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## High jump record

Canadian high jumper Debbie Brill surpassed the world's indoor best in the women's high jump at the *Edmonton Journal* Games held recently in Edmonton, Alberta.

The 28-year-old, who set a United States indoor mark of 1.96 metres in a Los Angeles meet the previous night, cleared the pole at a height of 1.99 metres to surpass the previous best of 1.98 metres held by Andrea Matay of Hungary.

The Edmonton competition was the second for the British Columbia native since giving birth to a son five months ago. She had been training for only three months after having taken a year off from the sport.

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## Report on aging published

The National Advisory Council on Aging recently published its first report presenting the most crucial issues facing elderly Canadians along with 48 recommendations to improve conditions for the elderly.

The report, entitled *Priorities for Action*, was the result of discussions during the last year by the 18-member council. The council established in 1980 is responsible for advising and assisting the Minister of Health and Welfare on the problems of the elderly and for suggesting possible solutions.

The recommendations emphasize, among other things:

- the urgency to transform the public view of aging and to bring to light the positive contribution of the elderly to society;
- the need for new learning opportunities to ensure the continued personal growth of the aged;
- the necessity to define the competencies and standards required of persons who work with older people;
- the need to co-ordinate health and social services to older Canadians and to ensure their accessibility through more efficient information programs;
- the importance of providing safe, sanitary and affordable housing to the retired;
- the relevance of abolishing the mandatory age of retirement; and
- the requirement to review existing pension plans and to increase their benefits to curb poverty among the aged.

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## Train runs around yard

Not everyone has a train track running around his yard reports the *Canadian Press*.

But Harry Allin, who is almost 80, has a quarter-mile track circling his yard in Bowmanville, Ontario, north of Toronto, complete with trestle and water tower, and a steam locomotive that can pull up to ten passengers.

Allin makes and collects models of steam engines. One of his creations is a full operative model of Canada's first locomotive, the *Dorchester*, which is on display at the Ontario Science Centre.

The original was owned by the Molson family and ran on a 15-mile line in Montreal in the early 1800s.

Allin was commissioned by the centre to do research from period literature, scale the train down and build it.

The miniaturist was head of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) machine shop during the Second World War. Parts were hard to get and Allin, who had been a transmitter technician with the CBC, was given the new job because his employers knew he had a knack for finding parts and improvising.

He has been retired for many years, but he is still as involved as ever with his hobby.

Allin belongs to several clubs whose members regularly visit his home to see his collection, and he always has a project underway.

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## Vaccines for South America

A Canadian company will supply more than half the vaccines used in Latin and South America in 1982 under a new contract with the Pan-American Health Organization.

The contract calls for Connaught Laboratories Limited of Toronto to supply more than 34 million Latin and South American children with vaccine.

The Pan-American Health Organization of Washington, D.C. is promoting immunization of all children as part of a World Health Organization program aimed at vaccinating all children in the world by the year 2000 against measles, diphtheria, tetanus, polio and tuberculosis.

Connaught, owned by the Canadian Development Corporation does research on new vaccines and first began looking to foreign markets for sales in the early 1970s.

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## Number of households to grow

The number of households is expected to grow by 56 per cent to 11.2 million in Canada by the year 2001.

A recent report issued by Statistics Canada says the largest growth of households, if present trends continue, will be in Alberta. It predicts the resource-rich province will have 1.1 million households by the year 2001, a 95 per cent increase from 1976.

The smallest growth in households — 38 per cent — would be in neighbouring Saskatchewan, where the 291,200 households of 1976 would grow to only 400,000.

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## Increase of one parent families

The report credits much of this expected increase to the fact that during the next 20 years more and more adults will raise families alone. Nationwide, the number of such households would increase by 84 per cent with 81 per cent of these lone-parent households headed by women.

The proportion of lone-parent families headed by females will increase to 7 per cent of all households from 6 per cent. The proportion of fathers raising children alone will increase to 1.6 per cent from 1.2 per cent of the country's total households.

The number of single, childless adults who choose to live alone is expected to increase by 80 per cent over the same period and also have a significant effect on the growth of households in Canada.

In addition the proportion of households maintained by persons aged 65 or more is expected to increase by 80 per cent to two million.

A higher life expectancy for women and a decrease in aged persons living with children are largely credited for this growth.

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## Traditional households in majority

Despite the large increases in childless or single-parent households, the traditional nuclear family will be far from extinct.

Husband-wife households will still be in the majority in 2001, although their percentage of the total number of households will drop to 67 per cent from 71 per cent.

By 2001 the average household will contain 2.6 persons compared with 3.2 in 1976. British Columbia will probably have the lowest average, 2.5 persons, and Newfoundland the highest, 3.2