

"F" DIVISION
HEADQUARTERS — REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN

LAB SCIENTISTS LEAD FIGHT AGAINST CRIME The Mounties had a suspect but not enough evidence to get their man. The crime was routine enough. A man had walked into a bank in the village of Welwyn, Sask., in August 1995, armed with a broken-off tree branch and a knife, and escaped with about \$35,000. Someone thought they recognized the robber, identifying him as former golf pro Daniel Scanlon of nearby Yorkton. Police questioned him but, despite their suspicions, found nothing conclusive. It was a long shot, but the branch was sent to the RCMP forensics lab in Regina. Sure enough, nosy scientists at the lab were able to find skin cells stuck to the sticky side of the tape — enough to yield DNA, the amazing “genetic fingerprint” that is revolutionizing law enforcement. DNA in the blood was a perfect match for the genetic material recovered from the hockey tape. Scanlon first pleaded not guilty to armed robbery but, faced with the overwhelming scientific evidence, he switched his plea to guilty and was sentenced to three years in prison late last year.

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NEW STUDENT CRIME STOPPERS PROGRAM Carnduff High School held their opening ceremonies for the recently implemented Student Crime Stoppers Program on January 19, 2000. The school held a fundraising event in the form of a volleyball game between the teachers at the high school, members of the local RCMP Detachment, and members of the new student board of the Crime Stoppers Program. The students watching the game donated \$1.00 to the program in order to miss class and watch the festivities! The team of RCMP members won the best of three series.

The program is a result of conversations between Cst. Mark Flodell of Carnduff Detachment, the school's principal and several students. Cst. Flodell contacted Sgt. Ralph Goss of “F” Division and started

laying the groundwork to have the program brought to Carnduff. In January, that work came to fruition. Congratulations!



(L-R) Front row: Natasha Myers, Jolene Steenbrugen, Rebecca Simpson, and Jamie Paradis. Back row: Cst. Mark Flodell, Doug Batke (Canada Customs Officer), Cheryl Faber, Cst. Gord Stewart, Cst. Chris Boardman, Pat Willis (teacher), Sgt. Ralph Goss (Crime Stoppers).

ON-RESERVE POLICING MAKING A DIFFERENCE The Yellow Quill Reserve was once a troublesome place where no law enforcement officer wanted to be stationed, recalls band councillor Gilbert Kewistep. Three years ago the reserve 250 kilometres east of Saskatoon got its own RCMP officer. Within months, the officer transformed attitudes on the reserve and steered youth away from crime, he says. Now the reserve is about to form its own police management board to formally deal with policing issues. The board will work with the RCMP in Rose Valley on practical solutions to law enforcement for the nearly 700 residents of Yellow Quill. Kewistep said he has seen how reserve policing is vital to improving relations between aboriginal people and police across the province. “We have to get rid of this us-and-them mentality. That is the key. I believe in what they, the police on the reserve, can do for our youth,” said Kewistep who was among First Nations leaders in Saskatoon on March 16 for the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) police management board workshop.

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