

**FROM RAGS
TO RESTAURANTS**
BUSINESS Section



**Rich Little's
Christmas gift**
ENTERTAINMENT Section



**BIG CITY
BIG STRESS**
LIFE Section



Metro Weather
Partly cloudy.
High 14C.
Details, A2
Car lights on 4:25 p.m.
and off 7:42 a.m. tomorrow.

THE TORONTO STAR

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METRO EDITION



VICTOR DAVIS: Olympic gold medal swimmer is in critical condition.



DONNA CLAVEL: Keeping a vigil for comatose boyfriend in Montreal hospital.

Davis given little chance of surviving Swimmer's family hires a lawyer to investigate tragic accident

MONTREAL (CP-Special) — The family of Victor Davis has hired a lawyer to help them press concerns about the way police are handling an accident that left the Olympic swimming champion in a deep coma and on life-support systems.

No charges have been laid in connection with the incident in which Davis, 25, was hit by a car in suburban Ste. Anne de Bellevue early Saturday morning.

The former swimmer is in extremely critical condition in Notre

Dame Hospital with a severe skull fracture, brain and spinal damage and multiple bruises.

Doctors have made a desperate attempt to restart Davis' normal brain functions by withdrawing drugs — including pain killers — that are commonly used to treat brain injuries, The Star's Alfred Holden reports.

"When people are in a coma, they are often given barbiturates, but we believe this will give the greatest chance that the brain will

resume normal functions," said Jacques Charbonneau, spokesman for Notre Dame hospital, said last night.

Doctors said earlier they will need another 48 hours to determine fully the severity of his injuries and to update the prognosis.

But he is given little chance to survive.

"The doctors said it is only because he was in such excellent physical condition that he has survived this long," Charbonneau

said.

"He is in very, very critical condition."

"They are giving him another 48 hours before making a final decision . . . That's when they would ask the family about organ donations, to see if he can help save other lives."

Davis' father, Mel, his lifelong coach, Clifford Barry, and at least two witnesses to the accident, Jennifer Barry and

Please see HOPE/back page

Work brings Berlin back to reality

BERLIN (AP-Reuter) — East Germans headed back to work today after an intoxicating weekend of discovery and reunion in the West.

One man in blue overalls stepped through an opening bulldozed in the Berlin Wall today, stared about for a few minutes and then headed back to the East.

"I'm off to work," he said. "I just wanted to take a look."

On both sides of the wall, the start of a new work week and the reality of having to earn a living brought this city back to something approaching normality today after a chaotic weekend of high emotions.

West Berlin's streets were swept clear of the litter left by the East Germans who have logged up around two million visits to the western half of the city since their government lifted border restrictions Thursday. A further million visits were made to West Germany.

Krenz faces revolt/A14

Despite temperatures dropping overnight to zero, some East Germans spent the night wandering West Berlin.

But the lines forming up at banks at dawn for the West German government's \$54 welcome gift were numbered in dozens rather than the hundreds seen at the weekend.

At the height of the euphoria yesterday, the mayors of East and West Berlin joined hands through a new opening in the Berlin Wall.

West Berlin Mayor Walter Momper met East Berlin's Erhard Krack at the opening at Potsdamer Platz, once the heart of the old German capital.

"This is where the old heart of Berlin used to beat — and it will beat again," Momper declared.

'Visitor' gets out after 19 years in East Germany

By Nomi Morris Toronto Star

WEST BERLIN — A woman with U.S. and German passports, who was held in East Germany for 19 years, has walked to freedom with a few belongings in her handbag.

Ursula Bender couldn't stop crying as she told her story in a dingy, smoke-filled cafe.

The 55-year-old East German woman is poor, sick and alone in the West. But she's never been happier.

Bender, who had an American passport but lived in Munich two decades ago, went home in 1970 to visit her mother. She never got out again.

"I just wanted to stay four weeks. I ended up staying 19 years," Bender said yesterday.

Last Thursday, Bender was at home when she heard the new East German travel policy announced on the evening news.

She put a few things in her handbag, changed into a clean blouse and headed for the border.

Bender made it through to West Germany last Friday night and collapsed in a state of nervous exhaustion.

"I'll never go back there. Never. Never," she sobbed yesterday.

They danced to Walesa's tune



Solidarity founder Lech Walesa and a young supporter share a dance during a rally at Copps Coliseum in Hamilton yesterday.

Crowds in solidarity with 'Lech! Lech! Lech!'

By Walter Stefaniuk Toronto Star

Lech Walesa took the day off to meet Canadians yesterday, and wherever he went he stopped the show.

In Metro, 2,700 Polish Canadians shouted down his introduction at Massey Hall with cries of "Lech! Lech! Lech! Long live Walesa!" They couldn't wait for him to come to the stage and speak to them.

At Stelco's giant Hilton works in Hamilton, workers left their pits and molds to see him as he toured their plant. Scores of employees came in on their day off to cheer.

At a Canadian Labor Congress tribute at Copps Coliseum, he was presented its Humanitarian of the Year award, universities honored him and politicians and labor lead-

ers described in superlatives the Polish trade unionist credited with leading the way for economic and political reforms sweeping Eastern Europe.

"Today the fires of freedom are burning a little brighter around the globe . . . the man who lit that fire (is) Lech Walesa," said Canadian Labor Congress president Shirley Carr of the trail he blazed for his Solidarity movement in Poland over nine dangerous years.

Ontario Labor Minister Gerry Phillips recalled that the reform movement began when Walesa climbed a wall in a shipyard in Gdansk in 1980 to lead a protest.

"This week we saw in Berlin other people

Please see WORKERS/page A7

Food chains again to defy Sunday law

By Shelley Page Toronto Star

Major food chains will continue to defy Sunday closing laws after shoppers jammed stores yesterday to buy groceries illegally.

But police in outlying regions were also out in full force. At least 56 stores were charged with violating the Retail Business Holidays Act.

Peel Region police laid charges against 39 stores and their managers, Halton police charged nine grocery stores and Niagara Region police charged eight stores. York Region police said "numerous" charges will be laid but refused to be specific.

Police said more charges would be laid tomorrow when government offices reopen after the Remembrance Day holiday today.

Store owners said the fines — which could range from about \$500 to \$50,000 — will easily be covered by sales as families come in to do their weekly shopping.

"The support has confirmed our belief that people want to shop on Sunday," said David Stewart, president of Loblaws. He toured

Shoppers like it/A2

stores in Halton, Niagara, York and Peel regions.

Stewart said the stores will continue to stay open as long as it takes to get some changes in the present legislation.

Retail giants Miracle Food Mart, A & P-Dominion, Loblaws and the Oshawa Group, which includes Food City, will open more than 80 stores in York, Peel, Halton and Niagara Region every Sunday, the retailers say.

Shoppers interviewed by The Star said it's about time the stores opened.

"We didn't have to shop today," said Jane McVicker from Buttonville. "But we came out just to show our support for Sunday opening."

The Nadeau family of Mississauga said shopping on Sunday is a way to avoid the crush of shoppers in grocery stores on Saturdays.

"Saturdays are just a zoo. And if you have other things to do, food takes a sideline," Gilles Nadeau said.

□ With files from Stan Josey and Bruce Campion-Smith

North York board halts 2-day meeting at resort

By Stan Josey Toronto Star

A two-day sleep-over meeting for senior staff of the North York Board of Education has been cancelled because of a public outcry over a similar trip last week by trustees, The Star has learned.

This week's meeting was scheduled for tomorrow and Wednesday at Scarborough's Guild Inn, with delegates staying overnight.

But now, about 30 senior administrators were scheduled to go today to the board-owned Mono Cliffs outdoor education centre on Airport Rd. in Dufferin Region for a one-day "brain-storming" session with the city's education director, Veronica Lacey.

North York school officials are being very tight-lipped about the change in plans but a Guild Inn official said the hotel "was not thrilled" when the board cancelled its reservation last Thursday.

"It leaves us with vacant facilities that could possibly have been booked for another function," the hotel official said.

The school board will be charged a cancellation fee.

An assistant to Lacey would not admit a two-day session had been planned for the hotel.

"All I can tell you is that we are going to Mono Cliffs on Monday for a meeting of senior staff," Jim Grieve said.

School board spokesman Brian Jamieson said an administrative conference had been planned for the Guild Inn but was cancelled and rescheduled for today.

North York trustees were criticized last week when they spent Monday and Tuesday at a Lake Simcoe resort discussing a "strategic plan for the future" with Lacey.

Ben Wicks

"You can take my word as an industrialist. I shall do all I can to clean up the environment."

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139 dead in El Salvador, rebels attack capital

SAN SALVADOR (AP-Reuter) — Leftist rebels have launched their biggest offensive in 10 years of civil war in El Salvador, battling troops in San Salvador and other cities in fighting in which at least 139 people died in bitter weekend fighting.

Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani — whose official residence was among the targets of the offensive by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front guerrillas — announced a state of siege, suspending civil liberties throughout the country.

The armed forces say that, in addition to the deaths, at least 317 people were wounded. However, the rebels said 400 soldiers had been killed or wounded since the attacks began Saturday night.

Canadian Karen Ridd, 28, of Winnipeg, was in San Salvador for Peace Brigades International, a volunteer organization that acts as witnesses in troubled areas in an effort to safeguard human rights.

"We can hear the bombs, the gunfire, the machinegun fire, the mortars going off in other parts of the city," Ridd said in a telephone interview last night.

□ Full story/A3

49 arrested in protest of Temagami roadway

Forty-nine protesters have been arrested after 150 native and non-native supporters disrupted the extension of the Red Squirrel Rd. near Temagami for almost four hours.

Work proceeded at both ends of the logging road yesterday despite blockades. Bear Island Chief Gary Potts said he planned to put another 100 people on the road today to delay construction.

The 1,000-member band is trying to stop construction of the road through its ancestral hunting grounds while its land claim is before the Supreme Court of Canada.

□ Full story/A10

United Way appeal

GOAL: \$42.7 million

Amount raised to date: \$31.2 million