

Chinese academics in Montreal

Four universities in Montreal are the Canadian destinations for many of the growing number of Chinese academics coming here on exchange visits.

McGill, l'université de Montréal, Concordia and the University of Quebec in Montreal are hosting more than 100 professors and researchers from Chinese universities, most of whom are attached to either science or management faculties. They will be in Canada for at least one year.

New planning centre

The program is being sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). A new Centre at Montreal for Exchanges with China (CAMEC) is responsible for planning and implementing orientation programs for the Chinese visitors, and organizing briefing sessions for Canadian academics on their way to China. CAMEC also organizes cultural events designed to bring Quebecers and the Chinese closer together.

During their stay in Canada, the Chinese have to learn French or English, find living quarters and familiarize themselves with life in Quebec. They are assisted by CAMEC which was incorporated by the four universities as an autonomous non-profit organization.

Derby winner Let's Go Blue outdistances the field

Let's Go Blue ran away from the field this year to win the \$150 800 Canadian Derby.

"He was the best, there was never any doubt," said jockey Larry Attard.

Let's Go Blue was the fifth Ontario horse in six years to win the Derby. He was trained by Janet Bedford, the first woman to train a Derby winner.

Let's Go Blue covered the mile and one eighth in 2:27.1. He handled the track easily and the numerous turns despite taking most of them on the outside as he, Barbex and Special Intent often ran three abreast. Mr. Attard kept Let's Go Blue running either right behind or alongside pacesetters Barbex and Special Intent through three-quarters of the race.

In the backstretch, he was turned loose and he completely outdistanced the other horses.

Let's Go Blue won \$90 004 for owner Mel Lawson of Burlington, Ontario. He was the heavy favourite to win the Derby for three-year-olds foaled in Canada, starting at odds of 3 to 5.

New Brunswick mayor on top at criers' championship

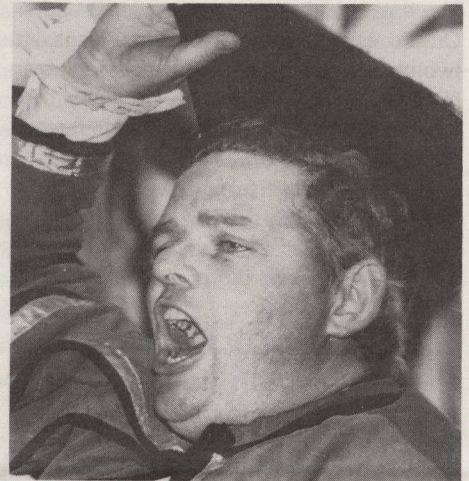
Mayor Beverley Lawrence of St. Andrews, New Brunswick, recently became the first Canadian to win the international town criers' championship, held annually in Halifax since 1978.

Mr. Lawrence was judged to have the best cry among 34 contestants from Canada, England, the United States, West Germany and Bermuda.

The competition, sponsored by the Nova Scotia government and local merchants, was held on the historic Halifax waterfront. The criers' initial greeting was their own choice but six finalists had to make an additional unrehearsed cry handed to them by a panel of judges.

Competing in his second international competition since the picturesque New Brunswick town of St. Andrews created the position of town crier in 1982, Mr. Lawrence wore a red and black military uniform patterned after those worn in the War of 1812. He said he incorporated tips offered by Canadian and other contestants to help improve his delivery.

"After every competition the other criers have always been frank in their analysis...in the areas where you need improvement," said Mr. Lawrence. "I learned to use the throat less and use the breathing process more to make my voice last," he added.



Mayor Beverley Lawrence wins first place.

Second place for the best cry went to Allan MacInnis of Sydney, Nova Scotia, in his first competition since he was appointed town crier earlier this year. The third-place finisher, George Carpenter of Wotton-Under-Edge, Gloucestershire, England, has participated in all seven annual championships.

First prize for the best costume in the competition went to Garry Long of Middleton, Nova Scotia for his loyalist design. Helen Fauvert-Gravel, the recently appointed female town crier of Alexandria, Ontario placed second while Allan MacInnis came third.

More Canadian content

Two Canadian television networks, the Canadian Broadcasting Company (CBC) and Global are extending their Canadian content on the air this year.

On CBC, there will be an increase of one hour a week, making Canadian content about 75 per cent of its programming. Two new shows include *A Plant for the Taking* and *A Touch of Class*. David Suzuki hosts the eight-part series, *A Planet for the Taking*, that deals with man's relationship with nature. *A Touch of Class* is a series that includes profiles of artists and thinkers such as Henry Moore, Anna Pavlova and Marshall McLuhan. In addition, the network's award-winning *Sons and Daughters* series of short films based on the works of Canadian authors is returning for a second year.

Global is carrying out a similar project called *Global Playhouse*, which began on September 27. It consists of eight films based on the works of Canadian writers.

Global is also extending its news and public affairs programs with some emphasis on features and lifestyles.



Larry Attard rides Let's Go Blue to victory.