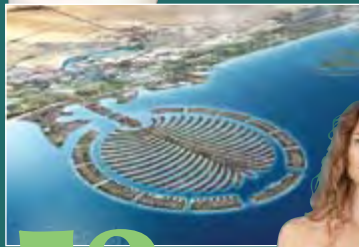


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76  
*Oscar Glitter*

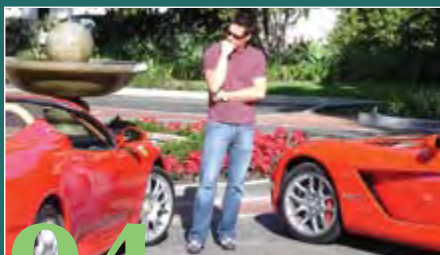


52  
*Dynamic  
Dubai*

80  
*Fluid Fashions*



66  
*Riesling Renaissance*



94  
*Automotive Seduction*

A close-up photograph of a woman's hand, wearing a diamond ring on her ring finger. The hand is resting on a dark, patterned fabric. The background is a blurred image of the woman's face, looking down. The lighting is soft and warm, highlighting the diamond on the ring.

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Pronunciation: 'priv-lij'

Function: noun

Etymology: Middle English,  
from Old French, from Latin  
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granted as a peculiar benefit,  
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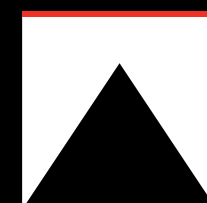
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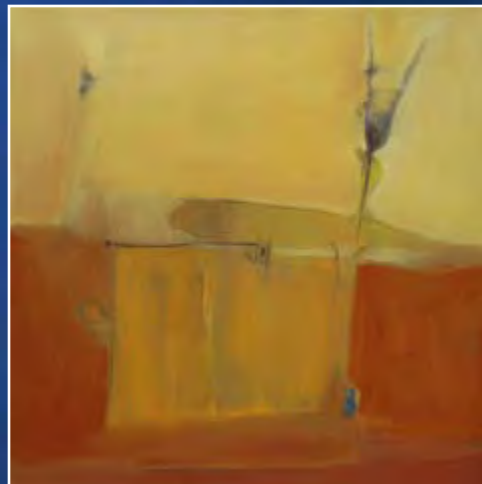
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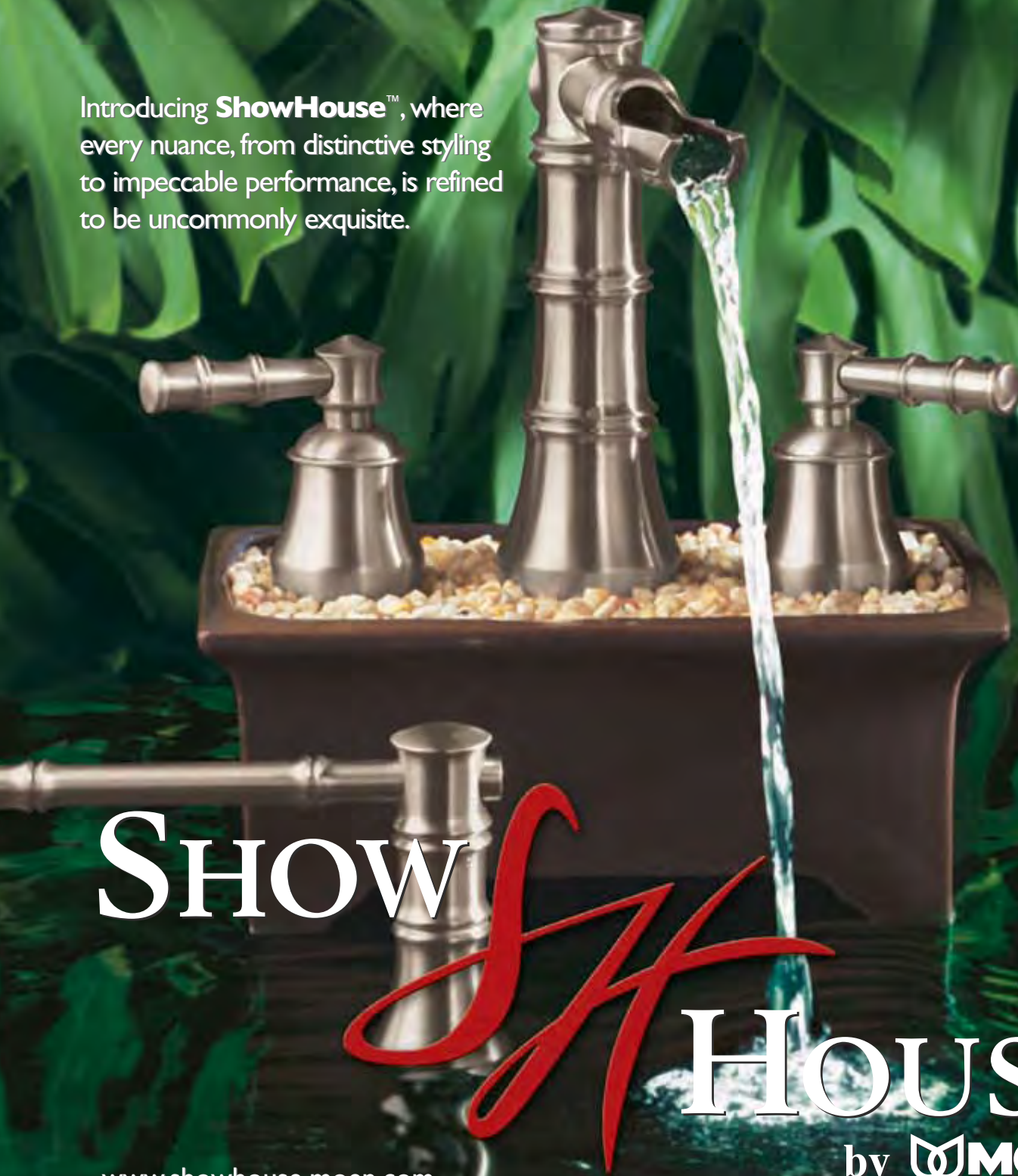
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## CONTENTS



**30 Smile!**  
Focus on three classy digital cameras  
by John DAVIDSON

**38 Canouan Island**  
Recipe for success  
by Gregory B. Gallagher

**70 Torino 2006**  
Frozen Games warm hearts of Canadians  
by Andrew LOPEZ

### PRIVILEGE REPORT

- 52 DYNAMIC DUBAI**  
East meets West in an exciting mix
- 62 DUBAI GOLF**  
Golf in the Gulf made its mark

### DEPARTMENTS

- 20 UP FRONT**  
Bovet watches  
No ordinary label  
Sweet science  
Special sensual soaps delight  
Skincare company cares for others  
Milliner Maria Curcic in Calgary  
Voluptuous vixens  
True happiness is in the bag  
The promise of spring
- 44 CAVEAT EMPTOR**  
Let a lawyer complete your foursome
- 46 REAL ESTATE**  
Puttin' on the Ritz in San Fran
- 48 WEALTH MANAGEMENT**  
Do you know your advisor?
- 50 WITH PRIVILEGE COMES RESPONSIBILITY**  
Pinball on privilege and responsibility

- 65 GASTRONOMY**  
The World of Gastronomy by J. Charles Grieco  
A Riesling renaissance  
The pleasurable lightness of dark chocolate
- 74 ART**  
Art of commemoration
- 76 FASHION**  
Making the stars sparkle  
Wind power
- 84 HEALTH & WELLNESS**  
Are you ready for Ayurveda?
- 88 TRAVEL**  
Côté-Nord delivers family luxury
- 92 AVIATION**  
Time is money
- 94 AUTO**  
The automotive seduction of Andrew Firestone
- 100 GOLF**  
Pre-shot routine - how important is it?
- 103 UP & COMING**  
Boat-building by hand, first-hand  
Afghani artist  
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## Bovet Watches: *Only the best is good enough*

"There is nothing Britain possesses," wrote the Emperor Quianlong to King George III, "that the Celestial Empire can possibly need." Except one thing.

In 1818, 21-year-old Edouard Bovet arrived in Canton and soon sold four watches for 10,000 francs, the equivalent of a million U.S. dollars today.



Edouard and his brothers went on to found the Bovet Watch Company in 1822, to serve the Celestial Empire's fascination with artistic timepieces. Bovet watches entranced the Chinese gentry and Imperial Court with precision marvels of fine engraving, exquisite scenes painted in enamel, and cases set with pearls, diamonds and other precious gems. Bovet established a watch-making dynasty lasting 80 years, during which the name Bovet became synonymous with watches. In the process, Bovet transformed their

small village of Fleurier in the Vals-de-Travers region of Switzerland into a flourishing watchmaking capital that eclipsed Geneva in reputation.

During the period of currency turmoil of late Manchu China, Bovet watches were actually used as a medium of exchange.

Bovet was the first watchmaker to introduce a transparent back revealing the elaborately *Fleurisanne* engraved open-work movements. A second hand, unusual in timepieces of that era, was met with universal praise. Over the years, the frères Bovet continued to innovate, filing patents for mechanisms and receiving awards for design and artistry.

Today, Bovet watches are instantly recognizable, with their trademark crown and bow at 12 o'clock. The image pays homage to the company's glorious past of pocket watches, while producing wristwatches that are particularly comfortable. The trademark serpentine hand is another long-standing design feature dating from the early 19th century.

It is, however, the magnificent dials and beautifully engraved movements that elevate a Bovet watch to a piece of fine art to be treasured by future generations. Featuring real fired enamels or mother-of-pearl, each dial is handcrafted using a variety of old-world techniques that may take months to complete. There exists a mere handful of master-enamellers in the world who can create these exquisitely



detailed decorations which will retain their full brilliance for centuries to come.

While all Bovet movements are based on Switzerland's best designs, the company produces an increasing number of highly complicated Fleurier calibers uniquely developed for the brand. These can feature exceedingly demanding combinations of minute-repeater, perpetual calendar and *tourbillon*. Retrograde mechanisms feature a date hand that sweeps in a linear fashion across the dial once each day, and then jumps back to begin the next month. This feature alone adds 230 parts to the movement.

Bovet produces a mere 2,000 watches a year. Of those, a third are made to order. Bovet offers clients not only luxury, but also rare works of exceptional Swiss craftsmanship for connoisseurs and watch-lovers seeking nothing but the very best.

- Mel NOODELMAN



## No Ordinary Label *Ted Baker cooks up fine fashions*

It was a modest shirt collection that debuted in March of 1988 in Glasgow, Scotland that propelled Ted Baker to the fashion heights. His name today carries class and style in the industry as a high-end, luxurious line of clothing and accessories for both men and women.

Seven years later, Baker was voted brand of the year by FHM magazine. In the next few years the Ted Baker empire expanded to reach across the globe with new product lines. Although he started with shirts, he subsequently moved into all aspects of the vast market that is fashion. In 2003 he branched out with a fragrance division in which he excelled equally.



Countless movie stars and Hollywood glam-makers sport his wares. He has saved the day in a myriad of movies, although a little less noticeably than Tom Cruise and Quentin Tarantino, both of whom have worn fashions from his line.

Through the years, Ted Baker has maintained integrity and high standards in all his work. His attention to detail and core values have never changed. In addition to the finest menswear and womenswear, Baker has added all the accessories one could hope for in a timeless brand.

Ted Baker has been a part of the Great White North since 1996 and has left a footprint – a very dominant one with his new line of shoes released here last year – in Canadian fashion. Look for the Ted Baker name in boutiques at international airports all over the world.

- Ryan HETHERINGTON-KEYS

# Doesn't everyone want a house in the country?

## or at the beach?

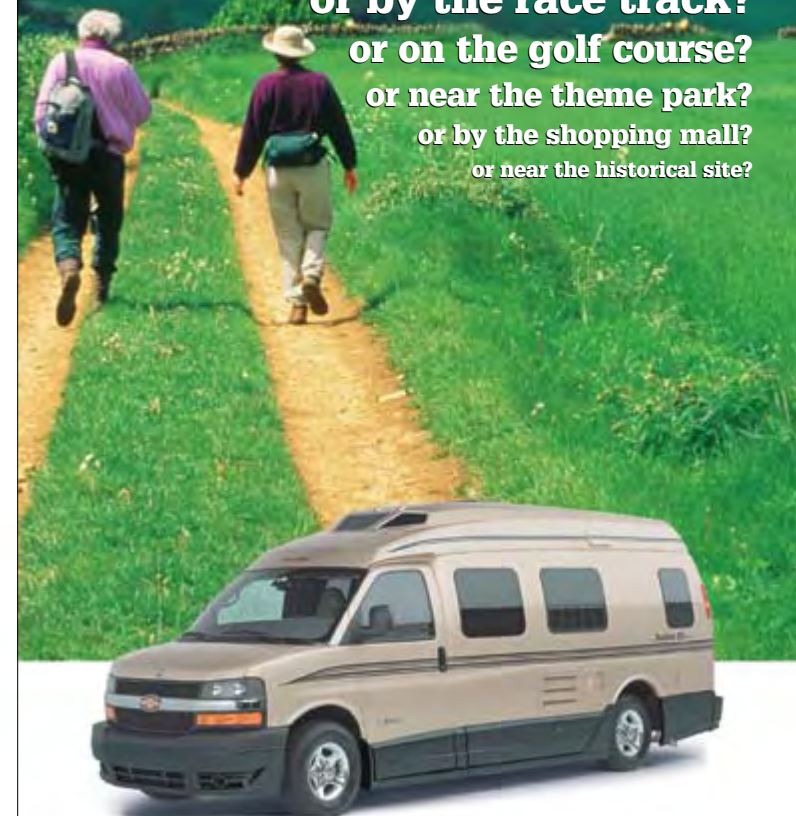
## or by the race track?

## or on the golf course?

## or near the theme park?

## or by the shopping mall?

## or near the historical site?



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Photo by Patrick Hattenberger

## Sweet Science

### Chocolate "Science Kit" perfect gourmet gift

If you didn't like science in school, you might change your mind if you get your hands on the DC DUBY "Wild Sweets Science Kit." This unique home-chef gift contains all the ingredients needed to treat eight people to four distinctly unique chocolate "experiments."

The Vancouver-based husband and wife team of Dominique and Cindy DUBY are the creators of the "Wild Sweets Science Kit." World-acclaimed *patissiers* and *chocolatiers*, the founders of DC DUBY Wild Sweets have combined their passion for sweet confections with an intense interest in the science of taste. The kit is based on their hugely successful "Wild Sweets Tasting Flight" presented at the 2005 Masters of Food & Wine in Carmel, California.

The Dubys are committed to encouraging the development of a more complex palate for desserts, often stealing ideas and tastes from the savory side of the kitchen. Much of their work is based on the principles of molecular gastronomy and backed up with collaborative research with food scientists from the University of British Columbia.

"We have a much better understanding of how taste works now," said Dominique DUBY. "Science and psychology have become integral parts of the modern food experience."

If that sounds all rather dry and scientific, don't worry! There is a lot of creativity involved. The "Science Kit" is beautifully packaged and comes complete with all the required food elements, except for a handful of commonly available fresh ingredients. It also contains a recipe booklet with wine-pairing suggestions, and a video DVD demonstrating how to make and serve each delicious "experiment."

Rest assured: the results of these experiments definitely don't resemble anything you cooked up in science class!

Experiment #1: TensioActivity/Foaming - Apple Muscovado "Consommé/ Frappé," Chocolate Caviar and Puffed Quinoa ChocoGrains  
Experiment #2: Hydrocolloids/Temperature & Texture - Strawberry Champagne Emulsion, Strawberry Carpaccio and Exotic Fruit "Pearls"  
Experiment #3: Encapsulation/Aroma - Orange Curry Gel, Chicory Licorice Emulsion "Eprouvette," ChoCoffee Hot Ganache and Coffee Salt Oranges  
Experiment #4: Science "Gel"/Dispersion - Chocolate Dispersion, Cumin Gel, Raisin Confit and Exploding Crunch

The "Wild Sweets Science Kit" is the perfect gift for any gourmet. Or create an instantly successful party by inviting your friends over to do some delicious chemistry.

If you want to taste some DC DUBY Wild Sweets chocolates without the work, you can order their "2005 Wild Sweets Harvest Collection." DC DUBY Wild Sweets releases only two chocolate "collections" each year. This fall's "Harvest Collection" represents the culmination of months of research and development focused on expanding the palette of ingredients available to traditional chocolates.

The exquisitely handcrafted chocolates in the "Harvest Collection" contain locally gathered fruits, nuts and vegetables, also reflecting the Okanagan Valley vineyard harvest with some wine-based confections. Taste buds are teased and challenged by unusual components such as Sweet Pea Emulsion, Apple Red Cabbage Gelée and Barbecue Tomato Jam. Such diverse ingredients combine to produce smooth ganache/emulsions, luscious caramels, soft fragrant gelées and texturally contrasting nut pralines.

To order the "Science Kit" or the "Harvest Collection," visit the DC DUBY Wild Sweets Virtual Boutique at [www.dcduby.com](http://www.dcduby.com).

- Laurie COOPER



## Special Sensual Soaps Delight

### Handmade by Unna

Even before you open a box of Unna soaps, you know they are special. Delicately wrapped in a layer of parchment paper, the box is covered in hand-dyed silk woven by a group of families in the hills of Thailand. Upon opening the box, one's senses are delighted by the glorious scent of Thai orchids and the sight of beautiful herbal mounds that look more like precious stones than bars of soap.

These exquisite soaps were designed and developed into Unna & Co. by Vancouver businessman John Phanthoupheng, after a trip to Thailand. Meticulously handcrafted by Thai herbalist Dr. Unnafakung, the soaps contain only naturally grown herbs, fruits and flowers. Unnafakung and his family grow most of the ingredients on their own land, but other ingredients come from lands that constitute part of the Royal Project, a program developed by the King of Thailand to promote sustainable agriculture throughout the country.



From start to finish, each hand-molded bar takes five weeks to craft into creation. No two bars are identical. With unusual ingredients such as charcoal and rice bran – known for their cleansing and nourishing qualities – the soaps are not only beautiful, but also healthful.

Soaps from Unna & Co are rapidly becoming a favorite with the rich and fashionable. Last fall, gift boxes were distributed at the Toronto International Film Festival to celebrity attendees including Charlize Theron, Woody Harrelson, Keanu Reeves and Johnny Depp. In February, the exotic herbal soaps were handed to lucky participants at the Grammy Awards. Even the First Lady of TV, Oprah Winfrey, known for her professed love of luxuriating baths, has a box of Unna & Co soaps.

Unna & Co soaps are available at select stores across Canada and the U.S.

For more information or to order on-line, visit [www.unnaco.com](http://www.unnaco.com).

- Laurie COOPER

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## Skincare Company Cares for Others Face to face with celebrities

Elizabeth Grant International Inc. is almost 50 years old, and still looks great. One of the forerunners in the international skincare industry, the company has looked beautiful since its establishment in 1958 in London, England.

With determination and perseverance, and at a time when female-owned businesses were rare, Elizabeth worked to develop her company from a small home-based operation to the multi-million-dollar global corporation it is today.



Never content to rest on her glowing laurels, Grant constantly develops new products. Her latest conception made its debut at the Golden Globes. Many Hollywood stars walked the "red carpet" with increased confidence in their picture-perfect skin, thanks to a new skin cream from Elizabeth Grant. The advanced cellular night regeneration formula, BioCollasis™, was biogenetically engineered to help redefine the skin's appearance by working at the cellular level. BioCollasis™ contains Grant's exclusive Torricelumn™, a compound clinically proven to increase dermal hydration to 100 percent within four weeks. Dehydration is a key factor in skin's aging. By increasing the hydration levels, it appears significantly healthier, younger and more radiant. Call it the everyday red-carpet feeling. Even the boys are getting in on the action: Tyler Hilton and Red Hot Chili Peppers' lead, Anthony Kiedis, picked up a sample.

Prior to the Golden Globes in January, the Silver Spoon Hollywood Buffet held a two-day event. The organization offered the Elizabeth Grant products to those in attendance at the invitation-only party at a luxurious Beverly Hills estate. The products were displayed in a buffet-style setting, based on a safari adventure theme to support and raise money for the Safari West Wildlife Foundation, a research and educational non-profit organization. April Jackson, public relations representative for Elizabeth Grant Skincare, noted, "Even Dr. Phil's wife, Robin McGraw, spent a lot of time learning about the line."

Celebrities such as Kathy Hilton, Don Purcell, Anthony Kiedis, Andy Dick, Kevin Dillon, and Talan Torriero, among others, took time to autograph an Essence of Torricelumn™ box, the best of the best from the Elizabeth Grant Skincare line. The signature box will be auctioned off on eBay with all proceeds donated to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.

For more information, visit [www.elizabethgrant.com](http://www.elizabethgrant.com)

- Ryan HETHERINGTON-KEYS



Photos courtesy of Elizabeth Grant International Inc.

## Milliner Maria Curcic in Calgary Top o' the hat to you

Like the hats she makes by hand, Maria Curcic exhibits unique flare and distinctive class. Born in Paris and living in Calgary, Maria has always raised her strong voice, both literally and creatively. A Renaissance woman who excels not only as a milliner but also as a painter, interior designer, DJ and events coordinator, Curcic has a penchant for philanthropy and community as well.

Her many talents find expression in charitable events funded and produced from top to bottom by Maria and her partner. Curcic hats have brightened up silent auction blocks and private collections across the west. More significantly, however, they have brightened the spirits of women undergoing chemotherapy treatments and working their way back to health. Maria's experiences with cancer patients have inspired her to produce hats that are comfortable, fashionable and full of flair.

Her lifestyle involves Curcic in diverse charitable and fundraising projects and programs, from those she has planned to those who receive hat donations from her. For Maria Curcic, it is simply a part of her day.

For more information, visit [www.mariacurcic.com](http://www.mariacurcic.com).

- Rachele DICKENSON



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## Voluptuous Vixens

*Intimate attire for vivacious and sexy plus-size women*

While many women would love to fit into a size 4, the average North American female dress size is 14. Whatever the number, however, women aspire to wrap themselves, either for an evening of passion or personal indulgence, in the finest of fabrics. For any woman, intimate apparel, much like a steaming aroma bath, a page-turning love story or a tender touch, can transport them into a world of fantasy. For the plus-size woman, however, finding sexy, elegant lingerie that fits can itself be relegated to the world of fantasy. Designers, remember this: beauty does come in all sizes.

Lucy Vandermeer, owner and creative director of Lucy's Fabric Art, as well as Bras by Lucy, is a professional custom-made-to-measure bra-maker. Regardless of size, the secret to looking fabulous in any garment lies in the perfect undergarment. "Bras generally available on the market come in a range of standardized sizes; but no matter what size and shape we are, our bodies do not come standardized," explained Vandermeer.

With some custom intimates starting at \$150, Vandermeer's creative repertoire includes custom-made special-needs prosthesis bras for mastectomy survivors, lingerie including Victorian corsets and a variety of swimwear. All styles, fabrics and colors are decided upon with the client during personal one-on-one consultations.

Lane Bryant, recognized as the American fashion-and-fit leader in sizes 14-28, also ships to Canada. With its own line of intimates, the Cacique Brand, women can frolic through their collection to find just the right accent to their lingerie needs. [www.lanebryant.ca](http://www.lanebryant.ca)

Carmelita Blondet, owner of Divine Decadence Originals, swears by her collection of fine vintage couture for the full-figured woman ready to make a memorable statement. Divine Decadence offers one-of-a-kind silk and chiffon robes reminiscent of the 1920s, plus many shawls, and one- and two-piece intimates from Paris, Milan, Buenos Aires and Lima. "Voluptuous women's shapes are complemented best by soft fabrics like chiffon. The Grecian-style garments elegantly embrace womanly shapes," said Blondet. Also carrying fine Austrian Crystal Art Deco jewels, DD offers its divine clients jewelry to accompany their intimates, for that added touch of decadence. [www.toronto.com/devinedecadence](http://www.toronto.com/devinedecadence)

Rhonda McKie's Ziba Designs creates glamorous, trend-setting lingerie for the woman 14+ unafraid of bold prints and splashes of color. "The Ziba woman is vivacious and outstanding, sexy and sophisticated," said McKie. She recommends bold prints with red and earth tones and encourages bell or angel sleeves as good choices for plus women. "Light weight silks...charmeuse fabrics drape the body best while stretch lace is always racy and fun. Minimizers should have comfortable stretch with a high cut along the leg area," McKie noted. [www.zibadesigns.ca](http://www.zibadesigns.ca).

Boutique owner Sophia Syrras created her haven, Sophia's Lingerie, in hopes of making full-figured women feel more confident in lingerie, sleepwear and swimwear by offering a variety of styles and sizes. International labels include Lise Charmel, Simone Perele and Barbara Impriente. [www.goddessbra.com](http://www.goddessbra.com)

If variety is the spice of life, then more designers need to follow suit. After all, voluptuous women, like their more svelte counterparts, are also made of sugar and spice and all things nice. And lingerie can and should be not only nice, but also sugary and spicy.

Other plus lingerie resources: [www.penningtons.com](http://www.penningtons.com), [www.catherines.com](http://www.catherines.com), [www.maximumwoman.com](http://www.maximumwoman.com).

- Jill ANDREW



## True Happiness is in the Bag

Say it fast – Jeanne Lottie, Jun Lok Tai. For handbag junkies, the name means true happiness. In fact, for everybody the name means true happiness because in Chinese "Jun Lok Tai" means "true happiness." Founder Jane Ip called the company Jeanne Lottie because it sounded like true happiness to her.

Jane began designing bags she wanted to wear – designs she saw in her head but not in the stores. The summer collection now available includes some whimsical, some elegant, some subdued, and some brightly colored numbers. They're not only fashion-forward but also fully functional, with sensible and secure pockets and compartments for keys, pens, cellphones, change, wallets and credit cards. Say goodbye to purses with nothing but a big black hole in which everything you own gets lost.

These bags have their very own categories, such as "Bon Voyage" with lots of nautical red-and-navy jauntiness, "Botanical Garden"-bedecked patterns, "Wicker Park" with fresh lace and straw detailing, "Safari Excursion" with its practical canvas day bags of snaps and straps, "Wild Jungle" with fun floral linings, artistically patterned "Graphic Scene," "Be Dazzled" including metallic evening bags with satin lining, and "Jeanne Lottie Print," lettered with the company name.

The turquoise "Coast to Coast" beauty above, at \$200, is genuine leather with contrast stitching detail, top zip closure with inside zip pocket, antique finish rings and buckles and double shoulder straps, and is also available in brown. The hot pink can also take you "Coast to Coast," at \$230, with top snap closure, inside zip pocket and compartment, and two front pockets with snappy closures. The soft white "Go West" has two front pockets with front closure, wide overlapping leather stitching and sturdy double straps, in bone and brown at \$270.

Jeanne Lottie also means affordable, starting at only \$45 and rarely going higher than \$250.

More good news. Under the creative, hopeful, optimistic and philanthropic eye of Jane Ip, Jeanne Lottie has moved into footwear to mix and match with the bags. Now that's true happiness. [www.jeannelottie.com](http://www.jeannelottie.com)

- Janice KAYE



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A close-up photograph of a yellow orchid flower. The petals are a pale yellow, and the center features a prominent red and white striped pattern. The background is a soft, out-of-focus yellow.

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*What an exciting time this is to be passionate about photography. For at least a century, photo enthusiasts have been blessed with advancements and techniques to create better and more beautiful images. Never, however, have the changes been as astounding and bountiful as now. You are about to be introduced to three of the best-selling cameras for the more demanding photographer. The Digital Single Lens Reflex (DSLR) cameras I have chosen to test-drive are the Canon Rebel XT, the Nikon D70S and the Olympus Evolt E-500.*

## Smile!

Focus on three classy digital cameras

by John DAVIDSON

### Why DSLR?

At best, choices in technology can be confusing. From thin cell phones to thin flat panel televisions, we are continually faced with the opportunity to buy the latest and greatest gadgets. Good or bad, however, technology re-invents itself so quickly, it can be difficult to keep pace.

Most technological advances in the current crop of photo gear are beneficial to today's photographer. Digital photographic gear may be the fastest moving target on the technological horizon. Point and shoot, as well as the Digital Single Lens Reflex (DSLR) variety, continue to introduce advances faster than many can comprehend. I invite you to join me on a guided tour of the important DSLRs.

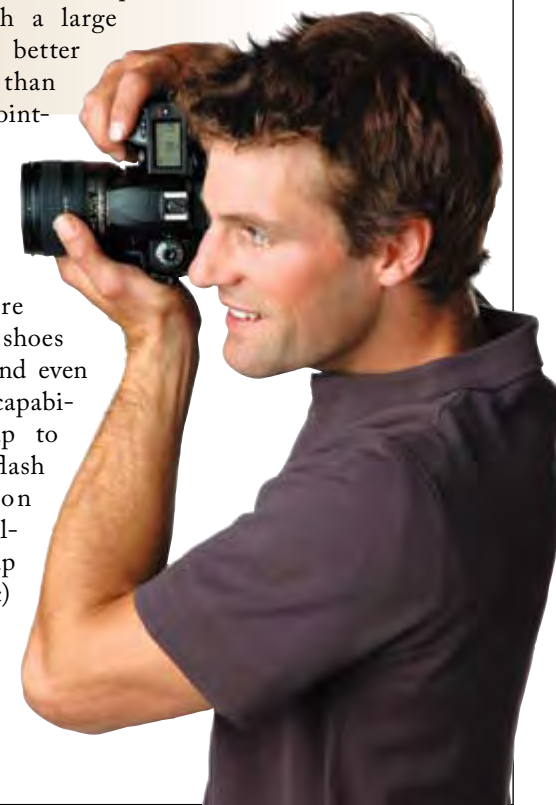
In a digital camera, the image is processed when light strikes a silicon sensor located behind the shutter. The sensor may be a Charge-Coupled Device (CCD) or a Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor (CMOS). The debate over which sensor is best revolves around the finer details. Suffice it to say that both devices use a silicon semi-conductor to gather light and that the sensor takes the place of film.

If you have not had the pleasure of shooting images with one of these cameras, prepare yourself for great fun. You get all the creative controls of a 35mm DSLR with results that are often as good as, if not better than, the 35mm...and results are instant. I know that observation may cause hackles to rise among film purists!

I love film. The tonal quality and sharpness of a good black-and-white print is a wonder to behold. An enlarged print from a large-format negative or larger can take one's breath away. So can a print from 35mm. I still shoot film, but not as much.

To coax the best results from film, a very good darkroom workflow is a must. To get film images into PhotoShop for advanced work (assuming you want to progress with this technology) a quality film scanner is a necessity. In contrast, DSLR images are PhotoShop-ready directly from the camera.

Let's consider some of the DSLR camera features compared with the point-and-shoot digital camera. DSLRs power on and operate much faster and, with a large sensor, capture better image quality than their smaller point-and-shoot counterparts. Their focus and control of depth-of-field allow far more creativity. Hot shoes allow external and even studio lighting capabilities. High (up to 1/500th sec) flash synchronization speeds are available. High (up to 1/8000th sec) shutter speeds, which freeze even the most demanding





action situations, are available. Perhaps most desirable is a large array of fast, exotic lenses and other accessories that may be fitted to their bodies.

## CANON REBEL XT

The newer Canon XT is quite a step up from the original Rebel. It is a light camera that fits beautifully into a pair of small hands. This is ideally suited for anyone wishing for a light, yet powerful, 8-megapixel camera to carry on a hiking trip. I, however, find it a bit too small for my grip. The best advice for others who feel this way would be to purchase the battery grip BG-E3 to make the camera more balanced and manageable, especially for vertical shooting, and giving a much better overall feel.

The Canon controls found on all their SLR cameras are a joy to use. Even if you're unfamiliar with handling a Canon, a few minutes will have you up and running with most of the features required for shooting astonishing photos. The LCD panel, although small by today's standards, displays menus that are logical and easy to learn. While navigating, however, I had to squint a little because of its smaller size. I'm not sure that a larger typeface, such as the one found on the D70S and E-500, is feasible on this slightly smaller display.



1/8 sec, f8; 34mm focal length; ISO: 400; Tungsten light

I did prefer the convenience of the back info panel, on this camera and on the Olympus, compared to Nikon's top-of-the-camera info panel, especially when the camera is mounted high on a tripod.

While many things about this camera are small, the most important one — the image itself — is not. After reading a good deal about the quality of DSLR Canons, I wasn't disappointed in the XT — \$1,199, with standard 18-55 lens. Its DIGIC II image processor, also used in the EOS 1Ds Mark II, is fast, accurate and provides even better image quality than the older Rebel. The images were rich with detail, even with the supplied inexpensive kit lens! At first glance, the EF-S 18-55mm f3.5-5.6 doesn't impress with the quality look of the more expensive Nikon 18-70mm f/3.5-4.5G IF-ED included with the D70s. It weighs



1/400sec, f7.1; 33mm focal length; ISO: 100; Exposure: Auto

little, has less focal range and lacks the metal mount. Yet it performed far beyond my expectations. If necessary, the buyer can always opt for an upgrade to the much more substantial EF-S 17-85MM f4-5.6 IS USM.

Speaking of performance, not only was the lens better than I expected, but the overall speed and accuracy of color on the XT were also impressive. The white balance correction screen is simply a pleasure. The most meticulous photographer can now adjust the color in 9 steps using a white balance correction feature found only in more expensive Canons.

## Pros:

- light yet rugged
- optional grip available
- fast start-up
- 8-megapixel sensor
- capable of three frames per second
- all world-famous Canon lenses and many accessories available
- menus are clear and make sense, especially white balance adjustment
- surprisingly sharp kit lens
- priced well as introduction to Canon DSLR
- extended ISO range (100-1600)

## Cons:

- too small for some hands
- smaller menu typeface and screen size
- limited range (18-55mm) of kit lens

## NIKON D70S

Nikon is a company with a history of developing new technology that works. Their cameras are simply superb. Like the Rebel XT and the E-500, the D70S has evolved from an already proven camera, the D70. The overall speed is better than the D70. Power and focus speed have also improved. The eyepiece on the viewfinder is larger and more comfortable, and the LCD panel is 2" — up from the 1.8" on the



1/250 sec, f8, 70mm focal length; ISO: Auto; Exposure: Auto



1/640 sec, f10; 18mm focal length; ISO: 200; Exposure: Aperture Priority

original D70. The LCD panel is supplied with a protective dust-cover, unlike the others. Other welcome news with the D70S is the optional remote cord MC-DC1; the previous D70 had a wireless remote-only option.

If you had hoped for more punch in the megapixel department (in pixels, size matters for some!), you will have to wait for the next model (or move up to the newly announced D200). What this camera lacks in pixels (6.1 million), however, it more than makes up for in ease of use, proven sensor and all-round feel.

This model, which is quite heavy (600 grams minus battery and lens), boasts a solid, easy-to-hold grip, and

easy-to-operate function buttons. The D70S has the toughest feel of the three cameras under discussion. There is no optional accessory grip (other than one from an outside source), but I didn't really see the need for one.

The D70S's power source is nothing less than amazing. Up to 2500 shots can be taken with the supplied EN-EL3a rechargeable battery. The other two cameras have far less capacity in this category. Its slightly larger (2") LCD display provides easier viewing. Reviewing images would get rave reviews as well, if it were not for the confusing double function method required to magnify them. Otherwise the D70S proved to be quick and precise, providing rich bright images and all in an intuitive fashion.



Pros:

- solid, rugged-feeling camera
- great kit lens
- fast to focus
- fast start-up
- direct dial for aperture and shutter control
- high (1/8000th sec) shutter speed
- capable of three frames per second
- high (1/500th sec) flash synch
- high battery capacity for up to 2500 shots
- virtually all existing “F” mount Nikon lenses will fit (although auto focusing and other features won’t function fully on all)
- superb image quality
- supplied LCD protector cover

Cons:

- LCD playback navigation is not as easy as some
- smaller 6 megapixel sensor
- no ISO 100 capability

At \$1,499, the D70S costs more than the Olympus or Canon, but remains a better all-round camera. There really is no need to upgrade the lens unless additional focal length, or speed, are issues.

OLYMPUS E-500

When I first picked up this camera I was immediately impressed by its look and feel. Light (435 grams, minus battery and lens), yet solid, with a comfortable rubberized grip. This camera’s controls just seem to sit at your fingertips. Even though the E-500 is light, it fits larger hands. It’s also gorgeous to look at. The LCD monitor, measuring 2.5", is huge and, with this resolution (215,250 pixels), is not only bright and sharp, but can also be clearly seen from almost any angle.

This is the third DSLR introduced by Olympus. The only Olympus lenses that fit its body were designed to work



1/200sec, f5.6; 150mm focal length; ISO: 200; Exposure: Manual

specifically with Olympus digital cameras. This means the image quality is very high, for the lenses were made to work with pixels rather than film. The marketing hype (on their Digital Specific lenses) points out that their lenses “focus light straight into the imager’s pixel walls.” Olympus, Kodak and others are venturing into Four Thirds sensors and lenses that, at least theoretically, make a good deal of sense.

The E-500 is an 8-megapixel CCD DSLR equipped with a 2.5" LCD; two memory card slots (XD and CF); innovative Dust Reduction system; Four Thirds lens mount and sensor system; black-and-white as well as sepia modes and a two-lens kit (14-45mm and 40-150mm Zuiko zooms, each complete with shades).

When the camera is first turned on, the screen lights up to tell the user the sensor is being “cleaned.” A “Supersonic Wave Filter,” located between the shutter and the image sensor, is actually shaken at (yikes!) 35,000 times a second. This action literally removes any dust particles that may have adhered to the sensor — a good thing if you change lenses often and don’t want to spend time cleaning dust spots in PhotoShop. Anyone who has used a DSLR in dusty (and even not so dusty) conditions will appreciate this innovative feature, since one can be assured of dust-free images without checking on a large computer monitor.

The mode dial has the usual easy and advanced shooting modes we have come to expect in a digital camera costing this much money; and the 15-setting scene mode is great for novice and experienced photographers alike. When I use a camera of this sort, I prefer to keep it in the Aperture priority mode; I dictate the aperture and let the camera choose a corresponding shutter speed. Regardless of the setting used, however, the camera is a pure joy. And there is no squinting at menus with that large LCD panel.

If pixels are the basis of a digital image, does this mean that the higher pixel sensors (of Canon and Olympus) make for better photographs than the Nikon? Emphatically, no!



1/640sec, f10; 14mm focal length; ISO: 100; Exposure: Auto

The difference between six and eight megapixels is not all that significant. In theory at least the larger pixel count will make a larger printable image from its greater resolution file. A 300 dpi file from the Olympus and Canon is roughly 23 megabytes whereas the D70s image is just over 17 megabytes. Yet a file from the Nikon (or any digital source, for that matter) may be re-sized somewhat to match that of the 8-megapixel camera. The actual dimensions of the two files are 11.52" x 7.68" from the Canon, whereas the Nikon print is 10.027" x 6.667"; both images sized

at 300 dpi (recommended output for most ink-jet photo printers). The Olympus image size, because of its 4:3 aspect ratio, is 10.88" x 8.16" — another plus if you print more to the 8" x 10" ratio.

One note of interest is the decision by Olympus to include two memory card slots — both the popular Compact Flash and the smaller XD slot. One must assume that Olympus is hoping their existing point-and-shoot users move up to their DSLR cameras, in which case they will appreciate being able to use their existing XD cards.

At \$1,249, the aggressively priced Olympus E-500 two-lens kit is hard to beat and a great camera for anyone who isn’t already into the Nikon or Canon lens system. Am I convinced that its lenses will give sharper results than either the Canon or Nikon, regardless of the fact they were designed digitally from the ground up? Not really. In my test shots at least, they were not any sharper. Sharpness differences are negligible and only one part of the equation. Higher end, faster, and sharper lenses are available for the Olympus system...at a higher price.

Pros:

- light yet solid, easy to handle
- two-lens kit
- dust-reduction system reduces touch-up time
- large 2.5" LCD
- playback navigation smooth and fast
- 8-megapixel sensor
- 14 Zuiko digital lenses available
- great value for a camera of this quality and a two-lens kit

Cons:

- no direct dial for aperture control when shutter is chosen (one does get used to the button which switches back and forth)
- no auto/manual switch on lenses (is menu driven)

Make no mistake, none of these cameras is designed strictly for professional use, but all three may be used to achieve professional-looking results. Ah, but which one to buy? While the body-only prices of all three are comparable, the kit prices themselves vary, because of the lenses. If you already have a sizeable investment in either Canon or Nikon lenses, the decision has pretty much been made. If you are making a move to an DSLR camera for the first time, then the Olympus, for its good value, good feel, excellent overall image-making qualities and good looks, is the superior selection.

All photos are brand specific and taken by John Davidson.



PRIVILEGE MAGAZINE PRIVILEGE MAGAZINE PRIVILEGE MAGAZINE		FEATURES	PRIVILEGE MAGAZINE PRIVILEGE MAGAZINE PRIVILEGE MAGAZINE	
	Canon Rebel XT	Nikon D70s	Olympus E-500	
Image Sizes	3456 x 2304 (L), 2496 x 1664 (M), 1728 x 1152 (S)	3,008 x 2,000 [L], 2,240 x 1,488 [M], 1,504 x 1,000 [S]	3264 x 2448 (SHQ, HQ), 3200 x 2400 (SQ) down to 1600 x 1200 (SQ)	
Image Sensor	High-sensitivity, high-resolution, single-plate colour CMOS sensor, 22.2 x 14.8mm; 8.2 Megapixels	RGB CCD, 23.7 x 15.6mm; 6.24 megapixels	RGB CCD, 17.3 x 13.0 mm; 8.15 Megapixels	
Dust Protection	No. Mirror may be locked up for 30 sec only.	No. Mirror may be locked up only to clean sensor.	Yes. Fixed-type Low Pass Filter with Supersonic wave filter	
Recording Medium	CompactFlash(TM) (CF) Card (Type I and II) and Microdrive (TM)	CompactFlash(TM) (CF) Card (Type I and II ) and Microdrive (TM)	Compact Flash Card (Type I, II), Micro Drive, xD Picture Card (Dual Slot)	
LCD Monitor	1.8 inches, 115,000 pixels	2.0-in., 130,000-dot	2.5 inch, 215,250 pixels	
Start up time	0.2 Seconds	0.2 Seconds	Longer than .02 seconds, due to time taken with dust-removal stage.	
ISO Sensitivity	Equivalent 100 to1600	Equivalent 200 to1600	Equivalent 100 to1600	
White Balance	Auto, Preset (Daylight, Shade, Cloudy/Twilight/Sunset, Tungsten light, White fluorescent light, Flash), Manual (Custom: read off photo quality gray card or white subject)	Auto (TTL white balance with 1,005-pixel RGB sensor), six manual modes with fine-tuning, preset white balance, white balance bracketing possible	Auto WB, Preset WB, Custom WB, One-touch WB Plus Lamp1(3000k) / Fluorescent 1 (4000k) / Fluorescent 2 (4500k) / Fluorescent 3 (6600k) / Daylight (5300k) / Cloudy (6000k) / Shade (7500k)	
Coverage in Viewfinder	Approx. 95%	Approx. 95%	Approx. 95%	
Picture Angle	Equivalent in 35mm format is approx. 1.6 times lens focal length	Equivalent in 35mm format is approx. 1.5 times lens focal length	Equivalent in 35mm format is approx. 2 times lens focal length	
Exposure Modes	Program AE (shiftable), Shutter-priority AE, Aperture-priority AE, Automatic Depth-of-Field AE, Full Auto, Programmed Image Control modes (Portrait, Landscape, Close-up, Sports, Night Portrait, Flash Off), E-TTL II Autoflash Program AE, and Manual	Digital Vari-program (Auto, Portrait, Landscape, Close up, Sports, Night landscape, Night portrait) Programmed Auto (P) with flexible program; Shutter-Priority Auto (S); Aperture Priority Auto (A); Manual (M)	Full Auto, Program with Program Shift/Shutter Priority/Aperture Priority/Manual/Scene Program AE/Scene Select AE Plus the following Scene Modes: Portrait/Landscape/ Landscape & Portrait/Night Scene/Night Scene & Portrait/Firework/Sunset/Macro/Sports/ High-Key/Low-Key/ Documents/Beach & Snow/Candle/Children	
Power Source	Lithium-Ion NB-2LH rechargeable battery, CR2016 Lithium battery, Optional ACK-700 AC adapter	One rechargeable Nikon Li-ion battery EN-EL3a or EN-EL3, Three CR2 lithium batteries (with optional MS-D70 CR2 battery holder), EH-5 AC adapter (Optional)	Rechargeable Li-ion battery Pack BLM-1/3x CR123A with LBH-1	
Shutter Speed	1/4000 to 30 sec. in 1/2- or 1/3-stop increments, bulb, X-Sync at 1/200 sec.	Combined mechanical and CCD electronic shutter, 1/8000 to 30sec in steps of 1/3 or 1/2 EV, bulb	A,PPs: 1/4000 to 60 Sec. S: 1/4000 to 60 Sec., M: 1/4000 to 60 Sec. and Bulb, Auto: 1/4000 to 2 Sec., Scene: 1/4000 to 2 sec	
Flash Synch	X-Sync: 1/200 sec	X-contact only; flash synchronization at up to 1/500 sec.	X = 1/180 sec.	
Built in Flash	Auto pop-up, retractable, built-in flash in the pentaprism Guide Number: 13 (at ISO 100 in meters)	Auto flash with auto pop-up [P], [S], [A], [M]: manual pop-up with button release Guide number (ISO 200/ ISO 100, m): approx. 15/11 (manual full 17/12)	Auto/Red-eye Reduction/Slow synchro/ Fill-in for Exclusive Flash, Guide Number: 13	
Shooting Modes	1) Single, (2) Continuous, (3) Self-timer/Remote Control; Approx. 3.0 fps (with Battery Pack NB-2LH, at Tv=1/250 sec. for all recording qualities)	1) Single frame shooting mode; 2) Continous shooting mode: approx. 3 frames per second; 3) Self-timer mode; 4) Delayed remote mode: 2 sec. delay; 5) Quick-response remote mode	Single, Sequential shooting 2.5 frames per second	
Number of Images per charge	450 - 600 shots	Up to 2,500 shots	400 shots	
Remote Control	Remote control with RS-60E3 Terminal or Wireless remote controllers RC-1/RC-5	ML-L3 wireless remote controller (optional) or via Remote Cord MC-DC1 (optional)	Wireless with optional RM-1	
Interface	USB 2.0 Hi-Speed	USB: Mass Storage and PTP selectable,	Full Speed USB 2.0 (12Mb/s)	
Kit Lens	One: EF-S 18-55mm F3.5-5.6	One: AF-S DX Nikkor 18-70mm f/3.5-4.5G IF-ED	Two: Zuiko Digital 14-45mm f3.5 — 5.6 and ZuikoDigital 40-150mm f3.5-4.5	
Supplied Accessories	NB-2LH battery pack, charger, USB cable, video cable, wide embroidered anti-slip neck strap, Canon software including PhotoStitch	Rechargeable Li-ion Battery EN-EL3a, Quick Charger MH-18a, Video Cable, USB Cable UC-E4, Strap, Body cap, Eyepiece Cap DK-5, Rubber Eyecup DK-20, LCD monitor cover BM-5, PictureProject	USB Cable, Video Cable, Li-ion Battery Pack (BLM-1), Li-ion Battery Charger (BCM-2), Shoulder Strap, OLYMPUS Master 1.0 CD-ROM, Manuals,	
Weight (body without battery)	485g	600g	435g	
Canadian Warranty	One year	Two years	One year	



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# Canouan Island: Recipe For Success

by Gregory B. GALLAGHER

Trump Casino Terrace. Photos by Gregory B. GALLAGHER

Floating through cumulus mountain clouds above a Caribbean horizon, I am feeling somewhat like a character out of a 1950s Humphrey Bogart film. I am not sure exactly where I am, there are six strangers occupying the plane with me, the pilot and I exchanged suspicious glances before take-off, and the sun is setting quickly. A rainbow of colors bounces free-form off every possible surface in my field of vision, and I decide to go with the wonderful distractions and dismiss any worries.

I peer out the windows like a wide-eyed child, and periodically squawk responses to the others, trying valiantly to be heard over the thundering of elderly twin-prop engines. I am oddly at peace in this cacophony, as we dip and glide gracefully through the peek-a-boo veil of lights generated by the sunset. On my way to the Raffles Resort & Spa on Canouan Island, my schedule has me visiting the Trump International Golf Club, trying out the award-winning Amrita Spa, and touring the Trump Golf & Estate Villas. For now, however, I am lost among the clouds, caring less about where we are headed than how it feels to be aloft.

We touch down on a rather oddly shaped speck of land: Canouan Island is only about three square miles in total land mass. Our welcoming committee issues us personal golf carts for the duration of our stay at Raffles. After exploring my hillside villa for a few minutes, not quite believing all this space is solely for

*moi*, I try valiantly to steer my golf cart back through the looming darkness, on the opposite side of the road to which I am used to driving, and heading towards a beachfront feast laid out for the visiting dignitaries.

I make my way to the long, waterfront table strewn with candles and fresh flower blossoms. Long torches in the sand stand sentry at the each end of the table, while remnants of the sun strike a dramatic red finale across the distant horizon. A five-piece band plays soft jazz behind linen-covered tables packed with ornate seafood platters, fresh-grilled meats to order, catch-of-the-day, and sliced tropical fruits. A separate dessert area shows mounds of chocolate cakes, thick tarts, puddings, pastries and other caloric mysteries. Rum punches arrive at our table along with large bottles of Italian sparkling water, in honor of a writer from Milan named Fabio, and we dine like kings and queens for hours!

Canouan is the Carib-Indian name for “island of the turtles” and I make a point of rising early the following morning to explore the island flora and fauna with fresh eyes. I run into one of the locals outside my villa; we greet each other and talk about my plan to sightsee. He offers to chauffeur me through the hills and bays of his home and I accept. I surmise I can learn much more in his company, and he immediately heads to the highest point of the island, Mount Royal, where I can see the Trump Casino Privée perched above the water. I





Tamarind Resort dining room

also spot one of the namesake turtles posing on the lawn.

It is a glorious morning, with a signature Caribbean sunrise flooding the vistas and exhilarating body, mind and spirit. One of the young man's cohorts welcomes us as we arrive at the casino. He is in charge of security at the grounds, and the three of us mount the stairs to the palatial terrace above. We can easily see the islands of nearby Mustique, Union Island, Mayreau, Petit Saint Vincent, Prune Island and Tobago Keys, one of the best diving spots in all of the Caribbean. I will sail there during the week aboard a catamaran with someone named Captain Phil.

Canouan Island is one of the 32 islands belonging to the nation of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, about one hundred nautical miles southwest of Barbados. The island encompasses 1,694 acres of wooded and hilly land, surrounded by coral reefs and sandy beaches, and until recently was relatively unknown except to sailors and fishermen.

### Canouan Turnaround

One of the accepted global definitions of success is to be triumphant

over obstacles faced on the way to achieving goals. With this in mind, Antonio Saladino, a Swiss-Italian banker, has reached dizzying heights of success. After a decade of challenges in every shape and form, Saladino is transforming Canouan Island into one of the world's most luxurious destinations, and quietly doing it on a platform of sustainable tourism.

As recently as 1960, Canouan Island had no jetty, no roads, no electricity, no telephones, no refrigerators,

and only a primitive ferry to transport residents off this bit of raw real estate. Antonio Saladino has dramatically changed all that in the 15 years he has been here. Using a Midas-style developer's touch, he has attracted three of the most successful brand names in the world to join him in his mandate — Donald J. Trump, Raffles Resorts and the luxury yacht organization Moorings.

What began as an innocent vacation to nearby Mustique, playground for the crème-de-la-crème of rock-'n'-roll royalty, has become an all-consuming passion for Saladino and his newly extended family of Canouanians. As he so eloquently put it while sitting at the Raffles piazza overlooking the emerald waters of Carenage Bay: "It seems like the best things in my life tend to happen by accident." Business mavens the world over might consider his "accident" more of a shrewd recipe for success.

His forte is surely his consistent goal to bring together the best people to achieve the finest results. When the initial American resort management company self-destructed, Saladino bounced back by signing the renowned Singapore-based Raffles Hotel Group.



Raffles Jambu's bar

The resort's current general manager, Gilbert Madhaven, is the epitome of invisible service, making guests feel as though they are visiting an old friend.

Understated service finesse continues throughout the resort, as visitors bask under the care of a culinary team led by Chef Eoghain O'Neil and food and beverage director Christof Ganster. The formal dining room at La Varenne speaks of another time, perhaps an easier epoch, where visiting, dining, conversation and elegance had nothing to prove. An evening soirée spent dining on O'Neil's fresh creations, culled from the garden and the sea, or imported from the finest purveyors on the planet, tends to cause guests to muse aloud.

I know it caused me to wonder how it was possible to have such an extensive menu in such an out-of-the-way place. It was like dining in the finest eateries of London, Paris or Rome, only without the traffic, noise, pollution, crowds, dust or parking problems. My entourage retires to the Trump Casino Privée late in the evening to watch a group of boisterous French visitors at the Blackjack tables, say hello to the one-armed bandits, and enjoy a Cuban cigar on the terrace overlooking the bay.

The next morning is dedicated to exploring the most challenging golf course anywhere in the Caribbean. Designed by famed course architect Jim Fazio, the Trump International Golf Course has the fascinating distinction of being a mountain course where you always shoot downwards to the pin. This may sound like a bit of a gift to some, but as onsite golf pro Simon Blanchard noted, "Even the best players find this course a challenge to their abilities." The first ten holes lie inside a volcanic crater near the resort, while the rest are located on



Raffles Pool, Godbal's Beach

the opposite side of the island, spread over spectacular hilltop terrain. The 13<sup>th</sup> green will distract even the most focused player with dreamy vistas in all directions.

Donald Trump recently challenged all golfers to compete for a cool one-million-dollar First Prize at his Trump Million Dollar Invitational, May 21 to 26, 2006. Mr. Trump invites both amateurs and professionals, provided you are not a member of the LPGA, PGA, Champions, Nationwide or European tours. Entry fee is US\$15,000 and there are many other cash prizes in the pot.

I then got a chance to inspect one of the Trump Villa estates under construction, to see for myself what many in the business are calling the most complete residential villa packages in the Caribbean. I was chaperoned by Katya Marchetti and Elena Korach, two professionals in charge of sales and management respectively. One of the Italian carpenters greeted us and, as we toured the site, it became

amplly clear that every possible detail in these villas is top drawer.

Combining original design elements, painstaking craftsmanship, and a complete rental program, the result equals perhaps the best Caribbean villa buy anywhere. Remember, every one of the Golf, Marina and Beach estates includes the Raffles Resort five-star amenities, beach access, tennis, water sports and full membership at Trump International Golf Club, which includes dining privileges at four gourmet restaurants. There are also facilities provided for yacht servicing and storage by Moorings, located on the other end of the island and integrated into the Tamarind Beach Resort, the only other accommodation on the island.

My fondest memory of Canouan Island, though, will always be the day I spent with Nicola and Phil Jones aboard their catamaran, Splendid Adventurer, followed by a magical massage at the Amrita Spa. It was a perfect sailing day — high winds,





Trump International Golf Course

sunshine, large swells and an eclectic mix of music, food and humor onboard the Splendid craft. After being under the talented hands of the Amrita Spa masseuse and diving in the Tobago Keys, I could hardly find my blissed-out way back to my oversized villa.

As I reluctantly leave this friendly paradise and fly over the island after takeoff, I see Canouan from a very altered point-of-view than when I arrived. I think about Antonio Saladino's adopting this bird-shaped island and inviting the citizenry to collaborate with him in creating an island oasis, a unique destination for ultra-luxury vacations, golf retreats, weddings and water sports. His real creation is his legacy of introducing the populace to new trades, sustainable tools, environmental standards, and a global culture, which will influence this nation long into the future. Bravo, Antonio Saladino!

Tamarinid Resort beach front view



Gregory B. Gallagher is the author and photographer of the bestselling travel book Eyewitness Top Ten Travel Guide: Montreal & Quebec City published by Dorling-Kindersley (Penguin), ISBN 0-7566-0033-2, and also created the 15-part documentary series Universal Jazz for CBC Radio's Ideas series.

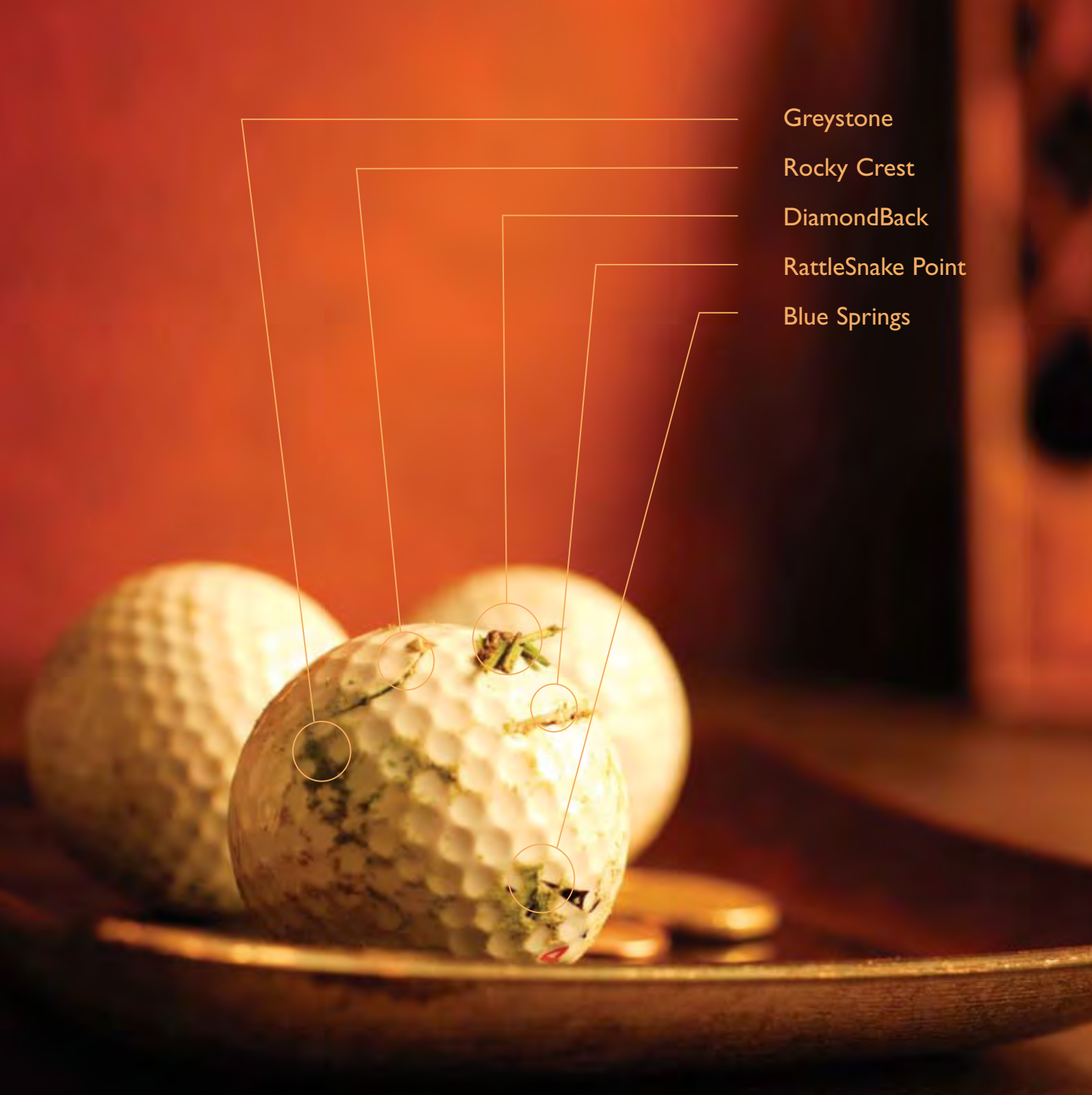
Photos by Gregory Gallagher taken with the new Olympus E-Volt 300 using both the 14-45mm and 50-200mm Zuiko lenses courtesy of Olympus America: [olympusamerica.com](http://olympusamerica.com)

Contacts: [www.canouan.com](http://www.canouan.com); [www.raffles-canouanisland.com](http://www.raffles-canouanisland.com); [www.trumpvillas.com](http://www.trumpvillas.com); [www.trumpmilliondollar.com](http://www.trumpmilliondollar.com); [www.tamarindbeachhotel.com](http://www.tamarindbeachhotel.com); [www.svgtourism.com](http://www.svgtourism.com)

### How to Get There:

Raffles Concierge Air Service will feature the Raffles Jet service from many islands throughout the Caribbean, and Air-Limousine Service connects from Barbados, Martinique, St. Lucia and Grenada. Commercial access to Canouan is currently available via American Airlines Eagle from San Juan, plus AA & Grenadines Airways from Barbados.

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## Let a Lawyer Complete Your Foursome

by Michael G. COCHRANE LL.B.



It is spring and a young person's thoughts turn to...golf, of course! The (t)rusty clubs are moved from storage and lovingly cleaned. Suddenly the new golf club reviews in *Score Magazine* seem much more relevant. Golfers everywhere ponder the important question — "Is this the year I break 100? 90? 80?! However, many Canadian golfers fail to appreciate the importance of inviting a lawyer to round out their foursome. Professional ethics require lawyers to accept any invitation to play golf. Public or private course, cart or no cart, we are there for our clients.

A few readers may ask why it is important to include a lawyer for every 18 holes of golf. Aside from our willingness to listen to just about any lawyer joke (eg. Last week I golfed with a lawyer. What firm was he with? Dolittle and Billum.), our advice on the course can be invaluable. Whether it is an errant tee shot to the head of someone enjoying a backyard barbeque, a reckless swing that takes out a partner, or your NASCAR-like operation of a golf cart, we are there for you seven days a week.

There has been a steady growth in lawsuits against fellow golfers, golf course owners and designers, as well as equipment manufacturers. In reality, the actual injuries are more likely to make us wince than laugh. (Who among us has not smiled at the Halls cough drop commercial where a golfer is unable to call out "Fore!" because of a sore throat?) Cases that have gone through the courts include injuries that have resulted in blindness or the loss of the eye, skull fractures, blood clots, groin injuries and, in one case, the reopening of surgical scars.

Time on the golf course is supposed to be relaxing, but all golfers have seen an actual injury or at least a close call. I have played everywhere from Florida

to northern Ontario and have seen close calls from the "unannounced mulligan," the one-in-a-million deflection off a yardage marker, the cracked windshield in the parking lot (Why is it always a BMW?) and even a close call with an alligator. With a lawyer in your foursome, you will have easy access to answers around potential liability. "Am I going to

be sued for injuring someone with a shanked tee shot?" Your golf buddy/lawyer will quickly explain that you probably are not going to be responsible for those injuries, as courts have typically not expected every golf shot to be perfect. Errant tee shots are simply a part of the game and a risk that all golfers willingly assume. It is the reckless behavior, or the behavior that is not in accordance with the Rules of Golf that may result in a successful lawsuit. For example, that golfer who decided to take an unannounced mulligan as the remainder of his foursome headed to their carts. He quickly found out that he is liable for his partner's injuries from the mully that flew directly from the heel of his driver to the now fractured cheekbone of his former best friend. That kind of conduct on a golf course is not reasonably expected by other golfers and liability can result.

Golf course owners and designers are becoming increasingly mindful of their liability for injuries suffered by golfers and their companions. In some cases, golf course marshals have been given helmets to wear. Children under a certain age have been banned from golf courses. Warning signs about potential dangers are popping up everywhere. Horns and other alarms announce approaching lightning storms and tee times often come with standard releases for injuries suffered during the ordinary use of the golf course and facilities, particularly the golf carts.

Owners of adjacent land also have their beefs with golfers and golf courses, not to mention driving ranges. In one case, homeowners in a trailer park next to a driving range took action to limit the barrage of golf balls raining on their neighborhood. In one Alberta case, homeowners obtained an injunction to halt the annual haul of hundreds of golf balls in their backyard.

The last thing golfers should have to worry about during their round is whether their game has been negligent, reckless or whether other golfers have voluntarily assumed the risk of injury simply by standing on a nearby tee box. Similarly, why should Canadian golfers have to worry about golf cart operation, damaged windshields and thrown clubs? That is a burden your golf buddy/lawyer is more than willing to carry for 18 holes. All this peace of mind can be yours for the small price of an invitation to your lawyer to join you for a round

of golf (green fees and cart included), a club sandwich and a nice cold beer. I think you will agree it is a small price to pay. If, despite our advice, something still goes amiss, we will be there for you, as we head off to play 18 holes in the justice system.

Have a great spring and here's hoping you hit nothing but fairways and greens. **12**

*Michael Cochrane is a partner with Ricketts, Harris LLP in Toronto, Ontario and co-host of ROBTV's Strictly Legal Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. He is the author of several books, including For Better or For Worse: The Canadian Guide to Marriage Contracts and Cohabitation Agreements (published by John Wiley & Sons Canada Ltd.) This column will be a regular feature and Mr. Cochrane welcomes your comments or suggestions for future columns of interest to readers of PRIVILEGE. His e-mail address is mcochrane@privilegemgi.com.*

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## Puttin' on the Ritz in San Fran

**Their mission is to astonish:  
mission accomplished**

By Lynn TRIBBLING



At a recent Coldwell Banker Award Conference in San Francisco, a yearly ritual of organized mayhem, attended by 10,000 hyperactive, over-achieving realtors from around the world, the keynote speaker, General Colin Powell, was inspiring; the entertainment, Cindy Lauper, dazzled; I even took home a trophy or two. The unexpected highlight of the entire extravaganza, however, was my ultra-luxe accommodation at the Ritz-Carlton, Nob Hill.

It was a four-day love affair — utterly sensuous, intoxicating and unforgettable. The Ritz is, quite simply, the best hotel I have ever encountered. As I noted in their guest book, my stay was, in two words — decadent bliss! I am not alone in my lofty praise: the hotel has earned the Mobile Five-Star Award for best North American Hotel; AAA gave it the Five Diamond Award; it is on Conde Nast's *Gold List*; and Forbes named the Ritz-Carlton the world's best business chain.

From the moment you arrive, you know you are not in Kansas anymore! The lobby is divinely vintage: marble columns, crystal chandeliers, gilded cornice trim, oriental carpets, French antiques and splendid towers of freshly cut flowers. The rooms ooze luxury and pedigree — Bulgari toiletries, Egyptian cotton sheets, feather duvets, potted orchids, 32" LCD TV, cordless phones, and the latest copy of *Architectural Digest* for your reading pleasure.

While other five-star hotels, such as the Mandarin, Oriental, Shangri-La and Four Seasons, get it right when it comes to opulent design and décor, the Ritz difference is palpable, distinguished by the staff's attitude towards service. They obsess about detail, maintaining a prevailing philosophy of caring and generosity toward every guest. In a manner warm and genuine — never obsequious or pandering — they talk in "Ritz-speak." Absolutely no problem, Miss Tribbling. My greatest pleasure, Miss Tribbling. Once a day, there is an unsolicited call from the head concierge to inquire, "Is there anything special you require, Miss Tribbling?" Upon departure, a charming

little love letter appears on my pillow wishing a "fond farewell" and containing a penny for good luck on my future journey. I am in love! You had me from, "Hello, Miss Tribbling!"

From morning to night there is a conspiracy of courtesy. Smiling, smartly groomed, uniformed greeters welcome you "home." If your room is not ready, you are whisked away to the magnificent Club Lounge and offered a complimentary glass or two of fine champagne or premium scotch, along with exquisite little sandwiches and pastries. The Club Lounge quickly becomes your favorite spot in all of San Fran where you enjoy, at no extra charge, scrumptious smoked salmon breakfasts, haute cuisine lunches, spectacular afternoon teas evening cocktails and nibbles, and even milk and homemade cookies at midnight for insomniacs. The convivial atmosphere encourages chat about the guilty pleasures of astronomical abundance. In this surreal world of absolute pleasure and consummate indulgence, we are recognized. We love the fantasy. We have all been happily "Ritzified."

I relayed to a senior manager at check-out how impressed I was with the service. He eagerly pulled from his wallet a laminated plastic card called the Ritz Credo, containing the 20 Golden Rules of Service. The motto is: "We are ladies and gentlemen, serving ladies and gentlemen." He added, "Our goal is to anticipate needs, not just meet them...Our mission is to astonish."\*

I pondered his comments during the plane trip home. Anyone in the service industry, including myself, would be well served by remembering the Ritz Credo. Genuine care and respect for our clients is the quintessence of good business, and should be the very beating heart of our business models. A corporate culture that neglects the humanity of the customer, and the primal need for recognition, is destined for mediocrity. Leaders, managers and business practitioners, in the frenzied pursuit of profits, often lose sight of a simple message summed up in six magic words: "He profits most who serves best."

\*The full Ritz-Carlton credo can be found at [www.ritzcarlton.com](http://www.ritzcarlton.com). Prices range from US\$465 for Club Lounge rooms to \$5,000 per night for the Presidential Suite.

*Lynn Tribbling is an Award-Winning Sales Representative, Coldwell Banker Terrequity Realty. To contact her, visit [www.lynntribbling.com](http://www.lynntribbling.com) or email: [lynntribbling@privilegemgi.com](mailto:lynntribbling@privilegemgi.com)*

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## Do You Know Your Advisor?

by Beat J. GULDIMANN, LL.D.

How do you find the financial advisor who is right for you? It's a question to which everyone should give due consideration – especially these days when it's so easy to get caught with too many choices. Chances are you can identify with the following scenario: Dozens of large domestic or international banks, mutual fund and insurance companies present themselves as the best alternative, spending huge amounts on television and print advertising, cold calling or direct mail campaigns. While it may be flattering to be a coveted prospect, the abundance of choice is often more a burden than a financial advantage.

In a previous PRIVILEGE column, I elaborated on the importance for wealthy families of first understanding what makes their wealth relevant to them. This understanding can then be applied to the decision of whom to choose as the wealth custodian. While it is important to determine which one of the many firms vying for your business best matches your priorities, it is even more crucial to find the right fit in an advisor. After all, your advisor acts as your interface with the institutions you are dealing with. Not only are advisors representing their employer, they are the person you confide in when sharing confidential information. In order to do this in good conscience, you need to be able to develop a high level of comfort with and trust in the individual advising you.

All of which brings us back to the fundamental question: How do you find the advisor who is right for you? To a significant extent, the answer depends on knowing exactly what you are looking for. This is where knowing what is relevant to you becomes critical. But there are a few additional indicators that can guide you.



First of all, insist that any financial institution you are considering provide you with a dedicated professional advisor. Although it seems almost too basic to mention, the reality in the marketplace is often that, while you are provided with a primary contact to the firm, individuals assigned to client relationships tend to move in and out of positions routinely. The upshot is that you could end up with a new person every six months. In such a scenario you have little hope of developing trust and confidence. You are not going to share personal, confidential information with a dozen ever-changing advisors. You want longevity in the relationship and require assurance from the prospective financial institution that client advisor positions are valued and treated as career destinations. You require the confidence of knowing your institution provides its employee advisors with opportunities and incentives to grow professionally.

Test prospective advisors on their professional knowledge. Are they informed on market activity? Do they know how to deal with requests that go beyond the "plain vanilla" offer of their firms? Can you have a meaningful discussion on recent world events and how they may affect your portfolio? You deserve the best a financial institution has to offer. This includes not only the best product solutions and

lowest fees, but also the highest level of professionalism and experience from your advisor. Here is another key consideration: Is your private banker or investment advisor bringing recognizable value to the relationship or are you mainly being sold something? Most client relationship personnel at big financial institutions are part of their firms' distribution channel, which

tells you something about the product focus of the institution. As a client, you are treated as a recipient of product or service distribution. In such an environment, the advisor's role is to distribute product, i.e. to close a sale. What you want from your advisor, on the other hand, is valued independent advice that leads to a solution tailored to your specific needs, not a product sale.

***For an advisor to be able to add the kind of value you expect to the business relationship, it is also helpful if he or she can relate to your personal values and lifestyle***

For an advisor to be able to add the kind of value you expect to the business relationship, it is also helpful if he or she can relate to your personal values and lifestyle. It is much easier to develop trust and confidence when both parties in the relationship share values and ideas. It is true in personal relationships and the same principle applies to business and professional relationships. Make a point of looking for individuals who fill the bill in terms of shared values and likeability.

A final key consideration is to take the time required to find the right advisor and institution for you. There is little benefit in committing to a firm you like if the advisor provided doesn't meet your specific needs.

***Managing significant wealth appropriately requires advisors who can commit to a high level of personal attention as well as to constant improvement of their professional knowledge over time***

Managing significant wealth appropriately requires advisors who can commit to a high level of personal attention as well as to constant improvement of their professional knowledge over time. You also want them to apply superior interpersonal skills to understand your needs fully and deliver according to your expectations. You find such advisors in firms that make personal touch a hallmark of their business. Moreover, you may find that the occurrence of these qualities often negatively correlates to the size of the institution – all of which is important to keep in mind the next time one of those glossy solicitations appears in your mailbox.

*Beat J. Guldumann is a Vice-Chairman at Toronto-based Hampton Securities Inc. and leads the firm's Global Private Client practice. He holds a doctorate degree in law from Basel University (Switzerland).*

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Mike "Pinball" Clemons speaks during The Toronto Argonauts' unveiling of the action plan for its Stop the Violence initiative, February 1, 2006.

Photo: Jaime Stein

## Pinball on Privilege and Responsibility

by Peter GROSS

It's more than appropriate that we have chosen Michael "Pinball" Clemons as the subject of this month's version of "With Privilege Comes Responsibility." Many, especially those in Toronto, know that the head coach of the Toronto Argonauts has embraced the responsibility that comes with celebrity status.

Privilege, however, may not be the first word that comes to mind to describe a boy, raised by a single mother, who grew up on the poor side of town in Dunedin, Florida. "My mother taught me about the importance of helping others," Clemons said in that bubbling, exuberant way he has of making even the most basic of comments. "When I was young, she showed me how to volunteer through the church and the significance of community involvement. I feel lucky and blessed to have had the upbringing I had." Pinball seems the kind of guy who would see a drop of water in a glass and think, "That glass is on its way to being full."

As a kid, he was tiny physically, but huge in effort. "When I was a freshman in high school I was 5' 2" and 130 pounds," said Clemons, now 5' 5" and about 165 pounds. "I played the varsity team for three years. I played both ways—offence and defence. On defence I was monster-man, the strong safety against the pass and supporting the run. I had to come up and make tackles."

Clemons won a scholarship to William and Mary College. In his last year, he was elected 1st team All American in NCAA Division 1. After being picked by Kansas City in the NFL draft, and playing for the Chiefs and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Clemons came to Toronto at the behest of Ralph Sazio, then general manager of the Argos. Just one team practice resulted in his having bestowed upon him the best nickname in sport. Coach Bob O'Billovich watched Clemons bounce off tacklers, zipping right, scampering left, leaving defenders exasperated as he eluded their grasp. "That kid's like a pinball!" he exclaimed.

For 11 seasons as an Argo, Pinball Clemons put up some of the most sensational numbers in the game. Describing Pinball Clemons by reciting his football records, however, is somewhat akin to defining Trudeau by the rose in his lapel. Football could be merely a metaphor for Clemons' life. For a guy who spent his football career smashing into and around men twice his size, there is no such thing as an unsolvable problem or an insurmountable hurdle.

Life, to Pinball, is about carrying the ball as fast and as far as you can. These days, the ball is a message—an argument against violence, an endorsement of the infinite value of each human being he meets. "I believe that the profoundness of our existence is not how many games we win, but what we do in the community," proclaimed Clemons, with commitment in his voice. "We need to make differences in the lives of young people. We are stewards to our community. Our core program is anti-bullying." For several years now, Pinball and several of his players have made countless appearances in Toronto area schools, bringing irresistible energy and an important message to the city's youth. "The slogan is, 'Don't be a bully,'" Pinball informed me. "Be a friend. Support, report and defend."

In 2002, Pinball was made President of the Argos. When the team floundered on the field, however, he gave up the top position to return to the field as coach. Following him as team president in 2003 was Keith Pelley. "All the warmth and the caring and the man of great integrity that is his persona in the marketplace is true," said Pelley. "What people don't know about Michael is how bright he is. Michael is one of the most intelligent men I have ever known. He has a creative mind. He is methodical in his thinking. He is just a very bright man." In the history of sport, practically every head

coach is eventually fired. But how do you gas the Pinball? According to Pelley, you don't. "I would not fire Michael as head coach," he promised. "He has an open invitation to be an Argonaut as long as he wants to be an Argonaut." If Pinball has a weakness, it's his inability to say no. "If it was up to him, he'd go out every night in the community," said Pelley with no shortage of admiration in his voice. "If we let him, he'd be out helping some grassroots group every day."



Photo: Dave Cheung

In fact, according to the Argos, Clemons attends a community event of one nature or another at least 200 times a year. It's a staggering figure when you think that most people working full-time go to the office 200 times a year. Clemons discourages the Argos and the media from focusing on his obsession to help and to contribute. In a roundabout way, he does explain what drives him. "I am very people driven. I don't believe we are here on earth by mistake," he said. "I believe there is a God of the universe that created us. We weren't created to be alone and be all by ourselves. Our life is dependent on the quality of our relationships. I want to see people do well. The true quality of life is not about stuff—it's about people."

As the point man on the Argos' anti-bullying campaign, entitled "Huddle Up Against Bullying," Clemons is supported tremendously by his players. Hardly a week goes by that the local papers don't chronicle a visit by the Argos to a local

school where wide-eyed children get the message. "The Argos organization has made the statement to be Toronto's ultimate role model," said Clemons. "We want to combine competitive spirit with great entertainment value along with community involvement and pride."

In recent weeks, the Argos have stepped up their Stop the Violence program, in anticipation of the Stop the Violence Walk in June. The team has pledged \$100,000 to city groups committed to ending gun violence and pledges to raise another \$500,000 this year. It all comes from Pinball Clemons. Many young men have achieved hero status on the fields and frozen ice, but none has come close to rising to the kind of iconic status Clemons has achieved. He won the Grey Cup four times, three times as a player and as coach in 2004.

It's that last one that means the most to him. While the Argos were the decided underdogs, they had one phenomenal intangible—pre-game inspirational talk from their coach. Remembered Pelley, "It was one of those goose-bump speeches. I almost strapped on the pads because I thought I could play after that speech. He's a great motivator."

Though winning football games has a certain importance to Clemons, his thinking process remains on a higher level. "People are my passion," said the Pinball, his voice at once animated and earnest. "For me it starts with family and it bridges out of that into your workplace. My guys are like my kids. This is a family atmosphere we try to promote and from there it bridges into the community. I believe that people are the most important part of life." The mentorship aspect of the Stop the Violence program is particularly important to Clemons.

Last summer, a young man named Amon Beckles was shot down outside a church where he was attending the funeral of another teenager killed by a gun. At a press conference to rally corporate Canada against gun violence, at which Amon's mother Nadia also spoke, Clemons made an emotional and gripping tribute to Beckles. "Amon isn't so different from Michael," Clemons told the gathering. "Amon, just like Pinball, loved life. Amon, just like Pinball grew up with a single parent. Amon's mother, just like Pinball's, brought him up in the church. Amon, just like Pinball, loved the game of football. See, to give up on Amon is to give up on myself." Already a popular speaker, if ever Clemons decides to give up football, a fulltime career as a motivational speaker awaits.

According to the Pinball, much of his inspiration comes from a sign he once saw on the wall of a Salvation Army building: "We ought to stop loving things and using people and start loving people and using things." Not a day goes by that Clemons does not acquit himself according to that message. Through wondrous perseverance and complete adherence to his faith, Michael Clemons has indeed risen to a position of privilege. Although well paid and well known, the man from humble beginnings always gives back much more than he takes.

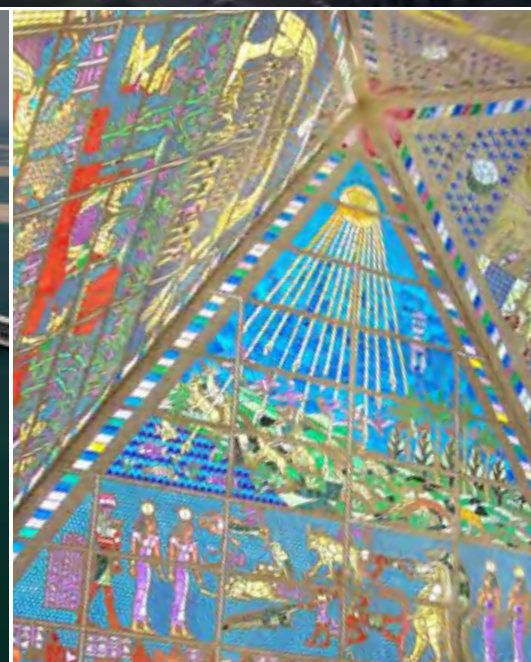
Privileged? Oh, yes. Michael Clemons thinks he was. So will you be, if you are fortunate to have the opportunity to meet and talk with him, because you cannot fail

to notice something else about the man that is desperately rare in the third millennium world of spoiled and pampered sports stars—he makes you feel like the most important person in the room. ■



Photo: Ryan Heberington-Keys





# Dubai

دبي





Photo by nasser@nasservision.com

# Dynamic Dubai



Photo courtesy of Etihad Airways



Dhow Racing



Dubai Night View



Burj Al Arab and Madinat Jumer

## East meets West in an exciting mix

by Barbara KINGSTONE

My seatmate and I simultaneously commented on the quality of the delicious meal on Etihad Airways. After our *mezze* or appetizers, he had chosen the ricotta and spinach ravioli, and I, the Oriental stir-fried beef and rice. That conversation led into another one about the five days I had just spent in the United Arab Emirates. “How did you like it?” he asked.

“Abu Dhabi and Dubai were two of the most dynamic cities I’ve visited in years,” I answered. “I was overwhelmed by the sheer spectacle of both.” He understood my enthusiasm, adding, “Tourists can enjoy traditional camel safaris in the desert, shop duty-free at the most upscale malls in the world, and relax on world class-white sandy beaches in a land where the crime rate is zero.”

What piqued my curiosity was that he seemed so in touch with the Emirates even though he had been living in Ottawa for more than six years. Ah, a clue — why Ottawa, city of winter, mountains, and government?

“And what do you do?” I asked with formal politeness, knowing innately that, with all this information and knowledge, this very agreeable man, Hassan M.O. Al Suwaidi, was not just another businessman. Indeed, he turned out to be the Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates in Ottawa.

My only travel complaint, which I relayed to His Excellency, was that I needed more time to explore this wonderful land where, after the oil discovery in the 1930s, a dynamic economy was born. As a tourist destination for those who have been to Europe, Africa, India, Asia, Australia and South America, the Emirates is the next thrust. Although the media sees the area as a mercurial part of the world, the Emirates is a safe region and fast becoming a leading tourist destination as well as a financial powerhouse. For instance, Dubai has approximately 5.4 million visitors annually. Most arrive from Britain, Russia and Germany to take advantage of the beaches, sunshine and tax-free shopping.

### ABU DHABI Cosmopolitan capital

Abu Dhabi, the capital city of the seven Emirates and the hub for Etihad Airways, became my first destination. Leaving Dubai until the last, I wanted to be able to compare the two. Abu Dhabi, once a humble pearl center, is a cosmopolitan yet unhurried city eager to catch up with its not-as-rich but visibly more opulent, commercial rival, Dubai. Abu Dhabi officials state firmly that they don’t want to go the route of Dubai. The more I learned, however, the more questionable that position seemed.

**What piqued my curiosity was that he seemed so in touch with the Emirates...  
he turned out to be the Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates in Ottawa.**

I admit I modified my thinking about Abu Dhabi as calm and less flashy, as my limo passed detached single homes the size of small hotels. I gulped when I arrived at the government-owned Emirates Palace Hotel located on 85 hectares of gardens, the largest and probably most costly hotel in the world. Greeting me under graceful hand-carved Islamic arches were two glorious young people wearing gold and black brocade coats who looked as though they had been sent from central casting.

With only 302 deluxe rooms, 92 overwhelmingly large suites, and a staff of about 2,000, the hotel offers a dedicated valet for every room. The hotel features a staggering 144 domes, the largest of which is 42 metres wide and finished with silver and gold mosaic tiles. Inlaid marble floors the color of the UAE’s different sand shades, helicopter pads and landscaped pools add more luxurious touches. Good walking shoes are needed to cover the length of the palace, measuring, from one end to the other, a kilometre, while a walk around the building is approximately 2.5 km. The hotel’s target guests include sheiks and heads of states from countries worldwide who congregate for massive conferences.

What an introduction to a very oil-rich country! I was loath to leave my elegant room for sightseeing. City roads are maintained in perfect condition and remain relatively traffic-free. I made my way to the port to see the wooden dhows bobbing on the water and the fish market alive with local color. The renowned Gold Souk market, where bargaining is the only way to buy gold and there are deals galore, was a bit of a letdown since there was a sameness to every shop. The spectacular mosque in the process of being built, however, made up for that disappointment with its grandness. It is the fourth largest in the world. Time was not on my side, since I had plans to go to Al Ain, the Garden City blessed with substantial groundwater resources. The desert oasis dates back to the 4th century BC. About an hour from Abu Dhabi,





Al Ain is more affordable and the population of 200,000 plans a future in tourism rather than oil.

A stop at the daily camel market proved an exotic though malodorous venue for a Westerner. Camels were being pushed and pulled, with some milked for their newly born. Locals haggled about the purchase price of the humped animals. Not only are they used as meat as well as transportation; if one catches the eye of a camel-racing impresario, it may soon appear on the racetrack. Although the camel races, as well as horse races, are run in front of spectators, there is no betting. The weekly camel races lead up to a big social event between October and April, held at Al Wathba.

Even though the Islamic religion prohibits alcohol, liquor stores do exist and liquor is available in hotels and restaurants. As one official warned, “Just don’t create any problems.” The question of women’s rights frequently arises. From what I observed, women have the freedom to work, go to school, and choose their wardrobe. Many still opt to cover themselves completely by wearing the *abaya*, a long coat, over their clothing. “Camel Gucci” is an expression I learned about the *abayas* that sometimes hide major European designer togs underneath.



Dune Bashing

## DUNE BASHING Roller-coasting in the desert

By 3:00 pm, the sun was beating down on our small group, which had traveled to an area in the Arabian Desert for the increasingly popular but bizarre sport of Dune Bashing. A conservative guess about the temperature would be about 35 degrees Celsius. While waiting, we took shelter in Bedouin-inspired tents. This tourist enterprise sweeps you away from the glitz of the cities back to tribal times. A few waited for a turn to climb upon a very tall camel for a very short ride. The camel snorted and spit and was most disagreeable. Who could blame him? Everybody’s allowed a bad day. Just beyond, on a tranquil sandy slope, some young people tried their skills at sand skiing, without much luck.

The necessary desert-bashing vehicles finally arrived. We five innocents took our seats, buckled up and were soon in full throttle, roller-coasting at kamikaze speed over the high and amazingly peaceful-looking dunes. The sepia-colored playground for the ride is certainly an adrenaline trigger. Stopping for the important photo opportunity, the sand that slid through my fingers and seemed so harmless had us shrieking again as we almost became airborne.

After dinner, the ground lights were extinguished. I lay on my back looking at a blanket of stars. The rest of the world must have gone starless that night, since they all seemed to be right there above me.

## DUBAI Opulent metropolis

Ah, Dubai, City of Gold. Could it live up to all the hype? The metropolis sits off the Arabian Gulf surrounded by water on three sides and built on 40 hills. In fact, it’s sometimes called the Venice of the Gulf, although that would be a misnomer. Imagine, five years ago there were approximately 250,000 inhabitants. Now the population is 1.5 million (85% are expatriates or “expats” as they are referred to) and it’s predicted the figure will more than double by 2010. There are more than 8,000 Canadians who call Dubai home today.

Within seconds of reaching the city, one is aware of both the building boom and the heat — easily 30 degrees Celsius, and this is winter. Summer temperatures can reach the high 40s, occasionally hitting 50 Celsius. This could be the reason I saw very few people walking.

I expected to see a desert. Instead I’m stunned by the very wide water thoroughfare called “the Creek,” which divides Dubai into the Deira Dubai and Bur Dubai areas of the city.

Skyscrapers compete with cranes in a scenario that might be dubbed Hong Kong meets Singapore. New neighborhoods spurt up like the many shooting fountains that exist around the city. The Burj Dubai (*burj* means “tower” in Arabic), when completed in 2008, will be the world’s tallest building. Because of the construction of so many looming new structures — the oldest building is less than ten years old — an estimated 18% of the world’s cranes are here.

Dubai is a major multi-cultural city that mixes 185 nationalities. As I sit in the hotel lobby, I hear a clutter of voices in many different languages, although it feels as though the world has descended on Dubai, and everyone is carrying a briefcase. The mix has actually made Dubai a mosaic of diversity. Crime does not even register on the scale. Perhaps people are too busy making tax-free money.

Dubai has delivered the goods and, with their filled coffers, will continue to do international business. With tourism growing at a rapid rate, the Dubai government is building one of the largest airports in the world. Jebel Ali Airport City is a project that will cover 140 square kilometres. Not just the largest airport in the world, the complex will house several smaller cities. The emphasis will be on catering to the financial, industrial and tourist industries.



Burj Dubai

After checking into the five-star Fairmont Hotel, I find my guide to be Sam, a 37-year-old Egyptian-born Canadian who moved here two years ago. Sam had come for a holiday, considered the business opportunities and never left. I was not surprised when he pulled up to the hotel’s entrance wearing a casual chic Italian outfit plus designer sunglasses and driving a red convertible BMW sports car. Expensive cars on the roads are in the majority. Old is a two-year-old vehicle and clean is a government edict.



Cranes, cranes and more cranes...



Dubai Business Bay

Dubai, once a pearl center like Abu Dhabi, was established in 1830 by the Maktoum family. The demise of the industry came after the discovery of the viability of producing cultured pearls. Great thought was then given to Dubai’s future. Oil was discovered in 1966, enabling the transition to commerce and trade. Dubai’s oil reserve, however, was not as endless as those of some of its Emirate siblings.

Under the vision of the late Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Al Maktoum, the flat barren plains gave way to economics, which meant erecting banks, hotels, condos and malls — each outdoing the last. “It’s so easy to do business here,” Sam told me. “If it’s legal and ethical, it can be done on the turn of a dime.





And where else in the world don't you have to pay taxes? Dubai is a city of money and business." It's a mind-twister to realize that Abu Dhabi is less than two hours away by car. It might as well be another planet.

"Dubai is all about networking," Sam said early one morning. We head to his Mumbai-born tailor in a small shop in the old Mina Quarters. Jewelry, electronics, clothing, furniture and just about every ethnic item can be purchased much cheaper in the Quarters than in the grand malls. Bargaining is expected. Not to be missed is the Spice Souk where the aroma of cinnamon and incense mixes with dried fruit and cloves.

"Too bad I can't show this to you from the air," said Sam, pointing to The Palm development. Here are the three largest manufactured islands in the world, in the shape of a date palm tree. The area is bigger than Manhattan and the "trunk" section has already attracted Donald Trump's enterprise. A crown with 41 fronds and surrounding crescent islands act as water breakers. When completed by the end of 2009, there will be 8,000 villas, shopping malls, sports facilities, marinas, hotels and clubs — virtually a city within a city. The same company — Al Nakheel Properties — that brought this concept to the world is also building The World Islands, another collection of manufactured islands. These will be in the shape of the continents of the world. If you intend to purchase one of the 250-300 islands, bring a large wallet.



The Palm



The World

The purchase price in this dream community is astronomical but one would have to have the mandatory two Rolls Royces parked in the driveway. Just ask rocker Rod Stewart. He's just bought one of the islands and surely there'll be a Hummer or two at his front door.

Every businessperson notices that taxation is nil, crime is zero, schooling and hospital clinics are free and shopping is a sport. If there is any wrongdoing by an expatriate, however, there are no long court cases — it's immediate deportation. For local prison inmates, Dubai police started the Art of Living program to teach prisoners yoga to relieve stress and change points of view.



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Usually the next topic to arise is the traffic. Sam mentioned the constant work-week gridlock. This was the Sabbath and the streets were more maneuverable. Traffic crunch materialized the next day and might be compared only to Highway 401 on a Friday afternoon in mid-summer.

Due to the desert heat, the workday starts early, as does the traffic. In each car, there is a mandatory built-in speed beep, which goes on automatically when you pass 120 km an hour. It didn't have a chance to go off in the bumper-to-bumper traffic. One clever move instituted was to prohibit large delivery trucks on city streets and use small vans instead.

Because the city is spread out, it is advisable to make a plan, decide on a destination and stay within the area. I yearned to see the malls renowned for their stocks of electronics, optics, jewelry, home furnishings, clothing and restaurants. They, too, are a destination experience, many staying open until midnight.



Emirates Mall Ski Hill



Dubai Creek Golf and Yacht Club

Besides all the boutiques — Gucci, Fendi, Chanel, Dior and more — Emirates Mall has a unique feature. A large glassed-in, climate-controlled area contains, unbelievably, a busy, snowy ski hill. The line-up on the slopes reminded me of my days in Canada's Laurentians. Après-skiers and onlookers queue up three deep to see this incredible spectacle, while those brave souls already inside don warm rented parkas and all the necessary ski equipment. Just imagine Mont Tremblant or Whistler Mountain under a dome for 12 months a year. In Dubai, it's possible. Snow inside — 50 Celsius outside.

Our stomachs finally got in touch with our brains. We were hungry, and the warm weather was perfect for al fresco dining. Sam decided on the posh Dubai Creek Golf and Yacht Club. We ate lightly — a terrific tuna salad for me and a chicken Caesar salad for Sam. Dinner would constitute our grand meal. Even here, far from slim-obsessed North America, lithe bodies are praised. As I looked over at the other table, one filled with four young women, they too were nibbling on salads.

Palmed and very private, the long drive to the restaurant features a serious yacht-filled marina and a golf course. Yes, there is golf in the desert. Pros are impressed with the excellent designs of the four courses in and around the city, enough so that Tiger Woods was part of the championship games. Dubai is the pioneer of the sport in the Middle East and Emirates Golf Club hosts the annual Desert Classic Tournament. A non-golfer, I began re-thinking the game after spotting the greenery with sculptured shrubs and blooming flowers surrounding the grassy 18-hole club. Another club, the Dubai Golf and Racing Club, acting on the popularity of golf, is expanding its already immaculate fairway.

Still before us were visits to more world-class malls and hotels. Wafi City Mall sports a huge stained-glass dome depicting Egyptian themes, but with European-flavored goodies from Frette, Chanel, Missoni, Boss and many more. "There's pride in every building that's built here," Sam said, pointing to the intricately carved Egyptian pillars. For a locally authentic purchase, the Arabia Oud shop, with 400 branches worldwide, has a cache of essential oils and a choice of exquisite bottles. Sniffing all the scents gave me a high; finally Sam decided on Dehn Aloud, a very fresh aroma of white musk and jasmine.

The next Mall was Madinat Jumeirah, which succeeded in resembling a modern-day *souk*. But with Starbucks and KFC outlets, the imagination is somewhat taxed. Outside, an Italianate plaza and a manufactured, fish-filled lake offer a welcome respite from the crowds.

My favorite mall was Burjuman, because it seemed to offer an easily understood directional path instead of a guessing-game. Each mall is so huge that losing one's way seems to be the norm; the mall plan boards are always crowded with lost souls. Burjuman, large as it may be, is the newest and most fashion-forward, mixing cultures. Amid men in traditional white or blue *dishdash* and women wearing their black *abayas*, there is a two-storey Saks Fifth Avenue.

A five-star rating for hotels is the highest, but the self-proclaimed seven-star Burj Al Arab is magnificent, built on yet another manufactured island. Its interior is not, however, available to every desirous tourist. Unless your name is on the list,



Buddha Bar



the guards do not allow passage over the bridge to the entrance of this incredible edifice — the world's tallest hotel. (I got lucky. When I called, I suggested they Google my name for proof of my status as a travel writer. Within 20 minutes, the return call offered an invitation to a site inspection.) The options are to either stay there, book a table for a sumptuous tea overlooking the sandy beach or have dinner with the best view of the city. The incredible glass-and-steel, billowing-sail architecture has become the signature image of the city, as much as the opera house is to Sydney.

Inside, the Burj Al Arab appears to be a concoction of Disney World and Las Vegas. The unusual mosaic, the stepped lobby fountains, the gilt columns, the red leather and gold sofas, the tropical fish-filled aquariums — even these features are outdone by the restaurant suspended 200 metres over the Arabian Gulf. As I peered down from the glass elevator, I was stunned to see bikini-clad damsels and their mates, frolicking on the hotel's ecru sandy beach. That, too, is manufactured. The splashing swimmers, both locals and tourists, had happily found their in-city "resort."

Sam exaggerated not a word when he claimed dinner would be a great surprise. On the shores of the Arabian Gulf,

the One & Only Royal Mirage is a complex of three distinctly different hotels, each with its own name, set in lush bucolic gardens, with elegant ambience. Much attention to Arabian architectural detailing at the Arabian Court was surpassed only by the meal at the vibrant Nina. The house cocktail, called Simply Nina, contains a mix of gin, lime, mint leaves, ginger, watermelon cubes and sugar syrup — a sweet perfect introduction to our meal. The Indian Tasting Plate arrived with four appetizers, three main dishes and pizzazz of presentation. The two other hotels on the property are The Palace, where bronzed camel sculptures linger in the greenery, the interior equally magical, and the small and discreet 50-room The Resident & Spa — perfect for a romantic assignation.

Before ending the evening, Sam insisted on visiting Grosvenor House's Buddha Bar, the sophisticated, trendiest, East-meets-West bar and restaurant in Dubai. It seemed the most appropriate place to say farewell. There, in one place, were all the ingredients that make Dubai the Golden City: ex-pats and locals mixing amicably, obvious affluence, hip clothes — a young social scene in an extraordinary setting. I felt ancient next to these extremely fit, slim, extroverted, gyrating people who seemed to have their lives all tied up in one gilded portfolio.

Finally, there was that regret — not having enough days to discover more of this foreign-flavored city, nor the time for some retail therapy. In retrospect, however, that situation might have driven me mad with decision-making.

I have plans. I'll be calling my new friend, the Emirates Ambassador, to take him up on his invitation to Ottawa. Then we can discuss my newfound passion for an equally new passionate driven city...Dubai.

*Etihad Airways, the Abu Dhabi government's national airline, flies direct from Toronto to Abu Dhabi International, with a one-hour stopover in Brussels.*

*"Dubai: The Financial Capital" will be featured in next month's issue of PRIVILEGE Magazine.*





# Dubai Golf

by Margaret SWAINE

You know golf in the Gulf has made its mark when more than nine million hits were recorded on the official website of the Dubai Desert Classic this year. At the 17th annual event held at the Emirates Golf Club, February 2nd through the 5th, world champion Tiger Woods won against Ernie Els who was defending his title. Golf, the game, also scored a big win in Dubai.

The European PGA Tour event, organized by Golf in Dubai, hit new milestones in TV ratings, website hits and ticket sales with more than 47,000 spectators. Dubai has become a top-ranked golf destination, for professionals and amateurs alike. Golf is still quite new to the Arabs, but not to the ex-patriates and visitors to the Emirates who flood the courses.

The golf here is unique. At the original Dubai Country Club, opened in 1971, the entire course is sand. Golfers are given a piece of artificial turf to carry with them and hit shots. The greens are really oiled sand “browns.” But there are now plenty of green links kept that way by a small fortune in water. There are also plenty of times to play on them. At the 18-hole Nad Al Sheba Club, the course stays open until midnight, fully illuminated by floodlights so players can avoid the daytime heat. Its links straddle the Nad Al Sheba horse-racing circuit, venue for the richest horse race in the world.

Known as The Desert Miracle, Emirates Golf Club on the fringe of the city is the first championship all-grass golf course in the Emirates. Built in 1988, and designed by Florida architect Karl Litten, the Majlis (Arabic for “meeting place”) course was sculpted around the original tall desert dunes. Now encompassing 36 holes, Emirates is the Middle East’s biggest desert course. The second 18-hole Wadi Course will re-open in October after a major redesign by Nick Faldo.

The Clubhouse is modeled to look like Bedouin tents. There’s also a five-star French restaurant and a three-hole Academy course.

The Dubai Creek Golf and Yacht Club, opened in January 1993, is Dubai’s second world-class golf course and the centerpiece of an 80-hectare sports and leisure complex that also incorporates a 115-berth marina and a Park Hyatt. Three ornamental lakes and a further three seawater hazards comprise one feature of the course. The front nine was recently redesigned by Thomas Björn to provide greater challenge. The clubhouse is designed in the shape of the billowing sails of a traditional Arabian dhow.

The course at Jebel Ali Golf Resort and Spa runs alongside a marina and saltwater comes into play on five holes. Amidst exotic trees and shrubs, golfers play in the company of peacocks, partridges and other birds. The Montgomerie Dubai, designed by Desmond Muirhead and Colin Montgomerie, houses the world’s largest green, a 58,000 square-foot 13th built in the shape of the UAE.

Dubai’s golf courses are modeled after those of American country clubs with all the luxury extras that add comfort and ease of play to the game. There are motorized golf carts, automated GPS yardage devices, beverage carts and half-way houses, well-stocked golf shops and plush locker rooms. Perhaps it’s only a matter of time before an air-conditioned indoor golf course arrives. After all, an indoor snow-skiing hill was built last year at Dubai’s Sports Complex.

One of the seven United Arab Emirates, Dubai is more a world city than an Arabic one. It has gone from an outpost of 5,000 people in the 1950s to more than 1.5 million today. The majority of its residents are ex-patriots, arriving from more than 150 different nations. American companies and franchises, such as the Hard Rock Café, Burger King, and Planet Hollywood, abound, as do the big hotel chains – the Ritz, Hyatt, Sheraton and Hilton. All this creates an infrastructure well suited to western tourists and golfers. Some even liken it to Las Vegas without the gambling. It can seem surreal and in a way it is a fantasyland.

## IF YOU GO

No fear of ever being rained out, but you may want to avoid July and August when temperatures can top 52 Celsius. The best time for golfers to visit is between October and April when the temperatures are in the more moderate 20s. The official representative of all Dubai’s golf clubs website: [www.golfindubai.org](http://www.golfindubai.org) Booking at nine of the courses can be done at [www.dubaigolf.com](http://www.dubaigolf.com)





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comprehension  
of all that  
concerns the  
nourishment  
of man.*

Brillat-Savarin,  
*Physiology of Taste*, 1825



J. Charles Grieco

The appreciation of gastronomy, a vast category, necessitates an appreciation of what nourishes man and how it does so.

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tion to this great lady of breeding, whose vineyard origins are considered the alpha and omega of our best Rieslings.

You can uncork a world of wine in early May at Toronto's international wine celebration called Santé. The Bloor-Yorkville wine festival features tastings, seminars, dinners and a variety of products for sale. Reserve a day from May 3rd to 7th to stroll through Yorkville, or take advantage of the previews on April 29th and May 2nd. The info line is 416.928.3553, x27 or go online at [www.santewinefestival.net](http://www.santewinefestival.net).

In April, the Ontario Hostelry Institute pays tribute at its marquee event, the annual gala Gold Awards Dinner and Wine Auction, to men and women who made a difference to the industry. To learn more about the Institute, its work, students, industry awards, scholarships and past honorees, visit [www.theohi.ca](http://www.theohi.ca).

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## A Riesling Renaissance

The luscious varietal can dance  
with many dishes

by Anna HOBBS

**R**iesling — it may very well be the world's most underrated grape, too often overlooked because of the mania surrounding Chardonnay. The good news is that after years in the doldrums, the elegant varietal is coming into its own again, for a variety of reasons.

First, wine lovers have discovered it as one of the most versatile wines on the planet. Chefs such as John Higgins like the way these wines set off rather than dominate a dish. Higgins remarked, "Riesling particularly complements most smoked fish, like salmon and lake trout."

There probably isn't a grape variety in the world that produces as many different styles of wine, from light, super-dry, aperitif-style to aged dessert wines with a luscious texture and the sweetness of honey. "Not only is it able to dance with many dishes, it's also a refreshing aperitif on its own," noted award-winning wine writer Natalie MacLean.

The ability to perform many roles stems from its crisp, refreshing acidity, its beautiful fruitiness and its purity of flavor. Unlike Chardonnay, with its affinity for oak, Riesling is produced in stainless steel vats and bottled-aged, with the result that its fruit and earthy flavors remain pure. Without the need of enhancement, it has been compared to a naturally beautiful woman who requires no makeup.

Like a woman of natural beauty, Riesling is capable of aging superbly. In its youth, wonderful floral aromas combined with zesty citrus and fruit salad flavors are balanced by vibrant acidity. As it ages, these essences mellow to lovely, rich, unctuous honey and marmalade notes as the wine develops immense complexity. Great German Rieslings spellbind at 25 years. Ample residue sugar allows intensely sweet dessert wines to age even longer.

Wherever it is grown, Riesling excels in capturing the full expression of the local *terroir*. So it offers a distinctive sense of place.

Germany remains the classic home of Riesling. It is also the world's largest producer. At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, German Riesling enjoyed a reputation and garnered prices on a par with Bordeaux first-growths and Burgundy *grands crus*. During the 1970s, however, an ocean of imported sticky-sweet and indifferently vinified Liebfraumilch — some with little or no Riesling in the blend — gave German wines a negative reputation. That chapter has thankfully given way to estate-bottled wines from serious producers.

The German labeling system is highly detailed, indicating the original vineyard, the grapes used and their legally defined ripeness levels. The problem is that few people can decipher the various names. An emerging labeling system aims at making labels as easy to understand as the wine is to drink.

Riesling also makes its home in Alsace — a hiccup across the border from Germany. There it is considered top dog. As a result of some strange laws governing French winemaking, it is illegal to plant Riesling vines unless you live in Alsace.

With climate and soils similar to those of Alsace, American vintners, particularly those in New York's Finger Lake region, have made great strides with the varietal. The same can be said of Ontario. Rob Groh, wine consultant at Toronto's Harbour Sixty Restaurant, claims Riesling is the best grape variety that grows in Ontario. "With Riesling, you get a galaxy of flavors at a down-to-earth price," he said.

Jamie Drummond, sommelier at Jamie Kennedy Restaurant and Wine Bar in Toronto, often chooses an off-dry style which he finds has a synergy with many of Chef Kennedy's dishes, particularly beef, pork and veal sausages,

*Garrett Herman, CEO Loewen Ondaatje McCutcheon, holds magnum acquired during visit with Etienne Hugel in Alsace, May 2003. Photo by Ryan Hetherington-Keys*

or cured and smoked pork loin that form an ambrosial relationship with Cave Spring 2002 CSV Riesling. "Many people see it as a wine for the drawing room and the garden, as opposed to the dining table," he added. "But Riesling will always have its place at my dinner parties."

A better recommendation is hard to come by.



**I**n early March, vintners, viticulturists, oenologists and wine writers in Ontario assemble at what is known as Cuvée and hold what is simply an experts' tasting.

Riesling held center stage at this year's event. As the growing Canadian wine industry enters early adulthood, the question arises, "What do we need to develop as our signature wine with world-class status?"

Riesling may hold the answer as a white knight of the burgeoning industry. Growth abounds, as wineries in Ontario and British Columbia strive to

produce Rieslings critically accepted for their taste and stature.

This very elegant wine, transparent and well matched to many foods, is not only the product of great vineyards, but is also particularly suited to the cool climate regions of Canada and the United States. It has been said that our vineyards are the alpha and omega of great Rieslings. Perhaps, with careful nurturing and commitment, Riesling can become "the once and future king" of Canadian viticulture.



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## The Pleasurable Lightness of Dark Chocolate

by Margaret Swaine

Not only does dark chocolate have health benefits, the better it is the less chance of over-indulgence. You heard that right.

“The more pleasure at the first bite, the less you are going to eat,” said Dr. Jordan LeBel, an expert on the physiological effects of chocolate. Dr. LeBel whose current job is Associate Professor in Food and Beverage Management at Cornell University, was recently on a cross Canada tour promoting France’s famous Poulain chocolate. His pitch focused on the best way to savour chocolate.

LeBel did his PhD on people’s response to chocolate. Like an Easter



Photo courtesy of Poulain chocolate

Bunny with no sense of season, in field experiments he left chocolate on people’s desks to see how much they ate. He also did lab tests where people rated their enjoyment of a particular chocolate measured against how much they ate. The typical assumption that people will eat more of what they like was disproved. No chance of gluttony if the chocolate was really delicious.

He explained most people gorge on chocolate when they are under high stress or just not paying attention. He ran lab studies in which one group was given a puzzle to do while they ate chocolate and another was told to focus on the treat. Those who focussed ate less. Now he’s putting his findings into practical use. He recommends that people should buy high quality dark chocolate, slow down and savour it just like a fine wine. Pair it with spirits or hot beverages. Less is really more.



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## Frozen Games Warm Hearts of Canadians

Canada ranked third in the world in medals

by Andrew LOPEZ

Canada's Duff Gibson starts his first run in Men's Skeleton at the Turin 2006 Winter Olympic Games at Cesana Pariol, Italy, Friday, Feb. 17, 2006.  
CP Photo/COC (Michael Sohn)

## torino 2006

Torino, Italy has now become part of the Canadian consciousness. The northern Italian city, host to the 2006 Winter Olympics, will long be remembered fondly by many Canadians from coast to coast to coast. Athletes from the Pacific to the Arctic to the Atlantic oceans came together united by the beloved maple leaf and passionately demonstrated dominance over games played on snow and ice. Canada won 24 medals at the games—not only its most successful show of athletic excellence by far, but also one that placed it third in the entire world. Only Germany and U.S. won more with 29 and 25 respectively. From day one, Canadians marveled at their daughters and sons whose talent, work ethic, sacrifice and spirit inspired them to achieve mounds of Olympic glory.

One by one the young athletes stood at the starting line, perhaps reflecting on everyone and everything that brought them to this point, to this place in northern Italy. Their dreams, passion, pride and pure belief in themselves led them to compete at the highest level, amongst the best in the world, not only for themselves, but also for the maple leaf they wore proudly on their chests. Canada is known to many as the most diverse and welcoming country in the world. While the paths athletes took to reach Torino may be as diverse as the regions they represent, all the medallists share two magical memories forever engraved on their minds: first, the day they first dreamed of Olympic glory as they saw a fellow Canadian stand on the Olympic podium; the second, as they saw their hard work and sacrifice come to fruition as they themselves stood on the Torino podium and became the Olympic example for the next generation.

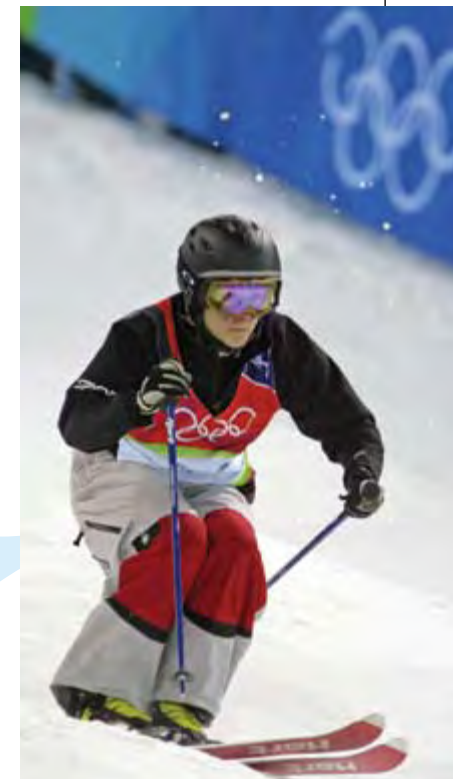


Cindy Klassen poses with her five Olympic medals for speedskating at Oval Lingotto, Feb. 25, 2006. Klassen has become the most decorated Canadian woman at a single Olympics with her five medals — gold in the 5,000 and 1,500-metre, silver in the 1,000 and team pursuit and bronze in the 3,000 and 5,000.  
CP Photo/COC (Matt Dunham)

Canadian women won an unprecedented 16 of the 24 Olympic medals achieved at Torino. Among the most memorable moments of the Torino Winter Games was Cindy Klassen, winner of five medals. Named "Woman of the Games" by International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge, she led our proud 2006 Olympic team. Klassen won gold in the 1500, silver in the 1000 and Team Pursuit and bronze in the 3000 and 5000 metres, becoming Canada's most decorated Olympic athlete. Clara Hughes, gold medallist in the 5000 metres, decided to donate the \$10,000 in her bank account to the Right To Play Organization, which provides sport programs for the neediest of children in Africa. "This is what I do and I should not be afraid to be the best in the world," she told reporters after her gold-medal victory, showing the grace and compassion that define part of the Canadian character.

On the first day of the Games, Edmonton's Jennifer Heil lived up to her billing as the favorite in the Ski Moguls competition by delivering Canada's first gold medal of the Games. Heil's performance is an example of the new reality of creating Olympic champions. Corporate Canada invested in training for this special athlete by providing the best staff available in different disciplines — coaches, trainers, physiotherapists and psychologists — all working together with Heil to help her achieve Olympic excellence. She came through with flying colors — the red and white.

At age 39 Calgary firefighter Duff Gibson took the gold in skeleton, beating fellow Calgarian Jeff Pain, and dedicating his win to his late father. Pain, the reigning World Champion, won the silver. As they were presented their medals, Gibson pulled Pain up to join him on the gold-medal podium and together they listened to the national anthem as the maple leaf flag was raised to the Italian skies.



Jennifer Heil of Spruce Grove, Alta. skis to the gold medal in women's moguls action at the Winter Olympics in Sauze d'Oulx, Italy, Feb. 11, 2006.  
CP Photo/COC (Mike Ridewood)



I'll always remember the silver medal earned by our two-man bobsleigh team led by world champion and 1998 Olympic champion Pierre Leuders and his partner, Jamaican-born Lascelles Brown, who became a Canadian citizen only a month ago. "I want to thank Canada for embracing me as a citizen so I can sit here and talk to you," Brown said. "I want to thank all my Jamaican friends, my teammates, who talked to me, were behind me and motivated me in order to do what I did today."

Hockey has often and perhaps always will define our country in many ways. This year, it was the women's hockey team that repeated as gold medallists, playing like the champions they are. The disappointed men's team finished out of the medals.

Ken Dryden wrote:

Hockey is part sport and recreation, part entertainment, part business, part community builder, social connector, and fantasy maker. It is played in every province and territory and in every part of every province and territory in this country.

Once a game for little boys, now little girls play hockey as well and so do older men and women, so do the blind and the mentally and physically handicapped, and although its symmetry is far from perfect hockey does far better than most in cutting across social divisions, young and old, rich and poor, urban and rural, French and English, east and west, able and disabled.

It is this breadth, its reach into the past, that makes hockey such a vivid instrument through which to view Canadian life.

—Ken Dryden, *The Game*

A love for all sports played on ice and snow makes the Olympics, in Dryden's words, that "vivid instrument through which to view Canadian life." It is a part of Canada that we took with us, shared with Torino and then brought back home.

Torino, we will never forget you. Now we invite you and the rest of the world to Vancouver and Whistler in 2010 to continue our love affair with the frozen games. ■



Gold medallist Cindy Klassen, left, and silver medallist, teammate Kristina Groves skate around the oval with the Canadian flag following the women's 1,500-metre speedskating competition, Feb. 22, 2006.  
*CP Photo/COC (Paul Chiasson)*



Curling bonze medallists of Canada celebrate during the medal ceremony for the Women's Curling competition, Feb. 25, 2006.  
*CP Photo/COC (Greg Baker)*



Gold medallists of Canada celebrate during the medal ceremony for the Men's Curling competition, Feb. 25, 2006.  
*CP Photo/COC (Domenico Stinellis)*



Members of team Canada pose for a photograph as they celebrate their 4-1 victory over Team Sweden to win the gold medal in women's hockey, Feb. 20, 2006.  
*CP Photo/COC (Paul Chiasson)*



Mayor of Vancouver Sam Sullivan, left, holds the Olympic flag after the flag was handed over by IOC President Jacques Rogge during the 2006 Winter Olympics closing ceremony in Turin, Italy, Feb. 26, 2006  
*CP Photo/COC (Koji Sasahara)*

Canadian Medal Records at Torino 2006

DISCIPLINE	EVENT	NAME		DATE
GOLD				
Freestyle Skiing	Women's Moguls	HEIL Jennifer		11 February 2006
Skeleton	Men's Skeleton	GIBSON Duff		17 February 2006
Ice Hockey	Women's Ice Hockey	KELLAR Becky FERRARI Gillian KINGSBURY Gina VAILLANCOURT Sarah WICKENHEISER Hayley BOTTERILL Jennifer HEFFORD Jayna GOYETTE Danielle OUELLETTE Caroline POUNDER Cheryl	APPS Gillian MACLEOD Carla AGOSTA Meghan CAMPBELL Cassie SUNOHARA Vicky ST-PIERRE Kim LABONTE Charline WEATHERSTON Katie SOSTORICS Colleen PIPER Cherie	20 February 2006
Speed Skating	Women's 1500 m	KLASSEN Cindy		22 February 2006
Cross-Country Skiing	Women's Sprint	CRAWFORD Chandra		22 February 2006
Curling	Men	GUSHUE Brad NICHOLS Mark KORAB Jamie	ADAM Mike HOWARD Russ	24 February 2006
Speed Skating	Women's 5000 m	HUGHES Clara		25 February 2006
SILVER				
Cross-Country Skiing	Women's Team Sprint	RENNER Sara	SCOTT Beckie	14 February 2006
Speed Skating	Men's Team Pursuit	DANKERS Arne ELM Steven PARKER Jason	WARSYLEWICZ Justin MORRISON Denny	16 February 2006
Speed Skating	Women's Team Pursuit	GROVES Kristina HUGHES Clara KLASSEN Cindy	NESBITT Christine REMPEL Shannon	16 February 2006
Skeleton	Men's Skeleton	PAIN Jeff		17 February 2006
Bobsleigh	Two-Man Competition	LUEDERS Pierre	BROWN Lascelles	19 February 2006
Speed Skating	Women's 1000 m	KLASSEN Cindy		19 February 2006
Speed Skating	Women's 1500 m	GROVES Kristina		22 February 2006
Short Track Speed Skating	Women's 3000 m Relay	KRAUS Alanna LEBLANC-BOUCHER Anouk OVERLAND Amanda	ROBERGE Kalyna VICENT Tania	22 February 2006
Short Track Speed Skating	Men's 500 m	TREMBLAY Francois-Louis		25 February 2006
Short Track Speed Skating	Men's 5000 m Relay	BEDARD Eric GUILMETTE Jonathan HAMELIN Charles	TREMBLAY Francois-Louis TURCOTTE Mathieu	25 February 2006
BRONZE				
Speed Skating	Women's 3000 m	KLASSEN Cindy		12 February 2006
Short Track Speed Skating	Women's 500 m	LEBLANC-BOUCHER Anouk		15 February 2006
Figure Skating	Men's Figure Skating	BUTTLE Jeffrey		16 February 2006
Skeleton	Women's Skeleton	HOLLINGSWORTH-RICHARDS Mellisa		16 February 2006
Snowboard	Women's Snowboard Cross	MALTAIS Dominique		17 February 2006
Curling	Women	KLEIBRINK Shannon KESHEN Christine JENKINS Sandra	BAKKER Glenys NIXON Amy	23 February 2006
Speed Skating	Women's 5000 m	KLASSEN Cindy		25 February 2006



# Art of Commemoration

by Rachelle DICKENSON

Lindsay Lehr has been drawing for as long as she can remember. Her œuvre includes painting and sculpture, as well as ink and paper mâché. Lately, however, she has been using her artistic abilities to raise awareness for Alzheimer disease research and support. Last June, she created two cards and canvassed in her community when she wasn't doing her homework. Lindsay's work is deeply connected to her family and community. Did I mention that Lindsay is only 10 years old?

Miyuki Eguchi, Lindsay's grandmother, suffered from Alzheimer disease. It is this experience that inspired Lindsay's latest work *People Helping People* (shown here) and *Penguins: After Norval Morrisseau*. Lindsay provides a unique perspective; there is clarity of vision to her work and her thinking about the disease. Lindsay has said that families with loved ones suffering from Alzheimer's mourn two deaths: first the death of their loved one's memory and then the physical death.

*People Helping People* is one of two of Lindsay's drawings available for a donation through the Alzheimer Society of Calgary and illustrates the hope for a future of unity in research and support. The composition is based on the mandala—an indigenous symbol of identity, connection and good will. The mandala is intimately connected to family and community and often used as a symbol of good luck.

Lindsay's mandala is a rich tapestry of meaning. *People Helping People* invokes the interconnectedness of all the people in the fight against Alzheimer's around the world. The sun, moon and stars represent the passage of time and

the patience and diligence required, even in unity, to raise awareness and find a cure. This interconnectedness is rooted in Lindsay's family. Barbara and Real, Lindsay's aunt and uncle, took care of Miyuki in Toronto, sharing love, support and dignity in her death. They attended information sessions and support workshops at the Toronto Providence Care Centre. They passed on their experiences to Lindsay and her mother, Roma, in Calgary. With the intention of instilling a strong sense of compassion in her daughter, Roma encouraged Lindsay to learn about and discuss what was happening to her grandmother.

The circle represents so much more. Roma marvels at the continuity of the events of the last year. Miyuki loved art, especially oil painting, so when the full impact of Alzheimer's hit her family, it seemed fitting that Lindsay's drawings would be used to help raise awareness, learn and heal. The commitment required has been a remarkable learning experience, while commemorating the life and death of Miyuki. The big picture illustrates valuable life lessons of the knowledge and support shared by family in such a journey.

Last summer, Lindsay raised \$5,500, with the support of the Alzheimer Society of Calgary, through canvassing her cards. The awareness raised through her vivid images is as important as the generosity of the Society and the strength of Roma, Real and Barbara. Lindsay is thrilled to learn that she has directly inspired two other young girls to fund raise for issues that have touched their own lives. Lindsay says, "Thank you very much; together we will find a cure."

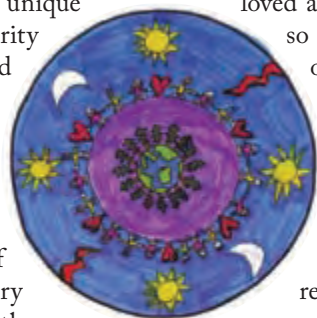
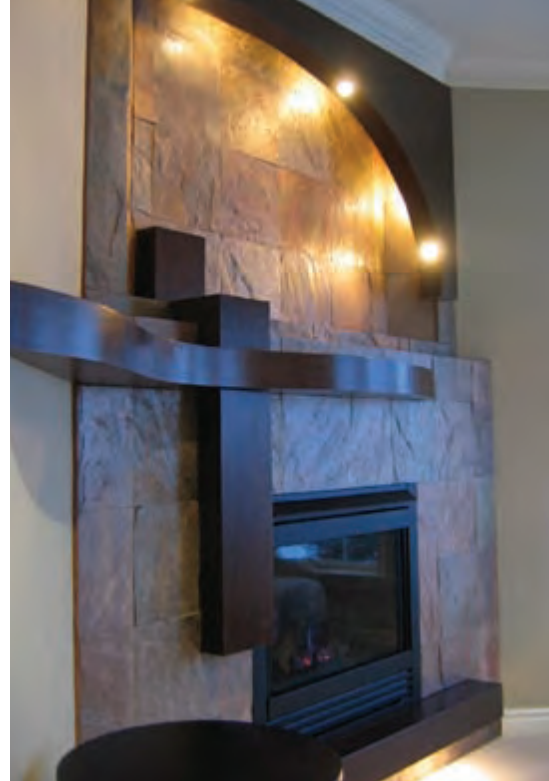


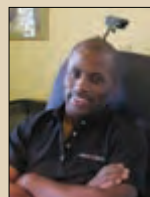
Photo courtesy of the Lehr Family

To make a donation to receive Lindsay's cards, please contact the Alzheimer Society of Calgary at [info@alzheimercalgary.com](mailto:info@alzheimercalgary.com) or call 1.877.569.4357 (HELP).



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# Making the Stars Sparkle

**Charlize, Felicity, Salma, Reese,  
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by Janice KAYE

Nicole Kidman, 2006

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**DIAMOND BRIOLETTE  
EARRINGS**  
48 briolette, round, pear-shaped  
and marquise diamonds; 16.18 carats  
by Harry Winston.  
Photo by Harry Winston, Inc.



Felicity Huffman, 2006

**PEAR-SHAPED DIAMOND  
DROP NECKLACE**  
150 round and pear-shaped  
diamonds; 48.64 carats  
by Harry Winston.  
Photo by Harry Winston, Inc.

In the past couple of years, Oscar® nominees and presenters have paid significantly more attention to their gowns and jewels than has sometimes historically been the case. In fact, elegance has staged a colossal comeback and the stars sparkled shinier than ever at Hollywood's biggest event.

At the red-carpet ceremony, beautiful bodies show off jeweled masterpieces among their assorted array of silks, satins, chiffons and tulle. Some ornate, some simple, most are provided by such red-carpet stand-bys as Harry Winston, Van Cleef and Arpels, Bulgari and Chopard, while relative newcomers such as Martin Katz, Kwiat, Fred Leighton, Sol Rafael and Lorraine Schwartz have joined the fashion fray in a big way as well.

The House of Harry Winston is renowned for having jewel-fuelled Oscar®-winners since 1943, when Harry Winston himself was at the helm of his eponymous firm. He has been lending his glistening pearls, scarlet rubies, deep-blue sapphires and dazzling diamonds to celebrities ever since, to the mutual benefit of both sides and the endless amusement and speculation of the rest of us.

This year, the stars wore particularly spectacular fashions with their jewels: Charlize Theron, Felicity Huffman, Salma Hayak, Reese Witherspoon, Nicole Kidman, Keira Knightley, Jessica Alba, and the Jennifers — Lopez, Garner and Aniston. In the post-Oscar®



Terrence Howard,  
2006



coverage, veteran comedienne Carol Burnett noted, somewhat bewilderingly, “We used to wear our own clothes!” Although those days seem to be gone for most stars, Reese Witherspoon, caught at the Golden Globes in a vintage gown worn by another star a couple of years ago, smilingly assured reporters that her vintage Oscar gown, also Dior, was her very own, bought in a vintage Paris shop.

## Elegance has staged a colossal comeback

In the last few years, knockout Nicole Kidman has gone from gangling ingenue to sophisticated fashion icon at a variety of premiere events. This year she astonished anew in a slender, ivory, embroidered Balenciaga. Her tall thin figure and long straight hairdo with sideswept bangs rendered her a blonde column of beauty. A jeweled clutch added to the elegance. Both her wrists sported diamond bracelets of old mine-cut diamonds totaling 131 carats and valued at \$850,000. Her rose-cut diamond earrings were valued at another \$25,000.

Charlize stunned in a black-tinged-with-dark-green Dior. She cut a glamorous figure with two huge bias-cut self-sashes, that much-discussed architectural bow on her left shoulder, and a fishtail a mermaid would envy. In a lovely match to her golden hair and shining skin, Chopard paired her with

fancy yellow diamond chandelier earrings dropping four golden teardrop-shaped stones of approximately two carats each from her luscious lobes.

At the 2005 ceremony, Charlize wore a pale blue Christian Dior, a vision in tulle ruffles. With her hair elegantly upswept, the diamond chandelier Bulgari earrings dangling down had plenty of room to shine. Last year also, Emmy



Salma Hayek, 2006

Rossum accompanied her strapless wine-colored silk Ralph Lauren with diamond-and-ruby cluster-drop earrings — one pear-shaped and one oval ruby in each — and a matching necklace. The year before, pink sapphires and chocolate diamonds appeared, the latter partly in honor of the sparkling French movie *Chocolat*. In 2002, Best Actress Halle Berry sported a stone the approximate color and size of a pumpkin, designed by Ronald Winston and Phillip Bloch. Colored diamonds in various configurations — necklaces, earrings, bracelets and rings — have become *de rigueur*. Not that clear diamonds have fallen out of vogue; they are still treasured for their fire, clarity and brilliance.

Salma strutted in a peacock-blue Versace featuring a double left-shoulder strap that cut across her left breast and wrapped at the right side of her waist. Her long, shiny, ebony hair cascaded down her neck and shoulders, though not hiding the stunning four-stone diamond graduated drop earrings sparkling like falling stars. She also sported a pink diamond ring valued at \$4.3 million.

## Winston has jewel-fuelled Oscar®-winners since 1943

First-time nominee Michelle Williams set off the frilly “V” of her mustard-colored Vera Wang with scarlet lips, a pre-Raphaelite hairdo, and a 19<sup>th</sup>-century French diamond necklace by New Yorker Fred Leighton. She also chose a rose-cut diamond ring.

Keira was in burgundy Vera Wang, with right-shoulder interest, and a blue-stoned 1960s vintage Bulgari necklace. Always natural and breezy, Reese came in that pale vintage Dior and, aside from her

earrings, let the jewels on her gown take the place of any other sparklers except her Best Actress award. Felicity dazzled in a how-far-can-that-plunging-neckline-go black pleated Zac Posen, diamond teardrops and a diamond hairpiece, her blonde hair in a tidy but elegantly swept knot at her nape. Rachel Weisz chose a black Narciso Rodriguez to drape her seven months of pregnancy. It must have been lucky because she walked out on the arm of Oscar.®

Presenters showed every bit as much presence as the nominees: Jennifer Aniston appeared in a simple black Rochas, and Jessica Alba in golden Versace with huge golden teardrop earrings. Sandra Bullock was naturally beautiful in a strapless midnight blue Angel Sanchez with pockets; she wore earrings only, her clavicle left cleverly bare. Jennifer Garner walked on stage in an ivory Michael Kors, almost tripping in her high heels, then making an elegant and good-humored recovery. Meryl Streep was a knockout in a body-hugging amethyst three-quarter-sleeved Rogelio Velasco. Jennifer Lopez epitomized glamor in a \$25,000 gathered lawn-green vintage number by Jean Dessès, which she accompanied with an elegantly scalloped diamond and gold necklace and earrings by Fred Leighton and Lily et Cie.

The jewelry houses now cater to the male stars as well as to the women and that’s something new.

This year, the male presenters included double nominee George Clooney, nominee Terrence Howard, last year’s winner Jamie Foxx, three-time winner Jack Nicholson, past double winners Clint Eastwood and Tom Hanks, Oscar®-holder Morgan Freeman, Owen Wilson, Luke Wilson, Keanu Reeves, Will Ferrell, Steve Carell, Will Smith and Chris “Ludacris” Bridges.

Clooney, always charmingly unselfconscious, set the tone for the handsome brigade in a perfect classic tux, with smart bowtie and sparkly shirt studs. Nominee Matt Dillon also went for the bowtied tux look. Even Jack Nicholson strode



Charlize Theron, 2006

to the podium all traditional — traditional tux, traditional Jack shades, traditional Jack grin. Nominee Paul Giamatti opted for a straight tie, as did Terrence Howard.

It was Terrence Howard, buoyed by his first nomination, who definitively broke the mould, not with his neat white shirt, straight black tie or even the white rose pinned to his natty black tux. No earrings for this guy. No flashy pinky ring. It was the sweeping diamond brooch he

## Men in diamonds. It's a trend

also sported above the rose that caught the eye. By Sol Rafael, the 30-carat pear-and-marquise-shaped pin is valued at \$500,000.

Jamie Foxx, last year’s Best Actor winner and Will Smith, clearly both secure in their masculinity, wore diamond stud earrings. Shaun Proulx reported in the *Globe and Mail*, “A burgeoning men’s market and a new youthful, rebellious attitude in guys unafraid to take chances means men’s jewellery is a fast-growing category.”

Women in diamonds. Men in diamonds. Whatever their gender, we want our stars to sparkle — on-screen and off. And sparkle they did.

**DIAMOND LATTICE BRACELET**  
280 round and princess-cut, 33.06 carats by Harry Winston.  
Photo by Harry Winston, Inc.



**RUBY AND DIAMOND CLUSTER-DROP EARRINGS**  
Like the ones Emmy Rossum wore at the Oscars in 2005, 4 pear-shaped and oval rubies, 7.50 carats; 52 marquise and round diamonds, 4.61 carats by Harry Winston.  
Photo by Harry Winston, Inc.



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## GO WITH THE FLOW

Beauty note: The season's ultimate luxury is gorgeous shimmering skin. On Aryka, the perfect foundation match is *Individualist* in linen and *Ideal Light* concealer in light medium to give her a flawless finish. Cheeks that yearn to be sun-kissed get a luminous glow with the *Limited Edition Exotic Shimmer* all-over face powder. Eyelashes leap out with *More Than Mascara* in rich black and, on the eye, a pop of *Pure Color* eye shadow in mango. All makeup: Premiere Artist Jody Daye for Estée Lauder.



## TOPICAL BREEZE

Silk chiffon gown by Naeem Khan \$4,975 at Holt Renfrew, *Exsling* chalk-soft patent leather shoe by Stuart Weitzman, \$358 at Browns; platinum tennis bracelet, platinum *Infinity* earrings both by Raynes Jewels Privilege Collection.

### *Opposite page:*

Silk chiffon raspberry cocktail dress by Danes, \$2,995 at Holt Renfrew, *Bellissima* Swarovski crystal shoe by Stuart Weitzman, \$598 at Browns, cocktail ring \$95 at Holt Renfrew.

### ADDITIONAL CREDITS:

Model: Aryka from Elite  
Photography assistant: Ed Kowal  
Styling assistant: Joanne Zacher



# Are You Ready for Ayurveda?

## A five-star clinic at the Taj Malabar Hotel

by Jacqueline SWARTZ

The 5,000-year-old Ayurvedic (pronounced I-yer-VAY-dic) system of health may be the oldest in the world, yet is strikingly in sync with current ideas about wellness, stress, and the role of nutrition in health.

Detoxification, rejuvenation and individualized cures are cornerstones of Ayurvedic medicine, which looks at diet, exercise and stress, and works through the healing powers of herbs, tonics natural foods, and oils such as sesame and coconut.

I wanted to experience the Ayurvedic way firsthand. So I went to the source — not just India, where the system was created and codified in ancient texts, but to the Ayurvedic epicenter, the palm-fringed southern province of Kerala. Zoom in further to the Taj Malabar, a glamorous colonial-style hotel on an island near the port



Photos by author

city of Kochi. It has gardens, outdoor restaurants and an infinity pool that seems to merge with the canals.

This is no mere deluxe hotel with an add-on spa. The Ayurvedic facility is housed in its own building. "It's more like a five-star clinic," said the resident doctor, K. H. Abhilash. There are treatment rooms and a large studio for yoga classes.

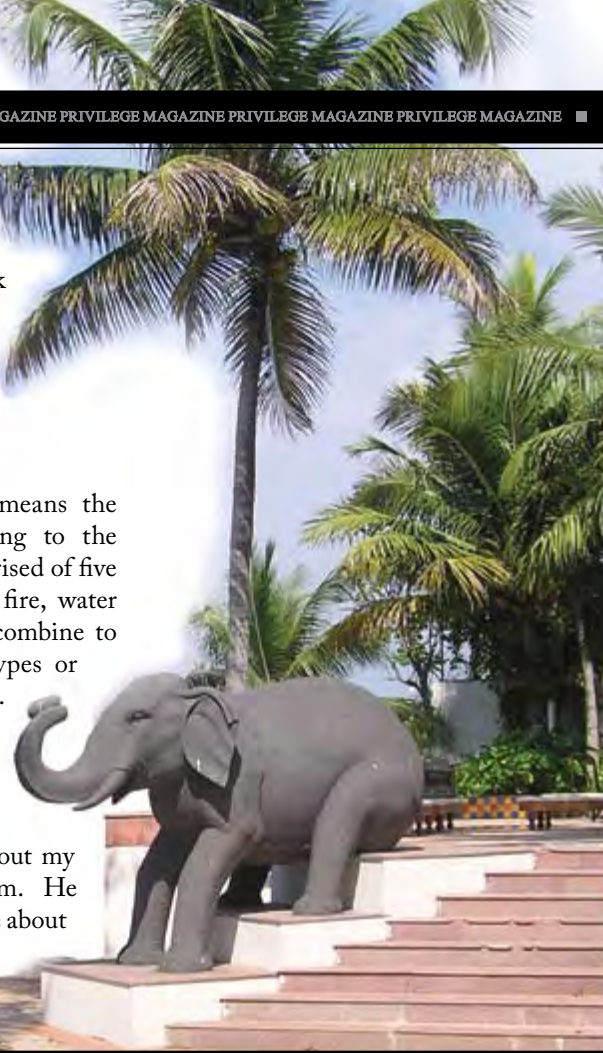
Although Ayurvedic medicine has always been popular in India, few Ayurvedic settings are this posh. In the town of Kochi, I visited a tiny pharmacy stocked with bottles of pills and glass containers of tonics. In the back room, behind a rickety desk, sat the resident doctor. You tell her your complaint and she writes out a prescription to be filled right there.

The Taj Malabar attracts people from India and abroad who come every year to take the detoxification cure for

a period ranging from a week to a month. Nutrition is key: Dr. Abhilash and the chef sit down with each person to plan a diet tailor-made to their health needs and food preferences.

In Sanskrit, Ayurveda means the science of health. According to the system, each person is comprised of five elements: ether (space), air, fire, water and earth. These elements combine to form three distinct body types or *doshas*: *pitta*, *vatta* and *kapha*. The ratios vary with the individual. When one *dosha* becomes excessive, it must be restored to balance.

I asked Dr. Abhilash about my own stress-burdened system. He took my pulse, then asked me about my diet



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and lifestyle. I noticed how intently he listened. He told me I was basically healthy, a combination of *pitta* and *kapha*. The first tends towards the hyper, the second towards overweight. (Aha, I thought, the worst of both worlds.) He advised me to lose weight, take less sugar and more seafood and cooked leafy vegetables, and to eat three meals — no grazing.

One widespread image of Ayurvedic therapy is that of oil being dripped on the forehead. The technique is designed to reduce stress and alleviate insomnia. The oil is considered to be more than skin deep, lubricating the body's joints, stimulating the lymphatic system and preventing arthritis and diabetes.

I had one of the classic Ayurvedic massages, called *Abhyanga*. As I lay on the wooden table — not any old wooden table but one designed to certain specifications — a practitioner dressed in white with a long braid down her back applied the oil with downward strokes.



Afterwards, I was scrubbed with a green lentil powder that dried into a kind of whole-body masque. After showering in the well-appointed rain-shower stall, I sat in the steam room, which was all stone and wood — minimalism both austere and luxurious. This could be any five-star spa, I thought, except for the ancient medical system infused with its own spiritual dimension. In every massage room there is a statue of a Hindu deity.

I felt cleansed and moisturized. The transcendently relaxing head massage seemed to reach into my mind and wrestle it into tranquility. The oil was a bonus hair treatment. Another beauty and health treatment was the *Mukhalepam* facial, which included a massage and a masque of 15 herbs. For just as body and mind are considered one, so are health and beauty.

Afterwards, I sat beside the infinity pool, gazing at one of the calming statues and the dreamy waters beyond. This was a different kind of mind-body peace. **P**

### AYURVEDIC ODYSSEY

In Toronto, I continued my Ayurvedic odyssey under the expert hands of aesthetician and nutritionist Seta Kerim. In her facials, Kerim uses herbs and oils to massage not only the face and head, but also the feet. She lightly presses what are called Marma points on various parts of the body. Each Marma point, the theory goes, represents a physical function. Afterwards, I felt a sense of well-being that was both physical and emotional. This was no ordinary facial.

Facials, says Kerim, should go deeper than the outer layer. "The primary focus is on vitality and well-being; beauty is merely a reflection of this."

Kerim has a studio on Yonge at Summerhill. She also works at the Centre for Ayurveda and Indian Systems of Healing (CAISH). This healing, education and yoga center, open since September 2004, is staffed with its own Indian-trained Ayurvedic doctors, headed by Ismat Nathani.

The Centre uses Indian methods of detoxification, oil-based massages, nutrition and yoga. Nathani also takes into account the local environment. "We can't avoid the toxins of a big city, but we can learn how to neutralize them," she says.

Seta Kerim, Toronto

416.960.2456 [setaskin@bellnet.ca](mailto:setaskin@bellnet.ca)

Centre for Ayurveda and Indian Systems of Healing:  
416.233.2049, [info@caish.ca](mailto:info@caish.ca), [www.ayurveda-yoga.ca](http://www.ayurveda-yoga.ca)



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The distinguished members of the Advisory Board of Canada's Top 40 Under 40™ met in February for the 11<sup>th</sup> annual selection of the exceptional achievers who will become the recipients of Canada's Top 40 Under 40™ for 2005. The corporate sponsors would like to thank each and every Board Member. We greatly appreciate their generosity of spirit and commitment to the task of recognizing excellence within Canada's leaders of today and tomorrow.

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## Côte Nord Delivers Family Luxury

by Gregory B. GALLAGHER

**S**outheast of Mont-Tremblant Village and near one of North America's most amazing natural parks, lies the luxury log chalet domain called Côte Nord. While motoring the backroads of the relatively unknown area, Lac Supérieur comes into view. After exploring the well-manicured shoreline of permanent dwellings and weekend cottages, the Caribou Lodge appears seemingly out of nowhere to welcome us to an oasis in the Upper Laurentians.

As we enter the quaint log inn built in 1945, we bump into the owner, Michel Beaulieu. A former ski pro and

prime mover behind the endeavor, he is crackling about the luxury Scandinavian log chalet project spread over 120 acres of the hills overlooking the lake. His enthusiasm is so unbridled and infectious that we accept his invitation to see for ourselves and embark upon an escorted tour through several of his artisan-built hilltop homes.

A meander through these luxury accommodations is all it takes for our imaginations to fire into high gear. Before we even return to the Caribou Lodge, we are discussing various scenarios of our own. One fantasy brings our adult offspring and their five children (all under the age of five) to one of these idyllic chalets for a weeklong reunion over

the winter holidays. With four or five bedrooms, plenty of common space and a full menu of outside activities peppering the immediate vicinity, we find ourselves buzzing to think it might be possible to materialize this plan on short notice.

We practically hold our breath during the process of checking personal and business agendas with our active family back in the city. There is only one common week available among the three households. There is only one chalet available. The two coincide during the first week of the New Year. We happily begin mounting the organizational effort to bring our entourage of ten to the snowy forests edging Mont-Tremblant National Park. Lists of food, beverages,

toys, games, appropriate clothing and other paraphernalia ensue.

Michel Beaulieu's chalets are ideal for mixed family groupings. In our case, our son and his wife occupy the ground floor suite with their three children. They have two bedrooms, a full bathroom, a living room with a big-screen television and DVD player, plus a washer/dryer and separate entrance. With large windows covering 180 degrees of the natural surroundings, and a layout allowing their entire family independence from the rest of the house, they enjoy easy access to the outdoors, able to come and go at will.



The next floor up the wide-plank wooden staircase is an open-concept living/dining/kitchen area, featuring a huge cobblestone fireplace, completely equipped kitchen, and massive terrace off the dining area. The most noticeable feature of the overall design is the number of large windows in each structure, which brings the outside beauty closer than traditional log buildings have in the past. The main floor also has a wet room inside the front door for coats, boots and gear, and a powder room as well.

The structure's top tier boasts the master bedroom with an ensuite bath/shower, plus a second large bedroom and full bath across the landing. Our daughter sets up shop in this upstairs bedroom with her two infants (21 months and 6 months).

Upon seeing our group together for the first time back at the Caribou Lodge (where we assembled the first night for some of their delicious cuisine), Michel Beaulieu exclaims that we are certainly brave for attempting a family retreat with so many children in tow!

This sort of multi-generational experiment is about sharing prime time together as a family, and that is abundantly possible in this mountain wonderland. Being on the north side of Mont-Tremblant, an area known as a snow-belt, assures outdoor winter fun for all levels of energy. The slopes and trails of the mammoth national park nearby provide more than 200 miles of groomed paths for Nordic skiing alone.

Because snowshoeing is not something we associate with the very young, the sight of our tiny grandson – one

month shy of his second birthday – trotting along the snowy trail in colorful miniature snowshoes, surprises all of us. Oblivious of the big deal, he casually walks along, talking to his imaginary friends, just like any other day in his particular paradise.

The most memorable moments from our trip come from the simple proximity to our loved ones over a span of days and nights under the same roof. From waking up to the muffled early morning sounds (some mornings not so muffled!) to seeing little bodies watching the preparation of bacon and eggs and pancakes, to the after-sundown filing of rosy-cheeked tobogganers into the chalet cold and tired, happy and hungry – this is why we envision such times together.

There is even the creation of a *Band of Angels*, with all the kiddies grabbing musical instruments and following grandfather's lead on his silver flute through a spontaneous session of ensemble music. Our diminutive six-month-old holds her own on the maracas, while comfortably rolling around the floor, the glow of the fireplace shining behind her in a kind of counterpoint to the magic of the moment.

It surely takes a level of enchantment, as well as the talents of a symphony conductor, to assemble the necessary ingredients, people and finances to create and run a project such as Côté Nord. Michel Beaulieu crossed a colossal parapet from running the Mont-Tremblant ski school to having a vision of creating a luxury log chalet community overlooking the north face of that very same mountain.

*The idea of leasing time in luxury digs before owning is attracting visitors from around the world*



Gifted on a number of levels beyond the ski slopes, Beaulieu is coordinating a winning team of artisans and trades people from the immediate vicinity to help realize his vision. He achieves it all with finesse and uncompromising respect for the environment. They use hand-hewn logs from the core of mature, naturally dried trees, mostly from British Columbia. The result is a distinct lack of shrinkage problems typical to most log structures built with "fresh" logs.

The chalets range in square footage from the Refuge model's 1,875, and the Relais at 2,250, to the largest, the Haven, at 3,780. Prices may surprise some North Americans (Cdn\$425,000 to \$705,000), but Europeans seem to understand the rare combination of offerings, amenities, and potential leasing incomes at Côté Nord. They are purchasing units in high numbers.

Phase One of Beaulieu's dream is already sold out, with Phase Two likely to reach the same status by May, especially with a new communal spa and swimming pool area to be finished by the fall. There are only three phases in all, and each of the 75 total units will have at least an acre of private mountain terrain. All units have access to Lac Supérieur and the Caribou Lodge facilities, as well as Le Boule River.

As Beaulieu explains it, "When potential buyers hear that they are guaranteed five percent per annum on their turnkey property leasing option, the deal is often closed at that moment." Even if buyers do not choose to participate in the rental aspect, the managed domain facilities ensure the neighborhood will be free from many of the common human blights associated with living in low-density areas in the countryside.

If M. Beaulieu has his way, an additional element of his dreaming will unfold soon as well. He and his investors are tying the Côté Nord project to plans for a complementary

themed village, located adjacent to the current project where the tiny hamlet of Lac Supérieur now sits. Locals are wide-eyed in the wake of watching Beaulieu and the artisan builders work their way through the initial phases of development. Word on the street is that they are looking at Beaulieu's expanded aspirations as a win/win blessing for the entire community.

The idea of being able to lease time in these luxury digs before owning is a smart one to many, and is attracting visitors from around the world. We visited one of the largest homes under construction, a 3,750-square-foot Haven owned by a South African lady who will use it for only 30 to 40 days per year. During the rest of the time, it will act as an income property for her.

Our exceptional family experience heralded a new era of what we call luxury family vacations. It is no longer necessary to travel far to find upscale amenities matched with tantalizing outdoor adventures and surrounded by pristine wilderness.

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*Gregory B. Gallagher is the author of Eyewitness Top Ten Travel Guide: Montréal & Québec City, published by the Penguin Group International from London, England under their Dorling-Kindersley imprint. He is also a regular contributor to American Airlines in-flight publication Latitudes Magazine and is finishing two new travel guides to be launched worldwide during March.*

*Photos by Gregory Gallagher taken with the new Olympus E-Volt 300 using both the 14-45mm and 50-200mm Zuiko lenses courtesy of Olympus America: [olympusamerica.com](http://olympusamerica.com)*





# Time is Money

by Gary CAMPBELL AME

Photos by Sandra Clark

As any executive or salesperson knows, wasting two hours on airport check-in, then additional time for customs, connecting flights, car rentals and the drive to a hotel, makes flying a very time-consuming proposition. It can add up to a long, unproductive day.

Corporate flying offers options available to meet the demands of any size corporation, including ownership, fractional ownership and block time. Why *do* companies choose corporate flying?

- Save time for key personnel
- Schedule trips according to business needs rather than airline schedules
- Avoid transportation problems; many fixed-base operators (FBOs) offer on-site corporate shuttles or car rentals
- Increase productivity in a private airborne office
- Provide flexibility of routing and schedules, i.e. multi-facility stops in one day, permitting more effective use of executive time



- Increase opportunity for a higher profit margin
- Enhance customer relations with the ability to fly at will
- Provide security for executive officers

Consider an executive making \$130,000 per year at \$65 per hour; the time value to the company is about \$370 per hour. A middle management person earning \$65,000 per year at \$32.50 per hour has a time value to the company of about \$124 per hour. This is the basis of corporate flying — the biggest bang for your buck.

Companies with numerous facilities face challenges, including traveling to meetings at multiple locations on the same day and lack of scheduled flights to a nearby airport. The use of a business aircraft ensures a greater choice of airports. For example, in addition to regularly scheduled flights at Pearson International Airport, Toronto offers corporate flying at nearby Buttonville, Downsview and Toronto Island airports.

By combining cargo and priority mail delivery with the flight, companies can save large shipping or mail charges

and provide same-day service. Some companies have been able to save hundreds of thousands of dollars per year.

## A Patch of Blue

If a company cannot justify purchasing the whole aircraft, but flying fits the company needs, how about a piece of the sky? The alternative is multi-ownership in one aircraft and sharing the flying time. This can be managed by an aviation group. The cost of the operation is divided among the owners of the aircraft. Many of the benefits of aircraft ownership apply with the fractional program.

## Blocking Time in the Sky

If a company cannot afford the purchase of an aircraft — whole or fractional — but still requires corporate flying, there is yet another option. Aviation corporations own aircraft and will sell blocks of airtime at a fixed price. The normal block is 50-to-100 hours of flying time per year. This would average \$1,400 per hour for a 5-seat aircraft, or up to \$6,800 per hour for a 14-seat aircraft.

Some companies with different types of aircraft offer a fleet block plan. Customers purchase block time on a smaller aircraft with an additional option of using a larger aircraft, with no penalty, for special projects. For instance, a company plans for 50 hours of flying at \$1,400 per hour. If a sales meeting requires a team of more than five people, the plan would allow the company to book a larger aircraft and the

monetary difference for the upgrade would be deducted from the plan.

## Ownership has its Privileges

Almost two-thirds of Fortune 500 companies operate business aircraft. Reports show the practice boosts their bottom line, providing an advantage over their competitors who do not own corporate jets.

A single-engine Cessna can cost \$50,000, while a three-engine Falcon might be more in the \$30-to-40-million range. Working out the important relationship between time saved and money spent helps companies decide on the best purchase.

Available support includes personnel — pilots, and maintenance and ground service. Aircraft companies such as PartnerJet and Exeair manage plane purchases and also provide third-party charters that reduce the ownership costs. The managing company sells aircraft “down time” to companies requiring charter service. The move makes for efficient and economical use of time and money not charged to your company for time not used.

Business aircraft can also serve corporate community service programs, such as charities, special events and emergency services.

Companies of various types have differing needs, schedules and budgets. The right plan for the right plane could mean money in the bank. P



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# The automotive seduction of Andrew Firestone

Two hot cars vie for the attention of *The Bachelor*

by Michael BETTENCOURT

Former star of the wildly popular reality TV show *The Bachelor*, Andrew Firestone is used to facing tough decisions. But there was a clear choice when asked what vehicle he'd most like to sample from the driver's seat. "Dodge Viper," he quickly replied.

Such are the opportunities presented even a couple years after starring in a prime-time show that made him recognizable in the street, and landed him on the cover of *People* magazine after a break-up with his media-savvy fiancée.

Firestone's relationship with Jen Schefft, the winner of the 25-lady fight to the finish, and later the chooser instead of the chosen in her own *Bachelorette* spin-off show, lasted eight months, but his 15 minutes of fame led him to a face-off between two other beauties perhaps as difficult.

These were beauties of the four-wheeled variety — long-legged expressions of automotive passion that resonate with old-world philosophies and new-world charms. In one corner — Firestone's long-time object of desire, the brawny

Viper SRT10 Roadster, the epitome of raw American muscle cars; in the other — the lusciously curvaceous Ferrari F430 Spider, new for 2006, and a shiny sculpture of Italian heritage. Both are red, both engines redhead, and both capable of fanning infernos of desire.

Firestone was left to do what he's most famous for doing — making a tough choice. Over four days of jumping back and forth between the two, along the trendy lakeshore of Santa Monica, caressing the curves of the Pacific Coast Highway, through the meandering twisties surrounding Santa Barbara wine country, Firestone enthusiastically played host to a couple of auto-writing northerners. He provided the knowledge of fun roads, picturesque backgrounds, and a sampling of products from the Firestone family vineyard, while we arranged for the automotive playthings.

In that time, he gave us his views on wine, women, our two hot sports cars, and some similarities among the three.

\*\*\*

The two red fun machines emerged from their underground valet resting spots in the Santa Monica beachfront Le Merigot Hotel and Spa, both shining brightly in the hotel's circular driveway. As we started our adventure, we noticed the tractor-beam effect these cars caused. At gas stations, parking lots, in front of restaurants, people seemed to appear magically, curiously circling the cars, some bold enough to ask questions, others observing from afar.

Each car had its fans, even in jaded Beverly Hills, where hot cars are as plentiful as platinum credit cards.

In traffic-stopping looks, however, the Ferrari strained more necks. Oversize designer sunglasses snapped in our direction, conversations dropped mid-sentence, shouts of appreciation came from passing pedestrians and motorists alike, even if the V8 engine's soulfully intoxicating noises muffled many of the specifics. Make no mistake — you will be seen in this car.

The Viper is no wallflower though. Its sharply chiseled front fenders, side-mounted exhaust pipes, and massive 345mm (13-inch!) wide rear tires — the widest on any current passenger vehicle — all scream over-the-top performance. That is exactly what its even brasher engine delivers.

The Viper's engine, an 8.3-litre, ten-cylinder shrine to big-block displacement, is the stuff of dreams for big ol' American brute force, and the stuff of nightmares for environmentalists bothered by its gluttonous fuel economy figures. This 505-cubic-inch monster will unleash 510 hp upon any road — preferably a dry one — with 535 lb-ft of torque ready to scorch the earth with the drop of a heavy right foot. Dodge says 100 km/h comes up in less than four seconds from a dead stop. Judging by the way the car suctions your cranium to the seat's head restraint, it would be hard to argue with the estimate.

After our first day on the road, we checked into the rustic and soon-to-be-expanded El Encanto Hotel & Garden Villas in Santa Barbara, a hilltop Orient Express hotel in the process of receiving a full makeover to add a spa, an expanded business center, and updated rooms.

The transformation requires approximately a year's closure to the public. The





valet parking area provided visible resting spots for the Ferrari and Viper, the fountain a peaceful counterpoint to the red fury of sheet-metal nearby.

That night, we dined in Buellton, 40 miles north of Santa Barbara, at The Taproom, one of two restaurants owned by the Firestone family. Buellton is also home to the Firestone Walker Brewing Company. The family descended from Harvey S. Firestone, who started a tire empire in the early 1900s. He then traded the famous tire empire 30 years ago for vineyards. For the past 10 years, Firestone has become a celebrated name in the world of microbrewing. While sampling four varieties of Firestone ale, we sat down to learn a little more about our famous co-driver.

Automotively speaking, Firestone is the first to admit that he's not the most technically proficient member of even his immediate family. His brother Adam is a regular at regional Sports Car Club of America events in California. Still, Andrew does have some skill behind the wheel, having once finished second in the Long Beach Celebrity Grand Prix. He teamed up with Adam to race the grueling One Lap of America in 2004, competing at nine racetracks in eight days behind the wheel of a modified high-performance Subaru WRX STi. No stranger to high speeds and fast cars, he is willing to push a car right to its limits, even if he did end up, at the last track of the One Lap event, performing an unintended test of the STi's airbags and front crash structure.

Firestone opted first for a seat behind the wheel of the Viper. "It's definitely not a big cockpit," he said later, "but the seats are great. There's a lot of support — and you need it." That's because the low Viper grips the pavement like a

pitbull, around turns it just doesn't want to let go, as long as you're gentle with the throttle.

"The Viper has a gurgling, beautiful engine down low," noted Firestone, after experiencing the mountainous waves of torque propelling him forward like a real estate agent after a prime property. "It's always quietly asking you to give it a little bit more gas."

Like the snake it's named for, the Viper can be one venomous beast if you unthinkingly give in to such urgings. Even the latest generation Viper has no form of traction or stability control — bizarre, given that even some front-wheel drive, meekly motivated four-cylinder cars offer it. Inexpensive cars have much less thunder under their hoods to overwhelm the available traction. The Viper can do that in almost any of its first three gears, even with those giant, steamroller-like rear tires.

The F430 Spider, in contrast, is one sophisticated operator. That was apparent from the first step into the cockpit, where lovingly crafted leather and carbon fiber trim contrasted sharply with the flat black plastic of the Viper. The Ferrari has also powered its convertible top out of sight with the simple push of a button, while the Viper's driver needs to step out of the car, pop the trunk, and manually guide the roof back into place. The Ferrari can therefore go topless while sitting at a stoplight, while the Viper driver is more likely to finagle the roof open before he leaves the garage, and leave it open while parked, if only to avoid any public fiddling with it.

"The Ferrari speaks to you in five different languages," said Firestone admiringly. "Going along slowly there's a nice little burble, but when you put your foot in it to pass, there's a wail unlike any sound I've ever heard."

It is the sound that drivers and 10-year-old passengers alike remember most about a drive in the F430 Spider. With the top down, blue sky above, matching sea to the immediate left, and large rock faces of the Pacific Coast Highway to the right, every rev of the 4.3-litre V8 seemed to reverberate

***"When you pop the hood on the V10," opined Firestone, "The Viper attracts just as much attention as the Ferrari."***

through our very souls — especially when all 8500 revs came out to play, on the rare but glorious occasion that there was room to whip up every one of the engine's 490 thoroughbred horses.

Helping to accomplish everything was the Spider's optional F1 transmission, a sequential manual gearbox whose biggest appeal is its deletion of a clutch pedal, as well as quicker shifts, courtesy of Formula 1-like paddles behind the steering wheel. The engine computer that controls the transmission deserves an honorary degree for its smarts, blipping the throttle to smooth out downshifts, serenely coming to a stop on its own even in manual mode. The fully automatic mode, engaged at the touch of a button, was appreciated in heavy traffic.

Arriving at the Firestone Vineyard in Los Olivos in Santa Barbara County, where Andrew works as sales manager and which Adam runs as president, Andrew took the unexpected opportunity to become a celebrity tour guide, and led a public group around the family winery. "I want to give people a look under the hood of the wine business," he said, referring not only to his work at the vineyard, but also to a new DVD set for release in March called *Wine Ways*. It is a documentary the 30-year-old Firestone hopes will introduce new fans to the history and appreciation of good wine. "Just like that Ferrari, there's a history there, there's a passion that's never wavered, and that's what we'd like to do with our winery."

Back on the road the next morning, our appreciation of the finer things in life has us debating the attributes of the pricier of our vehicular duo — the Ferrari F430 Spider at \$293,595, compared to the Dodge Viper SRT10's significantly lower \$127,000.

According to Ferrari Beverly Hills sales manager James Del Pozzo, there's a minimum two-year waiting list for the F430 Spider. Exclusivity has always been part and parcel of the Ferrari ownership experience and undoubtedly contributes to the charm of the F430 Spider. Yet, a peek at that glass-covered rear-engine compartment, red cam covers, proudly forged prancing horse and delicately chromed Ferrari oil cap gives you an even better clue as to the magic appeal of this Ferrari.



It's more than the rare numbers. Looking at this engine, you can almost feel a half-century worth of Italian design and racing history whispering sweet lessons in your ear.

The Viper also has a red cylinder block and is an impressive sight. Whereas the Ferrari elicits admiration for its artistic detailing, the Viper again relies on sheer size, cubic inches and its 10 cylinders to wow passing crowds.

"When you pop the hood on the V10," opined Firestone, "the Viper attracts just as much attention as the Ferrari."

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On our last evening in California, we partook of the fine California sport of people-watching on the terrace of the popular Viceroy Santa Monica hotel, where the Thursday night crowd milled around the *chaises longues* by the candle-lit pool and bar. When asked which vehicle he now favored, after major seat time in both exotic auto-








mobiles on some of the most entertaining roads in North America, Firestone hesitated before answering.

"The Viper's like the hot blonde, all-American California girl, while the Ferrari is like the Italian fashion model who teases you and makes you work hard just to get a phone number, but it's worth it," he said. "There's appeal to both; it just depends what you're into."

As on the show, Firestone seems to be having a tough time choosing. "It's so hard to pick one over the other; they're so different," he said before handing out his final automotive rose. "I'd have to say the Ferrari."

This time, it seems to be a choice he'd be happy to live with for a long time. 

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## Golf with Sole

Golfing with the pro

by Mel SOLE



## Pre-shot Routine - How Important Is It?

The next time you watch golf on TV, notice what the players do before they play each shot. Each one of them goes through their “pre-shot routine” which will be exactly the same each time. In fact one of the golf ball companies is currently running an ad where “their” players discuss individual pre-shot routines.

Many golfers come to school each week saying that they would like more consistency. A good pre-shot routine is one way to ensure that. Each pro has a different



Picture #1

routine and I will describe mine in order to give you something to build on.

I think two elements that should be included in every pre-shot routine are visualization and alignment, both of which are addressed here.

As you can see in *Picture #1*, I take my practice swing first next to the ball; this swing is a “dress rehearsal” for the actual shot. In other words, if I want to hit a draw, the swing incorporates all the elements I feel in my swing when I hit a draw.



Picture #2

Then, as in *Picture #2*, I stand behind the ball and visualize the flight of the shot I am about to hit. This is done to “pre-program” my subconscious so that both my body and my mind know exactly how I want to play this shot. Once that is done, I pick a spot about two feet in front of my ball but on line with my target. (My target might not be the middle of the fairway or the flag, but the area where I want the ball to start its flight.) That spot may be something such as a leaf or a light spot on the turf. I then walk around and align the clubface to the spot as in *Picture #3*. Next I align my feet parallel to my clubface and without looking up I know that I am aligned exactly with the line I want the ball to start on (*Picture #4*).



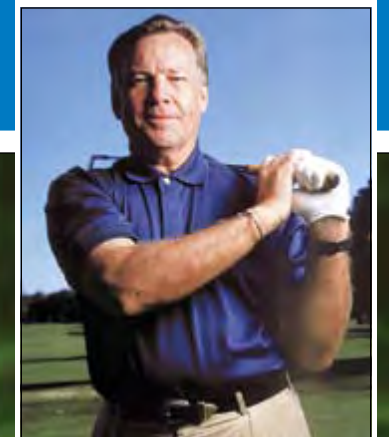
Picture #3

At this point I do not look up again, but go immediately into my swing. By not looking up I allow the positive picture in my visualization routine to



Picture #4

take over. If I look up at the target, I am now getting a different perspective on my target from my visualization, and if I don't feel comfortable I will not make a good swing. This last part takes a little practice to get used to, but once you “trust” your swing to perform the way you have trained it to, your consistency will definitely improve. Try this on the range first, and then on the course where you play some “practice rounds” using this technique and you'll be surprised at the results.



MEL SOLE,  
One of The Top 25 Teachers in North America

Whether you follow this pre-shot routine or develop your own, the key point to remember is: Do the same thing each time; don't vary your routine.

I use this routine with my short game as well, even down to my putting. I can tell you it certainly made a difference to my game and I hope it does to yours.

As usual, if you have any questions on this or other articles by me, please don't hesitate to contact me at [melsole@ritson-sole.com](mailto:melsole@ritson-sole.com)



MEL SOLE is owner and operator of the Phil Ritson-Mel Sole Golf Schools in the USA and Mexico. School sites include Ellicottville NY and Pawleys Island SC (Myrtle Beach). Sole has been consistently named a “Top Teacher” by Golf Magazine (most recently in the February 2005 issue).

The Ritson-Sole Golf School scored in the top five of “America's 25 Best Golf Schools” in Golf Magazine in June 2005.

Mel's golf instructional book titled, *Golf: Step-by-Step* was published by Sterling Publishing in 2003. He is a teaching editor with *Golf Tips* magazine, and his lessons have also appeared in *Golf Digest*, *Golf Magazine* and *Golf Illustrated*.

Reach Mel at his South Carolina headquarters, 1.800.624.4653.  
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## BRITISH COLUMBIA

**Boat-building by hand, first-hand: Sunshine Coast Museum and Archives, Gibsons, B.C.**

A proud collection of paintings from famed boat-builder Allen Farrell, this exhibit, on display through June 16, features depictions of handcrafted Farrell boats and some of the exciting sights he and his wife witnessed while waterborne. The show represents a creative aspect beyond the gift of hand-building beautiful boats. Call 604.886.8232 or email [scm\\_a@dccnet.com](mailto:scm_a@dccnet.com)

## ALBERTA

**Afghani artist: Walter Phillips Gallery, Banff Centre for the Arts**

Afghani artist Lida Abdul presents her video/performance work, produced at the Banff Centre for the Arts, at the Walter Phillips Gallery from March 9 to April 20. Abdul was the first Afghani representative in the 100-year history of the Venice Biennale. The famed festival showed her work in 2005. Exploring notions of community and meanings attached to communal spaces, Abdul emphasizes and questions assumptions of political, spiritual and intellectual neutrality. Walter Phillips Gallery, 403.762.6281, [www.banffcentre.ca](http://www.banffcentre.ca)

## MANITOBA

**Check "Inn" for a galaxy of colors: Aurora Borealis, Churchill**

It is said that January, February and March present the best conditions for viewing the Northern Lights and that Churchill, Manitoba is the best place to see them. To home in even further, the best viewing spot in Churchill is the Tundra Inn. It feature the Aurora Domes, a specially constructed area where you can see all the glory in a climate-controlled dome, rather than shivering in a parka and craning your neck. From the Inn, with its 31 equipped wireless rooms, shuttle in cozy comfort from the delightful restaurant to the comfortable domes to view the magnificent natural spectacle. If sitting and enjoying the Aurora Borealis is too tame, the Inn also offers Polar Bear Tundra Shuttles: getting up close and personal with the furry polar denizens of Churchill should get the blood going! 1.800.265.8563, [info@tundrainn.com](mailto:info@tundrainn.com)



Courtesy of Manitoba Tourism

## ONTARIO

**A master's works return: Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto**

David Milne's watercolors have returned home to Canada for a final viewing to May 21. The collection by one of Canada's most influential and accomplished modern artists emphasizes the skill and lasting power of Milne's technique. Art Gallery of Ontario, 416.979.6608, [www.ago.net](http://www.ago.net)



\*Contest Closes May 12, 2006. For complete contest rules and regulations visit [www.wave947.fm](http://www.wave947.fm)  
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**Deco, Deco: Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto**

The timeless elegance of Art Deco is on display at the ROM until January 2007. Remarkable glass creations of designer René Lalique adorn the halls of the museum in the latest exhibition, *Déco Lalique*. To experience the career of one of the most renowned designers of the Art Nouveau and Art Deco styles, visit [www.rom.on.ca](http://www.rom.on.ca) or call 416.586.8000.

**All This Jazz: Canadian Smooth Jazz Awards 2006, Mississauga**

Jazz legend Bob James will be honored with the George Benson Lifetime Achievement Award at the second annual Canadian Smooth Jazz Awards, April 7, 8pm. The ceremony celebrates the very best in Canadian Smooth Jazz! Hosted by Wave 94.7FM Toronto/Hamilton, the event promises to raise the roof with amazing performances by host Alexander Zonjic and his Band, the sensational voice of Carol Welsman, and the man-of-the-hour, keyboardist/pianist Bob James. This not-to-be-missed event takes place in Hammerson Hall in the Living Arts Centre. Contact Mary Kirk for more information at [mary@wave947.fm](mailto:mary@wave947.fm). Box office 905.306.6000, 1.888.805.8888.







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