hit Thunder Bay at 0-2, like Lakehead.



**Leith Dunick**

SPORTS SHORTS



The Saint Ignatius Saints, captured a second straight junior football championship, beating St. Patrick. (Leith Dunick)

# Back-to-back

## Falcons blank Saints 34-0 in junior final

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

A dominant ground game proved to be the perfect recipe for a high school junior football championship.

Led by a 131-yard effort from burly back Jayce Zaroski, the St. Ignatius Falcons scored four rushing touchdowns, adding a pick-six late in Saturday's final and went on to defeat the St. Patrick Saints 34-0 to capture a second straight title.

Zaroski, who opened the scoring with a one-yard rumble up the middle early in the first, said it's great to hoist the trophy in his first year of high school football.

"I knew from the beginning that this was going to be a good game, with really good players. Even the second-stringers, getting them in there to play, it was good," said Zaroski, who had six carries of 10 or more yards on the afternoon.

Running the ball was clearly the game plan cooked up by the St. Ignatius coaching staff. Quarterback Justin Coulombe, who had a two-yard touchdown run of his own, threw the ball just four times, failing to connect on any of them.

It didn't much matter.

The Falcons finished with 205 yards combined rushing, while the Saints only managed 81 yards of total offence, 49 through the air and 32 on the ground.

"We really prepared for their passing attack all week and most of the time we were in position to make plays. Our running game, we knew that was our strength. We've been able to be multi-dimensional all year with the passing game, but it didn't work out today. But the running game was enough for us to come out with the win," said St. Ignatius coach Mike Savioli.

Carson Height and Kai Mosley had six-yard touchdown runs, the Falcons other major coming on a late pick-six by Matteo Marino, who intercepted St. Patrick quarterback Boston Bortolin at the Saints 15 and took it to the end zone.

Bortolin, a key asset as the Saints made the charge to Saturday's final, struggled in the championship match, connecting on just 7-of-22 pass attempts and was picked off three times, including a pair by Zack Marino that halted promising St. Patrick drives.

"They had gotten 30 yards of offence before my first pick and then we just shut it down," Marino said. "I couldn't have done it without my defence."

The second-year defensive back said going back-to-back feels amazing.

"It feels awesome. But again, I couldn't have done it without the team. We've been working at this all year. This is what we worked for and it feels amazing."



**LAKEHEAD  
UNIVERSITY  
THUNDERWOLVES**

2023-2024 SEASON

## SEASON SCHEDULE

### BASKETBALL & VOLLEYBALL

#### MEN AND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

**NOV 10 & 11TH** VS. YORK LIONS

**NOV 24TH** VS. WESTERN MUSTANGS

**NOV 25TH** VS. WINDSOR LANCERS

**JAN 5TH** VS. LAURENTIAN VOYAGEURS

**JAN 6TH** VS. NIPISSING LAKERS

**JAN 26 & 27TH** VS. BROCK BADGERS

**FEB 9TH** VS. QUEEN'S GAELS

**FEB 10TH** VS. ONTARIO TECH RIDGEBACKS

#### WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

**NOV 17 & 18TH** VS. TORONTO VARSITY BLUES

**JAN 12 & 13TH** VS. TMU BOLD

**JAN 19 & 20TH** VS. NIPISSING LAKERS

**FEB 2 & 3RD** VS. QUEEN'S GAELS

**FEB 16 & 17TH** VS. RMC PALADINS

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08. Investment Property  
09. Out of Town  
10. Real Estate Wanted

38. Snowmobiles  
39. Parts & Repairs

**YARD SALES**  
40. Current River  
41. Northward  
42. South  
43. Westport  
44. Rural

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45. Auctions  
46. Health  
47. Travel  
48. Financial  
49. Lost & Found  
50. Personal  
51. Notices  
52. Tenders

**FOR RENT**  
11. Houses  
12. Apartments  
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14. Room & Board  
15. Shared Accommodations  
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18. Storage/Space  
19. Wanted  
20. Condos  
21. Miscellaneous

**BUSINESS & SERVICES**  
53. General Services  
54. Home Improvements  
55. Bus. Opportunities  
56. Training Courses

**MERCHANDISE FOR SALE**  
22. Bargain corner  
23. Misc.  
24. Antiques  
25. Music  
26. Office Equip.  
27. Machinery  
28. Pets & Livestock  
29. Food  
30. Misc. Wanted

**EMPLOYMENT**  
57. Help Wanted  
58. Careers  
59. Child  
60. Health Care  
61. Employment Wanted  
62. Students For Hire

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
63. Coming Events  
64. Craft & Flea Markets  
65. Happy Ads  
66. Cards of Thanks  
67. In Memoriam  
68. Death/Funerals

**VEHICLES FOR SALE**  
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SISH	XEMA	ERR

4	8	9	6	1	2	7	5	3
3	1	7	8	9	5	2	4	6
5	2	6	4	7	3	1	8	9
9	5	1	2	4	8	6	3	7
6	7	4	5	3	9	8	2	1
8	3	2	1	6	7	5	9	4
7	9	5	3	2	1	4	6	8
2	4	3	7	8	6	9	1	5
1	6	8	9	5	4	3	7	2

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— Epictetus



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