

the California destination. Local churches along the route are providing meals and lodging to the cyclists.

Through her participation, Ms. Strawbridge hopes to raise \$25,000 for the local Habitat for Humanity Organization. This non-profit organization builds affordable housing for low income families through volunteer work.

• (1405)

I commend Ms. Strawbridge and all Bike L.A. participants for their commitment to helping those less fortunate. On behalf of all Canadians I wish Ms. Strawbridge a safe and successful trip.

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[Translation]

### REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

**Mrs. Madeleine Dalphond-Guiral (Laval Centre, BQ):** Mr. Speaker, the Royal Commission on New Reproductive Technologies issued a report on November 30, 1993, after four years of deliberations which cost the taxpayers of Canada and Quebec over \$28 million.

Despite the promises made by the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Health, the government has yet to determine how it will follow up on this report. The government is waffling, is killing time. Is it waiting for the end of the world to come or is it waiting for brighter days? Hard to say.

In the meantime, the flourishing embryo business is turning a brisker and brisker trade and genetic manipulation is being put to commercial uses. And once this trade has assumed such proportions that it will be increasingly difficult, maybe even impossible, to control the situation, the government will be faced with the loathsome task of justifying its inaction.

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[English]

### REFUGEES

**Mr. Art Hanger (Calgary Northeast, Ref.):** Mr. Speaker, the refugee system does not work. The Immigration and Refugee Board is bankrupt and the government does not have what it takes to fix the problem. However, we do the Reform Party has produced a paper on refugee settlement which contains 13 proposals that would, if enacted, bring genuine refugees to Canada while halting widespread abuse of the system by economic migrants and the immigration industry.

We call for increased co-operation with the UN to bring in more refugees from abroad, tightened airline security, a safe third country list from which people could not make claims, restricted availability of some social services for those who are found not to be genuine refugees, especially legal aid, the dismantling of the IRB and the restoration of accountability in the system, among others. These proposals would bring sense back to the refugee system, would save hundreds of millions of dollars and would protect those most in need.

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I sincerely hope the government has the sense to study and implement these reasonable, common sense proposals. Let us make the system work for everybody's interests, not just special interests.

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### KAMLOOPS BLAZERS

**Mr. Nelson Riis (Kamloops, NDP):** Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Kamloops Blazers hockey team on winning the 1995 Memorial Cup and on the extraordinary accomplishment of winning three out of the last four Memorial Cup championships.

For the Blazers it was a Memorial Cup matinee masterpiece before 5,500 enthusiastic fans at Riverside Coliseum in Kamloops. The western hockey league champion Blazers crushed the Ontario pennant winning Detroit Junior Red Wings in an 8 to 2 upset as the Brandon Wheat Kings and the Hull Olympics looked on.

Congratulations to the team players, coach Don Hay, manager Bob Brown and all the others who worked so hard to make the Kamloops Blazers the number one hockey club in Canada.

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### OPTIMIST CLUB

**Ms. Colleen Beaumier (Brampton, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, for more than 75 years Optimists have found ways to help young people feel better about themselves, learn, feel happy and build solid foundations of character.

Youngsters have gained self-confidence through the oratorical contest, learned about their attributes through Youth Appreciation Week and experienced the power of leadership through their Optimist youth clubs. Recently Optimists have learned that brick by brick they can help young people to build on themselves through positive mentoring and tutoring programs.

On June 3, 1995 Optimist International is celebrating Optimists in Action Day around the world. The theme this year is: "Our Children, Our Future". The Optimist Club of Brampton will be holding an event to mark action day which involves other Optimist clubs in the area, youth clubs and other organizations.

I ask all members of the House to join me in wishing organizers and participants in the Optimist Club of Brampton's Action Day all the best.

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### VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Mr. Ted McWhinney (Vancouver Quadra, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Senate and the House of Commons Joint Standing Committee on the Library of Parliament, I congratulate Mayor Philip Owen of Vancouver and Kyle R. Mitchell, chair of the Vancouver Public Library Board, for the eight years of planning and community effort which have